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The High Command of the Armed Forces of Nigeria (AFN), on Saturday, said that its troops of Operation ACCORD, on Friday, killed 70 armed bandits at Kachia forest, in Kaduna State.

The High Command has asked all residents in the area to watch out and report every person sighted with sudden and suspicious injuries, as many of the bandits had escaped from the forest with gunshot wounds.

In an operation update released in Abuja, Major General John Enenche. Coordinator of the Defence Media Operations, (CDMO), said that the bandits were killed in a combined ground and air offensive by troops of Operation THUNDER STRIKE under Operation ACCORD in conjunction with troops of 312 Artillery Regiment and Local Vigilantes, during a clearance patrol to Kachia Forest.

General Enenche said that the operation followed a timely and credible information on the bandits movement within the area.

Military Kills 70 Bandits In Kaduna

which enabled troops to pursue the bandits through Gidan Maikeri village in

Chikun LGA into the forest.

"Their location was

identified and consequently engaged by Nigerian Air Force helicopter gunships.

After the air interdiction, seventy (70) bandits were confirmed killed by human

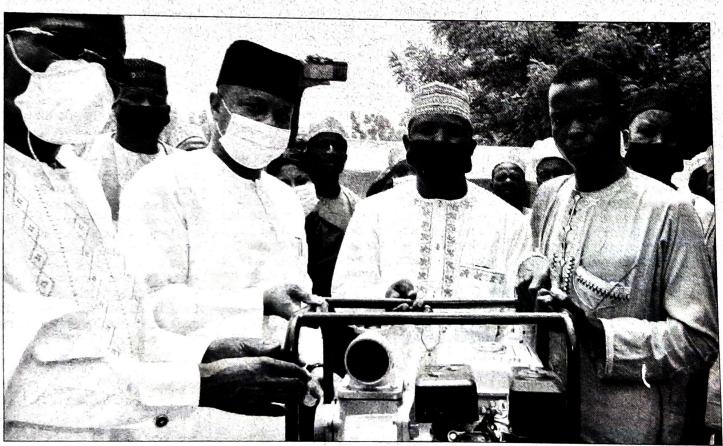
intelligence while others escaped with injuries", the CDMO said.

He stressed that the troops were already carrying out exploitation of the forest to uncover other casualties of the operation.

"As a matter of security concern, people in this general area should report those with sudden and suspicious injuries to the security forces. This is to ensure that the escapees are mopped up", he urged.

Relatedly, General Enenche said troops of Operation YAKI in blocking positions for Operation ACCORD at outskirts of Kankomi village apprehended two bandits' logistics suppliers, and recovered recharge cards, cigarettes, soft drinks and groceries.

"The Military High Command congratulates Operation THUNDER STRIKE, Operation YAKI and Air Component of Operation ACCORD, for their dexterity. The general public is requested to continue to provide timely and credible information that would assist in eliminating bandits and other criminal elements in the Country", the CDMO said.



Basheer Mohammed, Federal Commissioner of the National Commission for Refugees, Migrants and Internally Displaced Persons (second left), with some beneficiaries during the commission's distribution of agricultural items to farmers from Kura, Garun Malam and Madobi Local Government Areas of Kano State on Friday.

PHOTO: NAN