

# 29 African nations send troops for US army training to fight Islamists

ACCRA, Ghana: Amid the spread of extremist violence in West Africa's Sahel region, the US military has launched its annual military training exercise, entitled Flintlock, aimed at helping armies contain the region's jihadi threats.

The US stated it aims to assist African countries curb the threats posed by extremists before they spread further in the the region.

As part of Flintlock, which began this week, 1,300 military personnel from 29 African countries are training in Ghana and Ivory Coast in counter-insurgency tactics.

The two-week exercise comes amid rising jihadi violence linked to Islamist groups al-Qaida and the Islamic State, which killed thousands, displaced millions and has plunged African countries into crises.

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