

# Video of *Boko Haram* killing soldiers, handiwork of IPOB—Army

● *You belittle yourselves; we have better things to do—IPOB*

By Anayo Okoli,  
Kingsley Omonobi &  
Chimaobi Nwaiwu

**N**IGERIAN Army has described a trending video of *Boko Haram* terrorists that captured and killed several troops of *Operation Lafiya Dole* in the North-East as false and the handiwork of members of Indigenous People of Biafra, IPOB.

It said the video is aimed at discrediting the Army and sowing seeds of discord among troops of South-East extraction.

This is contained in a statement by Col Sagir Musa, Acting Director, Army Public Relations entitled *Video Clip Portraying the Alleged Capture and Killing of Some Nigerian Soldiers by Boko Haram Terrorists on December 10, 2019 is False*.

It read: "The attention of the Nigerian Army has been drawn to a viral, unsubstantiated and apparently fabricated video clip circulating on the social media portraying the stage-managed, so-called capture and killing of some

Nigerian soldiers by *Boko Haram* terrorists on December 10.

"We wish to emphatically state that there was no incident that involved the capture and killing of tens of Nigerian soldiers on December 10, as mischievously and wickedly portrayed in the video.

"Similarly, preliminary observation of the video clip (even by the amateur) will reveal that the video was doctored and that the entire events captured in the footage was not an occurrence that took place at any point in time within the shores of Nigeria.

"To this end, the Nigerian Army is hereby calling on the members of the public and indeed personnel of the Nigerian Army, especially those in the North-East theatre of operation, to disregard the sinister, very inciting and divisive video concocted and peddled by the outlawed IPOB members, whose main objective is the disunity and fragmentation of Nigeria

as clearly shown or espoused in the video.

"Accordingly, the call by one Simon Ekpa (the principal actor in the clip), calling on soldiers of South-East extraction currently serving in the North-East to desert the Army and return to Biafra as well as calling on south-easterners not to join the Nigerian Army is an obvious indication of the essence and objective of the masterminds of this fake video, which should be discountenanced by the public."

## IPOB's reaction

However, responding to the allegation by the military, the Indigenous People of Biafra, IPOB, denied claim that it doctored and circulated the video, describing same as laughable.

IPOB said it was a shame for the Army to involve the group in their futile attempt and failed effort to fight *Boko Haram*.

IPOB's Media and Publicity Secretary, Emma Powerful, berated the

Army, saying they belittled themselves by involving IPOB in the issue of doctoring a video.

Powerful said IPOB has more important things to do than engaging in doctoring a video where soldiers were killed.

His words: "This recent statement from the Nigerian military accusing IPOB of being behind the recent trending video, where *Boko Haram* members tortured and humiliated Nigerian Army personnel is laughable.

"This unguarded and thoroughly unsubstantiated accusation is very typical of an Army that specialises in attacking civilian populations in the South, but cringes at the sight of a well-armed opposition in the North.

"It is quite pathetic how the Nigeria Army would belittle themselves in the eyes of the world by involving IPOB in their futile attempt to deflect attention from their impotence and failed effort to fight a terrorism menace they themselves created."