

Boko Haram: Troops clear terrorists from Dure

JAMES BWALA - MAIDUGURI

SOLDIERS of 121 Task Force Battalion, 26 Task Force Brigade, has carried out a clearance operation at Dure district, on Saturday, as a result of intensified efforts towards clearing remnants of Boko Haram terrorists from some hideouts in the North-Eastern part of the country.

A statement from acting Director, Army Public Relations, Colonel Sani Usman, said during the encounter, troops met stiff

resistance from the terrorists.

The statement further read: "They, however, overcame and cleared Dure 1, Dure 2, Jango, Dibiye and other suspected Boko Haram terrorists' hideouts within the district. Three soldiers sustained injuries from an Improvised Explosive Device (IED); they were immediately evacuated for medical treatment and are in stable condition.

"During the operation, troops killed several terrorists and recovered two

hand-held Motorola radios, one of which was booby-trapped, as well as materials for making IEDs and destroyed several grains storage facilities."

2 Meanwhile, a combined team of units under 26 Task Force Brigade based in Gwoza, also on Saturday, cleared Amdaga Makaranta and Amdaga Madachi of terrorists' remnants, during which two terrorists were killed.

According to a statement, the operation further revealed the new and desperate strategy of the Boko Haram sect was hiding its logistics, especially grains for the rainy season in dugouts and the use of hand-held radios primed with IEDs, as booby-traps.

In another development, the GOC 7 Division of the Nigerian Army, with headquarters in Maiduguri, Brigadier-General Ezugwu, has assured that the military is confident that God, who gives victory, is helping the military to decode and frustrate all terrorists' evil plans and machinations.

Ezugwu further noted that it was the military's determined objective to ensure the Boko Haram menace would be consigned to the dustbin of inglorious history in the annals of Nigeria's corporate existence.

Abia rerun: INEC declares Oluwabunwa winner

CELESTINE INERRINA
UNMAHIA

THE Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) has declared Senator Mao Anjio Oluwabunwa of the Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) winner of the Abia North Senatorial rerun, which held at the weekend.

Returning Officer for the rerun, Dr Nduka Nwaankwojike, said six parties participated in the election.

The election, which the Returning Officer had earlier declared inconclusive

as of 7.00 a.m. on Sunday, was later reversed. The Returning Officer had consulted the INEC state headquarters in Umahia, the Abia State capital.

It was gathered from the result declared that Senator Oluwabunwa of the PDP polled 26,009; Dr Ojor Uzor of PPA scored 8,814; Mrs. Lanre Oluwalana of the All Progressives Congress (APC) polled 916; Chief David Ogba of APGA scored 13,633, LP, 147 and the UPP, 170.

Meanwhile, details of reactions will come in full details in Tuesday's edition.