

NAF airstrikes kill terrorists' commanders, 35 foot soldiers, destroy logistics base in Borno

Jacob Segun Olatunji | Abuja

THE Nigerian Air Force (NAF), on Wednesday, said airstrikes by its fighter jets have neutralised key terrorist commanders, alongside 35 foot soldiers, while their logistics base at Arina area, located at the Southern Tumbuns area of Borno State was destroyed.

This was contained in a statement made available to news-

men in Abuja by spokesman for NAF, Air Vice Marshal Edward Gabkwet

According to the statement, the terrorist commanders killed in the strikes are Munzir Arika, Sani Dilla (Dan Hausawan Jubillaram), Ameer Modu, Dan Fulani Fari Fari, and Bakoura Arina Chiki

The statement reads: "In a decisive effort to further weaken the activities of remnants of terrorists operating in the North-East, while also protect-

ing innocent civilians and own troops, the Air Component of Operation Hadin Kai has successfully executed an air interdiction mission on August 16 in Arina, Southern Tumbuns, Borno State

"Prior to the mission, intelligence had revealed the clandestine migration of terrorists into the area from neighboring locations. Confirmatory Intelligence Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) missions were further conducted on August

12 and 15, which identified numerous terrorists and active structures concealed under trees.

"Consequently, coordinated airstrikes were launched over the location and the targets successfully engaged, resulting in the neutralisation of several terrorists and the destruction of their structures."

It explained that Battle Damage Assessment (BDA) after the strikes revealed that several equipment, vehicles, water

vessels and a suspected medical dispensary were obliterated by the strikes.

The statement added further that "credible intelligence further revealed that five key terrorist leaders were either killed or severely injured in the strike.

"The key terrorist commanders believed to have been present at the location during the operation include Munzir Arika, Sani Dilla (Dan Hausawan Jubillaram), Ameer Modu, Dan

Fulani Fari Fari, and Bakoura Arina Chiki, along with over 35 other foot soldiers."

While noting that the operation, no doubt, has significantly degraded the operational capacity of the few remaining terrorists in the region, it stated that the Nigerian Air Force remained committed to supporting the efforts of the Armed Forces of Nigeria and other security agencies in safeguarding the region and ensuring peace and security.