The Nigeria Police Force and Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps Conflicts in Lagos Metropolis, Nigeria: Sustaining Factors and Implications

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A b s t r a c t

Security is critical to stability and development of any nation. In response to multifaceted security challenges besetting Nigeria, the Federal government created Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) to compliment the roles of Nigeria Police Force (NPF). Instead of synergy and cooperation, the relationship between the agencies has been characterized by rivalry and has created gaps that criminals are taking advantage of. The study assessed the causative factors and the implications of the conflicts in Lagos Metropolis. The study adopted descriptive research design but relied on qualitative data. The study found that the rivalry between the two agencies is partly due to weak operational guideline, greed and inferiority/superiority complex while none of the officers involved in previous conflicts were punished. The study recommended that officers of the NSCDC and NPF who aids or abets conflict should be decisively punished to serve as deterrent to others. In addition, there should be clear operational guidelines to minimize rivalry while Inter-Agency conflict resolution mechanism to promote cooperation and collaboration rather than antagonism is further recommended.

Keywords: *Conflict, Security, Inter-agency conflict, Collaboration*

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Background to the Study
Security is paramount to the growth of any nation. However, inter-agency conflict and its implications on national security have continued to be a reoccurring decimal among security agencies. This explains why it is argued that inter-agency security collaboration is a necessity in the maintenance of the national security. Security agencies are to enhance security both internally and internationally as this is partly their statutory roles. The goal is to ensure that peaceful atmospheric conditions are sustained. Modern concepts of national security arose during the thirty years of war in Europe and the civil war in England. Shortly, after the war in 1648, the Peace of Westphalia was established and idea is that the nation-state has sovereign control not only of domestic affairs but also of external security.

Since the return of democratic system in 1999, Nigeria has witnessed an unprecedented display of bestiality by security operatives which includes Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps versus Nigeria Police Force, Nigeria Police Force versus Nigeria Army, Nigeria Army versus Nigeria Customs Service, Nigeria Immigration Service versus Federal Airport Authority of Nigeria (FAAN)Aviation security among others, in manners that embarrass their respective agencies and the country at large while putting doubts in the minds of the public on the competence of these agencies to discharge their constitutional responsibilities of ensuring peace and protecting lives and property. However, the state security apparatus had failed in the past and have continued to fail over time (Sayne, 2011; Zumve, Ingyoroko and Akva, 2013).

The occurrence of inter-agency conflict and other social vices due to lack of collaboration between Nigeria Police Force (NPF) and Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (NSCDC) in Lagos Metropolis has been a source of great concern to socio-economic development and security. Nwaolise (2005) notes that lack of collaboration among the security operatives has caused lack of formidable resistance to the eradication of kidnapping and other social vices within the metropolis. The frequency of frictions between security agencies has made the inhabitants of metropolis to hardly enjoy the confidence and cooperation of the security apparatus in the area. To worsen the situation many have observed that security operatives have failed in their roles in curbing crimes as well as lacking the capacity building and sharing intelligence reports. This ugly scenario informed this paper to identify the factors responsible for the conflicts between Nigeria Police Force and Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps and implication on the security of Lagos metropolis in Nigeria. The paper was descriptive and adopted qualitative method of data gathering through unscheduled interview of key functionaries of the two agencies as well as reliance on secondary sources such as relevant text books, journals, Internet sources and documentary evidences.

Conceptual Clarification
Security
The concept of security has been defined in so many ways by scholars, security managers, government officials, security agencies and analysts depending on their intellectual predilection and or ideological orientation (Akinyeye, 2001). Security, from a non-

professional's perspective expressed the term as weapons, other defense mechanisms against threats and presence of a uniformed outfit with the power to arrest and ensure law and order are maintained. A careful analysis has however shown that all the different definitions can be classified into broad categories normally referred to as the traditional and non-traditional school of thought (Akinyemi, 2013). The traditional school of thought focused on the use of military force while the non-traditional school of thought broadened the meaning of security to comprise issues of socio-economic development.

From modern perspective, Danmadi (2010) defines security as the protection of life and property so that the daily business of life may continue without hindrance. This is corroborated by Efeovbokhan (2009) that security represents the absence of threat and/or fear in a social system. The importance of security in any nations cannot be over-emphasized, however, Olaniyan (2011) states that the goal of sustainable security is to purposely pre-empt, prevent and rapidly respond to signals or manifestation of threats capable of destroying and distorting the well beings of an individual, a community, the entire Nation-State. Sustainable Security is therefore, the perpetuity of this state of well-being, happiness, assurance, collective harmony and belief in the protection afforded by the system.

Alemika (2010) also posits that security and development are interdependent as neither could be achieved without the other. Aja (2007) reflects that security friendly system frees individuals and group from fear and dangers of losing such alienable human rights as life, liberty and property. The researcher aligned with assertions of (Alemika, and Danmadi, 2010; Aja, 2007) because if there is no security in place, the life and property cannot be guaranteed. A situation where security agencies constitute insecurity is not only embarrassing to the national security architect but the nation as a whole.

Conflict
The word "Conflict" is derived from the Latin word *confligere,* meaning to "strike together." Lexically, according to *Webster Dictionary, vol. 1, 1971*, conflict means: to strike, to daisy. A fight, struggle or battle, clash, contention, confrontation, a controversy or quarrel, active opposition, strife or incompatibility, to meet in opposition or hostility, to contend, to be contrary or to be in variance. Conflict is a normal phenomenon as well as inevitable in any society dominated by people with diverse interests and needs.

Encarta encyclopaedia (2009) defines conflict is a relationship between two or more interdependent parties in which at least one of the parties perceives the relationship to be negative or detects and pursues opposing interests and needs. Therefore, social conflict is the struggle for agency or power in society. Social conflict or group conflict occurs when two or more actors oppose each other in social interaction, reciprocally exerting social power in an effort to attain scarce or incompatible goals and prevent the opponent from attaining them (Joseph, 1999).

Also, conflict is considered to be an integral part of social relations; however conflict between individuals in the society is not all the time destructive because it is one of the principal and essential social processes in the functioning of the society as it engenders stability, cohesion and social order (Vold, 1958; Irwin and Kenneth, 2005). Similarly, Appadorai (2004), have argued that human beings are naturally selfish especially when it come to the enjoyment of good and desirable things of life, therefore, the privileged members of the society would be interested in amassing the best to themselves alone at the detriment of others.

Alao (2012), observes that Conflict forms a preponderant part of human existence and a common part of any human community or group that its absence implies cessation of human relationship. Dokun (2005), however notes that conflict "is the construction of a special type of reality". This position might result into positive relations or reality or new personalities when conflict is productively managed but destructive if otherwise. The violent conflicts between security agencies working for the same government is however worrisome and destructive.

Inter-agency Conflict
In attempt at evaluating the inter-agency conflict processes in United States of America (USA) the National Counterterrorism Centre (2001) states that no single government entity possesses sufficient capacity for unilateral response, thus inter-agency coordination is necessary to synchronize instruments of national power and thereby apply unified strength towards resolving threats to national security. However, given the complex nature of national security, one agency cannot adequately do it alone; therefore, collaborative efforts of all the security agencies are needed to achieve a relative peaceful co-existence of the citizenry.

Inter-agency conflict has been the bane of security agencies world over. Ahmed (2007) as cited in Ekweoba (2011) reveals that in the United States of America, the unhealthy rivalry displayed by the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) for not sharing intelligence report which could have averted the terrorist attack on the World Trade Centre and Pentagon House in 9/11/2001 is a case of inter-agency conflict. Studies have shown that rivalry in joint operations also in countries like India and United Kingdom (Omoigui, 2006). For instance, on 4th December, 2009, the Afghan National Army and Afghan National Police clashed in the capital of Uruzgan Province, the incident left several people dead and wounded.

Also, record showed that in 1999, four (4) persons including two (2) Jawan Soldiers were seriously injured when Army men clashed with Railway Police at the Bangalore Railway station in India. It was revealed that about three hundred (300) Jawan Soldiers from Kashmir were stranded at Bangalore Railway Station when their Army headquarters vehicles failed to pick them up on time, some of the aggrieved soldiers resorted to destruction of luggage. Two (2) Railway Policemen who came to the scene to control the situation were subsequently beaten up by the enraged Jawan Soldiers (Omoigui, 2006).

The September 11, 2001, terrorist attack on the Twin Towers in the United States of America, scholars, political analysts and opinion leaders criticized the lack of proper coordination of security agencies on counter-terrorism (*Cable Network News*, *CNN*, 2010). In Nigeria, and like the rest of the world, police force is mandated to engage in the enforcement of law and maintenance of order within the boundaries of the country (Alemika, 1995). It is interesting to note that other law enforcement agencies, quazi-police and paramilitary agencies share this same directive within the same country.

Odoma, and Aderinto, (2014) in their own contribution carried out a study on peoples' perception on the factors responsible for incessant clashes between Nigeria Police Force and Nigeria Prison Service warders in Abeokuta, Ogun State. The study employed the descriptive survey research design with a sample of (340) three hundred and forty respondents comprising youths and adults drawn from residents of Abeokuta. Their findings showed that the major causes of conflict between the Police and Prison personnel are roles conflict being performed by the two agencies thereby fighting for supremacy and jurisdictional controls.

In a related study by Bolatunde (2012), investigated the causes of violent clashes between the Nigeria Police and Nigeria Army in Lagos State, a descriptive survey research design was adopted and (1,680) one thousand, six hundred and eighty respondents made of civilians and personnel from the Nigeria Army and Nigeria Police in Lagos State with a mean rating of 3.87 and corresponding standard deviation of 0.74. The result revealed that lack of cooperation or collaboration can be regarded as one of the causes of violent clashes between the two agencies. Contrary to expectations, rather than guard against conflict outbreaks and collaboratively ensure the maintenance of law and order, various security and law enforcement agencies are turning against each other (Ogaba, 2006 and Abolurin, 2011).

Evident to the inter-agency conflicts is the reports of frequent brawls and counter-operational activities between the agencies. In the light of the above, several newspaper reports have described violent incidents at diverse levels and different grouses between the Nigeria Police Force and Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps (*The Tribune*, December 28, 2007; *Daily Trust*, June 19, 2008; *New Nigerian*, July 2, 2008).

According to Ajayi and Aderinto (2008), it has been stressed by many that most inhabitants in some parts of the country lack confidence in the Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps and the Nigeria Police Force as well as other law enforcement agencies and thus prefer private security outfits or vigilante groups to public security operatives. The assertion was corroborated by Omoigui (2006), that constant wrangling among security operatives has been perceived to be dampening the regards of the citizens for security agents.

For instance, on 7th April, 2013 at Ikorodu axis of Lagos, the NSCDC officers were returning from a successful operation that had led to the arrest of alleged pipeline vandals

when the policemen ambushed the team, an altercation ensued bordering on which agency had the responsibility to operate in the area, resulting in shooting two (2) of the Civil Defence officers dead, they were identified as Adaji Gabriel (Assistant Inspector of Corps) and Innocent Akegbe (Inspector of Corps while one Sunday Gabriel (Police Inspector) attached to the Inspector-General of Police Special Task on Anti-pipelines Vandalism Unit led the team. (*ThisDay*, 7/4/2013).

Inter-agency Cooperation/Collaboration
Inter-agency cooperation and its diverse implications for national security have occupied position of prominence in recent literature as manifested in the works of Kaiser (2011:66-72); Okumu (2011); Huxham and Vangen (2005) among others. Polner (2011) notes that inter-agency cooperation necessary for understanding and modifying concepts of operation, technology, system and policy among security agencies.

According to Godson and Phil (2001) suggested five possible models for inter-agency cooperation among security agencies namely; "Communication model is that in which security agencies recognize and appreciate that they need each other for efficiency and that each has a specific role to play limited to communication with each other. The communication may be by one-way or two-way, and may involve full or partial disclosure of information. The second is the cooperation model that the agencies maintain enjoin their separate identities, but decide to operate jointly or cede responsibility to a particular agency when action requires such on specific tasks. Co-ordination model is the third and involves the agencies jointly operating in an organized way, and each appreciates its boundaries but agrees to pool resources to deal with agreed challenges.

The federation models also known as the integration model and the fourth type in this relationship. In this instance, agencies retain their organization identity but also develop common focus to some things done. It brings together relevant parts of agencies on either a long term or a temporary ad-hoc basis, to carry out a particular operation, project, program or policy. The fifth is the merger model that the agencies become indistinguishable from one another in working on a mutually defined problem and they form a collective resource pool.

The researcher underscores the views of Godson and Phil (2001) on five communication models because of the following reasons; All security agencies in Nigeria has centralized control in their various operational activities except when there is joint operations and leadership emerged as a result of the most agency that has expertise on the issue been investigated. Secondly, the security operatives are specially tasked by their agencies on the role to play during joint operations and any contrary directive from the commander of the operation usually result to inter-agency conflict which invariable affect national security. Thirdly, Federal or State governments sometimes gives directive on any security breach to be investigated, only few of the security agencies are ready to work together therefore, and the investigation reports render to the government is of diverse views.

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Brief background of Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps and its roles
The Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps were first introduced in May 1967 during the Nigerian civil war within the then Federal Capital Territory of Lagos for the purpose of sensitization and protection of civil populace. It was then known as Lagos Civil Defence Committee. However, the charter of April 6, 1968, made it possible for states that wished to establish to establish the Corps within their jurisdiction to do so (Abolurin, 2010, p. 132). Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps were metamorphosed to the present name in 1970. The Corps on inception had the objective of carrying out enlightenment campaigns on education around Federal capital of Lagos to sensitize members of civil populace on enemy attacks and possibly how to save themselves from any threats to their lives and properties.

On 28th June 2003, an Act was passed by National Assembly to give legal backing to the NSCDC which was signed by former President Olusegun Obasanjo (GCFR). NSCDC is a para-military agency of the Federal Republic of Nigeria which was commissioned and empowered by Act No. 2 of 2003 and amended by Act 6 of 4th June 2007. The Corps provide measures against threat any form of attack or disaster against the nation and the citizenry. The Corps is statutorily empowered to institute legal proceedings by or then and of the Attorney-General of the Federation in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Republic of Nigeria against any person to have committed an offence, maintain an armed squad in order to bear firearms among others to strengthen the Corps in discharge of its statutory responsibilities*(nscdc.gov.ng)*.

The 2003 Act conferred on the organisation statutory recognition which thus enabled it draw subventions from government coffers in discharge of its function, these functions include assisting in the maintenance of peace and order and also in the protection and rescuing of civil populace during the periods of emergency and making recommendation to the Minister the registration of private guard companies. They are charged with the responsibility of inspecting the premises of private guard companies, their training facilities and approve the same if it is up to standard and supervise and monitor the activities of all the private guard companies and keep a register for that purpose. They are to maintain twenty-four hours surveillance over infrastructures, sites and projects for the Federal, state and Local Governments and to enter and search any premises and seize any

materials suspected to have been used in vandalization of properties. The Nigeria Police have the right and power to arrest with or a warrant, detain, investigate and institute legal proceedings by or in the name of attorney general of the Federal Republic of Nigeria against any person who is reasonably suspected to have committed an offence under the Act or is involved in criminal activities of all kinds. In addition, they are to monitor the activities of religious bodies and trade associations, take necessary step to forestall terrorism, and protect the civilian populace against acts of civil disorder, revolt, strike, riot or religious unrest among others

The Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps are controlled by the Immigration, and Prison now (Correctional) Services Board Act, 1986, as amended. The board supervises the Civil Defence Corps activities under the leadership of Federal Minister of Interior. The Corps is headed by a Commandant-General, with deputy and assistant commandant-generals. The NSCDC has zonal commands, which are further divided into commands (nscdc.gov.ng).

Historical background of Nigeria Police Force (NPF)
There are specialized agencies established by law with the responsibility of the maintenance of law and order. The Nigeria Police Force is a legacy of the British colonial Administration which started in 1861 with a 30- man consular guard. From 1879 through 1914 after the amalgamation of the Northern and Southern Protectorates, the Royal Nigeria Constabulary, the Lagos Police Force and the Niger Coast Constabulary were also merged.In 1930, the Northern and Southern Protectorates Police Forces were merged to form what is now known as the Nigeria Police Force under the command of an Inspector General of Police(Ilu in Alemika et al 2010).

By this nationalization of the Nigeria Police Force, the Inspector-General of Police was in control of the general operation and administrative duties. He is supported by at the headquarters by a deputy Inspector-General and in each state by Police Commissioners. According to section 214 (1) of the 1999 constitution as well as Police Act 1943 (now Cap 4. of 1967), there shall be established for Nigeria a Police Force to be known as the Nigeria Police Force with responsibilities for; Prevention and detection of crime; The apprehension of offenders; The preservation of law and order; The protection of life and property and due enforcement of all laws and regulations with which they are directly charged; and shall perform such military duties within or outside Nigeria as may be required of them by or unders the authority of this or any other act.

The composition, establishment and operational control of the Police Force are clearly stated in the constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, 1979, 1989, and 1999 (1999 CFRN: 214-216). These provisions are reinforced in the Police Act and Regulations (LFN, 1990:359) classified the duties of the Police. The above functions are also endorsed by the Criminal Procedure Act (CPA) and Criminal Procedure Code (CPC) (CPA: 26-27, 53 & 55, CPC: 90, 112 & 412). Also, the 1999 Constitution provided for a Police Service Commission that is responsible for Policy, organization, administration and finance of the Nigeria

Police Force. Among the primary functions are prevention of crime and protection of lives and property. There are to ensure that peace, order and stability are guaranteed by detecting crime, arresting and prosecution of offenders among others.

Theoretical Framework

The theoretical framework for this study is the structural conflict theory. It has two main sub-orientations, the first is the radical structural theory represented by the Marxist dialectical school with exponents like Marx, & Engels, 1972; Lenin, 1924). The second is the liberal structuralism represented by Ross (1993). Although, Scaborough (1998), and the famous work of Galtung (1990) was on structural violence. It's sometimes similar to transformative theory which addresses the reactions of individuals, group, cultures, institutions and societies to change. It further sees incompatible interests based on competition for resources, which in most cases are assumed to be scarce, as being responsible for social conflict (Collier, 2000).

The main argument of structural conflict theory is that conflict is built into the particular ways societies are structured and organized. The theory looks at social problems like political and economic exclusion, injustice, poverty, disease, exploitation, inequality as sources of conflict. The emphasis of structural theory is thus on how the competing interests of groups tie conflict directly into the social, economic and political organization of society as well as the nature and strength of social network within and between community groups. Ross (1993) noted for instance that, in situations where economic and political discrimination and weak kingship ties are the defining characteristics of a society, the chance that negative form of conflict will result are higher than in situations where the conditions are the exact opposite. In other words, when social, political, economic and cultural processes are monopolizing by a group, it creates the conditions that make people to adopt adversarial approach to conflict.

The tenets of the theory (role inequality, value inequality, and group monopoly, economic and political discrimination) to a large extent offer satisfaction explanations of the increasing spate of inter-agency conflicts and their threats to national security in Nigeria. This is because, Nigeria being a bad divided nation along ethnic, cultural, and religious line, seems incapable of establishing security agencies that are disciplined, hierarchical, bureaucratic and strictly institutional in conduct and operation. This phenomenon does not only explain why there are role-overlap, role-disrespect and role-encroachment and security complexes among security agencies, it also sheds light on why the security agencies saddled with the responsibility of securing the nation are the very institutions threatening and violating citizens right to life.

Discussion

Factors occasioning Inter-Agency Conflicts

Though conflict is inevitable but violent conflicts among security agencies constitute a serious embarrassment to nation's security architecture. The record from interview conducted revealed that significant majority of those interviewed observed that there

were not less than fifteen conflicts between the two agencies since 1999 with not less than ten lives lost A critical analysis of the duties of the two agencies will reflect roles conflict as the duties are not clearly articulated. The tendency is high for conflict to emerge among the rank and file officers with a view of protecting their boundaries which are not clearly stated that Marizu (2007), refers to as "the phenomenon to the defense of regime survival. In other words, the conflict is a product of each agency's perception of the other as a threat to its relevance and survival" while Barth (1963) terms it jurisdictional boundary.

Hence, (Adekanye, 1993 and Omoigui, 2006) observe that inter-agency conflict is a resultant effect of superiority struggles 'stand tall', overlapping others roles due to ambiguous definition of roles by law, competition over primordial interest, ignorance of the law and indiscipline by the operatives especially among junior officers. Such conflicts as noted above could been effectively managed in a situation if there is institutional mechanism for conflict resolution or when officers display the required maturity, but such is not the case among Nigeria's security agencies. This agrees with the position of Idowu (2015:5) that:

> The biggest challenge to Nigeria's national security within the context of inter-security agencies conflict at her borders is that Nigeria lacks the capabilities that are useful in conflict intervention. In fact, there is a challenge in terms of personnel and materials in this regard.

This further aligns with the view of Eme (2008:2) that the conflicts stem from the fact that the assigned overlapping roles and duplicated duties invariably eventuate into pervasive acrimonious rivalries". This position was also confirmed by all the respondents in the course of the interview.

The implication therefore is that where ever or whenever there is power play and lack of collaboration to achieve the set goals, conflicts are inevitable as manifested in the two agencies in focus.

The fragile nature of the nation's economy, disloyalty, underdevelopment, criminal mismanagement of abundant resources, and lack of inclusive arrangement to a large extent has rendered significant majority below the poverty line, inclusive of the security agencies as equally revealed by the respondents. The survival instinct has led to collaboration between security agencies and the criminal elements that they were supposed to checkmate. There is no doubt that the economic state of the nation is very imperative to equipping and maintaining the security agents for effective security coverage. A situation short of this cannot but call for cutting corners and one agency attempting to block other could result in conflict.

Neglect by government and instinct for survival is a fundamental factor occasioning rift among security agencies. This might have informed Sankara (2005:4) to observe that "Men and women of the Nigeria Police, many of whom have to pay their way to join the Police, train under one of the most inhuman conditions imaginable, as attested to by the

state of the Police colleges and after training, buy their own uniform, boots, writing materials, torchlight and all other working tools. Beside these, they have to go on for upward of four or six months before they can earn first monthly salary, which amount to nothing at the end of the day". Therefore, the need to reequip the money spent on bribing their ways to join the force and to maintain their comfort could lead to aggressive behavior without really understanding when they are crossing the boundaries of other security agencies.

Lastly, poor training of rank and file of the security agencies and the need to see other security agencies as working for the same objectives are critical on issues motivating avoidable rivalry and conflict among security agencies. There is no doubt that the rank and files among the security agencies are always at the fore front in any operation and by implication, the most visible cadre who are charged with operational duties. This therefore imply that they are expected to be adequately trained in ways and manner of dealing with sister agencies and members of the public to minimize conflict.

Implications of Conflict
The increasing torrent of conflict among security agencies in Nigeria and the dimension it has taken in recent times has threatened Nigeria's statehood as the state of security in Nigeria has deteriorated drastically. Despite the awareness of the dangers that inter-agency conflict pose to the nation, inter-agency conflicts still persists in Nigeria.

The problem of inter-agency conflicts among security agency in Nigeria can be adjudged as unhealthy rivalry. The first implication is that it complicated the task of checkmating crime if security agencies are not secured. Therefore, criminal elements might attempt to hide under the cover of the agency that is more pliable to them thereby complicating the task of securing the nation.

In addition, rivalry among security agencies could hinder the exchange of security information to checkmate crime. This has the tendency to hinder the investigation and prosecution of offenders (Ezelebor, 2005:48). Where there is no exchange of security information, it is tantamount to a house divided against itself and therefore exposed to external aggression or internal dissension.

The unmanageable conflict among the security agencies has the tendency to add to the burden of governance. Government is expected to be focused on meeting ever increasing demand of the society particularly when it is said that the resources are lean. The situation creates misallocation of resources and wasting of precious time on agencies that ought to provide the needed cover for the government.

With specific reference to Lagos metropolis that is urbanized and a home to every category of people, conflict among security agencies could lead to self-help which could endanger the security of lives and property. The implication is that if the security agencies are disorganized, the tendency to seek their help for protection or intervene in crisis situation will no longer be effective. It also encourages the criminal elements to have a field day in the city believing that the response from the security agencies will be weak.

Realizing that Lagos is a barometer to gauge the degree of peace and stability in Nigeria because of it economic and commercial potentials, there could be linkage effect in respect of the security in others parts of Nigeria if the security agencies are at loggerhead.

Conclusion and Recommendations
The paper concluded that the conflicting roles of the Nigeria Police Force and Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps in Lagos metropolis affects the security of lives and property in Lagos metropolis in Particular and Nigeria in general. It also threatens the peace and order of the law abiding citizens. This has therefore created the impression in the mind of the citizenry that the security agencies particularly their unending conflict appear to more of liabilities and insecurity than assets.

The study recommends that officers of the NSCDC and NPF who aids or abets conflict should be decisively punished to serve as deterrent to others.
1. In addition, government should ensure that salaries of security agencies promptly paid when due to prevent officers of these agencies from indulging in illegal activities.
2. Also, there is the need for well-defined operational guidelines for all the security agenies beyond the ones in focus as such conflicts are prominent among other security agencies
3. The study recommended modern training for the file and ranks of the security agencies in order to understand and appreciate how delicate their duties are and how to cooperate with one another to avoid conflicts and check crimes.
4. The failure of superior officers on duty to curb excesses of the junior ones make them culpable for any offence committed by the junior ones and must be made to undergo disciplinary measure in case of violent conflicts.
5. Lastly, the government must put in place conflict management agencies that will peacefully resolve conflict among agencies with emphasis on discipline in the force to be upheld.

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