



Orodje of Okpe Delta State, HRM, General Felix Mujakperuo (rtd) (left); Vice President Namadi Sambo; President General of the Urhobo Progress Union (UPU) and leader of the group, Maj. Gen Patrick Newton Aziza (rtd); President Goodluck Jonathan and Royal Canon, the Chworode of Olomu Kingdom, Delta State, HRM Ogoni Oghoro I, during the UPU delegates visit to the Presidential Villa, Abuja... yesterday.

PHOTO: PHILIP OJISUA

JTF, vigilance group raid *Boko Haram* hideout, kill seven

From: **Njadvara Musa**, Maiduguri

FOLLOWING intelligence reports from Maiduguri, residents to members of Borno Vigilance Youths Group (BVYG) and military Joint Task Force (JTF) on Sunday, killed seven *Boko Haram* terror suspects and arrested six others in Bama town, after two-hour house-to-house search operations in two wards of the township by 4 p.m.

Bama is a border town with Cameroun; and 78 kilometres east of Maiduguri, the state capital; and an epicentre of *Boko Haram* sect activities.

The arrested suspects, according to an eyewitness

yesterday, were picked up by the vigilance youths that stormed the suspected hideouts of fleeing *Boko Haram* sect members.

He said: "We were sitting under this tree shade; when we saw some youths with sticks, knives and cutlasses in two buses and five tricycles headed towards Tandari ward of Bama town. Five minutes, after soldiers in their patrol vehicles also backed up the youths before the fleeing gunmen were arrested in the evening.

He said even though there were no exchanges of gunfire initially between the fleeing terror suspects and soldiers, seven of them were however,

gunned down while attempting to escape towards the outskirts of Tandari areas of Bama town.

Speaking on the house-to-house searches, the source told *The Guardian* that the *Boko Haram* sect members must have fled from the destroyed Sambisa Games Reserves Forest, while others could have infiltrated the township from Maiduguri or Konduga, before they were rounded up here yesterday by vigilance youths and JTF.

A hospital attendant at the Specialists Hospital, Maiduguri also said that seven bodies were brought in by a JTF patrol vehicle from Bama by 5.35 p.m. on Sunday.

Confirming the incident yesterday, spokesman of JTF, Lt. Col Sagir Musa said that the soldiers assisted the vigilance youths in the arrest of six terror suspects at Bama, while seven were killed in an exchange of gunfire in one of the suspects' hideouts. The youths, according to him, were escorted by men of JTF; and returned safely to Maiduguri metropolis without being hurt or killed in the Bama youth's operations.

Varsity students ask ASUU to end strike

From **Azimazi Momoh Jimoh**, Abuja

RISING from their meeting with the Senate Committee on Education at the National Assembly yesterday, the National Association of Nigerian University Students (NANUS) called on

amendment by the Senate, a married underage girl is deemed to be an adult.

Lawmaker representing Epe Federal Constituency, Lagos State, Lanre Odubote and a scribe of the National Democratic Coalition (NADECO), who was in Dispora during the struggle for democracy, Prof. Ropo Sekoni have opposed the Senate's passage of a resolution to retain the provision of Section 29 (4) (b) of the 1999 Constitution on child marriage.

In similar vein, President, Campaign for Democracy, Dr. Joe Okei-Odumakin said the decision of the Senate on the girl marriage law violates decency, as it exposes the girl child to sexual violation by wayward men in the name of marriage at a time when the world is promoting education and combating health hazards.

strikes had failed to impact on the infrastructure status of government universities nationwide, accusing the lecturers of pursuing selfish ends to the detriment of students.

It further urged the committee to probe government-owned universities on their

18 feared killed in Edo auto crash

crash, the Edo State Sector State was coming from