

24 HOURS...

Insurgency: One Soldier, 20 Terrorists Killed in Firefight

Kingsley Nwezeh in Abuja

One soldier and 20 terrorists were killed during a firefight in Uba Askira, a border town situated between Borno and Adamawa States.

A military update said insurgents in 15 gun trucks attacked Uba Askira.

This is coming as troops of Operation Whirl Stroke, at the weekend raided some identified armed bandits hideouts at Tomatar Ugba and Kundi villages in Mbacher council ward of Katsina-Ala Local Government Area of Benue State following actionable technical and human intelligence reports.

The terrorists who were suspected to have come from Sambisa Forest, mounted on over 15 gun trucks and approached the town from different directions simultaneously.

Troops responded and engaged the criminals with superior fire power.

The update signed by Deputy Director Army Public Relations, 7 Division of the Nigerian Army, Maiduguri, Colonel Ado Isa, said the terrorists suffered huge losses both in men, materials and equipment.

It said troops of 28 Task Force Brigade of Sector 1 Operation Lafiya Dole inflicted heavy casualties on the terrorists.

The update added that the troops captured four gun trucks from the criminals while some additional gun trucks were also destroyed by the Air Task Force that responded swiftly.

"Scores of the terrorists were killed and over 20 terrorists dead bodies were counted. Additionally, three boxer motorcycles,

three anti-aircraft guns, two PKT machine guns, 10 AK 47 rifles and 13 Rocket Propelled Grenade (RPG) bombs as well as large cache of ammunition and other weapons were captured from the terrorists among others.

"Unfortunately, one soldier paid the supreme sacrifice and two others were wounded during the encounter and are stable and responding to treatment. May God grant repose to the soul of the dead soldier and quick recovery to the two wounded in action soldiers", it said.

The update further stated that troops of Operation Lafiya Dole under the guidance of the Chief of Army Staff, Lt Gen Tukur Buratai, would continue to sustain the aggressive, offensive posture to rid the entire North-east of remnants of Boko Haram and ISWAP criminals, rapists and marauders.

Meanwhile, troops of Operation Whirl Stroke, raided some identified armed bandits hideouts at Tomatar Ugba and Kundi villages in Mbacher council ward of Katsina-Ala Local Government Area of Benue State following actionable technical and human intelligence reports.

Another update signed by the Coordinator of the Defence Media Operations (DDMO), Major General John Enenche, said the gallant troops stormed the camps, engaged and overwhelmed the criminals with aggressive firepower, forcing them to flee in disarray.

It said the undaunted troops, however, pursued the fleeing criminals and effectively neutralised three of them while several

others fled with fatal gunshot injuries.

"Troops, however, successfully apprehended four of the fleeing bandits. Furthermore, troops

recovered two locally made rifles, one locally made pistol, 16 rounds of 7.62mm special ammunition, two motorcycles, three generators, two pairs

of military camouflage uniforms, a large quantity of substances suspected to be Indian hemp, amongst other items.

It said troops are

presently dominating the area with aggressive patrols and are equally on the trail of the fleeing bandits in order to locate and neutralise them.



MORE AWARDS FOR DANGOTE

L-R: General Manager, Human Resources/Administration, Dangote Sugar Refinery Plc, Hassan Salisu; HSE Manager/Sustainability Lead, Dangote Sugar, Mr. Evans Alonge; Company Secretary/Legal Adviser, Dangote Sugar, Ms. Temitope Hassan; and Head of Sustainability, Dangote Industries Limited, Ms. Eunice Sampson, during the SERAS, CSR Awards Africa 2020, in Lagos, yesterday.

Mr Bigg's Demolition: Property Owner Accuses Lagos Government of Violating Court Order

Alex Enunah in Abuja

A property owner, Chief Reuben Olowookere, has accused the Lagos State Government of violating a court order in the demolition of the Maryland, Lagos outlet of Mr. Bigg's.

According to Olowookere, who said he leased the land on which Mr. Bigg's was built to Mobil Oil Nigeria Plc (now 11 Plc), added that a Lagos High Court, presided over by Justice Claude Olayinka, had on June 1, 2018 granted an interlocutory injunction that the status quo to preserve the property from demolition be maintained pending the determination of the

and the Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Physical Planning respectively reminding the state government of the court order, which were ignored to execute the demolition.

"On May 21, 2018, I filed an action against the Lagos State Government to challenge the threatened demolition of Mr. Bigg's and some other portions of my property in ID/1933LM/2018.

"The High Court of Lagos State (Claude Olayinka J) upon the motion for the interlocutory injunction I filed granted an order for maintenance of status quo to preserve the property from demolition pending the

December 7, 2020 by the Lagos State Government which included the Mobil Petrol Station, Mr. Bigg's entry and a gatehouse and wall fence has generated some debate, he said being the owner of some portion of the property demolished, it is necessary for him to issue this statement.

Olowookere in the statement claimed to own a parcel of land measuring 2003.137 sq metres situated at 1A, Eberesun Street, Maryland Lagos, adding that he leased a portion of it to Mobil Oil Nigeria Plc (now called 11 Plc) for a period of 25 years commencing from March 1, 1987 to expire on February 28, 2012. "This is the

the Lagos State Government, on December 7, 2020 carried out the demolition, ignoring the letters written to the Honourable Attorney-General of Lagos State and the Permanent Secretary of the Lagos State Ministry of Physical Planning dated November 20 and 26, 2020 respectively by his solicitors.

"In view of the fact that the case is still sub judice, I will refrain from delving into the facts of the case but it is important to let the public know that the Lagos State Government violated a clear restraining order when it demolished my property. "Our lawyers are pursuing