



## Three bandits killed in Kebbi, Taraba priest regains freedom

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**T**ROOPS of the Nigerian Army have neutralised a wanted notorious bandit nicknamed Mai-Nasara in the Sangeko forest of Kebbi State.

The team also killed two other suspected bandits believed to be members of the same gang.

This is according to a press statement signed by the Chief Press Secretary to the Kebbi State Governor, Ahmed Aliyu.

It quoted the Director, Security at the Cabinet Office, Birnin Kebbi, Alhaji AbdulRahman Usman, as applauding the efforts of the security personnel.

He appealed to the people of the state to support security agents as they continue to tackle criminals.

“Your support and cooperation are highly necessary for the security agencies to achieve the desired goal of flushing out criminals and restoring peace and normalcy in our land.

“Therefore, there is a need for people to assist the security agencies with credible intelligence towards successful combats,” he said.

Meanwhile, the kidnapped priest of the Catholic Diocese of Wukari, Very Rev. Fr. Thaddeus Tarhembe, has been freed by his abductors.

The Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Wukari, Most Rev Mark M. Nzukwein announced the release of Fr. Tarhembe in a statement signed by the Director of Communication, Rev. Fr. John Jerome.

The statement read, “With our hearts full of joy and thanksgiving, we wish to inform the general public that Very Rev Fr Thaddeus Tarhembe, a Priest of the Catholic Diocese of Wukari, who was kidnapped in the early hours of Sunday, 29th October 2023, in his parish residence, St. Ann’s, Sarkin Kudu, has regained his freedom.

“He was released by his abductors yesterday, Monday, 30th October 2023, in the late hours of the day.

“The Bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Wukari, Most Rev Mark M. Nzukwein, on behalf of the priests, religious, and Laity of the Diocese, thanks and appreciates you all for your prayers and solidarity in this trying moment in the life of our young Diocese.”

The priest was kidnapped in the early hours of Sunday in the rectory of his parish, St Ann’s Parish, Sarkin Kudu, in the Ibi Local Government Area of Taraba State.

Local sources said four armed men invaded the cleric’s rectory at about 2 am, breaking the windows to gain access.

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