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News

Troops neutralise North central notorious terrorist commander, Abu Mosaje, 79 others

By **Odita Sunday, Abuja**

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Army

Troops in North Central Operational Theatre have neutralised a notorious terrorist commander, and gun runner identified as 'Abu Mosaje' in Barkin Ladi Local Council of Plateau State.

Troops also neutralised no fewer than 79 terrorists in one swoop within one week and arrested 224 persons. The frontline soldiers also arrested 28 perpetrators of oil theft and rescued 67 kidnap hostages.

Spokesman of Defence Media Operations (DMO), Major General Edward Buba, who made the disclosure, hinted that the military has intensified ongoing counter terrorism and counter insurgency operations across the nation.

According to him, the operations particularly targeted not just the terrorists but also their network of collaborators, informants and support base. He added: "Significantly, troops in North Central Operational Theatre neutralised a notorious terrorist commander, and gun runner identified as Abu Mosaje in Barkin Ladi LGA of Plateau State. Additionally, the same troops apprehended a wanted kidnap kingpin that was on security watch list identified as Babangida Gora Usman. He was arrested in Sanga LGA of Kaduna State .

"Furthermore, troops arrested another notorious gunrunner and his son identified as Timothy Yusuf and Timothy Obadiah.

"Meanwhile, in the South East, troops arrested seven IPOB/ESN terrorists including a notorious kidnapper and informants in Enugu North and Ehime Mbano LGAs of Enugu and Imo states.

"Nevertheless, during the week under review, troops neutralised 79 and arrested 224 persons. Troops also arrested 28 perpetrators of oil theft and rescued 67 kidnapped hostages.

"In the South South, troops denied the oil theft of the estimated sum of N747,070,710.00 only. Additionally, troops discovered and destroyed 215 crude oil cooking ovens, 26 dugout pits, 29 boats, 62 storage tanks, 20 drums and 42 illegal refining sites.

"Other items recovered include one barge, one tug boat, two pumping machines, two speedboats, nine outboard engines, two vehicles, 21 motorcycles, 11 mobile phones and eight vehicles, among others. Troops recovered 842,685 litres of stolen crude oil, 12,340 litres of illegally refined AGO and 200 litres of DPK.

“Furthermore, across all the theatres of operations, troops recovered 104 assorted weapons and 1,953 assorted ammunition. The breakdown are as follows: 53 AK47 rifles, 25 fabricated rifles, one FN rifle, 11 dane guns, two pump action guns, one fabricated SMG, four IEDs, seven RPG bombs, 30 magazines, four IEDs and three locally made butts.

“Others are: 1,186 rounds of 7.62mm special ammo, 417 rounds of 7.62mm NATO, 49 rounds of 12.7mm ammo, 190 rounds of 7.62 x 54mm ammo, 12 live cartridges, three bandoliers, one baofeng, 35 motorcycles, 22 mobile phones, among other items.

“Overall, troops remain steadfast in the destruction of terrorists across the country even as the armed forces remain committed to creating conditions in which the safety and security of citizens is guaranteed.”

In this article

Edward Buba

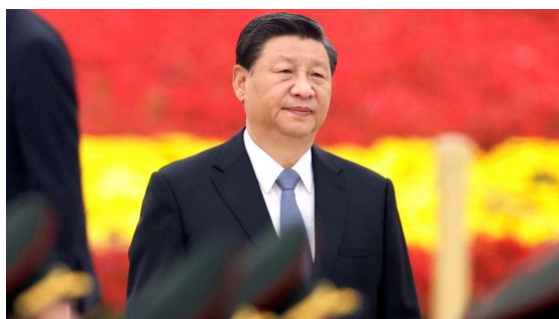
troops

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