

# Army, DSS kill seven terrorists in Sokoto

Gift Habib, Abuja

**T**he Nigerian Army and Department of State Services troops collaborated effectively to thwart a terrorist attack in Sokoto State, neutralising seven militants and seizing a cache of weapons.

Responding to a distress call in Modachi, in the Isa Local Government Area of the state, the joint operation intercepted an armed group intending to cause harm,

according to a statement on its X handle on Friday.

The coordinated effort resulted in the elimination of seven terrorists and the recovery of seven AK-47 rifles, four motorbikes, two mobile phones, and four machetes.

The statement read, "Nigerian Army troops deployed for counter-terrorism operations in the North West region in conjunction with a team from the Department of State Services in a swift and coordinated

effort to avert a potential disaster to save lives in Sokoto State, responded to a distress call, which resulted in the interception of an armed terrorist group on a rampage to wreak havoc in the Modachi general area of Isa Local Government Area of Sokoto State.

"The joint operation led to the elimination of some of the terrorists and the recovery of a significant cache of arms. The terrorists, who were in transit with several motorbikes, were met with strong resistance from the security forces, leading to the elimination of seven terrorists. The troops also recovered seven AK-47 rifles, four motorbikes, two mobile phones, and four machetes."

According to the Army, the successful operation highlighted the commitment of security forces to combating terrorism and restoring peace in the region, averting a potential disaster and saving lives in the state.

"The successful operation is a testament to the dedication of the security forces in combating terrorism and restoring peace in troubled regions. The swift and decisive response by the troops and the DSS team undoubtedly averted a potential disaster and saved several lives in Sokoto State," the Army added.

Also, it was reported on Thursday that troops of the Nigerian Army foiled attacks on Kweserti village in Taraba State, killing two armed militia.

The troops who acted on intelligence were able to thwart the attack, following a fierce gun battle with the militias.

Saturday PUNCH gathered that militias' attacks on communities in Taraba have been on the rise in recent times. The ensuing confrontation by the troops forced the militias to retreat in disarray.

## Sanwo-Olu, Abiru hail Umahi over Ikorodu-Itokin road

Naomi Chima

**T**he Lagos State Governor, Babajide Sanwo-Olu and the lawmaker representing Lagos East Senatorial District, Senator Mukhail Abiru, On Thursday, paid a visit to the Minister of Works, Senator Dave Umahi, regarding the ongoing rehabilitation of the 34km Ikorodu-Itokin road.

According to a statement by Enitan Olukotun, the media aide to Senator Tokunbo Abiru, the visit was aimed to express gratitude and discuss the progress of the road project.

Sanwo-Olu commended Umahi for the rapid pace of work on the road, originally constructed in 1975 during the regimes of General Yakubu Gowon and General Mobolaji Johnson by Messrs Taylor Woodrow.

The statement read, "Recall that in April 2021, Senator Abiru moved a motion on the floor of the Nigerian Senate on the urgent

need for the rehabilitation of the Ikorodu-Sagamu and Ikorodu-Itoikin-Epe roads to further bridge the infrastructure gap and enhance economic growth in Nigeria".

"Senator Abiru convinced the Senate by highlighting the importance of the two roads to the nation's economic growth as they serve as access points from other parts of the country; Ogun, Edo and the northern parts of the country and also routes to New Lekki-Ibeju corridor where we have a major refinery, Lagos deep seaport and Free Trade Zone."

Governor Sanwo-Olu and the senator also made a case for the dualisation of the road, which is currently a single-carriage road. The minister assured that design for the dualization will begin soon, while the reconstruction continues.

"The ongoing rehabilitation and stabilisation ahead of the reconstruction, has significantly improved travelling experience on the corridor."