

Red alert as Army, Boko Haram exchange fire

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•13 terrorists, 7 others killed

•Soldiers recover arms, vehicles, foodstuffs

From **Fred Itua** and **Molly Kilete**, Abuja

Troops from 8 Task Force Division, Nigerian Army, at the weekend on counter insurgency operations in the Lake Chad area killed 13 members of the Boko-Haram Islamist group and recovered arms and ammunition from them.

This was coming at a time security agencies in the Federal Capital Territory (FCT), yesterday urged citizens to be watchful over threats by Boko Haram to bomb Abuja dominated an emergency meeting called by Minister of FCT, Muhammad Bello

In the military-Boko Haram clash, soldiers on a clearance mission of the terrorists' hideouts and what was left of their logistics holding, recorded a sound victory, killing 13 terrorists and recovering vehicles and foodstuffs from the fleeing terrorists.

A statement by Colonel Timothy Antigha, Deputy Director in charge of Public Relations 8, Task Force Division, admitted that the troops came under heavy fire from the terrorists at Chikun Gudu, Tumbuma Karami and Tumbuma Baba.

Other items recovered by the soldiers included three AK-47 rifles, one pump action rifle, assorted rifle magazines, 306 rounds of ammunition, toolbox, deep freezer and a Toyota gun truck.

Antigha also said troops of 242 Battalion, acting on a tip-off, arrested 10 suspected Boko Haram smugglers comprising six females and four males at Monguno and Nolwodo Malgori with assorted household items, foodstuffs and cash.

He said "the suspects are being profiled to determine the extent of their involvement in Boko Haram insurgency."