

Troops crush scores of bandits, destroy weapons in Zamfara

2 By Kingsley Omonobi

ABUJA—SCORES of armed bandits have been neutralized and their camps destroyed in airstrikes executed by the Air Component of *Operation Hadarin Daji* at 2 separate bandits' camps, at Tsibiri and Manya, in Zurmi Local Government Area (LGA) in Zamfara State.

Also, land troops intercepted and neutralized five bandits captured four and arrested a notorious logistics supplier of bandits in Mararraba Maigora, Faskari LGA.

Coordinator, Defence Media Operations, Major General John Enenche, who made this disclosure yesterday said: "This was achieved as part of offensive operations of Operation Accord to rid the North West and the North Central States of armed banditry.

He said based on credible Human Intelligence (HUMINT) that the bandits camp, with its clusters of thatched huts nestled close to a group of trees, was being

used by the bandits to house their fighters and store their weapons and ammunition.

"2 Nigerian Air Force attack helicopters were dispatched to engage the location scoring accurate hits on the target area leading to the destruction of the structures and the weapons and ammunition stored in them as well as the neutralization of bandits in the huts and surrounding bushes.

"The attack helicopters later conducted an airstrike on another camp South of Manya, which also resulted in the killing of more armed bandits, including some of their leaders, as they gathered for a meeting at the location.

Similarly, troops intercepted and neutralized, killed five bandits, captured four and arrested a notorious logistics supplier of the bandits in Mararraba Maigora, Faskari LGA.

"Items recovered include 496 rounds of 7.62mm ammunition and one Bajaj Motorcycle in Mararraba Maigora in Faskari LGA," General Enenche said.