

NEWS

We killed two Shekau's deputies on salah day –Military

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Olaleye Aluko with agency report

The Nigerian Army, on Tuesday, said two Boko Haram commanders were killed in a successful military operation at Alafa in Borno State on salah day.

Army spokesman, Brig. Gen. Sani Usman, said in a statement that the commanders, who were killed in the onslaught, were deputies to the Boko Haram factional leader, Abubakar Shekau.

The Boko Haram commanders were Afdi Kawuri and Abubakar Banishek.

“This is in addition to Ba’Abba Ibrahim and two other Boko Haram commanders that died after sustaining injuries during their last ambush in the Magumeri Local Government Area of Borno State,” he added.

He stated that five other key leaders of the group and close associates of Shekau were neutralised in joint bombardment in August.

Usman described Shekau's latest video, in which he taunted the Army, as an act of desperation and lies by remnants of the insurgents to instil unnecessary fear in law abiding citizens.

In the video, the group denied the killing of its five key commanders and claimed it had wonderful sallah celebration in the Sambisa Forest.

Meanwhile, the Army, on Wednesday, likened Shekau to a bush rat, saying the 40-day ultimatum to capture him forced the terrorist leader to change his locations continuously.

Usman, who is the Director, Army Public Relations, said in a statement that Shekau was presently scared of being captured as he had been running from "one hole to another."

"We challenge the so-called terrorist leader to produce the five commanders earlier killed. It is instructive to also note that Shekau is scared and rattled by the 40-day ultimatum issued by the Chief of Army Staff to the Theatre Commander of *Operation Lafiya Dole*.

"He is hiding from one hole to another, like the bush rat that he really is."

Also, some farmers in Maiduguri, on Wednesday, appealed to military authorities to deploy personnel to Alau Ngafate community to enable them to harvest and evacuate their farm produce.

They also called for patrol and surveillance in the area to check the spate of attacks by

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The Wa...
protect them from the atrocities of the terrorists.

Lawal lamented that Boko Haram recently killed, maimed and abducted many farmers while working in the farms in the area.

He added, "On Monday, Boko Haram insurgents attacked and beheaded two farmers while two others were still missing.

“We are a farming community of about 5,000 people. We cultivated crops such as cassava, maize, sorghum, millet and vegetables.

“It is now time for harvest, but we could not go to the farms for fear of the insurgents.”

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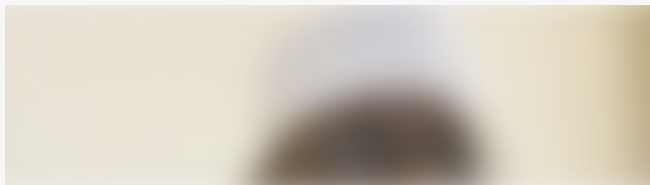
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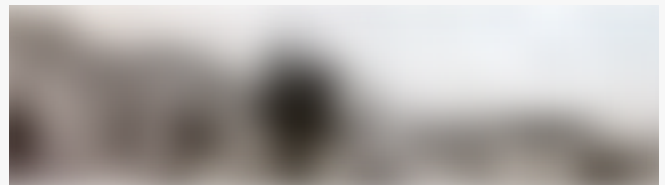
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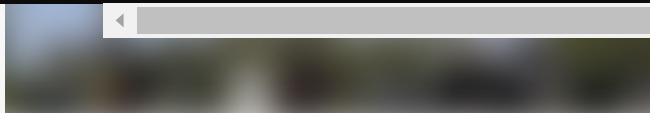
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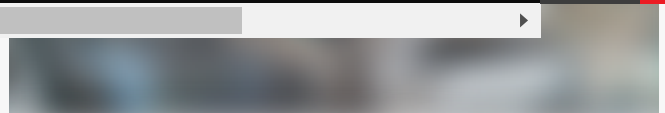
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