

NEWS

Benue: Army arrest three killers of security adviser



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Troops of the Nigerian Army, Operation Whirl-Stroke (OPWS), operating in troubled communities of Benue, Nasarawa and Taraba states yesterday announced the arrest of three killers of Governor Samuel Ortom's Senior Special Assistant on Special Security, Mr. [Name]. Igbana. Igbana was murdered over two years ago.

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Makurdi, explained that the killers were arrested at Katsina-Ala Local Government during a clearance operation by a combined team of men of the 72 and 73 Army Battalions.

He said the killers had confessed to the crime, adding also that during the exercise, the soldiers, using the NAF Mi35 gunship helicopter, carried out aerial bombardment of the hideout of the wanted militia leader, Terwase Akwaza alias Gana, during which troops recovered a rifle, one pistol, seven rounds of 7.62 mm, 9 mm special ammunition.

According to him, most of the military operations took place around the Lower Benue area, Katsina-Ala, which he said had been notorious for killing of innocent civilians.

Major-General Yekini announced that troops of 'Operations Dark Down' and 'Deadly Decisions' had ambushed about 40 herdsmen using cows as shields with 3,000 herds of cattle at Gyemu with sophisticated weapons, including AK47 assault rifles, saying some of the herdsmen escaped into the surrounding bushes with gunshot wounds while the four motorcycles used in carrying out attacks on villagers were recovered at their camp close to River Benue.

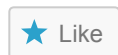
He said: "In continuation of the clearance operation, OPWS troops proceeded to Kwa Nkporo, a Jukun fishing settlement on River Benue, which was thoroughly searched. Nothing incriminating was found in the settlement after the search. Thereafter, the troops crossed from Benue State into Nasarawa State and linked up with OPWS Sector 2 troops at Alkuma."

since been handed over to Department of State Security (DSS) for further investigation

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