

Soldiers' killing: DHQ sends more troops to Kebbi community

Solomon Odeniyi, Abuja

FOLLOWING the death of several soldiers on Wednesday in Kebbi State, the Defence Headquarters said it

Kidnappers abduct two Ogun siblings, injure grandpa, demand N15m
Daud Olatunji, Abeokuta

TWO siblings, Esther Kehinde, 20, and David Kehinde, 15, have been kidnapped at Oremeji Street, Joga-Orile area of Ayetoro in the Yewa-North Local Government Area of Ogun State.

Our correspondent gathered that the siblings were abducted from their residence around 9pm on Tuesday, while washing their school uniforms.

A source told our correspondent that the gun-wielding kidnappers invaded the victims' house and took the siblings away.

An elderly man, believed to be the victims' grandfather, who was reportedly resisting them, was hit in the head and passed out.

Our correspondent gathered that the kidnappers contacted the family of the children about 12 hours after and demanded the sum of N15m.

The source said, "They (kidnappers) came into our house around 9pm and went to the back, where David and his sister were washing their uniforms. Their grandpa too was seated there when the kidnappers appeared and held the two of them."

"The grandpa challenged them, but one of them hit the man on the head and he passed out immediately. Their mother heard the noise and rushed out, but met the kidnappers' stiff resistance."

"They shot in the air for a few minutes before taking to their heels."

had mobilised more soldiers to the area.

The military high command explained that troops responding to a distress call died in an ambush laid by terrorists in Kanya village

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"We will like to use this medium to appeal to the family of the victims to please carry us along in any conversation with these hoodlums," he said.

under the Danko/Wasagu Local Government Area of the state.

The Director, Defence Media Operations, Major General Bernard Onyeuko, disclosed this during a briefing on the activities of the military between February 24 and March 10.

He said, "Sadly, our own troops, based on information from locals, went for distress calls, but unfortunately, they were ambushed along the line in Kebbi State. Consequently, we lost some of our soldiers."

"We have mobilised to the place and severe action is being taken to redeem the situation there."

Reeling out the success of the military within the period, he said troops killed no fewer than 115 terrorists.

Onyeuko said the troops neutralised two terrorists on it wanted lists, Terdoo Kiorga, aka Apaapa, and Orkulam Mom, aka Orbutee.

Onyeuko said, "Notably, on February 24, 2022, while on fighting patrol, own troops

responded to a distress call from Tse Mela in the Yooyo Council Ward of the Katsina Ala Local Government Area about the criminal activities of Iortyom Wuave, aka Janta, a notorious armed militia gang leader on Operation Whirl Stroke's wanted list. Own troops mobilised and moved to the location and in a subsequent gun battle, he was neutralised.

"In a related development, on February 25, 2022 troops raided the hideout of notorious

armed bandits at Tse Jundo in the Mbamena Council Ward, Ukum Local Government Area of Benue State. During the shootout with troops, two of the notorious armed bandits, Terdoo Kiorga, aka Apaapa, and Orkulam Mom, aka Orbutee, were neutralised.

The duo has been on the wanted list of the Operation Whirl Stroke and is known to have unleashed mayhem on Zaki Biam and its environs in the past.

"Consequently, the operations by troops of the Operation Hadarin Daji resulted in the neutralisation of 90 bandits; eight civilians were rescued, and two locally-fabricated rifles, two pump action guns, one locally-made pistol, five rounds of 7.62mm special ammunition and four phones were recovered. Cumulatively, the operations neutralised 96 terrorists."

Onyeuko also disclosed that troops also recovered four AA-guns, 2,000 rounds of 12.7mm ammunition, 10 bicycles, one unexploded Improvised Explosive Device, one MOWAG APC, one truck mounted with 122 artillery gun, one machine gun, four AK-47 rifles, one 60mm mortar tube with five bombs, among others.

Speaking on operations against oil thieves in the South-South, he said troops in the last two weeks discovered and destroyed 30 illegal refining sites, 29 ovens, nine receivers, 12 coolants, 73 storage metal tanks, 248 polythene bags, 16 boilers, eight pumping machines, 14 wooden boats, 29 dugout pits, two speedboats, four trucks, one bus, 44 drums of AGO and three outboard engines, among others.

Onyeuko also said a total of 2,852,900 litres of crude oil and 3,862,000 litres of Automotive Gas Oil were recovered.

He, however, said a total of 174 terrorists and their families, comprising 43 adult males, 58 females and 73 children, surrendered to troops in Borno State during the period under review.



• L-R: Onijanikin of Ijanikin Kingdom, Oba Afolabi Asafa; Oniba-Ekun of Iba Kingdom, Oba Suleiman Raji; and Solicitor General/Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Justice, Lagos State, Titilayo Shitta-Bey, during the stakeholders forum on Land Grabbers, the Law and Your Rights in Lagos... on Thursday. Photo: Ministry of Justice, Lagos State

Insurgents decimated, 30,000 B'Haram/ISWAP fighters surrendered – SGF

Godwin Isenyo, Kaduna

THE Secretary to the Government of the Federation, Boss Mustapha, on Thursday, said no fewer than 30,000 repentant Boko Haram and the Islamic State's West Africa Province insurgents terrorising the North-East had surrendered.

Mustapha stated this at a stakeholders' engagement on the security challenges confronting

The SGF noted that threats by separatist agitators in the South-East and the South-South over the years had ebbed.

He added that the current regime of the President, Major General Muhammadu Buhari (retd.), had taken far reaching measures to tackle security issues in the country.

Mustapha noted that one of such measures was the "increase in budgetary allocation as well as shoring up the equipment holding of the military and other

of Kaduna is strategic as the old headquarters of the Northern Region and also one of the states most hit by armed banditry.

"As you are all aware, Nigeria has been grappling with a number of security challenges across all parts of the country. These challenges have resulted in loss of valuable lives and displacement of several people as well as the destruction of property worth billions of naira."

"The Federal Government is concerned with these challenges and has been working

their salaries have been upwardly reviewed to boost their morale, enhance productivity and elicit hard work.

"Troops of Operation Sharan Daji, in conjunction with personnel of the Nigeria Police Force and other intelligence/security and para-military agencies have sustained the onslaught against the criminal elements and the administration has taken far reaching measures to tackle insecurity in the country."

Retired Delta IG workers, teachers