

Emmanuel Onani
ABUJA

Military air strikes kill several ISWAP terrorists, destroy hideouts

The Defence Headquarters (DHQ) has said that several suspected Islamic

State of West Africa Province (ISWAP) terrorists had been killed in air strikes at Ngwuri Gana, along the Gulumba Gana-Kumshe axis, as well as at Tumbuma Baba on the fringes of Lake Chad, in the Northern part of Borno State.

According to the military, the aerial bombardment also took out identified hideouts

of the terrorists in the subsidiary operation that was conducted on November 27. Coordinator, Defence Me-

dia Operations (DMO), Major General John Enenche, who made the disclosure in a statement, further noted that elsewhere in Jos South Lival Government of Plateau State, troops of Operation Safe Haven (OPSH) neutralised a suspected armed robber during a fierce encounter.

"The Air Task Force of Operation Lafiya Dole has neutralized several Islamic State of West Africa Prov-

ince (ISWAP) elements and destroyed their hideouts at Ngwuri Gana, along the Gulumba Gana-Kumshe axis, as well as at Tumbuma Baba on the fringes of Lake Chad, both in the Northern part of Borno State", Enenche stated.

According to him: "This was achieved through air strikes executed yesterday, 27 November 2020, as part of a new subsidiary Operation, tagged "Wutar Tabki II", after series of aerial surveillance missions had in-

dicated that the 2 locations, with structures and logistics items camouflaged under dense vegetation, were being used as staging areas where some ISWAP leaders and their fighters meet to plan and launch attacks.

"The coordinated attacks launched by the Air Task Force, employing an enhanced force package of Nigerian Air Force (NAF) fighter jets and helicopter gunships, resulted in the destruction of some of the

terrorists' structures as well as the neutralization of several ISWAP fighters."

On the Plateau operation, the DMO's coordinator said: "In continuation of aggressive clearance operation to stamp out criminal activities in the North Central zone of the country, troops of Operation Safe Haven have continued to record remarkable successes.

"Troops on 25 November 2020, on night patrol came in contact with suspected

armed robbers along Angul Maraban Jama'a road in Barkin Ladi, Jos South Local Government Area of Plateau State. During the encounter, one armed robber was neutralized by own troops.

"One locally fabricated pistol was recovered from him while others escaped with gunshot wounds.

"The gallant troops have continued to dominate the general area with aggressive patrols to deny bandits freedom of action".