



20 insurgents, three bandits killed by troops in Borno, Benue

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Force that responded swiftly.

"Scores of the terrorists were killed and over 20 terrorists dead bodies were counted. Additionally, three boxer motorcycles, three anti-aircraft Guns, two PKT Machine Guns, 10 AK 47 Rifles and 13 Rocket Propelled Grenade (RPG) Bombs as well as large cache of ammunition and other weapons were captured from the terrorists among others.

"Unfortunately, one soldier paid the supreme sacrifice and two others were wounded during the encounter and are stable/responding to treatment. May God grant repose to the soul of the dead soldier and quick recovery to the two soldiers wounded in action.

"Troops of *Operation LAFI-YA DOLE* under the guidance of the Chief of Army Staff, Lt.-Gen. TY Buratai will continue to sustain the aggressive, offensive posture to rid the entire North East of remnants of Boko Haram/ISWAP criminals, rapists and marauders."

The Defence Headquarters also said that troops of *Operation Whirl Stroke*, at the weekend, eliminated three bandits and apprehended four others during raids on their hideouts in Benue.

The Coordinator, Defence Media Operations, Maj.-Gen. John Enenche, said the operations took place at Tomatar Ugba and Kundi villages in Katsina-Ala Local Government Area of the state.

Enenche said the troops stormed the camps, following technical and human intelligence, engaged and overwhelmed the criminals with more firepower, forcing them to flee.

He said the troops also pursued the fleeing criminals, neutralised three and arrested four while several others escaped with fatal gunshot injuries.

According to him, troops recovered two locally-made rifles, one locally-made pistol, 16 rounds of 7.62mm special ammunition, two motorcycles, three generators and two pairs of military camouflage uniforms, and many other items.

"The gallant troops are dominating the area with aggressive patrols and are equally on the trail of the fleeing bandits in order to locate and neutralize them.

"Members of the general public are hereby requested to continue to provide credible information to the troops operating within their localities."

No plan to forcefully...