

Army kills 35 terrorists, destroys 12 camps in Sambisa forest

By Ndahi Marama

1 THE NIGERIA Army Troops of the 21-Armored Brigade, Bama, Operation Hadin Kai, OPHK, and 199 Special Forces Battalion, in collaboration with Civilian Joint Task Force, CJTF, have killed 35 Boko Haram terrorists in the ongoing clearance operation in Sambisa forest.

The troops, headed by Brig. Gen. Victor Unachukwu, a.k.a Emperor, made the unprecedented incursions into the Boko Haram hideouts in their determined efforts to completely eliminate the Boko Haram insurgents hibernating along the fringes of the Sambisa forest.

A reliable source disclosed this yesterday, and was also confirmed by Zagazola Makama, a counter-insurgency expert and security analyst in the Lake Chad region.

Sources revealed that the clearance operation which began at Awulari on April 17, progressed further into other identified insurgents' camps around Garin and Alafa neighbouring communities of Sambisa forest axis in Bama Local Government Area of Borno State.

2 He said the troops further

stormed and cleared Izzah and Farisu on April 19, where the troops ferociously engaged dozens of the resisting terrorists in a heavy gunbattle.

The troops were said to have overpowered the terrorists after about 30 minutes of gunbattle, killing 18 of them and recovering several motorcycles, AK 47 rifles and an anti aircraft gun.

According to Makama, "one member of the Civilian Joint Task Force, CJTF, unfortunately paid the supreme price during the encounter.

"The troops further moved to Farisu where they eliminated an additional eight terrorists. In Alafa, three terrorists were killed, including one commander, simply identified as "Salafi", while two motorcycles were recovered.

"Similarly, on April 20, in Ukuba, the ground troops made contact with another set of insurgents, killing seven, while others escaped with bullet wounds. The troops recovered one truck and two 122 artillery guns.

"The gallant troops moved further to clear Garin Glucose where they neutralised two additional terrorists, while other terrorists hastily withdrew and avoided making contact with the approaching troops."