

## **Boko Haram Insurgency and its Paradigmatic Shift in Terror: The Nigerian Military/Security as Endangered Species**

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### **Abstract**

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The study sets out to investigate the extent which the Boko Haram insurgency has taken a terrible dimension and shift its focus on attacking the Nigerian military/security forces. Thus, as a terrorist group with an ideology of eradicating western edifices and enthroning Islamic doctrine which it pursued with the instrumentality of bombing, killing, kidnapping of innocent citizens and instilling fears while unleashing terrible humanitarian issues of displacement. The group has turned its agenda towards unleashing terror at the Nigerian military and security personnels. Thus, it's an irony and serious contradiction that a country known as "giant of Africa" with a strong formidable ground force, that have engaged in many humanitarian and peacekeeping gestures of military proportion outside its shores cannot defeat a guerrilla terrorist group for over 10 years, despite huge monies voted for security votes and defence appropriation to counter Boko Haram terror. It is upon this worrisome situation the study delved to examine how factors such as: corruption and intelligence leakage could be responsible for the weak anti-terrorism campaign. The paper adopted the qualitative research methodology, while the content was used to analyse and interpret data retrieved from secondary sources like textbook, journal articles, newspaper/magazines, etc. The human security theory and needs theory were explored. The study discovered that, porous borders, embezzlement of security votes and misappropriation of defence expenditures, sabotage are responsible for the poor results in countering Boko Haram. Hence a robust, sincere and uncompromising security intelligence and brute force, motivation of personnels and strict border security.

**Keywords:** *Terrorism, Nigerian military/security, Intelligence, Human security and needs theory*

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### **Background to the Study**

The Boko Haram mayhem, unleashed by a fundamentalist group professing the superiority of Islamic doctrine and its forceful adoption, remains a devastating threat to the cooperative existence of the Nigerian state. The Boko Haram terrorism has continuously perturbed the peace of Nigeria in her fourth republic democratic dispensation. The level of destruction, displacement and human security cost in the form of loss to farmers, closure of educational institutions, food insecurity, etc. is alarming. The Boko Haram conflicts which emerged in the north, was rated the second largest terror group in the world in 2012 for killing a total of 1,132 persons in the 364 attacks, only surpassed by Afghanistan's Taliban. At least 1,200 people were killed and nearly 200,000 displaced during 2018 in the nine-year long northeast conflict between Boko Haram insurgents and government forces. Another 1,600 people were killed and 300,000 displaced as a result of intercommunal violence in the north central region. Scores of others were killed during heavy-handed crack-downs by security forces (Dune 2018; Okpaga and Innocent 2012; Ome and Casmir 2016; Human Rights Watch 2019).

The Nigerian State response to the Boko Haram issue has been the usual militaristic approach which has prevailed in other cases of insecurity in the Nigerian polity. Evidences in the matutine revolution, major ethnic and religious crisis, Niger Delta resources war brings to bear the militaristic approach always preferred by the Nigerian state. That the state remains the sole provider of security in terms of fulfilling its social contract oath of ensuring the security of the citizens' lives and property is not to be disputed. Within the purview of the 1999 constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, it is explicit thus: "the security and welfare of the people are the primary purpose of the government". It is based on this premise and philosophy of protecting the lives of the masses and enhancing their welfare that the government created the military, security and Para-military agencies-Army, Navy, Air force, police, Civil Defense, Director for state service, immigration, custom, etc. The emergence of the Boko Haram into the Nigerian socio-political landscape has seen the huge and continuous increase in financial budgetary allocations and security votes to Boko Haram infested areas and crisis-prone states. The huge budgetary allocations to defense represent 10.50 percent of the ₦58.001 trillion (48.30%) or almost half of the extravagant budget was expended in 2012, 2013, and 2014. By the end of 2018 President Buhari spent ₦1.864 trillion (30.57%) or more of the 11 years defence budget since his coming into power on May 29, 2015. This does not include the request of the president and approval of the National Executive Council (NEC) for the sum of one billion dollars (about ₦350 billion) from the excess crude account (ECA) to buy weapons to frontally tackle security challenges emanating from Boko Haram. The defence budget for 11 years moves upward to ₦6.5 billion, (Ndujike, 2018 in Olise and Emeh 2019).

The above analysis clearly buttresses the facts that the country's response and attitudes towards crisis of such proportion, is followed up with extreme militarization and application of brute force. Military crackdown by the use of the barrel of the gun has been the *ultima ratio* in the calculus of security management and crisis response systems. Many observers, scholars, analysts and development experts have queried the excessive employment of brute force in all campaigns to quell threats. Many issues according to pundits should be considered as necessary in tackling the Boko Haram threats, such as: poverty, lopsided radicalization, Islamic

indoctrination of dangerous fundamentalist ideology, illiteracy and all-round development. The military option and its adverse effects prompting the fierce radicalization of Boko Haram to the point where the country and its security forces are still wobbling to withstand the multifaceted attack and ambushed by Boko Haram and other agent of deaths – herdsmen, unknown gunmen, bandits, etc remains mind boggling. The violent radicalization of Boko Haram became a worrisome issue of national and international interest immediately the death of its founding leader-Mohammed Yusuf. His death was the fall out of the confrontation between the members of Boko Haram who were on a burial procession to bury their members and the Nigeria police in Bornu. It was a heavy gun duel that led to deaths, arrest and detention of Boko Haram members, and the eventually extrajudicial killing of its leader, Yusuf in July 2009. The death of Yusuf saw the emergence of a more radical and blood thirsty leader, Shekau, who was the second in command to late Yusuf. Shekau brought Boko Haram terror as a killer sects into international limelight, expanded its reach beyond Maiduguri, to capture other states, changed its tactics, engaged the services of more radical youths beyond the shores of Nigeria, gained finances from Osama Bin Laden etc. The attack and occupation of Geiam and Kanamma police station in Yobe state, raising the flag of the Taliban, made it public the group as an enemy of the Nigerian state in December 2003, (the CNN world news 2021, salaam 2013;Apard 2015).

Since the 2003 attack at police base in Kebbi, Boko Haram has continuously targeted military and security installation and their bases. The military has become endangered species, their lives lost, weapons carted away, their intelligence compromised. Thus the military who were supposed to protect the citizens from internal insurrections and external aggression, have become vulnerable to the attack by terrorists and other criminal elements. The Nigerian military that have in several occasions proven their bravery in many external humanitarian ventures outside the shores of Nigeria in countries like Liberia, Congo, Sieraleone, etc have become a thing of mockery in the hands of rag tag and untrained bandits and terrorist. This occurs severally as Boko Haram attacks the military and security, engaging them in pitched battles that most times sees the Nigerian military retreating and overwhelmed. Such a sorry situation makes one to wonder if there is the problem of lack of morale, poor combat readiness, poor logistic, inadequate financing etc. that could make the military so weak and vulnerable to Boko Haram onslaught.

Based on the above, the study sets out to examine the shift in Boko Haram attacks from civilians to military and security installations and formations, that results in Boko Haram's ability to cart away weapons, burn down military premises, kidnap some as captives until heavy ransom is paid, while some are executed. The study brings to limelight some factors such as financial corruption in terms of embezzling monies voted for the acquisition of military weapons to prosecute the war on terror, leakage of information and intelligence, poor motivation.

### **Statement of the Problem**

The paradigmatic shift in the attack, orchestrated by Boko Haram clearly demonstrates the vulnerability of the Nigerian military and security agencies/personnels at the frontline of

counter insurgency. That Boko Haram attack the military shows the group's hatred for the Nigerian state, civilians whom they feel are accomplice in the fight against insurgency and the military. The incessant attack by Boko Haram against the Nigerian military shows the extent of porosity and weakness of the military and security agencies. Their bases have been attacked, burnt and the Nigerian military have faced attack from not just Boko Haram but unknown gunmen.

Oko (2022) opined that, on the 8<sup>th</sup> April 2022, soldiers on a patrol in Abia came under attack by unknown gunmen who set ablaze a military tank after an early morning raid. The soldiers were ambushed at the popular Tonimas junction, osisioma axis, on the Enugu-Aba-Port Harcourt expressway. In the same year, the Sahara Reporters stated that, on Saturday, 30<sup>th</sup> April 2022 gunmen shot dead and then beheaded a couple who were operatives of the Nigerian Army. Military source told Sahara reporters that A. M Linus, a sergeant first class in the army and his Lance Corporal wife were on their way to Imo State when the incident happened. After beheading the couple who just got married, the gunmen were said to have called their family members to mock them.

The Sahara reporters of January 6 2022, informed that, the Islamic state backed faction of Boko Haram, the Islamic State of West Africa province (ISWAP), formerly known as Ahl as-Sunnah Lid-Da'wah Wa'l Jihad, claimed its fighters killed 10 Nigerian soldiers in Borno State on Tuesday, January 6<sup>th</sup> 2022 in Martie located near the shores of the Lake Chad-Borno State. In the same wave length, Ayitogo (2021) opined that, Boko Haram fighters invaded the headquarters of 156 Task Force Battalion in Maninok, about 60 kilometers west of Maiduiguri, the Borno State capital. The terrorist camouflaged in the police vehicle and approached a military checkpoint before opening fire on unsuspecting soldiers. One Army Officer and 17 others died in the battle, while no fewer than 43 other soldiers were seriously injured, 50 other personnels remained missing as of Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April, 2022 morning. Over 50 personnels who survived the battle made their way on foot to nearby Army Super Camp 4. An unknown number of others were remained trapped in bushes.

The Nigerian military have suffered terrible attacks in the hands of Boko Haram that leaves one to wonder, if this is the same military that in the political history of Nigeria, have been deployed outside the shores of the country to partake in peacekeeping missions. The Nigerian military was deployed to the first united peace keeping mission was in Congo, 1960-64. In 2005 in Liberia where Nigerian peacekeepers helped disarm more than 100, 000 fighters and to assist with a series of elections; in 2003, Nigeria sent troops to the UN mission from forces led by the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) which lasted till March 2008; 20, 000 Nigerians were sent to Liberia where more than 1, 500 were female; some 320 Nigerian police and troops were taken as part of UN peacekeeping operation in Mali, MINUSMA, with the aim of supporting the government in stabilizing the country after the Islamists and Tuareg rebel fighters gained control of the north back in 2013. (UN News). The irony remains why then does the same military and security personnels with such glamouring and formidable foot prints expressed in various military valours outside the shores of the country, is now seen being cajoled and wobbling like an infant baby trying to crawl in the face

of Boko Haram terrorism? Why is the Nigerian military and security agencies in the fight against terrorism, vulnerable and helpless in the face of continuous attack by Boko Haram bandits and unknown gunmen on daily basis, to the point of Boko Haram carting away weapons, burning down military vehicles, bases, checkpoints while the Boko Haram terrorism seems unabated? It is based upon the reasons, the study delved into unraveling the discrepancies and loopholes, such as financial corruption, leakage in intelligence, poor motivational incentives and logistics (purchase of adequate military hardware, weaponry, technological gadgets, etc.) to effectively prosecute the war on Boko Haram terror and other imminent threats to the military and security agencies, Nigerian citizens and state in general.

### **Objective of the Study**

The general objective of the study, is to examine the paradigmatic shift of Boko Haram terrorism from targeting of civilians to the military and security agencies whom are at the frontline of countering terrorism.

The study further looks into some salient issues below:

- i. To what extent has corruption (embezzling of funds budgeted for the acquisition of weapons) hinders the effective counter terrorism campaign in Nigeria making the Nigerian Military and security personnels vulnerable to Boko Haram attack?
- ii. To what extent does poor logistics and leakage of intelligence affect effective counter terrorism campaign in Nigeria?

### **Theoretical Framework**

The study explores the human security theory and Basic Needs Theory.

#### **Human Security Theory**

According to Sekwat(undated), human security is a concept connoting the protection of the vital core of human lives in ways that enhance human freedoms and human fulfillment. Human security means protecting people from critical (severe) and pervasive (widespread) threats and situations. Human security has some characteristics such as: people-centered-this brings to the fore the individual at the 'center of analysis'. Consequently it considers a wider image range of conditions which threatens survival, livelihood and dignity of humans and identifies the threshold below which human life is intolerably threatened; multi-sectorial-economic security; (persistent poverty, unemployment, food security (hunger and famine), health security;(deadly infectious diseases, unsafe food, malnutrition, lack of access to basic health care); Environmental security (environmental pollution) personal security (physical violence, crime, terrorism, domestic violence, child labour); community security (inter-ethnic, religious and other identity based tensions); political security (political repression, human right abuses, etc)

#### **Human Needs Theory**

According to Frey and Wilhite (2005), human beings act the way they do because they are, from daily rise to rest, continually trying to satisfy their basic needs. The five basic needs built into our generic structure have been identified as survival, belonging, power freedom and fun, (Glasser 1998 in Frey and WilWhite 2019). According to Abaho (2019), needs theory from the

perspectives of Abram Maslow, ranges from physiological (food, water, shelter and sleep), security or safety (freedom from danger and the fear of job loss, property, food or sleep), affiliation or acceptance (social needs-belonging and be accepted), esteem (power, prestige, status and self-confidence) and actualization (what one is capable of becoming maximization of potential). All these needs are important as the meeting or actualization of one or some without the other ones still breed dissatisfaction. Maslow documented a long list of human security (safety threats ranging from apprehensiveness, fear, death and anxiety, tension, nervousness and jitteriness). Lack of security does not only affect the individual directly but also the other security dependent sectors such as the economy. For instance, insecurity discourages development and investment in both local and foreign investment.

The relevance and inputs of the above theoretical underpinning, clearly demonstrates the high level and enormity of human security challenges of grave proportion. The Human security side of Boko Haram's onslaught on human security relates to endemic issues such as, food shortage, loss to farmers, closure of schools, death toll in both civilians and military/security personnels and their bases. The Boko Haram conflict has continuously unleashed unbearable human security challenges, as seen in the proliferation of internally displaced persons, who lacks the basic necessities of life: water, adequate health, sanitary environment, adequate protection and safety, dignity, etc. We shouldn't forget the suffering of farmers who flee away from their land, abandon their farmlands which leads to poor agricultural production and food insecurity. The northern part of Nigeria mostly Niger, Sokoto, Plateau, Kano, Bauchi and some middle belt like Benue State which harbours enormous food potentials are been attacked continuously by Boko Haram and bandits: attacks such as killing, kidnapping and molestation are what they farmers faces on daily basis. The challenges of internally displaced persons too isn't to be undermined. those displaced persons are also facing chronic Human security challenges such as poor and unsanitary environment, exposure to harsh and unfriendly environment, molestation by hoodlums, polluted drinking water, poor health conditions, etc.

While the needs theory brings to the fore, the inadequacy inherent in the provision made to the frontline officers whom are at the vanguard of counter insurgency in Nigeria. Such needs includes: sophisticated weapons, tracking devices, intelligence gadgets, food, clothing, military hardware, financial motivation aside their monthly emoluments, etc. but unfortunately all these quintessentials are lacking even when billions of Naira is being budgeted for such national assignment that has serious bearing on our nation-hood and corporate existence. The absent or inadequacy of the aforementioned necessities ends up making the frontline officers to be at the mercy of Boko Haram attack and annihilation. many soldiers have lost lives, women rendered widows, children fatherless and motherless.

### **Boko Haram: Origin and threat to Nigerian National Security**

Boko Haram ('western education is a sin') emerged around 2002 in Maiduguri, the state capital of Borno State the largest city in North east Nigeria. At the onset the group's intention was not to prevail or unleash violence in the entire country, but to topple the regime in Northern Nigeria, which the group felt have been exposed to western life style, which is contradictory to theirs: a regime they (the group) feel is insensitive to their economic woes and antithetical to

Islamic ways. In 2019 Boko Haram uprising began in Bauchi and spread to other Northern states, leaving hundreds of followers, Nigerian law enforcement officers and civilians dead, (Dunn 2018). The following year, attacks in the North East and other parts of the country including bombings, mass shootings and executions began to rise. In May 2013, President Jonathan declared a state of emergency in the states of Borno, Yobe and Adamawa. Since 2011, boko Haram- one of the largest Islamist militant group in Africa has conducted terrorists' attacks on religious and political groups, local police and the military, as well as indiscriminately attacking civilians in busy markets and villages. The kidnapping of over two hundred girls from their school in April 2014 drew the attention to the ongoing threat from Boko Haram and the government's inability to contain it. The group has links with other international terrorist sects outside Nigeria like the Islamic state in Maghreb in 2015. The United States boosted military assistance and deployed three hundred troops to Nigeria in an effort to help combat Boko Haram, (The Global Conflict Tracker 2022).

Boko Haram, bombed the United Nations building on the 26 August 2011. The bomb took the lives of 18 people. A spokesman for the Islamist group- Boko Haram told the BBC in a phone call that it had carried out the attack. UN Chief Ban Ki-moon said the attack was “an assault on those who devote their lives to helping others”, (The BBC News, August 26th 2011). Boko Haram, according to the former governor of Borno State-Kashim Shettima, boko haram destruction is so deadly. The sect have engaged in the killing of innocent souls and targeting of recreational centers, places of worship in a sustained and protracted manner, (Sunday Tribune, July 17 2011: 52). Since 2010 boko haram has claimed responsibility for serial bomb attacks on security formations, public offices, the United Nations office in Abuja, religious and media organizations and institutions of formal education. Boko haram has also kidnapped many westerners and local people, for whom they have requested huge ransoms and school girls whom they used as sex slaves, (The BBC News August 26 2011).

The Nigerian military, on its part, have carried out several clamp down using military and repressive measures in its counter-insurgency campaign. This has manifested in the deportation of suspected illegal aliens of the Republic of Benin, Chad, Niger and Somalia as well as the declaration of emergency rule in 15 local government areas in Borno, Yobe, Plateau and the Niger States (Ashedo and Osumah 2013). Also, repressive measures was exhibited in many checkpoints in major northern cities in a manner symptomatic of a nation under siege and on the brink of collapse. Consistent with its stance on the “war on terror”, the United States provided both fiscal and logistical support to Nigerian troops. According to the former American undersecretary of state Wendy Sherman the US has trained over 800 staff officers and more than 41, 000 troops through the Africa Contingency Operations Training and Assistance (ASOTA) progamme since 2004, (The Guardian, September 16, 2013 in Aghedo and Osumah 2014). The government's military and repressive counter-insurgency campaign is replete with all allegations of extrajudicial killings, rape, wanton destruction of property and Human Rights, violations. Indeed, the Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International and other human rights group have all reported that irrespective of issues of self-defense and/or heavy provocation, state security operatives have been reckless in their use of lethal force, leading to deaths of a number of boko haram suspects and innocent persons, (Abati 2009 in

Aghedo and Osumah 2014). In response to allegations of extrajudicial killings, illegal arrests, detentions, and arson, JTF spokesman Lt. Col. Sagir Musa noted that the JTF killed only when necessary (e. g in self defence or to save the lives of innocent and law-abiding citizens and their properties). In his words, “[w]e should not forget that several security operatives have been killed or maimed by Boko Haram terrorists, and alot of police stations and military installations have been destroyed”. Although no precise official statistics on the number of suspects and innocent persons killed or maimed are available at present, the numbers of casualties may be considerable, (Daily Sun, June 4 2012 in Aghedo and Osumah 2014).

Tanko (2021) affirmed that, boko haram is expanding its atrocities into new areas, taking advantage of Nigeria's poverty and other security challenges to propagate its extremist ideologies. According to the UN, by the end of 2020, conflict with boko haram has led to the deaths of almost 350, 000 people and forced millions from their homes. Igwe (2021) decried of the politicization of security and counter-insurgency campaign which benefits some persons, mostly military and political elites. This is undeniable as some politicians from Northern Nigeria are sympathizers of the boko haram mayhem. Many of these politicians use religious bigotry and ethnicity as potent tools for mobilization. Insecurity was a major part of the campaigns that led to the defeat of the Jonathan's regime. The United States confidently put Nigeria on a black list for engaging in religious freedom violations. A recent report published by Amnesty International revealed how older people are particularly exposed to the brutality of armed groups including witnessing the rape of their own children. Report says that, Africa is set to overtake the Middle East as the main theatre of Jihadism over the next twenty years. There are those who insist that lucrative kickbacks from opaque military expenditure allegedly serves as incentives to beneficiaries who cause the conflicts to linger. For instance, although Nigeria's defence spending is shrouded with secrecy, it is believed that about 840 billion naira (\$US 2. 1 billion) was budgeted for by the Ministry of Defence in 2020 alone. In addition the insurgents are said to have taken control of profitable commercial fishing and farming within the Lake Chad basin to fund their operations, see. (Ediege, Bassey and Abigail, 2022 on paper title "Illicit Economy and The Sustenance of Terrorism in Lake Chad Region: Kidnapping for Ransom and Boko Haram's might" 45% of the dry fish consumed in Nigeria comes from Baga town in Borno State. According to the World Food Program, the combined fish and red pepper trade contributed \$48 million to the Nigerian economy annually and employs about 300, 000 persons. Some military officers posted to the region reportedly flee their place of station, devoting most of their time to the lucrative fish and livestock business. Kidnapping also remains a central feature of their terror-finance connectivity. See. . . Ediege, Bassey and Abigail (2022) on Illicit Economy and The Sustenance of Terrorism in Lake Chad Region Kidnapping for Ransom and Boko Haram's Might"

Analysts have put the amount of ransom paid to Jihadist kidnappers in North and west Africa at \$120 million. Currently there is a dividing line between kidnappers, bandits, cattle rustlers and terrorists. This has been compounded by the existence of porous and poorly policed borders with Cameroun (773km), Chad (87km) and Niger (1, 497km). This porous borders has been responsible for the high incidence of arms proliferation, kidnapping hideouts etc, (Eselabor and Okunade 2020). When one considers the level of insensitivity and



irresponsiveness on the part of many African government and Nigeria as a case study where they have lost grip of the center in terms of inability of providing for the welfare, social security and protection of the lives, properties and wellbeing of the masses. You see the emergence of many factional militias to contest the state with the legitimate government. see Bassey, Chimaobi, Nsagha and Bright (2023) in their work " caught between the whirlpool of the failed-state of somalia and piracy the security challenge facing the horn of Africa"Also same has been documented by Okorie, Duke, Uno and Bassey (2023) when they pointed out the impact of porous borders as a factor paving way for transnational organized crime and insecurity in Northern Nigeria. With the above twin problems of poorly policed porous borders and inability for states in Africa to further their social contract in terms of performing effectively their constitutional duties of protecting lives and properties, efficiently carry out social security policies for the betterment of the lives of the masses. This is achieved by way of ensuring not just their safety and security, but ensuring a conducive environment where there is adequate health system, sound and affordable education and housing, justice in the distribution of resources, etc.

#### **Boko Haram insurgency and the attack at Nigerian military and security personnels.**

That there is a clear paradigmatic shift, in the target of boko haram from civilians to military and security personnels is not to be disputed. Thus, making those who are constitutionally mandated to implement government's security and defence policies of protecting lives and properties, suppress internal insurrection, protect and safeguard the territorial integrity of the Nation against external threat and violation, to be endangered. Imagine a Nation where humans are killed on daily basis, the military and security agencies and persnnels attacked, ambushed and overwhelmed with their weapons carted away in most instances. It shows the level of state failure of a country known as the "giant of Africa". It further entails the weakness and paralysis of the military and security forces in the counter-insurgency campaign as terrorists and bandits most times display the sophistication of their weapons. Issues of ammunition shortage as one of the factors that cripples the counter insurgency is been narrated thus:

*One police officer who is a member of the joint task force serving in the northeastern Borno State said troops are given just 30 bullets before heading out to patrol or search for boko haram. If you want more bullets, you have to bribe a superior officer (Voice of America).*

The Vanguard News of 6 April, 2022, reported that, terrorist suspected to be the Ansaru, an arm of Boko Haram sect attacked a military base at Polewire in Birnin-Girari, Kaduna State killing 17 soldiers and injuring 40 others after a fierce battle between both parties. The gunmen also killed three locales, razed four armoured vehicles and went away with military weapons after killing the soldiers. The attack came as Birnin-Gwari Emirate People's Union (BEPU) raised alarm over the continued subjection of its people to terror attacks and imposition of taxes and other levies by Ansaru members, despite persistent complaints, to the government. In the same vein, Sunday (2021) opined that, suspected boko haram terrorists, in five gun trucks attacked a military base at Tamsukwu in Kaga local council of Borno State. The terrorist penetrated from the Southern flank of Sambisa forest and targeted soldiers at the base

chanting “Allahu Akubakar” (God is great in Arabic) with the residents fleeing for safety. Confirming the clash, the commander, sector 3 of Civilian Joint Task Force (JTF), Modu Fannani disclosed that the terrorists were in military uniform. He further said, “the clash between the terrorists and troops lasted for over an hour before a fighter jet, along with ground troops came as reinforcement for the soldiers. Casualties from both the military and terrorist were not ascertained.

Ayitogo (2021) observed that, there was an attack at the headquarters of 156 task force battalion in Mainok in West of Borno State. The base was completely destroyed as Boko Haram carted away arms and ammunitions, burning everything in sight. The group used both matchete and guns to stage the attack, while over 50 personnel who survived the battle made their way on foot to the nearby village, numbers of others who escaped were believed to remain trapped in bushes. The casualty figure for the boko haram terrorists remained unknown. How the boko haram sects managed to enter the base remains a myth till date. The Mine-Resistant Anti-Personnel vehicles belonging to 81 Division area of responsibility, which got caught in gun fire, are yet to be recovered. In the attack, at least one Nigerian Army officer and 17 soldiers died in the battle. Aljazeera news of 20 May 2020, informed that, Boko Haram attacked the Blabrine military base overnight leaving 10 soldiers wounded, as told by the Defence Ministry. While seven terrorists were neutralized by Niger soldiers. The Blabrine base is some 20 Km (12 miles) Northeast of Diffa Town in the remote southeastern region near Lake Chad, where the borders of Cameroon, Chad, Niger and Nigeria converges. In October 2019, 12 Niger troops were killed at Blabrine according to the Defense Ministry. The Sahara Reporters of New York, January 6 2022, also informed that insurgents on Tuesday, 11th of October 2019, engaged Nigerian troops at the military post in Marte Community-located near the shores of Lake Chad, Borno State. The terror group added that it razed down the facility, while armored tank and military operational vehicles were captured. ISWAP in the post said 10 people were killed including soldiers and children during the attack. The France. com informed that gunmen attacked Nigerians Elite Military Academy on Tuesday, killing two officers and kidnapping another in a brazen assault on a symbol of the armed forces. The raid on the Nigerian Defense Academy, the country's main officer training school, is a devastating blow for a military already grappling with a prolonged Jihadist insurgency and wearily armed criminal syndicates. The security architecture of the Nigerian Defense Academy was compromised early morning before the attack by unknown gunmen. “we lost two personnel and one was abducted” said Major Bashir Muhammad Jajira, spokesman for the academy in the northwestern State of Kaduna. The Sahara Reporters, New York, February 11 2022, informed that, aircraft of the Nigerian Air force under operation Thunder Strike have bombed at least 20 terrorists otherwise known as bandits who were heading for the Nigerian Defense Academy (NDA) in Kaduna State. Credible intelligence source told PR Nigeria that the bandits riding on over 50 motorcycles were seen on Thursday evening advancing towards the Academy, in Kaduna State.

### **Intelligence Leakage and Compromise**

Intelligence, the ability to acquire and apply knowledge and skills. Seiglie, Coissard and Echinard (2008) sees intelligence as information superiority: the capability to collect process

and disseminate an uninterrupted flow of information while exploiting or denying an adversary's ability to do the same". Eggers, Steinberg and Graham (2003) are of the views that, foremost to be considered in mapping out a intelligence system to fight terrorism while protecting openness and privacy is to have a profound knowledge on the type of information is required to aid each homeland security challenge. Like in the case of America borders, there is need for more complete information about people and goods entering the country. To nip in the bud and forestall potential terrorist threats within a state there urgency to advance traditional investigative techniques by cross-referencing databases such as airline reservation records, phone logs, and credit histories with government law enforcement, immigration, and intelligence furthermore to ensure the safety of critical infrastructure such as agriculture, food, water, public health, emergency services, telecommunications, energy, transportation, banking, and finance, it is necessary to map vulnerabilities against capabilities of potential terrorists, people who have access to those infrastructures, and the means available to carry out effective attacks. Also, in a bid to tackle emergencies, there is need for a two-way communication in real time between first responders and other officials about the extent and nature of the attack, the resources available to respond, and the risk of further terrorist action. However, in this context of military campaign against Boko Haram, it connotes the collection of information of military or political value. Within the context of Nigerian, it brings to the fore, the idea that amongst other resources (finance, military hardware in terms of weapons, personnels) etc to tackle insurgency problems, intelligent gathering, which comes in different forms is necessary. The input, in the form of reliable and timely information, from civil society groups, community members and private agents as regards aiding the frontline military and security personnels. This entails communication as regards the hideouts and place of refuge of terrorists, their plans, time of attack, etc. Most times certain intelligent information are kept classified and secret for security reasons. Pecht and Tishler (2011) opined that, the technology and information revolution along with globalization have placed intelligence as the major factor in achieving appropriate national security in the fall of current military and terror threats. Since the second world war the preeminence of military intelligence became obvious to the contemporary regional conflicts and globalized war on terror.

The war against Boko Haram, still lingers for long as a result of many factors, which amongst others, intelligence failure and sabotage is one of such. This is evident when one recalls the January 2017 planned air strike by the Nigerian Air force that was to target Boko Haram, but mistakenly bombed a camp of internally displaced persons in Rann village in Borno state, which the defence headquarters tagged as lack of appropriate planning and decision making. The error led to the killing of more than 100 refugees and aid workers. Since the rise in violent onslaught staged by so called bandits across the country's Northern region, the government has been in a state of confusion in differentiating between terrorists and bandits as forms of criminality. The issue of poor information and intelligence have led to the ambushing by jihadists and killing the Nigerian military with ease. An estimated 337 Nigerian soldiers have been killed from insurgents' ambushes since 2019, according to a report. Over the 36 states of the federation, Nigerian Army have been deployed, yet they experience attack by bandits on daily basis. In September 2021, 12 soldiers attached to operation Hadi Theatre commands travelling from Monguno to Maiduguri were killed in an ambush. The insurgent reportedly

took away three gun trucks as well as substantial cash. In April 4 2021, 31 Nigerian soldiers were reportedly killed when extremists ambushed a military convoy escorting weapons in mainok near Maiduguri, killing troops and seizing weapons. In March 2020, an ambush near the Goneri village in Borno state wiped out an entire army artillery unit, leading to the death of at least 50 soldiers. A controversial ambush that occurred on 21 November 2021 still cannot trace the source. The military had previously repelled attacks from the group in Damaturu in Borno state near Chadian border, with casualties on both sides. A Brigadier General and commander of the Special Forces team near chibok, Dzarma Zirkusu received a distress call that askira, a small community 150 kilometer south of Maiduguri, was under attack by insurgents. Reportedly a convoy of around 12 gun trucks, the insurgents almost overwhelmed the military who called for reinforcements. A gallant commander who prefers to lead from the front, general Zirkusu launched counters offensive support for his soldiers. A vehicle ripped with bombs belonging to the Islamic states West Africa province (ISWAP) drove into his convoy killing the commander and three colleagues. This remains a failure of intelligence or internal sabotage, (Igwe 2022).

In the same vein, Omoniyi (2021) decried of the adverse effects of poor intelligence gathering, information leakage on the one hand and the continuous assaults by Boko haram, bandits and other criminal gangs against the Nigerian military and citizens on the other hand. This has surfaced in the north east, north west and north central swathes of the country (Niger, Kogi and Nasarawa, to the federal capital territory- Abuja. As at the time of this study (2022) Nigeria was regarded as one of the most dangerous places to live in. The 2020 Global Terrorism Index identified Nigeria specifically as the third country most affected by terrorism. Also the Nigeria Security Tracker documented 2, 769 violent deaths recorded between February 2020 and February 2021 in just one northern state. Kidnappings staged by various criminal armed groups increased in the past five years. A recent report noted that over \$ 18 million was paid as ransom for victims abducted between 2011 and 2020. The threats if kidnapping carried out by bandits has been echoed by Ediege, Bassey and Abigail (2021) in the study "illicit economy and the sustenance of terrorism in the lake chad region: kidnapping for ransom and Boko Haram's might". Omoniyi further informed that many of the crimes perpetrated and violence recorded could have been averted if Nigeria had a virile intelligence network and there is greater cooperation, not misunderstanding, among the government units tasked with providing intelligence and security, Say some of experts. The facts is if the issue of poor intelligence is adequately addressed among all the security, intelligence agencies and military, then insecurity would have been drastically reduced by 50% said Timothy Avele, the chief executive officer of Agent x- security ltd. "from the president down the ladder of the leadership of various security agencies and the military, all acknowledged this thorny issue of lack of actionable intelligence". Also while everyone wants intelligence, sadly no one wants to invest in its acquisition. Imagine a military top leadership asking villagers to supply intelligence. Intelligence could only be procured by trained intelligent analysis. Sadly, the entire police force has less than 70 trained modern analysts, the military less than 100. If the three major outfit tasked with providing intelligence cover for security operations in the country; The Nigerian police, the state security service and the national intelligence agency, were virile and united, the pervasive insecurity would be greatly curbed. Unfortunately, until

recently we could not trace a criminal using his mobile phone record. The level of illiteracy among the police force is high, their educational requirement is not high, and it becomes a last resort to school dropout, who probably had no other options in life. Nigeria has not come of age. The Nigeria police do not possess the required skill to secure a crime scene, conduct efficient evidence-gathering procedures such as lifting fingerprints from the crime scene, have no credible criminal data base, cannot use forensic science in solving crime and so on, (Omoniyi 2021)

According to Jimoh (2022), poor intelligence and sabotage have been a serious threat to the fight against Boko Haram insurgency in Nigeria. Describing the Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> 2022 Nigerian Air force plane crash that claimed the lives of two officers as one mishap to many, the people's Democratic Party (PDP) stated following the inconclusiveness of previous investigations, it is suspecting sabotage of national security by members and sympathizers of ruling all Progressive Congress (APC). The PDP member derived of the perceived complicity leading to numerous unexplained military aircraft crashes in the country in the last seven years. The worst is each time there is a plane crash, the APC-led government of President Buahri comes up with the public announcement to investigate the circumstance surrounding the mishap, but typically of the administration, such investigation will never come into fruition. This pattern gives credence to the strong perception among Nigerians that there is complicity or sabotage of our national security architecture, including air force, which is critical to the fight against terrorism. The nation has experienced no fewer than unexplained military anti crashes since the Muhammad Buahri-led APC government took over power in 2015.

### **Corruption and The Fight Against Boko Haram Terrorism**

This part of the work, clearly reinforces the idea that, corruption in the form of embezzlement of funds, earmarked for the purchase of military hardware, ammunitions, logistics of any kind to frontally tackle Boko Haram terrorism have crippled the Nigerian Armed forces-Army, Navy, Air force and other security and Para-military agencies-Police, Dss, Civil defence, etc who are involved in the counter Boko Haram insurgency. The Kleptocracy in the defence sector since the emergence of the fight against Boko Haram is alarming. Thus as the nation, since the time of President Good luck Jonathan, huge monies have been budgeted and pushed into the defence and security sector, yet the Boko Haram insurgency looms high and unabated. The insurgents operate with more guts, intelligence, audacity and effrontery to the point of ambushing the Nigeria military on several occasions, (Duke, Agbaji and Bassey 2017). Duke and Bassey (2021) their study "enthroning the Tenets of Accountability and Transparency in Defense Spending: The Security Votes Brouhala and the Recklessness of State Governors in Nigeria" narrated the extent at which the defense sector is shrouded with unnecessary secrecy, making it easy for misappropriation of funds.

Corruption, has been a serious distorting and destabilizing force militating against all lofty efforts of Nation-building and development, Poverty alleviation, credible elections, infrastructural advancement, sound education and functional health system, security and safety of citizens, etc. It has caused the proliferation and flourishing of illicit economic activities, Prostitution, arm trade, human trafficking, oil bunkery and theft etc., (Paul and

Mekoa 2021; Ezeanya 2014; Aputazie, 2021, Okanle and Nkpe 2022; Bamidele 2012; Onyekwere 2021; Sule, Ibrahim and Ibrahim 2018; Sule, Mohd Sani and Mat 2018; Ogbuagu, Ubi and Effiom 2014; Hoffmann and Patel 2021; Onwujekwe, Odili, Mbachu, Hutchinson, Ichoku, Ogbozor, Agwu, Obi and Banova 2018; Osaji, Udoh and Bassey 2022; Odisu, 2015; Ikechi and Omodero, 2019).

According to Duke, Agbaji and Bassey (2017), the nexus between corruption and instability (in national defence) is undoubtedly gaining increased attention as evidenced in the allegations against Nigerian senior military officers who have been bribed to turn a blind eye to Boko Haram or to short change the military by providing substandard military material. In this vein, the poor state of security in Nigeria occasioned by the penetration of crises and the corrupt way of handling or theft of military appropriations is a bane to effectively curb terrorism. This reveals thorough systemic failures and frustrates the military's efforts of attaining national security demands. A report by the United State under Secretary of State for Civilian Security, Democracy and Human Rights, Sarah Sewall, said categorically that corruption is hampering Nigeria's efforts at ending insurgency in the North East. A case in point is the theft of funds appropriated to the defence sector for combating terrorism in Nigeria. As efforts to curtail the sting of Boko Haram terrorism, the defence budget jumped from 100 billion naira (\$625 million) in 2010 to 927 billion (\$6 billion) in 2011 and 1 trillion (\$6.25 billion) in 2012, 2013 and 2014. Another case is \$2.1 million Arms scandal popularly called Dansukigate: involving the former National Security Adviser (NSA), (Rtd) col. Sambo Dasuki and other top military officers and politicians. The defence sector corruption in the form of embezzling funds meant to combat Boko Haram insurgency has seen \$15 billion stolen, leaving the military bereft of vital equipment, insufficiently trained, low morale and under resourced, (Duke, Agbaji and Bassey 2017).

The financial theft in the defense sector, have adversely affected the prosecution of the counter insurgency. The young Frontline military officers have decried of inadequate financial resources, to acquire more sophisticated military equipment, that would not only match, but suppress the artilleries of Boko Haram. This has made the Boko Haram gain superiority in confronting the Nigerian military in pitch battles, ambushing and surprise attack at military bases, killing, maiming, burning down military vehicles and carting away weapons. The Premium Times of 2014 buttress this point further thus: the level of corruption leading to poor incentives, inadequate equipment, making frontline men to be vulnerable to attacks, killed their morale and bred a rebellious and insubordinated attitude that prompted mutiny. The mutiny saw the court marshaling of about eighteen (18) soldiers. Soldiers the 7 division of the Nigeria Army in Maiduguri were also court marshaled and sentence accordingly for protesting the insensitivity of superior officers to their safety in the operations against Boko Haram insurgency. Twelve of them were sentenced to death by firing squad and six others would serve varying prisons terms according to the degree of involvement in the mutiny. Another set of 54 members of the armed forces attached to the 7 Division were also court marshaled on the 17<sup>th</sup> of December 2014. They were found guilty for conspiring to commit mutiny against authority of the 7 Division on August 4<sup>th</sup> 2014 by refusing to join the 111 (one hundred and eleven) special forces Battalion troops to recapture Delva, Bulabulin and Damboa in Borno State from the Boko Haram (Premium Times, 2014 in Umaru 2017).

The level of corruption and the attitude of war entrepreneurs, as regards the Boko Haram insurgency is a thorny one. This has made many observers to doubt if the war against Boko Haram would end soon, if it won't get even more deadlier to the point of Boko Haram overrunning the entire military of the Nation. The war entrepreneurs are those unpatriotic, selfish, demonic and inhumane Nigerians (top politicians, military officers and their civilian collaborators) who benefits from the ongoing war of recouping cash as the war prolong. Thus for instance, there has been huge amount of monies in the name of security votes given to those states suffering Boko Haram onslaught. As the President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, gives every state security votes, those affected by Boko Haram receives more than other peaceful states. Also, the monies voted for weapons acquisition to purchase more sophisticated weapons, intelligence gadgets, etc are squandered by war contractors, whom are Nigerians. This criminalistic attitudes ends up frustrating these officers who are at the war front fighting Boko Haram:their morale is weak as they don't have enough arms, even essentials as bullets, no logistics in terms of food, money, incentives, etc, The frontline men are left with nothing to withstand Boko Haram, as they are killed, attacked, ambushed on daily basis, weapons seized. The fall out of all this irresponsible and unpatriotic attitude of the managers of the Nigerian state and corrupt military officials who misappropriate defense spending affects human security. Thus as Ediege, Duke and Bassey (2021) rightly opined the fourth republic Nigeria has been enmeshed in a slippery hollow of insecurity that affects the safety, security and wellbeing of ordinary citizens. Human security as eloquently captured by Ebaye, Duke and Bassey (2021) has gone beyond military threats such as war, conflict, arms race, etc. issues of Non-military threats such as food/hunger, poor hygiene, disease, internally displacement, that surfaces as a result of Boko Haram attack have continue to ravage the country. Same issues of human security in terms of hunger, loss of jobs, unemployment, human rights suppression and abuse during Covid-19 pandemic as states, including Nigeria observed the Covid-19 preventive measures geared towards curbing the spread of Covid-19. Coping with insecurity of such magnitude from terrorism and other agents of death it's a daunting task.

Ogbuehi (2018) opined that, corruption in the defense sector, for fighting Boko Haram insurgency has taken many forms, deceit-the government of president Buhari have in many occasions, claimed they have defeated Boko Haram. But the reality on ground counters such false claims, even as informed by the Global Terrorism Index (GTI) 2017. The involvement of top political office holders like the here is need to cast our minds back to the killing of Alhaji Buji Foi, an alleged Boko-Haram sponsor who was executed 24 hours after the sect's founder Mohammad Yusuf was executed. Surprisingly, Foi had served in various capacities as a public officer which includes being a two-time local government chairman in Borno and the Commissioner responsible for religious affairs in the first tenure of Senator Ali Modu Sheriff (SAS) as the Governor of Borno state. Though it wasn't clear what his grouse were, he succeeded in using his position in the state to provide shelter and other comfort for members of Boko-Haram sect. Sometime in 2012 Chief of Army staff General Azubike Ihejirika (rtd), Senator Ali Modi Sheriff and unknown senior officer of the Central Bank of Nigeria were implicated as being complicit in the operations of Boko Haram sect. This was revealed by Dr. Steven Davis-an independent negotiator who claimed that the chief sponsors of the sect are

politicians who channel their funds through Central Bank of Nigeria to give such unholy financial deal a legitimate posture. But these allegations were dismissed by the Jonathan administration and seen as a play to blackmail. But the case of Modi Sheriff's involvement resurfaced again as was presented by a former commissioner for Justice and Attorney General of Borno State who accused Sheriff of being a core sponsor of Boko Haram. Reasons the Chief Judge accused Yusuf, was his refusal for the release of Boko Haram's first captured leaders while he was under prison study. He, Sheriff feared that, if terrorist was released, he would have confessed and revealed things that might implicated Sheriff. Another worrisome issue was the squandering of money meant to fight Boko Haram by senior military officers. This ends up frustrating the efforts and jeopardizing the welfare of the frontline officers. Some soldiers in the war front, severally decried of 50% slash in their salaries, poor feeding, insufficient drinking water. One of the Police officers in Nigeria's North East once told the Voice of America that they were meant to confront the insurgent who were in possession of 1000 bullets on daily basis, while the Nigerian side had just 30 bullets, (Ogbuehi, 2018).

The international dimension of the war on terrorism also emerged. United States on several occasion refused assisting in fighting the insurgency, claiming that Nigeria is not sincere as the country refused to probe an unnamed service chief of Nigeria implicated in money laundry in the United States. Another case was there outright seizure of 3.9 million meant for arms procurement by South African Board Authorities and a subsequent seizure by South Africa of 5.7 million transferred by Societe D' Equipment's Internationale of Nigeria to South Africa Arms Company, Cerberus Risk Solutions for same procurement of arms is still in Public domain. Though these funds were later released, but not after due process according to South African authorities. The occasioned delay in the release constituted a major setback in the counter insurgency campaign, which underscored Governor Kashim Shettima's claim that Boko Haram is more equipped and motivated than Nigeria troops. The corruption also affected the welfare of Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs). There are cases of petitions against the Director General of National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA) and public hearings instituted by the House of Representative Committee on Emergency and Disaster Preparedness where it was revealed that there was over Five Billion (N5, 000, 000, 000) contract scandal under the management of current DG NEMA Mailiaja. He is presently responding to allegations at the time of this write-up of how he expended over four hundred million-naira (400, 000, 000) remurrage on donated Chinese Rice. He was also accused of awarding contracts to fake companies that are not qualified for business in Nigeria which included N1.6bn flood victims fund for 16 states and N3.1bn food intervention for victims of Boko Haram in North-East. The misappropriation of security votes accrued to the 36 states governors of the Federal Republic of Nigeria. The Transparency International Report reveals that security votes totaling over 670 million annually. At the Federal level, the number of security votes tucked into the federal budget increased from about thirty in 2016 to over 190 in 2018 and their total value increased from N9.3 billion (\$46.2 million) to N18.4 billion (\$51 million). Despite such increment in adhoc defense spending since 2011, operations in the North East remain hampered by equipment machinery and pay shortages. All these issues kill the morale of the soldiers, coupled with the continuous sabotage in information leaking to Boko Haram so as they give the group when to avoid being attacked while giving them the advantage on when and how to ambush Nigerian soldiers (Ogbuehi 2018).



The above analysis, clearly demonstrates the issues revolving around the counter insurgency campaign in Nigeria. The Boko Haram conflict is on side of the many protracted security challenge wreaking devastating harvoc on the country socially, politically, environmentally, health etc. The Boko Haram insurgency an hybrid challenge with different coloration, this: attempt at islamization of the Nigerian State through seizure and brutal force, killing maiming, kidnappings for ransom, attack at military bases, farmlands, schools, churches, national infrastructures, etc. The issue of politicizing Boko Haram insurgency it's another area of national disturbance. It has an international repercussion as the country is included in nations that are candidates of failed-state. This is so as the Nigerian State with it's security, defence and military architecture seems fallible and incapable of defeating Boko Haram. The politicizing of counter insurgency has helped prolong the fight due to the monstrous and barbaric local war enterprenurs in the military, bureaucracy, political class, who turned the issue into a money making venture by collecting huge billions for prosecuting the war and in the name of "security votes". Despite huge monies expended in counter Boko Haram, the problem gets more sophisticated on daily basis.

### **Conclusion**

The violent upsurge in Boko Haram insuegency has taken a deadly proportion whereby the military and security agencies with their personnels have become targets. These are men who signed to prptect the nation by sacrificing their lives for the existence and sustainability of the nation in protecting lives and properties. They have become endangered species in the hands of clandestine criminal networks who exhibit extreme audacity and bravery in challenging th Nigerian state which is supposed to be the sole monopoly over the coercive instrument of violence. We see on several occasions where the Nigerian military and security personnels are ambushed and killed helplessly. one start wondering the sort of intelligence and military might this criminal syndicates have.

The Nigerian military is seen as a stumbling block to the realization of the Boko Haram's goal, hence their attack and possible annihilation. Making it seems possible for Boko Haram to always ramp up Nigerian military, are factors like corruption in defence and security appropriation, leakage of intelligence and information in favour of Boko Haram, poor motivation and logistical tools on the part of Nigerian Military and security. The manner at which defence appropriation is done is bereft of transparency, accountability and adequate parliamentary oversight.

With such an unfavorable atmosphere of performance, there is little or no hope for the Nigerian State with it's security and defence apparatus to successfully defeat boko Haram. The audacity and bravery exhibited by Boko Haram it's not be undermined. The invading of the Kuje prison in Abuja, on 5th July, 2022 is a good example of such bravery. Udegbumam and Adenekan, (2022) opined that, the spokesperson of the Nigeria Correctional Service (NCoS), Umar Abubakar, on Wednesday, said over 400 of the escaped inmates have been recaptured while 443 are still at large. Another 16 inmates who sustained various degrees of injuries are receiving treatment. The terrorists, using high explosives and guns, breached the facility, leading to the escape of over 800 of the 994 inmates on Tuesday night of 5th July, 2022.

PREMIUM TIMES reported that an NSCDC officer was killed during the attack while four inmates were also killed. The spokesperson of the Nigeria Correctional Service (NCoS), Umar Abubakar, on Wednesday, said over 400 of the escaped inmates have been recaptured while 443 are still at large. Another 16 inmates who sustained various degrees of injuries are receiving treatment.

### **Recommendations**

There should be a rethink on the counter insurgency campaign in terms of needs. Thus all necessary requirements from weaponry, logistics, material foods, gadgets in information technology, tracking devices, surveillance, financial motivations, etc. The Nigerian State from realities on ground, have busmen budgeting enough for defence and security sector gears towards a formidable and effective counter insurgency, yet no reasonable results have been achieved.

Strict monitoring and parliamentary oversight on defence spending. this is one loophole in the Nigerian Defence administration. This is due to the unnecessary secrecy that shrouds the entire defence dealings. It ends up opening room for top bureaucrats, defence planners, top military brass and politicians to loot money with impunity. The worst is after such unholy usage of defence money, arrest is made and sooner such issue disappears into thin air. The Nigerian State us yet to frontally tackle issues of corruption, financial graft, misappropriation of national wealth.

Investing in technological advancement that guarantees apt and accurate intelligence gathering it's necessary. The issue of information gathering should go sophisticated as terrorist and other criminal networks are taking advantage of revolution in communication and information technology to advance their nefarious deeds. Government should be ready to invest heavily with appropriate agencies and individuals who are sincere in contracting and purchasing such devises. The country is already bleeding financially due to stealing in all ramifications including massive crude oil theft, debts, high cost of governance in maintaining Government officials, and other unholy acts perpetrated by politicians and elites. So, stealing from defense appropriation meant to fight terrorism and crimes breaks the country more.

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