

# Army neutralises criminal gang members, recovers arms in Rivers

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08 January 2025 | 2:51 am



Troops of the 5 Battalion, Nigerian Army, have neutralised members of a notorious criminal gang responsible for the killing of four soldiers and the abduction of two Korean expatriates in Ahoda West Local Council of Rivers State.

Acting Deputy Director, 6 Division Army Public Relations, Lieutenant Colonel Danjuma Jonah Danjuma, who disclosed this in a statement yesterday, said the recovery of several arms and ammunition was made when troops launched a cordon and search operation.

He said the operation carried out on January 6, 2025, was carefully planned and executed, following credible intelligence on the return of the wanted criminals to their hideout in Kalaogbokolo.

Danjuma noted that the recovered items include: one AK 47 rifle, one Fabrique Nationale rifle, one pump action gun, two locally made rifles, three AK 47 magazines, one FN magazine, three rounds of 7.62mm (Special), and 13 rounds of 7.62mm (NATO). He also revealed that two members of the criminal gang were apprehended during the operation.

However, he said, while the troops were exploiting the area for further discoveries, the suspects attempted to escape into the bush and were neutralised after a long pursuit.

Danjuma reassured the public of the Division's commitment to safeguarding lives and property, calling on members of the public to continue providing actionable intelligence on the activities of such criminal gangs to the security agencies.