

Troops wipe out 19 bandits in Kano as 2 soldiers, vigilante die

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From **Desmond Mgboh**, Kano

Troops of the Joint Task Force, Operation MESA, situated in Shanono Local Government, Kano State, have neutralised a total of 19 bandits on the verge of attacking the communities.

A statement issued yesterday by Capt. Babatunde Zubairu, Assistant Director, Army Public Relations, 3 Brigade, however indicated that two soldiers and a member of the vigilance group lost their lives in the duel.

The operation, led by officers of the 3 Brigade, Nigeria Army, followed a tip off on the movement of the suspects around Ungwan Tudun, Ungwan Tsamiya and Goron Duste axis of Shanono LGA around 500 on November 1.

He said the troops, supported by other security agencies, engaged the bandits in a fierce gun battle, forcing them to retreat.

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“It was confirmed that the bandits, who arrived on motorcycles, sustained several casualties during the encounter,” he said.

Zubairu added that the troops deployed at Tsaure community came in contact with the bandits, leading to an exchange of fire that resulted in the recovery of several motorcycles and two mobile phones.

He said further operations were ongoing in the general area to ensure the protection of vulnerable communities often targeted for cattle rustling and other criminal activities.

“The Nigerian Army urges the citizens to remain vigilant and report suspicious movements to security agencies,” Zubairu added.

The Commander, 3 Brigade Nigerian Army, Brig.-Gen. Ahmed Tukur, assured residents of the Army’s commitment to maintaining peace and security in the state, in collaboration with other.