Military rescues 20 hostages from Boko Haram camps

FROM TIMOTHY OLANREWAJU, MAIDUGURI

he Nigerian military has recorded more success in its counter-insurgency operations in the northeast as troops rescued 20 children and women from Boko Haram camps in the central part of Borno during a major offensive.

The media coordinator of the counter-insurgency operations, Operation Lafiya Dole, in the northeast, Colonel Tukur Gusau, said in a statement that the operation took place in Bama Local Government Area yesterday, where four Boko Haram camps were cleared, 14 children and six women rescued. A good number of Boko Haram fighters were killed while two were arrested, Gusau said

"The troops of 103 Battalion under 21 Brigade early this morning (yesterday) conducted 23 kilometer wide clearance operations in Rigaga and its adjourning villages in Bama axis.

"The operation recorded a major success. Four Boko Haram terrorist enclaves along the route of the operations were cleared and a number of terrorists were killed while two were captured alive and currently undergoing interrogation in accordance with the Nigerian Army rules of engagement," he stated

He said the 20 rescued persons were already receiving medical treatment and "other necessary attention" in one of the military facilities.

He also disclosed that troops of 28 Task Force Brigade conducted "reconnaissance patrol to identify possible blocking positions" along Bitta Yamteke Road, adding that some improvised explosive devices (IEDs)-making materials, were recovered during the operation.

These materials, according to him, included two cylinders, one Motorola Radio, one Garmin GPS Detonating Cords and one RPG bomb.

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