



Troops kill two bandits, arrest 154 in Zamfara, Katsina

Ibrahim Sidi Muh'd
GUSAU

Troops of the Nigerian Army under Operation Sahel Sanity have arrested 154 suspected bandits and recovered 38 firearms in Zamfara and Katsina states.

The troops also killed two suspects during different encounters.

The Acting Director, Defence Media Operations, Brigadier General Benard Onyeuko, disclosed yesterday at a press briefing at Special Super Camp 4, Faskari, Katsina State.

He said the deployed troops also arrested seven trucks loaded with suspected rustled cows on Jibia-Katsina and Gusau-Zaria roads.

Onyeuko also disclosed that the troops raided an illegal min-

ing site on Gadan Zaima-Zuru Road in Bukuyyem Local Government Area of Zamfara State which, according to him, also serves as bandits' hideout, during which 150 suspects were arrested and 20 Dane guns were recovered.

The director said one of the suspects was neutralised while trying to escape.

He added: "Preliminary investigation reveals that aside from sabotaging the nation's econo-

my, banditry is being financed through these illegal mining activities and it serves as one of the notorious hideouts, firearms' warehouses as well."

According to Onyeuko, following credible intelligence, troops deployed at Wagini village arrested a wanted notorious bandit named Isuhu Ibrahim aka Bula, who alongside other bandits have been terrorising the general area for a while.

He said: "Similarly, on 22 August 2020, gallant troops, on a fighting patrol, encountered three bandits on motorcycles around Maigalma village in Anka Local Government Area of Zamfara State while attempting to attack innocent residents.

"During the encounter, one of the bandits was neutralised while others escaped. Troops recovered one AK47 rifle, one AK47 rifle magazine loaded with five rounds of 7.62mm ammunition and two motorcycles from the fleeing bandits.

"Relatedly, on 20 August 2020, troops deployed at Daki Takwas conducted a snap roadblock and successfully intercepted a Toyota Corolla car with registration number DAL 41MT. After a diligent search on the vehicle, troops discovered 11 brand new locally-made rifles and 150 live cartridges carefully concealed in different parts of the vehicle.

Noise pollution: Lagos seals RCCG parish, eatery, others

Muritala Ayinla

Lagos State Environmental Protection Agency (LASEPA) yesterday sealed houses, churches, eateries and other facilities for noise pollution and other infractions.

Structures sealed included residential buildings situated at 21B, Akin Ogunlewe Street, Victoria Island; Christ The Convener Stone (a parish of the Redeemed Christian Church of God, RCCG) at 7, Oguntona Crescent, Gbagada Phase 1; Home Town Eatery on 7, Addo Langbasa Road, Ajah; and NAHMAN Construction Site on 7/9 Reeve Road, Ikoyi.

They were sealed for environmental violations and breaching the peace within their host communities under the guise of business activities.

The General Manager, LASEPA, Dr. Dolapo Fasawe, warned facility owners who flagrantly flout the state environmental laws after the partial reopening of the socio-economic activities, particularly religious and hospitality sectors, to

desist or face the full wrath of the law.

Fasawe stated that it was disheartening that people had become recalcitrant to the new order, thus frustrating the efforts of the state government to curb the spread of the COVID-19 by engaging in activities which endangered their lives and those of others around them.

She said: "Environmental noise is inevitable and unavoidable in an urban city like Lagos. However, effective control and enforcement exercise to ensure total voluntary compliance to stipulated laws of the state would be beneficial to all residents and business owners. As such, whoever acts contrary to the provisions of the extant law of the state, should be ready to face the consequences so as to serve as deterrent to others.

"We barricaded a swimming poolside of a private home constantly hosting noisy pool parties without consideration for other residents. We had earlier received several complaints from the

neighbours concerning the private home for organising daily pool parties at night. It was alleged that fun-seekers trooped to the facility with a Disc Jockey in attendance to disturb the peaceful environment. This is not acceptable, bearing in mind that it is situated next to a health facility which requires total silence at all times."

