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## Boko Haram:Army launches fresh offensive

Our Reporter

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From TIMOTHY OLANREWAJU, Maiduguri

The Nigerian Army yesterday, said its troops, with air support from the men of the Air Force, launched fierce offensive at Boko Haram camps in Borno killing scores of insurgents.

Spokesman of the 7 Division of the Nigerian Army, Lieutenant Colonel Mohammad Dole, told journalists in Maiduguri that simultaneous operations conducted by the troops around Ngala and Bama, east of Borno in conjunction with the Close Air Support from the Nigerian Air Force, led to the death of, "several Boko Haram terrorists" while some equipment believed to be part of the insurgents' war arsenal were destroyed.

"In simultaneous operations, troops from 5 Brigade at Gamboru Ngala axis and 21 Brigade at general area of Bama Kelani road, recorded huge success on Monday November 4, 2013. This was done in conjunction with Close Air Support from 79 Composite Group and other sophisticated platforms from the Nigerian Air Force.

"During the operations, several Boko Haram terrorists were killed and others were fatally injured. A total of 13 vehicles and several motorcycles belonging to the terrorists in Borno operations were destroyed. Some of the vehicles destroyed were containing Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs) meant to be detonated in some towns and villages within Borno State. Several arms and ammunition were also captured," Dole said.

He explained that the insurgents had been arbitrarily blocking roads around Gamboru-Ngala-Mafa, Dikwa and Marte, causing havoc to motorists and the surrounding villages. "The Bama-Kelani-Pulka-Firgi general areas were hitherto, infested with incessant insurgents' attacks and looting which cast fear and anxiety among the populace," he stated.

He said that the 7 Division of the Nigerian Army was able to trace the insurgents' camps and hideouts, "and eventually destroyed them," Dole said that the General Officer Commanding 7 Division Nigerian Army, Maj Gen Obadiah Ethan, has expressed his appreciation to the people

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