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Troops Kill Two Herdsmen In Benue, Recover Two AK 47 Rifles, Ammunition

By Tor Vande-Acka

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METRO



MAKURDI – Troops of Operation Whirl Stroke (OPWS) on Thursday attacked and destroyed a camp owned by herdsmen militia at the border of Benue and Nasarawa states on Thursday.

The OPWS, which is the military spike operation covering Benue, Nasarawa and Taraba states, also killed two herdsmen during the attack and recovered two AK 47 rifles as well as 25 rounds of 7.62 special ammunition from the herdsmen.

When contacted, the state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), DSP Catherine Anene, said she was yet to receive report of any attack from that axis.

Daily Independent gathered that the troops which had trailed the armed herdsmen to their camp were able to neutralise two of them.

Some of the locals that spoke with us said the herdsmen had earlier on Wednesday, invaded Tse- Torkula, a community in Guma Local Government Area (LGA) of the state and injured two people before the troops of OPWS were alerted.

He explained that the herdsmen had stormed the community at about 6 p.m. on Wednesday, shooting sporadically in all directions.

We also learnt that the locals had then alerted the security forces around the area who moved into the area, with the aim of repelling the attack.

However, we gathered that before the troops that were stationed at Umenger and Ukaa communities could get to the conflict area, the herdsmen fled back to their camp located towards Nasarawa State.

But, the troops went in search of the herdsmen and caught up with them at their camp in the early hours of Thursday.

It was during the exchange of gunfire between the troops and the herdsmen that two of the herdsmen were shot to death and their camp destroyed, we learnt.

Efforts made by Daily Independent to confirm the report proved abortive as the Force Commander, OPWS, Major General Adeyemi, did not pick calls, neither did he reply to text messages sent to his phone.

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