

# Bandits kill seven in Kaduna LGAs

**A**RMED bandits have killed seven persons within the last 72 hours in Chikun, Kajuru and Giwa local government areas of Kaduna State. *...demand N25m ransom on 13 kidnapped in Chikun*

The abductors of 13 persons, including two minors in Udawa Chikun Local Government Area of the state, are demanding N25 million as ransom from the family of the kidnap victims.

Kaduna State Commissioner for Internal Security and Home Affairs, Samuel Aruwan, said security agencies reported the killings to the state government on Saturday.

A community leader, Alhaji Umaru Udawa, told journalists that seven women, four boys and two minors were kidnapped.

In a statement issued Saturday evening, the commissioner said: "According to the security agencies, bandits shot four persons at the outskirts of Tsohon Gayan General Area of Chikun LGA."

"Two were identified as Solomon Bamaayi and Francis Moses from Kakau village of the same LGA. The third was identified as being from Kachia town and the fourth remains unidentified."

"In Iri Station, Kajuru LGA, two citizens, Reuben Tanko and Sani Jibrin were also shot dead by a group of armed bandits."

"One Danjuma Alhaji, a native of Tsohon Farakwai of

Igabi LGA was similarly killed by bandits at the outskirts of Galadima General Area of Giwa LGA."

Governor Nasir El-Rufai has sent condolences to their families and prayed for the repose of their souls.

"Furthermore, security agencies have carried out a confidence building visit to Iri Station, where some citizens were killed and an unspecified number kidnapped."

"The Commissioner for

From AbdulGafar Alabelewe, Kaduna

Internal Security and Home Affairs, Samuel Aruwan, who led the delegation, assured the community of the government's commitment to the security and peace of the general area.

"He also said that collaboration between communities and security agencies is critical and must be cultivated towards enhancing security in areas that are difficult to access

across the state," Aruwan said.

Speaking further on the Udawa kidnap, Alhaji Umaru Udawa said, the victims were abducted by the hoodlums between Manini village and Udawa village on Friday morning.

Udawa listed the names of the abducted 13 persons still with the bandits as Hadiza, Fatima, Amina, Aisha, Farida, Sha'awa, Ashiya, Abu Jibril, Abubakar, Sadiq and Al'meen

## Army appoints PSOs, field comm

*...Sawyer is new Defence spokesman*

From Okodili Nndidi Abuja

Yusuf becomes the Commandant Nigerian Defence Academy. Maj Gen TA Gagariga will move from Army Headquarters Department of Policy and Plans to Nigerian Army Artillery Corps as Corps Commander Artillery and Maj Gen VO Ezugwu of Training and Doctrine Command becomes the Commander Infantry Corps.

"Maj Gen MA Yekini is the new Chief of Defence Training and Operations, Maj Gen MS Yusuf will take over as Chief of Defence Standard and Evaluation, while the Chief of Civil - Military Affairs, Maj

Gen AB Omozoje will take over as the Chief of Policy and Plans at the Army Headquarters.

"Equally, Maj Gen SO Olabanji becomes the Commander Training and Doctrine Command, Maj Gen OA Akintade is the new Chief of Army Logistics, Maj Gen OT Akinjobi takes over as Chief of Operations (Army), Maj Gen JA Ataguba becomes the Chief of Army Standard and Evaluation while Maj Gens KI Mukhtar and C Ofoche are the new Chief of Administration and Chief of Transformation and Innovation respectively. Maj Gen AB Ibrahim is appointed as Chief of Training (Army)".