

ISWAP fighters drown in bid to escape troops' onslaught

• 82 insurgents killed in 24 hours

No fewer than 82 Islamic State of West African Province (ISWAP) fighters and members of their families have drowned in a river in the North East axis of Damasak, Borno State.

It was gathered that the terrorists and their family members from the Lake Chad axis drowned while trying to cross over to Niger Republic in their desperate attempt to escape a massive onslaught by troops at the weekend.

Zagazola Makama, a counter-

insurgency expert and security analyst in Lake Chad, quoted intelligence sources as saying that the separate incidents were recorded around Bulama Modori, Kaneram, Dogomolu and Jokka communities.

The river in question stretches from Komadougou Yobe into Lake Chad through Niger.

The sources said that the terrorists attempted to escape for fear of being elimi-

nated after they heard of the operation launched by the military within the general area.

Makama reports that most of the people killed were women and children who could not swim while many others were recuperating.

"As we speak, more dead bodies are still being discovered," he quoted a source as saying.