

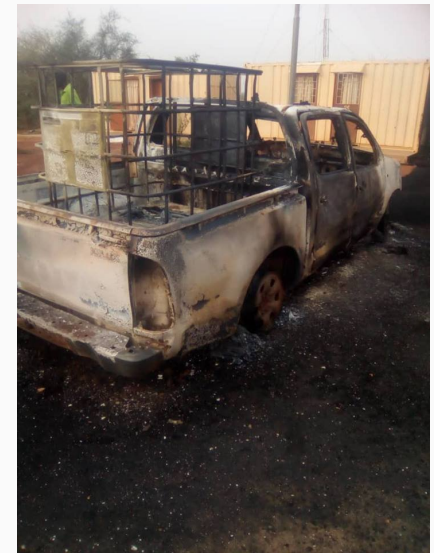
Burkina Faso: June – October 2018 Chronology of Violent Incidents Related to Al-Qaeda affiliates Jama'at Nusrat al-Islam wal Muslimeen (JNIM) and Ansaroul Islam, and Islamic State in the Greater Sahara (ISGS)

November 1st, 2018

By Rida Lyammouri

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- Militants activity in Burkina Faso have been on the rise for the past two years. Since June 2018 Sahel MeMo observed similar trend with an expansion from Northern parts bordering Mali and Niger, to the Est Region on the borders with Benin, Niger, and Togo. Militant groups have [been trying to establish](#) a base there since early 2016, explaining groups' ability to carry complex deadly attacks, including the use of improvised explosive devices (IEDs).
- Violence in the eastern part of Burkina Faso by militant groups most likely to continue. In addition to targeting security forces and intimidation acts against civil servants, militants will look to continue to disrupt gold mining in the area. In fact, security forces in charge of protecting gold mines or escorting staff have been subject to attacks by militants at least in August 2018. If this to continue, livelihoods of local communities benefiting from gold mining could be at risk if security situation continues to deteriorate in the region.
- These attacks are mostly attributed rather than claimed by militant groups known to operate in Burkina Faso. These militant groups include Ansaroul Islam, Jama'at Nusrat al-Islam wal-Muslimeen (JNIM), and Islamic State in the Greater Sahara (ISGS). Out of the three only JNIM have been consistent releasing official claims of attacks. Thus analysts, observers, journalists, and Burkinabe authorities are contributing most of violent incidents based on the area where occurred and means used. Important to note that between June and October 2018 no incidents officially claimed by JNIM. This could be explained by difficulty of movement during rainy season (June – October) in the region.
- October 3rd witnessed the first reported French airstrikes against militants after request of support from Burkinabe authorities. This was following a deadly attack against Inata gold mine gendarmerie post.



Vehicles destroyed by militants after attack on Inata gold mine gendarmerie post. Source: Infowakat

Burkina Faso: Aperçu des conséquences de la situation sécuritaire (Du 1er Janvier au 30 Octobre 2018)



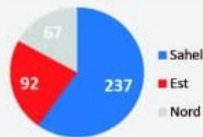
Bilan

166 Incidents sécuritaires

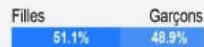
Dont 100 dans la région du Sahel



396 Ecoles fermées (24 octobre 2018)



3 309 Elèves affectés*



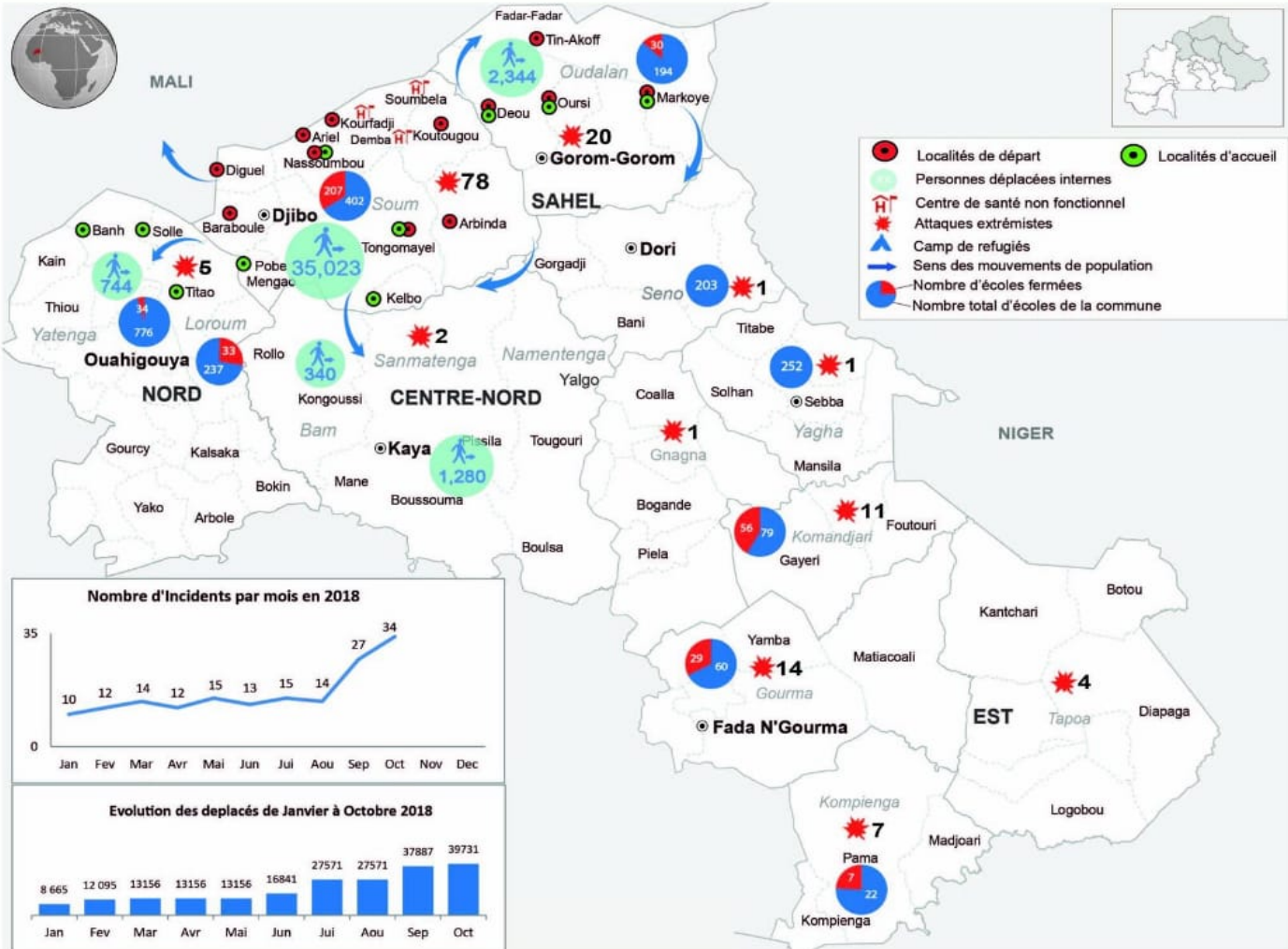
* Données CEB de Bartibougou et Foutouri

39 731 PDI's

Soit une augmentation de 358% entre Janvier et Octobre 2018.



23 928 Réfugiés



Les frontières indiquées et les désignations utilisées sur cette carte n'impliquent pas l'approbation des Nations Unies.

Date de Création: 30 Octobre 2018 Source: OCHA, UNICEF, UNHCR, CRB, CONASUR Feedback: ocha-bfa @un.org www.unocha.org www.reliefweb.int

03 JUN 18: Suspected Ansaroul Islam militants attacked protestants church of Belehoro in Arbinda, Soum Province, Sahel Region, and abducted a pastor, his son, grand-daughter, and daughter-in-law. Initial reports said they were [released](#) on the Malian territory on 07 June. However pother [reports](#) of 18 June said total of eight were taken and they are not released yet.

11 JUN 18: Teacher kidnapped in Bouro, Nassoumbou Commune on 12 April 2018 have been released according to Ministry of education.

12 JUN 18: Suspected Ansaroul Islam kidnapped a village chief of Tangounga, Komandjoari Province, Est Region, near the borders with Niger. Source: @menastream

16 JUN 18: Unidentified gunmen attacked Komin-Yanga police station, Kolpelogo Province, Center-East Region. 1 Assailant killed and the attacked was repelled.

16 - 17 JUN 18: Unidentified gunmen opened fire on road checkpoint agents of National Office of Road Security (ONASER in French) at Tindangou, Kompienga Province, Est Region.

16 - 17 JUN 18: Unidentified gunmen attacked [police station and gendarmerie brigade](#) of Commin-Yanga (50km from Fada N’Gourma), Koulpelogo Province, Center-East Region. 1 policeman killed and 1 injured.

16 JUN 18: Health driver taken under unclear circumstances by unknown gunmen between Diguel and Djibo, Soum Province, Sahel Region.

30 JUN 18: Herder and his family (wife and a child) abducted by unknown gunmen under unclear circumstances in Baramboule, Loroum Commune, North Region. Source: @menastream

01 JUL 18: According to statement from the Ministry of Environment unidentified gunmen attacked Arly National park camp, located 80km from Diapaga, Tapoa Province, Est Region.

[03 JUL 18](#): Suspected Ansaroul Islam militants assassinated Koglwego self-defense militia leader in Belehede, Soum Province, Sahel Region.

[04 JUL 18](#): Unidentified militant group ambushed and killed customs officer near Bangaba, Yagha Province, Sahel Region.

05 JUL 18: Suspected Ansaroul Islam militants on motorcycles and armed prevented merchants in Pétégoli, Soum Province, Sahel Region from traveling to Boni market in Mali. Also, one transporter was temporarily abducted then released. Source: [Faso Nord Info](#).

[17 JUL 18](#): Village chief of Hocoulourou, Baraboulé Commune, Soum Province, Sahel Region executed by suspected Ansaroul Islam militants after 10 days in captivity. He was kidnapped on July 7th before being brought back and executed then left at the entrance of the village on July 17th.

18 JUL 18: Burkinabe armed forces released statement to have been conducting operations since July 8th in the Soum Province, Sahel Region. Statement said more than 100 suspects were initially arrested but only 60 remained in detention, while materials to make IEDs seized as well.

[23 JUL 18](#): Burkinabe forces reportedly repelled an attack by suspected Ansaroul Islam militants on gendarmerie, veterinary clinic, and the prefecture in Nassoumbou, Soum Province, Sahel Region.

[23 JUL 18](#): Suspected militants attacked police and gendarmerie posts of Matiacoali, East Region in attempt to free prisoners. 1 gendarme [injured](#) and Burkinabe forces managed to repel the attack.

[24 JUL 18](#): Suspected militants attacked water and forest station in Tanwalbougou, Fada N'Gourma Commune, Gourma Province, Est Region. Militants seized equipment before setting the camp on fire and leaving the scene.

[24 JUL 18](#): Suspected militants shot dead under unclear circumstances 2 civilians in Kpendima village, near Natiaboami, Fada Ngourmi Commune, Gourma Province, Est Region.

[27 JUL 18](#): Nurse abducted then released under unclear circumstances by suspected Ansaroul Islam militants in Gomdémossi, Koutougou Commune, Soum Province, Sahel Region. Nurse was later released unharmed.

[01 AUG 18](#): Unknown number of suspected militants have been arrested in Bob-Dioulasso, Houet Province, Haut-Bassins Region during security operation by special gendarmerie unit.

[01 AUG 18](#): Suspected Ansaroul Islam or ISGS on motorcycles attacked police checkpoint at Natiaboani, Fada N'Gourma Commune, Gourma Province, Est Region. The attack was repelled while 3 policemen were injured and 1 vehicle destroyed.

[11 AUG 18](#): Suspected Ansaroul Islam or/and ISGS ambushed gendarmes escorting a convoy of mining company SONEFA mining employees near Nassougou between Ougarou and Boungou, Matiacoali Commune, Gourma Province, Est Region. 6 gendarmes and 1 civilian [killed](#) after their vehicle [struck](#) an IED. SONEFA is a Canadian gold mining company.

[14 AUG 18](#): Reportedly, hundreds of suspects arrested by Burkinabe forces following increased violence in Est Region during a two weeks long operations in the area.

[17 AUG 18](#): Suspected Ansaroul Islam or/and ISGS attacked a convoy carrying SEMAFO company employees and escorted by Burkinabe police near Beky, Tuy Province, Haut-Bassins Region. 2 mining company employees killed and 4 wounded with another policeman. The company claimed that the incident of August 11th is not connected to this one.

[17 AUG 18](#): Army officer killed while trying to dismantle an IED planted by Ansaroul Islam near Tiemboulo, on Tongomayel-Inata route (5km from Inata), Soum Province, Sahel Region.

[22 AUG 18](#): Six unidentified gunmen attacked customs post of Batié, Nounbiel Province, Sud-Ouest Region. 1 customs officer killed, the station was ransacked then set on fire while two motorcycles burned as well. Automatic weapon and an AK-47 also seized, reportedly.

[22 AUG 18](#): Suspected Ansaroul Islam militants carried an attack on Sollé police station, Loroum Province, Nord Region. Security forces repelled the attack, however the police station was ransacked and damaged. Same police station was attacked in 15-16 October 2017.

[22 AUG 18](#): Suspected Ansaroul Islam militants ambushed police unit between Sollé and Titao, Loroum Province, Nord Region. 1 policeman killed.

[28 AUG 18](#): Suspected Ansaroul Islam or/and ISGS militants attacked gendarmerie station of Pama, Kompienga Province, Est Region. Security forcers repelled the attack whole station was set on fire but no casualties were recorded.

[28 AUG 18](#): Burkinabe Army and gendarmerie vehicle struck an IED between Fada N’Gourma and Pama, Kompienga Province, Est Region. At least 8 gendarmes and soldiers killed and 6 injured. [Supposedly](#) the convoy was a reinforcement to Pama station attacked earlier the same day.

[29-30 AUG 18](#): Unidentified gunmen attacked hunting camp of Kompienbiga (15km of Pama), Kempieniga Province, Est Region. After firing their weapons, assailants set on fire the camp. Reportedly, personnel abandoned the camp hours earlier after receiving information of the presence of suspicious individuals in the area.

30 AUG 18: Unidentified gunmen temporarily kidnaped chief nurse in Sona, near Tongomayel Commune, Soum Province, Sahel Region. Nurse was released after his cellphone and vehicle were taken. *Source: Radio Omega.*

30 AUG 18: Unidentified gunmen temporarily kidnaped chief nurse in Sona, near Tongomayel Commune, Soum Province, Sahel Region. Nurse was released after his cellphone and vehicle were taken. *Source: Radio Omega.*

[01 SEPT 18](#): Unidentified gunmen attacked police station of Galgouli, Poni Province, Sud-Ouest Region near the borders with Cote d'Ivoire. Police repelled the assault while one assailant injured.

[03 SEPT 18](#): Suspected Ansaroul Islam or/and ISGS launched an assault against gendarmerie station of Gayeri, Komandjoari Province, Est Region. No casualties but 1 vehicle destroyed and police station damaged.

[05 SEPT 18](#): Suspected Ansaroul Islam militants attacked gendarmerie station of Inata, Soum Province, Sahel Region. No casualties but minor damages to the building.

[05 SEPT 18](#): Military vehicle struck an IED in Kabouanga village, Pama Commune, Kompienga Province, 80km from Fada N'Gourma, Est Region. 2 soldiers killed and 6 injured.

[06 SEPT 18](#): Unknown gunmen on motorcycle carried an assault using grenades and burned construction truck of Oursi-Soukoundou road, Oudalan Commune, Sahel Region.

[06 SEPT 18](#): Suspected Ansaroul Islam or/and ISGS militants attacked and robbed Foutouri prefect residence in Tankwarou village, Komandjoari Province, Est Region.

[06 SEPT 18](#): Suspected Ansaroul Islam or/and ISGS militants attacked and burned several installations at Bartiebougou village, including ranger station, town hall, and prefect residence, Komandjoari Province, Est Region.

[07 SEPT 18](#): Suspected Ansaroul Islam or/and ISGS militants ransacked the school of Bargadé, Foutouri Commune, Komandjoari Province, Est Region.

[08-09 SEPT 18](#): Suspected Ansaroul Islam or/and ISGS militants burned three schools and housing units of teacher in Tankwarou, Foutouri Commune, Komandjoari Province, Est Region.

09 SEPT 18: Suspected Ansaroul Islam or/and ISGS militants killed a trader under unclear circumstances at Ougarou, Gourma Province, Est Region.

10 SEPT 18: Two militants on motorcycle (likely members of Ansaroul Islam or ISGS militants) attacked local brasserie in Nassougou, Matiacoali Commune, Gourma Province, Est Region. Former municipal council killed while others injured.

11 SEPT 18: Local population invaded and beaten to death a suspect who was detained for murder at the police station of Pama in Est Region.

12 SEPT 18: Burkinabe forces arrested a suspect in possession of IEDs between and Fama and Pama, Est Region. The suspect was in police uniform while in possession of another uniform.

13 SEPT 18: Center for rural promotion attacked and burned by unidentified gunmen 60km from Fada N’Gourma, Est Region.

13 SEPT 18: Suspected Ansaroul Islam or/and ISGS attacked ranger station in Nassougou, Gourma Province, Est Region. Residence ransacked and burned but no casualties.

15 SEPT 18: Suspected Ansaroul Islam or/and ISGS carried an armed assault against Kompiembiga village, Kompienga Province, Est Region. At least 3 civilians killed.

15 SEPT 18: Suspected Ansaroul Islam or/and ISGS carried an armed assault against Diabiga village, Kompienga Province, Est Region. Supposedly the attack targeted a religious leader in his home by 8 gunmen. At least 5 people killed and 3 wounded.

15 SEPT 18: Burkinabe forces carried airstrikes against militant groups bases in Gayeri and Pama, Est Region. No casualties reported.

[15 SEPT 18](#): Unidentified gunmen entered catholic church of Dissin, Sud-Ouest Region. Damages and destruction of objects of worship reported, and statuettes were ransacked. Also, writings appear on objects questioning their use according to the principles of the religion while the large statue of the Virgin Mary has been damaged.

[16 SEPT 18](#): Unidentified gunmen assassinated [by decapitation] municipal council in Djalafanka village, Oudalan Province, Sahel Region.

[18 SEPT 18](#): Unidentified gunmen assassinated under unclear circumstances a man in Lossa village, Banh Commune, Loroum Province, Nord Region. Assailants reportedly escaped to Mali since Lossa is located 20km from Malian borders.

[23 SEPT 18](#): Unknown gunmen kidnapped son of local municipal councilor in Kacham near Tin-Akoff, Oudalan Province, Sahel Region.

[23 SEPT 18](#): Gunmen attacked and kidnapped 2 staff members of Inata gold mine and their Burkinabe driver near Inata, Soum Province, Sahel Region. Hostages include the son of gold mining company president, South African expatriate and a local driver.

[23 SEPT 18](#): Gendarmerie force dispatched to search for abducted hostages ambushed near Inata, Tongomayle Commune, Soum Province, Sahel Region. 3 gendarmes [killed](#).

[24 SEPT 18](#): Unidentified gunmen kidnapped and executed imam deputy, Dicko Amadou Oumarou, of a Fulani mosque of Kompienga Province, Est Region. The body was found near Bombontangou area.

[24 SEPT 18](#): Regional Fulani NGO reported on its Facebook page that allegedly Burkinabe security forces arrested and executed dozens of suspects in Petegoli, Soum Province, Sahel Region.

24 SEPT 18: Regional Fulani NGO reported on its Facebook page Burkinabe security forces conducted a search in the house of two suspects in Kabonga, 15km from Kompienga, Est Region. Suspects identified as Dicko Housseni and son Dicko Sita and have been in detention since August 10, and transferred to the capital Ouagadougou. Furthermore, son of Dicko Housseni allegedly taken next day by unknown gunmen, and found dead next to Pama.

26 SEPT 18: Burkinabe security forces vehicle struck an IED between 4km from Baraboulé toward Djibo, Soum Province, Sahel Region. 8 gendarmes killed.

27 SEPT 18: Suspected Ansaroul Islam militants launched an assault against security forces present at Nassoumbou, Soum Province, Sahel Region. Security forces repelled the attack. 1 civilian killed.

29 SEPT 18: Kisal reported that unidentified gunmen abducted head of a parent-student organization with his son in Nassougou, Gourma Province, Est Region. The father (Lydo Douri) found dead while his son remains missing.

30 SEPT 18: Burkinabe forces repelled an attack by suspected Ansaroul Islam or/and ISGS in Matiaicali, Gourma Province, Est Region.

02 OCT 18: Suspected Ansaroul Islam or/and ISGS ransacked elementary school of Bounгри, Foutouri Commune, Est Region.

03 OCT 18: Suspected Ansaroul Islam militants attacked gendarmerie post of Inata gold mine, Soum Province, Sahel Region. 1 gendarme killed and 1 injured while vehicles destroyed. In response, Burkinabe forces requested Barkhane support, thus French forces carried airstrikes against militants behind the attack killing 7 and destroying their motorcycles, [reportedly](#).

04 OCT 18: Burkinabe security forces vehicle struck an IED planted by suspected Ansaroul Islam or/and ISGS on Gayéri – Foutouri road near Bartiebougou, Komandjoari Province, Est Region. At least 6 soldiers killed.

05 OCT 18: Burkinabe police unit and security forces ambushed after their vehicle struck an IED planted by suspected Ansaroul Islam or/and ISGS on Sollé-Titao road, Loroum Province, Nord Region. 5 policemen killed and 6 injured.

05 OCT 18: Burkinabe gendarmerie unit ambushed by suspected Ansaroul Islam militants between Djibo and Inata, Soum Province, Sahel Region. Security forces repelled the attack and killed 1 militant.

06 OCT 18: Burkinabe Army vehicle struck an IED planted by suspected Ansaroul Islam militants near Kabonga between Fada N’Gourma and Pama, Komienga Province, Est Region. At least 1 soldier killed and 1 injured. Burkinabe and French forces jointly carried air surveillance following the attack.

06 OCT 18: Suspected Ansaroul Islam or ISGS intercepted and burned ambulance in Tin Edia, Oursi Commune, Oudalan Province, Sahel Region. Ambulance belonged to Gorom-Gorom health district and the two workers were left unharmed.

16 OCT 18: Gendarmerie brigade attacked by unidentified gunmen at Sidéradougou, Comoé Province, Cascades Region. No casualties or injuries recorded, however vehicle and motorcycles destroyed while arms and ammunition seized.

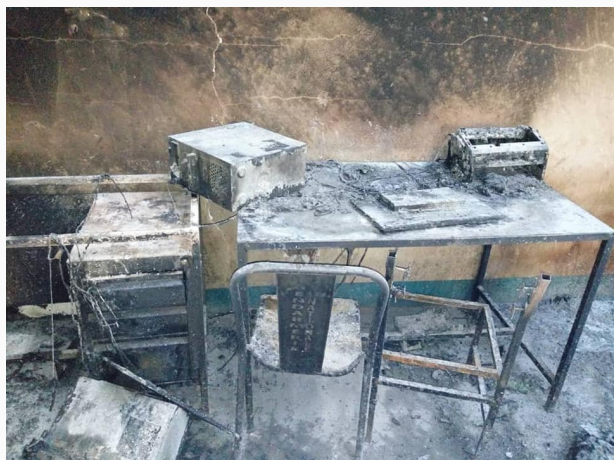
16 OCT 18: Municipal council assassinated by unidentified gunmen at Sona, near Djibo, Soum Province, Sahel Region.

17 OCT 18: Police checkpoint 2km outside Djibo toward Tongomayel attacked by suspected Ansaroul Islam militants, Soum Province, Sahel Region. Unknown number of policemen injured and motorcycles seized by militants.

17-18 OCT 18: Gendarmerie brigade of Barani, Kossi Province, Boucle du Mouhoun Region attacked by suspected Macina brigade of JNIM that infiltrated from Mali. 1 gendarme killed and 3 injured.

18 OCT 18: Ansaroul Islam militants attacked gendarmerie station of Djibo, Soum Province, Sahel Region. Reportedly, at least 55 prisoners were freed, 2 vehicles destroyed, and the building severely damaged.

18 OCT 18: Ansaroul Islam militants attacked around 2200 gendarmerie station of Djibo, Soum Province, Sahel Region. Reportedly, 1 gendarme injured, at least 55 prisoners were freed, 2 vehicles destroyed, and the building severely damaged (see images posted by @menastream on twitter). [Simultaneously](#), gendarme watch post was also attacked.



Damages inside gendarmerie station.



Destroyed vehicle.



Rocket-propelled grenade (RPG) left behind by militants.

18-19 OCT 18: Three schools and ranger's house burned by unidentified gunmen in Yagha and Komandjoari provinces.

24 OCT 18: Suspected Ansaroul Islam militants attacked Taouremba village, Soum Province, Sahel Region. 2 civilians killed and another taken.

26 OCT 18: Suspected members of Ansaroul Islam militant group entered and threatened employees of Pellaboukou health center, Loroum Province, Nord Region.

26 OCT 18: Suspected members of Ansaroul Islam militant group entered and burned local school of Tougribouli, Loroum Province, Nord Region.

27 OCT 18: Unidentified gunmen attacked and seized an ambulance belonging to the health center of Kelbo, Soum Province, Sahel Region. Ambulance was transporting a patient from Silgadji village to Djibo. The driver returned to Kelbo two days later after the ambulance was seized.

27 OCT 18: Authorities stated it's unable to conduct rescue missions after reported landslide at the gold mining in Kabonga, Est Region. [Reports](#) also stated that authorities consider the area unsafe due to militants presence who were exploiting the gold mine as well.

27 OCT 18: Four unidentified gunmen opened fire on policemen at the police station of Bagassi, Balé Province, Mouhoun Region. The attacked reportedly was repelled by security forces present.

28 OCT 18: Unidentified gunmen abducted under unclear circumstances 6 civilians in Matiacoali Commune, Est Region. 2 civilians killed and 4 others found alive.

29 OCT 18: Police convoy ambushed by unidentified gunmen between Diebougou and Bouroum Bouroum toward Gaoua, in Tiankoura Commune, Bougouriba Province, Sud-Ouest Region. Reportedly 2 policemen were missing, however found later alive with 1 lightly injured claiming it was an armed robbery.

30 OCT 18: Suspected members of Ansaroul Islam released intimidation messages to teachers at Mantougou, Tapoa Province, Est Region.

31 OCT 18: Unidentified gunmen opened fire on the vehicle of Markoye's vehicle at Tadabatt, Oudalan Province, Sahel Region. Both occupants of the car managed to escape and arrived safely to Gorom Gorom.