

# Troops kill five terror suspects in Borno

February 22, 2026 12:08 am



File photo: Troops of the Nigerian army

By Isah Ojo

**Troops** of Operation Hadin Kai have neutralised five suspected terrorists, said to be affiliated with the Islamic State – West Africa Province, during a fierce battle in the early hours of Saturday in Borno State.

The Media Information Officer, Joint Taskforce, Northeast Operation Hadin, Lt Col Sanni Uba, who disclosed this in a statement on Saturday, said an 18-year-old terrorist also surrendered in Geidam, Yobe State.

Uba explained that the five terrorists were neutralised when the troops made contact with suspected JAS/ISWAP members around Sabsawa village in Borno State.

He said, “In a major encounter, troops of Sector 1, while on fighting patrol, made contact with suspected JAS/ISWAP terrorists around Sabsawa village in Borno State. The troops responded with overwhelming firepower, forcing the terrorists to flee in disarray. During exploitation, five terrorists were neutralised.”

He stated that in a similar operation, troops of OPHK, under Sector 1, deployed at Ngurosoye, rescued three abducted children.

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He identified them as “Abba Abba (12), Fatima Abba (eight), and Aisha Abba (six)”, saying they were rescued during a perimeter patrol in Bama Local Government Area of Borno State.

“Preliminary investigation revealed the victims were abducted about two months ago along the Gubio axis by suspected terrorists before being moved to Bula-Daloye.”

The children, Uba said, have been handed over to the Nigerian Police for further necessary action.

“Meanwhile, troops also recorded the surrender of an 18-year-old terrorist suspect, Abubakar Abubakar, at Geidam in Yobe State, where he is currently in custody for profiling,” he added.

He, however, stressed that across other sectors of OPHK, troops in an aggressive posture conducted offensive operations in collaboration with hybrid forces, vigilantes, and hunters to deny terrorists freedom of action.