

NEWSEXTRA

Army Destroys Terrorists' Camps, Recovers Arms, Explosives

From Njadvara Musa, Maiduguri

AUTHORITIES of 7 Division of Nigerian Army in Borno State say that their troops have raided training camps and hideouts of Boko Haram sect group in four different villages and locations in the Sambisa Forests of Bama Council Area of the state.

According to the commander of 202 Tank Battalion

at Bama, Lt. Col Adamu Garba Laka, and spokesman of 7 Division of Nigerian Army, Col. Muhammad Dole, the raiding exercise recovered some arms and ammunition, including several Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs). He further disclosed that all the training camps and hideouts, are located in the Sambisa Forests, comprising six council areas of Bama, Gwoza, Konduga,

BORNO

Askira/Uba, Chibok and Damboa, 87 kilometres south of Maiduguri, the state capital.

Lt. Col Laka, who led journalists round Bama Township and neighbouring communities Thursday said that the raided camps and hideouts were successfully carried out

at four villages of Kilani, Bulakadi, Iza, and Bulla Musa villages in the last three days.

Though he was silent on the number of insurgents killed during the operations, he said, "the items recovered from the multiple raids; included rocket launchers, AK 47 rifles, guns, improvised explosives, assorted magazines and ammunitions, power generators and military boots

among others."

He informed that three weeks ago, military operatives of the 202 Tank Battalion aborted what would have been a big tragedy in Bama when they intercepted a bomb laden car which was being transported through the bush in an attempt to get into town for detonation.

"One of our men at a checkpoint used an RPG (rocket propelled grenade) and targeted the car which was fully loaded with bombs. It exploded instantly, killed the occupants and destroying nearby walls with deep crater.

We thank God they did not succeed in getting into the town," he said.

Contrary to some media reports (not *The Guardian*) about purported attacks in Bama some days ago, he noted that the only attack in the area took place in Gulumba village on the Nigerian border with Cameroon.

According to him, Bama town has been witnessing relative peace since the killing of Momodu Bama, the second in command of the Boko Haram sect.

"The people are cooperating with us in our fight against the insurgents and normal life is picking up," said the commander.

Cleric Kicks Against Abuse Of Siren As Group Canvasses Passage Of Law Against Violence, Abortion

From Charles Ogugbuaja, Owerri

THE Anglican Bishop of Egbu Diocese, near Owerri, the Rt. Rev. Geoffrey Enyinnaya Okorafor, has expressed serious worries on continuous abuses of siren by unauthorised persons in the country, saying that the non implementation of relevant laws on the categories of those qualified to use it, has become a source of embarrassment in the country and has contributed to cause increased insecurity in the land.

Bishop Okorafor stated this while delivering his address recently, with the theme, *My Grace is Sufficient for you*, at third session of the sixth

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synod of the Diocese held at St. John's Anglican Church, Ihiagwa, Owerri West Local Council, Imo State.

Attended by the representative of President Goodluck Jonathan, the Minister of Labour, Chief Emeka Wogu, Governor Rochas Okorocha, of Imo State, among others, the cleric blamed the insecurity problem in the country on the politicians, who are yet to deliver quality dividend of democracy, including provision of jobs.

He also called for a legislative antidote to end incessant strikes in the nation, adding

that strikes have become more shameful in the land.

The cleric, who in his 47-page speech addressed several ills and areas of successes, maintained that over independence in oil would spell doom, asking for seriousness on the part of the leaders to tilt towards Agriculture.

"We call on Nigerians to go back to Agriculture," he said.

He used the opportunity to advise the Imo state governor, Okorocha, to ensure construction of quality roads, adding that the construction of several sub-standard roads and infrastructure would not do the state any good. Okorocha, he advised, should ex-

tend the free education programme to the pupils and students in the mission schools since the funds available to run them are insufficient.

In another development, a group, SAY IT Nigeria, has strongly advocated that Imo people and Nigerians in general, should reflect on the good protective side of abrogated laws and give support for its re enactment. SAY IT Nigeria is not satisfied by the recent abrogation of the Imo State Law No. 12 of 2012 (known as Imo State of Nigeria Violence Against Persons Prohibition), by the Imo State House of Assembly.