

Troops kill 20 terrorists in Sokoto, Kebbi

From **Odita Sunday**, Abuja

FEW days after the killing of farmers, troops of the Nigerian Army, under the umbrella of Operation Fansan Yanma, have dealt a decisive blow to terrorist groups operating in Sokoto and Kebbi states.

This was disclosed to *The Guardian* by a security source, Zagazola Makama.

According to him, in a series of special operations targeting local government councils, including Illela, Tangaza, Gudu, Binji and Silami in Sokoto State, as well as Augie, Arewa, Argungu, and Dandi councils in Kebbi State, the troops successfully neutralised over 20 terrorists and dismantled their camps, forcing them to abandon

• As Boko Haram razes church, houses in Chibok

their hideouts.

The clearance operations, aimed at restoring peace and security to affected areas, saw the troops sweeping through terrorist enclaves in Tsauna, Bauni and Sarma forests.

He said the Army pushed deep into critical locations, flushing out terrorists, destroying their camps and recovering items.

"In Sarma Ruga, located at coordinates, 20 terrorists were killed during intense engagements. Fleeing terrorists abandoned their weapons, hideouts and supplies, many of which were subsequently destroyed by troops.

"Another significant devel-

opment was the clearing of Manja village, which had been deserted for four years due to banditry and terrorist activities. Encouragingly, locals have begun returning to their homes, expressing joy and gratitude to the Nigerian Army for liberating the area," he revealed.

Further operations led to the discovery and clearance of a newly established terrorist camp near Mai Hills, where abandoned terrorist logistics, including essential supplies, were found. Troops pressed on to Jaima village, a border community, where Nigerian troops were reported to conduct patrols.

MEANWHILE, barely 24 hours after attacking

Bazir village in Chibok Local Council Area of Borno State, Boko Haram terrorists launched another attack on Shikarkir Ward of Chibok, where they razed the Church of Brethren and residential houses.

The terrorists had earlier attacked Bazir, killing two siblings, and razing a church and residential building.

Sources said the terrorists also sacked the villagers after looting their livestock and foodstuffs at about 2 p.m. on Tuesday.

A family member of one of the victims, Mallam Daniel Shikarkir, said his parents, aged between 82 and 79 years, escaped the attack unhurt, but that their house was completely razed.