

① Army dismantles Boko Haram road block in Maiduguri

THE Army on Wednesday night dismantled a road block between Damboa and Biu in Maiduguri, the Borno State capital.

The Coordinator of the National Briefing Centre, Mike Omeri, who announced this in Abuja yesterday, said the road block was mounted by insurgents in search of food, fuel and vehicle lubricants.

He added that 10 Boko Haram suspects were killed in Tumbarka area of Borno State during the operation.

"In the continuing efforts at countering insurgency, military forces have conducted successful operations at Tumbarka in Borno State, resulting in the killing of 10 Boko Haram insurgents.

"A rifle, eight locally made guns and 15 motorcycles were recovered.

"The soldiers equally dismantled a road block between Damboa and Biu, which was mounted by insurgents.

"Generally, while the insurgents are under pressure,

Japan gives N136.8m to Chibok girls, families

From Vincent Ikuomola, Abuja

THE over-200 abducted Chibok girls and their families are to benefit from the N136.8 million (\$855,000) Japanese emergency support grant.

According to Mariko Chiba, Japanese Ambassador's Special Advisor, the grant is expected to provide support for the psychosocial and physical care of communities in Chibok Local Government Area.

Chiba said the grant was in response to a request by United Nations (UN) organisations and the Federal Government to support victims of Boko Haram attacks.

A statement by the Japanese Embassy in

Abuja said: "The fund will be implemented by United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the International Labour Organisation (ILO), the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and other organisations."

"This emergency grant aid is expected to contribute to providing support for the psychosocial and physical care of communities of Chibok Local Government Area in Borno State, which is suffering direct and indirect harm as a result of the abduction of school girls by Boko Haram on April 14."

• 10 killed

From Bukola Amusan, Abuja

military forces are recording successes in the anti-terror campaign in the Northeast," he said

Omeri added that screening by security agencies has continued on the 486 travellers,

who were intercepted in Abia State enroute Rivers State on June 16.

"It has become necessary to reiterate that all the passengers are all assumed to be Nigerians, until when proven otherwise."

The coordinator said a Boko Haram suspect arrested among the travellers is

still undergoing interrogation by security agencies.

"It is necessary to caution against uninformed comments and assumptive propositions that can mislead the public."

He said security agencies were still studying the data gathered in the Northeast in order to secure the release of the Chibok girls.

• Keji road accident