

Thousands of Euros Found on Dead Boko Haram Commander

- *Troops repel attack on Dikwa on Saturday*
- *Sect in deadly raid on Borno town*

Thousands of euro currency were found on the body of a terrorist commander after troops successfully repelled a terrorist on Mafa towards the border.

The terrorist who is also an Amir by status and believed to be of foreign descent, is among about 30 terrorist fighters who died in the encounter while many others fled with wounds.

The terrorists also lost a number of weapons and equipment including the 13 rifles, a machine gun, rocket propelled grenade tubes and several other assorted ammunition which were captured.

A statement by the Director of Defence Information, Major Chris Olukolade, said a Toyota Bufallo vehicle was also recovered from the terrorists.

He said two of their armoured vehicles were also destroyed

in the battle, adding that the only casualty on the side of own troops was a damaged equipment.

According to the defence spokesperson, mopping up operations was ongoing in the general area, adding that the offensive on all terrorists hideouts is continuing in many fronts.

Meanwhile, Boko Haram fighters killed several people and destroyed dozens of homes in a raid on a town in Borno State, local residents, a vigilante and the military said on Sunday.

Scores of militants in trucks and on motorcycles stormed the town of Gubio, 95 kilometres (60 miles) by road north of the state capital, Maiduguri, on Saturday night.

"Boko Haram invaded our town last night and killed many of our people and burnt more than half of the town," a resident, Babor Kachalla, who fled to Maiduguri following the attack, told AFP.

"We all fled into the bush amid volleys of bullets and rockets. We lost many people in the attack because the gunmen overpowered the soldiers guarding the town," he added, without specifying a death toll.

Another resident, Adam Kakami, said the attackers, who were dressed in military uniform, withdrew after six hours.

"We stayed in the bush from where we could hear sounds of guns up to 3:00 a.m. when the shooting stopped but we could

see fire from all over the town.

"We decided not to return and moved towards Maiduguri because we were afraid they would return," he added.

Civilian vigilante, Babagana Gunda, predicted a high death toll because Boko Haram "had a field day."

Last November, the insurgents invaded Gubio but were repelled by troops and vigilantes guarding the town.

A military officer in Maiduguri, who asked not to be identified because he is not authorised to speak to the media, said reinforcements succeeded in pushing the Islamists out of the town.

"The terrorists suffered heavy casualties but they inflicted large-scale damage on the town as half of it was burnt with rockets fired by the terrorists," he added.