Police Shoot 3 Suspected Kidnappers In Benue

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The police in Benue State on Wednesday shot and killed three suspected kidnappers in the Sankera axis of the state.

Police spokeswoman, SP Catherine Anene, in a statement, said officers also rescued two kidnapped victims during the operation against their captors.

Anene said the Benue State Police Command, led by CP Hassan Steve Yabanet, achieved the success following intensified operations across the state, particularly in the Sankera area.

She said, "This operation aims to return farmers to their lands and curb banditry in the region. On May 29, 2024, at approximately 6am, officers from the Operation Zenda Joint Task Force (JTF)

raided a kidnap hideout.

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"Upon seeing the police, the kidnappers, led by gang leader Tersue Dada, aka 'Causer,' engaged in a gunfight but were overpowered by the police.

"As a result, three suspects sustained gunshot injuries and were later confirmed dead at the hospital, while one suspect, Terver Tavershima from Tinenune, Ukum LGA, was arrested."

The police spokeswoman said one AK-47 rifle, one Dane gun, assorted phones, a camouflage uniform, and a motorcycle were recovered from the scene.

Anene added that the two victims, who were rescued unharmed, were kidnapped from their homes in Ukum LGA about a week ago and that their families were asked to pay a ransom of N23 million.