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Sambisa: Troops Overrun 10 Terrorist Camps

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By Joe Nwankwo,

Abuja

An unconfirmed number of terrorists were on Saturday killed, as 10 additional camps used by the Boko Haram sect in Sambisa Forest were overrun in the continuing offensive by Nigerian troops.

A statement by the Defence Headquarters on Sunday evening, announcing the military offensive, noted that Dure camp, one of the most prominent in the forest, witnessed the fiercest battle, as the Special Forces descended heavily on it before it finally fell.

According to the statement by Major General Chris Olukolade, Director of Defence Information, “four of the camps were located in a place called Iza within the forest, while three others were noted to be recently established by the terrorists before the assault began.

“One soldier died from one of the land mine encountered in the operation while two others were also wounded. The terrorists lost a number of vehicles mounted with Anti-Aircraft Guns as well as armoured cars. Some of the terrorists who escaped from the camps also died as they ran into troops ambush in some escape routes from the forest,” Olukolade added.

Meanwhile, some of the fleeing terrorists, Olukolade added, also engaged in suicide missions at Bitta, where they encountered the Nigerian troops and Kiskeru across the border in Niger Republic.

The operation to clear the terrorists in Sambisa and other forests, the statement assured, is continuing as troops on all fronts have been alerted to be on the look out for fleeing terrorists.

The Nigerian Air force is maintaining an active air surveillance to track the movement of terrorists for appropriate action as the operation continues.

The military had a few weeks ago announced the destruction of three major terrorists camps in well-coordinated attacks on the notorious Tokumbere camp and two others in the dreaded Forest.

Also, troops scaled series of land mines as assault on forest bases of the terrorists continued, capturing four notorious camps including- Alafa, Rogo Fulani and Laraga, where weapons and vehicles were destroyed by troops.

Daily Independent had a fortnight ago reported that over 1000 women and girls were rescued from the various camps before last Saturday’s assault, out of which 214, according to the United Nations Population

Fund (UNFPA), are at various stages of pregnancy. The expected Federal Government's welfare package to begin the rehabilitation process of the rescued victims was yet to be delivered the report revealed.

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