

## Troops kill 3, clear cattle rustlers' den in Bauchi

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By Kingsley Omonobi

Abuja—The Nigerian Army said, yesterday, that troops of Forward Operation Base, FOB, Ningi of 33 Artillery Brigade killed three rustlers and freed three hostages during a patrol at Dutsen Dumburum, Ningi Local Government Area, Bauchi State.

It was learned that following intelligence reports and confirmation of the presence of kidnappers and cattle rustlers in the Bauchi locality, the troops organised a fighting patrol to the area.

A statement by Col Sani Usman, Acting Director, Army Public Relations, said: “During the patrol, the team encountered the armed bandits and after fierce exchange of gunfire, they were overpowered.

“The troops killed three of the armed bandits and rescued three kidnapped females held hostages by the bandits pending payment of ransom. The patrol team also recovered many items including arms and ammunition before destroying the camp.

“The recovered items include two AK-47 rifles, two locally-made Sub-Machine Guns, one double-barrelled dane gun, 68 rounds of 7.62mm (Special) ammunition and four AK-47 rifle magazines.