

Jihadists attacked two bases in Borno state at the weekend, killing and wounding troops and anti-jihadist militia, according to the military.

Late on Saturday, ISWAP attacked a base in Mandaragirau near the Sambisa forest jihadist enclave, killing and wounding an unspecified number of soldiers and militia, the military said in a statement.

In another incident, Boko Haram launched an attack on another base in Pulka near the border with Cameroon, destroying military equipment and accommodation before the attack was repelled with the help of reinforcements, the statement said.

Jihadist violence has killed more than 40,000 people and displaced around two million in the northeast since 2009, according to the United Nations.

The conflict spread into neighbouring Niger, Chad and Cameroon, prompting a regional military coalition to fight the militant groups.

The coalition has lost steam in recent years after the withdrawal of Niger due to a diplomatic spat with Nigeria following a 2023 military coup in Niger.

The United States is deploying troops to Nigeria to provide technical and training support to Nigerian soldiers in fighting the jihadist groups. The US Africa Command said 200 troops were expected to join the deployment overall. (AFP)