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By Kingsley Omonobi, Bala Ajiya and Ndahi Marama

It was a harvest of deaths as about 81 people, including an Assistant Commissioner of Police was among 59 other members of the Boko Haram sect were reportedly killed in Yobe State Thursday when soldiers and other security men confronted the sect members in their stronghold, leading to a bloody encounter.

Others said to have been killed included a Commander of the Police Mobile Force along with four of his men and two civilians.

The Chief of Army Staff, COAS, Lt. Gen. Azubuike Ihejirika told newsmen in Abuja



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concerns are: (1) GEJ was deputy to Ya'Adua (May God's mercy be with him) who out of feeling for the masses reduced fuel price from N70 to N65, why has he chosen to hurt the masses in a manner...

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yesterday that the Joint Task Force set up to quell the Boko Haram menace rocking some Northern parts of the country, in the early hours of yesterday, launched a successful operation on the sect's operational stronghold in Damaturu, Yobe state, killing 59 of them and destroying their armoury.

Reports from Damaturu, Yobe State said explosions rocked Maiduguri and Potiskum leading to the death of seven persons, including two soldiers, four policemen and two civilians.

An official said that after the gunfire and explosions rocked the region, the violence was soon blamed on Boko Haram Islamists. About 16 people reportedly died in the Maiduguri explosion. Eye witnesses said Dala, Alamderi and Timbershed were mostly hit.

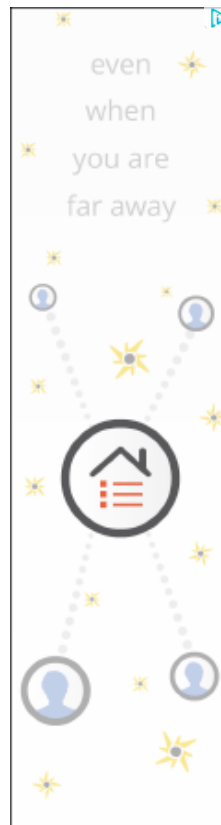
Meanwhile, more gunfire was heard in Damaturu on Friday morning, but details were unclear.

The Yobe State Police Commissioner, Lawan Tanko, said, "From reports I have received from Potiskum, five people were killed in last night's attack — four policemen and a civilian," even as Ibrahim Farinloye, northeast coordinator for the National Emergency Management Agency, confirmed that, "three police vans were also burnt in the attack."

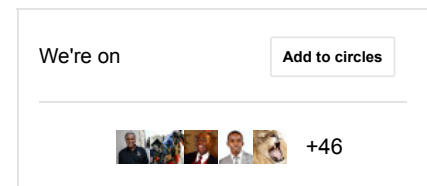


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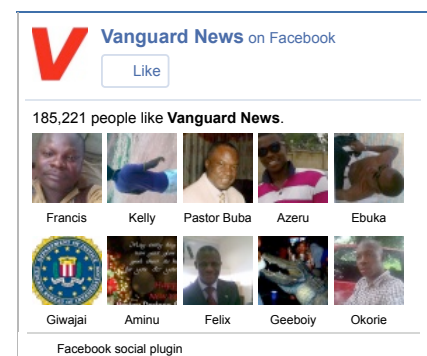
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A hospital source in Damaturu said late Thursday that a soldier was killed and seven police officers wounded there. He said a 10-year-old boy was being operated on after being hit by bullets.

The police said the attackers had been repelled and pushed toward Potiskum, just as a military spokesman in Maiduguri said multiple blasts hit the city on Thursday, but could not give further details. An army source said six explosions were heard.

Maiduguri and Damaturu are among the cities which have borne the brunt of the violence attributed to Boko Haram, that has claimed responsibility for scores of attacks in the north. Residents were said to be fleeing the area in droves due to the alleged heightened security challenges and subsequent bomb explosion that had engulfed the city.

The police said members of Boko Haram sect who were preparing the explosive at about 12 noon on Monday escaped arrest even as three AK 47 riffles, ammunitions and various weapons and explosives making material were recovered from the scene of the explosion.

Speaking during his first official visit to the Guards Brigade headquarters in Abuja, Ihejirika said, "There was a major encounter with the Boko Haram in Damaturu yesterday.

In the encounter, we over ran their major stronghold and their ammunition site. "In the encounter, we lost three of our soldiers; seven were wounded but we killed over 50 of their members. They came with sophisticated and heavy weaponry including GPMG's, SMG's and bombs but our soldiers subdued them.

"We had information that the Boko Haram sect planned to cause mayhem this festive period; we have put in place measures to nip this plan in the bud by deploying our Quick Response Troops, QRT, to man specific points as well as carry out patrols in search of them."

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Jonhner

I think this Government is waiting for a battalion to finish in the barrack b4 they can act, If the Igbo's are the one throwing this bomb by now FG could have wipe them out from Nigeria. President Jona we dey see you.

6 days ago

Like Reply



IbemEzera

Is Boko Haram an Islamic group? If so, they should be concerned with religious matters.

However, I cannot reconcile their series of bank robberies with religion. Surely armed robbers can never enter the gates of heaven. Am I lying?

1 week ago

Like Reply



gideon17

GEJ should declare a state of emergency in Bauchi State and a couple of Northern States, and for them to be governed with force, until the place calm down!

1 week ago 3 Likes

Like Reply



Felix Daramola

army should go after this arms gang criminals and wipe them out once and for all. They are deadly people

1 week ago

Like Reply



Moses

i condone with security forces,their famiy and innocent lives that were lost.these people sacrificed themselves.May theirsoul rest in peace.For the boko haram,its a question of time.

1 week ago 4 Likes

Like Reply



chidieberew

youths want to use by Boko haram...they can use the youths cos no work for the youths ...so Boko are giving out work to them and money for their life.Nigerian's have big cause with God since they lied against Rev.king..bring out the truth about Rev.king and let them be peace in Nigeria now.

1 week ago

Like Reply



Joseph Ubiagba

If the leaders of north cannot talk their boys out of this criminal behaviour; the boys they armed to rig election, let them suffer it.

1 week ago

Like Reply



Blackky

Good step,move on.

1 week ago 1 Like

Like Reply



sharenaijabiko

Good for them!

1 week ago 1 Like

Like Reply



Anthonylloegbunam

Like I said yesterday, Govt does not give u real death figure in any battle or clash with Govt. If the number as at today stands at 81, the my projection of people killed will be over 500 people. And I said also that when u hear that the Govt is on Rampage, a very high member of the force has been killed as was what happed in Odi in rivers state. ACP operations and the commander of Mopol in yobe killed, then civilians living in Yobe should with immidiate effect start moving out of that state. The mopol and the soldiers are now touched and are now uncontrollable. Any fly seen must be killed how much more a living human being. Nigerians should pray for souls of departed and those yet-to-be to depart, they must be killed in their large number. Women of Yobe State should make arrangement of IVF for only Boys because nearly all the living men seen within the fighting Zone must be killed. They have touched the Lions tail, and they must Pay for it.

1 week ago 3 Likes


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