

Soldiers, bandits in fierce gun battle in Kaduna community

Four terrorists killed in two operations, arms recovered

Muhammad Sabiu |
Kaduna

TENSION broke out in Unguwar Musa, in Maranban Rido area in Chikun Local Government

Area of Kaduna State on Tuesday as soldiers and bandits engaged in a gun battle for several hours before normalcy returned to the area.

A community leader in the area, Chief Joseph Sauri Garba, said the gun battle, which started at about 12 noon, lasted for several hours.

Chief Garba said: "The

bandits stormed our community at about 12 noon and kidnapped some people."

He said following the intervention of the soldiers, about 10 kidnap victims were rescued.

Reacting to the development, the Commissioner for Internal Security and Home Affairs in the state, Samuel Aruwan, in a security update, confirmed the development.

Aruwan said military authorities reported to the state government that troops engaged and repelled terrorists during operations in Chikun Local

Government Area.

According to the statement, troops in Maraban Rido general area of Chikun Local Government Area responded to sounds of gunfire and swiftly mobilised towards the target location in Unguwar Musa.

"The troops fought their way through an ambush, which they cleared aggressively as they approached the scene of the attack."

The statement said: "An intense firefight followed at the targeted building and the troops' superior firepower eventually prevailed over the terrorists, who escaped through a back fence

with gunshot wounds, as confirmed by bloodstains which lined their exit.

"The troops pursued the terrorists through their withdrawal route and in the process, rescued eight persons who had initially been taken hostage.

"The rescued persons are listed as Likita Igah, Nancy Likita, Genesis Likita, Wilson Likita, Mary Kalat, Victor Joel, Simon Musa Ali and Rufus Elisha.

"One of the terrorists was killed during the operation," the statement added.

In a related development, military authorities have reported to the state gov-

ernment that troops have killed three terrorists during patrols on the Telele-Sabon Gida road, also in Chikun Local Government Area.

According to the operational feedback, the troops laid an ambush at a suspected terrorists' rallying point on the route.

Aruwan, in a statement, said: "As expected, the outlaws approached the troops' position, and entered the killing range, after which they were vigorously engaged.

"The criminals returned fire but were overpowered by the troops after a brief

firefight. Three terrorists were neutralised in the exchange.

"The troops recovered three AK-47 rifles, three AK-47 magazines, two motorcycles and two mobile phones.

"Governor Nasir El-Rufa'i expressed satisfaction at the operational feedback.

"He commended the troops for their swift and decisive action in engaging the terrorists, and encouraged them to keep up the tempo against criminal elements.

"Security forces are sustaining patrols and monitoring of the general area."

Tanker burns in Boder