

## B'Haram Attack: Military Yet To Confirm Number Of Soldiers Missing

From **Karls Tsokar**, Abuja.

**N**OT less than 10 soldiers are said to be missing in action when troops of the Nigeria Army walked into an ambush laid by the Boko Haram insurgents on Thursday morning.

The authorities of the Nigeria Army are yet to confirm the number.

But a statement issued by the Acting Director of Army Public Relations (Ag.DAPR), Col. Sani Usman confirmed that soldiers returning from a successful operation encountered the insurgents, inflicted casualties on them, adding: "A few others were missing in action."

A source told *The Guardian* that the missing soldiers were in the thick of action before the ambush, saying: "But you cannot begin to lookout for everybody when you are exchanging fire."

"The terrorists attacked in their numbers, the troops were taken unawares, so it was a difficult situation, but the real figure would be made public soon," the source said.

The statement reads in part: "Troops on clearance patrol at Guro Gongon village and environs to rout out remnants of Boko Haram terrorists hibernating therein, destroyed the terrorists' makeshift camps and recovered quite a number of weapons, equipment and foodstuff in the process."

"However, the gallant soldiers, basking on the recorded success, returning to their defensive locations, ran into an ambush by a group of Boko Haram terrorists who came to reinforce their fleeing comrades."

"The troops fought back gallantly, killing several of the insurgents."