

Airstrikes kill 63 terrorists in Borno, Kaduna

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AIR interdictions by the Air Component of Operation Whirl Punch and the Air Task Force, Operation Hadin Kai, in

shore Nigeria's regional leadership role

his delegation that included his running mate, Dr Ifeanyi Okowa; and the PDP National Chairman, Dr Iyorchia Ayu, in Abuja on Thursday.

The statement quoted Atiku as saying that policies of the last seven years, such as the locking up of the borders, have eroded the gains of the foreign policy that was pursued by the previous PDP administrations.

He said under his watch, regional security and collaboration would be strengthened.

separate operations between August 30 and 31, 2022, have killed no fewer than 63 terrorists.

The operations were carried out in Kuduru and Udawa in Kaduna, as well as Gargash, Minna and Gazuwa in Bama Local Government Area of Borno State, where terrorists' hideouts were also destroyed.

A military source said over 14 terrorists were killed in the raid on their enclaves in Kaduna, while 49 were killed during the interdiction in Borno State.

The source said, "The Air Component of Operation Whirl Punch on August 30, 2022 conducted air interdiction missions against identified terrorists' hideouts at Alhaji Isiaka location and Kuduru in Igabi Local Government Area of Kaduna

State. The strikes were successful as 14 terrorists were eliminated with several others injured.

"Similar strikes were also undertaken at Udawa along Kaduna - Birnin Gwari Road in Kaduna State after receiving intelligence of terrorists' activities of cattle rustling in the area.

"On receipt of the distress call, NAF aircraft immediately scrambled to the location where they intercepted and neutralised several terrorists on bikes guiding the rustled herds of cattle. Feedback from local sources and troops deployment around the area revealed that the terrorists suffered heavy casualties from the airstrikes."

The source also said operations were carried out at Amchile and Gargash,

both terrorists locations east of Maiduguri, adding that the locations were attacked severally with few surviving terrorists seen fleeing and taking cover under nearby trees which were subsequently attacked.

The source continued, "Also, In Sambisa, 49 Boko Haram terrorists were felled after two Super Tukano bombed three terrorists' hideout in Sambisa forest.

"On August 31, another airstrike was conducted in Gazuwa after Intelligence surveillance revealed a large presence of the fighters who were engaging in some sort of transactions."

The Nigerian Air Force spokesperson, Air Commodore Edward Gabkwet, confirmed the operations but did not give details.