

Scores of bandits neutralised in Zamfara

Meanwhile, troops of the Nigerian Army have neutralised scores of bandits during a coordinated ground and air operation on the camp of a notorious bandit kingpin, Gwaska Dan Karmi, in Maru Local Government Area of Zamfara State.

The Acting Deputy Director, Army Public Relations, 8 Division, Lt.-Col. Olaniyi Osoba, disclosed this in a statement issued on Sunday.

Osoba said the operation was carried out by troops of the 8 Division under Sector 2 of Operation Fansan Yamma, following credible intelligence that more than 100 bandits had assembled at the camp to plan large-scale attacks on nearby communities and military supply routes.

According to him, after days of sustained surveillance, ground troops, supported by the Nigerian Air Force (NAF), stormed the bandits' enclave on January 31, triggering a fierce firefight.

He explained that the bandits attempted to flank and encircle the advancing troops but were overwhelmed by the military's superior firepower and tactical manoeuvres.

Osoba said many of the terrorists were neutralised, while others fled with gunshot wounds. He added that the camp was set ablaze before the troops tactically withdrew from the area.

He further said the NAF component was conducting interdiction missions to intercept fleeing bandits, while ground forces continued to dominate the area to prevent the criminals from regrouping.