



Weekly Report

MAY 12-18, 2014

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Nigeria

Alexandra Smith

Nigerian villagers fight off attacks by Boko Haram

- Residents of 3 villages in northeastern Nigeria repelled attacks by Boko Haram insurgents and killed more than 200 of them, residents and officials said.
- Hundreds of Boko Haram fighters stormed the villages on Tuesday May 13. They were met with stiff resistance from the locals, who seized an armored tank, 3 all-terrain vehicles and 90 motorcycles from the insurgents.
- Source: CNN

<http://www.cnn.com/2014/05/15/world/africa/nigeria-girls-abducted/>

Canada moves in to Nigeria to aid in search for kidnapped girls

- Canadian Special Forces soldiers are in Nigeria helping the government search for hundreds of schoolgirls kidnapped by Boko Haram.
- Canada's contribution is part of a widening Western effort to help find the girls and comes as the Nigerian government now says it's open to negotiating for their release. This comes amid deepening security ties between Canada and Nigeria.
- Prime Minister Stephen Harper emphasized Tuesday that Canadian soldiers are not engaged in combat and will not accompany Nigerian forces in battle.
- Source: The Globe and Mail

<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/politics/canada-moves-in-to-nigeria-to-aid-in-search-for-kidnapped-girls/article18653370/>

Nigeria's Goodluck Jonathan cancels visit to kidnapped girls' town

- The Nigerian President has cancelled a visit to the northern town from where more than 200 schoolgirls were kidnapped last month, as the US said the rescue mission was proving tough.
- Goodluck Jonathan had been preparing to make his first visit to Chibok since the mass abductions occurred. He has been criticized for a slow response to the crisis and for failing to visit the girls' hometown.
- No reason was given for the cancellation. Security is likely to have been a major concern, as the area is a stronghold of Boko Haram.
- Source: The Guardian

<http://www.theguardian.com/world/2014/may/16/nigeria-goodluck-jonathan-cancels-visit-kidnapped-girls-town-chibok>

"[The Canadian soldiers] are there to provide liaison and to assist Nigerian authorities in their search. The kidnapping of these schoolgirls by Boko Haram is obviously repugnant to everything we believe in as Canadians, and most people in the world believe in."

– Canadian Prime Minister Stephen Harper
