

eration at the Force Headquarters, Abuja, by the Inspector-General of Police, Mohammed Adamu, on Monday. Photo: Sunday Usunrayi

Troops eliminate 81 Boko Haram fighters, lose soldier to landmine attack in Sambisa

Fleeing terrorists raze Zira, Gur villages

THE Nigerian troops have eliminated 81 Boko Haram fighters in Sambisa axis, but sadly lost one soldier to landmine attack.

PRNigeria also gathered that fleeing terrorists have continued to wreak havoc, razing villages on their escape routes.

The troops of Sector 1, comprising 21 and 26 Brigades supported by the Multi-National Joint Task Force (MNJTF) cleared many terrorists' villages on the axis, including Garin Bello, Kwoche, Lawanti,

Alfa Bula Hassan, Alfa Cross, among others.

A military intelligence source said the troops encountered stiff resistance from the terrorists who laid improvised explosive devices along the troops' axis of advance.

"The relentless troops destroyed the terrorists' camps and recovered gun trucks and weapons as NAF aircraft continue to provide close air and interdiction support to the ground forces.

"Regrettably, a soldier

paid the supreme sacrifice, while four other soldiers got wounded in the incident," the intelligence officer added.

In a message to the troops on behalf of the Chief of Army Staff, Major-General Ibrahim Attahiru, the Theatre Commander, 'Operation Lafiya Dole', Major-General Farouk Yahaya, praised the gallantry of the troops, urging them to sustain it.

He also paid tribute to the fallen hero, as he urged the troops to honour his mem-

ory by dealing ruthlessly with the terrorists.

Meanwhile, *PRNigeria* learnt that a large number of fleeing Boko Haram terrorists invaded Zira and Gur villages in Biu South Local Government Area of Borno State.

The terrorists stormed the communities around 4.30 p.m. on Sunday on motorcycles and gun trucks, setting many houses ablaze.

The NAF aircraft later engaged the fleeing terrorists with firepower from the air.

Overpopulation, agitation for more arable land, reasons for