

MNJTF Kills 39 Terrorists, Asks Fleeing Boko Haram Operatives to Surrender

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Kingsley Nwezeh in Abuja

The Multi-national Joint Task Force (MNJTF) Thursday said it had killed more 39 terrorists, and urged the fleeing members of terrorist group, Boko Haram, to surrender and be demobilised while the opportunity lasted.

Giving an update on the ongoing offensive against the Islamic State for West Africa Province (ISWAP) and Boko Haram in the Lake Chad Basin, Chief of Military Public Information, MNJTF, Colonel Timothy Antigha, said two 60-millimeter mortar bombs, two gun trucks and an armoured personnel carrier were also recovered from the insurgents.

Antiga said 39 more terrorists were killed in Tunbun Rege, an island in Lake Chad believed to harbour high value Boko Haram targets. He warned individuals associated with the terrorist organisation to surrender for demobilisation and rehabilitation while the opportunity lasted.

"In consonance with the determination of the Multinational Joint Task Force (MNJTF) to unhinge the structures of Boko Haram and dismantle its terror networks in the Lake Chad area, air and ground components of the task force have intensified air interdiction and mop up activities in the area of operation.

"In a recent engagement, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance platforms as well as ground attack aircrafts from a coalition of Cameroonian, Niger and Nigerian Air Forces intercepted and destroyed Boko Haram terrorists in Tunbum Rego, a prominent island in Lake Chad, believed to harbour high valued Boko Haram targets," he said in a statement.

In a related development, MNJTF troops from Sector 4 attacked Boko Haram assets in Arege, killing scores of terrorists in the process.

MNJTF said in a separate statement that "33 terrorists killed in action, two gun trucks recovered, one armoured personnel carrier destroyed, two motor cycles destroyed, one 120mm mortar Tube recovered and 12 AK 47 rifles.

"Other items include two 60mm mortar bombs, 3,736 rounds of assorted ammunition, one binocular and two hand grenades."

The MNJTF wishes to warn individuals still associated with Boko Haram to surrender themselves for demobilisation and rehabilitation, while the opportunity still exists," the statement explained.