

A LECTURE ON SECURITY CONSCIOUSNESS/AWARENESS IN A TRANSITION PERIOD



Delivered By

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To Chairmen And Councillors Of

Local Government Areas

In Imo State

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1. Introduction:

Notable World Boxing Champions insist professionally that Boxing Champion without a knockout punch rests insecurely on his crown. Stable Security is therefore as important to Chairmen/Chief Security Officers of the Local Government Areas as a knock—out punch ,s important to a Boxing Champion.

2. Definition:

- (a) Security can simply be defined as “protection against law breaking, violence or enemy acts.
- (b) Awareness: Means having knowledge or consciousness of a given situation Showing understanding of one's self, or surroundings and other people.

“In other words Security awareness begins with self preservation.

3. Scope of Responsibility: In order to appreciate the Scope or level of your responsibility Security-wise, it will be necessary to aw some analogies en if at higher levels, for example, the Federal Republic of Nigeria has legally defined territorial boundaries. She shares common borders with other independent African Nations/Countries, while part of the territorial boundaries border the Ocean.

The Federal Republic of Nigeria therefore established by Statute or law certain Security Organs or Agencies charged with specific responsibilities, through which the Federal Government knows the goings—on within and outside the country. The functions of these Agencies are advisory' to the Head of State end Commander-In-Chief of the Armed Forces. In effect, the Head of State has absolute responsibility f or the Security of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Such Security responsibility may be internal, eg. in suppressing, an internal revolt such as the Biafran secession. It may also be external in nature such as the defence of 'the Nigerian territory against any external aggression, for instances, the invasion of the Bakassi Peninsular by Cameroun.



(a) Agencies Charged with Responsibility for the Security of the Nation: THE NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCIES ACT of 1986, put in place, three Security Agencies as follows :-

- (i) The Defence Intelligence Agency; (DIA)
- (ii) The National Intelligence Agency; (NIA) and.
- (iii) The State Security Service (sss).

Each of these three Security outfits is legally charged with specific responsibilities as follows: -

- (b) Function/Duties of the Do once Intelligence Agency (D14)
- (i) The prevention and detection of crime of military nature against the Security of Nigeria.
 - (ii) The protection and reservation of military classified matters concerning the Security of Nigeria both within and outside Nigeria (hence the essence of military attaches in our diplomatic missions abroad.).
 - (iii) Such other responsibilities affecting defence intelligence of a military nature, both within and outside Nigeria, as the President/Head of State, C— In— C, or the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff, as the case may be may direct.

The National Intelligence Agency (NIA)

The functions of the (NIA) include:-

- (i) The general maintenance of Security of Nigeria outside Nigeria, concerning matters that are not related to military issues; and
- (ii) Such other matters affecting National Intelligence outside Nigeria, as the National Defence and Security Council or the President, Commander-In-Chief of the Armed Forces, as the case may be, may deem necessary.

The State Security Service (SSS)

This agency is charged with the following responsibilities:

- (i) The prevention and detection within Nigeria of crime against the internal security of Nigeria;
- (ii) The protection and preservation of oil nonmilitary classified matters concerning the internal security of Nigeria; and
- (iii) Such other responsibilities affecting the internal security within Nigeria as the National Assemble or the President, Commander-In-Chief of the Armed Forces, as the case may be, may deem necessary.

(c) Appointment of Principle Officers of Channel of Communication:

- (i) A principal officer shall be appointed for each of these Agencies who shall be known by such designation as the Commander-In-Chief of the Armed Forces may determine.

(ia) The Principal Officers of the State Security Service (SSS) and the National



Intelligence Agency (NIA), shall in the discharge of their duties/functions, be directly responsible to the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces; and

(ib) In the case of the Defence Intelligence agency (DIA), the Principal officer shall be directly responsible to the Chairman, Joint Chiefs of Staff.

(d) Co-ordination of the National Security Agencies

For the purpose of Co-ordinating the intelligence Activities of the National Security Agencies, the President, Commander-In-Chief of the Armed forces shall appoint a Coordinator/Adviser on National Security.

(National Security Adviser).

The Co-ordinator/Adviser on National Security shall be a Principal Staff Officer in the Office of the President, Commander-In-Chief of the Armed forces.

Responsibilities/Duties of the Co-ordinator/Adviser

His duties shall include:

- (i) Advising the President, Commander-In-Chief of the Armed forces on matters concerning the intelligence activities of the Agencies;
- (ii) Making recommendations in relation to the activities of the Agencies to the President, Commander-In-Chief of the Armed forces as contingencies may warrant;
- (iii) Correlating and evaluating intelligence reports relating to the National Security and providing the appropriate dissemination of such intelligence within Government, using existing facilities as the President, Commander-in-Chief of the Armed forces may direct.
- (iv) Determining the number and level of staff to be employed by each Agency established in accordance with the National Security Agencies Act 1986, and organising the transfer and posting of staff especially the National Security Organisation (NSO) established, pursuant to the National Security Organization Act 197 and repealed by Section 7(1) of the National Security Agencies Act 1986.
- (v) Doing such other things in connection with the foregoing provisions, as the president, commander-In-Chief of the Armed forces may from time to time determine.

(d) Establishment of Advisory councils

In the interest of National Security, two Advisory Councils have been established under the National Security Agencies Act 1986. These are:

- (1) The National Defence and Security Council: Which is charged with responsibility for matters relating:
 - (a) to public security; and
 - (b) generally, the structure, staff and other matters concerning the Agencies set up



under this Act.

- (ii) The National Defence Council: This Council has responsibility for advising the President, Commander-In-Chief of the Armed forces on all matters concerning the defence of the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Nigeria.
- (e) The Composition and Structure the Advisory Councils and the Security Agencies. The President, Commander-In-Chief of the Armed forces, has absolute prerogative to determine the composition and structure of both Advisory Councils, including who the Principal Officers of the Security Agencies shall be; including the limit of powers exercisable by each Agency, including also the conferment on specific Officers of the Agencies, the Powers of a Superior Police Officer.
- (f) Prevalence of the National Security Agencies Act:
If any other law including the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, is inconsistent with the provisions of this Act, the provisions of this Act shall prevail, and that other law shall, to the extent of the inconsistency, be void. The essence of these details is to highlight the very importance of Security consciousness/awareness even at the Federal level. 'To underscore the importance of security awareness at the National level all over the world, the Report of Sir Donning titled the "Donning Report on the John Profumo Case at page 230 of the said report says:

Quote "No one can understand the role of the Security- Service in the Profumo Affair unless he realises the Cardinal Principle of their operations are to be used for one purpose, and one purpose only, the Defence of the Realm. They are not to be used to pry into any man's private conduct or business affairs: or even into his political opinions, except in so far as they are subversive, that is, they would contemplate the overthrow of Government by unlawful means"
Unquote.

John Profumo as a Minister of State in the British Government ran into a love affair with Christine Keeler a prostitute who worked for the (K.G.E.). The relationship cost the British Government a lot of embarrassment that because of the Security materials transmitted to the then soviet union through Christine Keeler. Some damage to the British National Security had been done before the M. 1.5 sniffed it out.

Profumo in consequence resigned to save himself from further disgrace.

- 4. Again, the Federal Republic of Nigeria is for now divided into 30 States and the Federal Capital Territory Abuja, These States and the F.C.T. have legally defined geographical boundaries and for each of these States there is a Chief Executive, be he a Military Administrator, Governor or by whatever name called. In the case of the Federal Capital Territory Abuja, the minister for the Capital Territory is the



Chief Executive. Each and everyone of those thirty-one Chief Executives has within the geographical definition of his area of authority certain Agencies who monitor and collate relevant Security information and advise the State Chief Executive accordingly. By the same token, the State Chief Executives are directly responsible to the Head of State and Commander-in-Chief for the Security of their respective States. Which is why in Imo State for example, every Tuesday is set aside for the State Security Council Meeting.

Taking this analogy in the descending order of declivity therefore, we now arrive at the Local Government level which is the third tier of Government or Government at the grassroots. As Chairmen of Local Government Areas you are also constitutionally the Chief Executives of your various Local Government Areas. Consequently, you are also Chief Security Officers of your Local Governments and which is why too you are expected to hold your fortnightly Local Government Area Security Council Meetings with Security Agencies such as the police the Military and the State Security Service (SSS) in attendance to advise you on the State of Security in your areas of authority. The need becomes more imperative with this transition period. Just as the State Chief Executives are responsible to the Head of State and Commander-in-Chief for the State of Security in their respective States, so also you as chairmen of Local Governments are accountable to the state military administrator or State Chief Executive.

Security Consciousness/Awareness: To whom much is given, it is said, much is expected. A Chief Executives of your various Local Government Areas, your knowledge of all events of special interest to the Government must be paramount in our minds; be such events on crime; land dispute Chieftaincy or Ezeship tussle; Pro and Post Election reaction; be it on Sabotage against Government policy: or even a planned hijack of an aircraft or a possible blowing Public utility with an incendiary device. The transition to civil rule programme places a lot of responsibility you for its success. Let us take the foregoing Security situations one by one.

(a) Criminal Activities – Security Reports on

The essence of establishing Police Divisions in all Local Government areas; is to combat crime. Put more simply, it is to prevent and detect crime. Prevention it is said is bottom than cure. So the emphasis for every responsible Police Division in handling the criminal aspect of the Local Government Area Security crime prevention. This can be achieved by either of two ways or methods as follow:

- (i) By effective motorized/foot armed patrols and
- (ii) By the establishment/maintenance of effective surveillance teams whose membership must be carefully chosen.

The former method may, and does lead to direct confrontations with criminals, say armed robbers, occasionally resulting in casualties on the part of the robbers and in some cases on the part of the law enforcement agents. This method has its positive psychological effect



on the populace, particularly road users since most armed robberies are executed on our roads.

The latter method however has the advantage of penetrating criminal hideouts ascertaining their membership and possible sponsors and or criminal receivers. This method raids of such criminals and their hide outs, yielding positive results most of the time.

In effect, in any Local Government Areas/Division where criminal intelligence is properly collated and. Follow-up actions taken to forestall the maturity' of such planned or intended criminal activities, certainly the lesser crime you will have and the better for you as a Chairman since you can then direct your energies/resources to other development or Social Services. This is why it is important that you assist your DPOs the best way you can so he can reduce the level of criminal activity in your area to the barest minimum, since there can be no crime free Society. Your concern violence free Society should be as much as that of your DPO, for while the Commissioner of police may and will call' his D.P.O to question, the Chief Executive of the State Government will call you to question as the Chief Security Officer of your L.G. if you lose grip by don't care attitude.

- (b) The dispute could be inter L.G.A ie between one L.G.A. and another. It could also be inter autonomous Community within the same L.G. or yet still, it could be between villages within the same Autonomous Community in which case it is intra Community in nature's Government at the grassroots, you should take special interest in the slightest eruption of disorder based on land dispute and report same to the State Government otherwise seemingly minor land dispute between Communities can be ignited either directly or remotely within a short time and before you know it, the situation would have so spread resulting in the loss of lives and destruction of property. You can only sustain your effectiveness, your credibility as the chairman/Chief Executive of the L.G.A. before the state Chief Executive if you had shown your security awareness by following up the events leading to the dispute and. reporting same to appropriate authority detailing your remedial actions before the issue blew out of proportions.

Anything short of the above, certainly mirrors 'the Chairman in bad light before the Government. You must therefore bear in mind that most riots in Igboland aside from those in Universities and. tertiary Institutions, have their Origins in land, disputes. Such riots and hence the loss of lives and damage to property, can be avoided by security awareness prompting early or timely intervention or

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wages, decides to increase school fees or yet still, Government in its determined efforts at providing adequate and necessary science equipment for all Secondary Schools in the State, levies the sum of 500.00 per student with a view to supplementing scarce financial resources to enable it procure these equipments. The (NUT) (Secondary Sector) in an attempt to frustrate or sabotage this Government effort flow calls its members out on strike and incites parents and guardians who otherwise were willing to pay, from Co—operating with the Policy of the Govt.

The point being made here is that as Chief Executives and Chief Security Officers of your Local Government Areas, you are expected to exploit the Services of Security agencies in your areas to sniff out such intended sabotage of Government policy and do an intelligence report on same to the Government with a view to forestalling the intended sabotage of

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Chief Executive to be caught off his guard in such a situation, as it takes him more trouble to explain the pining and execution of such as sabotage than forestalling its execution because of his Security awareness of the situation. Your ears must be on the ground all the time with a view to tapping all available information, no matter how negligible

Your duty will be to assess the authenticity of such information, sift it like greens and remove the chaff from the substance then you would have arrived at reliable intelligence materials necessary for your report/s to Government. The Idea of not taking the Security of your area seriously by not picking up information materials and analysing same for their usefulness or otherwise early enough can be very embarrassing not only to the State Government but to you the Chairman, as such a situation can make the Government write you down or put you high on the score

for Aircraft case taking. Tedrism

Get on:

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“Do you know that a terrorist act in the early part of the 20th Century triggered off the First World War? Can you recognise Hostage situations when you see one?”

Now take this bit. At 4pm on a certain date, the Control Tower at the Inc Airport gets a radio message from an unidentified approaching Aircraft. The Pilot rather in a panicky voice asks for permission to land. The Control Tower gives the necessary clearance and the Aircraft lands; taxis to the Eastern—end of the tarmac, turns end stop at the going to park at the Apron. The Central Tower seeks clarification on the identity of the Aircraft and its occupants only to get the reply, “I am hijacked I am ordered not to leave the runway. “I have 200 passengers on board and my original destination was Kane or Lubjaf. There are four armed men on board who diverted the flight to Inc Airport I am not allowed to leave the Cock—pit and no passenger is allowed to disembark.

The control Tower should of course immediately relay this information to the Airport Manager who in turn, alerts the 5.5.5. operatives at the Airport.

The Chief Executive of the State is informed expeditiously



If your Security consciousness or awareness is good enough, you as Chairman of the L..A. — soy Ngor Okpela for xrmple, should be able to sniff out thisunsual situation within minutes and imagine that a Hostaoo situation has arisen in your area.

On June 14, 1914, an 18—year old Serbian Student shot end killed Archuke Ferdinand, heir to the throne of Austria

The assassin lo ccl to secret terrorist Society whose members pledged to free Bosnia from Austrian rule and unite it with Serbia. (Until recently Bosnia and Serbia were part of Yugoslavia) which country has now disintergratd following a 4—year. Civil War. The Spirit.of President TITO—th.e Father of Yugoslavia must be weeping in his grave over the ruins of an estuhile peaceful Yugoslava4 He was the initiator of the Non iJlained movement,. That assassination which the terrorists portrayed as a blow for liberty, ignited the World_War 1, a conflict that involved over 30 nations, ltedfor more than four years and clained in excess of 20 million livas

A discussion onthistopic may nethaveheon attrativa-befco 15th July 1994 — moon toyou as ehairmen of L..As in Irno Stnte IIVfO STATE now has a functional Airport—one that cialifies for en International Airport but for political reasons, since it admits Aircraft of the 727 loeia size which is capable of flying to urope non—stop, This Airport has therefore brought us closer to the World view point. It is not therefore out of place to discuss this aspect of Security, even if briefly—because of time constraint. -

This aspect of the lecture-introducgs participants to the violent world of- terrorism with a..view to underlining the absolute importance of Socurijreiness which is the subject matter of this Seminar or Workshop. I shell attempt t offer some insights into methods of deeJing with Hijacking/ Terrorist incidents and hostage responses.

Thit first, what is Terroism? Th word Terrorism has been defined variously by different organisations. Six of these definitions are presented for each of you to choose foni, sinCe each definition underlies the gods end objectives of the defincr

(a) The! enr of the Fe dor cii Bureau of liwestati ens (FBI) defines terlori&rj as a politically, socially and/or religiously motivated criminal intimidation of the innocent.

(b) Th ffici 1” dofihiiiony the FBI regards terrorism as the unlawful use of force or violence against persons or property to initimidato or coerce agovernmen the Cvli

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(c) The Central Intel once ;ony CIA) in turn defines terrorism as a premeditated; politically motivated violenco perpetrated against non—combatant targets by an individual, national g'rcups or clandestine. State Aents

(d) !nInternationalPrivateConborn defines the phenomenon as threatened or actual use of force and violence to attain a political goal throuph fear, coercion and intimidation.

(e) The _partment of Defence—USA defines terrorism as the calculated use o' violence or the throat of violence to attain politlcal, religious or ideological goals by using intimidation or coercion tD instill fear. The Department also states that the uhenozoenon involves a criminal act that is not often synhotic in nature and intended to influence an



audience beyond the immediate victim(s).

(f) This Presenter while agreeing with the above definitions; chooses to describe **TERRORISM** as the use of violence, either singly or in groups — individual or non-lethal, but short of warfare, directed against a Government or, or individual(s) to achieve a political change or the extension of diplomatic political, ideology by one State against another.

It is a strategy used by weaker Nations against more powerful ones; say the Palestinians against Israel; OR used by Powerful Nations to assert their alleged rights, say the USA against Nicaragua and Panama (Remember the US invasion and arrest of President Noriega). **QUESTION** A relevant question was asked in the prelude to this topic as to whether you can recognise a hostage situation when you see one. If you can, what will be or what is expected to be your reaction? **RESPONSE**

Hostage Response therefore means reactions by authorities of a country after a terrorist act has taken place with a view to resolving the issue. The officials/ Authorities have to act within the shortest possible time on the best possible solutions at ending the situation and rescuing the hostages.

(The raid on Entebbe for example) (The Hijack of the Nigerian Airways plane to Niger Republic).

TERROISM [VS — ITS HISTORICAL DISCUSSION]

—13— Guerrilla warfare, piracy, highway robbery, blackmail and demand for ransom by kidnapping prominent citizens or their relatives in the 18th Century in sporadic international groups in some parts of the world, notably Italy, USA, Greece and in the Latin American Countries. Their activities were concentrated against Governments.

In the United States of America (USA) for instance, terrorism dates back to 1865 when Abraham Lincoln was assassinated. The assassination of others like James Field in 1881 and William McKinley in 1901 followed. The assassination of John F. Kennedy is of course a recent event which is to say, that assassination of prominent American citizens had become a common feature. (The Nigerian Executive Director, Rear Admiral Ornotochwa, Kudirat Abiola etc

HISTORY The first recorded hijack incident was in 1931 in Peru, The second to take place in 1947 from Rumania to

Other minor incidents of hijack mainly by political refugees seeking asylum continued for about 20 years by which time the total number of hijack incidents rose to 55, By 1979, 87 cases of hijacking were recorded, and of all those, not less than eleven were directed to Cuba. (Because of its leftist Govt.)

Hijacking and, its attendant terrorism reached a threatening and serious level that the USA had to table the problem at the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO).

The undue publicity given to these incidents — hijacking and international terrorism, by the Press resulted in other terrorist groups adopting the practice of hijacking notably the Palestinian Arab groups. Terrorist analysts have observed that the international terrorist organisations are inclined to left-wing movements. They also observed and rightly too, that capitalist interests have suffered most,



A good number of terrorist organisations have been linked with Palestinian Organisations especially

(a) George Habash Head of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine and

(b) Yasser Arafat - Head of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine. -

Terrorist activities directed against Israel by Palestinians have been so frequent as they have been violent resulting also

in more violent reactions from Israel against its Arab neighbours

—14— Yasser Arafat, appreciating the futility of these guerrilla attacks on Israel, decided on a subtle diplomacy for peace in the Middle East. His diplomacy was almost succeeding for the Palestinians before the assassination of the Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin by a fellow Jew who felt that his soft approach to the Israeli/Palestinian problem was a betrayal of the Jews as enshrined in the Hebrew Books of the Bible, although his successor Shimon Peres tried to further his predecessor's policies: the true spirit of Israel was manifested in the last Israeli general election which brought a Jewish hardliner of the Likud Party 24-year old Benjamin Netanyahu to power. His political ascendancy appears to have sought to reverse the fragile Middle East peace process which had been brokered by the USA so far.

And consequently he made attempts since his election:

These are:

(i) That Jerusalem cannot and must not be divided, and

(ii) That he was not prepared to concede independence to the Palestinians, but he was prepared to concede to them some measure of autonomy.

What the Security picture in the Middle East will look like in the next few months depends on what Benjamin Netanyahu remains in power is anybody's

BUT his stance is undoubtedly based on nothing but SECURITY CONSCIOUSNESS/AWARENESS for the State of Israel.

Finally, you as Chairmen and Councillors of Local Government Areas are by your Oaths of Allegiance enjoined to be loyal, transparently loyal to the Federal Republic of Nigeria. Since the cardinal Policy of the Federal Government is the transition to Civil rule, you must do all in your power to ensure that the programme is not derailed from your own level of governance, and this you can do by exhibiting a high level of SECURITY AWARENESS.

Thank you.