

## Again, Boko Haram attacks military base in Borno

**T**HERE was a report of fresh invasion a military base in Magumeri, 50 kilometres from the Borno State capital, Maiduguri by Boko Haram members.

AFP quoted security sources and residents of the area as having said the insurgents dislodged troops during the attack.

The invasion came a few days after an attack left five troops feared dead and 30 missing.

According to the agency, a column of fighters from the JS-affiliated Islamic State West Africa Province, in trucks and on motorcycles, stormed the base late Friday.

The militants were said to have overrun the base for several hours, hauling away

weapons before they were forced out.

"The terrorists dislodged troops from the base after an intense fight," a military officer told AFP.

"We lost weapons and equipment to the terrorists, but it is not clear if there was any human loss," said the officer, who asked not to be named.

The jihadists arrived in the

town around 5:00 pm (1600 GMT) and engaged troops in an hour-long fight before they "gained the upper hand and chased the troops away," militia leader Gremah Kaka told AFP.

"The insurgents overpowered the soldiers and forced them to flee into the bush," he said.

Kaka said the jihadists stayed in the base for "more

than four hours" before they were dislodged by reinforcements from another base in Gubio, 46 kilometres away.

Last week, the jihadists raided a military base in Mararrabar Kimba, 135 kilometres from Maiduguri, killing five troops and stealing weapons, while some 30 troops are listed as missing.

ISWAP has since July last year targeted dozens of mil-

itary bases in attacks that saw the jihadists kill scores of soldiers, but the military authorities have always denied any casualties.

Boko Haram's decade-long campaign of violence has killed 27,000 people and displaced around two million in Nigeria.

The conflict has also spilt over into neighbouring Niger, Chad and Cameroon.