

Troops kill over 300 terrorists ...Arrests Boko Haram members in IDPs camps

CHRIS AGBAMBU-ABUJA

DIRECTOR of Defence Information, Major General Chris Olukolade has said that over 300 terrorists were killed, while quite a number of them were captured while mopping up operation of some of the communities where terrorists have been cleared in the course of the ongoing

air and land operations against terrorists.

According to him, several weapons and equipment had been captured while some had been destroyed, indicating massive casualty inflicted on the terrorists, within the last two days of the counterterrorism operations.

Olukolade disclosed that it had been confirmed that five different types of armoured fighting vehicles,

an anti-aircraft gun, about 50 cases of packed bombs and eight different types of Machine Guns, five Rocket Propelled Grenade, 49 boxes of various types and calibres of ammunition, as well as 300 motorcycles were destroyed in the fight.

Also, a total of six Hilux vehicles including those mounted with anti-aircraft guns were also destroyed.

However, he regretted that two soldiers lost their

lives while 10 others were wounded in the course of the operation.

He added that the cordon and search operations was continuing along with aggressive patrols by troops now dominating the cleared communities such as Monguno, Gabchari, Abba Jabari, Zuntur, Gajigana, Gajiram, Damakar, Kumaliwa, Bosso Wanti, Jeram and Kabrisungul.

Olukolade said that vari-

ous phases of the highly coordinated air and land operations were also ongoing in the designated theatres being handled by contingents involved in the renewed counterterrorism campaign in and outside Nigeria.

In another development, the coordinator of the National Information Centre (NIC), Mr Mike Omeri disclosed that some terrorists had been arrested at the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) camps in the north eastern part of the country.

Omeri said the military bombardment on Boko Haram hideout had forced some insurgents to take shelter at the IDP camps.

According to him, "At the appropriate time, we will parade these people before journalists. It is better we keep quiet and safe until we see the end to this

problem. Once it is done, then, the total number will be made known to you, and their faces will also be made available to media appropriately."

Omeri also maintained that the Federal Government had made some remarkable improvement in the fight against terrorism. He, therefore, called on the general public to be vigilant, as some insurgents were leaving their hideouts to mix with people.

"There has been increased regional cooperation between the countries of the Lake Chad Basin Commission resulting in the recapture of territories by the Nigerian military and the multi-national forces which are, simultaneously, shielding off new attacks. The fight against Boko Haram is, therefore, gaining the regional solidarity it deserves."

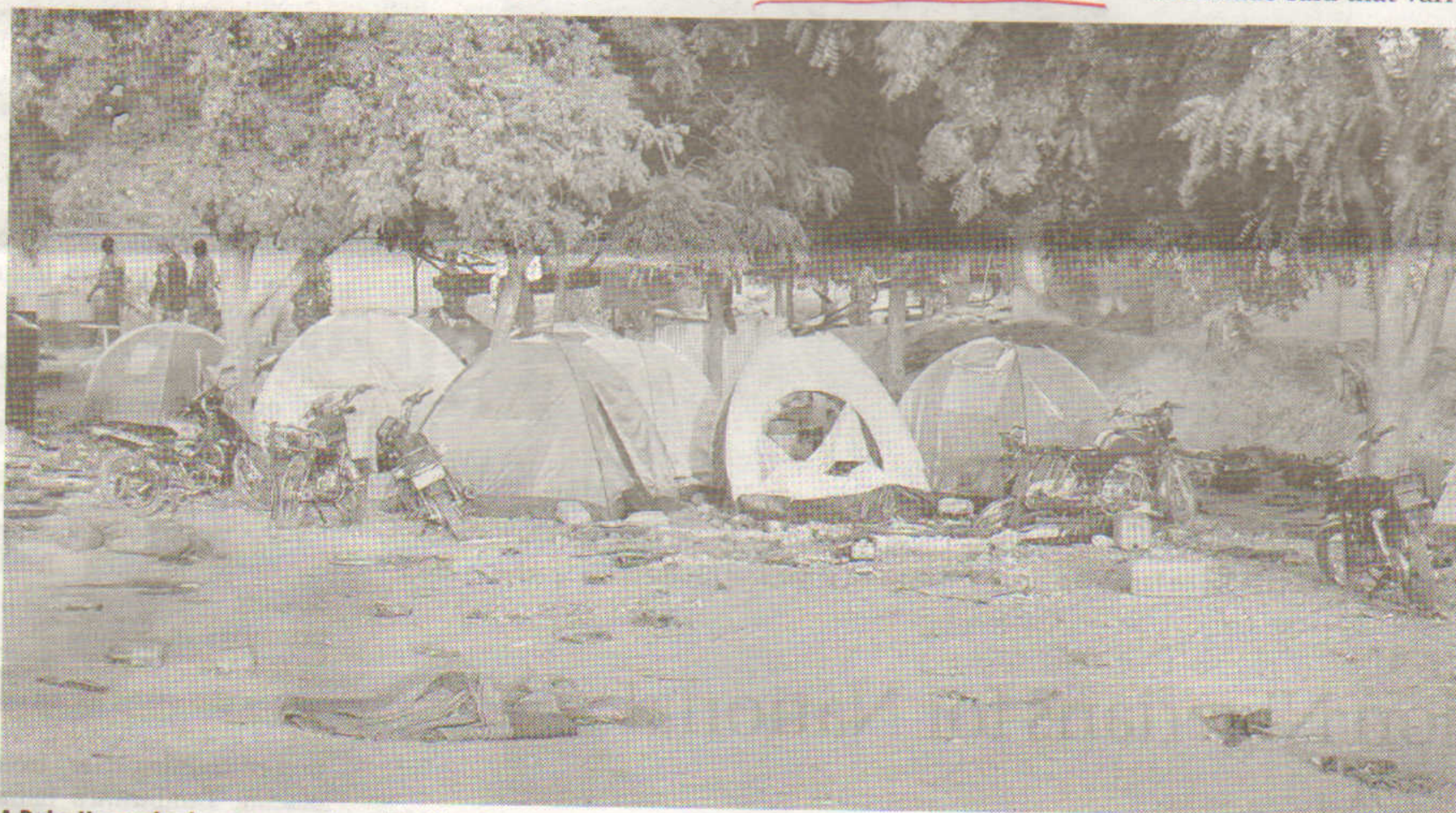
US, Israel behind B'Haram, ISIS —Sudanese President

SUDAN President, Omar al-Bashir has alleged that the American and Israeli intelligence agencies are responsible for Boko Haram and Islamic State (ISIS) insurgency in Africa.

According to him, the

US Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and Israel's national intelligence institute, Mossad are behind Boko Haram and ISIS attacks in Africa.

Speaking to *Euronews* in an interview, al-Bashir



A Boko Haram harbour area captured by Nigerian troops in two days of military operations to clear insurgents from 11 communities in the North-East. PHOTO: NAN