

but the bodies were taken away by the fleeing attackers.

## Controller wants corps members posted to Prisons

From Itodo Daniel Sule, Jalingo

The Deputy Controller-in-Charge of the Jalingo Prison, Mr Jatau Magaji is advocating that government should resume posting National Youth Service Corps (NYSC) members to prisons across the country.

Magaji made the recommendation Friday at the commissioning of a barbing salon built by a youth corps member, Mr Hussein Abdul, in the Jalingo Prison.

According to him, the posting of corps members to the prisons which was suspended by the prison service headquarters, had had an adverse effect on the integration of the inmates back to society.

"Let me advocate the posting of youth corps members to prisons across the country for the duration of their service. This will enable them be involved in the transformation of prisoners through various programmes," Magaji said.

The Deputy Controller noted that the donation of the barbing salon had come at a time when the prisons were in dire need of assistance, adding that assistance could come from the government, individuals and the general public to aid the reformation of inmates.

Omar Gusau, the Special Adviser to Governor Kashim Shettima on Communications was part of the incumbent administration's 3-approaches to fighting the Boko Haram attacks in the State.

Gusau said in a statement that before they left, Shettima had addressed the 50 beneficiaries at a farewell held at Ogbah farms in Kuje area council of the FCT, belonging to former National Chairman of PDP, Chief Audu Ogbah.

"Ogbah is a honorary adviser on Agriculture to Governor Shettima and he is also a key member of the Borno State Agricultural Transformation Team. Shettima said at the farewell that his Government has since discovered that in addition to misguided beliefs, Boko Haram insurgents have over the years been recruiting foot soldiers who accepts their offers as a result of joblessness, hopelessness and extreme poverty, a condition, he said, can be addressed with massive investment in Agriculture.

"The Governor said he believes

the-trainers course on Irrigation equipment installation, effective utilization and maintenance after which they will train farmers across the State. A world leader, Jain Irrigation of India which is currently installing drip and center pivot irrigation equipment in the State is to conduct the training as part of a contract between the State and the Company. Shettima had noted that in addition to Indian irrigation equipment, an American company from Nebraska State which the world headquarters of irrigation equipment, is installing 50 units of centre pivot and sprinkler irrigation equipment along Maiduguri -Konduga farm areas as a pilot program, revealing that 400 units of such equipment from U.S, India and China are expected for installation across private farms in the State with a view increasing cropping in the State to revolutionize agriculture and create millions of jobs so that Boko Haram wouldn't find easy recruits as they have been enjoying.

N5,000 to burn schools and spy on our security men. So that goes to show that Boko Haram is not only propelled by evil spiritual motive but also by economic motives", the governor said.

"Shettima maintained that while the State will continue to support the military and volunteers as a coercive unit, focus must also be accorded to social re-orientation to de-radicalise citizens as well as provide jobs for majority of them, without which, he noted, Boko Haram would hardly be addressed in the immediate, medium and long term because so long as people can be recruited, the group can always grow.

"Shettima said Borno has so much land resources with 67,000 hectares of irrigation land in just one corner of the northern part of the State which if properly harnessed, can bring an end to Boko Haram insurgency in the State.

The Governor explained that 50 unemployed graduates of Agriculture had undergone a

established a micro finance bank it will capitalize to provide loans to farmers and finance agricultural activities through policies that will be friendly to farmers.

"Shettima said all the steps were being taken to wage an economic war on Boko Haram by making the group a small minority so that it can be overcome by majority of employed citizens.

"Land rather than oil is the most precious of all natural resources. Borno is the largest state in Nigeria even though some records say Niger is bigger than Borno. Borno is 20 times bigger than Lagos. Nigeria spends nearly 20 billion dollars annually imported food stuff. We are the greatest food importing nation. Borno has the singular advantage of diverting so much of the funds Nigeria spends on food importation, we are the only State bordering three countries and this makes Agricultural trade easier. We can use that to take people off the streets and fight insurgency" the statement said.

## Vigilante kills 90 insurgents in Adamawa

From Kabiru R. Anwar, Yola

Members of a local vigilante have killed dozens of suspected Boko Haram insurgents in Madagali Local Government area of Adamawa State.

Source in Madagali said the incident took place after a stranger riding on Hilux van purchased foodstuff from a local market and was trailed to a hideout in the bush by members of the vigilante who suspected him of being a member of Boko Haram.

The source added that officials in Madagali informed the military and the vigilante who laid an ambush, killing dozens of the insurgents and recovering weapons after sustained gun battle.

"After a tip off that the insurgents set up a camp in Madagali from where they could launch attacks, we contacted the military and mobilised our vigilante to intercept them. The combined effort of soldiers and the vigilante led to the killing of 90 Boko Haram fighters," her said.

The official added that "seven soldiers including Captain Akintola and the C.O. of 123 also lost their lives in the gun battle which took place between Bitu and Jaji in Madagali area, just on the border with Borno State".

Hospital sources told our correspondent that corpses of soldiers were deposited at the Federal Medical Centre, Yola on Wednesday and Thursday.

However, Police PPRO in Adamawa, Usman Muhammad said the incident did not take place

in Adamawa

"Our investigation reveals that the incidence did not happen in Adamawa but in Borno State. The root of the event started in Adamawa when a person suspected to be a member came to Madagali Market to purchase large stock of food," he said.

"The people having marked him as a suspect began to trail his movement up to Borno State where he came from and having established their base, they launched the attack on them," Othman added.

When contacted on phone the spokesman of the 23rd Armoured Brigade Yola Captain Nuhu Jafar, said he was busy attending to some official duties and promised to call back but did not do so as at the time of filing the story.