

# Bandits attack joint military base, kill 15 in Sokoto

By Musa Na Annabi

**SOKOTO**—BANDITS allegedly attacked a joint military base, code named "Burkusuma camp" in Sabon Birni Local Government Area of Sokoto State, killing 15 persons.

The base located at Dama village, was said to have been attacked in the early hours of last Friday.

"The bandits who came in large number, surrounded the camp and started firing from different directions," a source said

Former chairman of Sabon Birni LGA, Engineer Idris Muhammad Gobir, fondly called Danchadi who confirmed the attack, said many security operatives in the camp were still missing.

The marauders also burnt down two patrol vehicles and carted away another one

which was used to convey food items they stole from the villagers.

Danchadi said they received a report about the attack from a resident of the area who was using Nigerien network.

"But I will still contact him for more updates and get back to you," he assured

However, a prominent traditional ruler in the area confirmed that some vehicles were sent to evacuate corpses of the fallen heroes.

"Over 10 trucks loaded with well armed soldiers are currently in the forest trailing the bandits," he said.

A personnel of the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps, NSCDC, who sought anonymity, confirmed that three of their Corp members were among the casualties.

"As I am talking to you, we are at the morgue to claim and recover their corpses for burial," he said

It was learned that the bandits also attacked Katsira village and shot four persons.

Two of the victims were said to have died instantly, while the remaining two are receiving treatment at an undisclosed hospital.

The bandits were also said to have whisked away three persons from the village.

Spokesman of 8 Division of the Nigerian Army, Major Yahaya Ngulde, could not comment on the issue but directed our correspondent to reach out to the Director Army Public Relations.

He neither picked his calls nor responded to text sent by our correspondent.

Similarly, the Police Public Relation Officer, ASP Sanusi Abubakar, said he was not aware of the attack.

However, the Commissioner for Carriers and Security Matters, Colonel Garba Moyi, retd, confirmed the attack but said he was not sure of the number of death.