

June 15, 2026 by [Osagie Otabor, Benin](#)

Military airstrikes kill 27 terrorists in Tumbus enclaves of Borno



-
- ***Bandits kill three, burn houses in Niger, say police***
 - ***Three suspected bandits neutralised in Benue, firearms recovered***
 - ***Woman abducted in Benin market***
-

The Air Component of the Joint Task Force (JTF) Operation Hadin Kai has neutralised 27 terrorists in separate air interdiction missions, targeting terrorist enclaves in the southern and northern Tumbus areas of Borno State.

In **Niger State**, the police command has confirmed the killing of three people by suspected bandits in Pissa village, Borgu Local Government Area.

In Benue State, the police command said it had neutralised three suspected armed bandits and recovered firearms and ammunition across the state.

In Edo State, gunmen suspected to be kidnappers have abducted a woman at the popular Vegetable Market, off Airport Road in Benin City.

The operational report of the Nigerian Air Force (NAF) made available to the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) yesterday on the Borno State operations indicated that the strikes were conducted following Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) missions across the theatre.

According to the report, air assets comprising Dragon and ISR platforms conducted an air interdiction mission at Dawoshe, a known terrorist enclave in the southern Tumbus area, around 12:40 a.m. on June 10.

The report stated that terrorists' vehicles were sighted during aerial surveillance and subsequently engaged by the aircraft.

It added that the Battle Damage Assessment (BDA) revealed that the vehicles were destroyed while 12 terrorists were neutralised during the operation.

The report also stated that the air component conducted a precision strike on terrorist positions at Metele in the northern Tumbus area of Guzamala Local Government Area of Borno State on the same day.

It explained that post-strike assessments, supported by BDA and Human Intelligence (HUMINT), confirmed that 15 terrorists were neutralised during the operation.

According to the report, the successful strikes dealt a significant blow to terrorist elements operating within the Lake Chad fringes and Tumbus hideouts.

It said the operations formed part of ongoing efforts to degrade terrorist capabilities, disrupt logistics networks and deny insurgents freedom of action across the Northeast theatre.

The report added that a total of 27 terrorists were neutralised in the two air operations conducted within the period under review.

It reiterated the commitment of the Armed Forces of Nigeria to sustaining offensive operations against terrorist strongholds until lasting peace and security are restored in the region.

Also, the Niger State Police command's spokesperson, Wasiu Abiodun, a Superintendent of Police (SP), told the News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) on Saturday that the bandits attacked the village at about 9 a.m.

He said some houses were set ablaze during the attack, however added that the bandits were engaged by the military, but details of the encounter remained sketchy.

"The report received indicated that suspected bandits invaded Pissa village in Borgu Local Government Area.

"Three persons were reportedly killed during the attack and some houses were set ablaze.

"However, the military responded and engaged the terrorists, but further details are still sketchy," he said.

Also, the Benue State Police Command has said its operatives neutralised three suspected armed bandits and recovered firearms and ammunition across the state.

The Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), Edet Udeme, a Deputy Superintendent of Police (DSP), announced this in a statement yesterday in Makurdi, the state capital.

Udeme said the achievements were recorded between June 6 and June 12 through intelligence-led policing, proactive patrols and collaborative security operations.

She said officers of Gbeji Division, in collaboration with members of the Community Volunteer Guards, responded to reports of armed bandits operating on the Vaase-Chito Road in Ukum Local Government Area.

The command's spokesperson said the suspects engaged security personnel in a gun duel, during which three of the bandits were neutralised.

Related News

- Borno reintegrates 720 former insurgents, 992 spouses, 2,050 children
- Borno reintegrates 720 former insurgents, 992 spouses, 2,050 children
- Release of 434 Ngoshe captives excites Zulum

According to her, one AK-47 rifle, 21 rounds of live ammunition and a motorcycle were recovered from the suspects.

The command's spokesperson added that other members of the gang escaped with gunshot wounds and were being trailed by security operatives.

Edet added that operatives of the Violent Crimes Response Unit (VCRU) in Makurdi also arrested a suspect found in possession of a locally fabricated pistol and six rounds of live ammunition.

The PPRO stated that investigations were ongoing to establish the suspect's criminal connections.

The police spokesperson also said operatives attached to Daudu Division, acting on credible intelligence, raided a criminal hideout at Gyemu Settlement in Guma Local Government Area and arrested a suspected cultist linked to the notorious Red Skin cult group.

She stated that criminal charms were recovered from the suspect, who reportedly confessed to cult-related activities.

Edet also stated that operatives of Operation Zenda Joint Task Force arrested a suspected leader of an armed robbery and kidnapping syndicate in Gboko Local Government Area.

She said a locally fabricated firearm, five rounds of live ammunition and criminal charms were recovered from the suspect.

"The suspect was taken to a hospital for treatment after sustaining injuries during an attempted mob attack," she said.

In another operation, Edet said officers attached to the Okpokwu Division foiled a robbery attempt at an NYSC Corps Members' Lodge in Ugwu Okpoga, Okpokwu Local Government Area.

She said one suspect was arrested while other members of the gang fled the scene, adding that the swift police response prevented the robbery and ensured the safety of residents.

The command's spokesperson said the command recovered two locally fabricated firearms, one AK-47 rifle, 32 rounds of live ammunition, one motorcycle and various criminal charms during the period under review.

She quoted Police Commissioner Cletus Nwadiogbu as praising officers involved in the operations for their professionalism, courage, and dedication to duty.

Nwadiogbu reaffirmed the command's commitment to protecting lives and property and urged residents to continue providing timely and credible information to security agencies.

He assured the residents that the command remained resolute in maintaining law and order and ensuring a secure environment for all residents of the state.

The Bein City victim was said to have gone to the market with her husband and children when she was abducted in broad daylight.

Witnesses said the abductors rode in a red car.

Read Also: [NACCIMA flays bottlenecks undermining Nigerian exports](#)

One of the witnesses said: "Today, for the first time, I experience kidnapping in my life.

"Who said kidnapping is not in Benin? Kidnapping happened in my presence right at Airport Road, Vegetable Market. It has not happened to you does not mean it doesn't exist.

"I saved the woman's children today. This is me. It happened in front of me. We were both buying something in the same place, at the vegetable market. This is me, I have bruises. This are my legs."

Another witness said it was the husband that was first seized by the gunmen but the husband managed to escape.

Edo State police spokesman, Eno Ikoedem, who confirmed the incident, said no ransom had been demanded.

She said: "I'm aware there was an abduction incident in that area earlier today and we are already investigating the matter. The woman, her children, and husband went to the Vegetable Market to buy some things after the close of service when they abducted her.

"For now, we cannot release any information regarding that to the public as investigation is still ongoing. But at the appropriate time, we will let the public know. The husband, the family members are all cooperating with us in our investigation."