

Troops rescue 14 kidnap victims, kill bandits in Kaduna

TROOPS of Sector Four of Operation Whirl Punch' and Special Forces of the 167 Battalion of the Nigerian Army have cleared a bandits hide-out in an encounter in Kaduna State.

Commissioner for Internal Security and Home Affairs in the state, Mr Samuel Aruwan, confirmed the development in a statement issued

on Saturday in Kaduna.

Aruwan said the troops, who embarked on a long-range fighting patrol to Tukurua general area of Chikun Local Government Area of the state, engaged and overpowered the criminals, killed one, while others fled in different directions.

"The troops during the operation rescued 14 kidnap

victims, comprising nine men and five women.

"The victims were moved to a secure location for debriefing and examination before being reunited with their families," he stated.

Aruwan added that the troops destroyed several camps in the course of the battle.

"Two motorcycles were

recovered during the operation," he also stated.

The commissioner stated that Governor Nasir el-Rufai, was elated at the troops' successes and commended the leadership of Major General Taoreed Lagbaja, General Officer Commanding 1 Division and the Force Commander of the Operation Whirl Punch.