

On their part, troops of 3 Battalion also conducted patrol towards Dienna, Siger and Kala in which they had an encounter with Boko Haram terrorists in which the gallant troops killed 8 of them and recovered 2 Dane Guns and 4 assorted batteries.

"The troops of 7 Division Special Fighting Forces attached to 25 Task Force Brigade Damboa, at a checkpoint, arrested a suspected Boko Haram terrorist, Abubakar Bello and 6 other suspects carrying 28 gallons of "Turkey" brand of vegetable oil, 8 bags of flour, 130 crates of soft drinks and 2 bags of sugar. In addition, 5 mobile telephone handsets, 1 external hard drive and 5 flash drives, 2 national identity cards and the sum of Seventy Thousand Naira (N70,000.00k) only were recovered from him.

He said preliminary investigation discovered that the insurgents now dilute the vegetable oil with other substances to produce diesel to power their generators.

"The troops of 254 Task Force Battalion in conjunction with vigilantes and Borno Youths Empowerment Scheme (BOYES), also carried out clearance operations at Mufurundi, Kaleri, Masemari, Bego, Bale, Gadzama and Gagantilo villages along Damboa-Bale-Gwoza road. During the operation, the troops encountered and detonated an Improvised Explosive Device (IED), buried by the terrorists at Gadzama village. They also encountered Boko Haram terrorists at Bego where they engaged the terrorists, neutralized them and cleared their camps within the general area. In the encounter, the troops killed 9 Boko Haram terrorists and recovered 1 AK-47 rifle with registration number TH5712 and 17 rounds of 7.62mm (Special) ammunition. They also rescued 157 persons held hostages by the terrorists.

"The troops of 26 Task Force Brigade stationed in Gwoza yesterday also intercepted 8 suspected Boko Haram terrorists, trying to enter Gwoza town. Though they claimed to be farmers coming from Shiadawey, Takwala and Amdaga Madachi villages respectively, which were known terrorists hideouts, preliminary investigations showed that they were indeed terrorists on a recruitment drive. This was made manifest when the sum of Six Hundred and Thirty Seven Thousand (N637,000.00k) Naira was discovered on Abdullahi Yakubu who was identified by another escapee/suspected Boko Haram terrorist as having trading links with the terrorists while the others were confirmed to have participated in carrying out various terrorists acts for the Boko Haram terrorists group.

"Similarly, one Ibrahim Bute aged 67 years, of Gobara village was arrested by the troops on suspicion of being a Boko Haram kingpin.

"The troops of 117 Task Force Battalion following a tip off, also arrested a suspected Boko Haram terrorist who gave his name as Bello Isah at Mugulvu village. The unit also discovered and retrieved 29 rounds of 7.62mm (Special) rounds of ammunition hidden at a farm in Gella village", said Colonel Usman, an Acting Director Army Public Relations.

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