

# Zamfara banditry: Military kills 30, arrests notorious leader, recovers 127 rustled cows

Attahiru Ahmed | Gusau

**F**OLLOWING an ongoing military onslaught against banditry, the 'Operation Hadrin Daji' in Zamfara State has killed 30 armed bandits, arrested a notorious leader and recovered 127 cows in the state.

A statement issued on Thursday in Gusau, the state capital, and signed by acting Force Information Officer, Lieutenant Ayobami Oni-Orisan, disclosed that seven of the bandits were arrested.

"As part of concerted efforts by headquarters 'Operation Hadrin Daji' to rid Zamfara State of armed banditry and other criminality, troops have turned up the heat on the bandits in the ongoing onslaught," he said.

He disclosed that the operation had resulted in further operational successes recorded by troops against the criminal elements.

"Acting on actionable intelligence our troops had rescued a civilian from armed bandits at Zurmi-Gurbin Baure Road on receipt of the distress call, military deployed promptly to the scene, pursued the bandits and successfully rescued the kidnapped victims."

The acting Force Information Officer further explained that the Air Component of 'Operation Hadrin Daji' conducted intensive bomb runs at several identified bandits' camps in Dumburum forest.

"The operation was conducted sequel to exhaustive Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance operations conducted by the Air Component of 'Operation Hadrin Daji' in the area, including credible human intelligence gathered from locals, scores of bandits were effectively killed in the operation while others fled the area."

According to him, an additional 10 bandits were killed when the fleeing bandits encountered ground troops deployed in blocking positions around the General area, four of the bandits were equally captured.

He said during the operation, two motorcycles and 43 livestock earlier rustled from locals were recovered from the bandits.

In furtherance to acting on actionable intelligence, "our troops had apprehended a notorious bandit, Haruna Sani and two others on Wonaka-Mada Road, in Tsafe Local Government Area of the state.

"The criminals disguised themselves as innocent passersby and attempted to sneak into Gusau for medical treatment of injuries suffered during ongoing military operations."

The military troops again in response to distress calls, deployed speedily to Banyan

Dutse axis in Mada under Gusau Local Government Area where armed bandits were rustling herds of cattle, they engaged the bandits and successfully captured 1 of them, "troops also recovered 84 livestock comprising 73 cows and 10 rams."

The military Air Component of 'Operation Hadrin Daji' effectively killed 20 armed bandits at a location close to Munhaye town about 15 kilometres from Katsina State. On receipt of credible human intelligence that bandits had gathered for a meeting at a rendezvous close to Munhaye to attack locals in the vicinity.

"The Air Component scrambled an Alpha Jet to the area.

On seeing the jet, the bandits numbering over 30 attempted to flee the area, but the jet engaged them with effective fire, killing 20 of them in the process."

He said many bandits were killed when military troops engaged heavily-armed bandits at Bawan-Daji general area in Anka Local Government Area.

The Force Commander 'Operation Hadrin Daji', Major-General Jide Ogunlade, assured inhabitants of Zamfara State of their safety and encouraged them to support the ongoing slaughter against armed banditry and other criminal activities in the state.



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Our strategy is working  
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with President Buhari at the