

When contacted, the army spokesperson, Onyechi Anele, said she would get back to our reporter.

At press time, the Niger State Commissioner for Homeland Security, Abdullahi Garba, had not responded to an inquiry about the incident.

The attack came a few hours after bandits killed about 15 residents of Tofa village in Magami district of the Gusau Local Government Area in Zamfara.

That same day, a similar gunfight between notorious bandit Bello Turji's gang and security forces claimed at least 100 lives near Cida village in Shinkafi LGA of Sokoto State.

The army is yet to issue a statement about the incident in Zamfara and Sokoto.