

APPROACHES TO INTELLIGENCE INFORMATION GATHERING AND SHARING AMONG SECURITY AGENCIES FOR SECURITY MANAGEMENT IN KADUNA STATE, NIGERIA.

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Abstract

This study investigated the approaches used by security agencies to gather and share intelligence information for security management in Kaduna State, Nigeria. Two (2) research questions guided the study which were: what types of intelligence information are gathered and shared among security agencies in Kaduna State? What approaches are used for intelligence information gathering and sharing by security agencies for security management in Kaduna State? This study adopted a quantitative research methodology and a cross-sectional survey design was adopted. The population of this study was 44,976 comprising of Nigerian Army, Nigerian Police, Nigerian Civil Defense Corps (NCDC) and Kaduna State Vigilante (KADVIS). A purposive sampling technique was adopted and a self-designed questionnaire was subjected to face and content validity, and a reliability test result of 0.901 was obtained. The questionnaire was used to collect data using a sample size of 62 respondents. The data collected was described and analyzed using frequencies table, percentages, mean and standard deviation. The hypotheses were tested using one-way ANOVA. The findings revealed that the common types of intelligence information gathering and sharing for security management in Kaduna State were information about criminal hideout and criminal modes of operation. Security agencies in Kaduna State rely more on a non-kinetic approach to intelligence information gathering using rapport and. Inter-agency collaborations were also the most preferred way of intelligence sharing among security agencies in Kaduna state. The study concluded that the Nigerian state is currently bedeviled with an array of criminal activities which require comprehensive intelligence information sourcing and utilization. The absence of comprehensive studies on intelligence information gathering and sharing has made the fight against crime and criminality in Kaduna State almost unbeatable. The study therefore recommended that security agencies should collaborate with community leaders, elders, youth and other

stakeholders for effective intelligence information gathering, they should also strengthen rapport with crime suspects and syndicates for effective intelligence gathering. Security agencies should also intensify efforts on daily intelligence gathering and sharing.

KEYWORDS: Approaches, Intelligence Information, Security Agencies, Security Management, Information Gathering and Sharing.

Introduction

Ensuring the security of lives and properties is paramount in every civilized society. Nigeria is currently grappling with grave security challenges and threats which include the threat of religious extremism (such as Boko Haram & Shiite, Kukawa), kidnappings, banditry, armed robbery, ritual killings, oil bunkering, cybercrime, etc. It has been argued that the variations in the types of insecurity in Nigeria may not be unconnected with a high level of unemployment, lack of education the widening economic gap between the poor and the rich, the influx of illegal migrants from the neighboring countries due to the nation's porous border, etc (Martin, 2016).

Intelligence information refers to information that has been processed so that it contains a particular meaning for a given recipient (Flavius-Cristian and Andreea, 2013). It involves any vital information, together with the activities involved in producing or procuring it, designed to ensure and or enhance national and global security (Martin, 2016). Intelligence information gathering also involves civilian components who actively engage in information gathering through a multi-dimensional and multi-agency approach. Intelligence information also often comes from a variety of other sources such as interrogations, testimonies, confessions, third (3rd) party or open sources such as newspaper articles, magazines, online blogs, wikis, websites, police reports, etc.

Security management is the activities of planning, organizing, directing, coordinating and supervising all resources aimed at protecting, preventing or eliminating possible threats that may endanger the existence of individuals, organizations or countries. Karataş, Adnan (2021) defines security management as the activities of planning, organizing and controlling every aspect of an organization's strategy and, accordingly, its operations to improve its functioning. Intelligence information is costly to obtain, harness, process, share and protect. This makes stakeholders to sometimes hesitate share the intelligence information in their possessions with others.

Statement of the Problem

The country over the last 10 years has been progressively experiencing a rise in criminal activities such as kidnapping, cattle rustling and terrorism. Like in many states of Nigeria, Kaduna State has also continued to grapple with various incidences of organized and non-organized crime such as kidnapping for ransom, human/child trafficking, armed robberies, theft and cattle rustling. Places such as Birnin Gwari, Abuja- Kaduna Highway, Kaduna-Zaria Highway and Kaduna-Birnin-Gwari Road are most prone to these attacks. They have become ‘danger zones’ for commuters, with frequent cases of robbery and kidnapping. However, despite the efforts of both the Federal and State Governments to provide adequate security along those flash points, the situation continues to linger and persist. Claims and counter-claims continue to dominate the public space that the various security agencies do not gather and share intelligence information among them due to lack of cooperation, ego-boosting, favouritism and marginalization. It is in light of this that the researcher conducted survey research to find out the types of intelligence information gathered and shared by security agencies, and approaches to intelligence information gathering and sharing adopted by security agencies in Kaduna State.

Research Questions

The following research questions were raised:

1. What are the types of intelligence information are gathered and shared among security agencies in Kaduna State?
2. What approaches are used for intelligence information gathering and sharing by security agencies for security management in Kaduna State?

Literature Review

Several intelligence information disciplines are used by different security agencies to acquire information concerning the activities of criminals and adversaries. These disciplines include Human Intelligence (HUMINT), Signals Intelligence (SIGINT), Imagery Intelligence (IMINT), Measurement and Signatures Intelligence (MASINT), and open-source intelligence (OSINT). (Intelligence Threat Handbook, 2019).

HUMINT is the Information obtained through human sources, that is by informants or interrogators and monitors who, for institutional or professional reasons, are aware of the Information they want to find; this is undoubtedly the oldest and most risky Information gathering system, able to provide Information coverage even in impenetrable areas from other systems” (Vilasi, 2018). Human intelligence collection is also sometimes referred to as espionage. These terms typically involve the identifying and recruiting of an official who, by a position of trust in government, has access to important information and who is willing to pass this information on to officers of one’s intelligence service (Shulsky, & Schmitt,2002). Signals intelligence is intelligence information derived from signal intercepts comprising, either individually or in combination, all communications intelligence (COMINT), electronic intelligence (ELINT), and foreign instrumentation signals intelligence (FISINT), (Intelligence Threat Handbook, 2019).

Measurement and Signature Intelligence (MASINT) is scientific and technical intelligence information obtained by quantitative and qualitative analysis of data derived from specific technical sensors to identify any distinctive features associated with the source emitter or sender. This intelligence information is then used to facilitate the subsequent identification or measurement of the same type of equipment. Imagery Intelligence (IMINT) is a product of imagery analysis. Imagery includes representations of objects reproduced electronically or by optical means on film, electronic display devices, or other media. Imagery can be derived from visual photography, radar sensors, infrared sensors, lasers, and electro-optics.

Open-source intelligence information involves the use of materials available to the public by intelligence agencies and other adversaries, eg archives, publications, radio, TV, newspapers, scientific dissertations, and secondary sources as well” (Vilasi, 2018). Some analysts have estimated that the Soviet Union derived up to 90 per cent of its intelligence information from open source. With the proliferation of electronic databases, it has become easier to collate large quantities of data, and structure information to meet the needs of the adversary collector. Open-source information can often provide extremely valuable

information concerning an organization's activities and capabilities (Intelligence Threat Handbook, 2019). Kelly et al. (2013)

Macro-level general Approach is most often described as accusatorial or confrontational (Meissner, Redlich, Bhatt, & Brandon, 2011). In this approach, the interviewer establishes control over and confronts the suspect, presumes guilt, and ultimately aims to obtain a confession. Accusatorial methods tend to use closed-ended and confirmatory questions and to employ psychological manipulation. This method also uses anxiety-based cues to detect deception, cues (e.g., fidgeting and lack of eye contact) that have generally not found support in the scientific literature (Vrij, 2008).

Kelly et al. (2013) proposed a micro-level of six domains consisting of individual techniques: rapport and relationship building; context manipulation; emotional provocation; confrontation/competition; collaboration; and presentation of evidence. We describe these domains in detail as they lay an important foundation for the present research.

Methodology

Quantitative methodology with a cross-sectional survey research design was adopted to allow the researchers to obtain responses from a population at a particular point in time (Babbie, 2016). The target population of this study consisted of security agencies vested with the responsibility of protecting lives and properties in Kaduna State. These are the Nigerian Army, Nigerian Airforce, Nigerian Police, Nigerian Security and Civil Defense Corp (NSCDC) and Local Vigilante. The sample size for this study was sixty-two (62) and was drawn during the data collection visit to the intelligent unit of the various security agencies under study. The sampling technique adopted was purposive sampling techniques. Due to the nature and characteristics of the required data, the researcher adopted a purposive sampling technique for the researcher to collect data from only intelligent officers across these agencies; and a questionnaire was used for data collection. Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS) was used for the analysis of the collected data while a frequency table was used in presenting the data collected and a simple percentage was used for data presentation related to the research questions. The discussion of data was subjected to a mean benchmark of 2.8.

Result and Discussions

Table 1: Types of Intelligence Information Gathered and Shared by Security Agencies for Security Management in Kaduna State

To identify the types of intelligence information gathered and shared among security agencies in Kaduna State, each of the types of information was assessed and analyzed independently as presented in Table 1:

S/N	Types of Intelligence Information Gathered and Shared by Security Agencies.	Security Agencies													
		NA		NAF		NPF		NSCDC		KADVS		Σ		μ	σ
		F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	Total	%		
1	Information about criminal hideout	14	25.5	2	3.4	4	7.3	9	16.5	6	10.9	35	63.6	7	4.5
2	Information about weapon use	10	18.2	2	3.4	1	1.8	5	9.1	2	3.4	20	36.4	4	3.7
3	Information about sponsors	5	9.1	1	1.8	1	1.8	6	10.9	1	1.8	14	25.5	2.8	2.5
4	Information about food & logistics	4	7.3	2	3.4	1	1.8	5	9.1	2	3.4	14	25.5	2.8	1.6
5	Information about time of operation	5	9.1	1	1.8	1	1.8	3	5.5	4	7.3	14	25.5	2.8	1.9
6	Information about flashpoint	7	12.7	2	3.4	1	1.8	6	10.9	3	5.5	19	34.5	3.8	2.6
7	Information about gadget use	9	16.5	2	3.4	1	1.8	8	14.5	8	14.5	28	50.1	5.6	3.8
8	Information about mode of operation	13	23.6	2	3.4	2	3.4	8	14.5	4	7.3	29	52.7	5.8	4.7

From Table 1 above, it can be seen that the most popular type of intelligence information gathered and shared by security agencies for security management in Kaduna State was information about criminal hideouts with a mean score of 7($\sigma = 4.5$). However, all other types of intelligence information gathered and shared by security agencies have met the minimum required

benchmark of 2.8. Nevertheless, it can be argued that intelligence information about criminal hideouts and their mode of operations is usually the most widely sought-after information by security agencies for security management in Kaduna State. This implies that identifying criminals and their hideouts is very important to security agencies in Kaduna State and is vital to effective security management in the State. This also implies of this finding is that; the security agencies are more interested in HUMINT activities, particularly reconnaissance activities which involve identifying, preventing, and deterring crime and criminal activities in the state. HUMINT entities employ human sources or contacts (controlled and not controlled), exploit documents, and execute reconnaissance and surveillance activities to satisfy requirements regarding the adversaries (Pick, Rentner, & Dukat, 1999). This finding is closely related to the study by Jonathan Olufemi Adeyemi and Olugbenga Ajilore (2022), who trace the evolution of intelligence and security services in Nigeria from the colonial era to the present day. Their study highlights the role of HUMINT in intelligence gathering and analysis, particularly during the colonial era, when intelligence was primarily used for maintaining colonial rule. They also examine the development of HUMINT practices in Nigeria's post-colonial era, with a focus on the challenges faced by the intelligence and security services in the country

Table 2: Approaches Used by Security Agencies in Kaduna State to Gather and Share Intelligence Information in Kaduna State.

In order to identify the approaches used by security agencies to gather and share intelligence in Kaduna State each of the techniques was assessed and analyzed independently as presented in Table 2.

Table 2: Approaches Used by Security Agencies in Kaduna State to Gather Intelligence Information

S/N	Approaches used by Security Agencies to Intelligence Information	Security Agencies													
		NA		NAF		NPF		NSCDC		KADVS		Σ		μ	σ
		F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	F	%	Total	%		
1.	Confrontation & provocation	2	3.6	0	0.0	0	0.0	2	3.6	1	1.8	5	9.0	1.6	0.6
2.	Context manipulation – interview	6	10.9	0	0.0	1	1.8	4	7.3	4	7.3	15	20.0	3.8	2.1
3.	Rapport, collaboration & relationship	14	25.5	1	1.8	2	3.6	8	14.5	8	14.5	33	60.0	6.6	5.3
4.	Audio/video recording technologies	7	12.7	1	1.8	1	1.8	4	7.3	6	10.9	19	35.0	3.8	2.8
5.	Covert operations	7	12.7	2	3.6	2	3.6	6	10.9	3	5.5	20	41.3	4.0	2.3
6.	Direct surveillance	9	16.4	2	3.6	1	1.8	7	12.7	4	7.3	23	42.0	4.6	3.4
7.	Telecommunications devices	6	10.9	2	3.6	0	0.0	3	5.5	1	1.8	12	22.0	3.0	2.2
8.	Subject of interest	4	7.3	1	1.8	1	1.8	4	7.3	4	7.3	14	26.0	2.8	1.6
9.	Tracking devices	5	9.1	0	0.0	0	0.0	3	5.5	2	3.6	10	18.2	3.3	1.5
10.	Secretly accessing computers	0	0	1	1.8	0	0.0	2	3.6	1	1.8	4	7.2	1.3	0.6
11.	Aerial reconnaissance	8	14.5	1	1.8	2	3.6	3	5.5	1	1.8	15	27.2	3.0	2.9
12.	Use of informants	9	16.4	2	3.6	1	1.8	7	12.7	3	5.5	22	40.0	4.4	3.4
13.	Reports from victims	9	16.4	2	3.6	0	0.0	5	9.1	3	5.5	19	35.0	4.8	3.1

Key:

Σ = Total

NA = Nigerian Army

NSCDC = Nigerian Security & Civil Defense Corp

σ = Population Standard Deviation

NAF = Nigerian Air Force

μ = Mean of sample size

NPF = Nigerian Police Force

KADVS = Kaduna State Vigilance Service

Table 2 revealed that the most widely adopted approaches used by security agencies in Kaduna State for intelligence information gathering were the use of Rapport, collaboration & relationship with a mean score of 7($\sigma = 4.5$), followed by the use of direct surveillance with a mean score of 4.6($\sigma = 3.4$). Thus, it can be argued that these techniques are the best options mostly utilized by the security agencies in Kaduna State for gathering intelligence information. It also shows the level of significance of these techniques which are above the minimum required benchmark. On the other hand, the least technique used by security agencies for intelligence information gathering is secretly accessing peoples' computers. This has a mean score of 1.3($\sigma = 0.6$), which means that security agencies in Kaduna State rarely adopt this technique for intelligence information gathering.

This implies that security agencies in Kaduna state usually build a working relationship between operator and source, based on a mutually shared understanding of each other's goals and needs that can lead to useful, actionable intelligence information as against the use of brute force or intruding into peoples' privacy for intelligence information gathering purposes.

This finding is in line with the findings of Alison et al. (2013) who found that adaptive rapport-based approaches directly led to increased positive interpersonal behaviour (e.g., active listening, mirroring) from suspects and, critically, greater information yield. However, even minimal use of maladaptive interpersonal behaviour on the part of the interrogator (e.g., confrontation) resulted in greater use of maladaptive interpersonal behaviour by suspects and directly led to reductions in intelligence information yield. Research by Alison et al. (2013), among others, seems to suggest that rapport-based, or at least friendly, approaches are ideal in the interviewing and interrogation of sources. In another related study relevant to this finding. Michelle Andrés (2015) reviews the literature on empathy and rapport in the context of HUMINT collection and concludes that building rapport and demonstrating empathy are essential components of successful HUMINT collection. Their study also suggests that establishing a positive relationship with a source can increase the accuracy and completeness of the information obtained.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The importance of a crime-free society cannot be over-emphasized. The Nigerian state is currently bedeviled with an array of criminal activities which require comprehensive intelligence information sourcing and utilization. The absence of comprehensive studies on intelligence information gathering and sharing has made the fight against crime and criminality in Kaduna State almost unbeatable. This research has in response to this challenge produced a basis for understanding intelligence information gathering and sharing in the fight against crimes and criminalities in Kaduna State. The study therefore recommended that security agencies in Kaduna State agencies should forge stronger and more

strategic partnerships and collaboration with community elders, youths, and other stakeholders to effectively identify criminals and their hideouts, as these criminals are usually domiciled within the same community. This approach if fully implemented will empower both the security agencies and residents to take a more active role in maintaining security, ensuring a collective effort in crime prevention. Security agencies should also strengthen rapport and collaboration with crime suspects and syndicates to further unveil other criminal actors in society. Engaging with these individuals might reveal connections and collaborators, informant networks, undercover operations, uncovering of broader criminal networks, as well as significantly disrupt criminal operations.

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