

Air strike kills 23 fleeing bandits after Kano attack

January 4, 2026 2:02 pm



Agency Report

Troops of the Joint Task Force, supported by the Air Component of Operation Fansan Yamma, have neutralised no fewer than 23 bandits fleeing Kano State following coordinated attacks on Shanono and Tsanyawa Local Government Areas.

A statement issued on Sunday in Kano by the Assistant Director, Army Public Relations, 3 Brigade, Nigerian Army, Maj. Zubairu Babatunde, said the bandits launched the attacks on the night of Thursday, extending into the early hours of Friday.

He said ground troops successfully contained the attacks and inflicted heavy casualties on the assailants before tracking the fleeing bandits to Karaduwa village in Matazu Local Government Area of neighbouring Katsina State.

According to him, intelligence reports revealed that the bandits had gathered at Dan Marke in Matazu LGA to bury some of their members killed during the encounter with troops.

“The Air Component Sector 2 Operation Fansan Yamma located the bandits and trailed their movement until their motorcycles converged after crossing a dry riverbed.

“A precision air strike was thereafter conducted, resulting in the neutralisation of at least 23 terrorists, while several others were believed to have sustained injuries,” Babatunde said.

He added that the operation, supported by aerial Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) missions, also led to the destruction of several weapons and equipment belonging to the bandits.

The spokesperson said the Commander, 3 Brigade, Nigerian Army, commended the Air Component and ground troops for their bravery and resilience during the operation.

“Their bravery and resilience in the face of adversity are commendable,” the commander was quoted as saying.

Related News

Natasha demands release of 52 Edo varsity students

US boosts Nigeria’s fight against terrorism with new supplies

Terrorists kill four, set shops ablaze in Niger

Babatunde said the security situation in Kano State remained calm, with troops sustaining robust patrols and monitoring across the affected areas.

He added that troop morale and fighting efficiency were very satisfactory.

The Nigerian Army, he said, appreciated the support of members of the public in the fight against banditry and terrorism and urged citizens to continue providing timely information to security agencies.

According to him, the military, in collaboration with other security agencies, remains committed to protecting lives and property and will continue to take necessary measures to ensure national security.

The operation adds to recent successes recorded against gunmen disturbing the state.

PUNCH Online **reported** on Friday that the task force successfully foiled an attempted incursion by bandits into some communities in Shanono Local Government Area of Kano State after a prolonged gun battle.

The clash, which started late Thursday night and lasted until the early hours of Friday, occurred in Yankwada, Babanduhu and other neighbouring villages in the area.

Confirming the incident, Babatunde said the attack was a revenge mission following the loss of some of the bandits’ fighters to superior military firepower during an earlier encounter last week.

(NAN)