

WEEKLY REPORT FOR JULY

NIGERIA

Boko Haram attacks and military responses continued with an attempted suicide bombing attack at a mosque in the Damboa area of Borno state on July 8. The bomber killed only himself after he was prevented from gaining entry by security guards. The Nigerian Airforce (NAF) continued the air component of Operation Lafiya Dole, carrying out air strikes and increasing pressures on a Boko Haram throughout northern Borno. This occurred in conjunction with ground force operations on June 10 that reportedly killed 16 Boko Haram members after a failed attack on a military base. Yobe Governor Ibrahim Geidam stated that the state government has commenced the process of returning over 300,000 displaced persons to communities formerly held by Boko Haram insurgents, a sign that parts of Yobe are becoming more secure and normalcy is returning to the area.

On June 11, six suspected Boko Haram members were apprehended by a Civilian Joint Task Force at different locations in Lagos. The suspects, all of whom confessed to be indigenes of Borno state, disclosed that they fled Bama, Baga and Konduga local government council areas of following increases in military operations.

On June 12, dozens of suspected Boko Haram fighters were reported to have been killed as the Nigerian Army engaged the suspected terrorists in an hours-long battle. This battle occurred after the militants attacked a military base in recently recaptured town of Kangarwa in northern Borno. Officials said it was the biggest fight for troops in recent weeks. Two soldiers died in the fighting as the insurgents invaded the base with suicide bombs.

On June 9 it was reported that an alleged ISIS recruiter has been arrested by the Department of State Services in Nigeria. The recruiter, Abdussalam Enesi Yunusa, was studying Information and Media Technology at the Federal University of Technology, Minna in Niger State. However, while in school it is reported that he became a member of an extremist cell group along with four others who have been described as ISIS agents in Nigeria and the West African region.

Concerns continue over the health and welfare of internally displaced people (IDPs) throughout the northeast. Reports continue to come in stating that conditions in IDP camps and host communities continue to be poor and that both are drastically under-resourced and overcrowded. President of Dangote Group, Aliko Dangote, has called on all well-meaning Nigerians to rise up to the occasion and assist government in ameliorating the situation in IDPs camps.

On June 14, Amnesty International reported that that over 1,000 people, many arrested arbitrarily, are being held in horrific conditions and dozens are dying from disease and malnutrition or have been tortured to death as part of the Cameroonian government's and security forces' crackdown on Boko Haram. It appears human rights violations continue throughout the Lake Chad Basin regardless of their exposure and understanding that such attacks drive the population into terrorist and insurgent hands.

Reports indicate that the Niger Delta Avengers will prevent President Muhammadu Buhari from exporting crude oil from their region. The militants, who have conducted unrelenting attacks on

oil pipelines throughout the South-South region, have made it a top priority to stop all oil from funding the federal government.

Brig. Gen. Paul Boroh (RET), Presidential aide on the Niger Delta matter, stated that the federal government commenced negotiations with the militants. He stated that the talks are organized through the dialogue committee with a view to halting the lasting hostility and bombing of oil pipelines in the region. According to Boroh’s statement, the Nigerian authorities have no plan to bring in more Niger Delta militants into the amnesty program.

More than 80 people are thought to have been killed in a series of brutal attacks in Benue State in central Nigeria, which locals say were perpetrated by groups of nomadic herdsman. Although northern herdsman have fought with locals over land and grazing rights for decades, what was a low-level conflict has recently spiraled into a full-blown crisis, leading to claims the men are “the new Boko Haram.”

Rescue	CJTF death	injuries	civilian death	injuries	soldier death	injuries	terrorist death	loses	Surrender	Arrest
			6		2		75			6

These are some of the links for more info on these reports:

- <https://www.naij.com/884735-read-boko-haram-prevented-entering-mosque.html>
- <https://www.today.ng/news/national/149676/naf-strikes-boko-haram-location-northern-borno>
- <http://venturesafrica.com/boko-haram-may-not-be-the-only-isis-affiliated-group-in-nigeria/>
- <http://www.premiumtimesng.com/news/top-news/206642-nigerian-troops-repel-boko-haram-attack-kill-16-terrorists.html>
- <http://www.thehindu.com/news/international/boko-haram-militantssoldiers-clash-in-nigeria/article8829810.ece>
- <http://theeagleonline.com.ng/18-killed-as-boko-haram-terrorists-attack-military-base/>
- <http://naija247news.com/2016/07/boko-haram-dangote-appeals-for-help-to-tackle-hunger-in-nigerias-idps-camps/>
- <http://www.vanguardngr.com/2016/07/six-suspected-boko-haram-members-arrested-lagos/>
- <https://www.naij.com/886225-shunning-dialogue-read-avengers-will-president-buhari.html>
- <https://www.naij.com/887264-chaos-niger-delta-leader-attacks-niger-delta-avengers.html>
- <https://www.theguardian.com/world/2016/jul/12/the-next-boko-haram-nigerian-attacks-raise-fears-of-new-terror-threat>
- <http://www.premiumtimesng.com/news/top-news/206830-soldiers-kill-dozens-boko-haram-attacks-troops-base-borno.html>
- <https://www.naij.com/889246-good-news-president-buhari-commences-talks-niger-delta-militants.html>
- <http://thenationonlineng.net/court-rules-boko-haram-sponsors-bail-august-4/>
- <https://www.amnesty.org/en/latest/news/2016/07/cameroon-more-than-1000-people-accused-of-supporting-boko-haram-held-in-horrific-conditions-some-tortured-to-death/>
- <http://saharareporters.com/2016/07/14/nigerian-army-ambushes-boko-haram-captures-gun-trucks>

MALI

On June 10, two members of the Malian National Guard (a component of the Malian Army) were killed by terrorist in Dinangourou, a town in central Mali near the border with Burkina Faso. A Malian military source told AFP that the attackers were from Burkina Faso and have likely returned there. On June 11, a local official in central Mali was killed in another attack by suspected jihadi terrorists. On June 12, another report from a military source indicated that two people were killed and 12 injured in protests in Gao in northern Mali. The demonstrations are sparked by protest against the installation of interim authorities across the region.

The Liberian government announced that it plans to use military equipment donated by the United States government during operations in Mali. Liberia has maintained approximately 50 troops in Mali since June 2013 as part of the 12,000-strong U.N. force known as MINUSMA, which took over peacekeeping duties after France launched a counterterrorism offensive in January 2013 to drive Islamist rebels from northern Mali.

On June 14, an online forum carried news that Dutch forces are preparing to withdraw seven "essential" helicopters from the U.N. peacekeeping mission in Mali with no clarity on how they will be replaced.

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			3		2					

These are some of the links for more info on these reports:

- <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/wires/afp/article-3681260/Tributes-paid-five-Togo-soldiers-killed-Mali.html>
- <http://www.africanews.com/2016/07/10/two-malian-soldiers-killed-near-burkina-faso-border/>
- http://www.business-standard.com/article/international/terrorists-kill-deputy-mayor-in-mali-security-source-116071200039_1.html
- <http://aa.com.tr/en/africa/2-killed-in-northern-mali-protest/606393>
- <http://www.thenewdawnliberia.com/news/10932-u-s-donation-to-boost-afl-operations-in-mali>
- <http://www.reuters.com/article/us-mali-un-idUSKCN0ZU2QA>