Trend and Patterns of Insurgency in the Nigerian State: Issues and Possible Solutions

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Abstract
This paper explores the trend and patterns of insurgency in the Nigerian state. It identifies the various issues and proffers solutions to submerge the insurgency threats. No doubt, insurgencies usually occur in different forms and there is an urgent need to curtail the menace with timely, adequate and accurate intelligence. This paper critically examines the modus operandi adopted by the insurgent groups in perpetrating their nefarious activities on innocent Nigerians, property and government installations. As it explores the basic and contemporary threats, it brings into the fore how the insurgents took advantage to attack the populace consequent upon the weak nature and character of the Nigerian state. This paper is anchored on desktop study; secondary data collection method, and its theoretical thrust is anchored on State fragility theory. This theory is utilised to explain the present situation regarding insecurity, socio-economic issues inter alia. This paper reveals how the government of the Nigerian state has lost her grip in terms of security, socio-economic, and stability of the nation. It shows that these pitfalls have given the insurgents the impetus to perpetrate their nefarious acts on both Nigeria and Nigerians without being apprehended and prosecuted. Findings have shown that both the government and security agencies lack synergy, rather they are working in silos as the root cause(s) of threats were not tackled, and intelligence sharing were not well documented, coordinated and utilised. The paper concludes with recommendations that the Intelligence Community (IC) should be strengthened and harmonised, joint database and intelligence sharing should be adopted amongst the security agencies and IC, provision of technical gadgets and training of personnel to counteract insurgency should be intensified, and that enactment of laws against insurgency and its sponsors must be strictly enforced.

Keywords: *Nigerian State, Basic Threats, Boko Haram Group, Contemporary Threats, Insurgency, Intelligence.*

INTRODUCTION

Insurgency has been a great impediment to peaceful coexistence in the Nigerian state over a decade. Terrorism cum insurgency are two sides of a coin that go together, the insurgents use terror attacks to perpetrate their nefarious acts such as bombing, killing, kidnapping, robbery, and so on (Adegoke, 2018). The Nigerian government has been battling with terrorism and threats of insurgency over a decade. Yet, it has not won the long time war against the insurgents. Although there are many factors that caused the drawback in combating and winning the battle against the terrorist groups for instance, lack of timely and accurate intelligence reports and actions about the terrors, inadequate intelligence sharing amongst the security agencies, lack of political will by the government and failure to address the root causes (Onuoha, 2018).

Insurgency has basic threats to national security, and such must be treated with high level of commitments by the governments. The aggressive and non-aggressive approaches must be adopted, the root causes of the insurgency must be addressed and curtailed. It is germane to note that two types of insurgency are not the same. For instance, insurgency in Middle East (Sri Lanka) is different from insurgencies in Africa (Nigeria and Kenya), eventhough they may possess same tactics, aims and so on (Thurston, 2016).

Bodunde, Balogun, and Layefa (2019) opined that insurgency has different goals and is sub divided into five (5) categories which are as follows: Separatist, Resistance, Revolutionary, Reformist and Commercialist insurgencies. More so, they further explained that insurgency has four (4) structures in the Nigerian state and globally. There are politically organized insurgency, militarily organized insurgency, traditionally organized insurgency, and urban-cellular insurgency. Despite all these structures, with timely, accurate and intelligence sharing amongst the security agencies and the governments acting swiftly to the menace of the insurgents, no doubt, the Nigerian state will overcome and win the looming war against the Boko Haram Group and its collaborators (Agbiboa, 2018).

Identification and Explanations of the Basic Threats to National Security

The basic threats to national security in the Nigerian state are stated as follows: threat of sabotage, subversion, espionage, terrorism, and insurgency (Onuoha, 2014). The insurgent groups use the acts of sabotage, subversion, and espionage to perpetrate their nefarious acts. The Boko Haram Group has caused more harm, (killing, bombing, kidnapping, and inflicting various degrees of injuries) to innocent civilians, which has adversely affected the populace, investors and the state's economy (Adegoke, 2017).

Threat of Sabotage

Sabotage is a willful or deliberate act, calculated to cause physical damage to equipment, machinery, materials, installations in the interest of subversive elements. It is carried out using explosives, fire, mechanical, and psychological sabotage (Barkindo, 2018). Sabotage is

focused on physical objects, basically public utilities, key and vulnerable points such as oil installation (refineries), railways, and more devastating on human beings.

The major aim of saboteur is political and causing physical damage to the state's property. The Boko Haram Group usually uses this method to frustrate the government especially in the North-East region of Nigeria (Onuoha, 2017). The Niger-Delta militants in the South-South region of the country are another example of saboteurs, especially during the administration of late President Umar Yar'Adua. They engaged in different sabotage activities, bombing of the oil installations, refinery, and kidnapping of foreign nationals to cause disaffections between the Nigerian state and other State's nationals (Mosindi, 2019).

The aim of insurgents' or terrorists is to discredit and frustrate the legitimate government in power. They disrupt essential services and thereby causing disaffection among the populace, assassinate political leaders and create panic and mayhem in the state. Their ultimate agenda is to change the authority and render the governments incapacitated (Adegoke, 2017).

Bodunde, et. al., (2019) opined that the threat of sabotage is politically directed at the government, aimed at the destruction of public facilities such as airport, seaport, railway, Central Bank building, military facilities, and so on. The BHG uses sabotage acts to perpetrate their nefarious crime, causing panic and unstable atmosphere for the general populace. But if timely and adequate intelligence are gathered, and properly utilized, no doubt, it will be used to curtail the menace of this terror group before perpetrating its evil.

Threat of Subversion

Subversion is a threat to national security that involves the use of media, propaganda, and fake news, and so on, directed at individuals or groups to undermine their loyalty to the state. Basically, its aim is to cause public disorder, bring down the government illegally and forcibly (Ashaolu, 2017). According to Siegel (2006), subversion, like terrorism and insurgency, does not have generally accepted definition. According to Usman and Salihu (2018), Subversion as a widespread intention is to 'overthrow or undermine parliamentary democracy by political, industrial, or violent means'. Bloom (2007) also defined subversion as an act of violent manifestations, like formenting riots, mayhem, civil unrest, usually employed as part of a larger armed insurgent or terrorist group.

The American Military defined subversion as a stratepy 'designed to undermine the military, economic, psychological, political strength and morale of a regime which does not fall into the categories of treason, sedition, sabotage or espionage' (Department of Defence, 2001). Onuoha (2014) posits that subversion is an illegal actions short of the use of armed force taken by one segment of the people of a state to overthrow the legitimate government of the state or compel them to do things against their wish. However, Ashaolu (2017) posits that subversion is a political plan or action taken by the Hostile Intelligence Service (HIS) and other groups in order to weaken the military, economic, psychological, morale, and political strength of a state and the loyalty of the citizenry. The insurgents and terrorists usually employ subversive tactics before carrying out armed battles. The aim of any subversive activity is the illegal change of the government of the day. Subversive attacks are directed at three levels which are Government, the Organisation and the Individual. The subversive campaigns and rumours may be organized both from within and outside a target state. They

are usually sponsored by disgruntled persuasive individuals or organisations such as political parties and Governments, hostile to the target state (Akinbi, 2015).

Ashaolu (2017) posits that the threat of subversion is very tactical issue to combat. The government in power and its security agencies must be proactive and gather timely intelligence using infiltration and penetration methods against the subversive group to curtail the threat. More so, they attack the government in an attempt to discredit those in power in the administration, causing disaffection within the government, creation of divisions between allies, and creating a situation that the disgruntled elements will take undue advantage to cause mayhem in the state. At the organizational level, they gain control of the Organisation, supporting and influencing policies activities which are opposed to those of the present government, and supporting splinter groups and extremist factions. While at the level of individual, they lure the people and undermine the loyalty of the subjects, to facilitate their subversive cause.

According to Adesoji (2013: 34), the subversive elements have two methods of attack, these are internal and external. They use any of the two methods to perpetrate their nefarious acts. It depends on the target, and instigation of violent acts which will determines the method to adopt. Internal subversive attacks are targeted at the following groups the political parties, armed forces, civil servants, religious group, and so on.

In carrying out the internal subversive, they establish a cover group which may appear genuine, with blameless intentions as fronts to advance subversive policies and equally, the exploitation of the mass media to spread subversive propaganda and fiction, while the external subversive focuses on the propaganda in all ramifications such as the press, radio, television stations, cinema, and so on. They equally use special technique to distort news, rumour and forgery (Nwankwo, 2013).

Threat of Espionage

Akinola & Tella (2013) define espionage as the 'act of spying or the use of spies by a government or an Organisation to infiltrate the government of another state to learn valuable country's secret'. Similarly, Akinbi (2015) posits that espionage is the 'act of obtaining, delivering, transmitting, communicating or receiving information about the national defence with an intent or reason to believe that the information may be used to the injury of the state or to the advantage of any foreign state.

Ashaolu (2017) opined that espionage is the clandestine procurement of intelligence relating to the secret affairs of a state, especially those relating to security, economy, and technology, policies and foreign affairs, purposely for hostile acts. The aim of espionage is to give economic and political advantage to the state sponsoring the espionage activity to the drawback of the state being spied upon. More so, it is pertinent to note that espionage acts do not occur in vacuum, but with the different objectives to undermine the state being spied upon based on evaluation and determination of war potentials. They equally determine the progress made in national defence, the revenue generating resources, to aids in preparation of subversive cum sabotage attacks, to compare and keep up to date with scientific and technological developments (Adegoke, 2018).

Pham (2018) stated that the objectives clearly showed that espionage is a world phenomenon and it is a mandatory precondition to the threats of sabotage and subversion. The espionage threat occurs widely amongst all the states, but not on equal basis. Nwankwo (2015) identified the pattern of attack of espionage activity as legal and illegal network. This does not however imply that espionage act can ever be lawful; the terms are only used to distinguish the various covers used in procuring the required intelligence. The legal network is secretly organized by members of the Diplomatic Corps, who are official representatives of their states in another state. They use the cover of such diplomatic appointments to pursue the intelligence interest of their home state. Such fellows are usually trained and briefed for that purpose. The overt and covert collection of intelligence has been the normal function of diplomatic immunity attached to their appointments to procure intelligence secretly (Pieri, 2019)

The illegal network is based on foreigners other than diplomats, who get recognized in a target state legally, and engage in other occupations that re suitable into the neighborhood. These give them the preferred cover for the covert collection of intelligence in the interest of the sponsoring state. Espionage is a universal threat that affects all the states globally. According to Akinbi (2015), he posits that cyber espionage is very crucial in identifying basic threat to national security in Nigeria. Cyber espionage is the espionage activity that is carried out in cyberspace; the foreign intelligence services progressively use the internet and cyber procedures to conduct spying acts against the state's interest.

The Centre/ HIS:

This is located at the seat of power where the operating state, and usually forms parts of the Intelligence Service or Intelligence Community (IC). In all the networks, both legal and illegal, the Intelligence Service is usually to oversee the support and administration of the networks. However, care is usually taken to ensure that in the event of a 'blow up' the sponsor has enough evidence to deny complicity. **Spy Master:**

He is an Intelligence Officer apparently employed as a diplomat in a target state. The officer directs the activities of the network, but in legal network, the Spy Master can be called Chief of Station (Adegoke, 2017). More so, the Spy Master performs some tasks like locating and talent spotting capable agents' runners and agents. He provides equipment, means of communication, meeting point, briefing, and debriefing of the agents, thereby, training, remunerating agents and collecting, assessing, and transmitting reports to the center through the Intelligence Service (Ashaolu, 2017).

Agent Runner:

He is the link between the Spy Master and the agents operating within a target either legal or illegal network. The subject is a native indigent of a host state that has being recruited by the Intelligence Officer to procure information that can be processed by the Hostile Intelligence Service (Barkindo, 2018). **Agents:**

According to the British Security Service (2003) an agent is defined as 'covert human intelligence source'.someone who secretly provides information to an intelligence officer. They may or not be a professional 'Spy' but may have some basic instruction in espionage

methods. An agent is the last contact in the espionage network that gathers the raw information through spies, courier, bugging, photocopies of top-secret document, and so on.

Targets:

These are areas of interest to all networks either legal or illegal. The espionage group would like to penetrate the Military establishment with a view to determining strength, disposition, movement, location and combat proficiency of the military and any other germane defence information. Penetration of Intelligence and security services, identification and character of their personnel and collection of overt intelligence from the political contacts, press, official publication, and so on.

Lowenthal (2013) defined Intelligence officers as members of Intelligence Services, highly trained in espionage systems and the use of agents. They function openly, using the cover of foreign intelligence services to their host state, and gathering of information of value that can be processed to intelligence.

Threat of Terrorism

Basically, there is no acceptable definition of terrorism and as a result, the spectacle continues to create discussions as to what really institutes terrorism (Akinola and Tella, 2013). However, Nwankwo (2013) defines terrorism as 'The use of violence and threats to publicize their causes to achieve their goals and aim to influence or exert pressure on governments and government policies but reject democratic processes'. Onuoha (2014) defines it as 'the unlawful use of violence or threat of violence to install fear and coerce governments or societies in the pursuit of goals that are generally political, religious, or ideological.

Lowenthal (2017) defined terrorism as 'the unlawful use of force or violence against persons or property for the purposes of intimidating or coercing a government, the civilian population, or any segment, in persistence of political and social objectives. He stated further that there are two categories of terrorism, namely, are domestic and international. The domestic terrorism is usually carried out in the home country without any external influence, while the international terrorism is carried out by the influence of foreign hostile intelligence service (FHIS) either controlled by countries or group outside the home state.

According to Bodunde et.al (2019), terrorism is a special form of clandestine, unconventional, and undeclared warfare waged without any humanitarian limits. More so, it is the use of violence either singly or in groups, military and non-military, directed against government or individual(s) to cause political change or extension of diplomacy or political ideology by one state against another or by a group of individuals against the state.

Adegoke (2017) posits that terrorism is the use of force to coerce the legitimate government and the general public to entertain fear and cause chaos in the state in a bid to change the legitimate government. All these attributes are being exhibited by the

Boko Haram Group insurgents' in Nigerian state. Their aims are ideology, political, religious belief to Islamize Nigeria and abandon the state's constitution to 'Sharia

Law'. According to Lowenthal (2007), terrorist groups usually adopt six (6) types of tactics in carrying out their nefarious acts. These are hijackings, kidnappings, bombings, assassinations, armed assaults, and barricade-hostage events. This is synonymous to the modus operandi of the Boko Haram Group. They adopt all these tactics to ravage terrors on the innocent

civilians, political holders, security forces and cause sabotage to key and vulnerable installations within the state.

Onuoha (2014) opined that terrorists all over the global may have different political conditions and explicit aims of operation, but several tenacities are common to all the groups as follows; to give publicity to the existence of the terrorist groups, and publicize their cause to a national or international audience, to force the public into supportiing their cause and threaten the government into implementing their programmes, as well as to discredit and destabilize authorities that may oppose their cause and to incite the authorities into taking repressive measures.

Threat of Insurgency

Theorists and Scholars have given different definitions of Insurgency, but there is no universally acceptable definition of it. Although some of these definitions are somehow closely related, but others are not so correlated, though comprise common essentials and this makes the term 'Insurgency' difficult and ambiguous (Agbiboa, 2018). Mosandi (2019) opined that insurgency is neither terrorism nor conventional warfare, although they share some similarities such as the use of guerrilla tactics or force to achieve their aim, which is largely political. Both insurgency and terrorism are based on lies on extent of violence. For instance, insurgency's aim is to overthrow the legitimate government, while terrorism is to create state of fear and anxiety to the populace but not political change. It is apt to underpinning that terrorism is subset of insurgency, the insurgent's group such as BHG use terrorism, sabotage, subversion to perpetrate their nefarious activities and cause havoc to the humanities.

Adegoke (2017) posits that insurgency involved militant, terrorist, revolutionary and any other militia and illegal warfare that deviates from laws, rules and conventions of war that is carried out against a state or legitimate government. Bodunde, et al (2019) opined that insurgency is undeclared warfare using the basic threats to national security such as sabotage, subversion, terrorism, and armed conflict to accomplish objectives by taking over the prevailing social order and change political power within the state. It is worthy to note that the core aims of insurgency are to upheaval the legitimate government without following the due diligence such as electoral process, formation of self-governing territory within the boundaries of a state, forcing the legitimate government to vacate power and excerpt political concerns that are unachievable through the illegal means.

Ashaolu (2017) defined insurgency as a form of rebellion in which a dissenting group that has the support of a substantial part of the population instigates the commission of widespread acts of civil disobedience, terrorism, sabotage, and wages guerilla warfare in order to overthrow a government. A state of insurgency indicates that the insurgents have control of significant areas of the state and that it will almost inescapably be part of a revolutionary warfare. He posits that insurgency have two major aims and objectives in perpetrating the evil acts. These are long term and short-term objectives. The former objective of insurgent's groups is essentially political, control of an area, while the latter objectives are to obtain the support or noninvolvement of critical parts of the population, to limit the capability of the government and enhance the capacity of the insurgents to provide services, to upsurge

domestic and international legitimacy of the insurgent Organisation at the expense of government, and to destroy the self confidence of government leaders and teams causing their relinquishment or withdrawal (Barkindo, 2018).

Causes of Insurgence in Nigeria

Olofinbiyi (2018) opined that there are different causes and motivating factors for insurgency to ensue in the Nigerian state as follows:

i. **Political disputes/ Political motivation:** Basically, insurgencies have political under tone which is motivated politically as consequences from perceived criticisms with the government's strategies. For instance, the BHG is aggrieved because the political power has shifted from the Muslims in the North (Hausa-Fulani tribe) to a Christian, Goodluck Ebele Jonathan (Ex-President of Federal Republic of Nigeria) from South-South. The political based insurgencies apply different methods of subversion both economically and social to cause disaffections amongst the populace and undermine the government of the former President.

ii. **Cultural motivation:** Nigerian state is a multi-cultural society which various ethnic and cultural differences are explored by groups who want to be identified with it. The BHG take the undue advantages of multicultural and ethnic identity to get support from the locals and sympathizers from formal settings (Akinola & Tella, 2017).

iii. **Religious disputes/motivation:** The insurgent's cum terrorist's groups always use religion to support their cause of terrors and they also use same to gather backing amongst the populace in the community. Religion is used as a marshaling might to achieve the political goals.

iv. **Economic motivation:** The insurgents are also motivated by economic criticism; they take advantage of pecuniary motive cum economic gain to wage irregular war to threaten and impact government economic policies for their personal drive. The overall aims of the insurgents are basically on economic and social benefits which are motivated by selfish political elites of both North and South in the Nigerian state. It is pertinent to note that the economic hardship, failure of economic developments, uneven distribution of resources, high level of poverty, illiteracy are the root causes of insurgency (Onuoha, 2016)..

Basic and Contemporary Threats to Insecurity in North-East Region of Nigeria

The basic and contemporary threats have being major concerns to both governments and security agencies in the North-East region of Nigeria. The basic threats are sabotage, subversion, espionage, terrorism and insurgency, while the contemporary threats are kidnapping, armed banditry, armed robbery, theft, car hijacking, human trafficking, money laundering, salami's techniques, embezzlement, corporate fraud, gambling, prostitution, oil bunkering, bribery and corruption, arson, ritual killings, rape and sexual assault, and so on.

The contemporary threats are further classified into five (5) crimes in the Nigerian State (Adegoke, 2017). These are violent crimes, cyber-crimes, property crimes, public order crimes, and white collars crimes. The violent crimes are kidnappings, ritual killings, rape and sexual assault, suicide bombings, religious killings, ethnic clashes, armed robbery and

banditry and so on. The cyber-crimes are phishing scams, identity theft scams, and online harassments, invasion of privacy, all these are directed to people, property and governments. The property crimes include burglary, larceny, motor vehicle theft, arson, and so on. The public order crimes are illegal gambling, illicit drug use, abuse pornography and prostitution. The white collar crimes include securities fraud, embezzlement, corporate fraud, money laundering, and so on (Okonkwo, 2019). The basic threats are being the impediments to safety, peaceful coexistence, enabling environments, to the residents, security agencies, investors and the governments. The Boko Haram Group is using the threats of sabotage, subversion, espionage and terrorism to perpetrate the acts of insurgency. They engaged in nefarious acts such as destroying government's property, bombing key and vulnerable points, kidnapping of innocent civilians, maiming, and armed robbery. All these atrocities performed by the BHG are affecting the Nigerian state (Mosindi, 2019).

Despite the fact that Nigerian troops are deployed to the North-East region of Nigeria successive governments in the area are yet to win the battle against the Boko Haram Group over a decade. The territories are captured by the BHG and retaken by the

Nigerian troops Nigeria is at war either, ''unconventional warfare" or "war against terror" these issues raised major concern for the governments to combat the menace of the insurgent's group. The BHG takes undue advantage of security lapses in the state such as porous borders, lack of data base, alliance with international terrorist's groups like ISWAP, ISIS, Al Shaabab and so on (Onapajo, 2018).

Mosindi (2019) posits that the most disparaging elements in the security establishment is corruption. It has not only affected the Nigerian military, but it has exposed the institution's vulnerabilities in terms of protecting and defending the Nigerian state against any external aggression and internal warfare against the BHG. When the present administration under President Muhammadu Buhari assumed office in 2015, he witnessed the financial and political corruption in the Nigerian military which led to the compulsory retirement of 38 senior army officers on 13th June, 2016. They included 9 Major Generals, 10 Brigadier-Generals, 7 Colonels, 11 Lieutenant Colonels and 1 Major (Odomovo, 2017).

Global Fire Power Ranking Index (GFPI, 2019) ranks Nigeria as the 4th most powerful military in Africa and 44th in the world after Egypt, Algeria, South Africa. But with the sudden large amount of social vices and insecurity in the North-East region of Nigeria, the above ranking is no lomger tenable because the Nigerian state is still battling with insurgency's threat. The Nigerian military has not really won the battle against the BHG over a decade all because of political corruption and lack of timely and accurate intelligence sharing amongst the security agencies.

The basic threats to National security has being undermine and impeding the socio economic growth of the Nigerian state and successive governments. It is important to note that security involves the protection of life and property and the provision of a peaceful and serene atmosphere in which individuals can pursue their lawful activities. It is the duty of the government to embrace all activities designed to protect and safeguard the people and resources of the state against all forces of instability and destruction of their natural resources. Very worrisomely, the residents of North-East region are not witnessing any stable peace and tranquility because of the menace of Boko Haram Group which has caused all lots of havoc

ranging from killings, bombings, kidnappings. All these have displaced thousands of prople, some who are taking and seeking refuge in the neighbouring countries such as Chad, Cameroon, and Niger (Bodunde et al., 2019).

The contemporary threats to insecurity in the North-East region of Nigeria are kidnapping, suicide bombings, armed robbery and banditry, burglary, ethnic clashes, rape and sexual assault, illicit drugs, bad governance, corruption, unemployment, inadequate basic infrastructures, arrant poverty in the midst of affluence, religious superiority, and so on. No doubt, all these contemporary threats have contributed negatively to the peace and tranquility in the North-East region of Nigeria (Pham, 2016).

The threat of kidnapping is a major crime the BHG adopts in perpetrating their nefarious acts in the North-East region of Nigeria. The crime of kidnapping is not new to the Nigerian state, the Niger-Delta militancy usually also adopt kidnapping as one of the ways to perpetrate their nefarious acts against the state. They kidnapped both local oil workers and foreign nationals in the bid to negotiate with government in power (Odomovo, 2017). According to Isyaku (2014), kidnapping is the act of illegally taking somebody away against his or her will and keeping him or her as a captive in order to get money or something tangible in return before releasing him or her. It could be ransom (monetary) or political gain to coerce someone to step down his or her aspiration or position.

The threat of Suicide bombings: It is factual that insurgents all over the globe use suicide bombings to ravage terrors and death to their targets. The BHG also adopts this method to cause havoc in the Nigerian state and destroy government's key and vulnerable points (KVPs). Their aim is to create panic and fear amongst the citizens and make their insurgency acts popular at the detriment of the government in power (Olofinbiyi, 2018).

According to Adesoji (2013), "suicide bombing is an act in which an individual personally delivers explosives and detonates them to inflict the greatest possible damage, killing himself or herself in the process". It is particularly appalling on account of their chaotic nature, with the intention to kill or harm anyone within the array of the explosion; the victims are frequently unsuspicious civilians. The suicide bombings are link to political causes or ideology inclinations. The BHG usually targets security agencies, political leaders, innocent civilians in public places such as markets, playing grounds, viewing centers, and so on.

Threat of Armed Banditry and Robbery: These two threats are commonly found in Nigeria, especially in the North-East and North-West regions respectively. Armed robbery is a form of crime which "involves theft of property and carrying of lethal weapon. It is considered a higher category of offenses relating to thefts and the use of force". The BHG involved in armed robbery crime in order to make money. They usually rob commercial banks, markets, shopping malls and so on. They have sent must of the commercial banks away from the region because of the perpetual day light robbery. The unpalatable incidence has rendered the region unviable and investors have left to other state. The threats of banditry and robbery have negative consequences on the economic and human capitals (Bintube, 2018).

Threat of Rape: According to United Nations report "rape is the carnal knowledge of a woman forcibly and against her will" more so, "rape generally refers to unwanted sexual intercourse that involves the use of force and the lack of consent". Any sexual intercourse with a child under the age of 18 is considered statutory as rape because the minor according

to legal is regarded as unable to consent (United Nations Report, 2015). It is pertinent to note that the BHG after kidnapping the innocent civilians they raped the female among them and physical tortured and killed the men. These inhuman attitudes have made several people displaced and some even seek refuge in the neighbouring states (Agbiboa, 2018).

Theoretical Framework

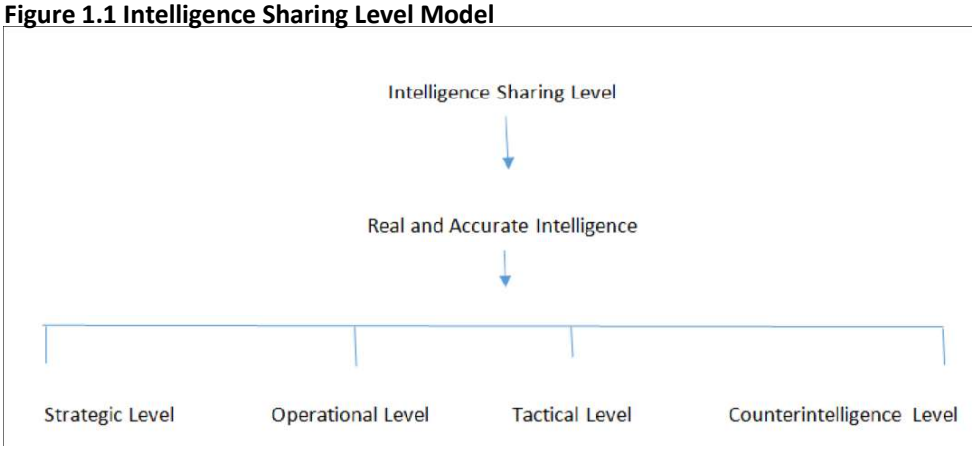
This paper was anchored on State fragility theory. The major proponents of State fragility or failed state are Helman & Ratner (1993), William Zartman (2005) and so on. No doubt, these scholars mentioned above have contributed positively on the use of the theory. It explains the conditions in which a state has shown specific indices that portray her as a failed or failing state. As noted by Bhuta (2012), such incidences of state failure are associated with a series of crises that poses a great concern to the international community, including forced displacement, massive destruction of lives and properties, violation of international criminal law, and a severe threat to the economy of the state.

A common state of affairs during which fragility happens is primarily once a government is incapable of meeting the stress of its citizens, and thus, legitimacy is lost; and when the 'social contract' or state-society contract binding state and society along in reciprocally reinforcing ways in which frays and therefore the state is not seen as delivering its mandates and services to the individuals (Menocal, 2011: pp 17). State fragility theory enables the study to analyse the institutional failures, including issues of the effectiveness of the Nigerian government's response towards combating the Boko Haram insurgency, including issues concerning intelligence gathering to combat the insurgency.

Intelligence Sharing Model to Combat the Trend and Patterns of Insurgency in Nigerian State

It is imperative to focus and briefly discuss the levels of intelligence sharing amongst security agents. It is conducted and shared at various levels namely strategic level, tactical level, operational level and counterinsurgency level.

Figure 1.1 Intelligence Sharing Level Model



Source: Compiled by the Authors

The Intelligence sharing level figure is a model designed by the author to explain how intelligence sharing level should be utilized amongst the security agencies and the government. According to Bodunde et.al., (2019), intelligence sharing is the ability to exchange intelligence information data or knowledge amongst federal, state, local, and private sector entity. The intelligence from the security experts is to be shared amongst the security agencies and government in order to curtail any form impediment or threat. Onuoha (2018) opined that intelligence sharing level is basically joint efforts from the general populace and security agencies. If the Nigerian citizens are conscious of information and they are willing to render useful information to the security agencies of which it will be processed to intelligence and timely shared amongst themselves and government, no doubt, we will have a standard intelligence sharing level.

The second level is the real and accurate intelligence: from the information gotten from the populace or through information gathering we process intelligence sharing. Before the sharing of intelligence either amongst the security agencies or security agents to government, it must undergo 'real' and 'accurate' intelligence. Adegoke (2017) opined that real and accurate intelligence is the main product from intelligence after going through collation, evaluation and interpretation process. The real and accurate intelligence is the focus points and precise intelligence on human activities, structures, natural features and so on.

The third level is the sharing of the real and accurate intelligence into the next stage. Bodunde, et.al (2019), as cited in the study of Schmid (2003), opined that intelligence is conducted and shared at various levels, namely, Strategic level intelligence, Operational level intelligence, Tactical level intelligence and Counterintelligence level. The real and accurate intelligence are shared among the following four (4) levels of intelligence sharing:

Strategic Level Intelligence: This is the major among the levels of intelligence from which the national and international agencies can share intelligence. It involves foremost issues like military competences, political, economic, scientific and technology advancement, level of literates, non- state actors, population strength, and so on. It is the intelligence sharing between one country to another or between the security agencies of one country to another, for instance, local police sharing intelligence with international police (INTERPOL). This type of intelligence is classified as 'Top Secret' (Bodunde, et. al., 2019)

Operational Level Intelligence: This is the intelligence level sharing within the security agencies to support the local operations. Usually, intelligence sharing from the field officers to the commander during an operation. More so, this type of intelligence is classified as 'Secret' and is shared internally within a security agency (Adegoke, 2017).

Tactical Level Intelligence: This is intelligence level sharing that is shared to support a tactical operation. In the tactical level of intelligence sharing, there is briefing and debriefing, they engage the situation intelligence report (SITREP), there is immediate feedback from the encoder and the decoder. In this level of intelligence sharing, the communication is in two ways and uses different signs and code to share the intelligence. For instance, military operations in the Northeast region against the Boko Haram Group (Onuoha, 2017).

Counter-Intelligence Level: This is the protection of intelligence information and sharing it amongst the security agencies and the governments to safeguard, maintain secret of a country

against espionage and hostile intelligence service (H.I.S) from infiltrating and penetrating the country's government, armed services, intelligence community, political, and so on. The aim of Counter-intelligence level is to checkmate the activities of double agents and averts the country's being infiltrated by espionage activities (spies). Ashaolu (2017) stated that the Intelligence Community (IC) DSS, DIA and NIA use various methods in gathering information that can be processed to get accurate and viable intelligence. These methods include search and seizure, compel and freedom self-incrimination which is commonly used against suspects, witness may also compel to provide evidence against the accused person, GPS, Tracking and Telecommunication monitoring and Data mining which is the study phase of the knowledge discovery in records.

Conclusion and Recommendations

It is anticipated that the findings of this paper will be adopted as an avenue to get access to a broad range of key players in modern society who may accept the study that insurgency, which is witnessed as a hydra-headed monster and whose display will always remain ill-disposed to the progress and development of any state, is embedded in the global society. The findings suggest that insurgency will persist and thrive across generations if timely and accurate measures are not taken to check its trends and patterns. Insurgency is perceived as undeclared warfare as it threatens national security through sabotage, subversion, terrorism, and an armed conflict to accomplish its objectives. There are numerous calamities inflicted on Nigerians by the Boko Haram insurgent group which have rendered all efforts to submerge the menace and proffer lasting solutions abortive.

The following recommendations have been provided on the premise of the findings of this study. The enactment of laws against insurgency and its sponsors: This paper submits that forms of stiffer penalties should be applied to the perpetrators of this felonious crime, thus serving as a deterrant to potential offenders.

The Intelligence Community (IC) which comprises the Department of State Services, Defence Intelligence Agency and National Intelligence Agency should be strengthen and harmonized in terms of gathering information, processing it into intelligence and disseminating such to curtail the mancae of BHG. The IC should work in synergy with shared intelligence, possses joint database in discharging their mandates. More so, provision of technical gadgets such as drone, spy equipments, bugging devices, close circuit television, and many more should be provided for the IC in carying out their statutory responsibilities. No doubt, all these technical gadgets will aid the security agencies in doing their jobs effectively.

Lastly, training and re-training of Intelligence Community personnel will enhance professionalism in discharging their responsibilities. Also, training will assist them to combat the lingering war against the Boko Haram insurgents in terms of intelligence gathering against them, arrest and prosecution.

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