

Troops kill four Boko Haram terrorists, clear Borno villages

TROOPS have killed four Boko Haram terrorists in a clearance operation tagged, "Operation Hard Strike," at villages in Borno State, the military authorities announced on Sunday.

Army spokesman, Colonel Sagir Musa, made the announcement in a statement sent to the *News Agency of Nigeria (NAN)* in Abuja.

Musa said troops had cleared Surdewalla, Ranwa, Baladayo, Sabon Gari and Shetimeri villages, where the terrorists previously operated in.

He said that during the op-

eration, a makeshift shelter, erected by the terrorists was destroyed by troops and that soldiers deployed at the Forward Operation Base in Gajigana, ambushed terrorists attempting to infiltrate the town.

"Unconfirmed number of terrorists was exterminated and two soldiers were wounded during the encounter. The soldiers are stable and currently receiving treatment in a military hospital," he said.

Musa said that the army's 177 Task Force Battalion, in collaboration with Civilian Joint Task Force (JTF), also

cleared Mboa, Mboa-Kura, Yarchida, Bombula, Tshata and Bamzir villages.

He said that one AK-47 rifle, three magazines, 50 rounds of 7.62mm special ammunition and one magazine bandolier were recovered from the terrorists.

"There was no casualty on the troops or the Civilian JTF," Musa stated.

Meanwhile in Katsina State, bandits killed one person, while injuring three in an attack on Wagini village in Batsari Local Government Area of the state.

The state's Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Mr

Gambo Isah, confirmed this in a statement on Sunday.

Isah said, "On Friday, May 10, at about 11:00 p.m, bandits in their numbers attacked Wagini village, in Batsari LGA, shot and killed one Saidu Garba, while injuring three others."

"The bandits also torched some thatched huts in Batsari market."

The police spokesperson said the command had commenced investigations into the attack.

He added that efforts were ongoing to ascertain whether there was any connection between the attack and the kill-

ing of a suspected informant of the criminals by members of the vigilance group in Batsari.

The command's spokesman assured the people that the police were already on the trail of the attackers with a view to bringing them to justice.

It was reported that the bandits set houses, cars, and other properties of residents ablaze.

One of the victims claimed that the attack was a reprisal following the killing of a suspected bandit by some members of the Civilian Joint Task Force (JTF).

Bauchi gov