

# Troops kill 14 bandits, recover 422 animals in Kaduna

TROOPS under the Operation Whirl Punch, have neutralised 14 bandits and recovered 422 cows and sheep between October and November, the acting Director of Defence Information (DDI), Brigadier-General John Agim, said this on Monday, in Kaduna.

According to the ***News Agency (NAN)***, General Agim told a news conference on Operation 777 update, launched by the Defence Headquarters on October 8 to restructure and strengthen ongoing military operations nationwide.

According to him, operation Whirl Punch being conducted by troops of 1 Division of the Nigerian Army is part of Operation 777.

He said that "prior to the launch of Operation 777, ter-

rorists and criminals devised different means of evading ongoing operations in different theatres.

"So far, however, troops have neutralised 14 notorious bandits, cattle rustlers and kidnappers.

"Likewise, several sophisticated arms, ammunition and large herds of cattle have been recovered from the bandits, kidnappers and cattle rustlers.

"The troops also recovered over 331 cows from rustlers in Birnin Gwari area and 132 cows in Birnin Yero areas of Kaduna State.

"A total of 49 cows and 42 sheep were also recovered on the Kaduna-Abuja Highway: all recovered animals were handed over to their owners after screening."