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38 Boko Haram suspects, one soldier killed in fresh offensive

Our Reporter

January 10, 2014

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From TIMOTHY OLANREWAJU, Maiduguri

The military said yesterday that 38 Boko Haram terror suspects were killed by soldiers in ground offensive following attempts by the insurgents to attack a restive community in the southern part of Borno State.

A statement issued yesterday by spokesman of the 7 Division of the Nigerian Army, Maiduguri, Colonel Muhammad Dole, said regular and robust patrols of Damboa, about 56 kilometres from Maiduguri, former stronghold of the insurgents yesterday morning, led to the killing of 38 suspects. He said a soldier was killed in the encounter while two others were injured.

"During their regular robust patrols of their Area of Responsibility (AOR), the troops of 195 Battalion in Damboa successfully repelled planned Boko Haram terrorists' attack on residents and military camp. In the early hours (0100 hours) of Thursday, January 9, 2014, the insurgents attempted to launch attack on Damboa to cause havoc and mayhem. But due to timely information and gallantry displayed by the troops, the attack was repelled and inflicted heavy casualty on the terrorists

"While the encounter lasted, 38 Boko Haram terrorists were killed and some fled with various degrees of injuries. Three vehicles, one Toyota Sienna LE marked Borno AE 844 DKW laden with cylinders and Improvised Explosive Devices," Dole said in the statement.

Other items recovered, according to the spokesman, include one Mercedes Benz 911 truck marked SA 575 BBU loaded with 200 bags of foodstuff and one Mitsubishi Canter truck (XD 441 GG). He also said a large cache of arms of high caliber weapons and ammunition "comprises of General Purpose Machine Guns (GPMGs), Light Machine Guns (LMGs) and two AK 47 rifles were seized.

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"However, one soldier was killed and two sustained injuries. They are receiving medical treatment. Combined ground troops and Nigerian Air Force aircraft are tactically pursuing the fleeing terrorists in the ongoing operation in the general area of Damboa and surrounding villages.

The General Officer Commanding 7 Division appeals to the general public to avail the troops with information for successful tracking of the fleeing insurgents. He equally appreciates their cooperation and understanding," the statement added.

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kudos to the Nigerian Military

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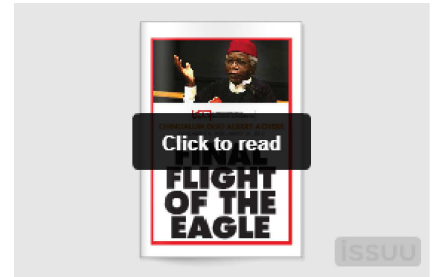
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