

Soldiers arrest suspected killers of community leader, retired military personnel

SOLDIERS have arrested some suspects in connection with the murder of Alhaji Saleh Umar, the Ardo of Kamuru, DutsenBako community in Ikulu Chiefdom of ZangonKataf Local Government Area of Kaduna State.

The assailants abducted and killed Alhaji Umar after collecting N2 million ransom.

Soldiers of Operation Safe Haven (OPSH), the military task force maintaining peace in Plateau and parts of Bauchi and Kaduna states, effected the arrests.

Its Media Officer, Major Samson Zhakom, told a news conference on Saturday in Jos, Plateau State, that the soldiers also arrested suspected killers of retired Master Warrant Officer of the Nigerian Air Force, Hamza Musa.

Zhakom added that soldiers of OPSH also arrested the killer of some residents of Bokkos Local Government Area of Plateau State.

They also arrested suspected vandals of rail tracks in conjunction with operatives of the Department of State Services (DSS).

"We have arrested the prime suspects in the murder of Alhaji Umar, the Ardo of Kamuru, DutsenBako village, Ikulu Chiefdom in ZangonKataf Local Government Area of Kaduna State.

"They abducted and killed the community leader after collecting a ransom of N2 million.

"We have also arrested three persons who conspired and killed their father and uncle, Hamza Musa, a discharged Nigerian Air Force Master Warrant Of-

ficer.

"We also apprehended the suspected shooter of one Istifanus Musa at Bokkos in Plateau State, during which one person lost his life and another was injured.

"Similarly, we conducted joint sting operations with the DSS to the hideout of rail vandals and economic saboteurs in Plateau State and made significant breakthroughs," he said.

Zhakom added that investigations showed that the killers of Alhaji Umar were behind the attempted kidnapping of MrSidiKukah, the Chief of Ikulu.

The media officer explained that items recovered from some of the suspects included railway slippers, two articulated trucks, five car batteries and one 12.5kg gas cylinder.