

Kaduna State governor, Malam Nasir el-Rufai (right), with the Sokoto State governor, Alhaji Aminu Tambuwal, who led a delegation of dignitaries from Sokoto State on a visit to Sir Kashim Ibrahim House in Kaduna, on Monday.

## NAF destroys ISWAP hideout in Borno

THE Nigerian Air Force (NAF) says it has destroyed an Islamic State of West Africa Province (ISWAP) hideout and neutralised some of the insurgents' fighters at Mina along the Gulumba-Gana-Kumshe axis in northern part of Borno State, the **News Agency of Nigeria (NAN)** has reported.

NAF Director of Public Relations and Information, Air Commodore Ibikunle Daramola, made this known in a statement on Monday in Abuja.

Daramola said the operation was conducted through the Air Task Force (ATF)

of Operation Lafiya Dole (OPLD).

He explained that the mission, executed on March 4 as part of the ongoing 'Operation Decisive Edge,' was undertaken after a NAF Intelligence Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR) aircraft spotted the terrorists assembling in the vicinity of some compounds within the settlement.

"Fighter jets scrambled by the ATF to engage the location scored accurate hits in the target area, leading to the destruction of some terrorists' structures as well as the neutralisation of some

of their fighters."

"The NAF, in furtherance of the objective of restoring peace and security in the North East and operating in concert with surface forces would continue to carry out air interdiction missions against the enemies of our nation," he said.

Meanwhile, the Chief of Air Staff, Air Marshal, Sadiq Abubakar, has said the Air Force would increase its troops deployment to 600 to tackle insecurity in Birnin Gwari general area in Kaduna State.

Abubakar made the dis-

closure during the inauguration of one block of 20-room transit accommodation at 271 NAF Detachment Birnin Gwari on Monday.

He said that the establishment of the detachment had helped to reduce crimes on the Birnin Gwari axis, adding that the deployment of more troops would strengthen onslaught against bandits, kidnappers and terrorists.

Abubakar, however, noted that a lot more needs to be done, not only in Birnin Gwari but across the country, to ensure the safety of all Nigerians.

## Many killed in Ligonu auto crash