

National Association of Accountants, Enugu Chapter, paid a courtesy call on the governor at the government house, Enugu, on Monday.

Bama Council exhumes remains of 81 Boko Haram victims for proper burial

JAMES BWALA - MAIDUGURI

CHAIRMAN of Bama Council in Borno State, Alhaji Ali Gujja, has said 81 remains of Boko Haram victims "killed and dumped" into the Yadzeram River at Bama bridge by insurgents, were on Thursday, exhumed and buried at a cemetery according to Islamic rites.

The remains that were mainly skeletons and skulls, according to military authorities, were exhumed and collated along the river beds by volunteers and some members of the Civilian Joint Task Force (JTF).

Addressing newsmen at Bama on the ceremonial and religious rites of burying remains of Boko Haram victims, on Thursday, Gujja said that the bodies could not be retrieved from the flowing river because of insecurity and capture of Bama, on September 1, 2014 by insurgents.

"We had no option other

than the 81 bodies to continue to float and eventually buried in river beds and sand for over a year, before some volunteers and members of CJTF swung into action last week; to exhume remains of 81 killed residents," said Gujja on the manner the remains were recovered for burials.

He further disclosed that two cement wells in three wards of destroyed Bama town were also used by insurgents in dumping several bodies of killed residents.

The affected wells, according to him, had been sealed off and fumigated to prevent further outbreaks

of air and water-borne diseases in the town.

On the Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs), he said: "The population of this camp is over 6,000 displaced people, comprising 560 households with 2,140 children under the age of five, while the ones below one year, are 1,140."

Insurgents liberated territories need civil authority Says N8.7bn required to fight insurgency

JACOB SEGUN OLATUNJI AND
KOLAWOLE DANIEL-ABUJA

THE Inspector-General of Police, Mr Solomon Arase, on Thursday, stated that places in the North-East that have been ridden of the Boko Haram terrorists group should have civil authority put in place.

The IGP, who stated this while briefing the House of Representatives Committee on Police Affairs, said that about N8.7 billion would be

needed to effectively crush the insurgents.

According to him, "the North-East places that have been cleared of the Boko Haram terrorists yearn for civil authority. Fifty-six facilities (of the Police) have been destroyed," saying the Federal Government had concluded plans to employ 10,000 additional police personnel.

He said that of the 10,000 personnel to be employed, recruit constable will comprise 7,500; cadets 560;

cadets ASP 500 and special officers 1,500.

Arase said that there was an outstanding N57 billion due to the Nigerian police that was appropriated, but had not been released till date, noting that since the emergence of insurgency in the country, no fewer than 56 police stations were destroyed in the region.

"A total of 56 police stations, formations and facilities have been destroyed by insurgents.

"The present devastative