

Military, Boko Haram clash 3

- As insurgents move to invade military base in Borno
- We neutralised them, destroyed their 7 gun trucks –Military

From **Timothy Olanrewaju**,
Maiduguri

BOKO Haram has again
overrun a town in the central

part of Borno State nearly
a month after the resettlement of the residents by the government.

The insurgents stormed Marte, a town at the shores of Lake Chad, at about 5:30 pm on Friday, security

sources said.

Residents who were recently relocated and resettled in the town by the state government ran into different directions as the insurgents targeted a military base, the sources claimed.

It was learnt that military troops engaged the insurgents in a gun battle for hours. Details of casualties were sketchy as at press time.

News of the attack was not immediately known in Maiduguri due to a breakdown of telecom services in the area. Marte is some 110 kilometres from Maiduguri, the state capital.

The military in a statement said troops neutralised the terrorists, destroyed seven gun trucks and recovered some arms.

“Troops of Operation TURA TAKAIBANGO in conjunction with the Air Task Force Operation LAFTYA DOLE have effectively destroyed seven Boko Haram/ISWAP terrorists’ gun trucks and decimated several unconfirmed numbers of terrorists when they attempted to attack their location at the outskirts of Marte in Marte Local Government Area of Borno State,” Acting Director, Defence Media Operations, Defence, Brig Gen Benard Onyeuko disclosed.

Armed Forces Remembrance Day: Don't ignore ex-servicemen, veterans warn FG

By **Henry Uche**

SOME retired military personnel have warned the Federal Government against ignoring the plight of ex-servicemen in the country, saying that such an act might spell doom for the country.

This came as one of the veterans, Air Commodore Abayomi Balogun (rtd), called for a change in approach and tactics by the Armed Forces in tackling insecurity in the country.

Balogun who made this known over the weekend on AIT Live Kakaaki programme; urged the Federal Government to utilize the mental prowess of ex-servicemen in training and equipping young and active military officers instead of spending much on hiring foreign trainers. He stressed the need to change strate-

gies following the advent of new technologies, research, and development in solving problems. He suggested that the military should go back to the old national security strategy framework.

He warned the Federal Government not to take the debarment and other allowances of ex-military personnel for granted, adding that any negligence on this may trigger them to use their skills.

He said: “We need a change of tactics as well as synergy from other armed services because the Army cannot do it alone. The government should adopt private military contractors made up of ex-servicemen to do what they hire foreign veterans to do; we must look within because we have what it takes to do what those people are hired to do.”