

Army Officer, 6 Soldiers Killed As Troops Repel Ambush In Kaduna



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A Nigerian Army officer and six soldiers were killed on Monday evening when troops came under a deadly ambush by suspected terrorists during a patrol operation in the Rigachikun area of Igabi Local Government Area of Kaduna State.

The attack occurred amid intensified military operations that have, in recent weeks, significantly degraded the activities of armed groups operating along the Kaduna-Zaria corridor and surrounding communities.

Security sources told PRNigeria that the troops had embarked on a routine operational patrol following a series of successful clearance operations that resulted in the neutralisation of several terrorist kingpins and their foot soldiers in the area.



According to the sources, the soldiers were returning from the mission when they were ambushed by heavily armed assailants, triggering a fierce gun battle.

Although the troops reportedly fought back and inflicted casualties on the attackers, the ambush claimed the lives of one officer and six soldiers. The incident has come as a setback following recent successes recorded by troops operating under the 1 Division Nigerian Army in the area.

In recent weeks, security forces have intensified aggressive patrols, intelligence-led raids, anti-kidnapping operations and clearance missions across communities along the Kaduna-Zaria Expressway and adjoining forests.

A security operative said the sustained operations had led to the elimination of several notorious bandit leaders, the destruction of criminal hideouts, the rescue of kidnapped victims, the arrest of gunrunners and a noticeable reduction in attacks on commuters and residents.

As of the time of filing this report, military authorities had yet to issue an official statement on the incident.

However, sources said reinforcement operations had been deployed to the area, while efforts were ongoing to track down the attackers and prevent further security breaches.