

# Boko Haram commander, three others killed in JTF dawn raid

BY SONI DANIEL,  
REGIONAL EDITOR,  
NORTH

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**A**BUJA — A TOP Boko Haram commander and his three lieutenants were yesterday, killed in a morning raid carried out by snipers deployed from the Joint Task Force, Operation Restore Hope, in Maiduguri, the Borno State capital.

The Boko Haram kingpin and his lieutenants were said to have crossed from Kano State to Borno some weeks ago and had been carrying out series of attacks on JTF patrol

vehicles and locations as well as the bombing of many places in the state.

However, the four men and their fighters ran out of luck when soldiers from the JTF confronted them in a gun duel following a tip off on their location, which was traced to the Kasuwan Kaji area of the metropolis.

The battle was taken to the insurgents between the hours of 2 a.m and 5.50 a.m on Monday when the fighters were still enjoying their sleep.

On arriving at the location, the JTF was said to have cordoned off the area and carried out checks

on suspected houses and business premises during which the kingpins reportedly opened fire on the soldiers without knowing that they were in for a rough deal.

The spokesman for the JTF, Lt. Col. Sagir Musa, confirmed the raid on the sect's hideout and the death of its commander and three of his lieutenants during the raid.

Musa also said three other sect's fighters arrested by soldiers during the raid, had been detained in their custody and were undergoing interrogation.