

...of, about Magaya, as he returned to Abuja from Maiduguri, after the AU Summit in Ethiopia, en-route to Borno for a sympathy visit.

## Army kills 5 Boko Haram terrorists, lose soldier in gun fight

• Arrest 11 ISWAP terrorists, rescue women, children

By Kingsley Omonobi

**A**BUJA — THE Nigerian Army said yesterday its troops have killed five Boko Haram terrorists in a gun fight, and arrested eleven members of Islamic State's West African Province, ISWAP.

It also said the troops rescued nine women and children hitherto held hostage by the terrorists, recovered cache of arms and ammunition, but lost a soldier.

Deputy Director, Army Public Relations, Col. Aminu Illiyasu, who disclosed this in a statement yesterday, said: "On February 9, 2020, troops of 25 Task Force Brigade deployed at Damboa in Borno State, in conjunction with elements of the Civilian Joint Task Force, while on a fighting patrol, established contact with the remnants of Boko Haram/Islamic State's West African Province criminals hibernating within their area of responsibility with gun trucks as well as motorcycles.

"During the ensuing engagement which occurred at Njaba, along Damboa-Bale Road, the troops unleashed superior and overwhelming fire power to obliterate the criminals.

"At the end of the encounter, several of the insurgents were neutralized, while others escaped with gunshot wounds. One of the Boko Haram fighters, named Koise Bulama, was captured alive by the valiant troops.

"Additionally, one Buffalo Gun Truck, one Anti-Aircraft Gun, 3 Machine Guns, 2 AK 47 Rifles, 141 rounds of 12.7mm ammunition, one suicide vest, one Improvised Explosive Device Box, 10 motorcycles, one pumping machine and some mechanical tools were captured from the marauding criminal insurgents.

"In a related development, in the early hours of February 9 2020, some elements of the remnant Boko Haram criminals suffered yet another defeat in the hands of troops of 121 Bat-

talion deployed in Pulka, Gwoza LGA of Borno State during an apparent failed attempt to attack the troops' location.

"The dogged troops repelled the attack and neutralised one insurgent in the process while others retreated in disarray under the cover of darkness.

"Earlier on, during the night of 5/6 February 2020, troops of 112 Task Force Battalion deployed at Ngwom in Mafa LGA of Borno State thwarted an attempt by the Boko Haram criminals to infiltrate their defensive location.

"In their highly responsive and well coordinated response, the troops brought to bear their superior night fighting capability against the marauding criminals, neutralising one of the infiltrators while many of them escaped with various degrees of gunshot wound as evident from the trails of blood discovered along the insurgents' withdrawal route.

"During the exploitation

phase, the troops recovered one Baofeng Hand Held Radio, one Rocket Propelled Gun bomb, 101 rounds of 7.62mm NATO ammunition and 2 rounds of 60mm mortar bombs abandoned by the escaping criminals.

"In yet another development that occurred on 10 February 2020, the troops of 212 Battalion deployed at Tungushe in Konduga LGA of Borno State made contact with some Boko Haram criminal elements mounted on 6 Gun Trucks within their Area of Responsibility.

"The troops swiftly engaged the marauding criminals in a fierce fire fight. In the aftermath, 3 Boko Haram criminals were neutralised while one Buffalo Gun Truck, one Anti-Aircraft Gun, 2 AK 47 Rifles, 2 AK 47 Rifle Magazines and 60 rounds of 7.62mm Special ammunition were also captured from the insurgents as they succumbed to the superior fire power of the troops.

"Regrettably, one gallant soldier paid the supreme price during the encounter. Similarly, on the same day,

## Isoikwuato over abduction of travellers

ted herdsmen

cue the victims.

A highly placed police of

trapped car. The police