

Bamidele Oladosu, SPDC's

MNJTf 'kills over 50 ISWAP terrorists in air, land offensive'

By Kingsley Omonobi,
Abuja

Troops of the Multinational Joint Task Force, in air and land offensives on ISWAP terrorists enclaves in the Lake Chad fringes, have reportedly killed more 50 of the terrorists. Col. Timothy Antigha, the Chief of Military Public Information of the MNJTf, who confirmed this in a statement, yesterday, said this was the greatest loss suffered by the terrorists in the last six months.

According to Antigha, troops effectively suppressed ISWAP and successfully conducted the clearance operation.

"Unfortunately, the MNJTf lost a soldier while 10 others were wounded in action," he said.

According to him, the terrorists also lost equipment as two of their gun trucks, and three motorcycles were destroyed, while troops recovered two light machine guns and two

remains of the burnt victims were recovered from the

AK 47 rifles from them. Antigha said: "Earlier in the week, ISWAP also met a similar fate when they attempted to attack MNJTf troops in Sector 1 Foward Operation Base (FOB) in Ngouma in Cameroon. He said in that engagement, ISWAP lost five terrorists, while one was captured.

investigation into the incident.

The MNJTf spokesman also said that 13 AK 47 rifles and 2 hand grenades were recovered from the encounter. Similarly, he said the MNJTf conducted air interdiction in Arege and Malkorony where several terrorists were killed as the headquarters and logistics base of a top ISWAP commander, Abu Talib, was targeted in that operation.

93 escape death as plane skids off runway in Rivers

An Air Peace Flight P47291 carrying 87 passengers and six crew members from Abuja, yesterday, skidded off the runway at the Port Harcourt Airport, Omagwa, Rivers State while landing due to downpour.

However, there was no casualty in the incident, which occurred at 3.42 p.m., after the plane came to a halt some 200 meters in the bush by the runway.

Mrs. Henrietta Yakubu,

General Manager, Corporate Affairs, Federal Airports Authority of Nigeria (FAAN), confirmed the incident.

Yakubu said although the Boeing 737-500 aircraft skidded off the runway, the pilot was able to stop the aircraft.

She noted that in spite of the rain, the undercarriage of the aircraft did not sink into the soil.

"All passengers disembarked successfully. There was no

casualty," Yakubu said.

The Chief Operating Officer of Air Peace, Mrs. Oluwatoyin Olajide, attributed the incident to the flooding of the runway.

Olajide said: "We confirm that Air Peace Flight P47291 Abuja-Port Harcourt had a runway excursion upon landing at the Port Harcourt International Airport on June 22 due to downpour.

"Our professional crew quickly recovered within seconds of the incident and the aircraft was

successfully normalised. Our esteemed passengers on board the flight were calm during the incident and disembarked normally.

According to Olajide, "Our teams of experts and the authorities are currently reviewing the incident and we will give our cooperation for a thorough exercise.

"We apologise to our esteemed passengers for the inconvenience caused them

and wish to assure them that we will continue to prioritise their safety in all our operations."

The affected aircraft has been granted for inspection by the aviation authorities.

Prisons officer shoots fleeing robbery suspect in Ogun

By David Olatunji



Mrs Alice Onyema, Vice Chairman, Air Peace Airline (left) with some members of League of Airport and Aviation Correspondents at the service of songs for the late Chris Iwarah, former GM, Corporate Communications, Air Peace Airline at his Ijegan residence, Lagos, yesterday. Photo Lamidi Bamidele