NEWS

Boko Haram kills seven soldiers, others in Borno

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Our correspondent learnt that the attack, which occurred on Wednesday and lingered till Friday, resulted in a fierce clash that led to the death of scores of the terrorists as well.

A lieutenant, whose name has yet to be ascertained, was among the slain soldiers.

A member of the vigilance group, who identified himself only as Kabiru, said, "The bodies of three soldiers were recovered on Thursday, but by Friday, the toll had increased to seven. The attack lasted for hours and the troops also shot dead a large number of the insurgents."

Meanwhile, the Nigerian Air Force said on Friday that it had shot dead dozens of Boko Haram members sighted at a location in the Tagoshe area of Borno.

The NAF Alpha fighter jet reportedly bombed Tagoshe and Mandara Mountain general areas, which are about 10km south-west of Gwoza in the northern part of Borno.

The NAF Director of Public Relations and Information, Group Captain Ayodele Famuyiwa, who confirmed the attack on Friday, said there was an intelligence report by the surface forces that remnants of the fleeing terrorists were gathered at the location.

He said, "We confirmed from the NAF Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance aircraft, before combat platforms were called in to strike the location.

"A follow-up battle damage assessment confirmed that the air attack was successful as shown by the enclosed declassified footage of the operation."

The Director, Army Public Relations, Brig. Gen. Sani Usman, and the 7 Division, Maiduguri, Spokesman, Lt. Col Kingsley Samuel, could not be reached for comment as of press time.

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