



AN ASSESSMENT OF THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT STRATEGIES IN THE MANAGEMENT OF SECURITY CHALLENGES IN THE SOUTHERN STATES OF NIGERIA

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Abstract

Insecurity and destruction of lives and properties is rampant in the Southern Nigeria. Given the negative impact of this to the society and the economy in general it becomes pertinent for adoption of strategies to combat the insecurity. The study assessed the causes of insecurity in Southern Nigeria, government strategies in combating the insecurities and the effectiveness of these strategies. The study adopted Social Contract theory and survey research design methods. The instrument of data collection was validated questionnaire and interviews. Data were analyzed using descriptive statistics. The study found that, security personnel were not well motivated to fight crime and ensure adequate security; poor implementation of previous security votes was attributed to security challenges in the Southern Nigeria. The strategy adopted by government to reduce security challenges has significantly reduced insecurity in the area. Also Southern Nigerian Government's collaboration with neighbouring countries and other international security outfits helped to reduced insecurity in Southern Nigeria. The study recommended that increase in security budgetary allocation and its judicious utilisation will resolve security challenges in the Southern Nigeria. Government should motivate the security personnel and ensure ultimate use of security vote in all the state of the federation.

Keywords: Insecurity, Regional Security Network, Government, Federation, Collaboration, Southern Nigeria, Motivation.

Introduction

Government all over the world are accountable for the provision of security and well-being of their citizens through the use of instruments of state power, including military and Para-military security agencies, backed-up by enabling laws. The 1999 Nigerian constitution outlines the role of government and relationship among levels of government in security management. Successive government in Southern Nigeria had suffered myriad of internal security challenges namely; terrorism, kidnappings and hostage takings for monetary gains, murder and political assassinations, armed robberies, cult-related criminal activities and subversion. Others include illegal possession of fire arms, insurgency, economic sabotage, oil pipelines and NEPA installations vandalization, arson and fire outbreaks and boundary disputes.

The role of government in the management of security challenges in Southern Nigeria could be referred to, in Constitution 1999, Chapter 12, Section 14, (Fundamental Objectives And Directive Principles of State Policy) that: (13) It shall be the duty and responsibility of all organs of government, and of all authorities and persons, exercising legislative, executive or judicial powers, to conform to, observe and apply the provisions of this Chapter of this Constitution (14) (1) The Federal Republic of Nigeria shall be a State based on the principles of democracy and social justice. (2) It is hereby, accordingly, declared that: (a) Sovereignty belongs to the people of Nigeria from whom government through this Constitution derives all its powers and authority; (b) The security and welfare of the people shall be the primary purpose of government: and (c) The participation by the people in their government shall be ensured in



accordance with the provisions of this Constitution. From the above assertion, it is expressly stated in our Constitution that, the Government(s) is ultimately responsible for the security of lives, property, etc of the people of Southern Nigeria.

Internal security (IS), is the act of keeping peace within the borders of a sovereign state or other self-governing territories.

Threats to the general peace may range from low-level civil disorder, large scale violence, or even an armed insurgency. Threats to internal security may be directed at either the state's citizens, or the organs and infrastructure of the state itself, and may range from petty crime, serious organized crime, political or industrial unrest, or even domestic terrorism. Foreign powers may also act as a threat to internal security, by either committing or sponsoring terrorism or rebellion, without actually declaring war.

The current general state of insecurity in Southern Nigeria includes Niger Delta crisis, bombings and killings by the Boko Haram, the carnage between Fulani militia and farmers, ethno-religious crisis, and political violence in most part of the country have further cemented the insecurity in the country.

Many states in Southern Nigeria have security problems which have continued to hinder development in the area and in the country. These security problems range from Niger Delta crises, Jos Crises, Kidnapping, Boko Haram Crises, armed robbery, rape, murder, ritual killing, cyber-crime, drug trafficking, human trafficking etc. The above security challenges in Southern Nigeria are regarded as internal security problems.

The Southern Nigeria's internal security problems affect both the region and the country's economy. This study posed the following research questions:

- i. What are the causes of insecurity in the Southern Nigeria?
- ii. What are the strategies adopted by government

in tackling these security challenges?

- iii. How effective are these strategies?

Literature Review

Conceptual Clarification

Concept of Security

According to Francis (2005: 22), security is a state of being safe and the absence of fear, anxiety, danger, poverty and oppression. It is the preservation of core values and the absence of threats to these values (Cited in Alli, 2010:73). Imobighe (1990:224) opines that security is the freedom from threats to a nation's capability to defend and develop itself, promote its values and lawful interest. For Zabadi (2005:3), security is a state in which people or things are not exposed to danger of physical or moral aggression, accident, theft or decline. This view is associated with the survival of the state and the preservation of its citizens. In other words, the state has the responsibility of the use of force and power for the safety of its territory and its people.

Furthermore, there is the crucial need to define national security. Held (1998:226) gives a traditional meaning of national security. He describes national security as "the acquisition, deployment and use of military force to achieve national goals". Romm (1993) describes it as the lack of danger or risk to held standards, values and ideals and the absence of fear that such values will be attacked now or in the future. Thus, national security is the preservation of the values a nation holds as relates to the defense of its territory from human as well as non-human threats and guides in the pursuit of its national interest in the international system.

Constitution of the Federal Republic of Southern Nigeria, (1999) sees Security as freedom from danger, care intimidation, apprehension, the feeling or assurance of safety, peace of mind or absence of fear, and the certainty or assurance of the good life or welfare – constitutes one of the fundamental objectives and indeed the foremost responsibility of every government and the state. In Southern Nigeria, the constitution unequivocally spelt out as a fundamental



objective and directive principle of state policy that “the security and welfare of the people (of Southern Nigeria) shall be the primary purpose of government” (Section 14 (2) (b) Constitution of the Federal Republic of Southern Nigeria, 1999). Southern Nigeria in recent times has witnessed an unprecedented level of insecurity. No wonder national security has become an issue for government, prompting huge allocation of the national budget to security. According to Azazi (2011), in order to check the crime rate in Southern Nigeria, the federal government has embarked on criminalization of terrorism by passing the anti-terrorism Act in 2011, installation of computer-based Closed Circuit Television cameras (CCTV) in some parts of the country, enhancement of surveillance as well as investigation of criminal related offences, heightening of physical security measures around the country aimed at determining or disrupting potential attacks, strengthening of security agencies through the provision of security facilities and the development and broadcast of security tips in mass media.

Security, according to Wolfers (1990), is a value 'of which a nation can have more or less and which it can aspire to have in greater or lesser measure.

Wendt 1992, 1999) 'security' is conceived as an outcome of a process of social and political interaction where social values and norms, collective identities and cultural traditions are essential. From this perspective, security is always *inter-subjective* or “security is what actors make of it” (Wendt 1992). For Wolfers security refers to an *absence of objective dangers*, i.e. of security 'threats', 'challenges', 'vulnerabilities' and 'risks', and of *subjective fears or concerns*, and to the *perception thereof*.

The term 'challenge' has often been used for security and global issues but it has hardly been defined, and in many cases it is used synonymously with 'threat'. Dodds and Schnabel (2001) pointed to 'new' and 'non-traditional' security challenges as a major concern in the post-cold war security environment. They argued “that the general public's conception of the security

environment has altered so dramatically as we enter the new millennium is an indicator of how significantly this environment may have actually changed”. Security management means risks are avoided, prevented, managed, coped with, mitigated and adapted to by individuals, societal groups, and the state or regional or global international organizations.

Security according to Achumba, Ighomereho & Akpo-Robaro (2013) refers to a situation that exists as a result of the establishment of measure for the protecting of persons, information and property against hostile persons, influences and actions. It is the existence of conditions within which people in a society can go about their normal daily activities without any threat to their lives or properties. It embraces all measures designed to protect and safeguard the citizenry and the resources of individuals, groups, businesses and the nation against sabotage or violent occurrence (Achumbo et al, 2013). Security is the protection against all forms of harm whether physical, economic or psychological. It is however argued that security may not be absence of threats or security issues but the ability to rise to the challenges posed by threats with expediency and expertise. Security cannot therefore exist without provision for national security. Aggressive and repressive states can be major sources of human insecurity and a greater source of human suffering.

National security is concerned about those governmental institutions that seek to ensure the physical protection and safety of their citizens, their equal access to the law and protection of from abuse. There are two sets of government systems and institutions concerned with national security. The first component consists of the traditional instruments of national security, namely: the criminal justice system (police, justice and correctional services/prisons) the military and the intelligence community. The second and more important, relates to the nature of governance, its institutions and rules, norms and values that underpin it – as well as the efficacy thereof (Thamos, 2008). Human security according to Pam-Sha (2005) defines security in



terms of an integrated idea of positive peace, human rights and sustainable development. It is related to the enhancement of livelihoods of all people; the values of the respect of human rights, the dignity of the individual, respect for diversity, community empowerment, decentralized forms of government, peace and co-existence and the accountability and transparency of actions aimed at the betterment of livelihood (Human Security Report, 2003). These values aspire towards the creation of an enabling environment for development of people at risk, a minimum social security net for those in need, clear vision and approach to participation and empowerment and milestones for the achievement of those aspirations (Thamos, 2008). The promotion of Human Security is realized through freedom from want and fear. National security refers to the absence of threats to core values and the prevention of public disorders. Security could be seen at two levels, namely; the state and individual. Individual security has to do with core values such as job security, social security, and security against national disaster. At the state level, security connotes the safeguard of the territorial integrity of the state against internal and external aggressors (Atoyebi, 2003). Thamos (2008) noted that national security is to feel safe, which safety should stand guaranteed by the political dispense in such a way that wars may be less likely and the normal conditions among states may prevail. National security also envisages preparations for all sorts of defense which may appear as preparedness for war. Nweze (2004) conceptualized national security as the preservation, protection and the guarantee of the safety of life, property, wealth of the citizenry and measures to guard against threats to national sovereignty. It equally implies freedom from danger to life and property and people to pursue legitimate interest within the society (Bassey, 2004).

Imobighe (2003) identified threats to internal security in Southern Nigeria to include: religious/political intolerance, management of resources, subversion and sabotage, espionage, smuggling, alien influx, armed robbery, mutiny/coup^{etat}, civil unrest, revolutionary

insurgency. Some common descriptors of insecurity according to Achumba et al (2013) include: want of safety, danger, hazard, uncertainty, want of safety, doubt, inadequately guarded or protected, lack of stability, troubled, lack of protection and being unsafe. Beland (2005) defined insecurity as a state of fear or anxiety stemming from a concrete or alleged lack of protection i.e. lack or inadequate freedom from danger. These definitions reflect physical insecurity which is the most visible form of insecurity, and it feeds into many other forms of insecurity such as economic security and social security. Policy in the face of serious, threatening, internal security challenges (Ekoko & Vogt, 1990).

Government and Management of Security Challenges

Apam (2011) opined that government/governance refers to the manner in which power is exercised by arms of governments in managing a country's social and economic resources. Good governance is the exercise of power by various levels of government in a manner that is effective, honest equitable, transparent and accountable. This, according to the scholar, entails absence of abuse and corruption and the existence of the rule of law and the extent to which it delivers on the promise of human rights: civil cultural economic political and social rights.

Akpa (2011) conceives government/governance as basically bordering on issues of integrity efficiency effectiveness and economy of government in the management of public affairs and meeting government's expectations of the society. Beetseh (2011) submits that good governance that is responsible, accountable, responsive and transparent; it is therefore not a luxury but a basic requirement for development (IMF 2002:6). That is why Mansaray (2004) agrees that Good governance is also development oriented and good governance requires that governments or the leadership should be politically and financially accountable. It entails that if the leadership is able to fight the induces of insecurity such as poverty, unemployment, environmental challenges, poor electricity



network, bad roads, epileptic education, corruption and mismanagement of Southern Nigerian resources there will be no cause for “self help” or social vices that pervade the Southern Nigerian society as kidnapping robbery military and Boko Haram which is the most recent issue that has transcended into a devastating catastrophe leaving a psychological effect on the people and even affecting their socio- cultural state. Bad government/governance on the other end takes the exact opposite of good government/governance.

What then is security? Generally security implies freedom from anxiety and danger. Lipman (1974) believes that a nation is secured to the extent that it is not in danger having to sacrifice core values if it wishes to avoid war, and is able if challenged to maintain them by victory in such war. The government is supported in the pursuance of these by the Southern Nigeria Police which owes its legal existence to Section 214 (1) of the 1999 Constitution. It states thus:

“There shall be a Police Force for Southern Nigeria which shall be styled the Southern Nigeria Police Force and subject to the provision of this Section, no other Police Force shall be established in the Federation or any part thereof”

The statutory duties and functions of the Southern Nigeria Police Force are clearly defined under Section 4 of the Police Act CAP 359, Laws of the Federation of Southern Nigeria 1990. These duties are listed as:-

- i. the protection of life and property;
- ii. The prevention and detection of crime;
- iii. The apprehension of offenders;
- iv. The preservation of law and order and
- v. the enforcement of all laws and regulations with which they are directly charged, as well as performance of such military duties within and without Southern Nigeria as may be required of them.

Statutes on the Policing of Electoral Process by the Police:

The instrument of power and authority of the Police to discharge its statutory functions including policing the electoral process are

contained in the various statutes, such as the Southern Nigeria Constitution, Police Act, Criminal and Penal Codes, Public Order Act, Electoral Act, Criminal Procedure Act or Code etc. As expected, there are security problems in the country; the role of security forces in the Southern Nigeria can have many facets. In other words, it is a multiple and varied role. The intervention of security forces is necessary in all nook and crony of the society and concerns all key stakeholders.

The 1999 constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria affirms Nigerian state as one indivisible and sovereign state made up of thirty-six states and a Federal Capital Territory (FCT), Abuja. The country runs federalism with presidential system of government which component units are held together by a federal arrangement. Governments, all over the world are accountable for the provision of security for its citizens with instruments and mechanism of state power, including defense and security agencies, which are backed-up by enabling laws (Phenson, 2004). The constitution for instance, outlines the role of government and relationship among levels of government in security provision and management. Such power sharing is better explained by the concepts of Separation of Power by Montesquieu and Theory of Social Contract where individuals surrendered their sovereignty to governments, while government undertakes the protection of lives and property. In addition, the concept of federalism (Southern Nigeria being a federal state) also advocates power devolution from the centre (federal) to component units (states and local government areas).

With the constitutional provisions, the responsibility to manage state's security is that of the Southern Nigerian state. All over the world, provision of security to guaranty the protection of lives and property of citizens, welfare and rights of the citizenry have always been the statutory function of any responsible government. In the same vein, Southern Nigerian states and all its component units have the statutory and primary duty to guaranty the welfare of its citizens. In doing this, government evolve suitable policies



and actions for the enhancement of a peaceful and tranquil atmosphere for human activities to thrive. This make governments to receive demands from citizens of the state concerning a great variety of services related to, for instance, law and order, defense and security (Agi, 2003:7).

The role of security agencies in the management of security challenges in Southern Nigeria

In a democratic government, the statutory mandate to provide internal security is given by the government to the Southern Nigerian police and arms forces and law enforcement agencies while, external security and territorial integrity of the Southern Nigerian state is the statutory responsibility of the military and intelligence services. However, in considering the individual and community as security management referent objects, the need for private security mandates, community policing and neighbourhood security watches comes into purview of security mandates in the Southern Nigerian states.

The judicial arms of the Southern Nigerian government also play its roles in the area of justice and correction system as part of security management mandate. The law courts are the final medium to confirm the guilt of security breaches or criminal breach suspects and the judiciary has the mandate to sentence such security threat elements to prison with such sentences as penalties against security or law breaches.

The strategies suggest that, all the security agencies has been repositioned to tackle the renewed security challenges in the country. The mandate for management of the security in the Southern Nigerian functional air, water, land and external territorial integrity of the Southern Nigerian state, is the statutory responsibilities of the Southern Nigerian Air Force, Southern Nigerian Navy and the Southern Nigerian Army as defence forces of Southern Nigeria.

Similarly, those that provide timely and sensitive intelligence for critical protective security of the Southern Nigerian state are the State Security

Service (SSS) (internal security intelligence). The National Intelligence Agency (NIA), for Foreign Intelligence and the Defense Intelligence Service (DIS) for purely military intelligence. The National border is manned and remains the statutory mandates of the Southern Nigerian Immigration Service (NIS), the Southern Nigerian Customs Service (NCS), National Port Health and Quarantine Service, the Southern Nigerian Prisons Services and Prosecuting Police Officers who work in conjunction with the judiciary in prosecuting, ensure prison custody and imprisonment terms are served by convicted criminals. In recent times, with rising personal and community based security threats, the Southern Nigerian state has introduced Community Policing policy and individuals now also employ private security guards to guard homes and industrial premises, including vigilante groups for community watch security at community levels for effective security service delivery in the Southern Nigerian state.

Empirical Literature

Obi, (2015) investigated empirically the challenges of insecurity and terrorism on national development in Nigeria. The scope of the study spans from 1990 to 2012. Data used for this study was sourced from Central Bank of Southern Nigeria (CBN) statistical bulletin, Newspapers and related journal articles on security issues. Using ordinary least square method of analysis, the result showed that terrorism and insecurity impacts negatively on economic development. The study asserted that, insecurity and terrorism has been a major challenge to the Southern Nigerian government in recent times. The activities of the Boko Haram had led to loss of lives and properties in the country especially in the Northern part of Southern Nigeria. Some of these activities include bombing, suicide bomb attacks, sporadic shooting of unarmed and innocent citizens, burning of police stations, churches, kidnapping of school girls and women, etc. Kidnapping, rape, armed robbery and political crises, murder, destruction of oil facilities by Niger Delta militants alongside the attacks carried out by Fulani Herdsmen on some communities in the North and South have been



another major insecurity challenge facing the country. Nigeria has been included among one of the terrorist countries of the world. The study revealed that, government to divert resources meant for development purposes to security votes. Expenditure made by government on security matters had significantly and positively impacted on economic development implying that expenditure on security matters has helped to ameliorate the negative effect of terrorism and insecurity despite the fact there is a crowding-in effect of security expenditure on economic development. This finding is in line with other studies on different countries of the world. It is therefore recommended that government should declare war on terrorism and seek assistance/advice from international communities who have in the time past faced this kind on challenge and were able to tackle it. The Nigerian Military should be empowered more with arms to fight this insurgency. Government should beef up security in the eastern and southern parts of the country to curb the menace of insecurity. Grazing grounds or/and ranches should be built in all states of the country for the herdsmen.

Onyinyechi & Wariboko (2016) examined Armament and Disarmament in Nigeria: Juxtaposing Niger-Delta Militancy and Boko Haram Insurgency in Northern Southern Nigeria. The study revealed that, Armed conflicts have continued to bedevil Southern Nigeria and account for innumerable loss of lives and properties. The volume of both legally and illegally possessed arms in Southern Nigeria is alarming. Hence, drawing from scholarly publications and internet works, this study looks at armament and disarmament in Southern Nigeria. It also juxtaposes Niger Delta militancy/disarmament and Boko Haram insurgency in Northern Southern Nigeria, baring their similarities and differences. The study further revealed that, Borrowing a leaf from the relative success of Niger Delta amnesty/disarmament and considering the obstinate character of Boko Haram insurgents, this study advocates for a similar strategy of disarmament for Boko Haram. This of course, will not be without cumbersome challenges. Therefore, this

paper makes recommendations that are believed to be helpful in carrying out this task. That way, arms will be controlled in Southern Nigeria; there will be less armed conflict and colossal loss as a result of armed conflicts.

Musa & Ajibade (2018) examined the implication of Nigeria National Security Challenges on Southern Nigeria's Foreign Policy. The study adopted realism theory and Human Rights for the analytical frame work and content analysis was used on the existing secondary data obtained from reputable books, articles and journals. The study revealed that, Southern Nigerian security challenges has attracted attention in recent time due to a number of criminal activities such as kidnappings, armed robbery, hired assassins and lately particularly Boko-Haram Insurgency. The study further revealed that, The A nation's domestic political situation is a key determinant of its foreign policy. Southern Nigeria, a nation that prides itself as having divine leadership mandate for Africa, apart from its internally displace people camps donates refugees to Cameroun, Chad and Niger, due to activities of terror groups in the country. The work recommended a guide line by which Southern Nigeria would regain the appellation as giant of Africa.

Theoretical Framework

This work adopts Social Contract theory as the most appropriate theoretical framework in analyzing the Government and Security Management Challenges in Southern Nigeria.

The theory presents the State as a product of the mutual agreement of men, created with a definite purpose to sever certain social needs. Thomas Hobbes (1588-1679), John Locke (1632-1704) and Jean Jacques Rousseau (1712-78) are regarded as the main exponents of the social contract theory of origin of State. Some later thinkers such as Immanuel Kant (1724-1804), Herbert Spencer (1820-1903), John Rawls (1921-2002) and Robert Nozick (1938) made use of this theory to elaborate their own systems of thought (Gaub, 2003).



The social contract theory of the origin of the State implies that men, at a time in history, lived or would have lived without any recognized civil law (i.e. without the State). This stage or life-pattern of men (when they lived without any form of organized civil law) is described as the “state of nature”. At this stage, there is no industry and no systemic production. Men lived not only close to nature but they had to depend on the bounty of nature for their survival.

Life in the „state of nature“, to Hobbes, is a general disposition to war “of every man against every man”, leading to perpetual fear and strife which consequently makes life in Hobbesian state of nature to be “solitary, poor, nasty, brutish and short”. On the other hand, Locke an state of nature” is moral and social in character, In it, men have rights and acknowledge duties, just that life in the state of nature (for Locke) is not satisfactory as peace is constantly upset by the corruption and viciousness of degenerate men, which Locke says plagues the “state of nature” by lack of an established settled down law, lack of known and indifferent judge, and the lack of an executive power to enforce just decisions. These, Locke argued, necessitated the formation of a civil society (the State) devoid of the evils and hence the social contract (Murkherjee and Ramaswamy, 1999; Gauba, 2003: Enemuo, 1999:74; Appadorai, 1974).

For Rousseau too, the State is the result of a contract entered into by men who originally lived in a state of nature. However, Rousseau emphasizes that there was only one contract called the social pact to which government or the State itself was not a party. Individuals surrendered all their rights to the community and therefore, after making the contract, may have only such rights as are allowed to them by the General Will (i.e. Law) (Appadorai, 1974).

Nevertheless, the arguments of the social contract origin of the State have been criticized of being a historical by not taking cognizance of history and chronology of events in human lives. The social contract theorists” arguments of life in the state of nature is therefore criticized of being too

idealistic, Utopia and hence unrealistic as history does not tell us when such a social contract itself took place in human existence as well as the epoch of the state of nature.

Though, the theory of the social contract origin of State tries to demonstrate that the State is the product of the WILL of all individuals comprising it (the State) and as instrument of harmonizing the interests of all individuals and all sections of society, it is unfortunately not so in many societies, particularly in modern capitalist societies where some dominant sections or a chosen few are so well-organized and vocal that they become “self-styled representatives of the will of society, and seek to justify their authority on this ground (Gauba, 2003).

The theory emphasizes the agreement of the individuals to give up their independence. The entering into the covenant by the people with government marked the end of the state of nature and the beginning of civil state with the establishment of government to serve as a remedy for the inconvenience of the state of nature. Due to the contract, it now becomes mandatory for the government to enforce law of reason in order that the lives, liberty and properties of the citizens are preserved. With the contract, people could no longer do things on their own so long as the government lasts.

The relevance of the theory to the study

Social contract theory as used in this study demonstrates in clear terms the relationship between government and the people and the role of government in the maintenance of law, order, and security for the citizenry. This role has manifested in the contract entered between government and the citizens, whereby citizens surrendered their powers and authority to government. The contract therefore goes with the responsibility of managing on behalf of the citizens of the state. The theory has created awareness as to whom the people should look up to in the face of growing insecurity in the state. The mandate to secure the people has therefore become a constitutional obligation of governments all over the world, including that of



the Southern Nigerian State.

Methodology

The study used a mixture of survey and ex-post facto research methods. Survey method involves the use of structured questionnaires, which were designed to obtain information from respondents while ex post facto was used to obtain needed information from the works of past researchers.

The study used both primary and secondary sources of data. The primary data was obtained mainly with the questionnaire and interview methods. Questionnaire was administered to security personnel and security experts from the sample selected states of Southern Nigeria. Secondary data were sourced from journals, books, conference materials/articles.

Area of Study is the Southern states of Nigeria otherwise known as the South South. Southern Nigeria is made up of six states, namely; Akwa Ibom state, Bayelsa state, Cross River state, River State, Delta state and Edo state.

The population was drawn from the security personnel and security experts deployed to the Southern states of Nigeria. A total number of 2,893 personnel chosen from the rank and file were used as the population. A statistical formula, Taro Yamane, was used to determine the sample size. The formula, according to Taro Yamane:

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N(e)^2}$$

Where n=sample size

N=total population size

1 is constant

e = the assume error margin or tolerable error which is taken as 5% (0.05)

$$n = \frac{N}{1 + N(e)^2} = \frac{2893}{1 + 2893(0.05)^2} = \frac{2893}{7.23}$$

= 400 (sample size)

Four hundred (400) questionnaires were distributed to the respondents. However one

hundred and eighty five were correctly filled and returned. These were used to analyse the data.

In analyzing the data collected using the questionnaire, descriptive statistics such as frequencies table was used to present the data collected while percentages were used to analyze the data.

Result and Discussion

Question 1

Causes of insecurity in Southern Nigeria

Causes of insecurity in Southern Nigeria ranged from the problem of succession to power, unreliability of the electoral process, economic crises, ethnic conflicts, political violence, poor infrastructural decay, high rate of poverty, high rate of illiteracy, corruption. These problems have posed serious threats to internal security of the country (Nwagboso, 2016). In terms of the nature of security problems facing Southern Nigeria, the country has its peculiar internal security problem, and this has been corroborated by some observers who argued that security threats to states in Africa differ from one another (Sage, 2010). In Southern states of Nigeria, there are several security problems that raise questions on the capacity of governments to guarantee adequate protection of lives and property of the citizens. These range from armed robbery, kidnapping, militancy, terrorism, rape, murder, ritual killings, ethno-religious conflicts, communal conflicts among others.

Niger Delta Crisis

The implication of the ecological problems posed by oil exploitation on the lives and economy of this state coerced many communities, non-state actors and most recently militia groups to protest against the federal government and the multinational oil companies operating in the region (Oladesu, 2008).

The trajectory of the crisis in the Niger Delta is understandable from the point of view of the inability of the government to provide basic amenities and infrastructural development for the people. This situation is compounded by the economic dislocation occasioned by oil



exploitation and exploration activities in the region. Thus, it is the politicization of these issues that culminated into the struggle for resource control and consequent militancy in the Niger Delta region (Amaizu, 2008). The used both constitution and unconstitutional means to draw attention to injustice of successive governments to the plights of the region since 1960. In response, government resorted to the adoption of repressive policy and the tactics of playing one community against the other rather than addressing critical developmental challenges confronting the people. This was a deliberate approach of instigated and intensified inter and intra-communal conflicts in the Niger Delta region (Human Right Watch, 2002). Thus, the deliberate use of force by the federal government to address injustice and marginalization of the people was at its climax following the extrajudicial killing of Ken Saro-Wiwa and nine Ogoni leaders by the Abacha's regime (Ogbodo, 2010). This action was condemned not only by Southern Nigerians, but also the international community. The international community further expressed her disapproval by imposing several sanctions on Nigerian government during the period. The inability of the federal government, especially during the military era to address the root causes of agitation (environmental problems, poverty, unemployment, inequality, lack of basic amenities, etc), in the Niger Delta region, resulted to the proliferation of armed militia groups causing tension in the Region.

Kidnapping

Kidnapping is one of the criminal activities that posed serious security threat to the Southern states of Nigerian, particularly between 2007 to date. According to Chukwurah (2011), kidnapping is conceived as the act of illegally taking someone away and keeping him as a prisoner for the purpose of receiving ransom (money) in return. Kidnapping in the Southern Nigeria, could be traced to the hostilities, conflicts, crises and violence in the Niger Delta region (Igbokwe, 2009). Beside kidnappings and murders, there are millions of cases of torture, rape, arson, looting and other crimes (Arizona-Ogwu, 2010). The incidence of kidnapping

became more pervasive shortly after the 2007 General Elections in the country. This is partly because, the youths who were used as political thugs by some politicians during the 2007 general elections engaged in kidnapping as a means of livelihood after the elections (Nwosu, 2011).

Boko Haram Crises

The activities of Boko Haram as a terrorist group in Southern Nigeria have been described in several ways by public analysts and observers. To some, Boko Haram is simply a group of people committed to the propagation of the Prophet Muhammed teachings and Jihad in Southern Nigeria. To others, Boko Haram is a socio-political fundamentalist group that rejects western education and culture. Also, others see this group as Islamic movement which strongly opposes man-made laws. However Boko Haram is conceptualized, available evidence indicates that it is Muslim sect that seeks to abolish the secularity of the Southern Nigerian State and establish Sharia Law in Southern Nigeria (Alaneme, 2011). The activities of Boko Haram which has raised critical questions among investors on the safety of their investments in Southern Nigeria range from killing of innocent Southern Nigerians/residents, raping of women, to indiscriminate bombing of major cities, churches, police stations and public gatherings in the Southern Nigeria.

Question 2

Strategies adopted by government to manage security challenges in Southern Nigeria

- i. Government reviewed the national security architecture that reflects the current security trend in the country.
- ii. Government initiated some strategies that tend to reduce corruption in the security agencies.
- iii. Government is collaborating with neighboring countries and other international security agencies to tackle the problem of insecurity in Southern Nigeria.
- iv. Security personnel have been trained and retrained to face security challenges in the Southern Nigerian.



- v. Security personnel have been motivated to fight crime in the country.
- vi. The Government increases its budgetary allocation on defence.

Question 3:

Table 1: effect of government strategies in managing security challenges in Southern Nigeria

Variable	Agreed	Disagreed	Undecided	Total/Percentage
Reviewed of National security architecture that reflects the current security trend in Southern Nigeria.	160 86.5%	20 10.8%	5 2.7%	185 100%
Nigeria government strategies of reducing corruption among the military has yield positive result in reduced insecurity	100 54.1%	80 43.2%	5 2.7%	185 100%
Nigerian Government collaboration with neighboring countries and other international security has reduced insecurity in Southern Nigeria	120 64.9%	59 30.3%	6 3.2%	185 100%
Training and retraining of security personnel has reduced security challenges in the country	140 75.7%	31 16.8%	14 7.6%	185 100%
Security personnel in Southern Nigeria have been motivated to fight crime in the country	70 37.8%	80 43.2%	35 18.9%	185 100%
Poor implementation of previous security votes are responsible for increase in insecurity in the country	165 89.2%	5 2.7%	10 5.4%	185 100%
Increase in budgetary allocation for security will resolve some of the challenges facing the security agencies in Southern Nigeria.	110 59.5%	60 32.4%	15 8.1%	185 100%
the strategies adopt are effective and yielding positive result	130 70.3%	45 24.3%	10 5.4%	185 100%

Source: Field Survey, 2022

Analysis and Result

On the issue of whether the Government reviewed the national security architecture that reflect the current security trend reduced insecurity in the Southern Nigeria, 160 respondents representing 86.5% agreed that Government reviewed of National security architecture that reflect the current security trend reduced insecurity in the Southern Nigeria, 59 respondents representing 30.3% Disagreed while, 6 respondents representing 3.2% cannot ascertain whether Government reviewed of National security architecture that reflect the current security trend reduced insecurity in the Southern Nigeria. We can inductively conclude that, Government reviewed of National security architecture that reflects the current security trend have significantly reduced insecurity in the Southern Nigeria.

On the issues of whether Southern Nigeria government strategies of reducing corruption among the military has yielded positive result in reducing insecurity, 100 respondents representing 54.1% agreed that Southern Nigeria government strategies of reducing corruption among the military has yielded positive result in reducing insecurity, 80 respondents representing 43.2% disagreed while, 35 respondents representing 18.8% cannot ascertain whether Southern Nigeria government strategies of reducing corruption among the military has yielded positive result in reducing insecurity. We can inductively conclude that Southern Nigeria government strategies aimed at reducing corruption among the military has yielded positive result in reducing insecurity.

On whether Southern Nigerian Government's collaboration with neighbouring countries and other international security has reduced insecurity in Southern Nigeria, 120 respondents representing 64.9% agreed that Southern Nigerian Government collaboration with neighbouring countries and other international security has reduced insecurity in Southern Nigeria, 59 respondents representing 30.3% disagreed while, 6 respondents representing 3.2% cannot ascertain whether Southern Nigerian Government collaboration with neighbouring countries and other international security has reduced insecurity in Southern Nigeria. We can inductively conclude that Southern Nigerian Government's collaboration with neighbouring countries and other international security have reduced insecurity in Southern Nigeria.

On the issues of whether training and retraining of security personnel has reduced security challenges in the country, the table above shows that 140 respondents representing 75.7% agreed that Training and retraining of security personnel has reduced security challenges in the country, 31 respondents representing 16.8% disagreed, while, 14 respondents representing 7.6% cannot ascertain whether Training and retraining of security personnel has reduced security challenges in the country. We can inductively conclude that training and retraining of security personnel have reduced security challenges in the



country.

On the issue of whether security personnel in Southern Nigeria are well motivated to fight crime in the country, 70 respondents representing 37.8% agreed that Security agencies in Southern Nigeria are well motivated to fight crime in the country, 80 respondents representing 43.2% disagreed. While, 35 respondents representing 18.9% cannot ascertain whether Security personnel in Southern Nigeria are well motivated to fight crime in the country. We can inductively conclude that security personnel in Southern Nigeria are not well motivated to fight crime in the country and that security challenges in Southern Nigeria has deteriorated in the recent time because poor motivation. Personnel need motivation to improve their morale of security personnel in the country

On whether Poor implementation of previous security votes are responsible for increase in insecurity in the country, 165 respondents representing 89.2% agreed that Poor implementation of previous security votes are responsible for increase in insecurity in the country, 5 respondents representing 2.7% disagreed, while, 10 respondents representing 5.4% cannot ascertain whether Poor implementation of previous security votes are responsible for increase in insecurity in the country. We can inductively conclude that poor implementation of previous security votes are responsible for increase in insecurity in the country.

On whether increase in budgetary allocation for security will resolve some of the challenges facing the security agencies in Southern Nigeria, 110 respondents representing 59.5% agreed that increase in budgetary allocation for security will resolve some of the challenges facing the security agencies in Southern Nigeria, 60 respondents representing 32.4% disagreed while, 15 respondents representing 8.1% cannot ascertain whether Increase in budgetary allocation for security will resolve some of the challenges facing the security agencies in Southern Nigeria. We can inductively conclude that increase in

budgetary allocation for security has the prospects of resolving security challenges facing Southern Nigeria.

On the issue of whether the strategies adopted are effective and yielding positive result, 130 respondents representing 70.3% agreed that the strategies adopted are effective and yielding positive result. 45 respondents representing 24.3% disagreed while, 10 respondents representing 5.4% cannot ascertain whether the strategies adopted are effective and yielding positive result. We can inductively conclude that, the strategies adopted by the government are effective and yielding positive result.

Discussion of findings

- i. Finding from the study reveals that, causes of insecurity in Southern Nigeria includes; problem of succession to power, unreliability of the electoral process, economic crises, ethnic conflicts, political violence, poor infrastructural decay, high rate of poverty, high rate of illiteracy, corruption. These problems have persistently posed serious threats to internal security of the country. These security problems raised questions on the capacity of governments to guarantee adequate protection of lives and property of the citizens. This range from armed robbery, kidnapping, militancy, terrorism, rape, murder, ritual killings, ethno/religious conflicts, communal conflicts, among others.
- ii. Strategies adopted by government to manage security challenges in Southern Nigeria include; Government reviewed of National security architecture that reflects the current security trend in the country; Nigeria government initiated strategies that tend to reduce corruption in the security agencies; Nigerian Government collaborated with neighbouring countries and other international security agencies to tackle the problem of insecurity in Southern Nigeria; Security personnel have been trained and retrained to face security



challenges in Southern Nigeria; Security personnel have been motivated to fight crime in the country and the Government have increases its budgetary allocation for defence.

- iii. The study further reveals that, Strategies adopted by government to reduce security challenges in Southern Nigeria are effective and yielding positive result due to the following; Government reviewed its National security architecture that reflects the current security situation which have significantly reduced insecurity in the Southern Nigeria. Nigeria government strategies aimed at reducing corruption in the military have yielded positive result in reducing insecurity in Southern Nigerian. Southern Nigerian Government's collaboration with neighbouring countries and other international security have reduced insecurity in Southern Nigeria. Training and retraining of security personnel have significant positive in reducing insecurity in the country Security personnel were not well motivated to fight crime in the country and that security this has led to poor morale of the military and subsequent deterioration of security situation in recent time. Poor implementation of previous security votes is responsible for increase in insecurity in the country and increase in budgetary allocation for defence has the prospects of resolving security challenges facing Southern Nigeria.

Conclusion

From the study, we can conclude that Security means establishment of measure for the protecting of persons and properties. Southern Nigerian political history has been characterized by use of thugs by politicians to either intimidate their opponents or redress their failures; the youth uses arms to commit differences crime and taking the law into hand by killing, kidnapping, militancy, terrorism, rapes and other criminal act.

Lack of social justice, unemployment, poverty,

illiteracy are some of the causes of insecurity in the Southern Nigeria.

Corruption among the top senior security personnel, lack of morale, poor training and poor utilization of security votes are some of the obstacle in tackling security challenges in Southern Nigeria. The study reveals that government has clear strategies and approach for tackling security challenges in Southern Nigeria.

Recommendations

1. Government should address the causes of insecurity such as poverty, illiteracy, unemployment etc in the country.
2. Government should continue to review its security strategies such as poor motivation of military personnel and ultimate use of security vote in all the state of the federation. Institutional mechanism should be put in place to monitor and track all funds voted for security purposes. Full implementation of the budgetary allocation must be enhanced to ensure maximum security in the country.
3. Even though, Strategies adopted by government to reduce security challenges in Southern Nigeria are effective and yielding positive result, there are still pocket of crime and violence that demand full attention of government. Government should sustain its strategies to completely crime-free society.

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