

Q Military neutralises 18 terrorists, nab 11 as 4,770 surrender in 2 weeks

From **Molly Kilete**, Abuja

THE Defence Headquarters (DHQ) said 4,770, members of the Boko Haram and Islamic State West Africa Province (ISWAP) terrorists group have, so far, surrendered to soldiers in the last one month.

The surrendered terrorists, comprising 864 males, 1,415 women and 2,490 children surrendered to soldiers fighting the counter insurgency war between June 1-15, at various locations in the theatre.

Director, Defence Media Operations (DMO), Major General Bernard Onyeuko, who made the disclosure, said the soldiers killed over 100 terrorists, rescued kidnapped victims and recovered over three million litres of stolen crude.

Onyeuko, at a media briefing on update of military operations conducted between June 16-30, said troops on anti-illegal bunkering, oil theft and other sundry operations at various parts of the Niger Delta recovered several wooden boats, storage tanks and dugout pits laden with illegal refined Automotive Gas Oil.

He said 26 oil thieves were arrested, while 29 vehicles, 68 wooden boats and nine

speed boats, amongst other equipment were impounded by the troops.

Gen Onyeuko further stated that the Nigerian Armed Forces, working in conjunction with the police and various security agencies, have continued to carry out clearance operations at various criminal hideouts, destroyed several terrorists camps and arrested several bandits, kidnappers, terrorists, oil thieves and other criminals terroris-

From **Paul Osuyi**, Asaba

A driver of a Toyota Venza car who reportedly crushed three people to death at Okpare town, Olomu, in Ughelli South Local Government Area of Delta State, has been arrested by the police.

The deceased victims include a pregnant lady and her children. Two others sustained life-threatening injuries as the vehicle driven by the middle-aged man, suspected to be an internet fraudster, popularly known as yahoo boy, rammed into them.

The incident occurred on Tuesday evening, at the popular sharp curve along the

ing the peace of the country.

He added that 14 rustled cattle and three bicycles were recovered as well as apprehension of some terrorist collaborators and logistics suppliers.

He said Mallam Abacha Usman was arrested at Benshek, Mallam Ibrahim Gira on Damboa - Biu Road and Mallam Ibrahim Gira a notorious terrorist petroleum supplier.

He said that troops neu-

tralised 11 terrorists, arrested 11 and recovered 14 rustled cattle, two AK47 rifles, three bicycles, two locally made guns, 90 rounds of 7.62mm ammunition, one Golf 2 car.

"All surrendered Boko Haram Terrorist/Islamic State West Africa Province members and families were profiled and documented, while all arrested and recovered items were handed over to the appropriate authority for further actions," he said.

Suspected Yahoo boy held after running over pregnant lady, others

Okpare-Ughelli road, when the driver was said to be on high speed, which resulted in the vehicle veering off its lane and crushing a tricycle with the occupants.

The Public Relations Officer of the state police command, DSP Bright Edefe, who confirmed the arrest of the suspect, however, said he was not aware if he is an internet fraudster.

"What I can tell you is that the driver of the vehicle that ran over the victims has been arrested," he said.

Daily Sun learnt that the deceased were said to be returning from Ughelli when they met their untimely death. Lo-

cal sources said three of the victims died on the spot, while the two others, including the driver of the tricycle, were rushed to the hospital for treatment.

After the accident, the driver of the vehicle was about to abscond, but apprehended by the youths in the area and handed over to the police, according to sources.

It was gathered that the youths, upon checks on the suspect's car, discovered native chalks in the pigeon hole. A youth in the community, while confirming the incident, said the suspect was driving recklessly when he veered off his lane to hit the tricycle and killed some of the occupants.