

Troops kill terror kingpins in Sokoto, Borno offensives

Solomon Odeniyi
and Isah Ojo

IN a significant breakthrough in the fight against terrorism, the troops have eliminated notorious Sokoto bandit kingpin, Yellow Danbokkolo and 10 Boko Haram terrorists in Borno.

Troops of Operation Fasan Yama, during a fierce offensive in Eastern Sokoto, eliminated Danbokkolo, in an operation carried out in collaboration with Hybrid Forces, Air Components, and other security agencies.

He succumbed to gunshot injuries sustained during an intense firefight last week and died on Tuesday, July 1.

Described by the military as even more feared than the infamous Bello Turji, Danbokkolo was behind the horrific December 2021 mass killing in Shinkafi,

Zamfara State, where travellers were burnt alive in a targeted arson attack.

In a separate but equally successful operation in the Northeast, troops of Operation Hadin Kai neutralised 10 Boko Haram/ISWAP insurgents in the southern Lake Chad region of Borno State, near the Nigeria-Cameroon border. The offensive, conducted between Rann and Gamboru Ngala, also resulted in the recovery of a large cache of arms and ammunition, including

anti-aircraft rounds suspected to have been looted from Cameroonian forces.

The successes, according to the military authorities, reaffirmed their commitment to sustaining the momentum against terrorists across all fronts, with renewed efforts to hunt down other notorious actors, including Bello Turji.

In a statement on Tuesday, the Director, Defence Media Operations, Maj Gen

Markus Kangye, described Danbokkolo as much more dreaded than Turji.

He said the terrorist kingpin had long terrorised residents of Eastern Sokoto.

He said, "Troops of Operation Fasan Yama, in conjunction with Hybrid Forces supported by Air Components and other security agencies, conducted an intelligence lead operation last week, during which they engaged bandits and fleeing terrorists."

CSO fingers political enemies as Wike dismisses land scandal

Nathaniel Shaibu and
Deborah Musa

A civil society organisation, the Centre for Democratic Integrity and Leadership has accused political enemies of orchestrating a smear campaign against the Minister of the Federal Capital Territory, Nyesom Wike, over fresh allegations of illegal

land allocations to his children.

The group's position follows Wike's latest denial of claims linking him to controversial land deals, which he described as baseless and politically motivated attempts to derail his reforms in Abuja.

In a statement issued on Tuesday by his Senior Special Assistant on

Public Communications and Social Media, Lere Olayinka, the minister dismissed the allegations as baseless and mischievous.

The PUNCH recalls that the minister had earlier denied reports stating that he had allocated 2,082 hectares of land in Maitama and Asokoro to his son through a farming company, Joaq Farms