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## 74 men, 20 children killed for refusing to join Boko Haram —Damboa residents



Njaba Village, in Damboa Local Government Area of Borno State has come under attack by the Islamic sect, Boko Haram in the early hours of Thursday, as the insurgents slaughtered 74 men and 20 children who were said to have refused to join the sect when they arrived at the village to recruit more men to fight what they have declared a Holy

War against Nigerian government.

There was no official confirmation from either the police or the military authorities on the claims by both residents of Damboa and Chibok, where over 200 school girls were abducted early last year.

Nigerian Tribune spoke with security operatives in Maiduguri, the state capital on the attack and gathered that some of the insurgents who escaped were led by Commander Sidi Babangida, also known as Abu Sid, who had been on the wanted list of security operatives.

He was said to have attempted taking Damboa town on two occasions but failed and had since been recruiting more fighters for the sect in and around Damboa and Gujba local government areas of Borno and Yobe states.

A security source, who was not authorised to speak to press told the Nigerian Tribune that they had received the news of the attack this morning, which had it that 74 men and 20 children had been killed for refusing to join the Boko Haram fighters, but added that there was no official report on that, as security operatives have been detailed to Damboa to authenticate the claim from locals in the area.

"There was a report earlier by some local traders that they saw the sect members holding a meeting after they have been dislodged from Gujba and Damboa; so, it may be true, but try speak with the commissioner, he may oblige you more on that," he said.

Efforts to get the Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), DSP Gideon Jibril on his phone proved abortive, as his the line was busy and when the Nigerian Tribune visited the police headquarters in Maiduguri for confirmation, both the PPRO and the Police Commissioner were said not to be on seat as of the time of filing this report.

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