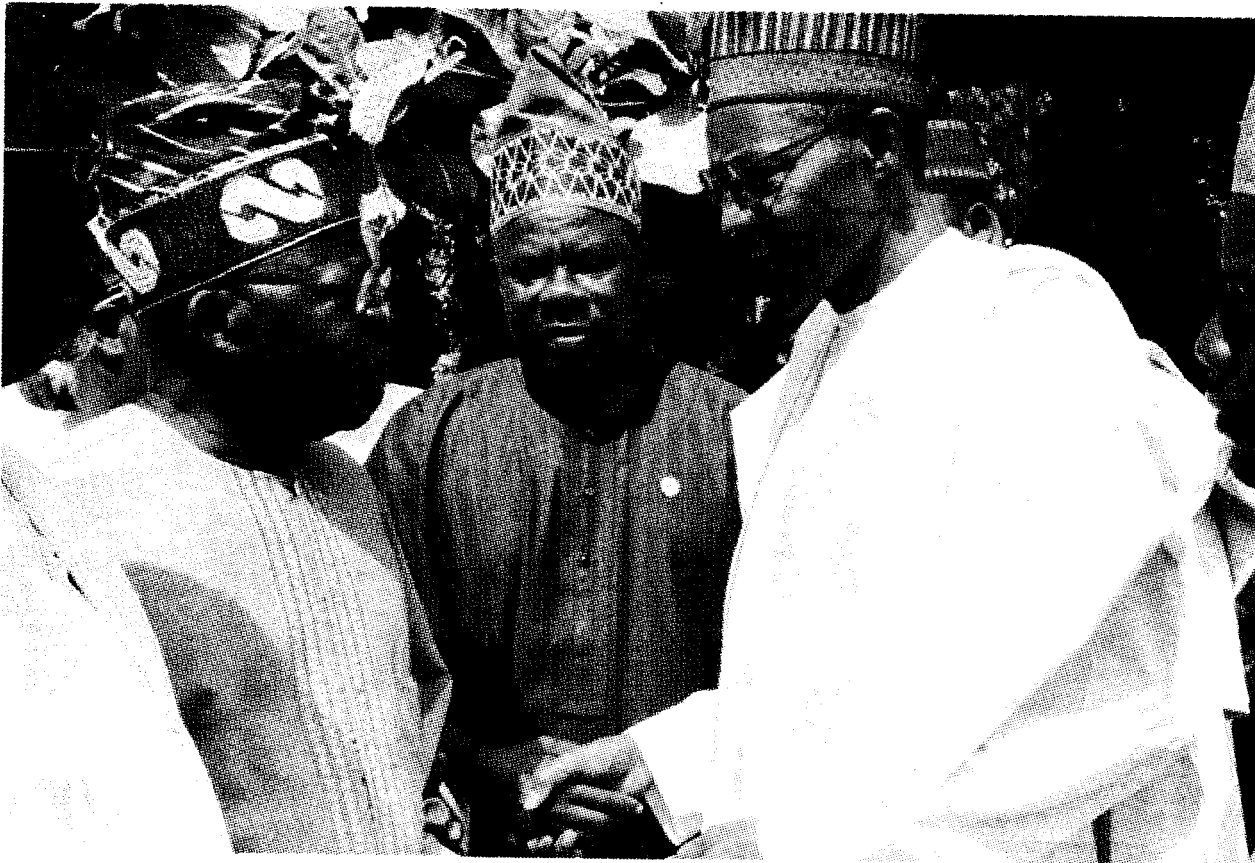


Wanted Boko Haram Commander killed

- **Two other sub-commanders also killed**
- **70% of sect's bomb threats aborted — Jonathan**
- **Says Nigeria safe despite spate of bombings**
- **10 people slaughtered in Maiduguri**



BY NDAHI MARAMA

M AIDUGURI— THE Joint Task Force, Department of State Security and the Nigeria Police Force Dog section, in a combined special operation yesterday, in Maiduguri, killed a top commander of the Boko Haram, Abdul-

kareem Ibrahim and two of his sub commanders. Abdulkareem Ibrahim was top on the wanted list of the JTF. The sect top commander and his sub-commanders were killed on a day President Goodluck Jonathan disclosed that 70 per cent of the sect's activities were

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DELE SHOBOWALE •P.43

LES LEBA •P.48

OCHEREOME NNANNA •P.49

CONDOLENCE—
From left: Former Governor of Lagos State, Senator Ahmed Bola Tinubu; with Governor Ibikunle Amosun of Ogun State and Gen. Muhammad Buhari at the three-day prayer for Buhari's late daughter, Zulaihatu in Kaduna, yesterday. Photo: Olu Ajayi.

Reps summon Okonjo-Iweala, Sanusi for starving AGF of funds •P.14

Mr & Mrs

HANNAH, I'M THE MAN OF THE HOUSE. WHEN I TALK YOU LISTEN. I'M NOT ASKING YOU, I'M TELLING YOU AND THAT'S FINAL!



FINAL? I DON'T THINK SO. BECAUSE VERY SOON, YOU'D BE DOING THE ASKING— WHEN YOU'RE BROKE!

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News

Wanted Boko Haram Commander killed

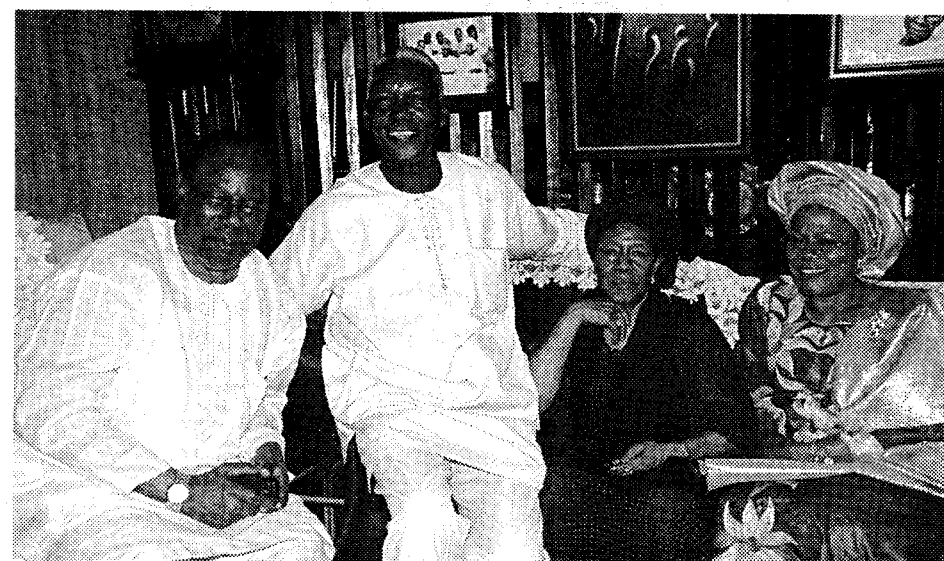
Continues from page 1

aborted before they occurred, insisting that Nigeria remains safe in spite of bombings just as the Sultan of Sokoto, Alhaji Sa'ad Abubakar 111 stressed the need for collective action against the bombings.

How operation succeeded — JTF

On the killing of Boko Haram top commander, the JTF in a statement by its spokesman, Lieutenant Colonel Sagir Musa, said Abdulkareem was a notorious terrorist Commander, who has been responsible for the recent spates of assassinations and bomb attacks in Maiduguri.

He said: "In a follow up operation by the JTF to arrest some key Commanders of the Boko Haram Terrorists in Bulabulin area of Maiduguri on November 29, 2012, where the JTF lost a personnel with



From left: Venerable Ladipo Eso, son of the deceased; Arc. Olumide Eso, widow of the deceased, Mrs. Helen Aina Eso and Osun State Deputy Governor, Mrs. Titi Laoye- Tomori when members of the Osun State Executive Council paid a condolence visit to the widow of Late Justice Kayode Eso at his residence in Ibadan.

one other injured, the Joint Task Force with members of the Department of State Security and the Nigeria Police Force Dog Section, in a combined operation this morning, launched a special raid operation along Damboa - Biu Road to capture one of the major Terrorist Commanders Abdulkareem Ibrahim, top on its

wanted list.

"During the operations and in the ensuing fire fight, Abdulkareem Ibrahim and two of his sub Commanders were killed and an AK47 rifle with other arms and ammunition were recovered. Abdulkareem was a notorious terrorist Commander who has been responsible for the recent spates of assassinations and bomb attacks in Maiduguri. He is one of the top "Amirs" (Commanders) recently declared in the Bounty list released by the JTF to members of the public. The JTF will continue to appreciate all information that will lead to more arrest of the sect Commanders declared in the Bounty as well as other information that will help in its conduct of operations to eliminate terrorist activities in the State".

Nigeria still safe — Jonathan

Meanwhile, President Goodluck Jonathan has insisted that Nigeria remains safe in spite of bombings, and urged Nigerians not to entertain any fear in their daily activities even as the Sultan of Sokoto, Alhaji Sa'ad Abubakar 111 called on Nigerians to come together in the fight against terrorism and other violent crimes in the country.

There have been an upsurge in the activities of the Islamic sect, with the latest attacks in strategic places like the

Military Church in Jaji and the SARS Headquarters in Abuja which had raised doubts in some quarters on the capability of the present administration to tackle insecurity.

But President Jonathan, in a statement issued yesterday by his Senior Special Assistant on Public Affairs, Dr Doyin Okupe, stressed that it was in the character of insurgency worldwide to audaciously attack institutions that will promote maximum fears in the heart of the citizenry.

The President, who recalled when the IRA

bombed the hotel in which the British Prime Minister, Margaret Thatcher and core members of her Cabinet were holding a meeting, said it was not surprising that such strategic places were attacked in Nigeria.

Said he: "It is not surprising therefore that as a consequence of the recent activities of the insurgents; some dailies reported that "nowhere is safe in Nigeria." In truth and in reality this statement is not correct. "President Goodluck Ebele Jonathan, wishes to assure Nigerians that in spite of this situation, the country is still largely safe and secure.

"President Jonathan wishes to state categorically of his unwavering commitment and determination to fight insecurity wherever they are found in Nigeria," Okupe noted.

He assured that the Jonathan-administration was prepared to further

enhance and ensure the security of lives and property of all Nigerians, irrespective of their locations within the country.

FG boosts Intelligence gathering

As for intelligence gathering, Okupe explained that Government has acquired and deployed highly sophisticated security equipment and members of the security agencies have received and continue to receive adequate training such that intelligence gathering capacity have witnessed a monumental increase in capacity to gather information.

According to Okupe, this has been responsible for the reduction in over 70 per cent of the activities of the Boko Haram and other sinister plans before they oc

Continues on page 8

POCKET CARTOON

2015 face-off:
President in
fresh
plot against
Obasanjo

SILHOUETTE

WHY DID HE
DISCREDIT THIS
ADMINISTRATION
BY CRITICISING THE
PRESIDENCY ON THE
SECURITY
CHALLENGES
FACING THE
COUNTRY?

SEE ME
SEE
TROUBLE
O!

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LIFEWORDS

BY PASTOR ITUAH

A nation that is afraid to let its people judge the truth and falsehood in an open market is a nation that is afraid of its people — John F. Kennedy. By His grace and mercy we will build a nation where truth and justice shall reign.

TAKE HEART

BY ELLA RANDLE

We're taught to try to live life without regret. But if you want to be fully functional and fully human and fully humane, I think you need to learn to live, not without regret, but with it — Kathryn Schulz

THIS may seem really evolutionary thinking but Kathryn Schulz seems to make a clear understanding on the premise about having regret in life. We experience regrets when we think that our present situation could be better or happier if we had done something different in the past. So in other words, regret requires two things. It requires, first of all, that we had to make a decision in the first place. And second of all, it requires imagination. We need to be able to imagine going back and making a different choice, and then we need to be able to spool this imaginary record forward and imagine how things would be playing out in our present.

Research findings show that the things we regret most in life: Number one by far, education. 33 percent of all of our regrets pertain to decisions we made about education. We wish we'd gotten more of it. Others very high on our list of regrets include career, romance, parenting, various decisions and choices about our sense of self.

To really move forward in life, we need to learn to love the flawed, imperfect things that we create and to forgive ourselves for creating them. Regret doesn't remind us that we did badly. It reminds us that we know we can do better.

10 people slaughtered in Borno

TEN persons had their throats slit and militants killed two police officers during attacks on churches and border posts in a fresh wave of violence in Borno State officials reported yesterday.

No group has claimed responsibility for the attack which happened weekend in Chibok Local Government Area of Borno State, local officials said.

"The attackers came in around 9:00 pm chanting 'Allahu Akbar', which made us suspect they are Boko Haram," said a local government official on condition of anonymity.

"They moved into selected homes in the predominantly Christian

part of the town and slaughtered 10 people like sheep," the official added.

"Who else apart from Boko Haram members would go into homes and slit the throats of 10 people?" said another local official.

"They came armed with guns but decided to butcher their victims."

Local resident Ezekiel Damina said: "The men came in large numbers and went into homes which were carefully selected, and slaughtered 10 people while shouting 'Allahu Akbar' (God is Greatest).

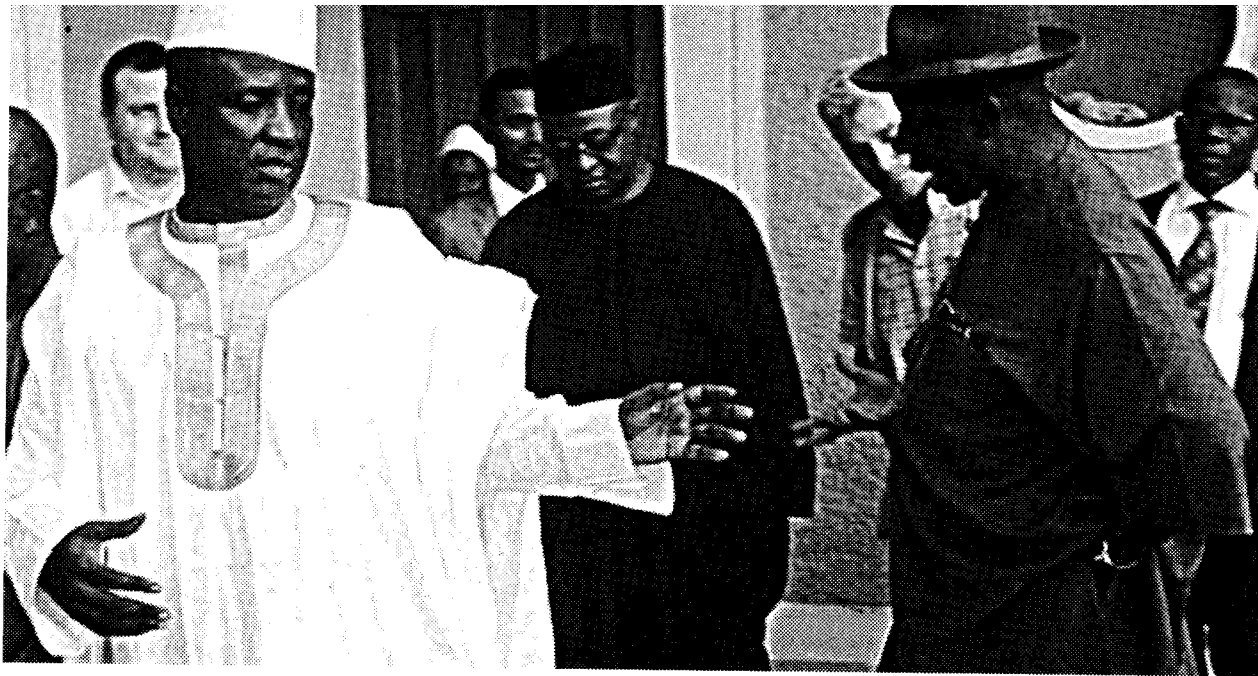
"They then set houses in the area on fire. They just sacked the neighbourhood."

The group was also

suspected of being behind a series of attacks Sunday on churches and border posts in north-eastern Nigeria, which according to residents left at least two policemen dead.

Around 50 gunmen in cars and on motorcycles carried out attacks on three churches and border posts with neighbouring Cameroon, opening fire on police, residents said.

Among the security posts burned were offices for immigration, customs and the secret police and a quarantine building in the city of Gamboru Ngala, about 140 kilometres (80 miles) from the Boko Haram stronghold of Maiduguri.



VISIT: Governor Rotimi Amaechi of Rivers State (right) being conducted round the construction site of the Sokoto State University by his host, Governor Aliyu Wamakko (left) during Amaechi's two-day visit to Sokoto State, weekend. PHOTO: Abayomi Adeshida.

plot, orchestrated by PDP high command, in fur-

chthonous pain the state legislators have chosen to tread.

Boko Haram commander killed

Continues from page 5

cur but said unfortunately, these are not made known to members of the public.

Rather than entertaining fears, Okupe stressed that in times like this, Nigerians should endeavour to exhibit the fire of patriotism, and advised the nation to rally round the government in its efforts to root out the criminal elements within the society.

He said: "We should

not allow fear and despair to overcome us, rather we should draw strength from our well-known spirit of nationalism and forbearance to support the government and the security agencies in their effort to curb the menace."

He also urged the media to join hands and key in into the transformation agenda and ensure that sensational reports that could tarnish Nigeria's image and bring the country into disrepute and create anxiety and panic are avoided as much as possible.

He said: "This government is committed to moving the country forward.

"The reform in the power and agricultural sectors and current infrastructural rehabilitation and development are taking shape.

"These will encourage the growth of local enterprise and increase in foreign direct investment in an unprecedented manner which will in turn provide more jobs, create wealth amongst the citizenry and reduce tendencies towards criminality and other social malaise in our Nation.

"The President wishes to assure Nigerians that government will not rest but will continue to work."

Police kill 2 alleged robbers in Lagos

BY IFEANYI OKOLIE

TWO members of a six-man robbery gang said to be specialists in terrorising customers of popular eateries around Lagos were, yesterday, killed during an exchange of gunfire between members of the gang and the police at Allen area of Ikeja, Lagos State.

Two members of the gang were also arrested at the end of the gun battle, while four cut-to-size double barrel guns and 20 live ammunition were recovered from them.

Also, six persons have been arrested by the police in connection with the

violent communal clash that engulfed the Ajah area of Lagos State over control of motor parks last week.

The clash was between Ilaje and Ajah residents, which resulted in the killing of three persons while buildings and valuable property were destroyed.

Vanguard gathered that the alleged bandits met their Waterloo when they attempted to rob a popular eatery located at Allen junction.

The bandits were said to have stormed the eatery around noon, attempting to rob both operators and customers of the eatery.

Sources said the police at Ikeja Division and Area

F Command in Ikeja, got a distress call and raced to the scene.

A source, who pleaded anonymity, said the police on arrival at the scene positioned themselves strategically, while the bandits, in their bid to escape, opened fire on the policemen. The policemen responded promptly.

ACN commiserates with Buhari

ACTION Congress of Nigeria, can, has extended its condolences to Gen. Muhammadu Buhari (rtd.) on the death of his first daughter, Zulaihatu, saying the party's leadership and the

Lagos State Command Public Relations Officer, PPRO, Ngozi Braide, while confirming the report said two other members of the gang escaped with bullet wounds.

He urged members of public to be on alert and always report suspicious movement around their areas to the police.

entire members share the deep pain brought by her untimely death.

In a statement issued in Kaduna on Sunday by its National Publicity Secretary, Alhaji Lai Mohammed, the party said al-

Reacting on the latest development in the Ajah violence, the PPRO said traditional title holder in the community was among the people arrested.

She stated that normalcy had been restored and policemen from several formations had been drafted to the area.

though no words were strong enough to ease the pain brought about by the death of Zulaihatu, "Gen. Buhari should be assured that he is in our every thought and prayer at this difficult time."