



# Troops raid criminals' hideout in Benue, kill 2

## Nab 7 Bassa militia members in Nasarawa

**Jacob Segun Olatunji**  
| Abuja

TWO suspected criminals of a gang led by one Gana have been killed by troops of the Nigerian Army during a gun duel in Benue State, while the gang leader escaped along with others with various degrees of gunshot wounds.

This was contained a statement made available to newsmen in Abuja on Sunday by the Coordinator, Defence Media Operations (DMO), Major-General John Enenche.

Major-General Enenche also added that the troops

also nabbed seven members of the dreaded Bassa militia group in Nasarawa State.

He explained that the combined team of Operation Whirl Stroke Special Forces troops of Sector 2 deployed in Gbise and Zaki Biam in Benue State and Sector 4 from Taraba State carried out a raid on the hideout of the wanted suspected criminal, Gana, in Mtan village in Utenge Council Ward of Katsina-Ala Local Government Area on Saturday.

Major-General Enenche, however, revealed that Gana narrowly escaped death with

gunshot wounds.

According to him, items recovered during the operation include: One locally-fabricated machine gun, six locally-made rifles, two locally-fabricated cartridge guns, a dane gun, two revolver pistols, two cartridge pistols, 27 rounds of 9mm ammunition, two motorcycles, one camouflage shirt, one generating set, one bag of gun powder and assorted charms, while Gana's personal belongings, other items and thatched houses were destroyed.

In a related development, the statement said that the

troops of Sector 3 deployed at Ondori in Doma Local Government Area of Nasarawa State, acting on credible intelligence that a group of Bassa armed militia were planning to attack some Tiv villages over land dispute, raided the area and arrested seven members of the group.

According to the statement: "Troops raided the militia's camp located at Kpelebewa village in Rukubi area of Doma Local Government Area of Nasarawa State and apprehended seven members of the Bassa militia dressed in red shirts."