

Terrorists beg to surrender as troops intensifies onslaught

AS the military continues its offensive against terrorists in Zamfara State, more kingpins are pleading for an opportunity to surrender, *The Nation* has learnt.

Also, four more bandit commanders were killed by troops of Operation Fansan Yamma and an alleged notorious suspect captured during an overnight operation in Nasarawa village, Anka Local Government.

The Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps Zamfara State Command has also apprehended a suspect in possession of a large quantity of dry leaves suspected to be cannabis (hemp) in Shinkafi Local Government intended to be taken to a bandit group at Mashema village of Zurmi Local Government.

According to security expert, Zagazola Makama, who shared details of the operation on his verified X account, a prominent indigene of Nasarawa village long suspected of being involved in terrorism, other crimes was among those killed.

"This latest success is part of intensified efforts by the Nigerian Military to eliminate bandit groups operating in the region and restore peace to affected communities," Makama stated.

Sources said the troops recovered a substantial cache of firearms during the dismantling of one of terror kingpin's Bello Turji's strongholds early yesterday.

According to military sources, the troops received intelligence that the terrorists were

• Bandits' drug supplier arrested

By Precious Igbonwelundu and Abdullahi Abdulrahman, Gusau

regrouping and launched an offensive in their enclaves at Shinkafi and Zurmi local government areas where the firearms were recovered.

The armed forces were said to have embarked on a vigorous search of Katsira and Fakai villages where the regrouping criminals were alleged to be hiding.

Makama added: "After conducting a thorough cordon-

and-search operation, the troops targeted Garin Fakai, which has long served as the operational hub for Bello Turji, one of Nigeria's most wanted bandit leaders. In a decisive action, the troops destroyed Garin Fakai.

"Military sources confirmed that several structures within the camp were set ablaze, as the bandits fled the general area, leaving women and children behind who were later rescued by the troops.

"During this successful raid,

troops recovered Ak-47 rifles, RPG bombs and several ammunition.

"In the week leading up to this assault, the military conducted a series of raids targeting bandit-infested areas throughout Zamfara State. Key operations included: Troops executed a sweep of the Zurmi forest, neutralising several armed bandits and dismantling makeshift camps used for kidnapping.

"In a pre-dawn operation, security forces stormed a hideout where kidnapped victims were being held, successfully rescuing at least 10 hostages."



• The bandits supplier ...yesterday