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## Troops crush insurgents in Sokoto, Yobe

### • Bandits relocate to Lake Chad, Niger borders

From Duku Joel, Damaturu, and Okodili Ndidi, *Abuja*

2 **T**ROOPS of Operation Hadarin Daji and other security agents have killed many Islamic State West African Province (ISWAP) terrorists and bandits in Sokoto State, the military said yesterday.

Defence Headquarters said the terrorists attacked the rear sections of a Forward Operation Base (FOB) in Burkusuma, a remote settlement in Sabon Birni council bordering Niger Republic, but were repelled.

Director, Defence Information, Maj.-Gen. Benjamin Sawyer said a large number of the terrorists were eliminated.

"This was when the main troops were out conducting offensive operations within their area of responsibility," Sawyer said in a statement yesterday, adding, "The general security within the FOB and its environs has been stabilised".

It was gathered that due to the shutdown of telecommunication networks in the Northwest by the military, bandits now rely on telecom network from neighbouring Niger Republic.

The bandits have now relocated their camps to the fringes of Lake Chad and Niger borders, from where they coordinate attacks on marked locations.

The military hierarchy is talking with Niger and Chad on how to stop the moving bandits from building operation base in the border communities, a military source said.

3 In Yobe, two Boko Haram insurgents were killed during an attack on Babangida, headquarters of Tarmuwa council of the state on Sunday.

Troops and other security agents fought back the terrorists, killing two of them and recovering many weapons, Army spokesman Brig.-Gen. Onyema Nwachukwu said in a statement yesterday.