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Boko Haram: Rival group drops threat leaflets in 10 northern states

ON JULY 24, 2011 12:24 AM / IN [NEWS](#) / BY [AKINTAYO ERIBAKE](#)

* Action heightens security concerns

BY EMEKA MAMAH

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The emergence of a new group, believed to be out to checkmate Boko Haram, is giving security agencies in the north goose pimples.

Security sources said that the new group, Akhwat Akwop, claimed that its target for violence would be women whose husbands were reportedly behind the violent activities of Boko Haram in the last three months.

However, security personnel, now trying to unravel those behind the new "terror group", believe that the peace in the north was being threatened the more, because of the suspicion occasioned by the several clashes in various parts of the north in the last 10 years in which the perpetrators were not punished due to alleged lack of political will by the authorities to implement any of the reports of the investigative panels instituted to look into the crises.

"We are worried that the security situation in the north is degenerating and it may get to serious ethno-religious wars that will spread across the states in the area", one of the sources said.

"The emergence of this new group gives us serious cause for concern because the situation in Somalia and other troubled parts of the world began with small issues which later degenerated."

It was learnt that the group dropped leaflets in at least 10 states of the north, viz: Benue, Taraba, Yobe, Borno, Bauchi, Adamawa, Plateau, Kogi, Nasarawa and Kaduna states, warning that it would liberate northern minorities from the strangle-hold of the Hausa/ Fulani who had been lording it over them, and causing havoc in the north, nay Nigeria in the name of Islam.

In Kaduna State, large quantities of the leaflets were left at the state chapter of the Nigerian Union of Journalists, NUJ, Press Centre weekend by unknown persons.

The leaflets entitled, "Warning to Boko Haram", claimed that Akhwat Akwop stood for the Christian equivalent of Boko Haram, adding that it would be at the fore front of the struggle for the emancipation of northern minorities who are Christians or Muslims.

The leaflets read in part, "Greetings in the name of our Lord and most gracious saviour and shield, Jesus Christ.

"Recent happenings in the body polity of our dear nation, Nigeria, compel us once again to reiterate our view and commitment.

"Akhwat Akwop will ever be at the forefront of the struggle for the emancipation of northern minorities (Christians and Muslims) from continued oppression and inhuman savageries".

Apparently blaming the current activities of Boko Haram on those not happy with the victory of President Goodluck Jonathan and Governor Patrick Ibrahim Yakowa of Kaduna State, both minority Christians, Akhwat Akwop posed seven questions.

The questions include, whether it was a crime for either Jonathan or Yakowa to become president and governor respectively or whether it was a crime for the Sawaya people of Tafawa Balewa in Bauchi State to be landlords in their ancestral lands?

The group asked why the "innocent people of Plateau State have been made to pay so much in tears and blood" and "why the innocent farmers in Benue, Taraba, Kogi states have been continually attacked and killed by alleged terrorists as well as why Christians in Bauchi, Yobe, Borno states were being killed or whether or not it was a crime for northern minorities to say that enough was enough of Hausa/Fulani oppression?"

According to the Akhwat Akwop, "majority of Nigerians know that it is the Hausa Fulani and their misguided allies who always plan and execute mayhem.

'The group declared:"We prefer peace but ever ready for war. Boko Haram is hereby warned that if it carries out any further attacks on Christians anywhere in the north, our commandos will unleash deliberate attacks on selected targets in cities with majority Muslim population in the far north.

"Your people (Boko Haram) will see and experience what you have been doing to others first hand. Akwhat Akwop has never targeted women and children and we do not intend to ever do so. However, if the fatwa placed on our daughters Nyeri Debby Yakowa by Boko Haram is not immediately lifted and indeed if anything happens to her or any Christian lady anywhere in the north, we shall unleash a storm of wastage on female Hausa/ Fulani anywhere we get them".

"Boko Haram must not involve itself in the internal politics of Kaduna State. Kaduna State and the Middle Belt are a no-go area for Boko Haram. Go back to the desert where you come from.

"Hausa/ Fulani Muslim men who wear jeans and T-shirts, sneak into our areas to drink alcohol, cavort with and deceive some of our gullible and irresponsible women should know that their days are numbered.

"Our commandos have instructions to take you out. You are strongly advised to stay in your Sharia".

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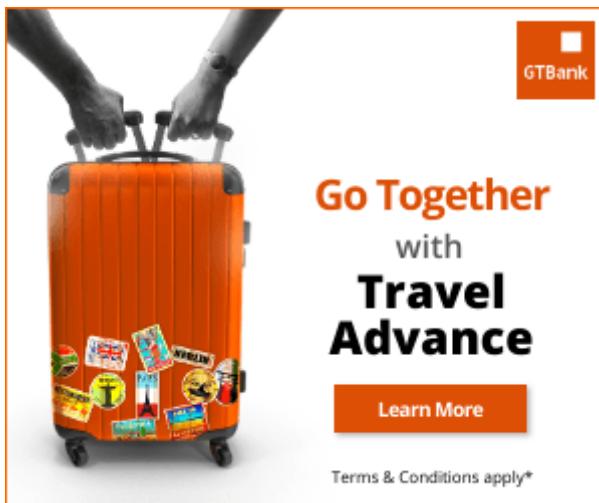
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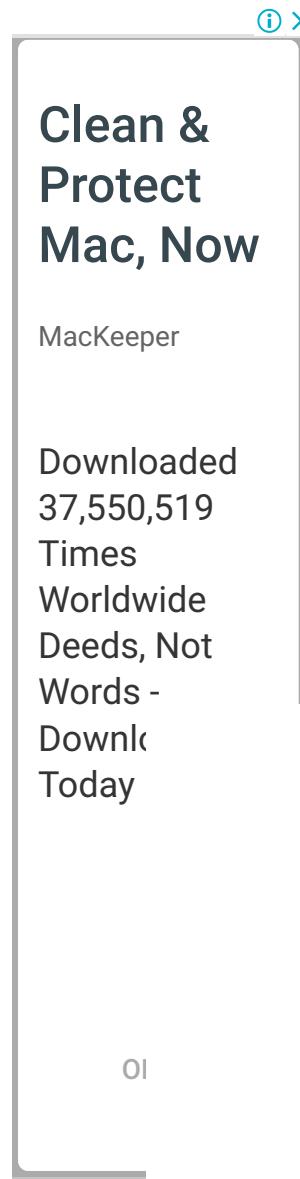
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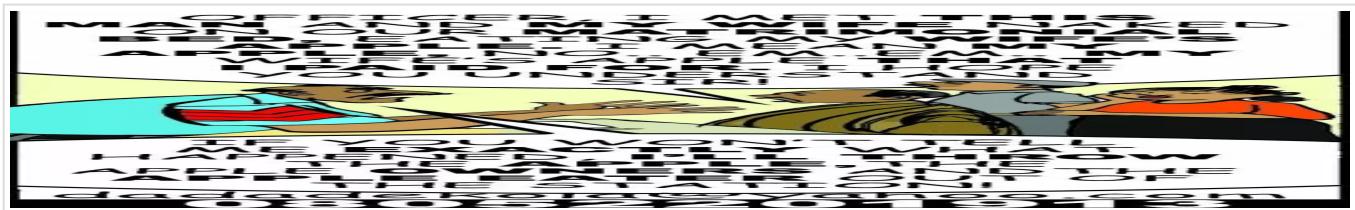
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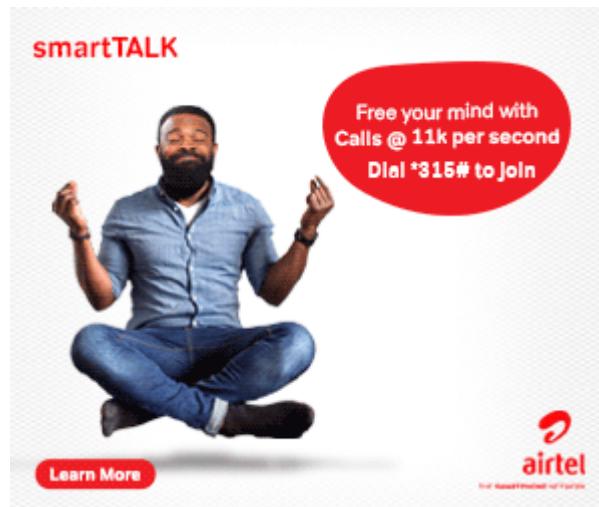
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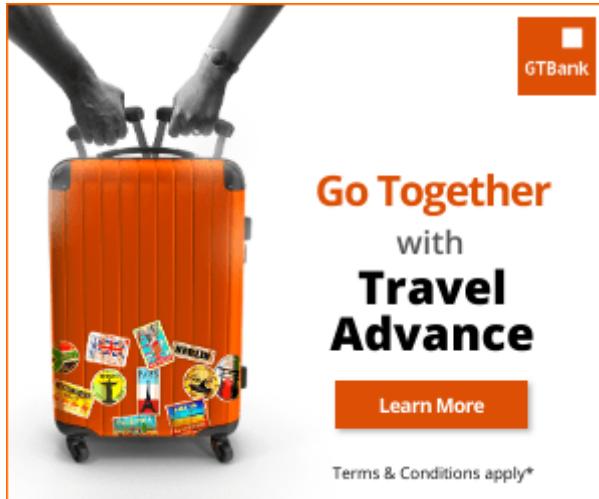
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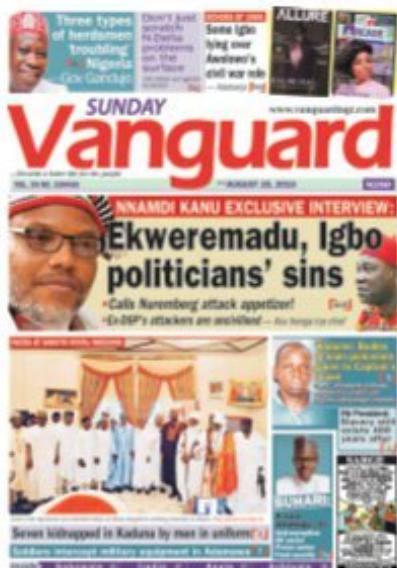
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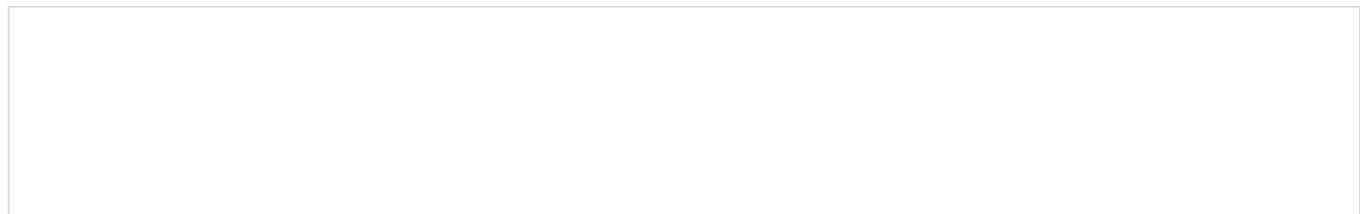
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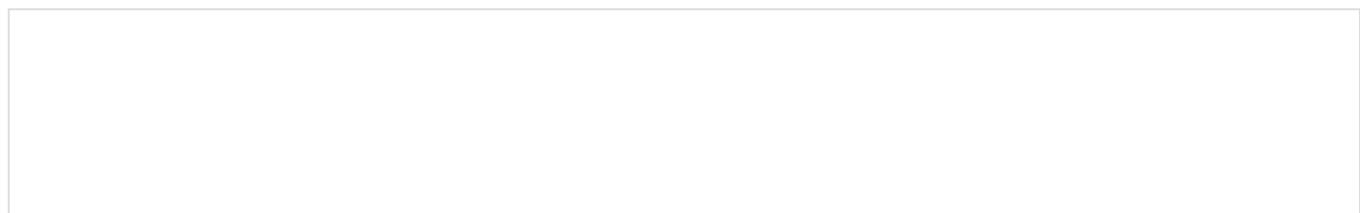


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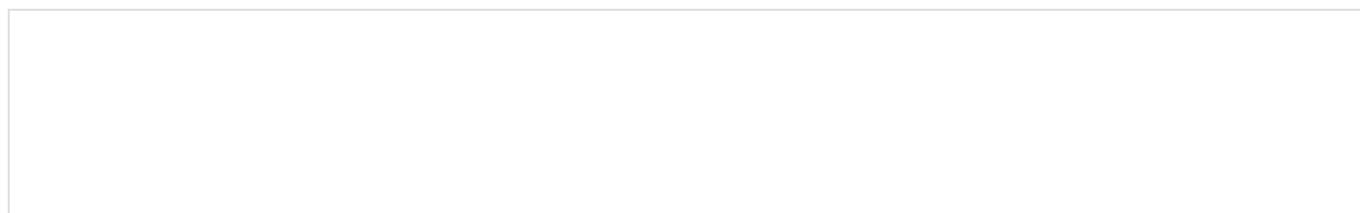


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