

Troops kill seven terrorists in fresh airstrikes

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By Solomon Odeniyi

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No fewer than seven terrorist kingpins were killed in recent airstrikes by the Air Component of Operation Whirl Punch.

The terrorists were killed at various hideouts in the Alhaji Ganai location, Buhari New location, and Dogon Maikaji, all in Giwa Local Government Area of Kaduna State.

In a report seen by our correspondent on Monday, the terrorists were listed as Jibrin Gurgu, Isah Jauro and Tambuwal.

Others are Noti, Bala, Yunusa and Burti, who was a well-known associate of another sought-after terrorist, Haladu Yadi.

It added that the strikes were carried out following credible intelligence on heightened terrorist activities in the areas.

The report partly read, “Strikes were authorised on December 1, 2022. After the successful strikes, it can now be confirmed that seven key terrorist kingpins by the name Jibrin Gurgu, Isah Jauro, and Tambuwal from Zamfara State.

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“Other kingpins eliminated are Noti, Bala, Yunusa, and Burti, who was a well-known associate of another sought-after terrorist, Haladu Buharin Yadi.

“Following-up air interdiction missions were conducted against terrorists and enclaves in Tsofa and Riyawa in Igabi, as well as Birnin Gwari LGA in Kaduna State.

“Feedback received also revealed that terrorists suffered heavy casualties from the ‘hell’ rained on them. These air strikes have since been corroborated by the Kaduna State Commissioner of Internal Security, Sam Aruwan, who stated in a press release on December 2, 2022, that military air strikes identified and dislodged eight terrorist camps while freeing 10 kidnapped victims in the process.”

The NAF spokesperson, Air Commodore Edward Gabkwet, confirmed the strikes.

He assured Nigerians that the Air Force would continue to provide support across the various theatres of operations.

“The return of internally displaced persons to their ancestral homes and the surrendering of over 10,000 terrorists and members of their families, especially in the last three months in Borno State, as well as the ability of Nigerians to freely travel on the Kaduna-Abuja Road

and other hitherto dangerous routes, are some of the signs that the efforts of the security agencies are indeed yielding some positive outcomes,” Gabkwet added