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**Tel: +233-302775665 Fax: +233-302772241 Email:** [ghqprwebsite@gmail.com](mailto:ghqprwebsite@gmail.com)**Release No: 17 Date: 27/09/21**

**FLUSHING OUT OF ILLEGAL MINERS ON MAJOR RIVER BODIES – GHANA ARMED FORCES ACHIEVES GREATER SUCCESS**

The Ghana Armed Forces re-activated **Operation Halt II** in April 2021 to flush out illegal small-scale miners from some major river bodies and forest reserves in Ashanti, Eastern, Western and Western North Regions. The Ghana Army, supported by the Navy and Air Force have so far cleared a total of two hundred and thirty (230) platforms and three hundred and sixty-five (365) Changfan machines covering a total distance of two hundred and sixty-seven (267) kilometers stretch of the rivers Pra and Offin and their tributaries.

The Ghana Armed Forces continue to conduct follow-up surgical operations in targeted areas to sustain the campaign to rid river bodies of all illegal mining activities in Ghana. Areas so far cleared include Beposo upstream, Daboase, Sekyere Krobo, Sekyere Nsuta, Mamposo, Twifo Praso, Awisam up to Asaman (the confluence of River Pra and Offin). The clearing team also resumed operations on River Offin and is currently at Abora within the Upper Denkyira East Municipality. Areas along River Offin that have been cleared include Asma Camp, Denkira Foso, Badoa No.1 and 2, Kyekyewere, Buabenso, Akyempim and Dunkwa.

A total of one hundred and ten (110) platforms and one hundred and eighty-five (185) Changfan machines have been destroyed on river Offin, covering a distance of approximately one hundred and fourteen (114) kilometers.

The Ghana Armed Forces wish to advise all persons engaged in illegal mining, especially along the country’s river bodies and our forest reserves, to desist from these criminal activities which is seriously destroying our environment or risk being severely dealt with according to the laws of the nation.

Additionally, we wish to send a clear warning to those who have shifted their activities to other parts of the country where the footprints of Operation Halt is yet to touch that their days are numbered.

SIGNED

A LA-ANYANE

Commander

Acting / Director Public Relations

**Note to Editors:**

1. This is for favour of publication, please.

**Cc:**

All Media Houses