Similarly, the troops operating at the Kachia axis while responding to a kidnap incident on 21 December, successfully launched an ambush along Maro junction and made contact with the kidnappers.

He said the troops neutralised three insurgents in the firefight that ensued, while others escaped with gunshot wounds, adding that the troops rescued one kidnapped victim, and recovered N50,000, two mobile phones, one motorcycle and two cutlasses.

"The rescued victim was rushed to a nearby military hospital for treatment, his dispossessed items returned to him and reunited with his family.