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36 feared killed in fresh Borno attacks

MONDAY, 05 AUGUST 2013 00:00 . FROM NJADVARA MUSA, MAIDUGURI
 NEWS - NATIONAL



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Soldiers, policeman die as Boko Haram suspects raid military, police units

FRESH wave of violence has swept across Borno State, leaving three soldiers, a policeman and 32 Boko Haram suspects dead.

The mayhem occurred in two separate attacks by insurgents on the Bama Mobile Police Base (BMPB) and on operatives of the Multi-National Joint Task Force (MNJTF) at Mallam Fatori town in the state on Sunday and Monday.

Bama and Mallam Fatori are border towns with Cameroun and Chad Republic respectively.

Besides, the state government on Sunday began the fumigation and clearing of drainages in six areas of the

Maiduguri metropolis believed to be the hide-outs of Boko Haram members. The areas include Budum, Kaleri, Shehuri North, Gwange, Abaganaram wards, and the old Maiduguri in Jere Local Council.

According to Borno State Environmental Protection Agency (BOSEPA), the fumigation is to prevent the outbreak of water and airborne diseases, before fleeing residents can return.

The Guardian also learnt that with the commencement of the fumigation, some residents have started returning to the areas.

An attendant of the Accident and Emergency Unit (E&AU) of the University of Maiduguri Teaching Hospital (UMTH) told The Guardian that three soldiers and four policemen were brought in from Bama in two patrol vehicles. A soldier and a policeman later died from gunshot wounds. Five of the wounded soldiers and policemen at the E&AU are being treated.

A witness at Bama added: "We were woken up by sporadic gunshots at the mobile police base near the Government Science Secondary School in Bama on Sunday morning. Some people caught up in the attacks scamped for safety before the Bama-Gwoza Road was cordoned by soldiers. Some of us ran into the nearby bush, while others shut their houses and shops for fear of being killed."

Confirming the incident in Maiduguri, the JTF's spokesman, Lt.-Col. Sagir Musa, in a statement said there were two separate attacks on the mobile police base and the MNJTF at Bama and Mallam Fatori, a border town on the Lake Chad shores.

Musa added that arms and ammunition, including Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs), were recovered from the terrorists.

The statement reads in part: "Troops have successfully repelled Boko Haram terrorists' attacks on Mobile Police (MOPOL) Base. The encounter led to the death of one policeman and 17 Boko Haram



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terrorists. Two soldiers were also wounded.

"During the incident in Bama, troops recovered the following items, four Toyota Hilux vehicles, 10 AK 47 rifles, two G3 rifles, 10x40mm Bombs, three RPG Tubes, 85 rounds of ammunition, one IED, three motorcycles, 10 AK 47 rifles magazines, one G3 magazines, among others.

"Similarly, at about 10.00 a.m. on August 5, 2013, some Boko Haram terrorists armed with sophisticated weapons attacked a MNJTF location at Mallam Fatori. The attack led to the death of two soldiers and 15 Boko Haram terrorists. The situations in both places have returned to normal."

Musa urged members of the public to assist the security agencies with timely and credible information that could check terrorism.

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Author of this article: **. From Njadvara Musa, Maiduguri**

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