



NSA confirms death of new ISWAP leader

By Johnbosco Agbakwuru

THE National Security Adviser, General Babagana Monguno (ret'd), yesterday, revealed that the new leader of the Islamic State of West African Province, ISWAP, Mallam Bako was two days ago killed by the military.

Recall that the Chief of Defense Staff, CDS, Lucky Irabor had told State House correspondents last week Thursday that the ISWAP leader, Abu Musab Al-barnawi was eliminated by the military.

Briefing journalists after the meeting of security chiefs presided over by President Muhammadu Buhari at the Presidential Villa, Abuja, the NSA, said that in the last two months, the military has recorded a lot of successes in the fight against insurgency in the North-East zone of the country which put pressure on on the ISWAP and the Boko Haram Islamic terrorists.

Again, "The fact again is that the armed forces, the land forces have done an excellent job because in the span of one month we have been able to take out the leadership of the Islamic State of West African Province (ISWAP) - that is Abu Musab Al-barnawi.

"Two days ago, the man who succeeded him, one Malam Bako, one of the prominent leaders of the Shura Council of the the Islamic State of West African Province, was also taken out.

"They are also contending with leadership crisis. You know these things are also accompanied with inherent issues of trust, conflicts, mutual suspicion and other things.

"So, the operations being conducted by the armed forces in the Northern parts of the country put a lot of pressure on the Islamic State of West African Province, Boko Haram and also the tangential group known as Islamic State in the Greatest Sahara."



PRESENTATION: Patani Local Government Chairman, Mr. Isaac Aguanah (4th left); Representative of Executive Chairman, Delta State Universal Basic Education, Mr. Paul Kurugbe (5th left) and others during the presentation of 41 sets of drums and hymn books to schools at Patani on Wednesday.

30 abductees of FGC Birnin Yauri regain freedom — GOV BAGUDU

A total of 27 abducted students and three teachers of the Federal Government College, Birnin Yauri, in Kebbi, have regained their freedom, after four months in captivity, the Kebbi governor, Atiku Bagudu, has announced.

Addressing the students in Birnin Kebbi, yesterday, Bagudu, thanked God for their release, while urging them to take heart over their abduction and captivity, as a trial from God.

"Even Prophets of Allah, who are the best and most faithful people, had been tested and tried; but one thing is certain that if you are tested and tried and at the same time you become

patient, definitely the sky is your limit and only Allah knows your reward," he said.

Bagudu prayed to Almighty Allah to rescue those that were yet to be released as "efforts are still ongoing to secure the release of the remaining abductees."

The governor directed that the students should undergo medical screening and be supported while being reunited with their families. He thanked the security agencies and all those that had helped in ensuring the release.

The 30 released abductees, comprised three teachers: two males and one female; while the students included, two girls and 25 boys.

3 to die by hanging in Ekiti

ADO EKITI—JUSTICE Abiodun Adesodun of Ado Ekiti High Court has sentenced three men to death by hanging for armed robbery and murder.

The convicts are Oluwale Edward 49, Kolawole Ojo, 39 and Kolawole Iope 20.

Adesodun, in his judgment, pronounced "each of the