

STRATEGIC INTELLIGENCE DAILY

Region: Somalia-Democratic Republic of the Congo-Nigeria-Mali-Burkina Faso-Niger

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Scope: Security | Diplomacy | Defence

Classification: Client Confidential

Executive Assessment

The direct clash between ISSP and JNIM in Niger marks a new phase of intra-jihadist competition in the Sahel, indicating a shift toward violent contestation over territorial influence and operational space. In Burkina Faso, JNIM's coordinated attacks on both military and VDP positions highlight a continued strategy of systematically targeting state-backed local defense structures.

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo, FARDC's ability to repel AFC/M23 attacks and the reported surrenders suggest limited tactical gains on the front line, while ISCAP's attacks on civilian and economic targets underscore persistent security gaps.

In Nigeria, ongoing pressure on Boko Haram/ISWAP through military operations contrasts with continued mass abductions and civilian-targeted violence in Zamfara and Kebbi, reflecting a deepening and multi-layered security crisis.

In Somalia, political processes—particularly constitutional completion and electoral plans—are advancing alongside sustained military operations against Al-Shabaab, with continued reliance on coordinated air and ground strikes to maintain pressure on the group.

In Mali, the continued use of airpower and high-intensity targeting of militant elements indicates a sustained strategy focused on kinetic operations against insurgent networks.

NIGER

- ISSP claimed that it killed 35 JNIM militants in an attack on a JNIM position in Petelkole, Tillabéri region, and alleged that JNIM has been targeting civilians in the area. This marks the first clash between the two groups on Nigerien territory.

BURKINA FASO

MINTEL WORLD

Conflict and energy consultancy

- JNIM claimed that it killed 3 soldiers in an हमला on a military position in Ouahigouya and 6 VDP members in an attack on a VDP position in Sodokouri, and stated that motorcycles, rifles, and ammunition were seized during the attacks.

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

- The Congolese Army (FARDC) announced that it repelled simultaneous attacks carried out by AFC/M23 in South Kivu .
- It was reported that 13 AFC/M23 militants surrendered to FARDC in Mikenge, located in Fizi territory of South Kivu .
- ISCAP carried out attacks along the Mambasa-Dingbo axis in Ituri province, targeting areas including PK2, PK3, and PK4; at least 15 shops were looted and burned, one house was set on fire, and 3 civilians were injured, while the army stated that it killed 5 attackers.

NIGERIA

- Suspected Boko Haram attackers carried out assaults on an internally displaced persons camp in Damasak and the Nganzai Divisional Police Headquarters in Borno State, partially burning an armored personnel carrier and killing 5 security personnel.
- The Nigerian Army announced that it rescued 31 civilians who had been abducted during an attack on a church in Kaduna State, where 5 people were found dead at the scene.
- The Nigerian Army stated that, under Operation HADIN KAI against Boko Haram/ISWAP, 3 terrorists were killed, a logistics vehicle was seized, and suspects were arrested during a joint intelligence-led operation with the CJTF in Geidam.
- Amnesty Nigeria reported that gunmen raided the villages of Kurfa Danya and Kurfan Magaji in Zamfara State, abducting 150 people, most of whom were women and children.
- It was reported that Lakurawa elements attacked the Kalkami community in Shanga LGA of Kebbi State, killing civilians and setting houses on fire.
- It was claimed that troops arrested two suspected ISWAP informants near the Nigeria–Niger border in Borno State.

SOMALIA

- President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud stated that the government is fulfilling its commitments to complete the constitution and implement a one-person, one-vote electoral system.
- Minister of Defence Ahmed Moallim Fiqi and Chief of Defence Forces Brigadier General Ibrahim Mohamed Mohamud visited military positions in Baidoa to assess force conditions and oversee ongoing operations.

MINTEL WORLD

Conflict and energy consultancy

- The Somali National Army (SNA) conducted security operations in villages under the Buur-Hakaba district in Southwest State.
- The Somali National Army announced that, in coordination with international partners, it carried out airstrikes in the Gasarta area of Bay region, killing 12 Al-Shabaab militants.
- The Somali National Army removed an improvised explosive device (IED) planted by Al-Shabaab in the Gololey area of Balcad town, Middle Shabelle region.
- The Minister of Defence and the Chief of Defence Forces inspected a military training facility in Baidoa built with support from the United Kingdom.

MALI

- The army announced that 25 terrorists were neutralized in two airstrikes conducted in the Kékoro forest, northeast of Zantiebougou, and approximately 3 km west of the town of Kontza Peulh.