

Patrol vans donated by the Borno State government to members of the Hunters/ Vigilante Association in the state on Tuesday.

Scores of bandits killed as jets bombard 'heart' of Sambisa forest —DHQ

Jacob Segun Olatunji
| Abuja

THE Defence Headquarters (DHQ) on Tuesday said that troops of the Air Task Force of Operation Lafiya Dole have destroyed the hideout of insurgents and neutralised several bandits in the 'S' Region in the heart of the Sambisa forest in Borno State.

This was contained in a statement made available

to newsmen in Abuja by the Coordinator, Defence Media Operations (DMO), Major-General John Enenche.

Enenche said the operation was carried out on Monday in the air interdiction missions being conducted by the Air Task Force in the North-East of the country on terrorist elements in the region.

He said: "The air strike, which was executed em-

ploying a force package of Nigerian Air Force (NAF) fighter jets, was carried out after series of Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) missions revealed that the terrorists responsible for recent attacks in the Southern part of Borno and Northern part of Adamawa State had originated from the location."

He said that following the development, "the NAF at-

tack aircraft engaged the target area in successive passes, leading to the destruction of some of their structures and logistics stores, including a suspected anti-aircraft gun station as the terrorists had fired at the NAF aircraft.

The defence spokesperson said that in the process, several insurgents were neutralised while several others escaped with injuries.

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