

Air Force kills *Boko Haram* terrorists in Sambisa Forest raid

ABUJA —THE Nigerian Air Force, last night, said its Air Task Team, ATF attached to *Operation Lafiya Dole*, in the North East, killed many *Boko Haram* terrorists at Abulam in Sambisa area of Borno State.

The service, in a statement by its spokesman, Air Commodore Ibikunle Daramola, said some structures in the terrorists' camp at Abulam were also destroyed in the air strikes conducted Tuesday, by the air troops.

It explained that, "The mission was executed to mark the commencement of *Operation*

Rattle Snake 2, an Air Interdiction Operation aimed at taking out some identified insurgent camps and logistics facilities in order to further unhinge the terrorists' centre of gravity and diminish their fighting capability."

The statement read in full: "Several *Boko Haram* Terrorists (BHTs) have been neutralized and some structures in their camp at Abulam in the Sambisa Forest area of Borno State have been destroyed in air strikes conducted December 31, 2019, by the Air Task Force (ATF) of

Operation Lafiya Dole.

"The mission was executed to mark the commencement of *Operation Rattle Snake 2*, an Air Interdiction Operation aimed at taking out some identified insurgent camps and logistics facilities in order to further unhinge the terrorists' centre of gravity and diminish their fighting capability.

"Abulam was selected for attack on Day One of the Operation based on credible intelligence reports indicating that the terrorists had resumed using the once abandoned settlement as a staging point from where they launch attacks against our ground troops' locations.

"Accordingly, the ATF detailed its attack aircraft, supported by an Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) aircraft, to attack designated compounds within the settlement.

"The jets took turns to engage the target in successive passes leading to the destruction of some of the structures as well as the killing of several terrorists."