

Troops Rescue 10 Abducted NECO Candidates In Borno, Soldier, CJTF Officer Killed In Operation

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...terrorists killed 1 teacher, injured another

Troops of Operation Hadin Kai (OPHK) have rescued 10 National Examinations Council (NECO) candidates and teachers abducted during an attack by suspected ISWAP terrorists on Lassa Community in Askira/Uba Local Government Area of Borno State.

The Acting Military Information Officer, Headquarters Joint Task Force North East, Operation Hadin Kai, Capt. Mohammed Goni, who disclosed this in a statement yesterday in Maiduguri, said the terrorists attacked the Technical Secondary School in Lassa at about 9:00 a.m. yesterday while students were writing their NECO examinations.

The bandits had invaded the Government Day Secondary School in Lassa Town, located in the Askira/Uba Local Government Area of Borno State, yesterday morning while the students were writing the Senior School Certificate Examination (SSCE), organised by the National Examinations Council (NECO).

One teacher was shot dead during the incident and another sustained injuries. Goni said the Theatre Command immediately deployed troops, supported by strike aircraft and Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) platforms from the Air Component of Operation HADIN KAI, to conduct a coordinated search and rescue operation.

According to him, the troops, guided by aerial surveillance, engaged the terrorists around the Daggu area, resulting in the successful rescue of 10 abducted victims. "The rescued victims were un- harmed and are currently receiving the necessary care and support, while efforts are ongoing to rescue the remaining victim and bring the perpetrators to justice," he said.

Goni added that troops outmanoeuvred the fleeing terrorists during the encounter, inflicted casualties on them and recovered seven motorcycles used by the insurgents, thereby disrupting their escape. He, however, said one soldier of Operation HADIN KAI and a member of the Civilian Joint Task Force (CJTF) lost their lives during the firefight.

The military spokesman said troops had intensified operations in collaboration with other security agencies and relevant stakeholders to sustain pressure on the fleeing terrorists.

He added that security had also been reinforced across the affected communities to protect vulnerable residents, safeguard schools and prevent a recurrence of such attacks.

According to him, the attack underscores the desperation of terrorist groups, who have resorted to targeting soft targets despite sustained military operations against them across the North-East.

He reaffirmed the commitment of Operation Hadin Kai to protecting civilians, securing critical national infrastructure and creating a safe environment for education and other essential services.