

# Air strikes kill scores of Boko Haram insurgents – NAF



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The Nigerian Air Force (NAF) yesterday said scores of suspected Boko Haram elements had been killed in targeted air strikes within the Lake Chad area.

Director of Public Relations and Information (DOPRI), Air Vice Marshal Olatokunbo Adesanya, who made the disclosure in a statement, said the gun truck which conveyed the suspected terrorists, was engulfed in fire after the bombardment.

According to Adesanya, the air interdiction followed discovery that the enemies were moving within the aforementioned area in gun trucks.

Consequently, the DOPRI said some NAF Mi-35M Helicopter gunships, were deployed, with a view to conducting air interdiction strikes.

“The Air Task Force (ATF) of Operation Lafiya Dole in the night of 13 April 2018, successfully destroyed some Boko Haram Terrorists (BHT) vehicles at a location, about 12km East of Arege in the Lake Chad region.

“Earlier on, a Nigerian Air Force (NAF) Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) aircraft had discovered BHT activities, with some vehicles mounted with guns, moving within the location.

“Accordingly, the ATF detailed NAF Mi-35M Helicopter gunships to conduct Air Interdiction strikes to take out the targets. Overhead the location, the attack platform acquired, interdicted and neutralised the targets with rockets and cannons.

“The subsequent Battle Damage Assessment (BDA) revealed that at the end of the attack, a BHT gun truck, with its entire occupants, was completely destroyed and engulfed in fire. Another BHT vehicle was damaged and immobilised as a result of the attack while several BHTs were killed in the process”, Adesanya said.

He added: “The NAF continues to provide adequate air support, through the ATF of Operation Lafiya Dole, by conducting a range of air operations to create the necessary environment for ground operations to continue apace.”