

# Benue: Police Kill 2 Bandits In Gun Battle



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4 mins ago

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The Benue State Police Command yesterday said its personnel killed two bandits that have been terrorising residents of Sankera axis of the state. Sankera comprises Katsina-Ala Logo and Ukum local government areas of the state.

The bandits, according to the Command's spokesperson, Catherine Sewuese Anene, in a statement had been operating in their hideouts at Tse Uza, Mbalula Council Ward in Katsina-Ala Local Government Area when men of the Operation Zenda Joint Task Force (JTF) invaded the place at the weekend in a routine operation to clampdown on their activities.

The Command stated that, "upon arrival at the camp, bandits engaged the police in a gun duel to resist invasion into their camp, but were overpowered by the superior fire power of the police team. It added that arms and ammunition were also recovered and many camps dislodged.

"Two of the bandits received gunshot injuries, they have been confirmed dead by a doctor and corpses deposited at General Hospital, Ukum while other suspects escaped." "Exhibits recovered from the camps include; Two Pistols loaded with ammunition, three locally made shotguns, 13 motorcycles, camouflage uniforms, six walkietalkies, one Toyota Corolla and one tricycle."

It noted that several other operations carried out in the past led to the arrest of suspects that have been charged to court while others were neutralised in the course of exchange of fire. It quoted the Commissioner of Police, CP. Hassan Steve Ya- banet, as commending the bravery exhibited by the officers and enjoined the people of Sankera to avail useful information to the police about suspects at large who may be seen with gunshot injuries.