



AFRICA/ NIGERIA - Assault on the market: "we heard at least 6 explosions," says the Bishop of Maiduguri, who asks the Christians in the world to pray for them

Abuja (Agenzia Fides) - "The situation appears to have returned to calm, with the people who dedicate themselves to their normal activities" says to Fides His Exc. Mgr. Oliver Dashe Doeme, Bishop of Maiduguri, the city in the north-Eastern part of Nigeria, where yesterday, February 20, eight members of the Boko Haram sect were killed in a clash with the Counter Terrorism Task Force (JTF). The clash occurred when a commando of Boko Haram attacked the market in Baga area of the city, causing, according to some sources, the death of 30 civilians. "We heard at least 6 bomb explosions," says the Bishop, who is not able to confirm the number of civilian deaths. Maiduguri has long been one of the most affected by the activities of the sect, which is becoming bolder, as evidenced from the assault carried out on February 16 by a score of armed men in the prison of Koto Karfe, in central Nigeria, and they successfully, at the end of a bloody fight, helped at least 119 prisoners to escape. "The Boko Haram sect continues to attack police stations and civilian targets, such as the Baga market," said Mgr. Doeme, confirming that Christians "are continuing to flee not only from Maiduguri but also from other areas of northern Nigeria, such as Damaturu ". "I call on Christians worldwide to pray for us, so that peace is restore in our country," concluded the Bishop of Maiduguri. (L.M.) (Agenzia Fides 21/2/2012)