

forest. We are yet to determine their origin as all the freed persons are now being screened and profiled. We will provide more details later."

## Boko Haram kills 22 in Borno

Meanwhile, no fewer than 22 people were killed by suspected Boko Haram members in Marguba community and surrounding villages of Beneshiekh, the headquarters of Kaga Local Government Area of Borno State.

The insurgents, according to sources, also injured many residents after setting ablaze several houses, mostly those with

then sacked village to evacuate their abandoned foodstuff and livestock.

## Fleeing residents recount ordeal

Our correspondent reliably gathered from fleeing residents now taking refuge in Beneshiekh town that "the insurgents came from Sambisa forest axis and stormed the villages Monday evening, wreaked havoc as they had a field day without confrontation.

"Our communities have been ransacked by a group of terrorists numbering over 100 who came in over five Hilux vehicles, motorcycles armed with AK-47 rifles,

the situation had been brought under control as troops with support from members of vigilante youth are currently combing the area to apprehend fleeing insurgents.

## Chibok girls

It will be recalled that on April 15 2014, 276 female students were kidnapped from the Government Secondary School in the town of Chibok in Borno State, by Boko Haram terrorists. 57 of them however managed to escape while they were being conveyed to the forests and after some days in captivity.

On October 17 2014, hopes were raised that the 219 remaining girls

captives saying they don't know the whereabouts of the girls.

Security sources told *Vanguard* that the vast Sambisa forest was not attacked before now because the military wanted to liberate all adjoining communities to the forest and secure possible escape routes whenever the operation to attack the forest was launched.

Moreover, intelligence reports showed that all entry and exit points into the forest had been heavily laden with landmines and other dangerous explosives which newly acquired weaponry such as minesweeping armoured tanks have been clearing.