

Bauchi police kill 12 in raid on kidnappers' hideout



David Adenuga, Bauchi

• *Many killed in Zamfara airstrike*



December 20, 2022

The police have killed 12 suspected kidnappers including a kingpin named Madaki Mansur who had been terrorising the Alkaleri Local Government area and neighbouring states of Taraba, Plateau, and Gombe.

The Command's spokesman SP Ahmed Mohammed Wakil told reporters that a joint operation of security operatives carried out yesterday engaged the suspected bandits in four forests: Mansur, Digare, Ghana, and Dajin Madam in Alkaleri forest used as hideouts.

He said: "Twelve of the kidnappers were neutralised while others were subdued, dislodged, and scampered in disarray into the nearby bushes with possible gunshot wounds and abandoned their camp"

Over 60 houses were said to have been destroyed while hundreds of people fled their homes to neighbouring states last week.

At least 64 people were reportedly killed in an airstrike by a Nigerian military plane on Sunday at Mutumji Community in Maru Local Government Area of Zamfara State.

Residents said many of those killed were armed militants while others were civilian residents of the community.

The victims, including women and children, were killed when a plane bombed the community while chasing fleeing bandits who reportedly invaded the town.

On Saturday and Sunday, the Nigerian Air Force responded to distress calls from locals following armed bandits' attack on Malele, Ruwan Tofa, and Yan-Awake communities in the area.

Residents said the attack on the three neighbouring communities was adequately foiled by the air raids which forced the rampaging gunmen to flee into the neighbouring Mutumji community for safety.

A resident, Nuhu Dansadau, however, said the strikes by the air force on Mutumji affected several locals killing at least 64 people and injuring 12 others.

Mr Dansadau, who is a member of the International Human Rights, Crime Control and Conflict