

NEWS

B'Haram kingpin arrested in Ekiti, kidnap suspects killed in Rivers

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The Department of State Services said in Abuja on Wednesday that it had arrested some alleged terrorists and kidnappers including a suspected Boko Haram kingpin in Ado Ekiti, Ekiti State.

Also, operatives of the Rivers State Police Command have killed four suspected kidnappers, arrested their leader, Sombari Appaulus, also known as *Manslaughter* and 18 others.



The DSS arrests, which cut across many states in the country, were said to have been carried out as a result of intelligence gathering by officers in the service.

DSS, in a statement by its spokesperson, Mr. Tony Opuiyo, said that those arrested had continually threatened the peace of the affected areas.

Opuiyo said that the service on March 20, arrested a suspected Boko Haram kingpin, Adenoyi Abdulsalam in Ado Ekiti, Ekiti State by a joint military/DSS operation team.

He said an Ak-47 rifle was recovered from the suspect who he said was undergoing investigation, adding that Abdulsalam was on the final stage of kidnapping some high networth targets in Ekiti, not only to raise funds but to terrorise communities in the state.

He said that prior to this arrest, several other Boko Haram suspects had been apprehended in various parts of northern Nigeria especially in Bauchi, Yobe, Gombe, Nasarawa, Kaduna and Kogi states.

Opuiyo said that typical cases of arrest included that of a 29-year-old suspected Boko Haram member, Usman Rawa, on March 17 at Lafia, Nasarawa State.

Rawa, he alleged, was discovered to have rented an apartment at Lafia for Abdullahi Isa, who he said was known for his alleged terrorist activities.

Opuiyo said, “His plan was to establish an effective base to conduct terrorism, kidnapping and robbery operations in Abuja, Minna, and other adjoining states.”

He described the suspect as a top Boko Haram commander.

He said, , “He is a Boko Haram top commander, and discovered to have escaped from the Bauchi Central Prison in October 2010 and hid in Maiduguri, Borno State.

“Similarly, at Jeka-da-Fari Market, Gombe State, Adamu Jibrin was arrested. He operated under the pseudo name of Dantata Sule and served as a middleman for Boko Haram members and their commanders especially the one simply identified as Kanumbu. Suspect affirmed his membership of the sect. “

He also said that some suspects were arrested at Ngalda Town of Fika LGA, Yobe State and Nagazi area of Adavi LGA, Kogi State.

He gave the names of the suspects as Abdulazeez Umaru and Nuhu Usman, who he confessed his membership of the Boko Haram sect.

Opuiyo added that the preliminary investigations revealed the alleged participation of Usman in several deadly insurgent attacks in Kogi State.

He said that while the DSS was able to ensure a relative peaceful environment in March, he added that it also recorded many successes in February.

Among those arrested in February was Suleiman Yahaya, who he said had been on the wanted list of security agencies.

He said that the suspect was arrested during a raid in Potiskum LGA, Yobe State, for his alleged role in several terrorist attacks in Borno and Yobe states.

Similarly, on February 7, in Kumbotso LGA, Kano State, Mohammed Isyaka was also arrested for his alleged complicity in Boko Haram attacks in the North-East.

Also arrested in February were the trio of Uwais Abubakar, Abdullahi Umaru and Mukhtar Suleiman, who he said were arrested in Kogi State for allegedly belonging to the Boko Haram sect.

constructed Kogi State Revenue House, Lokoja.

“Also, a Boko Haram Commander and food supplier, Ibrahim Fulata and his associates – Shamsudeen Aliyu, Zaharadeen Ibrahim and Suleiman Abubakar were arrested at the Zaria Clinic, Dustsen Tanshi area of Bauchi State.

“The duo of Ibrahim Sule and Bello Shehu were arrested at Nasarawa town of Kaduna State for their suspected involvement in the kidnap of two German nationals.”

He listed the Germans as Dr. Peter Breuning and Johannes Brehinger.

Also, operatives of the Rivers State Police Command have killed four suspected kidnappers, arrested their leader, Sombari Appaulus, also known as *Manslaughter* and 18 others.

Manslaughter was among 15 suspected armed robbery and kidnap suspects apprehended by security agents on Sunday.

Speaking while parading the suspects on Wednesday at the state police headquarters, the state Commissioner of Police, Mr. Zaki Ahmed, explained that the kidnap kingpin was one of those who kidnapped a medical doctor based in the state on Saturday.

Ahmed disclosed that some of those arrested were cultists, adding that *Manslaughter* and some members of his gang, who had forced some indigenes of Ogoni to leave their homes, were nabbed at Whimpy Junction in Port Harcourt.

He explained that the police were able to apprehend the hoodlums as a result of the new strategy put in place by the command.

The police commissioner added that six cars, a cash sum of N1,450,000 and assorted weapons, including AK-47 rifles, were recovered from the bandits.

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