

Boko Haram kills 7 in Borno

At least seven persons were on Sunday killed after suspected Boko Haram insurgents attacked two vehicles traveling along Maiduguri-Damaturu highway, sources said.

The attack took place on the outskirts of Auno, a village not more than 20km away from Maiduguri, the Borno State capital.

The victims were said to be traveling during the late hours when they came under attack.

The government of Borno State had two weeks ago placed a movement restriction on all roads leading to and from the state, but the main highway to the state, popularly called Kano-Maiduguri road, still remained open to motorists.

The state's committee on COVID-19, led by the deputy governor, Umar Kadafur, on Sunday announced the shutdown of the remaining road. The new order is to come into effect yesterday.

A witness, who was traveling out of Maiduguri, said he saw at least seven bodies on the road just outside Auno village.

"We just came across a scene of suspected Boko Haram attack here in Auno, and residents said the attack took place last night," the source said.

"From what I hurriedly counted, there were seven bodies and I saw two vehicles that were set ablaze – a Toyota

Hilux and a truck filled with bags of beans that were still smoking."

An official of the road transport workers, Malam Ali, also confirmed the attack.

"We heard that a truck was burnt down near Auno but honestly I don't have information on the number of persons killed in the incident," he said.

Herdsman beheaded 2 in Benue

From **Rose Ejembi**, Makurdi

TWO persons were yesterday allegedly killed by suspected herdsman in a renewed attack in Agatu Local Government Area of Benue State.

A source from Agatu, Oyaje Sule, who spoke with newsmen on telephone said that the deceased, Oche Alaade, was his nephew.

He said Alaade was allegedly killed along with his friend by suspected herdsman who beheaded them and went away with their heads, leaving their headless bodies behind.

He said the two young men, who lived in Obagaji had gone to Ologba, and were on their way back to Obagaji when they were attacked and killed by the herdsman.

"The incident happened this morning; one of the deceased was my nephew. The two young men who

The military and the police did not respond to calls seeking comments on the said attack.

Phone calls to Edet Okon, the Borno police spokesperson, and Sagir Musa, acting director of Army public relations, were not answered.

Auno is one of the flashpoints of Boko Haram attacks in recent times.

The insurgents, according to residents and security sources, normally take advantage of the cattle route near Auno village to sneak out of the bush and carry out attacks.

The attack came few days after the Chief of Army, Tukur Buratai, announced his full relocation to the northeast with a mission to lead troops in the final defeat of Boko Haram.

lived in Obagaji had gone to Ologba and on their way back, they were attacked by herdsman, who beheaded them.

"The two young men have been buried without their head because the herdsman went away with their heads," he said.

He alleged that about two people who were attacked by herdsman in the same area last week are still re-

ceiving treatment at a clinic in Agatu.

A former supervisory councilor in Agatu local government, John Ikwulono, confirmed the report, describing the development as barbaric.

Ikwulono said that as soon as he got the report, he immediately informed the local government chairman who told him he was already on his way to the area.

However, when contacted, the state police command public relations officer, Catherine Anene, said she was yet to be briefed on the matter.

Ekiti official stabbed to death

A staff of the Primary Health Centre Department of the Irepodun Ifelodun Local Government Area, Ekiti State, Mrs Tayo Ajayi, has been stabbed to death inside her house, at Ujumu compound, Odo Igede, Igede Ekiti.

This is coming few days after a high chief was murdered in Ikole area of the state.

Local sources yesterday said the victim was seen last on Thursday and the attack had created fears in the residents. Daily Sun learnt that the body had been deposited at General Hospital, Igede Ekiti morgue, while autopsy is being awaited. The deceased's first son, Toyin Ajayi, told newsmen that his mother was killed inside her room.

He said he suspected that his mother must have been trailed to her home and attacked in the mid-night.