

Army captures more terrorists, rescues over 165 women, children

THE Nigerian Army said its troops had neutralised and captured more Boko Haram/Islamic State of West Africa's Province (ISWAP) terrorists and rescued 165 women and children from their captivity in Borno State.

The Nigerian Army Operations Media Coordinator, Colonel Aminu Iliyasu, in a statement on Thursday in Abuja said the operations were carried out in conjunction with the troops of Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJT), according to the *News Agency of Nigeria (NAN)*.

Iliyasu said the troops of the Nigerian Army Super-Camp 7 deployed in Bama area of the state killed one terrorist, captured one alive and rescued eight women and six children at Tafana one, two and three

villages in Bama on December 27, 2019.

He disclosed that the rescued children were immediately administered with polio vaccines.

According to him, the troops captured Boko Haram flags, recovered 16 arrows and 32 refilled rounds of 7.62 millimetres special ammunition during the encounter.

Iliyasu also disclosed that troops of the 25 Task Force Brigade deployed in Super Camp 2 in Damboa, arrested a high-profiled Boko Haram informant/logistics supplier, Ibrahim Buba, and two others suspected to be his couriers at Shuwari village in Damboa district.

He added that troops of the 242 Battalion in Monguno arrested suspected terrorists' logistics suppliers, Abubakar Aisami and Modu Baba, with

foodstuff and drugs concealed in a bag of mashed corn powder for delivery to the terrorists.

Iliyasu further disclosed that the troops of Sector 3 Mobile Team in conjunction with elements of Sector 2 Multi National Joint task Force recovered and destroyed 15 vehicles belonging to the Boko Haram terrorists in northern Borno.

He added that the troops also arrested 75 suspected Boko Haram agents and rescued 147 civilians comprising 79 males and 68 females who had been under the captivity of the terrorists.

According to him, the rescued civilians were conveyed to a humanitarian facility in Monguno and thereafter handed over to officials of the Borno State Emergency Management Agency.

"The children among them were administered with polio vaccines by the Buratai Intervention Task Force Initiative," he said.

Iliyasu also noted that the Nigerian troops of 35 Battalion in Katsina State in conjunction with the State Amnesty Committee had achieved milestone in addressing the menace of banditry in the state.

In Zamfara, he said the troops of 8 Division neutralised a bandits and recovered one AK-47 rifle loaded with 13 rounds of 7.62 millimetres special ammunition and rustled animals.

"Also of significant note, troops of 1 Division Garrison on 25 December 2019 during security patrols arrested one Mr Moses Ali with a locally made gun loaded with nine rounds of 7.62mm Special

ammunition at Ningon Gari in Sanga LGA of Kaduna State.

"The same gallant troops arrested seven suspects during a cordon and search operations conducted at 13 settlements of Kuyeri Mountains on Jere – Kagarko Road in Kagarko Local Government Area of Kaduna State," he added.

Iliyasu said the troops of Operation MESA in Plateau State also arrested five suspected Sara Suka militia group members with quantities of substance suspected to be cannabis sativa and other illicit drugs in Jos North area.

He added that the chairmen of Langtang North and South local government areas handed over the recovered weapons and accessories from repentant militias to the troops of the Nigerian

Army Forward Operational Base, Shendam on December 24.

"This landmark submission of arms and ammunition portend great prospect for a reign of peace and security on the Plateau and its adjoining environs.

"The Chief of Army Staff, Lieutenant-General Tukur Buratai, has commended personnel of the Nigerian Army for the successes so far recorded throughout the year 2019 in Operation Lafiya Dole and all other operations across the country.

"He assures them of improved welfare in the year 2020 and further commends field commanders and principal staff officers as well as other officers and men for their efforts in implementation all strategic directives in the preceding year," he said.

Kaduna train attack: