

# Troops Kill Bandit Kingpin, 100 Others In Katsina

BY GODWIN ENNA, Katsina

A joint military operation has eliminated a notorious bandit kingpin, Gwaska, along with over 100 other criminals in Katsina State.

The coordinated strike, executed on April 10, 2025 by troops of the Nigerian Army's 17th Brigade and the Air Component of the Nigerian Air Force's 213 Forward Operating Base, targeted several bandit enclaves across Kankara and Faskari local government areas.

According to a press statement issued by the

<sup>1</sup> commissioner for internal security and home affairs, Dr. Nasir Mua'zu, the operation which focused on strongholds in Mununu Bakai, Zango, Jeka Arera, Malali and Ruwan Godiya, was based on credible intelligence.

Gwaska, a high-value target and second-in-command to an ISWAP-linked leader, had recently relocated from Danmusa to the Munumu Forest area.

The military assault not only led to the elimination of Gwaska and his fighters but also resulted in the recovery and destruction of

two machine guns, locally fabricated shotguns.

In a related operation same day, security forces intercepted bandits at Dutsen Wori along the Dandume-Kandamba Road, near the borders of Dandume, Faskari, and Sabuwa LGAs.

The 3:45 a.m. raid neutralized six additional bandits, including a local commander, while others fled with injuries. Seven motorcycles were recovered during the mission which traced the bandits back to their base at Maigora/Doroyi camp in Faskari.

No casualties were recorded among the security personnel involved in both operations.

Reacting to the development, Katsina State Governor Malam Dikko Umaru Radda reaffirmed his administration's unwavering commitment to eradicating criminal elements from the state.

He praised the collaborative efforts of the security forces and local communities, expressing optimism that continued vigilance and divine intervention would restore lasting peace in Katsina and the broader Northwest region.