

6 bandits arrested in Plateau for allegedly killing 5 soldiers

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THE Special Task Force (STF) in charge of security in Plateau State has arrested six bandits, who allegedly ambushed and killed security men attached to the task force in Barakin-Ladi Local Government Area of the state.

The STF said it has also apprehended a woman, Salamatu Saiyit, who confessed to have "a thorough knowledge" of handling an AK 47 rifle, the expertise of which her husband, Auwal Mohammed Zakari, taught her sometimes in 2016.

Commander of the Special Task Force, Maj-General Augustine Agundu, who disclosed this while briefing newsmen in Jos, on Friday, said the six bandits were involved in the attack on the troop, which led to the death of five soldiers attached to the Command.

According to him, the suspects are, Muhammed Abubakar; Abdullahi Abubakar, Habib Abubakar, Marina Dandash; Saidu Abdullah and Mrs Salamatu Saiyit, adding that they were arrested at Bet Village in Barkin Ladi Local Government Area.

"Investigations revealed

their involvements in the attack on our troop at Nding—Sesut village in Barakin-Ladi Local Government, which led to the death of 3 men of Operation Safe Haven soldiers on 6 September, 2018.

"Preliminary interrogation also revealed their involvements in the attack on our troop deployed at Fan District in Barakin-Ladi and Kwanan Fulani in Riyom Local Government Area that led to the death of two members of the Command recently on 28 September, 2019"

He further stated that the result of the investigations made stouthing revelations that the

armed bandits have a regional connection with other bandits accross the North-Central, adding that in the course of time, further inquiry into other connections in the criminals activities will lead to the possible arrest of their accomplices and collaborators.

He stated that the suspects confessed to have been involved in the attacks on troops deployed at Betzak Village in Barkin Ladi adding that the suspects being paraded with one Mrs Salamatu Saiyit whose husband, Auwal Zakaria, concealed an AK 47 rifle loaded with 20 rounds of 7.62mm in his residence.