
From: SecureNigeria <info@securenigeria.com>
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Subject: U.S.-Nigeria Counterterrorism Partnership Success Splinters Activists

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**U.S.-Nigeria Counterterrorism Partnership Success
Splinters Activists**



Nigerian security forces on patrol in Minna, Niger State. (Photo Credit: Philip "Flip" Holsinger)

Faced with the reality that President Trump and President Tinubu's [counterterrorism partnership](#) is dismantling terrorist networks across Nigeria, the professional activist class is [splintering](#).

While some have finally accepted the reality that President Tinubu's security efforts – in partnership with President Trump – are working, others continue to double down on conspiracy and chaos, creating a chasm that threatens to swallow their movement whole.

To add insult to their injury, this week was supposed to be the Save Nigeria Group Coalition's coming-out party: a [rally](#) Saturday, a [gala](#) Tuesday night, and a [press conference](#) Wednesday at the National Press Club.

Instead, the coalition started eating its own before the first rally chant began. Three days out, Mike Arnold published a [tell-all](#) airing the group's infighting and revealing he'd been uninvited from most of the week's lineup.

So, it was no surprise [Saturday's rally](#) drew a limited crowd. And those who did turn up seemed to finally [understand](#) what's happening on the ground: with the Trump administration's support, Nigeria is taking on terrorist groups in the North and surging personnel into the North Central states, protecting vulnerable communities and restoring security across the country.

All of which has left the professional activist class reeling, with a gala and a press conference still to come. One can only wonder what fresh revelations the rest of the

week will bring. If the early returns are any indication, it should be enlightening, to say the least.

Third Reich, Really Mike?

Of course, the usual suspects are at the center of the action. Mike Arnold, one-term mayor of Blanco, Texas (pop. 2,000), claims to be doing more than anyone to protect Nigerian Christians. But between his AI-riddled [social media posts](#) and [conspiracy-laden blogs](#), it's hard to see what concrete security gains this self-styled ChatGPT Plato has achieved.

In fact, Arnold has dabbled in some dangerous territory, repeatedly amplifying Biafran separatist [propaganda](#), to the point that the [Indigenous People of Biafra \(IPOB\)](#), a designated terrorist organization, publicly thanked him for his support. For those who are unfamiliar, IPOB is responsible for [countless atrocities](#), [mass killings](#), and [targeted assassinations](#), often against Nigerian Christians, in southern Nigeria.

One might think this would give Arnold pause — but anyone who has seen his Twitter feed knows better.

Over the past month, Arnold has repeatedly [compared](#) opposition to the Biafran independence movement to the [Holocaust](#), even claiming the ongoing violence in Nigeria was “[possibly more bloody than the Holocaust](#).”

Last week, Arnold took the Holocaust distortion further, claiming that working with the Tinubu Administration to address the security situation is like “[working with the Third Reich to end the Holocaust](#).”

Then, Arnold took to X to [announce](#) his split from the Save Nigeria coalition, during which he denounced any activist willing to acknowledge the security progress made under the Tinubu Administration and accused his erstwhile allies of corruption.

By refusing to acknowledge real counterterrorism progress, Arnold has left himself increasingly isolated—with only fringe figures like Alex Barbir, who was [expelled](#) from Nigeria for inciting religious violence, still willing to stand beside him.

Now, Arnold has completely pivoted, suddenly [waking up](#) to the realization that Muslims have also been the victims of terrorism in Nigeria.



Attendance at the "Save Nigeria" Rally

"Save Nigeria" Activists Seeing the Light

On June 16, Stephen Osemwegie of the Save Nigeria Group clarified that he does support President Trump's counterterrorism partnership with President Tinubu, noting that the partnership [*"is beginning to yield positive results."*](#)

In advance of their big week, the group met with the Nigerian Ambassador to clarify its support for the U.S.-Nigeria security partnership and has also chosen to [*honor*](#) Nigerian Minister of Defense Gen. Christopher Gwabin Musa at Tuesday night's gala as a recognition of the Nigerian military's bravery in the fight against terrorism.

Osemwegie's shift was on full display at Save Nigeria's rally, with the activist saying [*"we congratulate the U.S. and Nigerian military for taking out the second in command of ISIS about three weeks ago. So, thank you President Trump, thank you AFRICOM; thank you to the soldiers on the front lines fighting terrorism."*](#)

Osemwegie then went on to clarify a common misconception about perpetrators of Nigeria's violence, namely that all Fulani are terrorists, saying, [*"The Fulani ethnic militia are the terrorists. There are less than a million of them. The larger group are afraid of this group. So, we must separate the tribe from the bad actors."*](#)

This distinction is essential. To fully eradicate terrorism from Nigeria, we must first know who exactly is perpetrating the violence. We hope that Stephen continues to educate his

followers and fellow activists about what really is going on in Nigeria, as too many activists continue to spread baseless propaganda.

The Clown Car Refuses to Answer Questions

While activists like Mike Arnold and Alex Barbir keep “just asking questions,” they refuse to answer even the most straightforward inquiry.

1. Are they being funded by a foreign government?
2. Are they working with President Tinubu’s political opponent?
3. Are they being funded by Biafran separatists who want to break up the country?
4. Do they support the breakup of Nigeria?
5. Or are they just trying to foment division to raise more money?

Nigerians deserve to know the truth. Maybe now that these activists have lived through their own breakup, they’ll grasp what dissolution would actually mean for Nigeria — not safety, but far more chaos and violence. Here’s hoping.

What Success Looks Like

The killing of [ISIS’s global second-in-command and 200 ISIS fighters](#) has rightly dominated the news out of Nigeria; another consequential shift for Nigerian Christians has been unfolding with far less attention.

Over the past several months, Nigerian security forces in the North Central States have thwarted countless attacks, arrested hundreds of terrorists, and responded rapidly to emerging violence, preventing further bloodshed.

Here are some highlights of the security surge’s counterterrorism gains in the North Central States:

- On May 22, Nigerian Army troops [thwarted a cross-border attack](#) by ISWAP and Boko Haram terrorists, with security forces killing 12 militants and confiscating weapons.
- Between May 20–23, the Nigerian Air Force [carried out precision strikes](#) in Niger State, supporting ground troops in raids on terrorist networks. The combined forces killed multiple terrorists, destroyed the group’s logistical capabilities, and disrupted a planned attack.
- On May 26, Nigerian troops [conducted several counterterrorism operations](#) over a 24-hour period across Taraba, Kogi, and Rivers states — killing two militants, rescuing four kidnapping victims, and foiling a planned attack on a crude oil pipeline.
- On June 5, Nigerian and Beninese forces [jointly repelled a terrorist ambush](#) in Niger State, eliminating scores of militants, neutralizing multiple IEDs, and recovering large caches of weapons and motorcycles. The operation capped a week of successful counterterrorism activity across Nigeria and Kwara State, during which troops under Operation Savannah Shield killed and arrested over 40 terrorists and rescued 15 kidnapping victims.
- On June 6, security forces in Kogi State [foiled an attempted mass abduction](#) in the Ikoyi community, killing and wounding several terrorists who fled into nearby forests.
- Between June 5–9, Nigerian troops [conducted offensive operations](#) in Zamfara State, killing one terrorist and arresting eight others. Security forces also repelled

ambushes on civilian vehicles and a village attack, successfully ending the violence and evacuating injured victims.

Signaling its resolve and zero tolerance for terrorism, the Nigerian government has also ramped up prosecution and conviction of terrorists. On June 3, an Abuja court [sentenced](#) four men to death for killing 41 worshippers in a 2022 attack on a Catholic Church in Ondo State, and on June 11, another five terrorists [received](#) 25-year prison sentences for carrying out attacks in Niger and Kwara states.

President Tinubu is determined to rid Nigeria of the terrorist threats that have haunted vulnerable communities for decades. Through his security surge and a strengthened U.S.-Nigeria counterterrorism partnership, Nigerian communities across the country are finding peace.

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