

Sadiq Wada, during the December breakfast meeting of...
 Photo: Odutayo Odusanya

B'Haram explosive kills major, troops rescue 31

Olaleye Aluko, Abuja

TROOPS of the Nigerian Army attached to *Operation Lafiya Dole* have conducted clearance operations in three villages in the Bama Local Government Area of Borno State, rescuing 31 women and children from the Boko Haram insurgents after a gun battle.

This is just as an Improvised Explosive Device planted by the terrorists killed an officer of the Nigerian Army in the Marte Local Government Area of Borno

State on Saturday.

The army said on Monday that the 31 persons abducted by the Boko Haram fighters were rescued in Mantari, Malam Masari and Gabchari villages and comprised 14 women and 17 children.

Military sources, who confirmed the death of the army officer, a Major, said he was attached to the 153 Task Force Battalion. The officer was reportedly leading a patrol in the area when the explosive went off.

The Nigerian Army Operations

Media Coordinator, Col Aminu Iliyasu, said in a release that the troops recovered two AK-47 rifles, magazines loaded with 30 rounds of 7.62mm special ammunition each, three unexploded mortar bombs, one IED battery, one camel bag and three motorcycles.

Iliyasu said, "In an ambush operation conducted by the troops of 21 Special Armoured Brigade at Darel Jamel, Bama LGA of Borno State, the troops neutralised one Boko Haram terrorist while several others

escaped with gunshot injuries. The troops also conducted a robust clearance operation and cleared Boko Haram criminals' hideouts at Mantari, Malam Masari and Gabchari villages. During the operation, troops neutralised one Boko Haram criminal and rescued 31 persons, comprising 14 women and 17 children, from the insurgents.

"Also in Ngala Gamboru area, a Boko Haram member, Abba Modu, voluntarily surrendered to the troops of 3 Battalion. Preliminary investigation revealed that he joined the sect in 2015 and was a member of Mamman Nur group. He also disclosed that he actively participated in rustling cattle

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to recover pensions from ex-governors' Let's support United

etc. We need to join hands to develop our society because if we