

would be pushed out of jobs, the increase in crime, would be better imagined than experienced, let alone hardship the dependants of Okada riders will face.

"If government wants to ban commercial motorcyclists for security reasons as we heard, what about those who use police and army uniforms to rob, has government disbanded Police and the Army as organizations?"

Chief Onedibe said armed robbers and kidnappers used Sport Utility Vehicles, SUVs, to commit crimes, wondering why government had not stopped the use of those vehicles, even those with tinted glasses.

"Is it because Okada operators are mainly the down-trodden in Nigerian society, who have no other option than to do Okada business?" he asked.

the author of the book, entitled, 'A Call to Duty' - during the book's presentation to mark the 50th birthday of Dr. Wale Ahmed, in Lagos, Sunday. Photo: Lamidi Bamidele

Military kill 30 terror suspects, recover euro currencies, arms, vehicles in Borno

By Ndahi Marama

Maiduguri—The military has killed over 30 Boko Haram terrorists suspects and recovered arms, vehicles and two Armoured Personnel Carriers, APCs, in Borno border town of Mafa, weekend.

Mafa is a farming border community with Cameroon, and 40 kilometres east of Maiduguri, the state capital.

The killings of terrorists were disclosed in a statement of the Director of Defence Information, Maj-Gen. Chris Olukolade, issued

yesterday, to newsmen.

Among the terrorists killed, according to the statement, was a commander of Boko Haram, who had thousands of euros on him.

The statement read in part: "Thousands of Euros currency were found on the body of a terrorist commander after troops successfully repelled a terrorist attack 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 gunshot wounds."

On total casualties, Olukolade said: "The terrorists also lost a

number weapons and equipment including the captured 13 rifles, a machine gun, rocket propelled grenade tubes and several other assorted ammunition.

A Toyota Bufallo vehicle was also recovered from the terrorists. Two of their armoured vehicles were also destroyed in the battle."

The statement, however, noted that, "the only casualties on the side of own troops were damaged equipment. Mopping up operation is ongoing in the general area."

Meanwhile, the offensive on all terrorists' hideouts is continuing in many fronts.

Eloy Ogbonna and Mrs Lillian Igwe (Ivo).

However, eight members' seats have been declared vacant so far, including Orji, Oliver Nwachukwu; former House Majority, Sam Nwali (Ikwo North); Mabel Aleke (Ohaukwu South); former Speaker, Ikechukwu Nwankwo; Eni Uduma Chima (Afikpo South West); Helen Nwobashi (Abakaliki South); Ogbonna; and Lillian Igwe.

Meanwhile, a substantive Majority Leader, Ikechukwu Ogbu (Ishielu North), has been elected, while Chris Usulo (Ezza South) was elected the deputy leader.