

# Kaduna bandit killed, 14 victims rescued

**T**ROOPS of Sector Four of Operation Whirl Punch and Special Forces of the 167 Battalion of the Nigerian Army have cleared a bandits' hideout in a fierce encounter in Kaduna State.

The News Agency of Nigeria reported that the state Commissioner for Internal Security and Home Affairs, Mr Samuel Aruwan, confirmed the development in a statement on Saturday.

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

"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 said.

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

## Police to arm

DEJI LAMBO