

NAF bombs terrorists' stronghold, kills kingpin, 17 others

• Rescues 26 hostages in Kaduna

From **Molly Kilete**, Abuja

THE Nigerian Air Force (NAF) said its fighter jets have bombarded terrorists' logistics base in Kaduna State, killing 18 terrorists, including their kingpin, one Alhaji Shanono.

The air strike conducted by the Air Component of Operation Whirl Punch, followed intelligence that Alhaji Shanono had scheduled a meeting with his foot soldiers at Ukambo village, about 131 kilometres from Kaduna, the state capital.

NAF Director, Public Relations and Information, Air Commodore Edward Gabkwet, who made the disclosure in a statement, said 30 rifles and 20 motorbikes were destroyed during the air strike, leaving several terrorists with various gunshot injuries, while 26 kidnapped victims held by the bandits were rescued.

He said in the Northwest, specifically, the effect of strikes undertaken by NAF aircraft revealed that several terrorists had been eliminated and their enclaves destroyed. He said one of such strikes, which occurred on August 9, 2022 resulted in the elimination of a well known terrorist leader who operated in Kaduna State.

Indeed, following receipt of intelligence on August 9, 2022, that a well known terrorists' kingpin, Alhaji Shanono, had scheduled a meeting with his foot soldiers at Ukambo, a village about 131km from Kaduna, the air component of Operation Whirl Punch dispatched aircraft for interdiction mission at the location. Overhead the location, terrorists were sight-

ed under clusters of trees at the foot of Ukambo high ground, and after ensuring the absence of civilian settlements within the location, the crew received the authorisation to strike.

"Feedback from local sources disclosed that over 30 rifles and 20 motorbikes were destroyed, while about 18 terrorists, including Alhaji Sha-

nono, were neutralised, while others sustained various degrees of injuries. Sources also revealed that not less than 26 kidnapped victims earlier held by the terrorists were released as a result of the airstrike.

"Similar strikes were also undertaken in the Northeast as well. There, the air component of Operation Hadin Kai had their tasks well cut out for them as they had been fully engaged in conducting air inter-

diction missions on terrorists' targets in Borno State. One of such operations was conducted on August 6, 2022, at Gazuwa, about 1.2 kilometres to Gargash, after intelligences revealed that infighting for relevance and supremacy was underway between terrorists of the Shekau faction and terrorists aligned to Islamic State of West Africa (ISWAP).

"The state of confusion and

disorder among the two terrorists' factions, thus, presented an opportunity for a surprise strike by NAF pilots, which was carried out using two aircraft types. It should be noted that though the map coordinates led the pilots to the exact site of the infighting, the location also had an ISWAP flag hoisted on the structure and three solar panels on the rooftop.

(Continued on www.sunnewsonline.com)

Owo church attack: DHQ clarifies identities of arrested suspects

THE Defence Headquarters has given details of the suspects arrested in connection with the June 5 attack on St. Francis Catholic Church Owo in Ondo State.

The Chief of Defence Staff, Gen. Lucky Irabor, had on Tuesday, at a parley with newsmen, revealed the names of the terrorists who masterminded the Owo attack.

The Director, Defence Information, Maj.-Gen. Jimmy Akpor, in a statement, yesterday, said the clarification became necessary because of the conflicting feedback on the earlier announcement.

Akpor said that Irabor had confirmed the arrest of four suspects through the collaborative efforts of the military and DSS personnel at Eika, in Okehi Local Government Area, Kogi on August 1.

"Those arrested included Idris Abdulmalik Omeiza (a.k.a Bin Malik), Momoh Otohu Abubakar, Aliyu Yusuf Itopa and Auwal Ishaq Onimisi.

"The Defence Chief said preliminary investigation revealed that Idris Abdulmalik Omeiza was the master-

mind of the terror attack on the Owo Catholic Church as well as the attack on a police station in Adavi Local Government Area, Kogi State on June 23, 2022, during which a policeman was killed and weapons carted away."

Akpor said Irabor also mentioned the arrest of another terrorist, Idris Ojo, aged 32, who was apprehended at Ayetoro Osi, Ondo State, through the combined effort of military and DSS personnel on August 7.

"Idris Ojo, the CDS said, was one of the suspected ISWAP terrorists who escaped from the Kuje Medium Correctional Centre on July 5, 2022.

"The CDS also mentioned that Ojo was arrested alongside Jimoh Ibrahim, 39 years, a sympathiser of the terrorist group, who accommodated him.

"The CDS further revealed that the arrest of Idris Ojo was crucial as he, along with others, were already planning terrorists' attacks against some selected targets, in order to create fear amongst the citizenry aimed at discrediting the government," he said.

ODÈ ULÉ CITY

PUBLIC NOTICE ANNOUNCEMENT AND CAVEAT EMPTOR

This is to notify the general public that the land space represented by the coordinates: SC/OG DP 1299YJ 768961.843mN and 574086.580mE is Odè Ulé City, Remo North LGA, Ogun State, Nigeria.

The suburbs and vassals areas generally surrounding the above defined coordinates form the Odè Ulé Kingdom of Legusenland. Our boundary neighbours are: In the West: Obafermi Owode LGA, Ogere, Makun. South: Iperu, Ilisan. East: Ilara, Egudu, Akaka, Eposo, Iraye and Odè Remo a non-contiguous neighbour. North: Ipara, Isara, Isan, Oluyole LGA, Ijebu North LGA.

Henceforth, any matter concerning the areas controlled by Odè Ulé City, Odè Ulé Kingdom of Legusenland shall be referred to the Legusen of Odè Ulé Kingdom. Whosoever does otherwise does so at his or her own risk. This announcement is for record purposes.

The Federal Government, Ogun State government, other agencies of government, private bodies and the general public should take note.

Announcer:
For Odè Ulé City:

HRM&E Oba Dr Adedayo Olusino Adekoya,
D.S.A. (Erinsiba1)
Legusen of Odè Ulé City. Oba Amero "from the Source"