Complementary Role of Private Security Outfits for Enhanced Public Image of Nigeria Police: The Case of the Nigeria Police and Vigilante Group of Nigeria

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Security of life and property is a fundamental human right guaranteed by the constitution of Nigeria. However, unprecedented crimes of kidnapping, robbery attacks on banks and even churches, assassinations, ritual killings, electoral malpractices, political, religious and ethnic crisis have posed serious challenges to the Nigeria Police. Coupled with this are series of allegations against the Police by the public. However, effective discharge of duties on the part of the Police remains the antidote needed to take care of such negative comments and perception. This work was an attempt at understanding the complementary roles of private security outfits like Vigilante Group towards the provision of services at the community level. Two communities (Okinni in Egbedore and Opa in Ife East Local Government Areas of Osun State) were examined. Qualitative data were collected (from 30 respondents who were selected from the study sites) through in-depth interviews, key informant interviews and telephone survey. The assistance of a contact person was utilised to locate some of the respondents. A very pathetic security situation was noted in the last 17 years by the respondents particularly the predominant cases of armed robbery. Efforts towards addressing this issue include low profile lifestyle and, neighbourhood watch. Findings showed that there have been improvements due to little reforms in the organisational structure of private security outfits like Vigilante Groups. The improvement was noted as reflecting in development and structural transformation of the two study settings. The dynamics of relationship that existed between the Nigeria Police and the private security outfit as well as the challenges being experienced were noted by the respondents and suggestions proffered accordingly.

Key words: Private security outfit, Vigilante, Public Perception, enhancement

Introduction
Crime and insecurity in contemporary society have been identified as social problems of major concerns. Crime has been described as a social deviation that is subversive of social order (Aderinto, 2002; Abotchie, 1997). The rates of increase in crime seem to be a widespread phenomenon in developing countries that have embarked on the pathway of modernisation and industrialisation (Bakken, 2004). It has gained an extraordinary pre-eminence among the social problems of our age, and preventing it has become a priority for many governments around the world (Dixon, 2006).

In the context of modernisation, crime issues have aroused interest among social science and criminal justice scholars (Eisner, 2001; Gurr, 1981; Huntington, 1968; Lotspeich, 1995; Shelly, 1981). In the course of tracing the effects of modernisation on political order and violence, Huntington (1968) suggests that the modernisation process marked by rapid social and economic development fosters political instability and gives rise to high prevalence of violence. He contends that modernisation galvanises a highly destabilising process, because social mobilisation and economic growth produce a gap between escalated aspirations and expectations, breeding social dissatisfaction and frustration. He asserts further that the relationship between social frustration and instability and group violence may be explained by the absence of opportunities for social and economic mobility and adaptable political institutions. Although not purported to account for variation of crime rates in transitional societies, Huntington’s modernisation thesis according to Zhao (2008) elucidates the macro level socio-
economic conditions consequential in shaping crime causation, which is congruent with anomie theory.

Over the years, the rising wave of crime and its control has been the source of concern to most nations in the African continent including Nigeria (Egbedina, 2008), most especially with scientific and technological advancements of the last few decades and its accompanied advanced and sophisticated techniques and skills used by the underworld (Liu, 2005; Lau, 2001). In Nigeria, crime constitutes a major threat to people due to the harm inflicted on the victim. Consequently, crime prevention constitutes the dominant problem of social control. Despite the persisting onslaught against it, crime is a problem that has defied all manners of control measures and is escalating rather than diminishing. This is evident in the high rate of armed robbery, hired assassinations, Internet fraud etc.

Significant efforts and resources are being committed annually by government towards its control or eradication (NCPI, 2001). In spite of comparable procedures and equipment for crime detection and prevention in order to match the threat posed by crimes, the general trend of criminalities worldwide is increasing in volume and sophistication (Nukurpa, 1997). Punishments like hanging, imprisonment (Hughes, 2004; Garard, 2011; Muncie and McLaughlin, 2001; Satl, 1997) and other forms of penalty have not made significant impact in deterring the perpetrators.

In response to the overrunning nature of criminal activities (Odekun, 2001; Okunola, 2001; Okunola, 2006) unending efforts at finding solutions to these problems have led to emergence of efter-organised private security outfits. At the same time, the quest for community policing is equally gaining ground among the stakeholders, apart from the long existing vigilante system in Nigeria. Government on the other hand is providing enabling environment for these outfits within the purview of the law so that their activities do not conflict with the existing formally organised crime control agencies.

“Vigilante” is a term initially proposed by the police in the mid-1980s as a substitute for an older practice known in the western part of the country since the colonial period as the ‘hunter guard’ or ‘night guard’ system. So, rather than looking at vigilante groups as a response to a supposed increase in crime or a supposed decline of the police force, we should consider them – initially at least, as a first attempt to introduce forms of community policing in order to improve the appalling image of the formal security agencies. As such, in south-western Nigeria, ‘vigilante’ is a new name for an old practice of policing in a period (from the 1930s onward) in which violent crime has been perceived as a potential danger (Fourchard, 2008). Finally, within the ongoing debate on the ‘privatisation of the state’ in Africa, non-state policing in Nigeria testifies to a continuum existing since the colonial period rather than to the appearance of new phenomena in the 1980s or the 1990s.

These agencies are currently being regulated by the government in recognition of their complementary roles in the societies and as a way of enhancing the public perception and image of Nigeria Police. The questions here include: what are the relationship between the Police and these agencies especially the Vigilante Group? How are they managing their roles without conflicting with one another? Of what effects are the complementary roles of these private security outfits and vigilante group on Police image and public perception? What are the challenges facing these groups and how are these being managed?

Significance of the Study
Escalation of crime in Nigeria is daily creating the fear of insecurity and state of restlessness in the country. This has economic implications on the society as it leads to low productivity on the part of the individual. The essence of undertaking this research is therefore, to understand the public assessment of complementary roles of private security agencies and vigilante group, as well as establish the effects on Police image as an important stakeholder in security management. This will enhance the Government policies aimed at improving on the security system in Nigeria. Furthermore, it will contribute to the existing knowledge by serving as baseline data for those who intend to make further studies on similar issue.

Methodology
The study setting comprised of two communities that were purposively selected in Osun State of Nigeria. These are Okimi in Egbedore and Opa in Ife East Local Government Areas (LGAs) of the State. Osun State has 33 Local Governments. These LGAs were selected from Osun West and East Senatorial Zones.
respectively. Conducive climatic conditions for agricultural purposes obtain throughout the year in these LGAs. Tropical pattern prevails with the rainy season starting from March and ending in November, followed by the dry season. Agriculture is the major occupation of the people of Egbedore and Ife East LGAs. It provides employment for a greater percentage of the people, although a significant proportion of the people are also engaged in traditional handicraft productions, such as baskets and mats. Thus, most of their residents are peasant farmers, however significant proportion of them are equally civil servants. Common feature of the study settings is that they formed one of the newly developing areas.

Research Instrument

The study employed qualitative methodology which includes in-depth interviews (for the members of the communities) and key informant interviews (for people like the officers from the Nigeria Police stations located within the jurisdictions of these areas; the members of Police and Community Relations Committee (PCRC), Vigilante Group, members of the Landlord Association, and Clergymen (both Christians and Muslims). Telephone survey was equally adopted to reach out to those who were unavoidably absent but with valuable contributions that will make this work better.

Sampling Procedure and Sample Size

Members of the communities were sampled through multi-stage sampling procedure which included male and female residents of the areas (preference in this case was given to those selling wares within the study settings). The key informants were sampled through snowball sampling method. This includes identification of someone who meets the criteria for inclusion in this study. A person selected for this purpose must be a member of Police and Community Relations Committee; and must have been in this committee for more than ten years. In the other study setting, a Police officer who has a building in the community and has been residing there for more than twelve years was selected. Each of them later recommended others who they knew were stakeholders with vast experience on the issue in focus. The study population (of 30 respondents) was drawn through the above processes.

Procedure for Data Analysis

Content analysis method was utilised to analyse the data collected for this work. In addition, verbatim quotations were utilised to illustrate some points during interpretation of results.

Results of Findings and Discussion

The research sample comprised of 30 respondents out of which 16 were males while the remaining 14 were females. The discussion of findings is divided into two parts. The first part involved the discussion of general crime trends and perception, while the second part consisted of the issues pertaining to crime management, modality, challenges being experienced and management approach adopted.

Nature of Crime and Experience of Criminality in the Study Areas

Armed robbery cases were the type of crime common in the two study settings. Data given on the above showed that the two study settings have experienced brutal attacks of robbers in the last fifteen years. Most of the residents of these areas were civil servants. Due to the vantage position of these areas and availability of affordable parcel of land, everybody was moving there to build a house of their choice. The earlier settlers were known to have moved into the areas when the buildings were half-completed. At that point in time, the residents began to experience pockets of criminality until it eventually snowballed into violent armed robbery incidence. In the words of a respondent:

At the time when we moved into this area about seventeen years ago it was relatively peaceful. Though the indigenous settlers were already living here our fears of criminality were allayed. Clothes were the improvised windows, while old corrugated iron sheets were our make-shift doors. We do travel for 2 to 3 days without fear of crime and loss of little things we have in our houses then. That was a quite beautiful experience. I wish it will continue to be like that (Male IDI, Pastor who is a resident of Opa Community, Ile-Ife).
In another statement, a respondent revealed how she and her husband moved into the area. In her words:

“It was quite scaring then. Left, right, back and front there was no house. The nearest houses to us were about 300 metres away. Still we lived here without fear. We usually contend then that with nothing, we don’t have anything to worry out. Most of the buildings you see around here used our house as the storage for their building materials when the buildings were in progress. But things changed for worst later in the year as more people moved into this area. Though influx of people was what we prayed for so that we can have more people to interact with. The rise in criminality and the focus on this area could be traceable to high rate of unemployment (Female IDI, Resident of Okinni community, Egbedore Local Government, Osun State).

Another respondent submitted thus:

The proximity of this area to OAU Teaching Hospital complex where I work was what attracted me about eleven years ago when I moved in. Everything was okay. I heard of element of criminality then, but its dimension was akin to what was obtainable in every part of Ile-Ife then, so I did not mind. However, it took dangerous dimension about a year and half later. By that time, I’ve already gotten a land of my own and have started developing it. I had to abandon both my residence and the house under construction for a friend’s boys’ quarters in the University campus. I wanted to sell the land along with the building foundation over it but nobody was forthcoming for it. I was later persuaded not to discontinue with the construction of my houses with assurance that things will change for better in future (Male KII, Landlord and Member of vigilante Group in Opa Community, Ife East Local Government Area).

Part of the efforts made to tackle the problem was the engagement of night guards. This could not achieve the desired results. The weapons being used by the robbers were too sophisticated for these guards to contain. In the words of another respondent who is equally a landlord in the area:

“We made attendance of Landlord and Residents meeting compulsory in the area. Sunday evening was adopted as the time of meeting to take care of people that will go for religious services. A suggestion was made that volunteers should be coming from every home for night-watch. This did not go down well with many residents especially the University workers. It was later agreed upon that we should engage the services of Night watchmen (Female IDI, Resident of Opa Community, Ife East Local Government Area).

A member of this community lent credence to this:

There were periods when the robbers overwhelmed the night watchmen. The problem of logistics could not allow the policemen to complement the efforts of these night guards on time. It was pathetic for people like us who had nowhere to pack to. Accommodation was scarce because of the increase in the number of Local Government Councils available in Ile-Ife; so also were the staff of the University that could not secure accommodation within the campus. We were always in a state of confusion because anything can happen when it was dark (Male KII, Landlord and Member of vigilante Group in Opa Community, Ife East Local Government Area).

The effect of criminality was noted as telling on growth and development of these communities. For instance, a respondent stressed that:

While other communities within Ile-Ife and environs were densely populated, our area remained scanty. Many buildings were completed without people to move into because of the bad name which this community has generated. These include the houses that were never occupied and those vacated by the
owners who were fearful of the menace of armed robbers. Those of us that had nowhere to pack remained behind. We relied essentially on prayer and vigilance (Female KII, Okinni community, Egbedore Local Government Area).

Management Approach in the Previous Years
The following statements, which equally revealed the management approach towards managing the crime situation, were given. The approaches include caution of ostentatious living and extravagant spending. In the words of a respondent:

"Having discovered his state of predicament, we started to strategise on how to manage the situation. In my own family, we made it a point of duty not to dress provocatively. My husband's vehicle remained a jalopy for a long period; it got to a level that we don't kill chicken so as not to attract undue attention. During naming ceremony, rams or cows were killed at abattoirs. All these were the individual strategies adopted to avoid being marked by the night marauders (Male IDI, Landlord and Vigilante Official, Okinni Community, Egbedore Local Government Area).

This approach also involved individual involvement in movement monitoring within the area. The method used here was buttressed further:

Idea of neighbourhood watch was equally embraced by the members of the community. In this process when unknown person is prowling, we make sure such a person was queried to ascertain his or her mission. Everybody was being careful with what we do or said. Screening of our children's associates was also a strategy devised to ward off the infiltration of criminals into the community (Female KII, Christian Cleric and a Landlord in Opa Community, Ife East Local Government Area).

A respondent equally submitted that:

Almost all the landlords have whistles with which we alerted other members of the community and night watchmen when we hear of distress call in the night. Neighbourhood road blocks were erected. We make sure that these roads were blocked against vehicular movement by 9:00p.m., to 6a.m., in the morning. Still there were instances where these robbers still managed their ways in and attacked the people and trekked back to the place where they packed their vehicles (Male KII, Landlord and Vigilante Official, Okinni Community, Egbedore Local Government Area).

Current Crime situation and Management
Most of the responses showed high improvement than what obtained in previous years. High involvement and constant interactions of the stakeholders were noted this time around. The efforts were noted as being fruitful. According to a respondent:

"The situation is improving due to the intervention of Police Area Command at ile-Ife and the supports of the State Command of the Nigeria Police at Osogbo. Through the assistance of the Police, the Vigilante Group was structured, trained and organised in such a manner that it could function effectively (Male KII, Official of Vigilante Group of Nigeria, Egbedore Local Government Area).

Marked difference was noted in the developmental rate in the communities. A submission on this goes thus:

Initially, the landlords used to beg people to come and have their building for hire; things have now changed. It is not easy to secure accommodation in this area. We are experiencing steady influx of people into this area. Unlike what we have in the past, development has come; we are now operating Landlord/Residents Associations in units thus showing peaceful coexistence and almost zero level of fear of crime and criminality (Male IDI, Resident of Okinni Community, Egbedore Local Government Area).

Stressing further on this, a respondent said:
The security arrangement within the area is increasing; this did not mean we abandoned the initial security apparatus put on ground. While maintaining these apparatus, we make sure that we improve on them. For instance, we still maintain the road blocks. The vigilante personnel are still in existence and better organised for effective performance than before. This informs the relative peace we are experiencing at the moment compared to what we used to have before (Female IDI, Resident of Opa community, Ife East Local Government Area).

In the words of another respondent:

Some of us still maintain low key lifestyles we have imbied during the trying periods. However, the presence of powerful people in the society like Police officers, high ranking politicians and civil servants has become a blessing to us. With these people in our area, securing government assistance to make the place habitable and peaceful is very easy. We enjoy regular patrol of the area by the Police and Vigilante Group personnel. When cases are reported to the police, prompt attention is gotten to the satisfaction of everybody (Male IDI, Resident of Okini, Egbedore Local Government Area).

The Dramatis Personae and their Roles in Crime Management
Success being recorded in the combat of crime in the study settings was attributed to full commitment on parts of the officers of the Nigeria Police stations located within the jurisdictions of these areas; the members of Police and Community Relation Committee (PCRC), Vigilante Group, members of the Landlord Association and the residents of the areas, Clergymen (both Christians and Muslims) and the female residents of the areas (preference in this case was given to those selling wares within the study settings).

Crime Management among the Stakeholders
According to the data presented below, every stakeholder in the business of crime and security management was up and doing. The situation is no longer police-dominated activities. The issue is illustrated from different perspectives thus:

In the early '70s to late '80s the private security operatives particularly the traditional night guards were operating independence of the Police. The operatives were lacking in knowledge on what to do so as the laws and regulations of security works were not contravened. At that the Police had nothing to do than to follow the appropriate channel to deal with this issue. In the course of this, lots of noises were made: people called the Police names, some will even tell us that we are colluding with the criminals. However, an individual is not qualified for the appellation of 'criminal' until proven by the law courts (Male KII, Police Officer, Ife East Local Government Area).

Mutual understanding where everybody knows and appreciates the roles of the others in the same business was thus created to foster better society. According to another respondent:

The establishment of PCRC has removed the usual frictions between the Police and the Public. The relationship has grown stronger now through constant dialogue between the stakeholders in security industry and enabling laws that decentralised the crime and security management in the country. This eventually reflected on crime management at local level. For instance, you can see that Vigilante system is more organised now with personnel having their peculiar uniform through which you can recognise them. So there is no more conflict in the course of managing the security of a community (Male KII, Official of Vigilante Group of Nigeria, Egbedore Local Government Area).

A respondent was more specific about the process involved in achieving the desired result. According to him:
When there is any information to pass across, the Police Command or its arms like Divisional Headquarters or Area Command will summon our officials for briefing. If on the other hand, we are the one that need clarification of certain issues, we go to them for assistance which is always forthcoming. Through this, conflicts hardly occur. At the same time, mutual suspicion is no longer in existence; we see each other as partners-in-progress (Male KII, Clergy and member of PCRC, Ife East Local Government Area).

Polie Image Then and Now

The respondents opined that the new development has been of high benefits to the Police as an important stakeholder in security and crime management. The perception of this organisation according to the people has changed for better. However, the complementary roles of other stakeholders like Vigilante Group were taken into cognisance as contributory factor to this success. In the statement by a respondent:

*We held the Police and its personnel in low esteem before; with current performance and supports being given to the Vigilante, their works are very satisfactory now. We are willing and ready to cooperate and work with them now* (Male KII, Resident of Opa community, Ife East Local Government Area).

Another respondent revealed thus:

*This development has enabled us to know that the Police can perform their duties effectively when provided with enabling environment, which includes modern communication gadgets and other necessary logistics* (Female IDI, Resident of Okinni community, Egbedore Local Government Area).

The cooperation of the Police was further appreciated by a Key Informant who submitted that:

*As an official of Vigilante Group of Nigeria in this Local Government Area, I’m in a vantage position to rate the Police high in terms of the supports they are giving us to rid this LGA of crimes. The successive Area Commander of the Police in this town and the present Commissioner of Police in the State have been performing wonderfully in this case. We’ve never lacked the support of the Police and our presence as complementary outfit was well appreciated* (Male KII, A Senior officer, Vigilante Group of Nigeria, Ife East Local Government Area).

Further contribution revealed thus:

*I don’t know of any other Local Government in this LGA, particularly in most of the communities in this zone, as a member of PCRC I can assure you that the Police is actually our friend. We have meetings regularly where issues bothering on security and crime prevention are discussed. The need and efforts towards this is no longer from outside but internally motivated endeavour. Whatever action is taken on this is what we decide upon among ourselves. Nobody is thinking for us, every stakeholder including the Divisional Police Officer of our area understands and recognises this position* (Male KII, member of PCRC Okinni Community, Egbedore Local Government Area).

Challenges and Situation Management

The problems of finance and logistics supports were the major challenges noted as confronting the process of crime management in this study. Low level of basic education on crime and security management was equally made mention of. According to a respondent:

*We have been telling people times without number that the Police cannot do it alone. We intimated them with the fact that they need to work with us for us to perform effectively. However; things are changing for better. The only challenge I can talk of now apart from the need for more funding of our activities is improved cooperation from the populace. They need to report any suspicious movement*
to us whenever they noticed such (Male KII, Police Officer, Egbedore Local Government Area).

In another submission, a respondent said:

Ignorance on the part of the people about simple security knowledge is very rife. We still need more avenues with which people can be educated on simple precautionary measures and security tactics. Since they say prevention is better than cure, the beauty is early detection and prevention of crime is better off. When this is done, criminals will not have a hiding place since people will be well informed to know who a criminal is (Male KII, Police Officer, Ife East Local Government Area).

In the words of another informant:

Community support in terms of provision of simple kits for the Vigilante Group is not forthcoming in the rate expected. Since we are serving the community and not properly remunerated, such provisions will go a long way to motivate us for better performance. Though Governments at State and Local Government levels are really trying their best possible, but supports from individuals within the community and corporate organisations will go a long way to help us better (Male KII, Official of Vigilante Group of Nigeria, Egbedore Local Government Area).

Stressing further, a respondent opined:

......existence of private security outfits is a welcome development, Police as a partner-in-progress is aware of inadequacy of private security personnel in terms of training and equipment. Also, most of their personnel possess low level of education. I don’t know what they receive as salary or wages, but in view of their voluntary outlook, I have the feeling that they are poorly remunerated. All of these tell on their ability to discharge their duties effectively as well as making them vulnerable to attacks by the criminals. We in the Police know this hence the renewed interest in positive collaboration with them for satisfactory security service delivery to the Nigerian society (Male KII, Police Officer at Ife Area Command, More, Ile-Ife).

Conclusion and Recommendations

Based on the necessity of effective security and crime management for peaceful coexistence and meaningful development, events continue to affirm the significance of complementary roles between the Police and private security outfits. This study was able to establish that the crime rate was higher and had taken dangerous dimension almost two decades ago. It was further revealed that the management process then was not yielding fruitful results, thus making everything almost grinding to a halt. Developmental process of the area was badly affected and fear of crime was the order of the day. However things changed for the better with incorporation of private security outfits particularly the re-organised Vigilante Group of Nigeria.

Inference into the data provided showed that the Police and the private security outfits have some common features which include existence of legal backing supporting their existence; duties of providing security, preventing crime, maintenance of law and order and contributing towards implementation of government policies.

Myriads of challenges militating against the effective performance of the private security were also established. These are risk of attacks, poor remunerations, inadequate training, inadequate equipment and low level of educational qualification.

In the light of the findings of this study, it is obvious that peace and development will continue to elude the society that failed to put the issue of crime on its priority list. The information provided above have shown in its little way the harrowing experiences of the people in the study area. The above issue equally points at the necessity of community policing and that the issue of security is a collective effort that could not be left to the Police alone. It further showed that cooperation is a necessity among the stakeholders in the crime and security management business. This therefore means the Police need to intensify efforts on its primary and interrelated functions of crime control, order
maintenance, and service provision (Trojanowicz and Bucqueroux, 1990; Wilson, 1968). Since advancement in the societies has created myriad of social problems, incorporation of other stakeholders in the duty of law enforcement should be given utmost attention. The idea of professional policing model that focused primarily on crime control and to a much lesser extent on order maintenance and service provision (Kelling and Moore, 1988) should be reviewed. What happened in the study area is an assurance that community policing can succeed when provided with workable environment. While carrying out its three traditional activities, the Police must work with citizens in efforts to increase overall quality of life. This will pave way for emergence of new brand of policing and a shift from police-dominated crime control scenario; the type endowed with reactive responses to calls for service and moves toward proactive problem solving centred on the causes of crime and disorder and on fostering partnerships between the police and the community (Scott, 2001; Goldstein, 1990; Wilson and Kelling, 1982).

In order to foster Police and civil society partnership for enhancement of public perception and improved image of the Nigeria Police, concerted efforts should be mobilised to address the flaws/factors impinging on the collaborative services of the Nigeria Police and the private security outfits. The following are the strategic directions that should be followed for effective services that will further enhance public perception and the image of the Nigeria Police:

a) The syndrome of ‘police agency-rivalry does not promote good image. There should be harmonious working relationship between the police and other security outfits in the country.

b) In the United States of America there are 58 security agencies and they are all discharging their respective duties devoid of rancour. The same principle needs to be imbibed by all the security agencies in Nigeria where they are in all not up to or more than 20 (twenty in number).

c) Extra-judicial killing (in whatever disguise) is against the rule of law and this is one major factor responsible for the erosion of public confidence in the Nigeria Police.

d) The law enforcement agencies should address themselves to professionalism, re-orientation as well as the drive for excellence, corporate ideas and values. This will help to address distractions or dabbling into political, religious or ethnic squabbles.

e) In order to stem the perennial incidents of accidental discharge as well as enhance public confidence and image of the Nigeria Police, there should be a legal framework imposing capital punishment on the offending security officer(s).

f) The security agencies should ensure that arrested persons are charged and prosecuted. Every person implicated in civil disturbance need not be spared no matter the connection. This role may be a bit difficult but once it is tackled with those who organised, as well as those who carried out the action accordingly, it would go a long way in restoring the confidence in the system.

g) No man can be an island and a tree cannot make a forest. The various sister Law Enforcement Agencies should synergise and strengthen inter-agency cooperation of all security services.

h) There is need for new culture for security services. The civil society relations should be fostered. That will make the security agencies partner with the people. The security agencies should be made to be people-friendly through orientation and constant dialogue between the security services and the people. It is only through this that both can appreciate each others view points and positions.

i) Police and civil society rapprochement should be pursued. This can be achieved through workshops, seminars and public enlightenment campaigns. The workshops and seminars should be organised for re-orientation of security agencies particularly the Nigeria Police. This should take the form of re-branding of the security operatives, especially the Police. The workshop should be aimed at giving them orientation on human rights and acquaint them on new policing culture especially in democratic society. While doing this, public enlightenment should be employed to assure the civil society that the Nigeria Police have acquired a new policing culture.

j) The Nigeria police and all the other security outfits should be well equipped so that they can effectively prevent or combat crimes. All the security agencies/outfits should be adequately provided with ammunition, gadgets and protective jackets.

k) The management of the Nigeria Police should develop maintenance culture so that they can sustain whatever is put in place in their domain.
There are hazards and risks associated with security services. Concomitantly, there should be living welfare packages for security agencies in Nigeria including the Nigeria Police.

There should be continuous investment in the human capacity development of the officers of the Law Enforcement Agencies. Security agencies particularly the Police should be exposed to training and re-training programmes both locally and internationally. This is to enable them acquire more skills that will make them to be more effective, efficient, viable, active and productive.

In a democratic system, undue or wrongful use of police by politicians can create negative public perception as well as desecrate the image of the Nigeria Police; therefore the political class should not use their vantage position to abuse the services of the Nigeria Police for whatever reasons.

A climate of giving true information about criminals with utmost confidence that the Police will act rightly should be established between the Nigeria Police and the civil society.

Effective information network of all security outfits in Nigeria should be put in place for joint utility, intelligence sharing and mapping.

The Nigeria Police should be responding rapidly to distress call.

There should be sectoral reforms of all security apparatus towards swift and dynamic organisational structure. Undue bureaucratic and procedural complexities should be abrogated.

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