

Troops neutralise two suspected terrorists in Ondo, repel attacks in Borno

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Recovered items

Troops of the 32 Artillery Brigade of the Nigerian Army have neutralised two suspected armed terrorists during a tactical operation along the Akunu–Auga road in Ondo State.

The troops deployed at the Forward Operating Base (FOB) Auga acted on credible human intelligence about the movement of suspected criminals in the area over the weekend, according to a statement by the Assistant Director, Army Public Relations, 32 Artillery Brigade, Major Irabor Njoka.

Njoka said the operation, carried out in collaboration with personnel of the Ondo State Security Network Agency and local vigilantes, led to a firefight during which two of the suspects were killed, while others fled with suspected gunshot wounds.

Items recovered included an AK-47 rifle with two magazines and 61 rounds of ammunition, three mobile phones, a jackknife, a torchlight, suspected illicit drugs, charms and N39,000.

He said the brigade would sustain clearance operations, intensify patrols along identified criminal corridors and strengthen collaboration with other security agencies to ensure security in the state.

Meanwhile, troops of the Joint Task Force (North-East), Operation Hadin Kai (OPHK), have repelled coordinated attacks by suspected Boko Haram and Islamic State West Africa Province (ISWAP) terrorists in Pulka and Mandaragirau, Borno State.

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In a statement issued by the Media Information Officer, Headquarters Joint Task Force (North-East) Operation Hadin Kai, Lieutenant Colonel Sani Uba, the assaults were launched late on February 14, 2026, with terrorists attempting to overrun defensive positions in both locations.

Uba said a large group of fighters advancing from the Sambisa Forest axis attacked troops of Sector 1 in Pulka. He noted that although a section of the perimeter was briefly breached, leading to the destruction of some equipment and accommodation, reinforcements from 26 Brigade forced the attackers to retreat towards the Sambisa axis.

He added: “Credible intelligence indicates that the terrorists suffered severe casualties, including a senior commander identified as Abou Aisha who sustained a critical gunshot injury to the neck leading to his death alongside significant losses of weapons and equipment. There was no single human casualty to troops during the attack on Pulka.”

[In Mandaragirau, troops of Sector 2 were confronted with a multi-pronged](#) assault by fighters mounted on gun trucks and motorcycles. The attack was repelled after a fierce exchange of fire.

However, the Army said some soldiers and members of the Civilian Joint Task Force were killed in the defence of the location, while a few others sustained injuries and were evacuated by the Air Component of OPHK and Nigerian Army Aviation platforms.

Follow-up operations along the Kimba axis reportedly revealed blood trails, shallow graves and abandoned items, with eyewitness accounts suggesting that several terrorist casualties were evacuated towards Kimba.