

Plateau drug dealer shot dead, accomplices flee, hemp, drugs recovered

James Abraham, Jos

TROOPS of Operation Safe Haven have shot dead a fleeing suspected drug dealer identified as Danjuma Salisu.

A statement issued on Thursday by the Information Officer of OPSH, Major Ishaku Takwa, said Salisu and his accomplice were in a car along Akwanga-Gwantu Road in Sanga Local Government Area of Kaduna State when they were intercepted by the troops who also recovered substances suspected to be cannabis estimated at about N6.5 million.

The statement read, "Troops of Operation Safe Haven intercepted another drug syndicate and recovered 315 blocks of substances suspected to be cannabis estimated at about N6.5 million.

The troops also recovered 1,610 Pregabalin capsule IP 300mg (Nervigesic) capsules suspected to be illicit drugs without NAFDAC registration number.

The substances and Pregabalin capsules were neatly concealed in a Toyota Avensis saloon car with registration number AAA 348 BT and Ford Edge Bus with registration

number ABC 318 LU.

"The driver of the Toyota Avensis refused to stop for search at Operation Safe Haven's checkpoint along Akwanga-Gwantu Road in Sanga Local Government Area of Kaduna State.

"On pursuit, troops shot at the vehicle. One of the suspects lost his life as a result of gunshot wounds, while the other occupants escaped into the bush.

"The deceased was later identified as Danjuma Salisu. Items recovered from the car include 314

parcels of substances suspected to be cannabis sativa, two fake military and Department of State Services' identity cards bearing the deceased's name, Motorola radio and N10,000.

"Along the same route, the Ford Edge Bus driver abandoned his vehicle on sighting troops at the checkpoint along Fadan Karshi Road in Sanga Local Government Area of Kaduna State.

"Troops conducted search on the vehicle and discovered large quantity of Pregabalin capsule

IP 300mg (Nervigesic) capsules suspected to be illicit drugs.

"The relatives of the deceased have been identified and his remains have been recovered through court process for burial. Meanwhile, the suspected substances have been handed over to the National Drug Law Enforcement Agency, Plateau State Command for further investigation."

The statement added that the Commander, OPSH, Major General Ibrahim Ali, while commending the troops for their vigilance, reiterated his commitment to clear criminals within their areas of operation.

EFCC flaunts 98.5% prosecution success rate in 2021

Adelani Adepegba, Abuja

THE Economic and Financial Crimes Commission said it secured 2,220 convictions across all its commands in 2021.

This, it said, represented a 98.49 per cent success rate in prosecution as it lost only 34 cases during the period.

The figure, which reportedly emerged from a review of the

commission's performance last year, showed that the Lagos command recorded the highest convictions of 481.

The command is closely followed by the Ibadan command with 324 convictions, while the Port Harcourt zonal command had 230.

A statement on Thursday, by the commission's spokesman, Wilson Uwujaren, titled, 'EFCC secures

2,220 convictions in 2021,' said the convictions were the highest ever recorded by the anti-graft agency since inception.

It said, "Before 2021, the highest record of conviction by the commission was secured in 2019 with 1,280 convictions. The 2,220 record of 2021 is a 127.5 per cent improvement over the 2019 record.

"Interestingly too, the 2,220 record represents a 98.49 per cent