

Army Neutralise Bandits In Zamfara

From Oditia Sunday, Abuja

• **No Attack On Air Force Base In Kaduna — Spokesman**

TROOPS of the Nigerian Army have neutralised scores of bandits in a fierce encounter at Zamfara village. They also recovered arms and ammunition from them.

Army Spokesman, Brigadier General Nwachukwu, who disclosed this, said troops of 8 Division Nigerian Army (NA), while on a fighting patrol, came under fire of bandits operating along Mayanchi-Dogo Karfe and Fagantama villages in Talata Marafa Local Council of Zamfara State.

"In the fierce encounter, the bandits were overwhelmed by the troops' superior fire-

power. This led to scores of bandits being neutralised. The troops also recovered one PKT rifle, large cache of ammunition and a motorcycle.

"Relatedly, troops also neutralised five bandits in another encounter at Bingi village, in Bungudu Local Council of Zamfara. During the gun duel, the bandits withdrew in disarray, having sustained severe gunshot wounds. The gallant troops recovered one AK 47 rifle, one motorcycle and three mobile phones from the routed criminals."

While appreciating the

troops' combat resilience and renewed vigour, the Chief of Army Staff, Lt. General Faruk Yahaya, urged them to sustain the aggressive posture to defeat all criminal elements operating in the North West and other parts of the country.

He advised the affected communities to provide useful information, at all times, to enhance anti-banditry operations.

In a related development, the Nigeria Air Force high command has debunked reports making the rounds online (not *The Guardian*) that their base in Kaduna was at-

tacked.

Air Force Spokesman, Air Commodore Edward Gabkwet, said it was the handwork of "merchants of fake news."

"This time around, their focus is on the premier Nigeria's Air Force Base at Kaduna, which they claimed came under terrorist attack in the early hours of yesterday (June 26, 2021). Members of the public should, please, disregard the news, as it is entirely false.

"There was nothing of such, as inhabitants of the Base are going about their normal activities and duties without any threat whatsoever,"