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How military killed 20 terror suspects, recovered arms, ammunition in Borno State

By Njadvara Musa, Maiduguri on July 29, 2015

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Borno State governor, Kashim Shettima

TROOPS of the 7 Division of Nigerian Army in Borno State in a co-ordinated joint ground and aerial military operations have killed 20 suspected Boko Haram terror suspects and recovered several arms and ammunition used in capturing Dikwa town by the terrorists last March, the army has said.

The over six-hour operations, according to spokesman of the Division, Col. Tukur Gusau in Maiduguri, resulted in the recapture of Dikwa, which was held by the insurgents for over four months.

“After encountering some resistance from the insurgents, our men on ground return fire, and along the line troops engaged the terrorists within and outskirts of Dikwa and killed over 20 of them,” said Gusau yesterday while displaying recovered arms and ammunition at the Maimalari Cantonment.

He further disclosed that besides the recovery of arms and ammunition from the fleeing terrorists, unspecified number of cellphone handsets, laptops and other materials used in terrorising communities in the Lake Chad Basin areas were also recovered and displayed at the Maimalari Cantonment.

Gusau also added: “Five vehicles and motorcycles laden with Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) were also destroyed in this co-ordinated joint military operations of last Wednesday. The vehicles included trucks mounted with anti-aircraft guns, general purpose machine guns. gun-box of anti-aircraft gun ammunition and rifles.

“In addition to that, some motorcycles were also destroyed. They had been using motor bikes to attack adjoining villages, including the ones on the shores of Lake Chad that engaged in fishing and dry season farming.”

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Other arms and ammunition recovered, according to him, include General Purpose Machine Guns, six AK 47 rifles, three magazines, Tafor rifle, PKM rifle, 12.7mm anti-aircraft ammunition and 7.62mm special.

On clearance of Boko Haram landmines, Gusau said: "Due to recent concerted efforts, roads and towns hitherto being held by Boko Haram terrorists and laced with mines, such as Biu-Buni/Yadi-Damaturu and Biu-Sabon Gari-Dambo roads, were liberated and cleared of mines and made safe for public usage."

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