

B'Haram kills four soldiers, burns army base in Borno

Olaleye Aluko with agency report

Boko Haram terrorists have attacked an army convoy near Gubdori village in Borno State, killing four soldiers while four others were missing.

The insurgents, said to be from the Al-Barnawi faction, opened fire on the soldiers on Thursday, as the troops approached Gulumba town.

During the encounter, five soldiers were also injured, apart from the deceased and the missing.

An army source said, "The troops came under attack near Gubdori village yesterday. We lost four men in the ambush. Five were injured and four are also missing. The Islamists opened fire on us while we were heading into Gulumba."

Our correspondent learnt that the insurgents also attacked an army base in Wajirko village, and burnt the place, forcing soldiers to scamper to safety as they called for reinforcements.

The base is said to be 150 kilometres away from Maiduguri, the state capital.

The Director, Army Public

Relations, Brig. Gen. Sani Usman, had yet to comment on the attacks as of the time of filing this report.

Usman, however, told our correspondent on Wednesday that the Boko Haram remnants were showing desperation.

"There are signs of desperation on the part of the remnants of the Boko Haram terrorist group. But we are determined to clear them all. Nigerians should continue to trust and have confidence in the ability of the army as we clear the remnants," he said.

In the Wajirko attack, it was gathered that when military reinforcements arrived at the base, the terrorists had fled. Some of them were reportedly killed and others escaped with injuries.

A resident of Wajirko, identified only as Bukar who spoke with Agence France-Presse, said, "The gunmen arrived in pickups and engaged soldiers in the base just outside the village in a heavy shootout. The soldiers were outgunned and forced to withdraw from the base and allowed the gunmen to take over the base which they looted and set on fire."

\$232m needed to tackle food cr