

Troops Kill Nine Armed Bandits, Arrest 11 Illegal Miners In Zamfara

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ABUJA

The Nigerian military high command on Monday said that its troops of Operation ACCORD have killed over nine armed bandits and arrested eleven illegal miners in Zamfara State.

Major General John Enenche, Coordinator of Defence Media Operations (CDMO), made the disclosure in an operation update released to newsmen in Abuja.

General Enenche also disclosed that a wanted kidnap kingpin was also arrested by troops in Katsina State.

He said the gallant troops on November 21, 2020 while on covert operation at Galadi village in Shinkafi Local Government Area of Zamfara State made contact with bandits, adding that, "during the operation, two bandits were neutralised while two AK 47 rifles were recovered.

Also the CDMO said the gallant troops during clearance operation at Sabon Tunga and Tamuske villages neutralised several armed bandits and rescued three kidnapped victims.

He said the gallant troops supported by Nigerian Air Force helicopter gunships bombarded bandits' enclaves at Dutsen Emai in Zamfara State.

"In another development, still on same November 21, 2020, troops while on routine patrol at Gobirawa village made contact with armed bandits. During the encounter, six armed bandits were neutralised while 4 AK 47 rifles, three Dane guns and two motorcycles were recovered.

"In the same vein, following credible intelligence on activities of illegal miners at Kadauri general area in Maru Local Government Area of Zamfara State, troops swiftly mobilised to the scene and apprehended 11 suspected illegal miners. The suspects have been handed over to the appropriate prosecuting authority for further action.

"Furthermore, troops of Forward Operating Base Kwatarkwashi arrested one Shafiu Suleman, a wanted bandit's informant at Kwatarkwashi Market.

"Preliminary investigation revealed that the suspect was the mastermind of recent kidnapping of some locals within Kwatarkwashi District of Bungudu Local Government Area of Zamfara State," he said.

General Enenche added that following a distress call on presence of suspected bandits at Gidan Ruwa along Rukudawa axis of Zurmi Local Government Area of Zamfara State on November 22, 2020, troops swiftly responded and pursued the bandits as they fled on sighting the approaching troops.

"However, one bandit was neutralised, while one AK 47 rifle and one magazine loaded with 29 rounds of 7.62mm Special ammunition were recovered. Equally, two bandits were arrested in the process.

"In a similar development, following credible intelligence reports, troops on November 22, 2020, arrested a suspected kidnap kingpin in Kurfi Local Government Area of Katsina State. The suspect who has been on the wanted list is at present in custody for further action," the CDMO said.

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