

The Challenges of Intelligence Gathering in the Third World- A Critique of the Nexus between Poverty and Public Policy Process

¹Chris I. Nwagboso & ²Nwagboso, Nnenna Salome

¹Department of Public Administration, University of Calabar, Cross River State, Nigeria

²Institute of Public Policy and Administration, University of Calabar, Cross River State, Nigeria

Corresponding author:

¹Chris I. Nwagboso

nwagbosochris@gmail.com

Abstract

This paper discusses the challenges confronting Intelligence Gathering in the Third World, using Nigeria as point of departure. The study seeks to evaluate the extent to which public policy decision makers and security formations have usefully harnessed the potentials of Intelligence Gathering to the prevailing wave of preventive violent internal security challenges in Nigeria; which are currently attracting global concern. The paper adopts descriptive methodology and desk research as its methodological orientation. However, the results of the analyses revealed that the basic principles of Intelligence Gathering, particularly those relating to Human Intelligence (HUMINT) that are expected to be effectively coordinated, harnessed and tactically utilized to curb the increasing rate of crimes and internal security crises in Nigeria, have been grossly compromised by security agencies and their informants. The study further revealed that the activities of the Nigeria Police Force, Department of State Service (DSS), National Intelligence Agency (NIA), Nigeria Security and Civil Defense Corps, the Nigerian Custom Services, the Nigerian Immigration Services, National Drug Law Enforcement Agency, etc are grossly below expectation in Human Intelligence Gathering efforts. The paper also argued that poor handling of Intelligence Gathering Techniques (HUMINT) largely accounts for abysmal failure of the Nigeria's internal security programme implementation in the last decades. This further explains the increasing spate of internal security problems currently witnessed all over the Nigeria's political space. The paper, therefore, recommends among others, the imperatives for restructuring of Intelligence Gathering structures, apparatuses and mechanisms in Nigeria; that will not only confront the factors responsible for the current systemic and institutional crises, but also reposition Intelligence Gathering framework in the efforts to redress violent threats to internal security across Nigeria.

Keywords: Challenges, Intelligence Gathering, Information, Poverty, Public Policy, Decision-making

Introduction

Intelligence gathering has been one of the oldest and critical instruments to identify, analyze, classify and understand the existence of threats to security and best strategic framework to contain them all over the globe. It connotes the identification, collection, collation, evaluation, analysis, integration, and interpretation of information received from the field operations, by policy makers and security formations. Thus, the information gathered through intelligence places government and security agents far above enemies or adversaries; when effectively utilized for sole purpose for which they (information) are gathered. Similarly, the society is often in crises when intelligence (information, data, tip-off) gathered are wrongly interpreted, classified, manipulated and implemented wither for selfish purposes parochial benefits of

security agencies or government) or used to undo perceived enemies of governments/her agents (Opponents, Opposing Political Party, elites criticizing governments policies and programmes in the State (Interagency OPSEC, 1996).

Thus, the utilization and application of intelligence gather appropriately is critical because intelligence gathering as a concept aims at providing security agencies and Public Policy makers in this field of human endeavours with a clear picture and understanding of a given threat perception and allows for analytical conclusion supported by available data generated directly from the field Berkowitz and Goodman, 1989). The overall essence is to safeguard the State and her wealth and her citizens Over the years, most State in the third world are engulfed with one sort of security problem or the other. This pathetic situation has resulted to plethora of search by Governments, Security Agencies, Media Institution, Researchers, the academia, Civil Society Organization, Local and International NGOs, Region and International Institutions, among others, for implementable policy options to redress the challenges. Thus, their approaches have continued to point at the capacities of security agencies to contain with the problem. That is such efforts have always been targeted at the manpower capacity of security agencies, budgetary allocation to security agencies, poor motivation of security agents, corruption among members of the security formations, among others.

However, the above efforts abysmally failed to recognize the capability of intelligence gathering as a veritable tool to tackling issues relating to violent crimes and several threats to internal security. This gap in researches efforts by several stakeholders on security concern in the third world social formation is ultimately the interest and main object of this study, particularly as it concerns the Nigerian State. Therefore, this paper seeks for a critical evaluation of the extent to which Public Policy decision makers and security formations have utilized the capabilities of intelligence gathering in the Country continued efforts to surmount the current prevailing crimes and internal security problems confronting Nigeria. The ultimate goal, is to identify critical factors undermining effective intelligence gathering activities in Nigeria and recommended implementable prognoses for action to policy makers on internal security policies and programme implementable to redress them.

Intelligence Gathering: A Conceptual Clarification

The world, intelligence means differed things to different people. This perhaps could be as a result of their academic intelligence backgrounds, ideological pervasions and cultural milieu. According to Gardner in into of his bestselling books titled: “**Changing minds:** The art and science of our own and other people’s minds” and “Intelligence Reframed: Multiple Intelligence for the twenty-first Century”. Intelligence is conceived as the ability to learn or understand things or to deal with new or difficult situation (Gardner 2002, Gardner, 2005). To Gardner, however, there are different kinds of intelligence. Thus, therefore, led him to his ground-breaking theory of multiple intelligences. This theory, which adopted broader perspectives on issues concerning the suggest matters connects intelligence to value, the community and the greater good and refused that every intelligence entails the development of kills (Gardner, 2005). Thus, Gardner’s theory of multiple intelligence holds that individuals or human beings possess varieties of intelligence that serve different purposes to them and to the larger society. Therefore; the theory of multiple intelligence rejects in its entirety, the following arguments:

...intelligence is a single entity...People are born with certain amount of intelligence ...It is difficult to alter the amount of our intelligence... It’s in our genes, to speak ... psychologists tell you how smart you re by administering IQ tests or similar kinds of instrument”. (Gardner, 2005).

In the main, intelligence gathering in its simplest meaning is sourcing of relevant

information capable of assisting one to address an already existing problem. Thus, intelligence gathering is akin to research. This is because; both concepts seek to uncover hidden truth. Similarly, both are utilized as critical rigorous tools when there is a problem that requires an answer or solution, hence the dictum “no problem, no investigation, research or intelligence gathering”. Basically, there are five kinds of intelligence gathering. This includes Human Intelligence (HUMINT), Signal Intelligence (SIGINT), Imagery Intelligence (IMINT), Measurement and Signature Intelligence (MASINT) and Open Source Intelligence (OSINT).

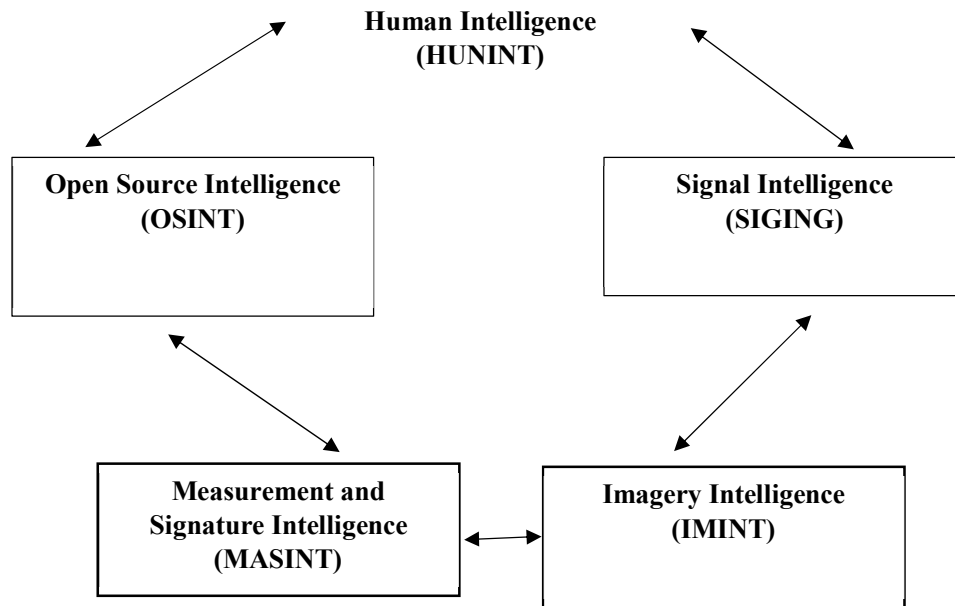
Interestingly, the basic concern of this study centres on Human Intelligence (HUMINT). This is because, all other classification of intelligence revolves around or have human beings at the centre of their attractions. That is, the other four variants of intelligence gathering (SIGINT, IMINT, MASINT and OSINT) are significantly tailored to safety of humans at one point or the other (Berkowitz & Goodman, 1989).

Conceptually, the focus and interest of this study is on Human Intelligence (HUMINT). This is because, Human Intelligence is more broader theorization than other typologies of intelligence gathering, as it is derived from human sources. Thus, other kinds of intelligences gathering such as SIGINT, I MINT, MASINT and OSINT, rely heavily on the use of technology for gathering of intelligence. Hence, these technologies were invented, operated, and repaired when damaged by human beings.

As the traditional methodological approach for intelligence gathering prior to industrial revolution and its attendance discoveries of technologies currently used by more advanced States in intelligence gathering, human intelligence gathering is further divided into two - Overt Human Intelligence and Clandestine Human Intelligence. Thus, Overt Human are performed openly. According to Berkowitz and Goodman (1989), Overt Human Collectors can include military attaches, diplomatic personnel, members of official delegations and debriefers at refugee centres. Therefore, Over HUMINT activities may include exploiting unclassified Publications, conference materials and congressional hearing, operating interrogations centres for refugees and prisoners of war; and debriefing legal travellers who travelled to counties of interest to nations intelligence service (Rosenau, 1994).

In the same vein, clandestine Human Intelligence sources include agents who have been recruited or have volunteered to provide information relevant government institutions. Thus type of human intelligence gathering provides useful information that even the most proficient technical collectors cannot achieve. This explains why most states, despite advances in technology, still relies on HUMINT for effective intelligence gathering. Thus, HUMINT is the variant of intelligence gathering, both in theory, approach, methodology and conceptualization this study adopted as its beaming and analytical discourses. The strength and capacity of Human intelligence gathering (HUMINT) and the argument that other classification of intelligence gathering revolve at is further demonstrated in fig. I below:

Fig I: Figure showing that Human Intelligence (HUMINT) is the bedrock of other Intelligence gathering Classification



Source: Nwagboso's Field Survey, 2018.

From Fig. I above, it is observed that the box for Human Intelligence gathering (HUMINT) is bigger than the other four categorization of intelligence gathering. This is largely because; the other four typologies have their bearing from Human Intelligence (HUMINT). Thus, whatever each of the typologies of intelligence gathering is designed to achieve, the focal point is anchored on humans, either in terms of protection of lives and property of the citizens or effective use, operation and manipulation of technologies/facilities to achieve one's desired goals.

Generally, human intelligence (HUMINT) gathering is the focus of this study. This study attempts a critical evaluation of the use of human beings (information's), creation of structures in the Communities/Villages, Police Public Relations Committee, harnessing of existing administrative structures in the communities; Urban and Rural/Vigilante groups, Traditional Rulers, Village Heads, Youth Leaders, Women Leaders, Opinion Leaders/Moulders, Civil Society Organizations, Leaders of Market Associations, Volunteers, among others, with a view to gather reliable efficient, effective and crucial intelligence (information), capable of tackling security problems currently confronting Nigeria. Besides, all the other four categorization of intelligence gathering such as signal intelligence (SIGINT), Imagery Intelligence (IMINT), measurement and signature Intelligence (MASINT) and Open Source Intelligence (OSINT), either tap credence from Human Intelligence G (HUMINT) Gathering Potentials or returns to it for elimination when confusion characterizes intelligence gathering activities, as evidenced from the arrows and dotted lines above.

Intelligence gathering activities in the third world: Nigeria in perspective

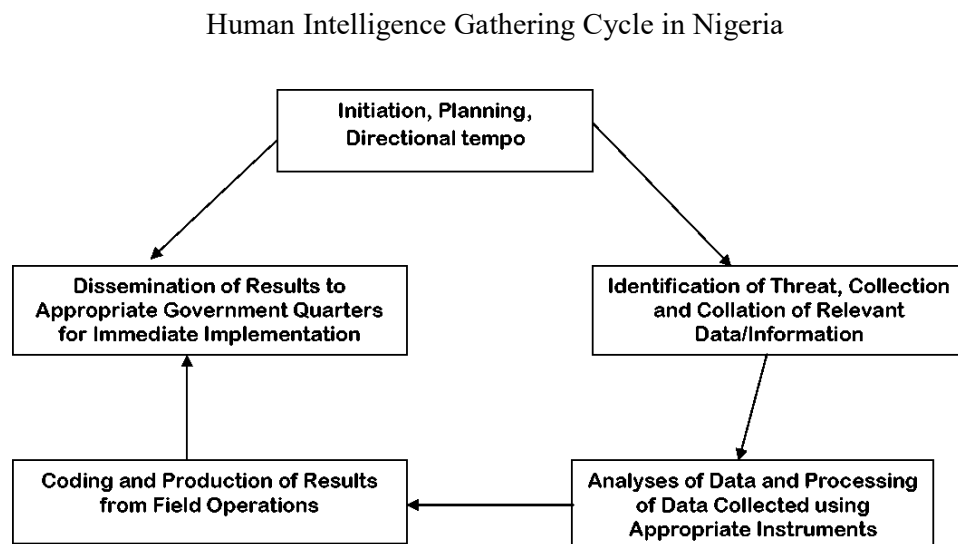
The Human Intelligence Gathering has remained an indispensable approach for information Gathering, identification of threat to security, analyses of security situations and strategic framework for addressing internal security problems in Nigeria. As the oldest methodological persuasion for intelligence gathering, the extent to which policy makers and security formations

have utilized its capabilities and potentials in redressing insurgency and seemingly interrelated complex internal security problems in Nigeria have attracted mixed reactions at domestic and international political area. These challenges in the use of human intelligence to douse tension in appears somewhat plausible when juxtaposed with some methodological orientation in some countries like United States of America, Britain, Belgium, United Arab Emirates, China, France, Israel, etc; who have attempted with fair degree of objectivity to handling insurrection and many conflicting internal security problems in their domains.

Indeed, the peculiarity of the Nigeria’s situation is traceable to attitudinal, behavioural, psychological, physiological, cultural and socio-economical challenges/factors. This is because, poor handling of internal security problems in Nigeria such as the current challenges posed by Boko Haram and Herders - Farmers crises in the Northern Nigeria are firmly root from aberrant behavioural dispositions of policy makers, security agencies and the structures responsible for information gathering at preliminary stages of these crises. Similarly, the psycho - analytical dispositions of security agencies and the citizens who ought to divulge relevant information to government agencies constitutional responsible for utilization of collated intelligence to contain the already exacerbated security challenges are grossly questionable. Further, the alarming and increasing spate of poverty among large population of the citizens and unfortunate conditions of the security agencies in Nigeria undoubted resulted in compromise, complacence and high level sabotage against in intelligence gathering whose strategic objective showed gear toward protecting lives and property of all Nigerian. Thus, hunger and its kindred terms loom large Nigeria. Hence, intelligence gathering efforts are currently at the cross-road.

This sorry situation has further debased the basic intelligence gathering cycle which if vigorously had been followed, would have surmounted the prevailing security challenges in Nigeria; through the instrumentality of well designed Public Policy Process. Thus, the indispensable intelligence gathering cycle that have hitherto being compromised and jettisoned by stakeholders, particularly in Human Intelligence (HUMINT) gathering is further elucidated in fig. 2 below:

Fig. 2: Figure showing the basic human intelligence gathering grossly compromised by stakeholders in Nigeria



Source: Nwagboso’s Field Survey, 2018.

Fig. 2 above presents detailed laid down procedure for executing human intelligence gathering activities in Nigeria. From the diagram, human intelligence gathering activities are usually initiated by Policy makers through appropriate security apparatus of government. The strategy for executing given task, institutional framework, logistics in terms of resources needed, type of manpower required and time frame for completion of necessary tasks, solely lies on the shoulders of policy makers (Nwagboso, 2012). It is at initiation, planning and direction stage that all other activities necessary for a result - oriented and effective intelligence gathering are decided by policy makers. Thus, the current abysmal failure of human intelligence gathering framework can be traceable from poor planning, down to threat identification, collection of data, analyses , processing of data collated, coding/production of results, and dissemination of results to field operators (security agents), as evidenced from the diagram above. To be sure, the internal security problems currently confronting Nigeria is a clear testimonial that something fundamental must have occurred in any of the representations (Items) in Human Intelligence Gathering Cycle as presented in fig. 2 above.

In the last decade, Nigeria has witnessed daunting challenges in the management of her internal security. The perception of threats are felt in the area of preventable crises in the Niger Delta Region located in the South-South geo-political Zone of Nigeria, kidnapping imminent in the South - Eastern Zone of Nigeria, Jos Crises in the North - Central Zone of Nigeria, Boko Haram Crises in the North - Eastern Zone of Nigeria and violent crises initiated and executed against innocent individuals and communities in both North - East, North - Central and North - West Zones of Nigeria. These phenomena are further presented in table 1 below for a concise understanding of the unfortunate situation Nigeria has found herself in the management of her internal security Concern:

Table 1: Table showing various threats to internal security of Nigeria in the last decades and areas in the Country, they emanated

S/N	Threat	Zone	Action by government
1.	Crises in the Niger Delta	South - South	Deployment of through (Joint Task Force, JTF) and Granting of Amnesty
2.	Kidnapping in the South - East	South - East Zone	Engagement of Anti - terrorist squad and deployment of Army to the zone
3.	Jos Crises	North - Central	Deployment of Joint Task Force (JTF) and later on, deployment of Army for full military operation
4.	Crises by Boko Haram	North - East Zone	Full military operation
5.	Crises by Fulani Herdsmen	The three geo-political zones in the Northern Nigeria (North - East, North - west and North - Central)	Adhoc Joint. Security operations; comprising the policy Army, Navy, Air Force DSS, etc.

Source: Nwagboso's Field Survey, 2018.

Table I above presents the five Cardinal Internal Security quagmires currently causing nightmare to government and the citizens of Nigeria. From the above table, the government adopted full force in cases like Kidnapping, Jos crises, Boko Haram menace and incessant attacks by fulani Herdsmen ending the embarrassing situation the Nigerian State found herself. Thus, from the data in table I above, the Federal Government of Nigeria only adopted dialogue and peaceful approach in resolving hostilities orchestrated by the crimes activities of the Niger Delta Militants. It is also pertinent to note that the Buhari-led Administration in Nigeria extended dialogue in form of Amnesty to Boko Haram Terrorist groups perpetuating heinous crimes and genocide in the Northern Nigeria, but the group rejected the offer.

Thus, despite the approaches adopted by government, some of these internal challenges are still perturbing Nigeria. The crises have continued to impact negatively on both the Nigeria economy, socio-economic development and poor image of Nigeria outside the world

(Nwagboso, 2016). Further, it is regrettable to state that rather than addressing the Nigeria's plethora of internal security concerns, the application of force (full military occupation in the affected zones) have compounded some of the prevailing challenges, as now internal security threats are escalating from all nooks and grannies of the contemporary Nigeria State (Nwagboso, 2018). The most recent of the crimes at their preliminary stages in Nigeria are further presented in table 2 above:

Table 2: Table showing crimes/criminalities at their early stages in Nigeria as the county battles to redress major internal security problems.

S/N	Crime/ criminality	Zones emanating	Action current taking by government
1.	Rape	All geo-political Zones in Nigeria	Arrest by the Police and prosecution in court
2.	Murder	All geo-political Zones Across the Country	Arrest by the Police and prolong Court's Judgement
3.	Armed Robbery	Across the geo-Political Zones in Nigeria	Arrest by Police in some cases and difficulty in conviction by courts in Nigeria
4.	Proliferation of Child Baby Factory Making and Sales Outfits	South - East Zones	Arrest and granting of bails (complacence) to culprits by the Police
5.	Child Stealing Ventures	South - East, South - South and North - Central Zones	Arrest and complacence by the Police
6.	Proliferation of Firearms	Across the geo-Political Zones in Nigeria	Arrest by the Police and long legal battle between the suspects and the government
7.	Emergence of Different Secret Cult Groups	In the South - West and South - South	Arrest by the Police and long legal tussle that hinder conviction

Source: Nwagboso's Field Survey, 2018.

A cursory look at the data on table 2 above shows that Nigeria is currently witnessing large number of crimes or what some exports refers s criminalities, even s government has adopted full military force to end terrorism and insurgency in some parts of Nigeria. Thus, the current internal security approach to curb insurgence appears to have defiled all known security strategies. The table (table 2) further shows that new threats are gradually creeping into the Nigerian political environment, which may likely pose yet another security problems in the nearer future. These threats according to data in table 2 above include increasing rate of rape, particularly against female children, murder particularly against businessmen political class and traditional community leaders, incessant cases/reports on armed robbery, alarming reports of baby factory making and selling outfits (private homes encouraging female teenagers to unlawful get pregnant, deliver the babes at culprits private homes and sold the babies to the owner of the homes, who subsequent re-sell the babies either to childless families or to ritualists), child stealing (criminals who mask themselves, at nights or daytimes visit families with new born babies, make away with the babies on gum points, for exchange with money to either childless couples or rituals), firearm proliferation and increasing spate of secret cult groups in some parts of Nigeria, particularly in the South - West and South - South geo-political zones of Nigeria.

The painful question, arises as the roles of human intelligence gathering in the overall internal security arrangement in Nigeria. Also, has human intelligence gathering mechanism served out its usefulness in internal security management in Nigeria} why have policy makers and security institutions neglected the adoption of intelligence gathering, particularly the human variant, to apprehend those perpetrating violent crimes across the Nigerian policy, rather than

continuous over reliance on the application of force to resolve the Country's internal security problems.

These historical questions have continued to raise critical doubt on the preparedness of policy makers land security institutions to find lasting and implementable solutions to both lingering internal security crises and emerging threat perceptions in Nigeria especially in the rural areas. Consequently, their lackadaisical approach and cold - feat posture undoubtedly explains the multiplication and widely reported cases of failed attempts by appropriate security agencies to surmounts the internal security problems as presented in table 3 below:

Table 3: Table showing various crimes and internal security problems yet to be surmounted by the use of military strategies

S/N	Reported cases of crime/threat	Private media	Date reported
1.	16 feared dead in fresh Benue attacks	The Guardian Newspaper.	Monday, June 4, 2018, P.5
2.	Killings by Herdsmen and Boko- Haram, Military, Police, PDP differ over Amnesty report on Dapchi School girls	The Guardian Newspaper.	Wednesday, March 21, 2018, P. 5
3.	Weed out corrupt elements in amnesty Office, Ex-militants advise new boss	The Guardian Newspaper.	Wednesday, April 4, 2018, P. 5
4.	Terrorists have invaded plateau - CAN Boss, alleges	Daily Sun Newspaper	Friday, May 14, 2004, P. 9
5.	How cough syrup in Nigeria is creating a generation of Addicts	This Day Newspaper	Thursday, May 3, 2018, P. 20
6.	Again, suspected Herdsmen kill six in Nassarawa.	This Day Newspaper	Tuesday, April 10, 2018, P. 46
7.	Taraba Killings: Army sets up panel to prose Allegation by Danjuma on Soldiers Collusion: Aircraft in States as killing escalate.	The Nation Newspaper	Tuesday, April 10, 2018, P. 10
8.	Again, Herdsmen kill 5 in Benue: Court denies 6 herdsmen bail	Daily Sun Newspaper	Tuesday, March 6, 2018, P. 4
9.	How I Cost over 100 million naira to herdsmen, farmers' clashes in Benue	The Nigerian Tribune Newspaper	Tuesday, March 6, 2018, P. 12
10.	Jos: Conflicts and search for a new beginning	The Guardian Newspaper	Friday, May 11, 2018, P. 18
11.	Nigerian Bar Association, don demand end to killings across Nigeria	The Nation Newspaper	Friday, May 11, 2018, P. 5
12.	Body of Student found in Ilorine river	The Guardian Newspaper	Wednesday, May 2, 2018, P. 12
13.	52 Killed in Suspected Herdsmen, Bandits in Taraba, Zamfara, Benue: Death toll in Ukum, Logo LGA attacks rises to 60	The Guardian Newspaper	Monday, June 11, 2018, P. 9
14.	GOC urges better strategy to eliminate Boko Haram terrorists	This Day Newspaper	Friday April 13, 2018, P. 8

The data presented in table 3 above reinforces the arguments by some scholar () that Nigeria needs to review her National Security Policy to incorporated all identified factors that give rise to insecurity and not necessary adopting the use of Army at all times to resolve her perennial internal security challenges. From table 3 above, the print media has continued to show the world that Nigeria is in real trouble. Thus, hardly a day passes without print media reportage on crimes, insecurity and internal crises in May parts of Nigeria, as evidence from high level professionalism exhibited by the Guardian, The Nation, The Nigerian Tribune, This Day, Daily Sun, Vanguard, Daily Telegraph Newspapers, among host of others. Thus, these Newspaper organizations (Print Media), particular those selected in this study have attempted with fair degree of professionalism reported several internal security cases which the current strategies adopted by policy makers and security agencies have abysmally failed to contain with.

The implication is that the current security situation in Nigeria requires a well programmed articulated paradigm shift: This new strategy (Paradigm shift) points at the need for a well coordinated intelligence gathering strategic framework. Thus, just as Nigeria has gradually and comically returning to the inner neglected Agricultural Sector because of the discovery of Crude Oil, Policy makers should not hesitate to trace their vexing current cold feats' from the adoption of Military Strategies on internal insurrection to a more agenda - driven and strategically coordinated human intelligence gathering. This will go a long way to eliminate the contemporary Nigerian State at the end of the tunnel.

Intelligence gathering, poverty and public policy process in Nigeria

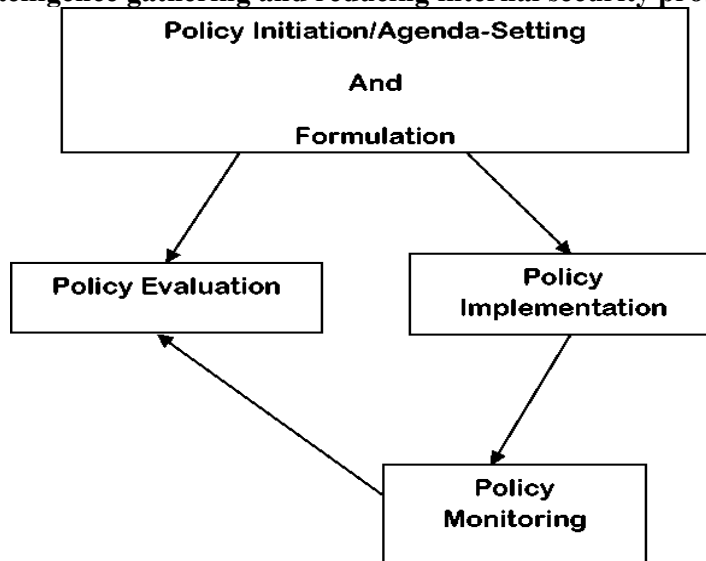
There are several arguments among scholars over the influence of poverty on intelligence gathering activities in the third world, Nigeria inclusive. The meeting point among them is that poverty plays significant roles in the behaviour patterns of policy makers who initiates and formulate policies to address poverty in the State and strategies to curb crimes and internal security (Uche, 2010, Nnoli, 2006, Nwagboso 2012).

Poverty as a concept and social malaise have different meaning or connotations. To some, it is conceptualized as strain or poor access to Basic Social amenities that make life more meaningful. For others, it is inability to provide one's basic needs in the society. Thus, according to Baratz and Grigsby (1971), 'poverty connotes a severe lack of physical and mental well-being closely associated with inadequate economic resources and consumption. For Spicker in his ground - breaking research, titled: Twelve Definitions of Poverty Published in 2015, the definitions of poverty are basically viewed in terms of material concept, and need for material goods or services. Thus, it from these two basic conceptualization that other definitions of the subject could be deduced (Spicker, 2015).

These arguments and theorization on poverty by scholars notwithstanding, poverty is conceptualized in this study as lack, access, limitations and inability to achieved individual and collective objectives. This is because lack of basic necessities of intelligence collectors' from performing their jobs more effectively. Similarly, inadequate basic knowledge of phenomenon by Policy Makers also constitutes a major problem in the area of initiation and formulation of policies and programs to surmount internal security problems in Nigeria.

Indeed, Public Policy remains a critical tool to address poverty and improve the quality of intelligence gathering in Nigeria. Thus, the manner in which Public Policy are initiated, formulated and implemented in Nigeria has further raised yet another unfortunate concerns among intellectuals across the Country. However, a typical public policy decision making capable of reducing poverty, improving human intelligence gathering and eliminating internal security problems in Nigeria is diagrammatically represented in fig. 3 below:

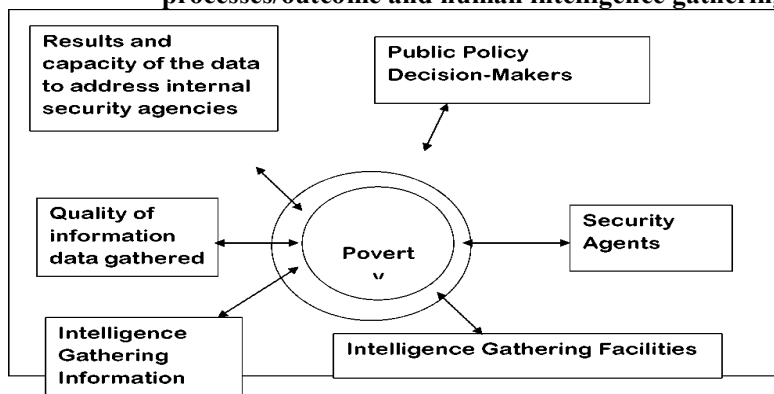
Fig. 3: Diagram showing Policy Cycle, capable of reducing poverty, improving intelligence gathering and reducing internal security problems in Nigeria.



Source: Dorr (19): Public Policy Re-examined

Fig. 3 above presents a typical Public Policy Cycle. From the above diagrams it is evident that the decision to address poverty and improvement of quality of human intelligence gathering starts from its conceptualization (initiation) Planning on how the policy action should be followed and actual decision on institutional mechanism for realization of the policy goals. Thus, the initiation, agenda - setting and formulation of every policy issue rest squarely on policy makers. It is after modalities and strategies for achieving the policy have been settled that such policy is handed down to agencies, institution and individuals for implementation (Egommwen). Hence, it is therefore imperative to underscore the strength and influences of poverty on the quality of Public Policy Process, outcomes, and its attendant implications on human intelligence gathering activities in Nigeria. This is however is diagrammatically represented in fig. 4 below:

Fig. 4: Diagram showing the strength of Poverty on Public Policy decision making processes/outcome and human intelligence gathering in Nigeria

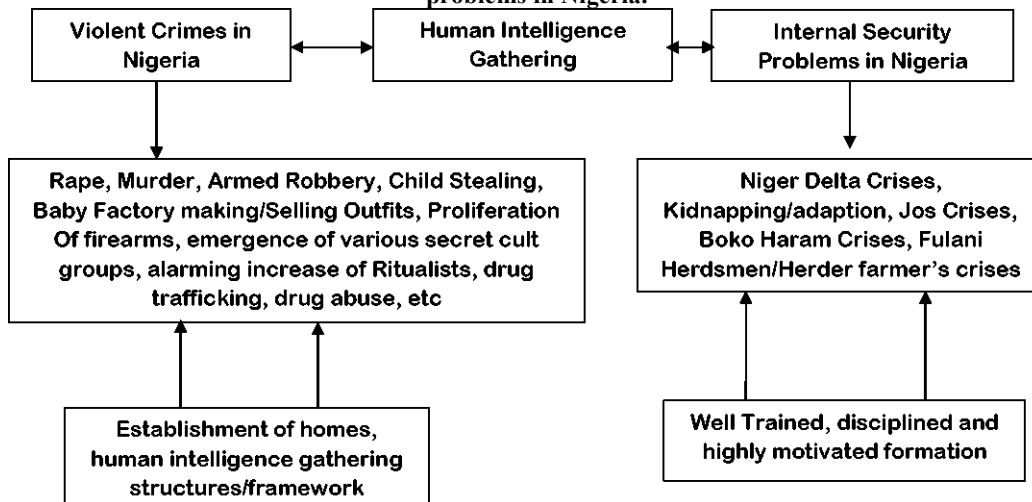


Source: Nwagboso's theoretical formulation, 2018.

From the above theoretical formulation in fig 4 above, it is discernable to observe the influence of poverty on both Public Policy decision - makers, their choices, preferences, idiosyncrasies, Policy Outcomes, and achievement of effective human intelligence gathering to redress the prevailing crimes and violet internal security problems in Nigeria. From the above diagram, it could be deduced that poor living conditions of public policy makers, poor access to basic things that make life more meaningful in Nigeria, poor working conditions of security agents, limited access of basic socioeconomic human needs on informants/volunteers/structuring established for intelligence gathering in Nigeria, provision/availability of facilities to collect human intelligences by agencies, etc, go a long way to compound the quest for effective intelligence gathering, capable of protecting lives and property of the Nigerian citizens.

Consequently, a ‘home* grown’ public policy (Public Policy deliberately designed in line with current realities in the State; that is devoid of external influences, smuggling political and idiosyncratic postures of public policy decision - makers into agenda-setting has fulfilling and promising prospects of tacking poverty in Nigeria. Further, when the strategy of reducing poverty is achiever, human intelligence gathering undoubtedly witnesses a significant and applaudable turning - point. Perhaps, this assertion could be better understood with the help of information prescribed in fig. 5 below:

Fig. 5: Diagram showing the capacity of a well coordinated and agenda-driving human intelligence (HUMINT) to positively redress alarming rate of crimes and violent internal security problems in Nigeria.



Source: Nwagboso’s Theoretical Formulation, 2018.

Fig. 5 above presents how human intelligence gathering should reflect in Nigeria. Though subject to superior arguments an debates, this Prototype intelligence gathering theorization has two broad-based challenges that serves its focus. Thus, one is to address violent crimes and the other is to eliminate internal security challenges such as terrorism, championed by Boko Haram, Fulani, Herdsmen, Kidnapping, Jos Crises, and crises at the Niger Delta region of Nigeria. From the diagram above, the critical roles of security formations and well coordinated intelligence gathering structure are sacrosanct. Indeed, it is strongly argued, however, that the theorization in fig. 5 above has the capacity to reposition human intelligence gathering to play critical roles in redressing the institutional and systemic crises that are currently witness in the Contemporary Nigeria State.

Challenges of human intelligence gathering: The Nigeria experience

There are several factors hindering effective human intelligence gathering in Nigeria. These factors are considered under the following sub-heading

1. High rate of poverty in Nigeria: This is one of the greatest challenges to effective human intelligence gathering in Nigeria is Poverty. Thus, poverty is often responsible for recruitment of cheap manpower by security agencies for intelligence gathering. However, for quality manpower to be engaged for desired intelligence gathering activities, reasonable financial resources are needed. The informants are needed to be motivated for optimum performance of their jobs. Generally, high rate of poverty is responsible for gross misconduct of informants, particularly the traditional rulers who frame up their subjects in their communities and further communed with some members of the Nigeria Police Force to extort hard-earned money from the already impoverished indigenes in their areas. In such ugly scenario human intelligence gathering is not only compromised, but also an exercise in futility in Nigeria.
2. Academic qualification and integrity profile of icy decision-makers: There has never been any reasonable results that can emanate from any system, whose decision makers are not academically sound to make policies. Similarly, most social systems abysmally fail to achieve stated objectives due largely to faulty recruitment especially of criminals, those without track and impeccable records, people of questionable characters. Thus, such people have nothing to offer in the achievement of desired organizational goals.
This is exactly the situation in Nigeria. Indeed, part of the reasons why the intelligence gathering (HUMINT) apparatuses of government abysmally failed to address the violent internal security of the Nigerian State is largely due to poor academic exposure of those who enact laws (Policies and programs) at legislative chambers across the Country (Okotie, 2008; Eminne, 2005). Indeed, the public policy making process of the contemporary Nigerian State is currently saturated by some power-brokers who have are facing criminal charges in courts and those who sponsor violence in their communities, States and villages in order to achieve their sinister agenda, particularly political interests. In such sorry situation, human intelligence gathering suffers serious set-backs in Nigeria.
3. Politicization of Security in Nigeria. Government all over the global is statutorily responsible for protection of lives and properly of the citizens. Hence, it is the cardinal responsibility for every member of the State to assist government, particularly the security agents for optimal discharge of their duties. In Nigeria, most citizens are not interest in what happens outside their vicinity; so far as it does not directly affect him. This partly explains why criminal commit all sorts of atrocities and go free. Furthermore, those in position of power have not helped matters, as they are consist paying lip service to issues bordering on security. Thus, the policy is accused of compromise, judiciary is alleged to procrastinate judicial processes capable of convicting criminals, judges are alleged of collecting bribes and acquitting known criminals, informants (recruited informants, traditional rulers, village heads, youth leaders, opinion leaders, volunteers etc), often deliberately refused to divulge intelligence capable of leading to the arrest of suspected terrorists, armed robbers and criminal elements hiding in their domains. This is a serious challenge to effective human intelligence gathering in Nigeria.
4. Motivation: Motivation is an inducement extended to a worker to elicit desired performance from him. Thus, poor motivation is in two categories in this discourse in the security agents; and the intelligence gathering personnel (Informants). It is unequivocal to reveal that most security agents in Nigeria especially members of the Nigerian Police often compromise their professional duties due to largely to poor remuneration, non-prompt payment of salaries/duty allowances, lack of recognition for

achievement in cases of breakthroughs over certain crimes, poor working environments, poor training and retraining programs to boost capacity, among others. In the same vein, lack of appropriate motivation for risks taken by police and other security formations in Nigeria, largely accounts poor performances and outcomes. As often believed by most Nigerians “**a hungry man is an angry man**”. Hence, regular payment of stipends to informants charged with the responsibilities of information gathering goes a long way to boost their morales in the performance of their jobs. Consequently, the gross inability of both government and security agencies to give up to their respective obligations to these critical and indispensable set of structures in human intelligence gathering not only compound problems in the quest for effective intelligence gathering, but also largely responsible for frequent escalation of crises in many parts of Nigeria.

5. Acute shortage of trained manpower for human intelligence gathering in rural areas: Current situation across rural areas in Nigeria points at acute shortage of training manpower as one of the challenges affecting human intelligence gathering in Nigeria. For the avoidance of doubt, criminals and terrorists that commit violent crimes in Nigeria often run to rural communities and villages for hiding. Also, available documented evidence has shown that kidnapper who adopts expatriates, multi-national Oil Workers and businessmen in urban centres in Nigeria, often hid their victims in the rural areas until ransom is paid to them. Thus, youths implicated in these acts are mostly unemployed in Nigeria (Mimiko, 2011). Hence, this pathetic situation requires sufficient and well trained informants engaged by security agents for desired intelligence to deal with the perpetrators. However, a situation to hereby few untrained informants are engaged to monitor and report the activities of large number of people in a particular location, ultimately leads to compromise and complacency in human intelligence gathering efforts in Nigeria.
6. **Poor state of infrastructures in rural areas:** Most roads in rural areas in Nigeria are death traps. It is most unfortunate that road users, particularly in some parts of **Akwa Ibom, Abia, Cross River, River** among others are subjected to divert from main roads (mostly federal governments), to several villages, (with toll gates mounted by youths and elderly people) for collection of money from motorists/road users), before they can access motorable parts of the major road. The reason for mounting till gates by the indigenes of the affected areas is that they usually suffer the affected destruction of their rural roads occasioned by the influx of vehicle in their areas, to which the government often find different to rehabilitated for them. Consequently, road users most often are robbed, raped, killed, etc particularly at nights by the youths of these rural areas. Thus, the inability of government to provide critical and basic infrastructure such as good road network has continued to subject the citizens to untold hardship and preventable risks in Nigeria.
7. Poor and outdated intelligence gathering technologies: The Nigerian Police and a good number of security agencies are still using the 18th Century equipment and intelligence gathering technologies to combat the 21st century crimes and internal security problems currently saturated the contemporary Nigerian State. This is not possible thus, no meaningful results are expected to be achieved in any area of internal security, be it intelligence gathering or crime prevention.
8. Poor image/relationship between the police and the members of the public: The Nigerian Police Force has poor image that affects its integrity in the Country. The Force on its own cultivated and internalized the culture of extorting money from already impoverished Nigerians. It is shame to observe members of the Nigerian Police Force collecting money from road users and motorable during road blocks at streets and highways in Nigeria. This is not only corruption, but also a national shame. This partly explains why the Nigerian Police Force (NPF) is hated by an average Nigerian citizen. This sort of corrupt practices is further compounded by unnecessary harassment,

intimidation, physical assaults and unlawful manhandling of civilians by some members of the Nigerian Police Force in Nigeria. These aberrant behaviours affect human intelligence gathering activities and efforts in Nigeria, as the citizens lack hope, trust and confidence on the Nigerian Police Force.

9. Posting/deployment of security agents: In human intelligence gathering, the officials of the Police, DSS, NSCDC, among others are indiscriminately posted or deployed and redeployed to States, Local Government Areas and Communities, without recourse to their ethnic backgrounds or certain considerations. Thus, the first consideration in posting, deployment or redeployment of security agents saddled with the responsibility of intelligence gathering, is their ability to hear the native language of their intended host communities. However, posting, deployment and redeployment of Security Agents to places where they neither hear nor speak the native languages of their host communities, undoubtedly pose a serious challenge in human Intelligence Gathering and internal Security management in Nigeria.

Conclusion

This paper has examined issues concerning intelligence gathering in Nigeria, particularly the challenges affecting the capacity the use of human intelligence gathering mechanism to address preventive crimes and internal security problems in Nigeria. The study further examined the relationship between poverty and Public Policy making, as they impact either positively or negatively on effective human intelligence gathering framework in Nigeria. It is, therefore, concluded that plethora of factors impinge of the efficiency of human intelligence (HUMINT) approach to resolving the alarming and frequent escalation of internal security problems across the contemporary Nigerian State. Thus, some of these factors are located from the perspective of inadequacies of Public Policy Decision-makers in Nigeria, abysmal failures of security formations in the Country, inadequate/well trained intelligence gathering staff, the current poor socio-economic conditions of the Nigerian State, among others. These factors could be surmounted through the adoption of appropriate Public Policy strategic framework that reflect the current situation of the Nigeria State.

Recommendations

As part of measures to assist public policy decision - makers to reposition the human Intelligence Gathering to effectively tackle the current alarming internal security concerns in Nigeria, the following evidence - based policy recommendations are proffered:

1. The Federal Government of Nigeria should review the educational qualifications of parliamentarians (Legislative Council at Local Government Areas, State House of Assembly, Federal House of Representatives and Senate). This will entrench into the Public Policy agenda-setting of Nigeria, well academically trained policy makers, with requisite knowledge of the importance of security to citizens well-being and socio-economic development of Nigeria. Thus, the minimum basic educational qualification should be First Degree from the University or its equivalent.
2. As Nigeria is currently experiencing more violent crimes and new strange internal security problems across the Country, the Federal Government should recruit more able young men and women as security agents to fill the whooping unemployment gap and ratio in the Nigeria Police, the Directorate of State Services, Nigerian Security and Civil Defence Corps, Nigerian Army, Nigerian Navy, Nigerian Air Force, National Drug Law Enforcement Agency, Nigerian Customs Service, Nigerian Immigration Service, Nigerian Prison Service, among others. This will enable them be on top of the security situation in Nigeria.
3. The security formations in Nigeria, particularly the Nigerian Police Force, DSS,

NSCDC, Army, Navy, Air Force, should boost their intelligence gathering capabilities through the engagement of more information collectors, popularly called Informants. Thus, specific emphasis should be on engagement of informant with basic educational qualifications. Therefore, Senior School Certificate Examination (SSCE) is strongly recommended as basic educational qualifications for informants. This will improve the quality of intelligence gathering in Nigeria.

4. For effective and result-oriented intelligence gathering activities, staff motivation of security agents by Government and informants by security institutions is strongly recommended. This will not only give the parties a sense of belonging, but also elicit desired performance in their responsibilities.
5. The State Governments across the 36 States of Federal Republic of Nigeria should jettison the recognition of jobless citizens at various parts of Nigeria as Traditional Rulers. Thus, only those with lawful jobs for living, should be given certificates and staff of office as Traditional Rulers. This will reduce the alleged cases of training up of innocent citizens and connivance of jobless Traditional Rulers (Chief Police Informants in Rural Communities and Urban Centres), to exploit and extort money from their subjects across Nigeria.
6. The Governments (Federal, State and Local) should consider the need for assignment of specific roles to Traditional Rulers in the constitution across Nigeria as a necessity, especially as the Country currently witness all manners of internal security problems. This deeds will give Traditional Rulers deep sense of belonging and reposition them as veritable tool for accurate, reliable and result- oriented human intelligence institutions at the grassroots.
7. The Government should make training and re-training programmes as compulsory for all structures (military, par-military and civilians) saddled with the job of policy, security and intelligence gathering. This will not only enable the Country parades highly knowledgeable outfits but also, ready to nip on bud, any internal security concern across the Country.
8. The Federal, State and Local Government should partner with Oil Companies saturated in the Country, international agencies like World Bank, IMF, FAO, etc, to reduce high poverty rate in Nigeria. The targets should be re-directed to heavy investment of these institutions and multinational Oil Companies in agricultural transformation and development. This strategy will boast food sufficiency, gainful employment opportunities for youths and reduce alarm wave of poverty across Nigeria.
9. The Government should initiate and formulate a new policy framework with directives that intelligence gathering officials (Security agents, informant and Volunteers) should be posted, deploy or redeploy only to vicinities, locations and communities they hear the and perhaps able to speak native languages of their host communities. This will enable security agents and informants understand the plans of criminals in such locations effectively interact with indigenes of the communities and elicit relevant intelligence about criminal hideouts in the areas. This policy strategy, will improve intelligence gathering mechanism across Nigeria.
10. Government, Corporate bodies and Philanthropic individuals should partner to savage current humiliation occasioned by poor state of rural and urban road network in Nigeria. The culture of road maintenance should be held sacrosanct as part of strategic framework to reduce the dilapidation trend on many roads across the Country. This collaboration will not only safeguard lives and property of the citizens from youths socio movement toll gates at road diversion at road by motorists and road users, from dilapidate government roads also eliminate the introduction of new kinds/methodologies of crimes of some youths across Nigeria.

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