

# POLICE EFFECTIVENESS AND MILITARY INVOLVEMENT IN INTERNAL SECURITY OPERATIONS IN NIGERIA.

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#### **ABSTRACT**

Security of life and property are primary purpose of the Government. The Government through the Nigeria Police fulfils its obligation of security to the Nation. However, in recent times the Military has been involved in internal security operations. The study focuses on the police effectiveness and military involvement in internal security operations in Nigeria. To better under study this, I anchor the theoretical frame work on the relative deprivation theory of Blau & Blau. The theory states that men are most inclined to aggression when subjected to sustained and unjustified frustration and this potential for collective violence varies strongly with the intensity and scope of relative deprivation among members of groups. This theory is relevant to this study because it underscores the underlining causes of violence in the society. The research methodology adopted exploratory and explanatory approach while questionnaire and personnel observation were used in retrieving required data from the public.125 respondents were selected randomly from two main groups namely: Government officials and private individuals, simple percentages were used to analyze the data and also chi-square method was used in solving the hypothesis. The reliability coefficient for police effectiveness and military involvement in internal security participation questionnaire (PEMIISPAQ) was found to be positive. Four research questions and four hypotheses were raised in the study. The findings reveal that inadequate equipment, inadequate training, inadequate welfare, inadequate funding, and lack of community base policing are the root causes of police incapability to combat internal security operations in Nigeria. The study recommends that the effort of the Nigeria police alone cannot curb the rate of insecurity in the Nation and the military should remain an indispensable partner in internal security operations in the country.

**KEYWORDS:** POLICE EFFECTIVENESS, MILITARY, INTERNAL SECURITY, NIGERIA.

#### **INTRODUCTION:**

Since 1<sup>st</sup> October, 1960 when Nigeria got her independence the peoples joy was without limit, their joy knew no bound because of the perceived security benefit and freedom from threats they would enjoy. Azinge (2013) declared thus:

Security has to do with freedom from dangers or threat of a nation's ability to protect and develop itself, promote its values and legitimate interest and enhance the well-being of its people.



Internal Security, as expected according to Busan (2014) has to do with freedom from threats or absence of those tendencies which could undermine internal cohesion and the corporate existences of a country and its ability to maintain its vital institution for the promotion of its core values and socio – political and economic objectives as well as meet the legitimate operations of the people. Rather, the situation has been accompanied by armed robbers attack, kidnappings, political assassinations, trans-border crimes, espionage, smuggling of arms, insurgency, oil bunkering, and incessant vandalization of public infrastructures in Nigeria today, Azinge (2013).

The Nigeria nation is characterized by the security challenges of various dimensions since its independence up to date, (Phenson, 2014). There is widespread of communal clashes, lack of democratic culture that leads to electoral violence, financial crimes, poverty, ethnic rivals, religious extremism, and so forth (Akpan, 2012). There are political and social-economic related security problems such as tribalism, false image of who we are, weak leadership, Nigeria style, lack of patriotism, social injustice and culture of mediocrity, indiscipline, corruption, ethnicity conflicts (Nwankwo, 2012) and most importantly the oil-related security and Boko haram challenges which have bedeviled the Nigeria society as today.

Recent research has shown that presently secessionist movements have emerged in different parts of the country such as the Movement for the Actualization of the Sovereign State of the Biafra (massob)/Indigenous People of Biafra (IPOB) in South east, Boko haram groups in North east, agitating for the reconstruction of Nigeria as an Islamic Country and the rejection of Western culture especially education; there are also volunteer forces in the Niger Delta demanding greater control of the oil wealth. All these new rebellious movements constitute threat to the internal Security of Nigeria and are obstacles against National integration and development. Booth in Nwolise (2008) and Ali (2006) thinking along the same line posited that threats to National Security had manifested in economic, political and social forms in Nigeria. Compbell (2009) and ALUBO (2006) maintained that the sad experience in the security situation in the country has become so precarious that hostage taking of oil workers and some Government officials, vandalization of oil pipelines, kidnapping of wealthy men, Bomb blast of religious places, markets and schools are becoming uncontrollable.

Nwankwo (2012) affirms that several attacks of Boko haram sect have affected economic activities in Maiduguri, Bauchi, Yobe and other cities in the North–east. Many residents have fled their homes while others who could relocate hardly go about their normal businesses.

The violent conflicts in Nigeria have assumed a dangerous dimension in recent time to the extent that no geo-political zone is insulated from the social virus of violence (Albert, 2012) For instance, the South western zone has National Union of road transport workers (NURTW) to contend with, the south-south has been under the "Claws" of youth restiveness, the South –eastern zone has been troubled by kidnappers, the middle belt states of Benue Taraba have not rested from TIV/JUKUN and FULANI clashes; on the Plateau have been the



problem of indigene/ settler clashes, while the Islamic sect of Boko haram has caged the North-eastern zone in gory and endless nightmare (Nwankwo, 2012).

Imobighe, etal (2002) observed that all the zones have evolved ethnic militias that seek to dictate power, security and social interactions in their various area; for instance, the South west produced Odu'a people's congress (OPC), the SOUTH –SOUTH produced Igbesu boys, the South east produced Bakasi boys, while the Northern equivalent is Arewa people's congress (APC). Phenson (2014) further maintain that one thing that is common to these subcultural groups is lawlessness and violate crimes which have sent many Nigerians to their early graves, permanently maimed several others, generated several widows and orphans as well as heightening doubts and suspicion among the diverse ethnic nationalities and religious groups that have cohabited for decades.

Nigerians today find it difficult to believe that Islam/Christianity (the two foreign but popular religious in Nigeria) which are religions of peace could be involved in violent. This is because, violent crisis arising from religious front have claimed uncountable lives and responsible for destruction of several public and private properties in the recent past (Abimboye, 2009).

Agbaje (2000) noted that the immediate effects are devastation. Both calculated and mob actions lead to massacres and wide spread losses of human capital warriors, community leaders, vibrant youths, entrepreneurs, and children etc. Aloysious (2005) observed that the rising insecurity in Nigeria and the cloud of uncertainty surrounding this current administration appear as much bigger threat to Nigeria than global financial crisis.

In line with postulation of Usang (2009) the Nigeria state are currently faced with numerous challenges that range from oil related issues, environmental, ethnic, political, religious and criminal issues which pose serious threat to her unity. Usang (2009) further maintain that porosity of Nigeria borders and infiltration of weapons and ammunition from neighboring state has deteriorated the situation at present

Eliagwu (2005) noted that ethnic conflict witnessed in the country has discouraged investors especially the private sectors from investing in the Nation that will reduce the investor competitive advantage due to internal threat. Nigeria since the intensification of internal threat has been losing the benefit of the globalization dividends and phenomenon.

The fundamental purpose of the study is to investigate how the threat posed by kidnapping, Boko haram insurgency, armed robbery, political assassinations affected Police effectiveness and how the military became involved in internal security operations in Nigeria. It is targeted at addressing whether military involvement has enhanced security in terms of attainment of peace and maintenances of political stability (Aliagwu, 2005). In view of the above this research work seeks to affirm the need for the military to maintain a frontal role in internal security of the country so as to meet the challenges inherent in today Nigeria. And lastly, suggest possible ways of mediating conflict, militancy, agitation, and communal clashes in Nigeria.



#### STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The persistence of internal security challenges and the seemingly inability of Nigeria police force in ensuring safety of live and properties in the country are worrisome. The high rate of violent crimes such as terrorist attacks, kidnappings, armed-robbery, banditry, suicide bombings, ethnic clashes, politically-motivated killings, and other forms of criminal activities in the country are becoming increasingly regular occurrence that characterize life in the Nation (Akpan, 2012).

The sources of security challenges in the country are numerous and most Nigeria describe police as a motley crowd of lazy, inefficient, corrupt, uniformed men and women contributing to the perpetration of crimes such as mass killings, intimidations, rapes, extrajudicial killings/ summary execution and other heinous crimes against citizens they are paid to protect (Uhumwuanhgo and Aluforo,2011). According to Ikeji (2013) the escalation of violence in the Northern part of Nigeria perpetrated by Boko-haram today is linked with the police extra-judiciary killing of the leader of the group in July 2009 in Borno state. It is not well with Nigeria where crime and violence is moving on a fast lane. Given the spate of violence and the level of degeneration in the body polity, one may be right to conclude that Nigeria police have exhibited glaring inadequacies and demonstrated incapacity to effectively enforce the law and maintain order in the society (Ikeji, 2013). It is no longer safe to walk alone even during the day, robberies, assassinations, arsions, lootings of public treasury and child-thefts amongst other vices have become the rule rather than the exception (Arinze, 2012).

Nigeria has consistently ranked low in the global peace index (GPL, 2012) signifying a worsened state of insecurity in the country (Achumba etal, 2013). In line with the above, onifade etal (2013) asserts that the challenges of insecurity has assumed formidable dimensions forcing the country's political economic managers and indeed the entire Nation to rue the loss of their loved ones, investments and absence of safety in most parts the country.

Achumba etal(, 2013) maintains that the rate at which innocent blood is wasted on a daily basis and the display of bottled up frustration by the citizens remains a cause for concern. Nwaeze (2011) explains that the rate of bloodshed during the Nigeria civil war is a child play compared to the terrorist attacks in the few years.

Egwu (2011) maintains that one of the primary purposes of Government in any Nation is the provision of security. The role is emphasized in the 1999 constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria that security and welfare of the people shall be the primary purpose of the Government, Section 12(2) (b) in performing this role, the government delegates the duty of maintenance of internal security to the Nigeria police. Arinze(, 2010) maintains that Nigeria police are by law saddle with the responsibility of preventing and detecting crimes, preserving peace and order and enforcing all laws and regulations. They are expected to perform these roles efficiently and effectively with the high rate of insecurity in the country, the question that borders every mind is whether the police performed these



roles as expected of them. Majority are of the opinion that the police falls below their standards of performance. They are seen as a toothless dog that can only bark but not bite. The problem center on what is responsible for the failure of security in the country. Does it mean that police don't have the capacity to maintain the National Security? Should Military be co-opted to compliment police for security operation? What should be the implication of military in internal security operation?

#### **OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY**

The study is therefore designed toward examining the relevance of military involvement in internal security operations in Nigeria. Specifically the study intends to examine the Police effectiveness in combating internal security. It also intends to examine the relevance of the Military in internal security operations in Nigeria and how best the military can be co-opted to assist the Police in internal security operations.

### **HYPOTHESIS**

**Ho:** There are no reasons for the Military in internal Security operations

**H1:** There are reasons for the Military in internal Security operations.

#### SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

The research work will contribute to the existing literature on Military involvement in internal security operations in Nigeria, the departments of peace and conflict studies and social science in general. It will further generate agitation in the minds of readers and spur further research works on this subject. The findings and recommendations of this research work would also improve the management of conflict related development challenges in the North-east part of the country and other flash point in Nigeria.

#### **SCOPE**

To achieve the purpose of this research work, the study will Endeavour to:

- 1. Highlight the immediate and remote reasons of military in internal security in Nigeria.
- 2. Identify the causes of Nigeria police incapability in combating internal crises in Nigeria.
- 3. The measures Nigeria military adopted in combating internal crises in Nigeria

#### **DEFINITION OF TERMS**

Military Simple refers to the tripartite divisions of profession of the Arms, viz Army, Navy, and Air force; these institutions constitute the custodian of the National security of any Nation (Nwolise, 2007). The Nigeria Army since independence in 1960 is a critical concern in the development, future stability and progress of Nation (Jonathan, 1999). The role of the



military in internal security operations cannot be over emphasized. The complex task of keeping Nigeria one and of protecting the Nation from external and internal aggression (Attacks) undoubtedly rest primarily on the military (Nwolise, 2012). The 1999 constitution which is the supreme law of the land gives them the backing and the higher aggression of insurgency in the Nation today justifies their involvement (Lukeman, 2014). Okiro (2007) observed that ideas of National security which was largely defined in Militarized terms with scholars and statement advocating on the Military capabilities of states to deal with threat that face the Nation. In line with above, Nwolise(,2007) state that the involvement of the Military in such security scenario is necessitated when the situations are adjudged to have overwhelmed the police or other relevant public security agencies. Ozoemena (2009) asserts that security is all about National interest and involves the sum of total actions and measures, including legislature and operational procedures, adopted to ensure peace, stability and the general well-being of a Nation and it citizens. According to Alimba (2014) the Nigerian Army has lamented doing the job of the Police in a country where Boko-haram, Fulani herdsmen and Niger Delta avengers are stretching the capacity of the security forces. Alimba (2014) maintains that soldiers being deployed to keep peace across Nigeria even though the constitutional role of the Military is to defend the country from external aggression. The increasing deployment of military forces for internal security operations across the country underscores the profoundly dysfunctional state of Nigeria's public safety institutions, particularly the ineffectiveness of the police force (Adesote and Abimbola, 2014). Adesote and Abimbola (2014) notes that Boko-haram has been waging a brutal war against the Nigerian state with sophisticated weapons since 2009 that has left the Nation police stretched and running scared.

The Military is finding it difficult doing the job of the Police, but it has been left with no choice (George, 2014). George (2014) further maintains that the kind of criminality and the kinds of weapons being used have reached a level of sophistication that the Police don't have the capacity to handle it and the Military has come in 'said defense ministry spokesman John Agim''.

The Military is also constitutionally mandated to assist the Police and other cognate public Security Agencies in maintaining peace, law and order especially in the face of dire civil-unrest (Ahmad, 2012). Nwolise (2007) maintains that Military are traditionally mandated to uphold the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the country; they are also required to play significant role in internal security operations (ISOPS) when the need arises.

#### THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

There are various theories explaining the impact of conflicts on socio-economic inequalities in the society to rebellions and insurrections. Though different and sometimes opposing in ideological, political and methodological orientations, they all seek to develop general principles, images and laws for the analysis of inequalities in the society. The conflicts and BLAU and BLAU (1982) theories of relative deprivation will be employed to explain the root causes of violence in Nigeria. This possibly will help us understand why



Police has not been effective in combating internal security in Nigeria and why as a temporary measure the Military could be co-opted to compliment the Police in internal security operations in Nigeria.

#### RELATIVE DEPRIVATION THEORY

The relative deprivation theory argues that when expectation outstrips achievement regardless of the absolute level of economic consumption or the provision of political rights, frustration is generated. Thus, the collective frustration turns to anger and violence. One of the theorists, Dollard etal (1939:52) posited that when there is a gap between the level of value expectations and the level of value attainment, due to lack of capability to establish a congruence between both levels, tension builds up due to the pressure of an unfulfilled aspiration or an unsatisfied urge or need. Afinotan and Ojakorote (2009:3) believe that when not arrested in time, leads to frustration. Frustration, when it builds up, leads to the rising up of suppressed emotions of anger, which is often directed against the party considered to be the source of deprivation of satisfaction. This emotion finally finds an outlet through aggressive and invariably violent disposition towards the environment.

## Relative Deprivation Theory on Nigerian State and National Security

Men are most inclined to aggression when subjected to sustained and unjustified frustration and this potential for collective violence varies strongly with the intensity and scope of relative deprivation among the members of group (Blau and Blau, 1939). There is a likelihood of rebellion against the state when individuals or groups perceive that there is a significant discrepancy between what they think they deserve and what they think they will get from government. In a nutshell, people resort to violence in trying to draw government's attention to their needs and aspiration, most especially when these needs and aspirations are being suppressed or denied. This is what has led to several violent behaviors of some Nigerians who have come to believe that violence is the only way that their demands can be attended to. The armed insurrections that were at various times carried out against the Nigeria state and the foreign oil companies by the Niger Delta Militants, the armed robbery, kidnapping, crude oil theft, sea piracy, child-trafficking, and presently Boko-haram insurgency are as a result of frustration being experienced by the Nigerian people in the hands of the country's leaders. The poverty level in the country, unemployment, lack of infrastructural development, electricity, roads, health facilities, educational facilities, have been as a result of Government inability to provide for her people, all the violent reactions against the Nigeria state. As Afinotan and Ojakorotu, (2009:4) argues that one is not unmindful here of the problems and limitations of the frustration-aggression thesis, such as the fact that an aggressive response to frustration may be dependent upon the individual's level of tolerance..." Using the Relative deprivation theory we can trace the historical antecedence of conflicts, agitations and frequent rise of individuals and groups against the Nigerian state to so many years of economic and political deprivation against the Nigerian people by Government at all levels. Using the stand point of the assumptions of relative deprivation theory, it is evident that the abysmal failure of the Nigerian State to addressing



critical challenges to development in many parts of the country, the failure by the Country in her Constitutional role of protecting lives and properties of the Nigerian people, may be responsible for so many Security challenges bedeviling the Country.

Relevance of this theory to our present study is that it has given us background elements that might have given birth to the increasing violent crimes in Nigeria. And given the fact that not much has been done to solve the root cause of frustration, resentment, hopelessness and alienation, there is the need to find a quick fix to the menace of violent crimes in the Country. This is the point of departure for Military intervention theorists. The need for the deployment of a higher aggressive force to combat the high rising violent crimes and aggressions against the Nigerian State is the sole reason behind military involvement in internal Security operations in the Country. This is why the Multinational capacity development campaign (MCDC, 2014) in the prevention, Management and Resolution of conflict is relevant to this present study.

#### LITERATURE REVIEW

## **Conceptual Clarifications**

Security is the enduring yet elusive quest. Today most of us similarly seek Security, yet our quest is tempered by the reality that why humans have sought safety, history, they say have usually failed to achieve that global Security for long (Rourke and Boyer, 2002:243). Most scholars agree that Security is a contested concept. There is a consensus that it implies freedom from threats to core value (for both individual and group), but there is a major disagreement about whether the main focus of enquiry should be on 'individual' or " international or National Security (Baylis and Smith, 2001:300). Some Security experts argued that the concept of Security has always been associated with the Safety and the survival of the State and it citizen from harm or destruction or dangerous threat. This conception generally holds that the State is the only institution with the primary responsibility and power for the Safety of its territory and its people (Zabadi, 2005:3). The concept of Security in this paper is operationalized within the context of a Nation hence the concept of internal Security. Civil war writing was dominated by ideas of Nation Security which was largely defined in Militarized terms with scholars and statement advocating on the Military capabilities of state to deal with threats that face them. More recently, however, this idea of Security has been criticized for being ethnocentric (culturally based) and too narrowly defined. A number of contemporary writer have argued for an expanded conception of Security outward from the limits of parochial Nation Security to include a range of other consideration. Buzan (1992) in his study, People State and fear, argues for a view of Security which include Political, Economic, Societal, environmental as well as Military aspect and which is also defined in broader international term as in the case of Security, the discussion is about the pursuit of freedom from threat. When this discussion is in the context of the international system, Security is about the ability of State and societies to maintain their independent identity and their functional integrity (Baylis \$ Smith, 2001:300). Security is often viewed in term of the basic survival, welfare and protection of the State existing in an



international system characterized by self help (Viotti and Kauppi, 2009:15). As Ozoemena (2009) argues, Security is all about National interest and involves "the sum total of action and measures, including legislative and operational procedures, adopted to ensure peace, stability and the general well-being of a Nation and its citizens.

## Reasons for Military involvement in internal Security Operations

The plausible reasons for Military involvement in internal operations in Nigeria include the following:

#### **WEAK SECURITY SYSTEM**

The weak Security system is a major contributory factor to the level of insecurity in Nigeria and this can be attributed to a number of factors which include inadequate funding for the Nigeria Police and other Security agencies concerned, lack of modern equipment both in weaponry and training, Poor welfare of Security Personnel and inadequate manpower for Police force (Achumba eta al,2013). According to Olonisakin (2008) the Police Population ratio in Nigeria is 1:450 which falls below the standard set by the United Nations. The implication of this is that Nigeria is grossly under Policed and this partly explains the inability of the Nigerian Police force to affectively combat crimes and criminality in the Country. This development has made it imperative for Military to involve in internal Security Operations in Nigeria to combat crimes and criminality that is threat to the unity of the Country.

#### POROUS BORDERS

Achumba etal (2013) observe that the porous frontiers of the Country where individual movements are largely untracked have contributed to the level of insecurity in Nigeria. As a result of the porous borders, there is an unchecked inflow of small arms and light weapons into the Country which has aided Militancy and criminality in Nigeria (Hazen and Horner, 2007). Available data show that Nigeria host over 70 percent of about 8 million illegal weapons in West Africa (Edeko, 2011). In addition, the porosity of the Nigerian borders has aided the uncontrollable influx of migrants, mainly young men from neighboring Countries such as Republic of Niger, Chad and Republic of Benin are responsible for some of the criminal act (Adeola and Oluyemi, 2012). The worsening Security situation in the Country has caused enormous loss of life and property and create general atmosphere of fear and social tension in the Country. The police and other agencies mandated to mann borders cannot control porosity; this has result the call for the Military to come and augments the Police efforts in secure the borders (Adeola and Oluyemi, 2012).

#### INSECURE ENVIRONMENT FOR BUSINESS IN NIGERIA

The insecure environment for Business refers to insecurity variable that affects the performance of Business but over which the Business enterprise has little or no direct control. In Nigeria the variables range from theft to organized armed robbery, kidnapping and



assassination. All these variables of crimes and social maladies have made the Nigeria Security environment to be complex (Sampson and Onuoha, 2011).

Recent research has shown that these vices are equally distributed in the Country. For instance the South East states of the Country have the highest incidence of kidnapping, armed robbery while the Northern states are characterized by bombing by the Islamic Sect, Boko Haram, banditry and cattle rustlings and South- South states have Militancy and South West have the highest incidence of ritual killings and occults

In addition, GPI (2012) noted that to the usual crimes, the coordinated attacks from the Boko Haram sect in the Northern part of the Country, besides making life miserable for Nigerians has affected so many business operating in that region. Statistics have also indicated that in the last one year, there is a significant decline in peace as Nigeria dropped four places to 146<sup>th</sup> out of 158 Countries in the 2012 global peace ranking. In fact, Nigeria has been identified as the least peaceful Country in West Africa (GPI, 2012). The implication of the insecurity situation in Nigeria for business activities can be viewed from two broad perspectives, viz the perspective of potential business investment and the perspective of existing business enterprise (Oluwarotimi, 2012). Insecurity discourages investment as it makes investment unattractive to business people. This is because it increases the cost of doing business either through direct loss of goods and properties or the cost of taking precautions against business risks and uncertainty. These costs could have a negative impact on business development (Oluwarotimi, 2012).

Ujah and Ebo (2006) reported in a study by World Bank on investment climate in nine Africa Countries in which it was found that 59% of business operators in Africa and 36% in Nigeria perceived insecurity as a major constraint on investment. This situation has the damaging consequence of giving signal to the international Community that Nigeria is not a safe and secure place and as such not suitable for investment and business activities. In addition, Ogbeche (2012) noted that some firms may shift operations to other Countries like Ghana which is deemed to be more peaceful. Apart from outright closure of a business enterprise, an existing business can also be affected in the four functional areas of business mentioned below. These include production, marketing, finance and human resource.

Insecurity limits market availability, in addition to the fact that areas prone to insecurity will not be attractive for marketers from outside, there will be restrictions on mobility. Besides, migration of people from the areas to other parts of the Country or outside as a result of insecurity will affect other parts of the Country or outside as a result of insecurity will affect the customers base of business operating in the environment where the insecurity exists (Suleiman, 2012). Nigeria is currently experiencing this situation in many parts of the Country especially in the terrorist fields of the Northern part of the Country. We can also recall that this situation had occurred in the Niger Delta particularly in Warri, Delta State during the periods of inter ethnic clashes among three ethnic groups, Ijaw, Itsekiri, and Urhobo in Warri (Suleiman, 2012). Insecurity also increases security spending by business organizations. This emanates from the cost of taking precautions and payment for private security services. From general observation most business organizations operating in Nigeria



maintain security personnel's as well as security infrastructure in order to ensure the security of their properties and the lives of their staff and customers. It could also result in the loss of capital through burning of business buildings and properties (Nwagboso, 2012). When there is a high level of insecurity in a particular area or region, there will be migration of people which could lead to dearth of skilled labour. Insecurity affects the general human security of the people as the situation promotes fear, while at the same time limiting the people's ability to work effectively (Oluwa, 2012). The implication is manpower shortage for the business which ultimately affects the success and survival of the business. This exerts pressure on the business for manpower at any cost due to the impact of insecurity on businesses. Ujah and Eboh, (2006) opine that the Government must ensure the availability of public security at all time. This is crucial because of businesses folding up and investors are no longer forthcoming, the future is bleak. This development thus leaves no option except for Military intervention as the last resort to restore peace in the Country and confidence to the business community. Some of the internal security operations spear headed by the Military include: operation "Lafiya Dole, Operation "Deep punch 1", Operation "Crackdown," OPERATION "punch 11" etc are all geared towards tackling the menace of insecurity in the Country and Boko Haram insurgency in the Northern eastern Region of Nigeria.

#### CONSTITUTIONAL BASES

The 1999 constitution of Nigeria which provides for the Military in its section 217 makes it clear that the duties of the Military, that is the Army, Navy and Airforce will be to defend Nigeria from external aggression, maintain its territorial integrity and securing its borders from isolation on lands Sea or Air, suppressing insurrection and acting in aid of civil authorities to restore order when called upon to do so by the president but subject to such conditions as may be prescribed by an Act of National Assembly (Azinge,2013). Section 8 (1) of the Armed forces Act also provides that the president shall determine the operational use of the Armed forces. The operational use is further defined thus:

"In this section," operational use of the Armed forces"
Includes the operational use of the Armed forces in Nigeria for the purpose of maintaining and securing public safety and public order".

The security challenges witnessed in the Country have called for more of Military intervention in the form of internal security operations and It has been observed that the Military in increasingly involved in internal security operation (Okoli and Orinya, 2013).

Section 305 of the same constitution which empowers the president to issue a proclamation of state of emergency is basis for military in internal security operations. This section provides that state of emergency shall be declared in the following sections:



- ➤ When there is actual breakdown of public order and public safety in the federation or any part thereof to such extent as to require extraordinary measures to restore peace and security.
- ➤ If there is clear and present danger of an actual breakdown of public safety in the federation or any part thereof requiring extraordinary measures to avert any such dangers?
- ➤ If there is an occurrence or imminent danger or the occurrence of any disaster or national calamity affecting the community or a section of the community in the federation, or there is any other public danger which clearly constitutes a threat to the existence of the federation (Okoli and Orinya, 2013).

Since the situation of internal security challenges is increasing and the Nigeria Police Force was overstretched and cannot overcome the situation, the development thus leaves no option except for military intervention as a last resort to restore breakdown of public order. The military has to come in to perform internal security operations to restore peace and save lives as the constitution states.

### MILITIA ACTIVITIES IN NIGERIA

Militia activities has taken several dimensions inimical to the security and continued survival of the Nigeria Nation as one Sovereign entity. The conflagrations spurred violent acts against the local population, resulting in numerous deaths and widespread displacement daily, civilian life was disrupted, forcing the economic activity to shut down and resulting in wide spread property destruction (Dike, 2010). The militants according to Dike (2010) have repeatedly bombed pipelines, sabotaging and attacking oil operations with their characteristic vandalization of oil pipelines and attacks on oil wells triggering an international increase in the cost of oil, disruption of oil supply which contributes to fluctuation in oil prices and instability within the country.

They have also abducted and kidnapped foreign oil workers, Nigeria Nationals, as well as children and people not associated with the oil industry. They are also engaged in the hijacking of ships and the abduction of crew members (Babawale, 2001).

The most serious of all activities which constitute grave concern for the Nigerian Military are the firepower (capacities) and the tactics employed by armed militias such as movement for the Emancipation of the Niger-Delta (MEND) and the Niger Delta Volunteer Force (NDVF) (Joab-peterside,2007). It is an open secret that the militias have long engaged in the possession of small arms and the acquisition of sophisticated weaponry. Most of the militants particularly Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger-Delta (MEND) and the Niger Delta Volunteer Force (NDVF) had over the past decade engaged in the acquisition of weapons and fire arms such as expensive machine guns from Czech Republic instead of the Old AK-47 assault rifle commonly used by the other armed militias (Joab-Peterside,2007). They also possess modern speed boats, assault rifles and rocket propelled grenades (RPG) launchers among others (Joab-Peterside, 2007).



The tactical capabilities of the militias are as overwhelming as those of the Nigerian Armed Forces that one does not find difficult, to contend that the militias are now evenly matched with the Nigerian Military which was dispatched to the region in 2003 (Arinze, 2013). Arinze (2013) maintains that the result of the conflagration has been a stalemate. The tactical maneuverings of the militias particularly those of the MEND had also become a clog in the wheel resolution of the Niger Delta-Crisis.

#### VANDALIZATION OF OIL PIPELINES

The incessant vandalization of oil and gas pipelines and other oil facilities has shown that the security of these critical national assets has become a major security challenge. This is because a greater percentage of the government revenue is derived from oil. Besides, the thermal power stations in the country depend on gas supply for effective and efficient power generation; hence the oil pipelines and other facilities are not properly secured (Abubakar & Daku, 2016).

There appears to be inadequate police to provide adequate supply for the long stretch of pipelines and other numerous oil installations (Oyebade, 2015).

The vandalization of oil pipelines plunged many parts of the country into darkness. Ononyme (2016) observed that pipeline vandalism, oil theft and other related crimes have worsened the problem of social insecurity in Nigeria. The situation has exposed many oil workers to grave danger. The deputy managing director of total oil company has lamented that the state of insecurity in the country had created extraordinary situation for the company. He noted that the company facilities have been vandalized and the worsening security situation compelled some staff to relocate, thus hindering effective performance of the company.

Okechuckwu and Anyadike (2013) assert that the Nigeria Police appear helpless to curb the vandalization trend. He observed that the pipeline vandalism and oil theft have resulted in increasing loss of the nation's revenue which could have accrued from sale of crude oil on international market. Moreover, vandalism has security disrupted the smooth distribution of petroleum products across the country. Consequently, petroleum products such as gas, fuel and kerosene could not be adequately supplied through the depots, thus leaving the depots in a state of moribund. This has given rise to the perennial problem of fuel scarcity in the country (Asu, 2016). Yusuf (2016) recently reported that Nigeria was at the risk of #1.458 billion (\$7. 29 million) daily revenue loss on its crude exports as Shell declared force majeure on 16200 barrels per day Bonny light crude export.

Pipe line Vandalism represents a serious sabotage to the effort of the federal Government to achieve stable and sustainable power supply in the Country. For instance, the bombing of Shell's forcados export thermal and the Vandalization of Lagos Escraves pipeline in February, 2016 resulted in the shortage of 3,132 Megawatts (Mw) of electricity (Darmer, 2004). In addition, the power sector was reported to be losing an average of #2bilion daily since the resurgence of pipeline bombings in the Country. This was said to have resulted in acute shortage of gas to gas fire generating turbines. The Minister of Power, works and



Housing Mr. Babatunde Fashola was reported to have Stated that out of 140 gas –fired Generating turbines in the Country only 50 were functional due to Vandalization of oil Pipeline effects (Nnodin,2016).

The inability to secure pipelines and other oil facilities effectively in the Country by Nigeria Police force has resulted not only in colossal waste of National resources, but also in human tragedies involving loss of lives. The NNPC group managing Director, Dr. Ibe Kachukwu has observed that beyond the loss of crude oil and finished products, the incident of Pipeline vandalism and oil theft have also claimed a huge number of human lives (Ofikhenua, 2015). The increasing cases of vandalization of oil pipelines are due to the activities of bunkerers who are making a great fortune from the business. They are also becoming more sophisticated due to the fact that they have the resources to purchase more sophisticated weapons. Unfortunately the Nigeria Police and the civil defence Corps statutorily mandated to protect the pipelines cannot match the vandals Fire to fire. This has necessitated the call for the Military to come and augment the Police efforts in this fight to secure the pipelines and other National Assets and installations.

#### Causes Inhibiting Nigeria Police in Curbing Internal Security Crises in Nigeria

#### **Over Centralization of Power**

The glaring factor against Police efficiency in Nigeria is the over centralization of Police power. Nigeria operates a federal system that is based on the devolution of power between federal, state and the Government. Yet the structure of Police power is still highly centralized (Ogunbiyi, 2012). The Police commissioner in a state is not answerable to the state Governor but to the president or the Inspector-General of Police. This vertical authority structure despite the delimitation of the Force into Zonal commands has been cited as a perpetuation of a unitary system rather than a federalist arrangement and accounts for Police inefficiency in Nigeria (Reuben, 2008).

The Nigeria Police force (NPF) According to section 194 of the 1979 constitution is designated as the National Police force with exclusive jurisdiction throughout the Country (Egbosiuba, 2013). Section 215 of the 1999 constitution also states that before a state Police commissioner carries out an order issued by his Governor, he may request that the matter be referred to the President or such Minister of the Government of the federation as may be authorized in that behalf by the President for directions '' The unfortunate outcome is that the Police contingent in the various states are strictly under the operational control of the Inspector-general (Aremu, 2012). For the Nigerian Police to properly discharge its constitutional responsibilities in such a way that will endeavor them to those they are policing, they have to function in a decentralized Police system. This would be a path way to efficient policing Nigeria (Nwolise, 2004).

One of the Major issues that border on security is the need for de-centralization of the highly centralized police power to reposition the institution to adequate maintain law and order and secure the lives and property of people. This is because over-centralization makes it in possible for Police to rapidly respond to local crisis and to forestall outbreak of violence. For



instance, where a Governor has intelligent information about brewing violence in a particular area but due to the fact that he doesn't have the power to give orders to the Police commissioner, the time lag in fulfilling the bureaucratic processes of calling out the central Police is enough for the violence to have erupted (George, 2014).

## **Inadequate funding by the Government**

The factor which has greatly inhibited the effective performance of the Nigeria Police is poor funding. No organization can achieve its objective without the provision of adequate funds to meet its requirements (Adeyemi, 2001).

Recent research shows that Police low performance has been blamed on lack of funds for training of personnel, and the provision of the required logistics for virtually all aspects of policing functions including, investigations, Arms and ammunition, office and residential accommodation, communication as well as transportation etc. The implication for policing has been the lowering of standard or non performance of the expected roles.

Okeineme (2010) observe that funding of the Nigeria Police force shows that from 1984-2007 the highest the Police had was 7.7% of the Federal budget. The implication is that this has been a serious hindrance to effective policing. Many Nigerian don't know that the only thing the Nigeria Police officers don't buy for themselves is perhaps their guns and bullets. In most cases the officers buy the cloth materials for their uniforms and sew them with their personal money, buy their shoes, buy recharge cards to make calls on cases (onwuka, 2011). Considering the factors that hinder the efficiency and effectiveness of Nigeria Police expecting miracle in their performance amount to unrealistic imagination. The Nigeria Police should be reposition to measure up with the modern day policing by providing funds.

## **Corruption and Bribery**

Indeed, Police corruption is a universal problem. However, it is a particular challenge in Nigeria with an ever increasing misconduct that impacts on the development of Police institution in the Country. Corruption, generally defined as abuse of authority for private gain (Spector, 2012). It has been identified as the biggest challenge that confronts Governance machinery of Nigeria. Nigeria, as a Nation, is ranked 139<sup>th</sup> out of 176 Countries in Transparency international's 2012 corruption Perceptions index, tied with Azerbaijan, Kenyan, Nepal, and Pakistan. Corruption in the administration of law means that equal access is denied. It undermines fair trials, fair elections, economic and social opportunities, culture expression, and access to the necessities of food, housing, health, education and water (Human Right Police, 2009).

The corruption practices of the Nigerian Police has been identified as one of the most visible manifestation of corruption in the Country (Ladapon,2013) with the erstwhile inspector General of Police noting that corruption has come to characterize the behavior of the average Policeman (Okiro,2007). It is common sight in the Country for Police officers to be seen collecting money from private and commercial motorists at checkpoints mounted across the country. However, beyond the checkpoint, officers of the Police are in the habit of



displaying their corrupt tendencies in criminal investigations and other sundry duties (Ladapo, 2013). So many crimes go un-investigated by the Police where influential persons including persons in Government are fingered as suspects or where the suspects sort the Police investigators; a slang for bribe payment (Ladapo, 2013). According to Human Rights Watch Report (2012) officers of the Nigerian Police often commit crimes against the very citizens that they are mandated to protect. On several occasions, Nigerians that are only making efforts to make ends meet are accosted on daily basis by armed Police officers who demands bribes threatening those that refuse with arrest or physical harm. On a good number of occasions, the level of Police brutality has been exposed through the killing of those that refuses to settle Police officers when they make such demands. Meanwhile, high-level Police officers embezzle public funds meant to pay for Police operations. The Human Rights Report (2012) concludes that in Nigeria, the Police have become "a symbol of unfettered corruption, mismanagement, and abuse. Lack of integrity and focus in policing standards in Nigeria, the Nigeria Police force have lost their tracks which are rooted in maintenance of peace, maintenance of order and traffic control. This is a situation; Akul (2011) argues that from the late 1990s to date, the Nigeria Police has embarked on several measures to fighting crimes: All these are efforts to ensure peace. However, it can be argued that these measures have not been able to attain the desired aims and objectives. One wonders what happened to the famous Nigeria Police force constitutionally endowed to fight corruption and its various vices in society. What went wrong with the 1990s divergence tactical operational focus of the Nigeria Police force? Today, what Nigeria has in 21st century is the Police organization that incubates corruption, and corruption effects investments, economic growth and Government expenditure choices; it reduces private investments (Dike, 2010).

It is a situation Ibrahim (2015) argues that Police corruption is a gangrene which has eaten deep into the fabrics of law enforcement and allegations of Police corruption erupt on daily basis. The Nigeria Police become ineffective in meeting the demands of the general public therefore effective policing is weakened and Police appear wicked, rude and corrupt in dealing with the public. These situations create constraints on policing and frustrate the general public. It becomes dangerous for an average citizen to walk freely in the society, we now witness society where murderers, terrorists and armed robbers, assassinators and thieves humiliate the innocent citizen and walk away with freedom thus leaves no exception for Military involvement as last resort to restore the Country from total collapse.

## **Inadequate Manpower for Police force**

Man power resources is an essential component for any Government security agency. The Nigeria Police strength depends on the nature of manpower, it has to maintain efficiency and effectiveness and also perform its operations at maximum capacity (Olasebikan, 2011).

The Police officers are required to perform services of law enforcement by maintenance of peace and order, traffic control duties, criminal investigation, service of civil guards and protection of the general public from harm (Abbas, 2008). The force is the principal law enforcement agency in Nigeria with staff strength of about 371,800 consisting of 36 Commands grouped in 12 zones and 7 administrative organs (Obe, 2012). The manpower



strength of the Nigeria Police is definitely too minimal to cope with the policing of the population of Nigeria which is estimated to about 180 million people (Fashola, 2014).

Nigeria police is statutorily required to fight crime through detection, investigation, apprehension and prosecution of offenders in law courts as well as the protection of lives and property through proactive policing (Cradle, 2007). The ratio of police deployment in a geographical zone is minimal based on the strength of the police in terms of fighting crime in urban and rural areas (Iwere, 2007). The Nigeria police force in their annual report 2008 noted that the police is handicapped because of combination of factors that plague them, among which are lack of manpower, Government support, poor condition of service (Olurotimi, 2012).

Taking in to account the amount of quality protection provided by the Nigeria police for the entire population and the level of confidence and encouragement it enjoys from the people one cannot but conclude that the Nigeria police performance is far below the expectation many people place on them (Sabiu, 2009). The Nigeria police have been under staffed and over worked one of the major challenges to the effective internal security operations of the Nigeria police is inadequate manpower.

#### INADEQUATE WELFARE FOR POLICE PERSONNEL

Poor remuneration for both officers and men of police agency is notable factor that have created abysmal performance for police officers in performing their constitutional duties (Akpan, 2010). Odekunle (2004) argues that the Nigeria police has human problem that not only aggravated its material insufficiency but one also of tremendous adverse effects on its general performance from day to among them is discourage salary. Police Profession is known to be an enduring one but this could not be considered as the total absence of motivation and incentives to members of Nigeria police. Therefore, police men should be highly motivated for higher performance (Azaike, 2003). The security agency like Nigeria police work to support the existence of government to provide security for the live and property of its people therefore any lapses in the police system directly or indirectly tell on the general security and well being of the people which on long run lead to stake of insecurity (Ejibunu, 2008).

Poor and meager salary have destroyed their normal and this is a situation that Aluko (2002) argues invokes sociological effects in policing the society. Dike (2005) argues that police welfare is characteristically abnormal, unpleasant and contributes to police inefficiency in operations and management. Amuwo (2005) also observed that the Nigeria police salary are far below what is obtainable within the west Africa. He noted that the Nigeria police salary structure is the poorest. The salary situations in Nigeria is regarded as the hybridize and unless the salary structure changes will serve as hydrant for fueling ineffectiveness in policing the country.

Poor remuneration in police force have also lead to inability to provide secure and safe environment for lives, properties and the conduct of business activities in the country



(Amuwo,2005). As way out, the Nigeria Government should look into police welfare conditions and provide it for enhance their performance in the society.

## INADEQUATE TRAINING FOR POLICE PERSONNEL

Goldstein (2000) defined training as the systematic acquisition and development of the knowledge, skills and attitudes required by officers to adequately perform a task to improve performance in the society.

The Nigeria police has been lampooned and boohooed by the masses for their failure in securing the lives and property of the citizenry due to inadequate training. This situation has obviously pitted the people against the police (Nwolise, 2004). The inability of the police to effectively detect crime and arrest criminals has been identified as a reason for the recent increase in the crime level in the country (Cascio, 2009). The Nigeria police are handicapped because of lack of training to handle sophisticated surveillance equipment and other security gadgets needed for monitoring and locating criminals. For this weakness, crime rate in Nigeria has escalated astronomically (Peatsall, 2012).

Central to the inability of the Nigeria police to efficiently perform their statutorily duties of maintaining law and order and secure the lives and property of Nigerians could be said to resolve around inadequate training (Anyanwu, 2002). Aluforo (2011) is of the view that training and retraining of police officers would enhance their performance and ensure effective policing which will result in drastic crime reduction. Colombo (2008) state that one of the potent factors militating against the good performance of police is inadequate training. He noted that training serves as a motivating force in improving the efficiency and productivity of the officers and many government agencies have seen it as veritable tool to enhance their agency performance.

The Nigeria police lag in crime detection and apprehension of criminals because of lack of adequate training which allowed insecurity problems go on in the villages and towns without police locating where the victims are held (Ordu, 2015). Buttressing this point further, Onyeozili (2005) argues that sufficient education, poor training and poor security equipment are the stumbling block to effective policing in Nigeria.

As a way out, the Nigeria police training curricula should be redefined in the areas of professional, integrity, charismatic, I.C.T and technology and disciplines while on the field and even one is not on duty. Training must emphasize on their duties and responsibilities as public servants, the rights of the people in the society. The police community relations and when the use of force is justifiable. The training should be adequate enough as to make it possible for the police to key in into the ICT technology in the detection and tracking down of crimes. More efforts should be to improve the intelligent gathering capacity of the police.

## INADEQUATE EQUIPMENT FOR POLICE PERSONNEL

Inadequate equipment throughout the Nigeria police information has created serious setbacks in the operational improvements. This situation creates constraints on policing and



frustrates the Nigeria police effort to combat crimes in the country. In this process, the Nigeria police become ineffective in meeting the demands of the general public (Chinwokwu, 2012).

The Nigeria police are one of the most fundamental government bodies/agency endowed with the rights and responsibilities of protecting the people and maintaining peace and order. The rights and responsibilities of the police are the duties aligned with the primary responsibilities of guaranteeing peace, safety and security of the people in the society in the society (Ezendu and Akaparandu, 2010).

Inadequate equipment in policing standards in Nigeria by the Nigeria police force have made them lose their tracks which are rooted in maintenance of peace, maintenance of order and fight insecurity in the country (Njoku, 2009).

Adequate equipment in any government agency is as essentials as flow of blood in the system of any living being. A polite agency with adequate communication equipment will enhance the job performances. Communication will help the police department in coordination, unifying the workforce, and all other logistics issues of insecurity resolved (Amaize, 2006).

Ibrahim (2015) observed that lack of adequate equipment is contributory factor why the Nigeria police is ineffective, inefficient and look primitive in nature.

The Nigeria police lag in crime detection and apprehension of criminals due to inadequate equipment in their various formations. This has resulted in insecurity problem going on in the cities and rural areas without police checkmate or of locate them in their hide out (Ordu, 2015).

The inability of the police to effectively detect crime and arrested criminals rested on inadequate communication equipment which have been identified as a reason for the recent increase in the crime level in the country (Karimu, 2015).

Adequate communication equipment enhances efficiency and effectiveness of the police agency. Adequate equipment such as effective hand held ratios with long range radial frequency channels, and short or long range walkie talkie and other electronic devices are useful in the chase and apprehension of criminals (Agbo, 2009).

The Nigeria police are handicapped because of lack of sophisticated surveillance equipment and other security gadgets needed for monitoring and locating criminals in their hideout. This situation creates constraints on policing and frustrates the police efforts (Bot, 2008).

The Nigeria police lack modern system of vehicle equipped with circuit television monitors that tape records the scene when the patrol officers stop a person asks for particulars, questions an individual or uses force/or excessive force. In this modern, there is a control room with dispatching capacities and the working communication apparatus that help call other police officers to the scene for assistance (Awofa Deji, 2009).



Recent research has shown that the Nigeria police lack technical equipment and 21<sup>st</sup> century modern type of police training that can support them in performing their professional work. As a result police has relied on out dated methods of policing the society. For instance, for those people that have lived or visited some of the foreign nations especially advanced country in the western societies even in some other African country will admit that the Nigeria system of police vehicle patrol is lagging and appears repulsive or disgraceful for system (Akpan, 2010). As a way forward, the Nigeria police should be supported with all needed equipment to enable them function effectively in their operations.

## LACK OF CUMMUNITY BASED POLICING

The United States Department of Justice has defined Community policing as philosophy that focuses on crime and social disorder through the delivery of police services that includes aspects of traditional law enforcement as well as prevention, problem-solving, community engagement and partnerships (African Research Review, 2016). Community based policing is a security system where people living in one place or district are sensitized, encourage and empowered to appreciate and take part in the joint effort for the protection of lives and property in their domain (Ogege, 2013). It is of old that policing is exclusively left in that hand of law enforcement agent alone. Ote and Mexander (2012) noted that in this modern era, effective policing is collective responsibility of all member of the public. The community, the government and the police personnel themselves are duty bound to have a stake in the country policing system.

Nwolise (2004) noted that conventional security arrangements alone cannot guarantee the desired security where community based policing is relegated to the background. In line with above, Ibidapo-obe (2003) observed that information is an engine to the security management. He said criminals are not spirit; they are human beings to expose them. Police officers are neither magicians nor miracle workers; therefore, they needed information to work with. In addition, if community based policing is adequate, grassroots people and lovely individuals such as villagers, drivers, messengers, farmers, prostitute etc could prove useful in gathering vital security information especially if such individuals enjoy police confidence and support (Roy etal, 2015).

In Nigeria, the ideal about community policing and its benefits are new. The citizens seen not yet to have fully understood what community policing entails including their roles as active citizens. In most case, the problem is with the Nigeria police administrative system, (Roy etal, 2015). The police have failed to carry the communities along, they have failed to build a good relationship with their host communities, this creating confidence challenges. Police brutality and high handedness in dealing with the people makes it difficult for the people to trust the police talk less of collaborating with them to fight crimes. (Roy etal, 2005). To make community policing effective, the police administration should embark on fresh recruitment of personnel, who should be properly trained and posted to their local communities where they grew up to serve. Community policing works more effectively where police personnel who are indigenes see themselves as part and parcel of the communities they serve, the safety of the communities as their own safety.



## **Inappropriate deployment of Police Personnel**

Another factor which has greatly inhibited the effective performance of the Nigeria Police is the deployment of about 100000 of it 377,000 personnel to personal protection and guard duties (Sullivan, 2003). It has become a status symbol for the nouveau rich Nigerians to pay for the services of Policemen and women to be attached to them on guard duty and by so doing deny majority of Nigerians Police protection (Sullivan, 2003).

Obaro (2014) noted that this has greatly affected the deployment of Policemen to beats and public and thus portend danger for policing. According to Umeagbalasi and Ijeoma, 2013) asserts the use of the Police for inappropriate guard duty and protective security often for the personal aggrandizement of the beneficiary is very harmful to the image of the Police as an independent law and order institution and disinterested ombudsman in public affairs.

Lukeman (2014) maintained that the practice of posting Police personnel to persons not entitled to protective security under force orderno: 281 and the presidential directive on the issue should stopped as it has apart from reducing Police presence from the streets and thus serving as deterrence exposed such officers to undue political influence and corruption.

## THE MEASURES NIGERIA MILITARY ADOPTED IN COMBATING INTERNAL SECURITY CRISES IN NIGERIA.

In the words of J.M Maikomo and J. Ngomba (2018) "Involving the Military into internal security operations is not without challenges of its own as the Military are not known primarily and particularly trained for ISOPs unlike the civil security authorities. As a result the Military consistently engage in acts which are not considered civil in many fronts. For this reason, the Military should inject people oriented programmers and policies in pursuing its goals and objectives so as to optimize its image and enhance symmetrical understanding (Moses, Akpan and Prestly, 2013). Some measures adopted by the Military in internal security operations include:

- 1. Training of personnel on rules of engagement, use of force
- 2. Adhering to internal Humanitarian Law (IHL) guidelines
- 3. Distinction persons and objected protected by Law
- 4. The use of public relations
- 5. Deployment of personnel to troubled areas
- 6. Utimate aim of engagement is POC (Protection of Civilians)

**Training:** Peterside (2014) in the aspect of training recommended the following; there should be re-orientation of the soldiers involved in internal security operations and the populace as well; soldiers should be knowledgeable in conflict management, the Military should be made to undergo trainings geared towards internal operations before engaging in



same as well as re-training to meet with the recent challenges of today's sophisticated global threat. In recent time, the Military has included in their training curriculum some courses aimed at preparing their personnel for effective internal security operations. According to the Commandant of the Armed forces Staff College Jayi (2019) the new courses centre on protection of civilians in armed conflict. In one of such courses, Maj. E.I Okpala (rtd) say that personnel of the Military engaged in internal security operations are advised to adhere strictly to the rules of engagement; take diligent measures to differentiate civilian and Military persons and objects and to always try to minimize civilian causalities. Again, they now know that in cases of Human right violations, International Human Rights Law demands that states investigate and if there is sufficient evidence, should submit to prosecution the person allegedly responsible for the violation, and if found guilty ,also punish him or her.

The second measure so far adopted by the Military is the adoption of the international Human Rights Law and National Law on operational guideline for all personnel involved in internal security operations. The guideline states in clear terms that:

- 1. Human rights apply in both war and peace to all human beings
- 2. Human rights are universal
- 3. No one can take away a person's human rights
- 4. Human rights are interdependent and equally important
- 5. Human rights are legal and internationally guaranteed

Apart from the International Human right Law and National Law, Soldiers engaged in internal security operations are also guided by International Human Law (IHL) which today has become the baseline to regulate legal behavior for armed forces during conflict. The Law emphasizes that constant care is to be taken to spare civilians from harm.

## **CIVILIAN HARM MITIGATION**

The aim of Military involvement in internal security operations according to the IHL & IHRL, is civilians harm mitigation. Before deployment for ISOPs soldiers are trained to understand that yes" even when the principles of IHL are rigorously applied, harm to civilians may nevertheless occur as a direct consequence of the use of force, this incidental harm "while not illegal must be minimized, investigated and appropriately addressed by security forces. This draws the attention of soldiers to the fact that at all time; they must be guided by Rule of Engagement (ROE) and directives on the use of force (DUF). Thus, they must at all time. Assess which weapon is best to use and its impact on civilians, civilian homes and infrastructure and not only engaging the target. Finally, soldiers engaged in ISOPs now know that they ought, always to "adhere to the Law adopt a minimize harm approach, and use force with discipline."

The next measure the Military should adopt during internal security operations is the "use of public relations ( PR ) activities like effective media relations, community social



responsibility programmes etc to the general public before, during and after every internal security operation." This according to Maikono and Ngomba (2018) "will enhance public understanding reduce civil mistrust, reduce unnecessary panicking and help in building positive image perception of the Military after such operations."

According to Maj.I.I Okpala (rtd) (2019) this is one of the measures the Military has adopted in most places they are directly involved in internal security operations. For example, during the operation co- named ''Python Dance'' in the South East Nigeria the Nigeria Military deployed their Medical personnel who conducted free eyes care services and giving of five medicated glasses and immunization of children for polio. Though due to level of mistrust by the citizens on the Military, dangerous rumors were raised that the immunization was aimed at reducing the population of the area. The Military had to engage different media outfits trying to dissuade the people and to counter the dangerous misinformation about their mission.

In other occasions, the Military do engage in the rebuilding of damaged schools, reconstruction of damaged culverts/ bridges and other community works, all aimed at gaining the confidence of the local community.

Another measure adopted by the Military in internal security operations is the deployment of Military personnel to all trouble spots in the country. According to Peterside (2018) going back to the early days of Nigeria independence till date, the Military has always deployed personnel to volatile parts of the federation mainly to help restore peace. For instance, the Military participated in the internal security operations during the Tiv and western Nigeria, crises of 1962-1965, the post-election violence of 1983 in Western Nigeria, the 2000 sharia crises in Kaduna which claimed thousands of lives. The Yelwa-shendam, Jos and kano crises in 2004, the 2011 post-election that broke out in various parts of the country which claimed the lives of over 800 persons, in 2009 – 2019 Boko haram insurrection and terrorists attacks, the 2017-2018 suppression of IPOB activities in the South East, the 2018 – 2019 suppression of banditry in Zamfara and other North Western states of Nigeria and many other places they maintain skeletal road blocks or stop and search operations.

#### RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

#### RESEARCH DESIGN

The researcher adopted exploratory and explanatory approaches. Exploratory was used to help the researcher find out more about military involvement in internal security operations in Nigeria. Robson (2002) cited in Saunders et al (2007), desired exploratory study as a valuable means of finding out what is happening in order to seek new insights, to ask questions and assess phenomenon in a new situation. Thus, a combination of this approach with in-depth interviews and the use of questionnaire as data collection techniques were very useful in the study of the involvement of the military play in internal security operations in Nigeria.



Explanatory study approach was employed to establish how military involvement in internal security operations affects security challenges in Nigeria Saunders et al (2007) indicated that explanatory studies establish the casual relationship between military involvement and the internal operations in Nigeria.

#### SAMPLE AND SAMPLING PROCEDURE

Nworgu (1991) affirms that the group of items of which the study relates (Population) may be small enough to warrant the inclusion of all in the study. This assertion is supported by Qnwioduoki (2000) which maintains that '' a sample can be of any size as long as it contains less than the total number of possible observation of any given type ''. The sample population for the study was the Military and members of public randomly selected. Government officials and private individuals in six geo-political zones in Nigerian state. The sample was carefully selected because its size was large enough to be used as a basis for generalizations of inference about the population. This is in agreement with Obasi (2019) who maintains that if a population is too large it will be cumbersome, unnecessary or even impossible to examine every member of the population; and when this is the case a portion of the population is selected and the information obtain from this is used to describe the entire population.

#### INSTRUMENT FOR DATA COLLECTION

The main instrument used in the research was the Questionnaire and interview. The questionnaire was designed on the five point likert scale ranging between ''Agree (A), strongly Agree (B), Disagree (C), strongly disagree (D), and undecided (E). The questionnaire and interview schedule attempted to identify Police effectiveness and Military involvement in internal security operations in Nigeria. The questionnaire was divided into section A and B. Section A contains the social-demographic profile data showing sex, marital status, education, age, work experience, etc while section B consist of two scales of three and four items respectively. The respondents were asked to indicate their extent of agreement or disagreement with the statements contained in the questionnaire.

## DATA ANALYSIS TECHNIQUES

The data collected from the five items questionnaire were analyzed using the simple percentage (SP) and frequency. The data were scored using the likert scale rating.

## DATA PRESENTATIONANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

A five-item questionnaire was used to obtain data from a total of 106 out of the proposed 125 respondents. The 106 represent 100% was the overall working place and category of respondents for the sample of the study and presented in table 4:1 and table 4:2. The results were scored using the likert –type rating of Agreed (A), Disagree (D) and undecided (U). The percentage respondents are in table 4:3. The entire achieved sample



provided answer to the questions of why is Nigeria Military involved in internal security operations in Nigeria.

**Table: 4:1** 

#### WORKING PLACE OF RESPONDENT

RESPONSES	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE%
PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS	5	4.7
GOVERNMENT	101	95.3
OFFICIALS		
TOTAL	106	100

**SOURCE: RESEARCH SURVEY: 2019** 

TABLE 4:2

**CATEGORY OF RESPONDENTS** 

RESPONSES	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE %
ADULT	97	91.5
YOUNG	9	8.5
TOTAL	106	100

SOURCE: RESEARCH SURVEY: 2019

Table: 4:3 PERCENTAGE OF RESPONDENT

RESPONSES	FREQUENCY	PERCENTAGE %
STRONGLY AGREE	28	46.7
AGREE	43	20.7
UNDECIDED	8	7.5
DISAGREE	18	16.9
STRONGLY DISAGREE	9	8.5
Total	106	100

Source: Research Survey: 2019

#### **DATA ANALYSIS**

The entire variable response data were analyzed using the simple percentage and frequency methods to examine the hypothesis formulated to guide this study.

**HYPOTHESIS: HO:** There are no reasons for the Military in internal Security operations

**H1:** There are reasons for the Military in internal Security operations 77.4% agreed while 27% disagreed. The null hypotheses are rejected. Therefore, there are significant reasons for the Military in internal security operations in Nigeria.



#### **DISCUSSION OF RESULTS**

The primary objective of the study as stated in chapter one is to examine the reasons for Police ineffectiveness and Military involvement in internal security operations in Nigeria and the relationship of the Military towards security challenge in our Country. The focus here therefore is to examine whether the result of the field research survey has validated or nullified our hypothesis.

The testing of the research hypothesis reveals that the involvement of the Military in internal security operations is for quick combating of crises. Generally, the respondents voted for the statement that Military compliment to Police in internal operations is for quick combating of crises. That is 71 out of the 106 respondents; representing 66.98% were satisfied with Military involvement in internal operations. This shows that the respondents understand the importance of the Military involvement in internal security operations.

The result of second hypothesis reveals that Nigeria Police is incapable of combating internal security crises due to corruption and poor logistics. Here, the majority of the respondents agreeing with the statement, they also affirmed that Nigeria Police is corrupt and incapable of combating internal crises due to poor logistics and dearth equipment.

The result of the third hypothesis also lends to the positive outcome of conflicts that Nigeria Military has deployed excessive force in combating security challenge. Here, it is observed that about 77 respondents, representing 72.64% of the total sample size believe that military deployed excessive force to overcome the security challenges in our country and is strictly unprofessional. About 21 respondents, representing 19.81% were dissatisfied with Military using excessive force internal crises operations in Nigeria. Though the number is low, but the Federal Government should find better solution in resolving internal crises.

Finally, result of the fourth hypothesis reveals that building the Military's capacity in combating civil crises from the field survey, 60 respondents representing 56.60% are satisfied with building the Military capacity in combating civil crises, 15 respondents, representing 14.15% are undecided with the statement above while 31 respondents, representing29.24% are not satisfied with building the Military capacity in combating civil crises. From the responses, the respondents believe that apart from voted on the above statement; Military should be compliment to Nigeria Police in internal security operations in Nigeria and Government should provide necessary logistics to Police for effectiveness and efficiency in their performance.

## SUMMARY, CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

#### **SUMMARY**

This research study adopted exploratory and explanatory approaches. The main purpose of the study was to examine Police effectiveness and Military involvement in internal security operations in Nigeria. To achieve this, the study considered the background



of the Military, Security and violent crimes, the reasons for the Military in internal crises, the factors inhibiting Nigeria Police in curbing internal security crises in Nigeria.

The data collected were analyzed using the frequency and simple percentage methods. The results of the analysis revealed that long years of neglect of the people by FGN was the cause of the escalation of the violent crimes and the unemployment of the people in Nigeria. The research instrument was both primary and secondary data. The primary data was a five-item questionnaire while the secondary data was unstructured interview and Police effectiveness records from libraries and journals'.

## **CONCLUSION**

The result of the field survey that examined the Police effectiveness and Military involvement in internal security operations in Nigeria, it identified some of the challenges of the Police which hinder their effective and efficient performance and sources of security manifestation in Nigeria.

Although Nigeria inherited a defective federal structure from the British, the Nigeria leadership at independence has ample opportunity to remedy the situation but failed to do so. Instead successive Nigeria administrations adopted federalism in principle but in practice failed to constantly observe its principles.

This contradiction have given rises to various crises of insecurity challenges of which armed robbery, kidnapping, communal clashes, ethno-religious violence, Militancy, secession and Boko Haram problem that is currently a major challenges. The Nigeria Police did not successfully address the endemic crises in the country over the decade due to understaffing, lack of adequate funding, lack of dearth equipment, lack of adequate training and administrative malfunction in their system

The involvement of Military in internal security operations is all about National interest and involves the sum total actions and measures, including legislature and operational procedures adopted to ensure peace, stability and the general well-being of our Nation and its citizen. To avoid Nation degeneration into an armed struggle and chronic security challenges that becomes the greatest threat to fledging Nigeria Nation it has become imperative for the Military to involve in internal security operations.

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

From the field survey, it was observed that to save Nigeria Federation from perennial instability and the threat of state collapse, the study recommends the following

- 1. That the Military should remain an indispensible partner of the internal security network of the country.
- 2. The Government should provide adequate logistics that will contribute to the effective and efficient delivery of the Police service; and Police should be funded adequately; this will improve their performance.



3. The Government should make it apriority to meaningfully engage the youth in the country thereby reducing the rate of unemployment and create policies that will reduce the rate of poverty among its people.

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