

2

MNJTF Airstrikes kill 2 ISWAP leaders, Bako Gorgore, Aba-Ibrahim

By Kingsley Omonobi,
Abuja

AIR Strikes of the Multi National Joint Task Force, MNJTF, have eliminated the Islamic State West Africa Province (ISWAP) Militant Chief of Defence (Ameerul-Fiha), Bako Gorgore and Aba-Ibrahim, a prominent leader, in the Nigerian North East of the Lake Chad.

Sources said the ongoing combined regional Counter Insurgency Operation between troops of Desert Sanity and the Lake Sanity in identified Boko Haram/ ISWAP strongholds in Chad has also resulted in the elimination of scores of terrorists.

This was confirmed by Zagazola Makama, a counter insurgency expert in Lake Chad.

He disclosed that Bako Gorgore and Abu-Ibrahim were eliminated in a week-long coordinated intelligence-led ground and aerial bombardments by the Air Task Force in Tumbum Jaki in Abadam Local Government Area of Borno State.

The source said Gorgore who was also a member of the Shura Council was the leader of the ISWAP Militant Forces, comprising four Fiye (Service Chiefs), four governors (Khaidis), 16 Commanding Officers (Nakib), and Special Forces (alquwwat

alkhasa), among others.

Aba-Ibrahim was a former leader (Khalifa) of ISWAP who took over the mantle of leadership from Abu-Dawud also known as Abu-Hafsat Alansari, where he presided over the four caliphates (states) of the ISIS wylayat in the West African Lake Chad of Tumbumma and Timbuktu General Area.

Aba-Ibrahim was later replaced by Sani Shuwaram, a 45-year-old who became the fifth officially recognised ISWAP figure in the West African ISIS Command structure, after Mamman Nur, Abu-Mosab Albarnawwy, Abbah-Gana, Abu-Dawud,

also known as Abu Hafsat Al-Ansari.

The source said: "He was a former Chief of Staff to Mamman Nur, and was said to have played a significant role in the internal split of Boko Haram to part ways with Abubakar Shekau to form ISWAP.

"He later collaborated with Abu Mossab Albarnawi and key 10 commanders to eliminate Mamman Nur over power struggle and leadership dispute".

In May 2021, Both Aba-Ibrahim and Bako Gorgore led over 1,500 members in a major onslaught against the faction of Boko Haram known as the Jam'at Ahl as

Sunnah lid-Da'wah wa'l-Jihd (JAS), which resulted in the killing of Abubakar Shekau while 17 of his Commanders were forced to surrender and paid allegiance to the ISWAP supremacy.

"Both terror kingpins had held key leadership positions in the Wylayat of the Timbuktu Triangle, before one Abu Aseeya was appointed as Ameerul Fiya in charge of Sambisa forest."

However, despite recent battlefield defeats, sleeper cells have continued to launch attacks across many parts of the country including Taraba, Adamawa, Kaduna and Kogi which were inspired by ISIS and its ideology.

It will be fatal for PDP if South-East is denied 2023 Pres

By Tony Nwankwo

A chieftain of Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) and former governorship aspirant in Anambra State, Ike Oligbo, has called on Peoples Democratic Party (PDP) and All Progressives Congress (APC), to zone their presidential candidates to the South-East, for the sake of equity, fairness and justice.

The international businessman who has been campaigning for the right of the South-East to produce the next President after eight years of Northern rule and

subsequent eight years of South-West presidency and another eight years of South-West Vice Presidency emphasized that the unity of the country will be cemented by the emergence of a Nigerian President of Igbo extraction. Oligbo said this in a telephone conversation with *Sunday Vanguard*.

According to him: "It would be politically and nationally fatal should the two major political parties scheme out the South-East and deny it the equitable right to produce the country's next president come 2023.

"You cannot keep going on about the desired unity of a country while deliberately excluding a major section of the country. Nigeria is for ev-

Archbishop Ayobami Uche, wife

ARCHBISHOP of Lagos, Methodist Church Nigeria, Revd Dr. Isaac Ayobami Olawuyi, will on Friday, lead a team of clergies and members of the laity, to receive the outgoing Prelate, Methodist Church Nigeria, His Eminence, Dr Chukwu Emeka Kanu Uche and his