

# OPWS foils cattle rustling, neutralises criminals in Benue

From **Scholastica Hir**, Makurdi

**TROOPS** of the Joint Task Force Operation Whirl Stroke (OPWS) have arrested suspected cattle rustlers, recovered stolen livestock and neutralised terrorists attempting to infiltrate communities within the Joint Operations Area.

The Force Commander, Joint Task Force Operation Whirl Stroke, Major General Moses Gara, in a statement signed by the acting Media Information Officer

HQ JTF OPWS, Lieutenant Ahmad Zubairu, said that troops of the Chief of Army Staff (COAS) Special Intervention Battalion IX operating under Operation Whirl Stroke arrested three suspected cattle rustlers and recovered stolen livestock during a routine patrol operation conducted around Obagaji in Agatu LG, Benue State.

The operation, which took place on March 3, 2026, was initiated after troops deployed at Obagaji received credible intelligence regarding suspected cattle rustling activities around the Omikwidi general area. He said acting swiftly on the intelligence, the troops moved towards the Ologba-Egba road and deployed in ambush position.

He said during the operation, troops successfully intercepted a Sienna bus conveying three fully grown cows suspected to have been rustled.

According to him, three suspects: Mamuda Hussein, 28, a native of Adagbo community; Sunday Moses, 35, from Obagaji village; and Teny Musa, 22, also from Obagaji were arrested.

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