

# Troops rescue 848 kidnap victims, kill ISWAP commander –DHQ

Solomon Odeniyi, Abuja

**T**HE Defence Headquarters on Thursday disclosed that no fewer than 848 kidnapped Nigerians were rescued by troops during various operations in the last three weeks.

During a briefing in Abuja, the Director, Defence Media Operations, General Benard Onyeuko, also said troops killed a prominent Islamic State of West Africa Province Commander, Abubakar Dan-Buduma, adding that terrorist informants and logistics suppliers were also arrested in different theatres of operations between April 7 and 28.

He said, "Troops neutralised 23 terrorists, rescued 619

civilians, and arrested 19 terrorists. Troops responded to a distress call of a terrorist attack at Wanzamai in Tsafe Local Government Area of Zamfara State and mobilised to the village and engaged the terrorists, where scores of the terrorists were killed. In the course of the operation, troops rescued 32 women and 18 children.

Also, within the period under review, troops recovered 592 rustled cattle. Troops also rescued 179 civilians, neutralised 62, and apprehended 100 terrorists.

"The land component of Operation Hadin Kai, with support of the air components, conducted an offensive operation in Arina Woje in Marte Local

Government Area of Borno State and neutralised a prominent ISWAP Commander, Abubakar Dan-Buduma, and scores of terrorists.

"Also, a notorious informant and logistic supplier to the Islamic State of West Africa, Abba Sidi Lawan, was arrested at Auno town in Konduga Local

Government Area of Borno state.

"Similarly, troops arrested Abdurrazaq Hudu, a logistics supplier of Islamic State of West Africa Province at Mutum Biyu village in Gassol Local Government Area of Taraba state."

Onyeuko also said 1,158

terrorists and their families comprising 164 men, 367 women, and 627 children, surrendered to troops in the last three weeks.

He said all recovered items, rescued and apprehended terrorists were handed over to the appropriate authorities for further action.

## Group advocates youth mentorship to curb

**W**OMEN's Board, an educational cooperation society and a not-for-profit organisation, has called for improved mentorship and empowerment for young Nigerians to curb youth restiveness and vices.

The Director, Mrs. Edna Dafe, made the call during a briefing in Lagos on Wednesday tagged

giving young women the chance to access decent jobs, be leaders and create positive change in their communities and workplaces, gain transferrable skills and knowledge and access quality guidance and training.

"The programme aims to empower 1,000 young women from disadvantaged backgrounds, train youth workers

become agents of positive change in the country.

She called on the government to partner with NGOs to carry out developmental projects in the nation rather than clamping down on youths and their activities.

Expatriating on the need for mentorship, the Registrar, Wavcrest College of Hospitality,