

Kano police kill alleged *Boko Haram* members

From Adamu Abuh (Kano) and Charles Akpeji (Jalingo)

THE Kano Police Command yesterday killed four suspected members of the *Boko Haram* sect after hours of a bloody gun battle that sent a section of the residents scampering for safety.

However, the police command lost four of its men in the clash. The sect members were suspected to have killed three Air Force personnel at the Nigeria Air Force (NAF) Base at Kwa Village, in the outskirts of Kano last Thursday.

Kano Police Commissioner, Ibrahim Idris, who stated this at the Bompai Headquarters of the Police Command, also disclosed that 14 members of the sect were currently in the police net.

Meanwhile, Majority Leader of the Taraba State House of Assembly, Charles Maijankai, has faulted alleged decision of the Federal Government to negotiate with *Boko Haram*

Arrest 14, seize bomb materials, others

sect members.

Maijankai said rather than taking such steps, which he described as "superficial", security operatives, as well as community leaders ought to take their primary assignment serious by checkmating the activities of sect.

His words: "I will still maintain and I still stand on what I said previously that any dialogue they are going to have with *Boko Haram* members is just superficial because the real issue is not to sit at a table.

"Those who are coming for the dialogue, are they the real *Boko Haram* members? How do you know that they are the real members that you want to dialogue with?"

Idris also showed the media bomb detonating head explosives, wires, chemicals, some audio cassettes of sermons by the

late leader of the *Boko Haram* sect, Mohammed Yusuf and some Arabic books, a laptop computer, 42 pieces of Motorola walkie-talkie model T5.118 and N58,000 in N10 denomination seized from the suspects.

Also shown to journalists were two ready-made bombs, two 25-litre jerry cans filled with chemicals for bomb making, one bag of iron scraps for making bombs, one bag of iron bomb casing, some sacks containing gun powder, two sacks of ammonium nylon used in making bombs, liquid substance and neutral wires.

The police chief disclosed that the seizures were made after a crack team of detectives from his command trailed the suspects to their hideouts in locations at Unguwar Dabai, Rijiyar Zaki Quarters, Gwammaja, and

Darmanawa Quarters of Kano.

Idris also showed to journalists AK-47 rifles, one G3 and LAR rifles and a total of 1,125 live ammunitions of different calibres in addition to nine extra magazines of the deadly weapons, all reportedly seized from the suspected members of the sect.

On the identity of those arrested, he said: "Investigations have shown that all the suspects so far arrested or declared wanted are non-natives or non-indigenes of Kano State. They are strangers who have made their states inhabitable and have fled to Kano to abuse its hospitality".

The police chief, who expressed appreciation to residence of Kano for liaising with his men to achieve the feat, urged community members, landlords and traditional institutions "to be vigilant and report any suspicious groups to the police or other security agents for