

in Maiduguri, said this was part of efforts by the armed forces to degrade the rem-

Kukasheka added that they recovered four rifles, charged magazines and a Boko Haram terrorists who

the troops neutralised 3 Boko Haram terrorists and captured one other terrorist alive. While several terrorists were believed to have escaped with gunshot wounds.

"The troops also recovered one Fabrique Nationals (FN) rifle, one G3 rifle, charged magazines and a pair of military camouflage uniform suspected to have been used by the terrorists to disguise as military personnel.

with Dam Ogun to NA Ogi could detail

O I, f Oni OLO docu Gene

I, for Faide AJOB docu Gene

I, fo Rash OLA AJIB docu Gene

I, for Esthe OLA ESTI docu Gene

I, fo Khad WAF BISO rema Gene

I, fo now JOSE recor to re Gene

I, f Oluv now OLU All nam tenal note

S

Notice the C Comp The T

1. I 2. I 3. I 4. I

Alms 1. T 2. T

3. T 4. T

5. T 6. T

Any c Affair within

Bandits ambush soldiers in Zamfara

No soldier was killed —Army

NIGERIAN Army on Sunday confirmed an ambush by suspected bandits against its anti-terrorism team, on Friday, around Maru Local Government Area of Zamfara State.

Army Spokesman, Brigadier-General Usman Kukasheka, made the confirmation on telephone.

He, however, said none of the soldiers was killed during the attack.

Kukasheka also said the army headquarters was still gathering intelligence on the development.

Bandits had continued to terrorise innocent citizens in the state, especially in rural communities, but troops of Nigerian Army made their criminal operations uncomfortable.

A source at the 223 Light Tank Battalion of the Nigerian Army, Gusau, told the *News Agency of Nigeria (NAN)* that one soldier was wounded and two operational vehicles burnt by the hoodlums.

The source also said a number of the hoodlums were killed by soldiers, while some escaped with bullet wounds.

"Soldiers are on top of the situation," the source insisted.

In another development, troops of 93 Battalion, 13 Brigade Nigerian Army, at the weekend, based on a tip-off by security conscious and well-meaning Nigerians, arrested two suspected Boko Haram terrorists; Mallam Jamilu Adamu and Mallam Garba Adamu, found loitering around at Gishiri Village, Ibibi Local Government Area of Taraba State.

Preliminary investigation, according to a press statement by Brigadier-General Usman, revealed that they hailed from Kirta Village in Marte Local Government Area of Borno State.

It was further confirmed that they were fishermen in Kereta before they were abducted by Boko Haram terrorists, who engaged them as boat operators for two years.

nawi faction of the Boko Haram terrorists group.

The suspects also stated that they escaped to Gishiri Village from Boko Haram

terrorists because of the efforts of the military on the terrorists and realisation of the fallacy of the Boko Haram terrorists' ideology.

Appoint competent personnel to manage N/ East Development Commission, ACF tells Buhari

Shettima justifies establishment of commission

MUHAMMAD SABIU-KADUNA

AREWA Consultative Forum (ACF) has advised President Muhammadu Buhari to appoint competent and honest personnel to man the newly established North-East Development Commission (NEDC).

This was even as it commended Buhari for assenting to the North-East Development Commission, (Establishment) Bill 2017.

A statement issued to the *Nigerian Tribune* and signed by the National Publicity Secretary, Alhaji Muhammad Ibrahim Biu, noted that "This act is clear indication that President Buhari is humane in spirit, moral in purpose and wise in executing his mandate.

"This is because the Act mandates the NEDC to now receive and manage funds from the Federal Government, International Donor Agencies and other philanthropic organisation and individuals for the resettlement, rehabilitation and reconstruction of areas af-

fected by the insurgency in the North East region.

"The commission will also coordinate projects and programmes of human and social services, infrastructure, agriculture, wealth creation and employment opportunities in the region."

It will be recalled that Adamawa, Borno, Yobe, Taraba, Gombe and Bauchi states within the North-East have suffered loss of lives and property, due to untoward activities of the Boko Haram insurgency in the last seven years.

The statement maintained that, "The untold hardship of the over 2.5 million internally displaced persons (IDPs) who were dislodged from their permanent abodes by the insurgents and now living in IDPs' camps dotted in the states, particularly in Borno, Yobe and Adamawa, is most pathetic.

Meanwhile, Borno State governor, Alhaji Kashim Shettima, on Sunday, said the establishment NEDC was a direct response to

the large scale devastation caused to the North-East by Boko Haram insurgents.

The governor said this in a statement signed by his Special Assistant on Communications and Media Strategy, Malam Isa Gusau in Maiduguri.

According to the governor, the effect of Boko Haram insurgency such that no geopolitical zone would wish to experience.

Shettima said, "Having a commission like the NEDC is a direct response to large scale devastation which no geopolitical zone should wish to experience."

He said Borno would have to experience 50 years of backwardness due to destruction caused by the Boko Haram.

"A comprehensive assessment report by the World Bank put the damage at over \$9 billion U.S dollars."

NEDC will set out for the recovery of this backwardness so that the state recovers earlier than it would have taken us to recover," the governor stated.

Fashola inaugurates mobile transformers in Kaduna, Katsina

MUHAMMAD SABIU-KADUNA

THE Minister of Power, Works and Housing, Mr Babatunde Raji Fashola, has inaugurated two power transformers in Kaduna and Katsina states.

The minister said the installation and inauguration of the 40MVA Mobile Transformer in Zaria, Kaduna substation and 60MVA Power transformer in Funtua, Katsina substation was part

the challenges encountered in generation and distribution of power supply across the country.

Fashola while inaugurating the Mobile Transformer in Zaria on Sunday, said "this particular mobile substation is one out of the six 40MVA mobile sub-stations that my ministry empowered Transmission Company of Nigeria, TCN, to procure for deployment to overloaded transmission substation na-

stallation and inaugurating to ameliorate the precarious suppressed load challenge in the substation.

Also speaking at Funtua, he said his ministry had empowered TCN to procure and install 60MVA power transformers in order to replace faulty ones in the system, adding that the ongoing upgrade and re-enforcement of the generating stations would increase the capacity of substations to distribute