

# Troops kill two bandit leaders in Kaduna

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TROOPS of Operation Forest Sanity (OPFS), under the 1 Division of the Nigerian Army has ambushed and killed two bandit leaders in Kaduna.

In a statement, the acting Deputy Director, Army Public Relations, 1 Division, Nigerian Army, Kaduna, Lieutenant-Colonel, Musa Yahaya, said the troops recovered arms, ammunition and other equipment during the operations.

According to the statement, an intelligence source revealed that a bandits' leader, Isiya Danwasa,

intended to send his errand boy, Yunusa, to purchase some arms and ammunition in Kaduna town.

"Subsequently, the errand boy was trailed and picked up by plain cloth soldiers and was later used to lure two of the bandit leaders to a selected ammunition collection point.

"Upon their arrival, troops, who had laid an ambush engaged the criminals with superior firepower and neutralised the two bandit leaders.

"Items recovered from the criminal elements included one motorcycle, two AK-47 rifles, six AK-47 magazines, 250 rounds of 7.62mm special ammunition, one

power bank, two charm vests and N200,000.

"The General Officer Commanding 1 Division, Nigerian Army and Force Commander, Joint Task Force Operation Whirl Punch, Major-General Taoreed Lagbaja, commended the troops for their professional conduct and execution of task.

"He further charged the troops to go after all bandits and show them no mercy.

"Again, the GOC appealed to the general public to continue to avail troops and other security agencies with credible and actionable information so as to bring banditry, kidnapping and

other crimes to a lasting end," the statement read.

Meanwhile, Governor Nasir el-Rufai has commended the troops for neutralising the notorious bandit leader, Isiya Danwasa, who was responsible for several killings, kidnappings and cattle rustling operations across the state.

Governor el-Rufai praised the troops for the diligent intelligence work and precise execution which led to the demise of Danwasa and his associate.

The governor further appealed to members of general public to continue to volunteer information to security forces.