

Imperative of Overhauling Nigeria Security Architecture in The Phase of Ever-Evolving Security Challenges and Her Inadequacies in Containing Them

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Abstract

The imperative of overhauling Nigeria Security Architecture in the phase of the ever-evolving security challenges and her inadequacies in containing them, Security of life and property is one of the fundamental objectives and functions of government all over the world, this made it necessary for government at all time and at different places to continue to strive in providing security at all cost and by all means, in Nigeria however, despite government efforts at providing security and protecting the life and property of the people, the country has been under serious security threat arising from different violence attacks, killings, destruction of lives and property displacement of people, kidnapping, banditry, animal rustling, insurgency, terrorist attacks, conflict between herders and farmers, Niger delta crisis among others. This put to question the ability of the established military and other agencies whose responsibility is to prevent and ensure peace and stability. This paper set out to assess and evaluate the structure, composition and operation of Nigeria security apparatus against the background of her security challenges threatening the survival and cooperate existence of the country. Content analysis which centres on the collection of data from existing literature, textbooks, journals, periodical and internet materials will be used. The aim is to ascertain and identify the factors, and reasons responsible for the inadequacies or incapacitate bewildering our military agencies and as to why they are unable to maintain law and order as well as ensure peace and order, it is the belief of this paper that there is the urgent need to overhaul the entire security architecture of the country if we must achieve a stable and harmonious nation.

Key words: *Imperative, Overhauling, Security, Architecture, Inadequacies, Evolving, Challenges*

Introduction and background to the study

From independence to the present, Nigeria aims and aspiration in its national defense policy is to maintain peace with its neighbors, security and defend its territorial integrity. With the principles of Afrocentrism and neighborliness, it is of no doubt that Nigeria detests war. However, global issues have transcended maintenance of peace without viable economy, good governance technology and motivation among which are becoming a challenge against Nigerian defense policy. Current contemporary issue of terrorism poses serious challenge on Nigeria defense policy. It is true that Nigerian defense policy addresses military capability and deterrence against external threat but it lacks the necessary requirements to back it up in challenging terrorism. It also appears that Nigeria defense policy is heavily relying on the matrix of military capability as a source of deterrence rather than the sum total of superior technology/excellent infrastructure, motivation and resources to fight terrorism. The Nigerian defense policy also failed to take cognizance of the revolution in military revolutionary affairs in which new dimension of fighting war through asymmetric or ultra-irregular warfare and terrorist grand strategy of kidnapping and suicide bombing have overtaken the place of military conventional warfare.

The Nigerian Defense Policy is an integral part of its foreign policy. The foreign policy of a nation includes its territorial defense policy against external aggression. However, Nigeria after the end of the Civil War in 1970 saw an irreversible dynamic towards acceptance of a realist philosophy in Nigeria's defense community, which views military power and the basis of diplomacy and of all contractual obligations beyond the boundaries of the state. Presently Nigeria is experiencing fundamental security issues in areas of violence, armed robbery, kidnapping, human trafficking, compounding this crises, also are radicalized religious and regional youths movement namely movement for the emancipation of Niger Delta (MEND), Oodua People's Congress (OPC), Movement for the Actualization of the Sovereign State of Biafra (MASSOB) Maitasene insurgency and the current Boko Haram sect that launched polemical offensive in Nigeria through terrorism and insurgency (Alabi, 2013). The method that is used in the collection of data in this research work is content analysis which is the use of existing literature, textbooks, journals, periodical and internet materials

Statement of Research Problem:

Without doubt a state which lack the basic capabilities of protecting its territorial integrity and providing security of life and property for it citizens, such as establishing strong national defense and security structures undoubtedly is exposing itself to security risk. The importance of this is that the defense structure and policy provide the necessary guiding principles to national priorities. According to Bassey & Dokubo (2011) the defense policy of Nigeria among all odds still remains problematic. This involves the imperative necessity of making explicit judgment about the scope and direction of defense policy commitments as well as the conditions for processing the ability (structure, magnitude and institutional parameters of Nigeria's defense establishment) to meet these functions and challenges. In recent time the security structure and the security outfit of Nigeria have proven to be in serious shamble and incapable of dealing with the ever emerging security threat both to the Nigerian state and its citizens as evident in recurrent violent crisis in virtually all nook and crony of Nigeria, few among them are the Boko- Haram insurgency and

terrorist activities in North-East, Kidnapping in North-Central, Pipeline vandalism in the South-East, Banditry in North-Western and lawlessness all over the country including the federal Capital the seat of the central government, It appears the security architecture and its paraphernalia seems in capable of securing the state and maintain law and order, Thus the necessity to overhaul the security architecture of the state.

Aim and Objectives

1. To evaluate the strength and capacity of Nigeria military in term of population, equipment and professionalism
2. To examine the factors responsible for increase violence, lawlessness and other social vices.
3. To seek ways to improve the performance are capacity of the military through training, provision of adequate infrastructure and professionalism.

Research questions:

1. What is the strength and capacity of Nigeria Military in term of population, equipment and professionalism.
2. What are the factors responsible for increase in the rate of violence, lawlessness and other social vices
3. What can be done to improve the performance of Nigeria military in term of training, provision of adequate and update equipment and their professionalism

Theoretical framework of Analysis:

Military operational theory is a study of all aspects of warfare, including its patterns and underlying structure, as well as the interrelationships among its numerous components and factors. It also includes the political, economic, and social linkages that exist inside a civilization and across societies that contribute to conflict and war. It also covers the use of armed action to prevent a war from exploding. There are several military theories. Based on their intended use, Operational art's approach is arranging strategic activities in time, area, and purpose it reflects the distributive nature of the modern combat. The use of the forces in deep scattered operations is a stamp of modern warfare. Prior to the modern operations, warfare was characterized by the use of a "single point" tactic. According to the soviet military philosopher, soldiers have marched and gathered for battle in a dense mass on a single place in the theatre of operations for the century, due to logistical and command and the control limitations, this was the most efficient use of the force at the time. During the Napoleonic Wars, this skill reached its pinnacle as corps maneuvered.

The theory behind a "single point" strategy has changed as a result of the modern circumstances. Due to the enhanced legality of modern weaponry, concentrated armies were penalized with extremely high casualties. Modern artillery and the trench fortifications, on the other hand, encouraged the armies to disperse their forces. Other advancements, such as the railroad and the telegraph, enabled armies to perform the operations that were widely scattered but coordinated.

Thus, this research work employs operation art's approach which is often use in modern warfare because of its strategic importance in planning and execution of military warfare and proactiveness in combats, this made it more relevant and desirous to use.

Significance of the study:

The significance of this study are in many ways, It provides an overview of the security architecture of Nigeria from historical perspective and a view of the changes that have taken place or that ought to have taken place over the years in order to enable government manage conflict with minimal destruction. It should be born in mind that military strategies, war strategies and violence have taking different dimension over the years and therefore requires modern methods of conflict resolutions such as collaborative efforts among the military and paramilitary agencies, civil society organizations, civil-military relations, settling the affected population, political sensitization of the populace against terrorism, motivation of the soldiers fighting against terrorism and joint efforts of all political parties without parties' bias. It can also be said that Nigeria security are not well familiar with the intelligence and strategy to fight terrorism due to the dangerous dimension it operates, this research elucidates on the necessity to overhaul the security architecture in term of its personnel, infrastructure, mode of operation, enabling laws, training and professionalization as well as remuneration, motivational strategies and welfare. It is only when this is done then can we expect the Nigeria military to be able to win war against insurgence, terrorism and other security challenges threatening the cooperate existence of the Nigerian state.

Scope and Limitation:

This study is essentially an overview of the origin, development, structure and operation of Nigeria military in the performance of its constitutionally assigned responsibility as the protector of the territorial, integrity of Nigeria, its people and their property. It therefore covers colonial, and post-colonial period especially 1966- 2023, and particular 1999- 2023 when the Nigeria military has been put to test, trial and task of not only ensuring the protection of the territorial integrity of the nation but fighting new and emerging violence such as insurgence, terrorism, kidnapping, banditry and armed robbery.

Literature Review:

The dynamic of political and socioeconomic factors with the antecedent of insurgency and terrorism, it may appear that Nigeria is not at peace. It has come to the point the Nigeria's defense policy and all other security apparatus may not cope. Terrorism has engulfed a wider spectrum of dangerous activity highly international in scope with self-evident that it is not something any country can deal with by national strategy alone. Terrorism in Nigeria appears in different dimensions from kidnapping for ransom to assassination, robbery and compounded radicalized religious movement. Nigeria in its defense policy relies heavily on deterrence against such insecurity on the following principles: The nation shall maintain a credible defense capability and communicate her intentions in consonance that prevailing circumstances in order to ensure that potential aggressors are kept in no doubt of the willingness to use the Armed forces and all weapons at their disposal. Force modernization and development for the next few years shall, therefore give

priority to accusation of deterrence capability from its natural defense policy. It appears there is one reliance on unconventional matrix using military as a source of deterrence. Nigerians should realize that military might in the absence of economic development, integrating, employment; excellent infrastructure and superior technology cannot withstand terrorism. Terrorist possess full resources, technology and motivation to fight protracted war against Nigeria. Moreover, Nigeria is witnessing economic weakness to support its defense policy in the face of growing activities of Niger Delta militant holding hostage the multinationals, vandalizing the one pipeline which hampers technological and economic development. This is the more reason why Galtung (1975) disagreed with the application of military might in the absence of other resources in achieving national security when he said: "Security is not found in terms of nation state might but in terms of holistic understanding that moves beyond the currency of military

Findings:

Research findings shows that Nigeria military is a creation of colonial masters who ruled the country for over hundred years from 1861 to 1960 when the country gained independence from British colonial masters, colonial masters established the military as one of the instrument and agency for actualizing colonial objectives of raw material production, market for their finished product and profit for the colony. Therefore, colonial military was established to maintain law and order, to enforce colonial rules and regulations in the colonies and to ensure the payment of tax by the people in the colonies, thus colonial military was structured to perform this functions throughout colonial period, unfortunately after independence there was no deliberate attempt at restructuring the military as it were, they therefore continue to play their role as designed by colonial masters and in fact were said to have been relegated to the background or put in another words neglected, this warranted their intervention into Nigeria politics first in January 1966 when Kaduna Uzeugwu and Aguyi Ironsi struck by taking over government in what is often referred to as Nigeria first military coup during which notable Nigeria leaders were assassinated few among which are Late Ahmadu Bello (Sadauna of Sokoto) the then Premier of Northern state, Late Alhaji Tafa Balea, the first Prime minister of the federal Republic of Nigeria 1960 -1966, Late Chief Akintola, the Prime minister of Western region and many others, this coup was however not welcome by majority of Nigerian especially the Northern who loss two of their prominent leaders Sir Ahmadu Bello and Alhaji Tafa Balewa, Premier of Northern Nigeria and Prime Minister respectively.

This led to an other coup six months after July 31st 1966 targed the return coup. Led by Yakubu Gowon, during which the earlier were killed Kaduna Uzeugwu and Aguyi Ironsi, this two coups led to Nigeria civil war 1967 -1970, during which property worth millions of naira were destroyed, many displaced and thousand killed, the civil war lasted for three years, it came to an end in 1970 after the signing of agreement between the Biafran head Udumegbu Ojukwu and Yakubu Gowon as the head of Nigeria government, the military continue to rule from 1966 to 1979 with a civil rule of an intercession of four years 1979 -1983 and again military intervened from 1983 - 1993 when there was civil rule again till date. It can be said that for a greater part of Nigeria post independent the military has dominated the political arena, haven rule for over thirty years, it is however, important to say that not much has taken place in term of re=orienting or restructuring the military over this period, in fact no record to show any significant restructuring or

reorganization of the military over this period and in fact since independence up-to date except some cosmetic organization in term of personnel posting and establishment of military and para-military institutions such as the National Defence Academy Kaduna, Police college Wudil Kano. Military Garrison, Brigades and Training schools in Lagos , Kaduna, Zaria, Abuja among others.

Luckily, Nigeria military have not heard much to content with since the end of the civil war in 1970, except some pockets of civil crisis here and there such as the Maitatsine in Kano, Ife-Modakeke civil conflict, Jos eth no-religious conflict, Kaduna Zango Kataf crises End SAS protects among others. Events however, took it turn beginning from the 90s with security challenges rearing their ugly faces here and there in virtually all nook and crane of the Nigeria state, beginning with the Niger Delta crisis, Pipeline vandalism, Fulani Herdsmen conflicts, Political unrest, Kidnapping Banditry, Armed robbery and of recent insurgence and terrorism, with the dynamic of political and socioeconomic factors with the antecedent of insurgency and terrorism, it may appear that Nigeria is not at peace. It has come to the point the Nigeria's defense policy and all other security apparatus may not cope. Terrorism has engulfed a wider spectrum of dangerous activity highly international in scope with self-evident that it is not something any country can deal with by national strategy alone.

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In assessing the menace of Boko Haram jihadist group with its use of terror and bombings at strategic installations within Nigeria and the Chad Basin, it seems the effort of the federal government of Nigeria seem not to have yielded any reprieve since the terror acts are continuing unabated. Faluyi et al. (2019), using the systems and state fragility theoretical framework of analysis, it shows that the Nigerian weak state aided the emergence of the group and has also sustained it through its weak state. Faluyi et al (2019) argues that weak policies, institutions have

caused poverty and inequality, unprotected border, and political instability, and to combat the Boko Haram scourge will mean addressing these issues.

The Nigerian state has not been able to defeat Boko Haram despite its existential threat to the country because of the government's lack of understanding and appreciation of the group, the reasons why it emerged and its dynamics. In arguing further, Akinola (2015) maintains that interactions of Islamic fundamentalism, politics and poverty are eloquent reasons why the group emerged, and a commentary on the hollowness of the Nigerian government in the implementation of policies and a failure of its security architecture. Report from the Human Right Watch (HRW) puts the figures of people killed in the Boko Haram violence has since 2009 as 935 people, and this has become a source of concern for the people, government and the international community.

Presentation of data and Analysis:

It is important to highlight the role and functions of Nigeria military as constitutional assigned to her by the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, some of which are:

1) Defending Nigeria from external aggression 2) Maintaining its territorial integrity and securing its borders from the violation on land, sea or air. 3) Suppressing insurrection and acting in aid of civil authorities to restore order when called up to do so by the president but subject to such condition as may be prescribed by an act of the national assembly and 4) Performing such function as may be prescribed by an act of the national assembly. However, other added policy that came out in 2014 also considered the following in the defense policy: 1) Strategic review 2) Risk and challenges 3) Strategic response 4) Defense Management operation 5) Resource support and 6) Civil military relations.

With the emergence of new wave of security challenges such as insurgency, terrorism, kidnapping and banditry among others, necessitated the enactment of new laws and guidelines for the operation of the military as contained in the counter insurgency and money laundry acts of 2013 and 2014 respectively.

National Counter Terrorism Strategy (NACTEST)

Following the outbreak of deadly conflicts in Nigeria in the year 2000 and beyond, especially the Boko Haram insurgency and terrorist groups in the North-East and the Fulani herdsmen pastoralists and farmers' conflict, as well as other banditry conflicts across the nook and crannies of Nigeria, resulting into unprecedented damages, loss of lives and properties worth billions of naira and displacement of thousands of people from their homes with grave consequences on the country's security and economy. The government was forced to take measures that could bring the security situation under control. This informed the Presidential directive to formulate a robust policy framework that could be used in dealing with the growing wave of insecurity, terrorist activities and other security challenges in the country (Eme, 2018).

Thus, a well- coordinated counter-terrorism approach involving all stakeholders were coded National Counter-Terrorism Strategy (NACTEST) to be coordinated under the office of the National Security Adviser (ONSA). The office is expected to drive the process of actualizing the

objectives and goals of the government which informed the making of the policy and its proposed agencies and earmarking institutions that will see to the implementation of the set policies toward achieving a secured and peaceful country by supporting institutions to develop the capabilities to respond to threats. This was done through the enactment of the Terrorism Prevention Act 2011 and Terrorism Prevention (Amendment) Act 2013 with due regards to the rights of Nigerians and will operate within the ambit of International Human Rights.

According to President Goodluck Ebele Jonathan (Nigeria President 2009-2015):

As part of my transformation agenda to bequeath a peaceful, secure and prosperous nation where citizen can go about their lives freely and with confidence, I directed that a comprehensive strategy for combating terrorism be developed. The national strategy will give impetus to strengthening coordination and capacity building efforts. It will give clear direction to institutions as to what measures are to be in place to ensure a secure environment for all citizens to contribute to national development. It will also encourage our friends to have confidence in our capacity as a nation I therefore direct the National Security Adviser to set up the necessary machinery and architecture to coordinate and drive this strategy (Pgs 1-48).

Indeed, an inadequate military institution may be worse than none at all. It could be a paper tiger inviting outside aggression strong enough in appearance to threaten powerful enemies but not strong enough in fact to defend against their predation. Alternatively, it could lull leaders into a false confidence, leading them to rash behavior and then failing in the ultimate military contest such as what is happening between Ukraine and Russia. On the other hand, just as the military must protect the polity from enemies, so must it conduct its own affairs so as not to destroy or prey on the society it is intended to protect? Because the military must face enemies, it must have coercive power, the ability to force its will on others. But coercive power often gives it the capability to enforce its will on the community that created it. A direct seizure of political power by the military is the traditional worry of civil-military relations theory and a consistent pattern in human history. Less obvious, but just as sinister, is the possibility that a parasitic military will destroy society by draining it of resources in a quest for ever greater strength as a hedge against the enemies of the state. Yet another concern is that a rogue military could involve the polity in wars and conflicts contrary to society's interests or expressed will. And, finally, there is a concern over the simple matter of obedience: Even if the military does not destroy society, will it obey its civilian masters, or will it use its considerable coercive power to resist civilian direction and pursue its own interests? Other Provisions and Acts aimed at fighting terror activities in Nigeria include:

1. **Terrorism (prevention) (amendment) Act, 2013.** This Act amends the Terrorism (Prevention) Act No. 10, 2011, makes provision for extra-territorial application of the Act and strengthens terrorist financing offenses.
2. **Money laundering (Prohibition) (amendment) Act, 2012.** This Act amends the money laundering (prohibition) Act, no. 11 2011 to expand the scope of money laundering offenses and enhance customer due diligence measures.

The first edition of the counter terrorism strategy was developed and launched in 2014 and was reviewed in 2016. NACTEST is a nation-wide collection of counter-terrorism efforts bordering on

the deployment of carrot-and-stick approach in fighting terrorism. While the strategy is coordinated by Office of National Security Adviser (ONSA), several Ministries, Departments and Agencies (MDAs) now have clear-cut roles to play in its implementation. According to the policy, each of the MDAs would now have a NACTEST desk, based on their core mandates to forestall threats, secure territories, identify, prepare and implement policy directives. NACTEST is also the first published document that has chronicled the country's effort at combating an apparently new phenomenon.

NACTEST is a subset of the overarching National Security Strategy. Terrorism is a relatively new phenomenon in Nigeria, although terror related acts had occurred in the 1950s in Kano and again in 1982 the Mai-ta sine uprising was recorded. NACTEST is organized around five work streams each with its key objectives' vis: 1. Forestall: To prevent people becoming terrorists or supporting terrorism. 2. Secure: Strengthen protection capacity against attacks. 3. Identify: Pre-emption through detection, early warning and ensuring terrorist acts are properly investigated. 4. Prepare: To mitigate the impact of terrorist attack by building resilience and redundancies to ensure continuity of business. 5. Implement: A framework for the mobilization of coordinated cross-governmental efforts.

Conversely, this has led to the different counter terrorist efforts by the military through joint efforts by the Air-force, Navy, and the regular soldiers popularly referred to as Military Joint Task Force (MJTF) in their effort to combat the menace of terrorism and other security challenges, especially in the North-East region of the country that has been under the siege of Boko Haram and the Fulani herdsmen /Farmers' conflict as well as banditry activities in different parts of the country. Although success is said to have been achieved in degrading the terrorist group, but much is still needed to be done as the group has continued to unleash mayhem in the North-East region. It is important to note that the policy is fraught with some loopholes as pointed out by (Eme, 2018) in his work *Inter-Security Agency Rivalry as an Impediment to National Counter Terrorism Strategy* in which he shows the lack of coordination and suspicion among the Forces in their attempt at implementing the objectives of NACTEST. Other identified loopholes include: embezzlement of fund, poor equipment, logistic problems and lack of coordination among others. Okoli & Orinya (2013), alluded to this fact in their study on "Evaluating the Efficiency of the Military in the Fight against Terrorism in Nigeria". As part of Nigerian government effort to curtail and forestall the continued escalation of violence, especially the Boko Haram terrorist activities which available reports point to the fact that the terrorist group is been finance by top individuals, groups and international terrorist organizations both within and outside the country, the Nigerian government has, since 2004 enacted the Money Laundering Acts 2004, 2011 and 2013 as a strategy for fighting terrorist activities (Enobi, 2016). The Act is aimed at tracking and carrying out surveillance on money and financial transfer from individuals, groups or organizations to support, aid and abet terrorist activities or any criminal activities. It provides for trial of offenders in the process of terrorist or criminal activities which is aimed or intended to undermine the security and national integrity of the Nigerian state. Apart from the military counter-insurgent strategy which is believed in some quarters to be succeeding while others doubt its possibility of resolving the on-going terror conflict. Several other strategies have been employed, one of which is the Amnesty strategy, often referred to as Yaradua strategy.

The Yar-Adua model appears to have been adopted by the Yobe State government at the earlier stage in its handling of the Boko Haram conundrum. The state government has since 2001 when the terrorist group was first identified in Kanama, a suburb region of the state, swung into action by calling the attention of the federal government to the urgent need to stem the group by nipping their activities in the bud. This call was heard by the government as the group was immediately dislodged and they went into hiding only to resurface years later.

The state government under the leadership of Alhaji Ibrahim Geidam initiated civilian vigilante groups made up of traditional hunters and retired military men to provide support for the conventional army. Young energetic groups across the state to the ward level under the name Civilian Joint Task-force (JTF) were formed, financed and provided with facilities and logistics to assist them in their operations towards curbing the crises. The state government also provides the police and the army with items such as housing, Hilux vehicles and other logistics aimed at enhancing their operational performance in dealing with the crises. Others include feeding and motivational facilities and supports from the state level to the local government level. The employment of youths as Civilian Joint Task Force in collaboration with the conventional police and other military and para-military forces is also elucidated on by (Daniel E Agbiboa, 2013) in his work, *National Heroes or Coming Anarchy? Vigilant Youth and the "War on Terror" in Nigeria*, opined that there are growing concerns that the Yan-Gora are a "coming anarchy" and therefore, calls on the government to provide empowerment opportunities for them to prevent future Boko Haram that might grow up from such gathering.

As part of efforts towards bringing the situation under control, the Muhammadu Buhari government has intensified efforts in procurement of military hardware machine guns, fighting rockets, jet fighters and training of military personnel both within and outside the country, as well as, seeking international co-operation and assistance to bring the situation under control (Muhammed & Oladimeji, 2017). Relocation and resettlement efforts are on, rebuilding and reconstruction efforts are in progress though not without constraints and alleged sabotage from some elements in the military, members of the ruling party, APC see the crisis as a money-making venture and want it to continue. Notwithstanding, peace processes has been intensified and the insurgent group encouraged to embrace dialogue to bring about peaceful co-existence (Chinwokwu, 2013). The finding of this research shows that despite Nigeria government effort at securing the territorial integrity of Nigeria state, protecting its citizens and their property, the scenario of escalating violence, kidnapping, banditry armed robbery and civil conflicts has been on the increase since civil return in 1979, not minding the different efforts and strategies that has been employed by government in addressing the menace of security challenges and the billions of naira that has been pumping into addressing the issues with little or no tangle result to show for it. Conversely this calls for and necessitate the need to overhaul the Nigeria military in term of re-structuring, re-organization, professionalism and infrastructural provision, motivation, training and other logistics required for effective combatant operations to stem the rising wave of security challenges bewildering the country and almost leading to a state of relapse.

Overhauling Nigeria Military:

‘‘Heating the nail on the head’’ can be the right usage of words for the assignment and engagement we are about undergoing but this is where lies the issues and way forward if we must achieve our national objectives of securing our nation and protecting the people and their properties which is the fundamental function of government worldwide. There is no doubt that the military is a very important agency and institution of the state and government as it is the institutions charged with the responsibility of maintenance of law and order apart from protecting the territorial integrity of the nation, to do this onerous job the military must not only be strong, healthy but well equipped with modern tools, equipment, communication facilities, trained and competent personnel and above all dedicated and committed men ready and willing to sacrifice their life for their fatherland, there is no doubt that Nigeria is blessed with such great men in their youthful ages and in thousands if not millions but the disturbing issue is the lack of care or put in another words poor condition of service, poor remuneration, poor communication facilities and logistics or equipment needed and necessary to fight and win wars. In this sense overhauling the military is not just about the personnel or staff or redeploying military personnel from one battalion to another but a total overhaul of the structural formation, designated roles and responsibility, provision of updated equipment, training and logistic, and improved condition of service for men of the military service among others.

This is imperative as earlier mentioned because the goal, purpose and objective for which the military was set-up in the colonial period is quite different from what the military is set to achieve in modern time especially with the current wave of violent conflicts and wars of great magnitude both within and outside the states, the military is no longer an institution for protecting the territorial integrity of the country and for maintenance of law and order but as combatants prepared and ready to fight wars and battles under different circumstances and different environment, there is no doubt that the circumstance which brought colonial military in place is no longer the same. Therefore the orientation of the military, their training, goals and objective have not only changed but has evolved beyond the hitherto roles as it were in colonial period.

It is therefore disturbing to observe the prevalence of insecurity and threat to peace in the full glare of the plethora of these security agencies. Assuming that they had collaborated and pooled manpower and logistics together, insecurity and other threats to life and property would have been drastically mitigated, if not effectively eradicated. Although, the Nigeria Police are the lead agency saddled with the statutory task of maintenance of internal law and order for the protection of life and property of the citizenry, other security agencies have been established to complement this daunting task. However, it does appear that rather than being an asset, the security agencies in Nigeria have become liabilities. This stems from the fact that the assigned overlapping roles and duplicated duties invariably eventuate into pervasive acrimonious rivalries. More so, the citizenry are often massively confused over which among the array of security agencies to look up to in times of security exigency.

As a result, it seems as little or nothing has been, or is being done to combat crime and tackle insurgency in the country. Eventually, the proliferated security agencies appear to have been exacerbating crime rate and insecurity in Nigeria as they dissipate both human and material resources in supremacy rivalry occasioned by jurisdictional conflicts, personality clashes and struggles for operational funding at the expense of other agencies

Conclusion; and Recommendation:

It appears the security challenges confronting Nigeria is on the increase since the return to democratic rule in 1999, the North-Eastern part has been the home of violent conflicts, insurgence and terrorism occasioned by the emergence of Boko Haram insurgents and terrorist group to which millions of property has been destroyed, thousands killed and thousands rendered homeless and to which billions of naira has been expended with little or no significant success as the group still exist here and there in the North-East and in fact extending to other regions of Nigeria and expanding their connections internationally to West Africa sub-regions and other Islamic Jihad movements such as Alqeeda, ISWAP and others in Iraq, Iran and the Middle-East countries Evidence also abound about their international connections and sponsorship both in term of weaponry (Machinery and equipment) It is disheartening to say that efforts put in place by government both at the federal and state levels in term of manpower,resources, logistics and support and even community and local volunteers, hunters, vigilantes and community group efforts have not yielded the desired results of bring the violent conflicts under control.

Recommendations:

There is no doubt that the number of personnel (armed military men) in Nigeria is grossly inadequate as compared to the population of the country which runs into over two hundred and thirty million people with a military of about 230,000 according to Nigeria population and head count 2006 and about 50,000 paramilitary officers there is therefore the urgent need to recruit more military personnel to meet the demand for protection of life and property as the country population rises

Closely related to the issue of inadequate personnel is the need to train and retrain existing officers and men of the armed forces at all level in the file and rank of the service, regular soldiers, Navy and Air-force, training should be a continuous and periodic and training of military personnel both within and outside the country to help update staff on current and up-to-date methods of waggging war and protecting life and properties.

Government should intensified efforts in procuring military hardware, machine guns, fighter rockets, jet fighters as well as, seeking international co-operation and assistance, it is true that government is making effort in this direction but more need to be done,

Government should as a matter of urgency intervene in the internal rivalry between and among the military forces, Army, Navy Air force and indeed other para-military organizations and agencies, the struggle between and among them for superiority and supremacy of order and control often lead to violent conflicts and sometimes killing among themselves, one wonders then if the group of people charged with the responsibility of protecting people:s life and property will be the one fighting and killing themselves then it leave much to be desired and need to be corrected urgently.

More needed to be done in term of civil - military relation under democratic system, over the years there exist a somehow poor relationship between military personnel and the civilian whom they are constitutionally set up to protect, this has often lead to crises, efforts must be put in place to orient both parties about the necessity for their mutual existence.and cooperation. The two parties are indispensable of one another and should work together mutually for the benefit of all and the society.

It has been observed overtime that the remuneration of the military is grossly inadequate and therefore require that their salaries and allowances be improve to give them the strength and power to do their assigned responsibilities. Closely related to the issue of poor salary and remuneration is the deplorable condition of the barracks and accommodation of military, apart from been over crowded they also lack the necessary infrastructure like water, electricity and other necessities of life, it is high time the barracks are overhaul , renovated, reconstructed and new barracks built for the armed forces in different location and military base in the country.

In conclusion overhauling the military is not just about the men and women of the armed forces, much as there is the need to recruit more personnel and train them to make them professionals, there is the need to motivate them, improve their salary and remunerations, improve their condition of survive, provide befitting accommodation, houses, orient both the military and civil society about civil- military relation, and from time to time evaluate the strength and capacity of the military to deal with challenges and prepare for unforeseen circumstances such as insurgence, terrorism and banditry as its currently happening in Nigeria.

A well trained military and equiped military is an asset to a state while on the other hand an ill trained and ill equipped military can be a disaster to a state, this is because states often rely on their military for defence and security both in term of internal security and external, if the military is able to protect and defend the state at all time then the state is safe and secured on the other hand if the military is weak and unable to protect the state, it is susceptible to external attack and take over by other stronger military and government, this why it is better not to have military than to have a weak military because the state will depend on it and the state will be dissappointed at the end. We must therefore give our military the required attention and resources to do what its assigned and set up to do, procting life and property and the teritorial integrity of the state.

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