

Operation Burst kills 4, recover 4 AK-47 rifles in Oke-Ogun forest

By Adewale Oshodi and Nurudeen Alimi

PERSONNEL of Operation Burst, a special security outfit put together by the Oyo State government to complement the efforts of other security agencies in the state, over the weekend, descended on bandits terrorising Oke-Ogun area of the state, killing four of them in the process.

The director-general of **Operation Burst**, Colonel Oladipo Ajibola (retd), told the **Nigerian Tribune** on Monday that personnel of the security outfit, on the instruction of the Garrison Commander, 2 Division of the Nigerian Army, following a request by the state governor, Mr Seyi Makinde, combed the forest which served as a hideout for the bandits and were able to kill four suspected bandits, while four AK-47 rifles were recovered.

Colonel Ajibola (retd) said the team, on arrival in the area, was briefed by the local government chairman, Honourable Suleimana Lateef Adediran, a.k.a Santana.

Honourable Adediran informed the operatives that the bandits operate around Kishi-Soro-Bani Road, which borders Kwara and Niger states.

The **Operation Burst** team, according to Ajibola,

was supported by Mobile Police (MOPOL) of the state police command, vigilance group members and hunters.

He said: "So far, the place has been purged of bandits and the locals are very happy with the development. The local government chairman is also happy and he commended the efforts," Colonel Ajibola (retd) said.

When contacted, the state Police Public Relations Officer (PPRO), SP Olugbenga Fadeyi, confirmed the incident.

SP Fadeyi said police operatives with some vigilance group members, on Sunday, September 20, at about 7:00 p.m., encountered suspected bandits in the forest.

He said there was an exchange of gunfire, which resulted in some suspects sustaining gunshot injuries, while three were arrested.

The police spokesperson said four AK-47 rifles with 57 rounds of live ammunition, N78,000, handbags, mobile phones, among other items, were recovered from the suspects.

He said police operatives were still combing the forest to know if any of the suspects died from gunshot wounds.

He said those arrested are currently with the State Anti-Robbery Squad (SARS) of the police command.