

# Soldiers destroy terrorists' enclaves in Katsina, kill second-in-command

From **Molly Kilete**, Abuja

**THE** Nigerian Army said its troops on internal security operations have killed a notorious terrorists' leader, **Maikusa**, who is also the second-in-command in the hierarchy of the terrorists' cell in **Katsina State**, led by the infamous terrorist known as **Modi Modi**.

Director, Army Public Relations, Major General Onyema Nwachukwu, who made the disclosure, said the terrorist was killed alongside three others in a shootout during a counter insurgency operation in **Kurfi** and **Safana Local Government Areas** of **Katsina State**, on Monday.

Nwachukwu, in a statement, said: "The ferocious operation also resulted in the successful clearance of terrorists' enclaves in these areas."

During the operation, troops encountered vehement resistance from the violent extremists, but gallantly overpowered the terrorists with superior firepower, neutralis-

ing some, while others fled in disarray. After the firefight, the troops recovered two AK-47 rifles, three magazines, 65 rounds of 7.62 mm special ammunition, a locally fabricated gun and camouflage uniform.

## S'West: Security group declares war on kidnappers, urges govs to join forces

By **Oluseye Ojo**

**IN** a bold move to combat the rising insecurity in Yoruba land, the Southwest Security Stakeholders Group (SSSG) has vowed to take on kidnappers and bandits, to ensure the safety of the region.

The group, which comprises 15 security outfits, emphasised the urgent need for all stakeholders to unite in the fight against criminal elements.

The SSSG's Publicity Secretary, Ireti Adewole, in a statement made available to journalists, on Monday, following a meeting with leadership of the 15 security outfits in **Ikeja**. Lagos, expressed determination to

In continuation of the clearance operations, troops also destroyed terrorists' camps in **Wurma**, **Shaiskawa**, **Yauni**, and **Dogon Marke** villages in **Kufri LGA**, as well as **Ummadau** and **Zakka** villages in

**Safana LGA**.

The troops have continued to maintain an aggressive posture in the general area to clear remnants of the terrorists cell to ensure safety and security in the region.

rid Yoruba land of the scourge of insecurity, stating that the group would not allow evil men to overrun the region.

The group also lauded the recent Yoruba security summit in **Ile-Ife**, **Osun State**, convened by the **Ooni of Ife**, **Oba Adeyeye Ogunwusi**, and supported by the **Aare Ona Kakanfo** of **Yorubaland**, **Iba Gani Adams**, describing it as a crucial step towards achieving peace and tranquility in the region. The SSSG called on the six governors of the region to support their initiative and work together in combating the spate of insecurity.

The statement read in part: "The meeting held today is part of the ongoing efforts of the

South West Security Stakeholders Group (SSSG) to ensure that Yoruba land is safe. We are not resting on our oars. We are determined to rid Yoruba land of kidnappers and bandits.

"The crux of our meeting is to set the agenda for securing the South West region from those uncivilised elements that are ravaging Yoruba land and making life unbearable for our kinsmen. The struggle is about creating the needed synergy to combat the spate of insecurity. It is about using the best approach to keep all the stakeholders on their toes. We are ready to keep our swords at bay and we will not fold our arms to allow evil men to overrun our region."