Captain, 5 others dead as troops kill 16 ISWAP in Rann

Olatunji Omirin, Maiduguri

lives including two army officers when suspected ISWAP fighters and Nigeria troops clashed at a military base in Rann, the headquarters of Kala Balge Local Government Area of Borno State yesterday.

Security sources said the incident occurred around 1:30am

of Friday at Rann, which shares borders with Cameroon.

It was learnt that the troops killed more than a dozen of the outlawed group and destroyed their operations vehicles.

A security source disclosed that the insurgents rode on several utility vehicles mounted with antiaircraft guns to storm the town and engaged the military in a gun battle.

"It is unfortunate that a captain,

a lieutenant and six soldiers lost their lives with about 16 ISWAP fighters in the fierce battle.

Meanwhile, credible sources said there was an attack at Malam Fatori, the headquarters of Abadam Local Government Area of Borno State.

The town, which shares a land border with Niger Republic, had been attacked severally by Boko Haram fighters. Of recent, members of the breakaway ISWAP had also laid siege on the town targeting Nigerian security forces.

It was not clear what happened last night at the town but one of our sources said there was a breach of peace.

Hundreds of locals who lived as IDPs in other locations have been taken back to their homes by Borno State Government.