

General Area of Gwarzo,

Eyewitness accounts, as well as the escalation of the violence.

ducted residents.

perpetrated with the aid of legal procedures.

Troops thwart bandits attack on military base

Jacob Segun Olatunji | Abuja

TROOPS of Operation Hadin Kai (OPHK) have successfully repelled a co-ordinated attack by ISWAP terrorists on a Forward Operating Base (FOB) in Mairari, dealing a decisive blow to the group's operational capability in the area.

This was contained in a statement in Abuja on Monday by the Media Information Officer, Joint Task Force (North East) Operation Hadin Kai, Lieuten-

ant-Colonel Sani Uba.

According to the statement, the planned assault by the bandits, which began late on December 12, and continued into the early hours of December 13, was thwarted through coordinated ground and air operations.

It explained that during the attack, the terrorists attempted to breach the base using two Vehicle-Borne Improvised Explosive Devices (VBIEDs).

According to the statement, "both devices were

promptly detected and neutralised by the troops, preventing any penetration of the base. CCTV footage and field observations confirmed that several terrorists were killed, while others sustained serious injuries as surviving elements evacuated their dead and wounded."

It added that following the failed assault, OPHK troops of Sector 3, supported by the Theatre Command Quick Reaction Group, Nigeria Police Crack Team, and Civilian Joint Task Force

(CJTF), conducted a thorough exploitation of the area.

The statement stated that the operation led to the discovery of multiple terrorist casualties and the seizure of weapons, ammunition, and logistics abandoned during their retreat.

It further explained that recovered items included AK-47 rifles, magazines and ammunition, PKT rounds, hand grenades, motorcycles, communication devices, combat gear, medical supplies, and other materi-

als indicative of sustained terrorist operations.

It added that the recovered items have further degraded the terrorists' operational capacity and denied them freedom of action in the area.

The statement, the two neutralised VBIEDs were destroyed by OPHK defensive fire, causing damage to two points along the road.

It said there was no breach of the FOB, highlighting the preparedness, vigilance, and resilience of troops.

It further explained that

the troops are currently conducting aggressive patrols in the area to prevent further terrorist activity and reassure local communities of the continued security presence.

It stated that the troops remained resolute in their commitment to decisive defeat all terrorist elements and restore lasting peace and stability across the North-East and that the failed attack at Mairari underscored the operational readiness and professionalism of troops.