

Military airstrikes kill wanted bandit kingpin, others

Solomon Odeniyi, Abuja

BANDIT leaders, including Halilu Buzu, one of the kingpins declared wanted by the Defence Headquarters, have been reportedly killed.

The PUNCH gathered that they were killed during separate air interdictions by the air component of Operation Hadarin Daji.

A report by the military sighted by our correspondent on Tuesday said Buzu was killed on October 21 at Maradun Local Government Area of Zamfara.

It read, "Air strikes by the Air Component of Operation Hadarin Daji led to the

decimation of several terrorists and the destruction of their logistics base at the Maradun Local Government Area of Zamfara State on October 21.

"This came about after credible intelligence revealed that a prominent terrorist, Halilu Buzu, of Sububu, in the Maradun LGA of Zamfara State, had scheduled an early morning meeting with some of his foot soldiers in the area.

"Consequently, NAF aircraft scrambled to simultaneously strike the location of the meeting and the logistics base. A huge fireball was observed after the strike on the base, an indication that the location

might have contained some inflammable substance. The battle damage assessment revealed the meeting location and the logistic base to be destroyed.

"Feedback recently received has now revealed that Buzu was indeed eliminated in the strike alongside several other terrorist kingpins and their foot soldiers, including Ceri, Dan'Musulmi, Danbarkeji, Guguwa, Dan Sha Bakwai, Marshall and Hana Zuwa."

2 According to the report, another airstrike on the house of another bandit leader, Ganal, killed seven other notorious bandits in Kaduna