

Troops kill 18 Boko Haram fighters, destroy enclaves in Borno

Atiku Galadima April 29, 2026



Troops of the Joint Task Force (North East), Operation HADIN KAI, have killed at least 18 Boko Haram fighters and destroyed several enclaves in coordinated ground and air assaults in the Timbuktu axis and Bulabulin Forest areas of **Borno State**.

The operations were conducted under Operation DESERT SANITY V and involved troops of Sector 2 in collaboration with the Air Component Command of Operation HADIN KAI, the Stabilisation Force and members of the Civilian Joint Task Force.

In a statement issued on Wednesday by the Media Information Officer, Headquarters Joint Task Force (North East) Operation HADIN KAI, Lieutenant Colonel Sani Uba, the military said troops recorded significant operational gains in separate but coordinated engagements around the Azir Bridge, Timbuktu axis and Bulabulin Forest areas.

According to the statement, troops cleared terrorist enclaves at Mar, Subdu, Yaro Lawanti and Yaro Shuwari, including other locations around the Bulabulin Forest and the Kamadogu Yobe stretch.

"During the operation, supported by assault air platforms from the Air Component Command, the troops made contact at Malam Shiri Village and engaged the terrorists in a well coordinated and tactical flanking manoeuvre, neutralising 11 terrorists and forcing others to flee with varying degrees of injuries," the statement said.

The military added that troops subsequently destroyed life support structures used by the insurgents, while exploitation operations led to the recovery of nine AK-47 rifles, three PKT anti-aircraft automatic machine guns, five motorcycles, assorted ammunition and materials used for Improvised Explosive Devices.

Similarly, troops operating along the Wajiroko Sabongari corridor in the Timbuktu axis engaged terrorists in another encounter supported by the Air Component Command.

"The troops, with resilience and tactical discipline, maintained positions and decisively dealt with the terrorists. Subsequent exploitation revealed seven neutralised terrorists, with additional blood trails and body parts indicating significantly higher enemy casualties during the assault," the statement added.

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Recovered items from the operation included AK-47 rifles, RPG tubes, ammunition, bandoliers and communication equipment.

The military also highlighted the role played by the Air Component Command, noting that persistent Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance operations enabled accurate target acquisition and real-time situational awareness for ground troops.

"Precision air interdiction strikes were subsequently conducted on confirmed terrorist positions and fleeing elements, further decimating scores of the insurgents and ensuring the success of a well synchronised air land offensive," the statement said.

The military further disclosed that troops, alongside volunteer forces, were conducting follow-up exploitation operations along the Forfor, Multe and Wajiroko axes to pursue fleeing terrorists and prevent regrouping.

The High Command commended the troops for their gallantry and resilience, urging them to sustain the operational tempo in the interest of security and economic stability in the North East region.