

NAF Airstrikes Crush Terrorists, Foil Planned Attack in Niger State Communities

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The Air Component of Operation Fansan Yamma Sector 1, has dealt significant blows to terrorist elements, successfully foiling planned attacks through a series of intelligence-led air operations conducted between May 20 and 23, 2026, across Rafi and Mariga Local Government Areas of Niger State.

In a statement, the Director of Public Relations and Information, Nigerian Air Force, Air Commodore Ehimen Ejodame, said the coordinated operations targeted terrorists' movements, hideouts, and planned attacks across several communities within the affected areas.

According to him, the first operation was carried out on May 20 after credible intelligence revealed the movement and convergence of terrorists around Tungan Bako and Kasuwan Daji in Rafi LGA.

He explained that the Air Component, working in collaboration with the Nigerian Army Space Command Regiment, launched precision air interdiction strikes that neutralised several terrorists and disrupted their operational build-up in the area.

Ejodame further disclosed that on May 21, terrorists travelling on motorcycles and on foot with rustled cattle from Tungunguna towards Uregi were identified and engaged by air assets.

The operation, he said, resulted in the neutralisation of the terrorists and the destruction of their movement and withdrawal capability.

“On same day, the Air Component also provided close air support to troops in contact with terrorists at Tungan Makeri, successfully engaging the terrorists and restoring operational advantage to friendly forces,” he added.

The statement noted that the offensive operations continued on May 23 with armed reconnaissance missions over Dogon Dawa and surrounding locations in Mariga LGA following reports of planned terrorist attacks on troop positions.

During the mission, terrorist elements attempting tactical movement within the area were detected and engaged with precision strikes.

The Nigerian Air Force said the operation led to the successful neutralisation of a significant number of terrorists and effectively disrupted the planned attacks.

Gumi Denies Supporting Terrorism, Insists on Amnesty for Bandits

Kaduna-based Islamic cleric, Ahmad Gumi, has dismissed insinuations, suggesting that he supported terrorism.

Addressing a press conference at his residence in Kaduna, Gumi, who has been advocating amnesty for bandits, said there had been several misrepresentations in the media and on social media platforms regarding his position on banditry in Nigeria.

“I have noticed that I am being misquoted in some of my media interviews, public lectures, and discourse on how to address banditry in Nigeria.

“This is being done by certain ethnic interest groups, individuals driven by prejudice, and some sectional internet content creators, who use sensational and outrageous headlines to attract viewership at the expense of human suffering and sacrifice.

“I hereby state unequivocally that any video clip, written statement, or message attributed to me, whether directly or by innuendo, suggesting support for, justification of, protection of, or advocacy for banditry or terrorism in Nigeria or anywhere else does not emanate from me.”

The cleric called on Nigerians to disregard “such fake, manipulated, and doctored materials currently in circulation.

“I am a loyal citizen of my beloved country, a nation whose potential I believe is unmatched anywhere in the world.

“I therefore urge the general public, the media, and the Nigerian state to disregard such fake, manipulated, and doctored materials currently in circulation,” Gumi said.

He warned that “anyone who continues, from the date of this release, to circulate falsehoods against me shall be liable to legal action.

“I sincerely hope that our great nation will heal, and that all victims affected by this violence will find comfort in the collective determination of the nation and the international community to achieve a lasting solution to the insecurity fueled over time by ignorance, poverty, and widespread social injustice,” he added.

Family Begs Tinubu to Recover Slain Oyo Teacher's Body for Burial in School Attack

Family of the Late Mr. Oyedokun Michael Olugbade, recently killed by terrorists in Oyo State, has appealed to President Bola Tinubu to help recover the remains of their son, for a decent burial.

Olugbode is one of the teachers abducted from Community High School, Ahoro Esinle, in Oriire Local Government Area of Oyo State, by suspected terrorists on May 15, 2026.

He was reportedly killed by the terrorists few days after their kidnap, however, his remains is yet to be located or recovered for proper burial.

In a letter written to President Tinubu through their lawyer, Mr Deji Adeyanju, the family, stated that beyond personal grief, they were “deeply disturbed that several other innocent Nigerians, including persons abducted alongside Late Mr. Oyedokun Michael Olugbade during the same tragic incident, are still believed to be held in captivity by these terrorists under extremely life threatening conditions.”

They described the Late Oyedokun as a peaceful and diligent teacher at Community High School, Ahoro-Esinle, in Oriire Local Government Area of Oyo State, whose life was cruelly and violently cut short under heartbreaking and inhumane circumstances.

While disclosing that the late teacher was survived by a wife and two sons, who had been traumatised by the gruesome manner of his death, the family lamented that, “Despite widespread national reports regarding the death of the late Mr. Oyedokun Michael Olugbade, his remains are yet to be seen or recovered.

“In these distressing circumstances, we respectfully appeal for Your Excellency’s urgent intervention to direct the relevant security and intelligence agencies to intensify efforts toward locating and recovering his body, so that his family may be afforded the solemn opportunity to conduct a dignified burial and rescue other victims still in captivity.”

The family specifically urged the president not to delegate this matter to representatives alone, but should also be at the forefront by personally visiting the affected families.

Bandits Invade Emir’s Palace in Kwara, Burn Palace, Abduct Wife, Women, Others

A few days to Eid el-Kabir celebrations, about 15 unsuspected bandits reportedly invaded ancient town of Yashikira in Baruten Local Government Area of Kwara State, setting the emir’s palace ablaze, abducting emir’s

wife, children, women and several residents of the community.

The incident, according to THISDAY checks, happened on the wee hours of Sunday when the residents of the town have slept.

It was gathered that, the suspected bandits were said to have stormed the town, firing sporadically before launching the assault on the palace and nearby homes.

Sources said the assailants overpowered local vigilantes and operated for hours without resistance as terrified residents fled into nearby bushes for safety.

According to eye witnesses, the gunmen were said to have first attacked the palace, where they reportedly set parts of the building on fire before whisking away multiple victims.

A local source who sought anonymity told newsmen in Ilorin that, “the suspected bandits invaded Yashikira in the night.

“They set the palace on fire and kidnapped women and children, including the emir’s wives.”

Another source said the attack threw the entire community into confusion as families searched for missing relatives after the assailants left the area.