

# 50 bandits killed, 4 soldiers wounded during operation in Katsina —DHQ

Jacob Segun Olatunji | Abuja

FIFTY bandits have been killed while four soldiers were wounded and several livestock recovered during military operations in Katsina and Zamfara states over the weekend.

The Defence Headquarters (DHQ) on Sunday said that in continuation of aggressive clearance operations to stamp out banditry in the North-West zone of the country, troops of Operation Hadarin Daji neutralised the

bandits in Kuriya village of Kaura Namoda Local Government Area of Zamfara State.

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

Eneche stated that the operation was executed by the troops on Saturday following actionable intelligence and credible information on the presence of criminal elements in the area.

The defence spokesper-

son disclosed that following the development, the troops, with close air support by the Air Component, made contact with bandits at Kuriya village.

He said in the course of the encounter, several bandits were killed in action, while four soldiers sustained injuries.

He further added that human intelligence confirmed that no fewer than 50 armed bandits were killed in the encounter, while the troops equally recovered 272 live-

stock from the bandits.

Eneche stated that in another development, troops deployed at Dunya village of Danmusa Local Government Area of Katsina State, while on routine patrol, recovered 62 livestock from armed bandits who fled into the bush on sighting them.

According to him, "currently, the gallant troops have continued to dominate the theatre of operation with aggressive patrols to deny criminals freedom of action."