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## JTF kills eight suspected bandits in Rivers

*From Madu Onuorah, (Abuja) and Kelvin Ebiri, (Port Harcourt)*

THE Joint Military Task Force Operation Flush out said it yesterday killed eight suspected bandits who tried to attack an oil and gas facility at Soku, Degema Local Council in Rivers State.

JTF spokesman, Lt. Col. Sagir Musa, said the bandits in six boats launched yesterday afternoon with the aim of wanting to destroy one of the country's foremost gas facilities and probably snatch weapons from the security men on guard at the facility.

Meanwhile, Defence Headquarters yesterday summoned all the commanders of the Joint Task Force (JTF) to a meeting in Abuja.

The JTF consists of Operation Restore Hope, Operation Flushout 1 and Operation Flushout 3.

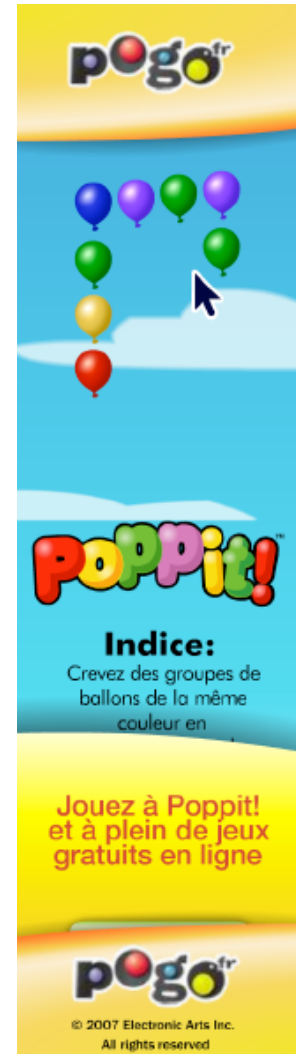
Director of Defence Information, Col. Chris Jemitola, said yesterday in Abuja that the meeting would afford the Chief of Defence Staff, Air Chief Marshal Paul Dike further opportunity to be briefed on activities of the commanders and their troops.

According to Jemitola, "the Defence Headquarters has summoned all the Joint Task Force (JTF) Commanders in a bid to enhance the over all security in their various Areas of Responsibility (AOR). The Chief of Defence Staff (CDS), Air Chief Marshal Paul Dike has tasked the JTF commanders to take all necessary measures to enhance a secured environment for all peace loving citizens in the area."

He added that the CDS has assured the JTF commanders of all necessary support to enable them carry out their mandate more effectively.

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