



**NATIONAL ADDRESS BY HIS EXCELLENCY PRESIDENT  
JULIUS MAADA BIO  
REGARDING THE NOVEMBER 26, 2023 EVENT**

Fellow Sierra Leoneans,

In the early hours of this morning, there was a breach of security at the Military Barracks at Wilberforce in Freetown. Some individuals attacked the military armoury and other locations in Freetown including the Pademba Road Correctional Centre. In the event, prisoners escaped.

The attackers have been repelled by a combined team of our gallant Security Forces and calm has been restored.

Most of the leaders have been arrested. Security operations and investigations are ongoing. We will ensure that those responsible are held accountable through due process.

I acknowledge the bravery and dedication of our armed forces, police, and all those who played a role in defeating this attempt to undermine the peace and stability we have worked so hard to achieve. Their commitment to the defence of our democracy deserves our deepest gratitude.

I thank citizens for complying with the security measures and advise everyone to remain vigilant and to cooperate with the security forces.

Fellow Sierra Leoneans, in times like these, we are reminded of the importance of national unity. Let us not succumb to fear or division.

Let us come together as one people, one nation. Our strength lies in our unity, and it is through solidarity that we can overcome challenges that come our way.

I call on all political leaders, traditional leaders, civil society, and citizens across Sierra Leone to continue working to preserve the peace of our nation.

As your Commander in Chief, I want to assure everybody who is resident in Sierra Leone that we have overcome this challenge, and together, we will continue on the path of progress and development.

May God bless Sierra Leone and its resilient people.

Long Live The Republic of Sierra Leone.