

20-yr-old suspected kidnap kingpin arrested in Bauchi

•Police recover over N8m, ammunition, others

By Charly Agwam

BAUCHI— A 20-year-old suspected kidnap kingpin, Abubakar Isah, has been arrested by Bauchi State police operatives at Tashan Daudu Soro in Ganjuwa local government area of the state and recovered N8.4 million ransom.

Briefing journalists at the Police Command in Bauchi during the parade of suspects, yesterday, the Commissioner of Police, Umar Sanda, said that the suspect was arrested September 9 for criminal conspiracy, armed robbery, kidnapping and being in possession of prohibited firearms and ammunition.

He said some exhibits were recovered in his possession including N8,466,000 cash, one Submachine Gun (SMG) rifle with 92 live ammunition, one empty magazine, an SMG rifle and one 7.62mm calibre of live ammunition.

The commissioner stated that other exhibits recovered from the suspect included eight different models of mobile phones, one MP3, one Honda motorcycle and one cutlass.

He said the suspect claimed innocence, and that he was not aware of the exhibits.

He said everything belonged to his boss whom he simply identified as Ibrahim, adding that the boss was taking him out on his motorcycle to work as a pastoralist before the police



The suspect (left).

arrested him.

He recounted how his boss, on sighting the police, pushed him and the motorcycle then took to his heels, saying if he was an accomplice, he would have also fled.

2 kidnap suspects killed

The Police Commissioner also said on September 7, about 4.00 p.m., a patrol team attached to Maina-Maji Divisional Police Headquarters in Alkaleri Local Government Area of the state, killed two kidnap suspects who opened fire on the team while raiding their den.

He said the raid was done in collaboration with a vigilante group while acting on credible intelligence.

"On arrival, the kidnappers opened fire on the police operatives and while returning fire, two of the kidnappers were neutralised and one was arrested," he said.

He also said the suspects were from Gobiya and Mundu villages of Bogoro Local Government Area of Bauchi State and Dangi Local Government Area of Plateau State.

Exhibits recovered from the suspects included one AK-47 rifle and 29 live ammunition.