

After Kastina attack, NAF aircraft kill scores of terrorists

By Kingsley Omonobi

ABUJA—The Nigerian military in carefully coordinated air and ground operations involving the Air Component of Operation Hadarin Daji and elements of the Nigeria Police have eliminated scores of terrorists near Zakka and Umadan Villages in Safana Local Government Area of Katsina State.

Military sources confirmed that the air strikes and ground operations were activated after terrorists ambushed the advanced convoy of President Muhammadu Buhari in Katsina as well as the killing of the Area Commander on Dusenma also in Katsina State on Tuesday.

"While on an air surveillance mission, intelligence was received by the aircrew of the sighting of terrorists between Zakka and Umadan villages," the source said.

He disclosed that the terrorists had earlier overwhelmed the Police Outpost at Zakka village after over-running the Police Outstation at Dutsen Ma and shooting the Police Area Commander.

"The NAF aircraft thus proceeded to the location and after a thorough scan of the area, the terrorists were eventually

detected at a village about 7.1 Km west of Safana town and further west of Yartuda Village," our source said.

Some locals were also sighted fleeing the village as the terrorists had ransacked and taken some of the locals as hostages during their house-to-house search of the community.

The terrorists were later tracked until they had isolated the hostages to a building about a kilometre away from their massing-up area near the village.

It was at this point that permission for an air strike was given.

Subsequently, the location was struck by NAF aircraft in successive passes with scores of unsuspecting terrorists eliminated.

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