

B'Haram attacks Borno village, many soldiers feared killed

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FILE: Boko Haram members

By Isah Ojo

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Suspected Boko Haram insurgents on Sunday attacked a military formation in Izge village under Gwoza Local Government Area of Borno state, killing a yet-to-be known number of soldiers.

Confirming the attack to The PUNCH

The Public Relations Officer, Headquarters, Theater Command of Operation Hadin Kai, Capt Reuben Kavongiya, confirmed the attack but said he would give details later.

“I will confirm details and get back,” he told our correspondent.

According to security sources, who did not want to be named for lack of authorisation, the insurgent made efforts to raid the camp at about 1 am of Sunday before they were repelled by the soldiers.

The Chairman of Gwoza Local Government Area, Abba Timta, also confirmed the attack, saying, “Scores of the terrorists were killed during the clash.”

While the number of the killed soldiers is currently unknown, sources claimed that many of the terrorist left with gunshot injuries

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“Soldiers were killed, but there were more casualties on the insurgent’s side with many fleeing with gunshot injuries” the military source said.

A resident in Gwoza, who pleaded anonymity claimed that local vigilantes and hunters collaborated with the military to repel the terrorist group who came in large numbers

“We learnt of the incident as it occurred in Izge today. The news circulating here has it that the Boko Haram group attacked en masse but were repelled by the joint effort of local hunters and vigilantes and especially vigilantee,” the source said.

The incident comes weeks after Boko Haram terrorists attacked a military base in Sabon Gari, Damboa Local Government Area of Borno State.

Local sources confirmed to *The PUNCH* that the attack occurred in the evening of Monday, March 24 when the insurgents launched an assault on the military formation, firing sporadically and causing numerous casualties, including soldiers killed and others critically injured.

Although details of the attack remain scarce, a resident of Damboa, Abba Usman, provided additional information, saying that military reinforcements rushing to the scene stepped on a landmine, causing an explosion that resulted in injuries and possibly more casualties.

“I do not have much information, but I can confirm that there was an attack and soldiers were killed. Here, we also heard about how soldiers rushing to the base for reinforcement stepped on something like a bomb, and it exploded,” Usman said.