Boko Haram Kills 81 In Borno For Revealing Location To Military – DHQ

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Boko Haram Sect

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The Defence Headquarters (DHQ) has said that the Boko Haram insurgents killed about 81 people in Borno State for revealing their locations to the military.

John Enenche, the defence spokesman, disclosed this during a Channels TV programme at the weekend, during which he also stated that lack of intelligence had remained a major challenge in the fight against insecurity in the country.

Boko Haram insurgents, he stated, had attacked Faduma Kolomdi village in Gubio local government area of Borno, killing several residents after posing as preachers.

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According to Cable News, Enenche blamed the attack on the inability of the residents to inform the military about the location of the attackers.

He said: "A lot of people did not know that what we saw a couple of days ago ... in Borno and Katsina states where about 81 were killed and about 40 others.... The remote reasons for those actions were that 'you gave our positions away to the military' and they used other excuses to pounce on them. And that has been the major challenge.

"If we had the cooperation from the general public, particularly from those communities and localities where those terrorists, criminals and bandits operate from in cells and hibernation, we would have long before now completed the degradation.

"The overarching strategy was to decimate, which we completed as far back as September 2016, and then to dominate the area, after which we occupy. All of them have their legs.

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"When they started volunteering information, the rate of success at both fronts increased rapidly. And as the clearance operations were ongoing, both from the ground operations and airstrikes, it was based on human intelligence, information."

Enenche said the Nigerian military had been understudying other security operations across the world and found out that intelligence played key role in the successes recorded.

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"I particularly studied Pakistan. It took them 25 years, after about 12 years when people started volunteering information. Within two years, they were done with what we are seeing now," the defence spokesman said.

"I can say that in all honesty, what we have on the ground ...if not for the lack of information where they have.... Can you imagine you just pass a place and before you come back, they plant an IED and people are there watching?

"Will you blame it on them, or that you don't have equipment? The answer is pure 'No'. Because if you have the information that these people planted this thing, you have a way of clearing this thing. The major challenge is giving us information."

According to a survivor, "They gathered us and said they wanted to deliver a religious sermon to us. They asked us to submit whatever arm we had ... Suddenly, they started shooting at will. Even children and women were not spared. Many were shot at close range."