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## Boko Haram: Soldiers kill 9, six wounded

— 2nd May 2016

- Destroy another bomb-making factory in Borno, storm Sambisa

From Molly Kilete, Abuja and Timothy Olanrewaju, Maiduguri

THE Nigerian Army said yesterday, its soldiers on counter terrorism operation in Borno State destroyed another bomb-making factory, belonging to Boko Haram.

The factory located at Ngala town, was discovered by soldiers of 3 Battalion, 22 Brigade of Operation Lafiya Dole on security operation to rout terrorists in the area.

Items recovered from the Improvised Explosive Device factory (IED) were 20 gas cylinders of various sizes prepared and ready for explosive insertion, primers,

gun powder, electric wires and tape recorders, amongst other items.

The army said the destruction of the factory would greatly reduce incessant cases of explosion by the terrorists who have continued to attack innocent citizens, military and soft targets through vehicular and human borne Improvised Explosive Devices (IED).

The army, in a statement, noted that despite its offensive operation to clear remnants of Boko Haram terrorists, "those arrested have continued to keep the location of the IED manufacturing factory a secret until it was discovered by soldiers."

In a related development, the army said its soldiers killed nine terrorists in what it described as a "pre-emptive strike" to foil a planned attack by the terrorists on the military and civilians at Wunbi in Kala Balge Local Government area of Borno state.

The army also said six soldiers, who sustained gunshot injuries during the operation were successfully evacuated for medical attention and are responding to treatment.

The pre-emptive attack, according to the army, was carried out following intelligence report about the attack and the location of the terrorists adding that it was While on a patrol that the troops encountered the terrorists at Tatakura village 20km South West of Wumbi."

It says "There was heavy exchange of fire at the end of which 9 Boko Haram terrorists were killed.

"Troops captured three AK-47 rifles, one Fabrique Nationale rifle, one General Purpose Machine Gun, a 60mm Mortar Tube, one Rocket Propelled Grenade, seven (RPG 7) Tube, one G3-Machine Gun and seven Fabrique Nationale Magazines..

In another development, the military has commenced offensive operation on Sambisa, a known Boko Haram stronghold and operational base of the group in the central part of Borno State.

Commander of Operation Lafiya Dole, Maj. Gen Lucky Irabor, yesterday, told newsmen that based on recent successes of the military operations in the North East, troops were already in the insurgents' stronghold.

"Troops are deep into the forest of Sambisa now to fish out Boko Haram," Gen Irabor said in Maiduguri yesterday.

He, however, did not give further details, saying the operation is still ongoing.

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