

Troops kill 12 bandits, arrest 4 robbers in military uniform

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TROOPS of Operation Sahel Sanity have killed 12 bandits and arrested four suspected armed robbers dressed in military uniform in the North West zone of the country.

The acting Director, Defence Media Operation, Brigadier General Benard Onyeuko, who made the disclosure at a press conference on Friday at the Army Super Camp in Faskari, Katsina State, said the troops had intensified their offensive clearance operations, fighting patrols and ambushes.

General Onyeuko said: "These ongoing operations, without doubt, have led to the achievement of tremendous successes such as neutralisation of bandits, recovery of arms, destruction of bandits' camps, rescue of kidnapped victims, arrest of suspected bandits and their collaborators.

"On 15 November, 2020, our gallant troops, while conducting routine night patrol, came in contact with armed bandits at Yar Tasha Village in Zurmi LGA of Zamfara State. On sighting the troops advance, the criminals immediately started firing sporadically but the troops displayed tactical superiority, closed in and overpowered the bandits

with overwhelming firepower."

According to him, three of the bandits were neutralised, three AK-47 rifles with three magazines loaded with live rounds of 7.62 mm special ammunition were recovered by the troops.

The army spokesman stated that, "Some of the bandits, however, managed to escape by the skin of their teeth with varying degrees of injury. Similarly, on 16 November, 2020, the gallant troops, while acting on credible intelligence about kidnappers' activities at Garin Arawa in Tangaza LGA of Sokoto State, swiftly moved to the area and made contact with the criminals.

"During the encounter, the gallant troops neutralised one of the kidnappers as others escaped in disarray into the bushes owing to the troops' superior fighting prowess. In the aftermath of the encounter, troops recovered one AK-47 rifle mounted with a magazine and one motorcycle."

He disclosed that troops conducted a robust clearance operation and assaulted bandits' enclaves at Mararaban Kawaye and Gobirawa villages in Safana Local Government Area of Katsina State.