

# Soldiers nab gunrunner, foil kidnap attempt, kill kidnapper

From **Molly Kilete**, Abuja

**SOLDIERS** on Counter-terrorism/insurgency operations in Taraba and Benue States have arrested a gunrunner, two terrorists and foiled a kidnap attempt.

The soldiers also killed one kidnapper in a shootout and recovered a Beretta pistol with four rounds of 9 mm ammunition.

Director, Army Public Relations, Major General Onyema Nwachukwu, who made the disclosure, said, in a series of successful operations, Nigerian Army troops deployed

for Counter-terrorism/insurgency operations in Taraba and Benue States have made significant strides in disrupting terrorist activities. The operations resulted in the arrest of a gunrunner, foiling of a kidnap attempt, and extermination of a terrorist.

Nwachukwu in a statement, said: "In Taraba State, troops, in collaboration with vigilantes, acted on actionable intelligence to apprehend one Mansir Mohammed at Jalingo Motor Park, who has been reportedly involved in gunrunning activities with terrorists. His arrest led to the nabbing of other

members of his syndicate and the recovery of one Semi Automatic Pump Action gun, one locally fabricated gun, a Peugeot car, five mobile phones, and the sum of N45,000 only.

"In a separate operation, troops on routine patrol at Miyande Village in Takum Local Government Area of Taraba State have intercepted two terrorist suspects who concealed an automatic rifle underneath the seat of a motorbike on which they rode. The vigilant troops recovered one AK-47 rifle, five rounds of 7.62mm special ammunition and a motorcycle.

"In another development, troops responded to a distress call and successfully foiled a kidnap attempt within Zaki-Biam Town in Zaki-Biam Local Government Area of Benue State.

"During the intervention, troops neutralised one kidnapper in a shootout with the criminals and recovered a Beretta pistol with five rounds of 9mm ammunition.

"These successful operations underscore the Nigerian Army's unwavering commitment to eradicating terrorism and insurgency in its strive to ensure security in the country.

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