BOOK REVIEW

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Book Title: *The Nigerian Security Dilemma Since 1999: Challenges, Strategic Option and Way forward*

Editors: Atelhe George Atelhe, PhD and Garba Ayodeji Wahab

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THE NIGERIAN SECURITY DILEMMA SINCE 1999: CHALLENGES, STRATEGIC OPTIONS AND WAY FORWARD is a major compilation of rich literature on national security and the contemporary challenges of insecurity in Nigeria. The various contributors provide a robust analysis of Nigeria's national development, defence and security with a particular focus on the challenges, achievements, options and strategies. The title of the book suggests that the book clearly draws out strategic options and the way forward with regard to the security problems which have bedevilled Nigeria since 1999. The various chapters in the book provide feasible recommendations on ways and means of mitigating the national defence and security dilemmas in the country

The book draws mainly from primary and secondary sources. Its methodology cuts across qualitative analytical and descriptive tools. The book pulls out proactive strategies to prevent further escalation and find practical solutions to insecurity challenges and a way forward for a functional system. Through this book, the editors Atelhe and Wahab linked the work of various scholarly authors to the Nigerian Security

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Dilemma since 1999 till date with an attempt to find viable solutions to the security challenges bedevilling Nigeria.

From the structure and analysis, the book is disproportionately divided into thirty-three (33) chapters which follow the preliminary pages. Every chapter is explicit, in-depth and well-referenced. The book reflects the specialization and disciplinary character of the respective authors. In Chapter 1, "Understanding Security; Some Conceptual and Theoretical Note; A.G Atelhe and G.A Wahab, examine the etymology and ontology of security, the aspect of security, the orthodox and revisionist conception of security, the traditional versus revisionist perspective, the security-development equation and various fact of national security. The author concludes that within the remit of the State, security is not just a means to an end but rather, an end in itself. In Chapter 2, "Peace Security and Development in Africa" M.O Bonchuck analyzed key concepts such as; human security, environmental security and food security. The nexus of peace, security and development in Africa; African development and security initiatives. Bonchuck concludes that certain key areas should be addressed urgently if they can take advantage of globalization and succeed in the 21st century.

In chapter 3, "Understanding Conflict Analysis: A Review of the Niger-Delta Boko Haram Uprising in Nigeria by J. Kalama and F.O.U Oriakhi underscored conflict, especially intergroup conflict, as fast becoming a culture in Nigeria. They supported their argument with the assertions of theorists like Karl Marx and Max Weber. And made recommendations such as strengthening border patrol and curbing youth restiveness (pg. 42 and pg. 43). Chapter 4, "Corruption, development and National Security in Nigeria" written by S.B Abumiye and G.E Okpiliya and Emmanuel Sunday addresses corruption, development and national security in Nigeria with specific references to some causes of corruption and made notable recommendations relating to curbing corruption in Nigeria ranging from strengthening State institution to putting in place necessary improvement in the wages and incentive system. In chapter 5, titled "Corruption, Political Governance and the Dilemma of National Development in Nigerian",

George Atelhe underscored the correlation between corruption and good governance in Nigeria and argued that the major dilemma facing growth and development in Nigerian is corruption as exemplified in the policy formation and implementation. He re-emphasized the need for good governance and focus on political leadership as a basis for development. (pp 63-74)

In chapter 6, titled "A Reflection of Farmers-Herders", A.J Adie interrogate the farmer-herders' crisis in Nigeria and proposes that the way forward should be government approval for herdsmen to carry out their activities on agreed routes and farmers should avoid farming in those areas. The seventh chapter, "An Evaluation of Nigeria's Oil Conflict and Implications for Food Security in Niger Delta Region" by Atelhe George and B.A Akande, examine the balanced environment in the Niger Delta, The Chapter emphasize the need for an integrated conflict resolution approach which involves adopting the collaborative methodology. In Chapter 8, "Strengthening Policy Framework as State Response to Terrorism in Nigeria: Interrogation the Terrorism Prevention Act 2011" Atelhe George and Abang Titus examine terrorism and insurgency in Nigerian and draw out a conclusion that the terrorism Act alone does not suffice in solving the problem but there is a need to effectively implement the provision of the Act. In chapter 9, P.O Abang and U.B Obeten assessed the nexus between terrorism and national security while also looking at the implications for Nigeria's social capital investment programs. They X-rayed the relationship between the potential for recruitment into terrorist group vis-à-vis environmental factors which promote such negative behaviours. In chapter 10 titled the Impact of Anglophone Cameronian Crisis on Nigeria", A. Edgar assesses the impact of the Anglo-phone Cameroonian crisis on Nigeria. He identifies the major actors and step taken by the Anglo-phone Cameroonians to internationalize the problem. In chapter 11 titled "Terrorism and Insecurity Crisis in Nigeria", E.U Ulayi examines the terrorism and insecurity crisis in Nigeria and the systemic approach to banditry in the North-West region and also noted that the global terrorism index ranked Nigeria third

among 163 countries on the scale of global security trends and pattern of terrorism.

In chapter 12, "Farmer-Herders Conflict and its Implication for Democratic Sustainability in Nigeria", E.C Esidene explores the ways through which farmer-herder's imbroglio can be mitigated so as to ensure consolidation and sustenance of the democratic endeavours in Nigeria. In chapter 13 titled "The Sit at Home Order in South-Eastern Nigeria", G.O Ewah and L.L Mohammed discuss the sit-at-home order in the Eastern State of Nigeria and concludes that unless appropriate public policy measure is put in place to resolve the perceived political problems, the present agitation for secessions and self-determination in the region may remain unresolved. In chapter 14 titled "Socio-Economic Consequences of Farmer-Herder Conflict in Nigeria", J. Kalama discusses diverse dimensions of government creation of social problems such as; displacement of citizens, loss of property and death. He proposed that there should be a regular dialogue between the government and the traditional and religious leaders. In chapter 15, "Comparative Analysis of Electoral Process and National Security in 2015 and 2019 General Election in Nigeria", J.O Nkewede examine how the Nigerian politicians could cultivate the ethic and value of sportsmanship in course of their political struggle.

In chapter 16 titled "The Role of Civil Society Organisations in the Niger-Delta crisis", N.N Obi examines the role of Civil Society Organisations (CSOs) and provides an exploratory background to gauge the historicity of the crisis by outlining the growing involvement of CSOs in Peacebuilding in the Niger-Delta. In chapter 17, "Poverty, Unemployment and the Industrialization of Insecurity in Nigeria", C.O Ogayi, interrogates the concepts of poverty and unemployment and how they have led to the industrialization of insecurity in Nigeria. Ogayi closes the chapter with recommendations which included the diversification of the Nigerian economy to generate employment and a reframing of the nation's security architecture to give greater focus to intelligence gathering and the use of proactive responses in combatting crime.

In chapter 18 titled "Human Security and Democratic Sustainability Challenges in Nigeria", Y.D Ogundare examines the issue with a specific focus on the All Progressive Congress (APC). The author posits that insecurities are threats to the development of democracy and ensuring human security is the answer to the challenges of national security and democratic sustainability in the Nigerian State. In chapter 19 titled ''Women in Peacebuilding and Reconstruction in Nigeria'', F.A Undiyaundeye and J.A. Basake bring to the fore the need to involve women in peace processes including peace negotiations, post-conflict reconstruction and rehabilitation. The authors examined women's role in Peace-building and the birthing of peace agreements. A strong point made by Undiyaundeye and Basake through their writing is that women are an important component of rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts after wars or conflicts. Chapter 20, ''Insecurity and the Challenges of Policing Nigeria: Rethinking Community Policing" by N.E Akpan and C.I Kwede underscored policing issues and shortcomings within the Nigerian context. The work concluded that rejigging the nation's security architecture, and encouraging community policing and good governance is fundamental to addressing the current insecurity in Nigeria.

D.U William's Terrorism, Radicalization, Violent Extremism, and Military Effectiveness in Nigeria in chapter 21 asserted that cultural and religious beliefs continue to be a huge challenge in the burgeoning of violent activities in Nigeria. The author argued that military strength is not enough to counter terrorism, radicalism and violent extremism in Nigeria. Chapter 22, 'Prognosis on Maritime Security in Nigeria: Challenges and Prospects'' written by K.A Akan made a notable contribution to knowledge on the concepts of maritime, maritime security and maritime insecurity in Nigeria. The work gives an overview of global historical maritime security in Nigeria. D.O Adie and I.A Obaji's ''An Evaluation of Democratic Response to Governance Issues in Nigeria (2016-2021)" in chapter 23 accepts that most countries in contemporary times pride themselves as being democratic because of what the concept represents: equality, freedom, popular participation in the affairs of the state and the rule of law. They noted that all these

are attributes associated with good governance and Nigeria as a nation must ensure that all of these attributes are in place to secure its place as a truly democratic state. In chapter 24, ''Alcoholism, Drug Abuse and Cultism (ADAC) in Nigerian Universities'', Phillip O. Okolo's assertion is that alcoholism drug abuse and cultism (ADAC) have remained a major challenge all over the world, particularly in the university system, and they have posed a significant threat to not just university communities but also to the development of nations at large. Okolo concluded with a strong recommendation on the need to carry out a value re-orientation campaign in order to re-engineer the mind of the youths and instill in them a culture of hard work, morals and service. Saidu and Atelhe in Chapter 25, ''Political Elite, Nomadism and Stability of Democracy in Nigeria" utilize the post-colonial theory to espouse the nature and character of the Nigerian State which supports party defections. The authors give instances supported by national legal frameworks which stipulate that a member of a party can only be allowed to move to another political party and contest elections after six months of being an active registered member of the new party.

Chapter 26, ''Farmers-Herders Conflict and National Security: The Case of Benue and Nassarawa State in North-Central Nigeria'' written by C.N Udeagulu examine the effect of the perennial farmers-herders conflicts on Nigeria's national security and discovered that these conflicts have severe adverse consequences on national security as they threaten and weaken the nation's security architecture and provide avenues for criminal gangs to perpetrate banditry, kidnapping for ransom, and other forms of violent crime. In chapter 27, ''Refugee Crisis and Human Security in Cross-River State'', O.E Offiong explained that the influx of refugees in Cross-River State within the last decade has been a great cause of concern as it challenges the State's meagre resources and exposes the economic fragility of the State. Offiong recommended that in league with local and traditional authorities, the government should work towards the acceptance and full integration of refugees into their host communities so as to engender peaceful coexistence and minimize mutual suspicion between both parties. In chapter 28 titled "Interrogating the Security

Development Nexus: Implications for Strategic Governance'', A.C Okoli and A.G Atelhe explain that the security-development nexus has been an important problematic in contemporary security cum development discourse. They submitted that the nexus constitutes a paradigm shift that holds strategic implications for governance in Africa. In chapter 29, David Aluku writes on ''The Nigerian Air Force and Nigeria's Capacity for Peace Support Operations: A Reflection on the African-Led Peace Mission in Mali''. With particular reference to the Nigerian Air Force participation in the African Intervention Mission in Mali (AFISMA), Aluku investigated the operational capacity of the Nigerian Air Force and interrogates the effectiveness of the NAF involvement in AFISMA by assessing how much their involvement helped in the achievement the overall intention of AFISMA which was to guarantee peace in Mali.

In chapter 30 titled "The Political Economy of Patronage and Performance in Nigeria's Maritime Industry", C.M Kana explains that the Federal Government which owns the facility should engineer the port management to be more vibrant and innovative. In chapter 31 Garba Ayodeji Wahab discusses the topic ''Agriculture and Food Security in Nigeria: What is the Role of Agricultural Policies"? Wahab explained existing agricultural policies in his work and assessed how well these policies have been able to promote the actualization of food security in Nigeria. In Chapter 32, I.O Anthony offers perspectives on "International Actors and the Dynamics of Insurgency in Nigeria, 1999-2017" positing that the changing post-Cold War world order has brought with it new challenges for international peace and security. Wahab also discusses the role played by international actors in escalating or de-escalating insurgencies in Nigeria giving focus to Nigeria's Niger Delta crisis and the Boko Haram insurgency. The author brought out factors like economic gain, political influence and humanitarian action as motivations for international actors' involvement in Nigeria's crisis situations. In chapter 33 which is the concluding chapter, Victor E. Clark discusses the topic "African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA): A Milestone in Multilateral Economic Diplomacy". The author gives a background on the

emergence of the ’African Continental Free Trade Area (AfCFTA) and discussed how the initial Lagos Plan of Action (LPA) that sprung out of the Intra-African Trade Organisations did not see the light of day due to series of forces including the strong opposition of the West to its development and progress. The author concluded that there is a need to give new impetus to issues of trade development in Africa in order to encourage the overall growth of the continent.

The book has demonstrated a commendable editorial effort and the blend of contributors is rich, diverse and versatile. A few typographical errors were present on some pages such as (page 226, abstract) which escaped editors' notice. The book is no doubt an important reading material to scholars and practitioners in the fields of Defence and Security/Strategic Studies, Military History, Political Science, Policy Makers, and even people in all spheres of life as the issue of security is everyone’s business.