NAF airstrikes kill over 40 terrorists in Borno

THE Nigerian Air Force (NAF) has killed more than 40 terrorists in coordinated close air support and air interdiction operations at Azir and Musarram areas of Borno, disrupting planned attacks and bolstering ongoing ground operations.

This was contained in a statement by the Director, Public Relations and Information, NAF, Air Commodore Ehimen Ejodame, on Sunday, in Abuja.

The News Agency of Nigeria (NAN) quoted Ejodame as saying that the operations were conducted on January 15 and 16 by the Air Component of Operation Hadin Kai, following actionable intelligence and in close coordination with troops in contact.

He said the NAF aircraft, in the early hours of January 16, swiftly responded to a distress report at Azir, where troops were engaged with terrorists withdrawing from the area.

He added that further scans revealed terrorist elements attempting to regroup under nearby tree cover, prompting precise and successive air strikes that killed several of them.

"Post-strike assessment confirmed no further threats, while feedback from ground troops, local authorities and community sources indicated a significant degradation of terrorist presence and a return of relative calm.

"Earlier on January 15, NAF air assets carried out a successful air interdiction at Musarram in the Tumbuns general area after intelligence revealed terrorists assembling on canoes to launch attacks along the Baga and Fish Dam axis.

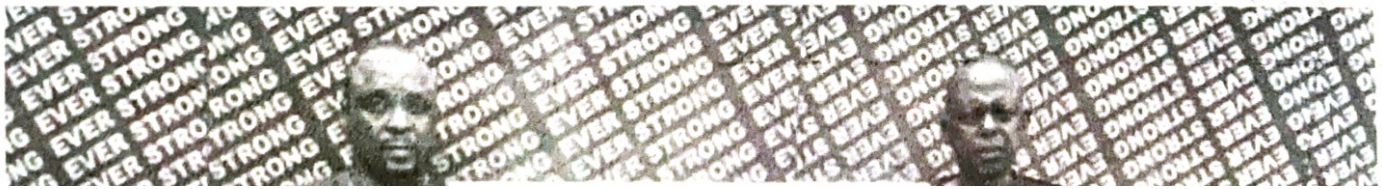
"On arrival, the aircraft sighted about 10 canoes and over 40 suspected terrorists, who were engaged in multiple passes, throwing them into disarray.

"Some fleeing elements were trailed and neutralised, while others who regrouped at an assembly area were also engaged, effectively dismantling the terrorist concentration," he said.

Reacting, the Chief of th Air Staff, Air Marshal Sund Aneke, reaffirmed the NA commitment to providi timely and decisive air su port to ground forces.

Aneke said the operatio demonstrated the effectiv ness of intelligence-led power and close air–grou coordination in denying te rorists freedom of action.

He assured Nigeria of sustained pressure terrorist elements as th Armed Forces of Niger continue efforts to degrac their capabilities and st bilise affected areas.



Gunmen kill policeman, abduc