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**From:** SecureNigeria <info@securenigeria.com>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, March 18, 2026 2:33 PM  
**To:**  
**Subject:** Secure Nigeria: Facts Site Launched by Nigerian Government; Security Surge Underway to Protect Christians, Defeat Militant Fulanis

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## **Nigeria Surges Security Forces to Protect Christians, Defeat Militant Fulanis**

Under the leadership of President Bola Ahmed Tinubu, the Nigerian government has [launched a decisive security surge](#) to dismantle terrorist networks operating in the North of the country, fight the scourge of militant Fulanis in the North Central states, and protect Christians and Muslims alike.

In November 2025, President Tinubu took action to confront terrorism directly, declaring a state of emergency. On Christmas Day, the Nigerian government, in coordination with the Trump administration, [carried out](#) airstrikes against terrorist cells operating in northern Nigeria.

In a further sign of growing cooperation, the [Trump administration deployed 200 special forces](#) to assist Nigerian forces with strategy, intelligence sharing, and specialized military training. Together, these steps represent the most comprehensive security initiative in Nigeria's recent history – and a new level of strategic cooperation with the U.S.

The [security surge](#) includes both enhanced military operations and structural reforms:

- Recruiting additional troops and [surging forces and resources](#) to affected areas
- Advancing focused, [intelligence-led operations](#) to disrupt and dismantle terrorist and criminal networks.
- Launching [Operation Savannah Shield](#) to target and root out terrorists
- [Supporting](#) a constitutional amendment to allow for state-run policing
- Working with the [U.S. military](#) to train Nigerian troops and target terrorists.

### **Reporting from the Front Lines**

This month, award-winning photojournalist Flip Holsinger, who has extensive experience reporting from conflict zones, provided an [unprecedented firsthand account](#) of the security surge in the North Central states.

“I travelled with Nigerian security forces in their armored vehicles across rugged terrain to get access to the communities they were serving and protecting, giving me an unusually intimate look at their operations far beyond the reach of media handlers,” said Holsinger.

“Over the past month traveling across the North Central states, I visited churches and mosques, farms and mines, prisons and private homes, army bases and rural outposts. I interviewed dozens of kidnapping victims, survivors of mass killings, clergy, Imams, security officials, herders, and farmers. None said religion alone explained the violence they had witnessed,” he continued.

Mr. Holsinger's firsthand account of his experience in Nigeria is crucial for anyone seeking to understand the situation on the ground, especially with so much confusion and misinformation swirling around in Western media.

### **Christian Genocide?**

Next week on Capitol Hill, the [Save Nigeria Group USA](#) rolls into Washington with an event entitled, *'The Genocide Against Christian's Rages On,'* featuring former U.S. Senator Sam Brownback as a speaker. Such claims of genocide are a thinly

veiled front for the political opponents of the Tinubu administration and adherents of separatist movements.

Even some [Christian analysts](#), [former](#) and [current Members of Congress](#), and [professional activists](#) in the U.S. are parroting the same claims for their own political and financial gain. Some of these individuals have [accused](#) the government of ignoring or even facilitating the violence, while simultaneously [admitting](#) that the Nigerian government had fought to root out terrorists for years.

Following the Christmas Day strikes, many of these same prognosticators are now backtracking. While still raising concerns about the security situation in Nigeria and North Central states, they have begun to acknowledge that the Nigerian government is prioritizing security and working closely with President Trump and his administration.

Take, for example, [Representative Riley Moore](#), the leading voice on the security situation in Nigeria on Capitol Hill. In November, Rep. Moore urged U.S. Secretary of State Marco Rubio to "[address the systemic persecution and slaughter of Christians in Nigeria.](#)"

Weeks later, following President Tinubu's security surge and launch of Operation Savannah Shield, Rep. Moore admitted the Nigerian government is acting decisively, saying, "[The United States and Nigeria should take this moment to redefine a new strategic partnership to make America – and Nigeria – safer, stronger, and more prosperous.](#)"

A growing number of policy voices also now emphasize cooperation rather than confrontation. Recent commentary from several security experts at a [Hudson Institute webinar](#) highlighted the importance of a strengthened security partnership between Nigeria and the United States, focusing on joint counter-terrorism efforts, intelligence cooperation, and the strategic necessity of collaboration between the two countries.

### **Misleading Report from USCIRF**

Yet despite this progress, some voices in Washington, including the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom (USCIRF), continue to [portray](#) Nigeria's situation as worse than religious freedom conditions in Iran or even Afghanistan.

In its annual [report](#), USCIRF labeled religious freedom in Nigeria "*abysmal*," while rating conditions in Iran and Afghanistan merely as "*poor*."

Such comparisons are lazy, patently false, and undermine Nigeria's complex security challenges.

As James Barnett of the Hudson Institute has noted, other countries with serious religious freedom violations, such as Pakistan and Egypt, often attract less criticism by “[positioning themselves as key partners on critical geopolitical issues.](#)”

Recognizing this inconsistency, any self-respecting analyst or advocacy group must retreat from [sensationalism](#), acknowledging that framing Nigeria’s crisis solely as a religious war “[badly distorts the complicated and tragic reality on the ground.](#)”

Even critics in Congress are now acknowledging that the United States and Nigeria are [two great democratic nations](#) deepening their coordination, building long-term frameworks for security collaboration, and [redefining a new strategic partnership](#) to fight terrorism.

### **Nigeria’s First Lady Deepens Partnership**

The [strengthened diplomatic relationship](#) between Nigeria and the United States is also visible at the spiritual level. In February of this year, Nigeria’s First Lady and Christian pastor, Oluremi Tinubu, visited Washington, D.C. to attend the National Prayer Breakfast. During the event, President Trump recognized her as a “[very respected woman](#)” and honored her from the stage.

The First Lady also met with a wide range of individuals during her trip in February, including government officials, policy advocates, religious leaders, and [members of the media](#), to discuss [her perspective](#) on the security situation in Nigeria and the [partnership with President Trump](#). She happily met with critics of her husband’s government in the hopes of having a constructive dialogue. Some individuals chose, instead, to [grandstand](#). Despite a few difficult conversations and, at times, unfounded criticism directed toward her personally from individuals who have behaved, and [continue to behave](#), in a [highly unbecoming](#) manner, the visit opened channels for constructive dialogue between Nigeria and influential voices in Washington.

### **Looking Ahead**

Nigeria has long sought to deepen a strategic partnership with the United States. The recent surge in security cooperation suggests that both countries recognize a shared interest in defeating terrorism, stabilizing vulnerable regions, and protecting the rights and safety of citizens.

What began with accusations and heated rhetoric is now evolving into something more constructive: **a partnership grounded in shared security priorities and mutual respect.**

If the current trajectory continues, President Tinubu’s security surge may mark not only a turning point in Nigeria’s fight against terrorism but also the beginning of a deeper and more durable partnership between Nigeria and the United States.

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