

Bandits kill one, set police vehicle ablaze, abduct lecturer, four others in Zamfara

Troops thwart attack on community, kill several bandits

Attahiru Ahmed | Gusau

Bandits stormed Maru town in the early hours of Sunday.

BANDITS have attacked Maru town, headquarters of Maru Local Government Area of Zamfara State, during which they killed one person, set ablaze a police highway patrol vehicle and abducted five persons, including a lecturer with the College of Education (COE), Maru.

It was gathered that the bandits, in their numbers,

A resident of the town, Mallam Yusuf Musa, told the *Nigerian Tribune* that upon entering the town, the bandits, who had sophisticated weapons, immediately began to shoot sporadically to scare people.

An indigene of the area, Mallam Mohammed Amadu, added that following the attack, "many of us ran into the bush, but three women and two men, in-

cluding Lawali Dan Muazu and Nasiru Anka, who is a lecturer with the College of Education, Maru, were abducted."

Amadu described the incident as unfortunate, saying "we in Maru town have been subjected to incessant attacks by bandits, with today's [Sunday] attack being the third in 11 days."

He lamented that the bandits killed a GSM repairer named Abdul, who operated a shop at the main en-

trance to Maru motor park.

As of the time of filing in this report, spokesperson for the state police command, Yazid Abubakar, could not be reached as his mobile phone was switched off.

Meanwhile, troops of Operation Hadarin Daji (OPHD), North-West Operation, in the early hours of Sunday, killed several bandits at Karazau village in Kwatarkwashi district of Bungudu Local Government Area in Zamfara State.

A close military source disclosed to the *Nigerian Tribune* in Gusau that the troops received a distress call that bandits, in their numbers, were about to attack the village.

As the troops responded to the distress call and were about to reach the village, they were ambushed by the bandits.

The source said: "The troops, with tactical abilities and reinforcement, cleared the ambush and forced the

bandits to retreat, while several of them met their Waterloo.

"Subsequently, the troops dominated the general area with aggressive and confidence-building patrols, thereby denying the bandits the freedom of action."

The source then called on residents of the area to report any suspected person with questionable character to the appropriate authorities for timely action.

NAE sanitizes hit terrorists'