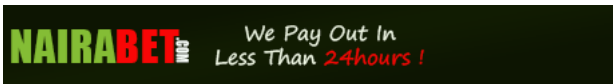


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UPDATED: Boko Haram hits Borno again, kills 13, injures 17, abducts 8 others (/updated-boko-haram-hits-borno-again-kills-13-injures-17-abducts-8-others)

December 27, 2015

No community under sect's control —NEMA

Written by: James Bwala -Maiduguri with Agency Report



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SOLDIERS of the Operation Lafiya Dole in Borno State have reportedly taken control of Kimba village in Gur ward of Biu Local Government following a night attack on the village by the Boko Haram terrorists on Friday.

The terrorists, Sunday Tribune gathered stormed the village around 8.30 p.m. on Christmas Day, killing 13 people and abducting eight others, while several others are said to be receiving treatment from injuries sustained in the attack.

Some of the residents of the village lamented that despite the village's closeness to Sabon Gari, where the military is stationed, they did not get rescue on time.

The attack was said to be the sixth the area witnessed in recent time.

"They burnt down our houses, killed our brothers and abducted our children. We are close to Sabon Gari and there are military there at Sabon Gari but they could not come to our rescue. Many people have been wounded. About 17 are currently being treated in Biu. We have lost 13 people and they took eight with them," a resident identified as Umar Sani informed Sunday Tribune.

But a military source, who spoke on a condition of anonymity on Saturday, after efforts to get the reaction of the spokesman of the Army, Col Sani Usman Kukasheka, were abortive, stated that the military took control of the situation before it went out of hand, noting that soldiers were already in the village.

Explaining the attack, the resident, Sani, however, said the Boko Haram militants had invaded the village in their usual manner, chanting "Allahu Akbar!" meaning "Allah is Great".



"We were about to visit one of our relations whose son got married earlier when we heard gunshots and thought the soldiers were the ones firing. But the firing persisted. At that time, they were just coming into the village, and before we could say anything, they began to set houses ablaze and we ran for our lives," he added.

"I slept in Sabon Gari. We informed the soldiers but they did not go to the village until this morning. For now, I can confirm to you that 13 people were killed and eight people were abducted; seven women and one boy, while 17 were wounded," Sani said.

Meanwhile, the Director-General of the National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA), Sani Sidi, at the weekend, said no community in the North-East remained under the control of Boko Haram insurgents.

It will be recalled that following the December 31 deadline given to the military to end Boko Haram insurgency, President Buhari had, during the week, maintained that the sect had been technically defeated.

Sidi, who was quoted by an online news medium, Premium Times, to have made the statement at an award ceremony organised by Northern Youth Council in Kaduna, said: "There is no community that has not been liberated from Boko Haram now. We should thank our soldiers and the commitment of President Muhammadu Buhari to making sure this has come to pass."

Sidi also hailed the president for reducing the work of the emergency agency from dealing with emergency situations to rehabilitation of victims of all kinds of emergency, noting that victims of disaster were no longer brought to the IDPs camps anywhere in the country.

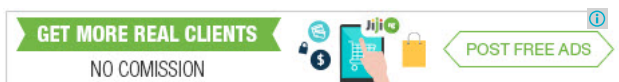
"We are soon getting over with the emergency issues; we are heading towards rehabilitation of IDPs instead. The government is working with various international agencies to make sure those at the IDPs camps are fully rehabilitated," Mr. Sidi said.

The youth council honoured Mr. Sidi with the award of Ambassador of Hope at an event held at the Kunfukun Hotel Kaduna.

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