

**METRO**

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## NAF neutralizes over 100 terrorists as Police rescue kidnap victims in Katsina



Nigerian Air Force (NAF) has neutralized over 100 bandits during a nighttime operation in Kuka Shidda Camp, Faskari LGA, Katsina State.

The operation, targeted a criminal group affiliated with notorious terrorists kingpin Yusuf Yellow and his close associate Rabe Imani. Over 45 motorcycles were also destroyed during the airstrikes.

Ibrahim Kaula Mohammed, spokesperson to Governor Dikko Radda of Katsina State disclosed this in a statement.

He revealed that this is the third successful air raid in the Faskari-Kankara axis in recent times, disrupting bandit activities in the area.

Kaula's statement further revealed that security forces, thwarted a separate kidnapping attempt in the early hours of Sunday morning in Kwata Area, Jibia LGA, Katsina State.

A credible police source disclosed that following the distress call received around 4:15 am, "a SUPOL led an Armoured Personnel Carrier (APC) patrol team to the scene. They arrived to find armed bandits holding three women captive. Acting swiftly, the team blocked the kidnappers' escape route, leading to a confrontation. A gunfight ensued, pressuring the criminals to flee.

"Thankfully, all three kidnap victims – Ummulkhari Abubakar (23), Shafa'atu Abubakar (35), and Maryam Lawal (15) – were rescued unharmed. The team also ensured the safety of a six-month-old baby boy named Ismail Usman, who was among the abducted."

According to the source, the security forces exercised commendable restraint during the operation, expending only 14 rounds of ammunition and 20 smoke canisters.

The statement stressed that the swift response not only saved lives but also sent a strong message to criminal elements that such acts will not be tolerated.

It also acknowledged that the successful operations demonstrate security forces unwavering commitment to protecting Katsina State's citizens from criminal activities.

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