



## VISION AND MISSION STATEMENT OF

Vice Admiral IE IBAS GSS AM psc(+)ndc MSc  
Chief of the Naval Staff

### VISION

To develop a credible naval power in fulfilment of the Nigerian Navy's constitutional roles towards enhancing national prosperity and security.

### MISSION

To deploy a naval force that is well trained, organised and highly motivated to discharge its constitutional roles professionally and efficiently for the defence of Nigeria in ensuring her economic prosperity.





**Vice Admiral IE IBAS** GSS AM psc (+) ndc MSc  
**Chief of the Naval Staff**

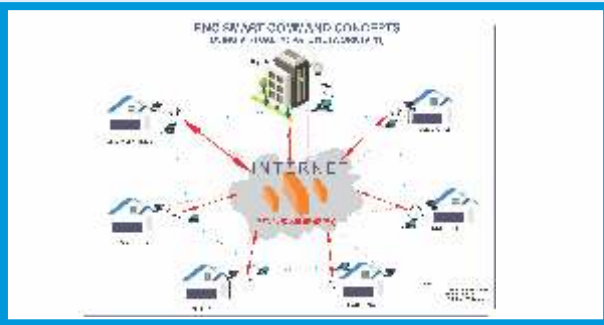




**Rear Admiral DA Adeniran** GSS psc fdc MSc PFPAC COREN FNSE  
**Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Naval Command**



# Contents



**AN APPRAISAL OF HEADQUARTERS EASTERN NAVAL COMMAND THROUGH DEPLOYMENT OF CUTTING EDGE TECHNOLOGIES**

page  
**12**



**CIVIL-MILITARY RELATIONS: KEY TO IMPROVED NAVAL OPERATIONS IN THE ENC MARITIME DOMAIN**

page  
**18**



**CNS COMMISSIONS NNS PATHFINDER MEDICAL CENTRE**

page  
**20**



**THE EASTERN NAVAL COMMAND 2019 END OF YEAR ACTIVITIES AT A GLANCE**

page  
**31**



**FOC FLAGS OFF EXERCISE AS PART OF CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT FOR PERSONNEL OF ENC**

page  
**41**



**FORWARD OPERATING BASE BONNY IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CRIMINALITIES WITHIN ITS AREA OF OPERATION**

page  
**59**



**OIL THEFT PIRACY HAS REDUCED IN NIGER DELTA**

page  
**88**



**NOWA NATIONAL PRESIDENT COMMISSIONS 5 CLASS ROOMS BLOCK**

page  
**89**



## EDITOR'S CORNER

Dear esteemed readers, It is with great excitement that I present to you an edition of Eastern Tide during my watch as the Command Information Officer. The Eastern Tide is an in-house news magazine of the Eastern Naval Command. This edition is a special scorecard of the activities and giant strides recorded by the Command under the leadership of the incumbent and indefatigable Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Naval Command, Rear Admiral David Adegbola Adeniran. The magazine is a compendium of erudite articles, news stories, operational antecedents, opinions, contemporary discourse and general knowledge articles amongst others. The editorial contents were carefully selected and spiced up for your education, information and entertainment. Additionally, meticulous efforts were made to craft the feature articles for ease of understanding with a view to informing the public.



**CDR EDYEIBO**

The magazine has portrayed some remarkable achievements in operations and infrastructural development by the Flag Officer Commanding. It is also worthy to note that the Magazine is laden with achievements of units, ships and establishments of the Command which makes it unique in all ramifications.

The News Magazine is enriched with scholarly articles like: Understanding The Role of Family in Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism, Enhancing Maritime Security in the Gulf of Guinea through an effective Security Architecture: The Yaonde Code of Conduct in Perspective, Focus on the Eastern Naval Command operations activities among others. The Magazine also gives vivid highlights of Eastern Naval Command End of Year Activities,

decoration of Senior Officers, Naval Officers' Wives Association Activities and other packages.

The magazine has also buttressed where the Eastern Naval Command has invested tremendously on cutting edge technologies in order to work smart. This entails saving time, maximising available resources, ensuring safety of personnel and materiel. No wonder the

Command is often referred to as the 'Smart Command'. Also, worthy of mention is the recently designed and launched Maritime Crime Management System by the Command. The technology was developed and designed for capturing bio data for exchanging and sharing information on arrested suspects. This will enervate criminal elements in the Command Area of Responsibility. Therefore, there is no hiding place for suspects that were previously arrested.

Permit me at this point to on behalf of the Editorial Board express my profound appreciation to all persons who contributed to the intellectual depth of this publication. Indeed your contributions have richly endowed the magazine. Suffice it to state that some articles forwarded by contributors were not published. However, be rest assured that these articles will be published in the next edition. May I also express my gratitude to all maritime stakeholders for their numerous contributions in actualizing this publication.

Finally, I commend the effort of the Editorial Board for yet another milestone as the Special Edition of the Magazine, Eastern Tide hits the newsstand in a sublime style.



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## FROM THE DESK OF THE FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING



**Rear Admiral DA Adeniran** GSS psc fdc MSc PFPAC COREN FNSE

It is with great delight and high sense of duty that I write the foreword for the latest Edition of the Eastern Tide Magazine of Headquarters Eastern Naval Command. This provides an opportunity for me to present my memoir on the gradual transformation of Eastern Naval Command to "Smart Command". On assumption of office as the Flag Officer Commanding, one great thought that continued to echo on my mind was how to do things differently. Streaming from the dictates of the Chief of the Naval Staff's Vision, Mission Statement and Strategic Directives, the number of operational, administrative and welfare objectives identified in the aforementioned guidelines and the onus of making modest achievements within the period in the Command led to deployment of cutting edge technologies to fast track Eastern Naval Command activities.

The Command since inception had no website for interaction with units/ships under Command. The feat of creating a functional website was achieved within the first month of my assumption of office. This was closely followed by conceptualizing, designing and deployment of a File Management System, in other words making the Command work paperless for a quick and seamless decision making. Currently the Command has just upgraded the File Management System

from 1.0 to File Management System 2.0 version. The new version inculcates new features and functionalities such as batch signal uploading process, robust administration/user dashboard (interface) and seamless files archiving. In furtherance to our efforts at enhancing security of personnel and materiel in the Headquarters, the Command introduced new security measures. This includes Biometric Access Control System at the Main Gate, installation of 43 Closed Circuit Television camera System and a 2-Zone and 4-Zone Fire Alarm System at strategic points within the Command Headquarters. The aforementioned transformation at the Headquarters has enhanced her operational activities through decision making as well as seamless interaction with units, ships and establishment under Command.

In order to enhance the fight against maritime crimes, the Command developed the Eastern Naval Command Crime Management System. The system is digital based to reduce criminal activities in the Command Area of Operation. Also, the Command established an E-library equipped with 80 desktop computers and accessories for the Nigerian Navy Secondary School, Akpabuyo. This facility has contributed to effective teaching and learning for our children in the Eastern Naval



Command. A lot has been achieved in the area of infrastructural development. The developments include new constructions, renovations, completion of abandoned projects and expansion of facilities.

The Command's sea area is host to several vital strategic national economic assets and under my watch ENC has continued to carry out several activities to ensure safety and enhanced security within its Area of Responsibility. The Command has made moderate achievements in her operational endeavours which include patrol efforts, anti-illegal bunkering/refinery operations, anti-pipeline vandalism/crude oil theft, anti-smuggling activities, joint operations and exercises. The Command's patrol efforts culminated in the arrest of 365 suspects, 15 vessels and 12 vehicles. Other achievements include the recovery of 203 pumping machines and destruction of 145 large wooden boats. The Command's anti-illegal bunkering/refinery operation led to the location and destruction of 176 illegal oil refineries. It led to the recovery of about 20,396.91 Metric Tons and 28,628.80 Metric Tons of illegally refined Automotive Gas Oil and the estimated quantity of stolen crude oil respectively. Gladly, the Command's effort is frustrating the activities of oil thieves and denying them financial returns from their criminal activities. The Command also achieved remarkable feat in the anti-smuggling activities/efforts which culminated in the seizure of 16,733 x 50kg smuggled bags of parboiled foreign rice. Additionally, the Command has sustained its collaboration with sister Services, participated in Operation DELTA SAFE, as well as different states internal security operations. The Command sustained the ongoing Operation BEKAN MMON and Operation SWIFT RESPONSE and also conducted Exercise YANGHA MI 2019. Permit me to use this medium, to express my sincere gratitude to the Chief of the Naval Staff for his strategic directives, initiative and support given to the Command to achieve the aforementioned feats. The efforts of the Chief of the Naval Staff are evident in the number of operational platforms in the Command's inventory. Also, my unreserved appreciation goes to the entire personnel of the Eastern Naval Command, for their cooperation and

loyalty. It is worthy to mention that all activities at the command have been pursued with vigor and in a distinctive manner. Please do not rest on your oars.

In furtherance of the 'One Unit Command', units under command not only interact at a distance, but also physically through the Combined School Management Committee and FOC's monthly Meetings which is rotatory within the Command. In the case of the Combined School Management Committee meetings, the Senior Prefects (Boys and Girls) of the hosting school attend. The idea was borne out of the need to mentor and enhance leadership skills of the students.

On assumption of office, I decided to change the Headquarters Wednesday sports routine. In the first month, all officers and the Chief Botwain's Mate of the Headquarters walked from Flag Officer Commanding's House to the Command Headquarters. The distance was later extended. Presently, personnel of the Headquarters walked from the Chief Staff Officer's House to the Command Headquarters. Additionally, on the last Wednesday of every month, personnel of the Command walk from Atimbo Barracks to the Command Headquarters. This has enhanced the physical well being of participants, as well as esprit de corps.

For every good initiative, there are usually associated challenges which provide platforms/avenues to learn from and further take things to higher dimensions. In pursuit of our deployment of cutting edge technology through Information and Communication Technology, we learn to be humble when moving from known to the unknown. Also, we learn to accept challenges and need to be resolute in the face of adversity. I commend members of the Editorial Board and stakeholders for excellent work, dedication, zeal and diligence in packaging this Edition of Eastern Tide Magazine. God bless. ONWARD TOGETHER!





# MEET PAST NAVAL OFFICERS COMMANDING AND FLAG OFFICERS COMMANDING EASTERN NAVAL COMMAND



**CDR DE OKUJAKU**  
1971 - 1973



**CAPT RAO ADEGBITE**  
1975 - 1977



**CAPT PS KOSHONI**  
1977 - 1978



**CAPT OP FINGESI**  
1979 - 1980



**CAPT ES BUBA**  
1980 - 1981



**CDRE A AJANAKWU**  
1981 - 1984



**CDRE LAB ELEBGEDE**  
13 JAN 84 - 22 SEPT 85



**CDRE SO ALOKO**  
23 SEPT 85 - 12 FEB 89



**R ADM OLU OMOTEHINWA**  
13 FEB 89 - 19 SEPT 90



**R ADM DAN-PRESTONES OMATSOLA**  
20 SEPT 90 - 31 JAN 92



**R ADM SULEIMAN SAIDU**  
24 FEB 92 - 14 JAN 93



**R ADM JUBRILA AYINLA**  
15 Jan 1993 - 29 Sept 1993



**R ADM OM AKHIGBE**  
30 SEPT 93 - 26 MAY 94



**R ADM FBI PORBENI**  
15 SEPT 94 - 8 JUN 95



**R ADM VK OMBU**  
9 JUN 95 - 9 JAN 98



**R ADM TA ODEDINA**  
10 SEPT 98 - 25 JUL 99



# MEET PAST NAVAL OFFICERS COMMANDING AND FLAG OFFICERS COMMANDING EASTERN NAVAL COMMAND



**R ADM FE AGBITI**  
26 JUL 99 - 4 APR 02



**R ADM AI BOB-MANUEL**  
5 APR 02 - 21 MAR 03



**R ADM GTA ADEKEYE**  
21 MAR 03 - 31 JUL 05



**R ADM MA AJADI**  
1 AUG 05 - 20 JAN 06



**R ADM SL BAJE**  
20 Jan 06 - 16 Oct 06



**R ADM PS ADENIYI**  
16 OCT 06 - 29 JUN 07



**R ADM BA RAJI**  
29 JUN 07 - 30 JAN 09



**R ADM IB ACHOLOHU**  
30 JAN 09 - 11 NOV 10



**R ADM UO JUBRIN**  
11 NOV 10 - 27 MAR 12



**R ADM OB OGUNJIMI**  
29 MAR 12 - 22 JAN 13



**R ADM JOE AIKHOMU**  
22 JAN 13 - 17 JAN 14



**R ADM HO NGONADI**  
17 JAN 14 - 21 FEB 14



**R ADM OC MEDANI**  
21 FEB 14 - 29 DEC 14



**R ADM BABALOLA**  
29 DEC 14 - 18 SEPT 15



**R ADM ABDULKADIR**  
18 SEPT 15 - 15 APR 16



**R ADM JO OLUWOLE**  
15 APR 16 - 29 JUN 17



**R ADM VO ADEDIPE**  
29 JUN 17 - 19 JAN 18



**R ADM MA EMUEKPERE**  
19 JAN 18 - 28 AUG 18



# I AM COMMITTED TO A CRIME FREE MARITIME DOMAIN

– FOC



**T**he Flag Officer Commanding (FOC) Eastern Naval Command (ENC), Rear Admiral David Adeniran has reaffirmed his commitment towards achieving a crime free maritime domain in the Command's Area of Responsibility by consolidating on the achievements of his predecessor Rear Admiral Mathew Emuekpere.

Rear Admiral Adeniran made this known after taking over the mantle of leadership as the Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Naval Command. He reiterated that to accomplish the constitutional mandate of the Service is his primary objective and promised to complete all ongoing projects initiated by his predecessor. He therefore pledged to collaborate with other security agencies, stakeholders and host communities to ensure the safety of Nigeria's waterways, for legitimate

businesses. He consequently warned' that no form of criminality or illegality will be condoned as offenders will face the full wrath of the law.

Rear Admiral Adeniran thereafter commended personnel of the Command for keeping faith with the Service while urging them to maintain high standards of professionalism and shun all forms of activities that will bring the Service to disrepute. The handing and taking over ceremony was held at the parade ground Nigerian Navy Ship VICTORY. The ceremony was witnessed by Cross River State Government house representatives, traditional rulers, representatives of security agencies, stakeholders, captains of industries and friends of the Navy.



# AN APPRAISAL OF HEADQUARTERS EASTERN NAVAL COMMAND THROUGH DEPLOYMENT OF CUTTING EDGE TECHNOLOGIES

By Captain (NN) LA RAJI

## INTRODUCTION

Organization in recent times have imbibed cutting edge technologies like big data, artificial intelligence (AI) and even block chain to enhance their operational ability and functionality. In this vein, organizations are continuously investing in technology to aid their operational efficiency, ensure safety of personnel, save time and resources among others. However, in their strive for success, some organizations have failed to recognize the impact of a smart approach to their organization's operations through cutting edge technologies. Cutting edge technology refers to technological devices, techniques or achievements that employ the most current and high level Information Technology (IT) developments. In other words, cutting edge technology is a convergence of robust technologies into a framework of systems at the frontiers of knowledge. Leading and innovative IT industry organizations are often referred to as "Cutting Edge". Cutting edge is also known as leading edge technology or state-of-the-art technology. The extent at which organizations deploy these technologies to "work smart" determines the effectiveness and efficiency of their operational output.

The Eastern Naval Command has invested substantially in cutting edge technologies in other to "work smart". Working smart entails saving time, maximizing available resources, ensuring safety of personnel and materiel. This is why the ENC is fondly known as the "Smart Command". This was achievable through the deployment of state-of-the-art technologies comprising File Management System (FMS), Voice-over Internet Protocol telephone system, Biometric Access Control (BAC), Closed Circuit Television (CCTV), Fire Alarm system and Maritime Crime Management System. This article, therefore intends to highlight the vital activities that make the ENC a Smart Command. The paper will discuss the working of File

Management System (FMS), as well as its advantages and features. Thereafter, a highlight of the robust convergence of the FMS with the Voice-over Internet Protocol telephone system, Biometric Access Control (BAC), Closed Circuit Television (CCTV), Fire Alarm System, Maritime Crime Management System will be evaluated. Finally, the article will assess the Installation and Training, Service and maintenance as well as highlight the challenges.

## FILE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

**Overview of FMS.** The FMS is a software application used to store, arrange and access files stored on a suitable storage location such as disk, hard drive and dedicated servers amongst others. The main purpose of FMS is to enable users to create, organize, store, view and retrieve



files on an electronic device (laptop, desktop, mobile phone or server). The basic operations of the Command FMS include; file creation, storage and display. Others are file movement, adding and editing of basic metadata, file sorting based on different criteria amongst others.

The FMS, also called the Paperless System is a database/file management system which involve automation of the Paper-based filing system and it is used for capturing, documenting, organizing and keeping track of files' movements within the Command Headquarters. The system is designed to automate daily and routine filing of documents in the Command's Secretariat. The FMS runs on a Local Private Server domiciled in the HQ ENC Server Room and accessed by various offices via a Local Area Network (LAN). This enables Officers and the ENC Secretariat to share files within the Command. The functionalities of the Command



FMS are not limited to files archiving/management and files sharing but also include signals archiving/management and internal memos management. In essence FMS capability covers all document management requirements and helps resolve problems that, if left or if not checked, could wreak havoc in an organization's document management processes. The Flag Officer Commanding launched the FMS 1.0 on 1 Apr 19 for the HQ ENC. Within the period, the Command Secretariat has uploaded 270,225 files of various subjects for treatment by the Principal Staff Officers (PSOs). The success recorded within this period of using FMS 1.0 motivated the FOC to upgrade the FMS to accommodate more working functionalities and features. Recently, the FMS 1.0 was upgraded to FMS 2.0 with enhanced functionalities and features. Generally, the FMS software (both FMS 1.0 and the newer FMS 2.0) offer benefits that help to avoid document management problems. Some of the advantages of FMS for document management include:

**a. Central Information Repository.** The Central Information Repository (CIR) system serves as the central storage for all documents. It allows users to search / find documents, identify the document creator and other necessary attributes such as who last edited them. CIR ensures all documents are organized and easily accessible, with the system finding the right document every time. The CIR for the FMS 1.0 was an Enterprise Hewlett Packard (Hp) generation 9 server with 16GB of RAM and 1.5 Terabytes (TB) hard drive. However, the upgrade to FMS 2.0 consists of an Enterprise HP generation 10 server with 24GB of RAM and 2.0 TB hard drive. As at last count, the FMS has a record of about 270,225 files safely accessible in the system.

**b. Ease-of-Use.** The system user interface (UI) is user friendly. Navigating the system user interface is quite easy and does not require a steep learning curve/process. This is due to the fact that the platform directly integrates with web browsers especially Google Chrome browser. The document storage system domicile in the server can be accessed over the Command's intranet through dedicated all-in-one desktop

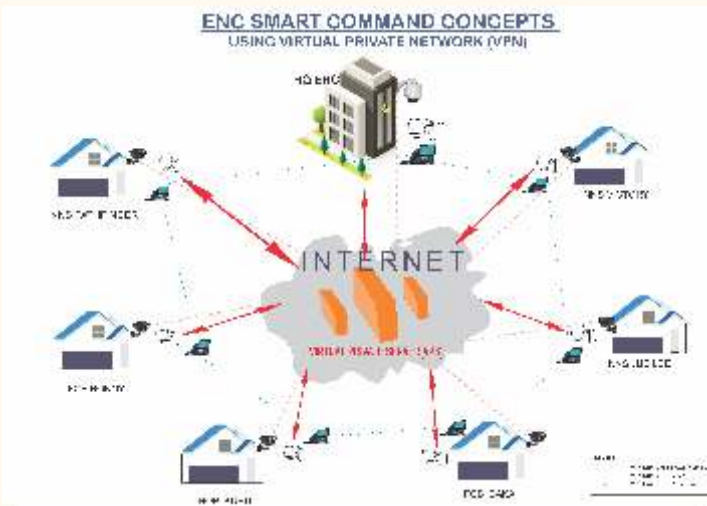
computers, laptops, tablets and mobile phones. The FMS also supports a drag-and-drop functionality and also remembers saved file locations and versions. Storing and retrieving of a document is fairly simple, all the user needs to do is to save the document and indicate the content type on the CIR. Document searching is also seamless. To complement this feature, the vendor, with assistance from the ICT Department, made the product highly – user friendly. Basically the system conforms to how individuals work and can be used without consulting a manual.

**c. Document Security.** FMS ensures adequate security and protection for documents. This is achievable by checking/authenticating the accessibility process to document, keep track of any editing on document and granting necessary permissions when the need arises. Aside, it helps preserve old document as archive and revert when needed. The FMS security is anchored on the Enterprise firewall systems embedded into the core server operating system which is Linux based.

**d. Document Sharing.** Document/information sharing is one of the integral part of an organizational process and the document sharing could be internal



or/and external. It is worthy to state that FMS provides required avenue for this process. FMS allows document sharing with colleagues within the same establishment and outside parties in an organized manner with adequate restriction. In fact FMS streamlines information flow and reduces information loss to hackers. Aside, it helps to reduce sending large volume of message as attachment, instead a direct link to a document is sent. For instance, till date, the FMS has about 270,225 files on the server which are concurrently accessed by verified legitimate users making it easier to work on document without hindrances.



**Functions of FMS.** FMS as a tool has helped to provide easy access to information or documents in the Command. It has also increased staff productivity and efficiency, saved time, reduced storage needs of archiving paper documents and enhanced operations in ENC. The functions of FMS are as follows:

**a. Document Imaging.** The system has the ability to work with various documents scanning equipment, including multi-function printers, large scale scanners, and desktop scanners. Furthermore, the system has the ability to work with previously scanned documents, including PDF and JPG images. These scanned document or documents converted to PDF can easily be uploaded into the FMS database system. In addition, the FMS allows for creating electronic copies of memos with embedded document processing tools cutting off paper-based processes. These electronic copies of files make it easier to share and preserve clean and original copies of documents.

**b. Naming and Tagging of Documents.** The FMS provides naming convention defaults, based on the document type. The usual minute sheets for documents are dynamically linked to parent documents at every state of the file process system. Furthermore, the folio number assigned to documents has been automated in the newer version FMS 2.0.

**c. Retrieval.** The FMS provides a storage structure for documents which is implemented using highly functional search algorithms. This search algorithm makes it easy to retrieve and share documents over the Command's Intranet. The solution provides document retrieval options that allow for searches based on file name, file folio number/tag or specific terms.

**d. Security.** The FMS is equipped with user-based security that protects documents from unauthorized access, modification and deletion. The user records revolve around a 4-factor authentication system which comprises the signature of user, user-defined password, server-defined unique identification number and appointment. This is in addition to the Enterprise firewall protection system embedded in the server operation system which is Linux based.

**VOICE-OVER INTERNET PROTOCOL TELEPHONE**

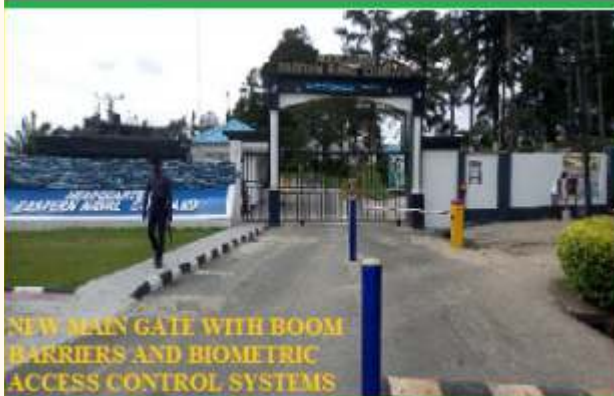
The telephone communication within HQ ENC was upgraded to Voice-over Internet Protocol (VoIP) audio and video systems to further verify by video who is speaking at both ends of the phone. This VoIP telephone system is also enabled for mobile phones making it easy for users to call fixed desktop IP phones with mobile phones. The mobile phones are configured to connect to the Command's wireless network in order to make video calls with the fixed desktop IP phones. Primarily, the VoIP telephone system is to have secured communication over the HQ ENC intranet and also to alert or update PSOs with the current status of files under treatment



MAIN GATE BEFORE



MAIN GATE DURING BAC INSTALLATIONS



NEW MAIN GATE WITH BOOM BARRIERS AND BIOMETRIC ACCESS CONTROL SYSTEMS



EXIT BOOM BARRIER WITH SENSORS AND BAC SYSTEM

process. For security purposes, all video and audio calls are routed through a dedicated IP PBX server which runs cutting edge end-to-end encryption algorithms to secure the communication lines.

### **BIOMETRIC ACCESS CONTROL**

The Command has made concerted effort to further enhance safety and security of personnel and materiel in the Command. Recently, the Command completed the installation of Biometric Access Control (BAC) System at the main gate. In view of the co-location with NWCN, the biometric data capturing was extended to NWCN personnel and civilian staff alike. The data capturing and profiling processes were conducted and controlled by the Command Communication and Information Technology Officer and Command Provost Marshal. All data captured are domiciled in the HQ ENC server with high-end security protection systems and enterprise edition of security firewalls. It is pertinent to state that the BAC system runs only on LAN (Intranet). In view of this BAC, the HQ ENC ship tag has been upgraded to biometric embedded Identification cards which can be used to open the boom barriers, main gate and pedestrian gate.

### **CLOSE-CIRCUIT TELEVISION SYSTEM**

The Closed Circuit Television (CCTV) system in the Command has been upgraded to embed 43 CCTV cameras system at strategic points within the Command HQ. The CCTV camera systems provide seamless video to video recorders. The main rotary camera installed on the mast has 4nm (range) coverage. This long range camera gives camera view of the nearby sections of the Calabar River Channel for monitoring of the vessels transiting this critical water channel that is very close to the NNS VICTORY Base, HQ ENC, private oil tank farms and NNPC Jetty. Furthermore, on the HQ ENC converged technology platform domicile in the server, these embedded cameras are viewed remotely by PSOs from their various authenticated office computers.

### **FIRE ALARM SYSTEM**

In an effort to ensure standard safety mechanism for the personnel and materiel, industrial grade 4-Zone and 2-Zone fire alarm systems were installed in the HQ ENC. The 4-zone fire alarm was installed in the Control Room while the 2-zone was installed at the Secretariat. The aim of installing the system is to ensure prompt alertness and rapid response in case of fire incidence. The automatic sensors in the fire alarm





## **INSTALLATION AND TRAINING**

The development and deployment of these outstanding technologies were completed between November 2018 and November 2019. The installation of servers was also done within the same time frame. After the system development was completed, the servers were installed and then, the setup process and data migration began. The testing phase of the systems provided opportunities for debugging and corrections in order to achieve highly effective and responsive systems. There were several trainings and presentations to acquaint the personnel with the functionalities of the systems. The system users were trained at a scheduled times favorable to the users of the system after it was deployed. The systems are currently manned by trained NN personnel with support from the Command's ICT Department.

## **SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE**

The system is both serviced and maintained by the Command's ICT Department in conjunction with the technical support from the vendors for the development and installation on a bi-annual basis. The service and maintenance of the deployed systems are to ensure sustainability of these cutting edge technologies. This article will not be complete without evaluating some critical challenges faced in a bid to achieve this "Smart Command" concept.

## **CHALLENGES**

Despite several advantages of implementing these smart technologies, there are some challenges militating against the effective functionality of these systems:

- a. Power Supply.** These deployed technologies (FMS, VoIP phones, CCTV, BAC and Fire Alarm system) are actually designed to work non-stop for the day-to-day operations of the Command. These systems demand constant power supply to enable them function effectively. Notwithstanding the fact that the Command provided power inverter and batteries systems as backup power supply, there is the challenge of power surge from either public electricity supply or Command generator, which in some cases damage some hardware components deployed. Gleaning from the above, the

systems are smart and sophisticated, activated by smoke or fire. The fire/smoke detectors installed utilize ionization and photoelectric systems to sense smoke or fire. The fire detection and alarm system primarily detect the smouldering fire at the early stages and raises alarm immediately. A critical component is that the initiating devices of the fire detection and alarm system are installed at strategic offices such as the RMAC, NNWANI server room, multimedia control room, Secretariat and FOC Block.

## **MARITIME CRIME MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**

The Command recently designed and launched Maritime Crime Management System (MCMS). The system was developed for capturing bio data and exchanging/sharing information on arrested suspects. Furthermore, MCMS helps in underlining the records of Operations Bases on suspects that were previously arrested. Before the deployment of the MCMS to the Bases/Units under ENC, personnel of the various Bases/Units were trained on the usage of the software, especially the Regulating Officers, during the FOC's meeting with Ops Commanders of Bases, Commandants of schools, Commanding Officers of Ships and PSOs in Port Harcourt. The training was successful with practical demonstrations done by the trainees.





Command needs to put in place industrial multi-power automatic voltage regulators to process the incoming public power supply or the generator power output in order to deliver clean processed voltages to these power-sensitive cutting edge technologies.

**b. Lightning Strikes.** The ENC AOR is in the equatorial rainforest belt and majorly along the coastline which is prone to thunder storms and lightning strikes. Generally, the prevalence of lightning strikes in the Command has put ICT infrastructure within the Command AOR in great danger. Overtime, damages to equipment experienced in the Command were traced to intense thunder strikes prevalent in the area. Specifically, the Command Headquarters is located on a hill along the coastline which makes it susceptible to lightning strikes especially when it rains. The Command has installed electric power line surge suppressors along with industrial thunder/lightening arrestors as well as reactivated the existing poorly installed and degraded earthen facilities. The need to regularly test and recharge earthen pits is an imperative to ensure that these systems function efficiently.

**c. Training.** Considering the infrastructure used in the installation of these systems, the NN personnel currently trained to man these systems are not enough. The Command could train more personnel to maintain and man these systems especially considering the appointment and drafting cycles of officers and ratings. Recently, the FOC employed a civilian IT-based staff who currently oversees the uploading of files into the FMS. This would reduce the high cost of maintaining the system by the vendors who installed these systems.

**d. Cloud Computing.** To ensure that these systems are deployed online and is being used from different platforms without physical location limitations. It is important that the FMS be installed on a cloud system which is secured. Presently, there is no dedicated military cloud in the country,

however, the Microsoft Azure which is one of the most secured and widely used cloud computing platform in the world could be used or adopted.

## **CONCLUSION**

Efforts have been put in place to automate processes in order to enhance operational effectiveness of the Command. Most of these efforts are profound in the deployment of cutting edge technologies such as File Management System (FMS), Voice-over Internet Protocol telephone system, Biometric Access Control, Closed Circuit Television, Fire Alarm system and Maritime Crime Management System. These technologies make the ENC a Smart Command, positioning the personnel of the Command to “work smart”, safe and more productive in job performance. These systems are designed to automate daily and routine activities in the Command. The security of these systems are also paramount to the Command, hence, the FMS, CCTV, BAC and MCMS run on a Local Private Server domicile in the HQ ENC and accessed by various offices via a Local Area Network with Enterprise firewall protection systems.

The deployment and use of these cutting edge technologies are faced with some challenges ranging from power supply, lightning strikes, training and cloud computing. The systems demand constant power supply to enable them function effectively and sustainably. This puts high cost of maintenance on the Command to provide power for these systems. Considering the infrastructure and equipment used in the installation of these systems, the Command could train more of her personnel to maintain and man these systems. This would save the high cost of maintaining the systems by the vendors who installed them. To ensure the FMS is accessible online and in used across different platforms, it is important the FMS be installed on cloud system which is cheap and more secure than running on the servers.



# CIVIL-MILITARY RELATIONS: KEY TO IMPROVED NAVAL OPERATIONS IN THE ENC MARITIME DOMAIN

By Commander ED Yeibo



*The FOC presenting a souvenir to the Deputy Governor of Cross River State, Prof Ivara Esu*

The Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Naval Command Rear Admiral David Adeniran, has reiterated the need for effective Civil-Military relations as key to improving Naval Operations in the Eastern Naval Command Area of Responsibility. He made this remarks during the Eastern Naval Command Law Seminar held at the Vice Admiral Usman Oyibe Jubrin Hall Calabar. The theme of the Seminar was 'Improving Justice Administration in the Eastern Naval Command Area of Responsibility: A Panacea for Strengthening Civil-Military Relations'. Admiral Adeniran explained that the Seminar's theme was borne out of the need for the Nigerian Navy to address pertinent challenges bedeviling its success of maritime operations.

He added that it was necessary for all partners and agencies responsible for the administration of criminal justice to meet with stakeholders in Nigeria's maritime environment to understand and address the issues at stake. He also said that the seminar was aimed at harmonizing the task of maritime stakeholders towards achieving common goal, which was to rid the maritime domain of illegalities. Topics presented during the seminar were; Criminal Justice Administration in Nigeria: Maritime Environment in Perspective, Arrest, Detention

and Prosecution of Vessels/Suspects for Maritime Crime: Challenges and Way Forward and Environmental Degradation in the Maritime Environment: An Appraisal of the Activities of Illegal Refineries.

The Flag Officer Commanding emphasized that one of the pillars upon which successful maritime operations rest is a strong civil-military relations. He stated further that a weakened civil-military relations jeopardizes military operations and therefore advised that concerted efforts should always be made to establish mutual civil-military relations. Furthermore, he said that a strong civil-military relations could be said to be directly proportional to a successful Naval Operation. Relatively, Admiral Adeniran said that understanding and addressing the issues associated with administration of criminal justice in the maritime environment is key to improving civil-military relations in Eastern Naval Command Area of Responsibility.

Holistically, The Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Naval Command expressed expectation from the judiciary 'as the last hope of the common man and bedrock of criminal justice administration in Nigeria is to hold out its ideals to aid the Nigerian Navy's operations in the maritime environment. The Deputy Governor of Cross River State, Professor Ivara Esu OFR, who was the Special Guest of Honour during the event applauded the Nigerian Navy for the timeliness of the Law Seminar. He said the seminar was germane, considering that the rule of law was paramount in a democracy. He further added that the seminar was intended to seek avenues for fostering civil-military relations as an aid in combating criminalities in the maritime environment, and therefore concluded that it was a step in the right direction.



## PICTORIALS OF ENC LAW SEMINAR 2019



The FOC welcoming the Special Guest of Honour Prof Ivvara Esu



The Deputy Governor of Cross River State Prof Ivvara Esu taking salute on arrival to HQ ENC



Dignitaries at the event



Dignitaries at the event



Dignitaries and participants during the Seminar



A photograph marking the ENC Law Seminar



# CNS COMMISSIONS NNS PATHFINDER MEDICAL CENTRE

The Chief of the Naval, Vice Admiral Ibok-Ete Ekwe Ibas has said that the declining occurrences of sea pirates was as a result of the adoption of the Maritime Domain Awareness Infrastructure Strategy and the Falcon Eye surveillance facility launched few years ago. He added that the Choke Point regime was a strategy developed to reduce criminalities in the maritime environment. He made this remarks during the official commissioning of the Nigerian Navy Ship PATHFINDER Medical Centre.

Admiral Ibas further reiterated that the Nigerian Navy has been able to successfully reduce the incidences of sea piracy and robbery as well as the menace of maritime criminalities. Similarly, he said the Nigerian Navy's robust infrastructure gives the Service an eye over the seas. He further said hitherto, these criminal elements carry out these actions and the Nigerian Navy had limited surveillance apparatus then. However, now we

see them and we are able to respond appropriately. He emphasized that this affirms that the necessary enablement the Nigerian Navy has been able to carry out legitimate functions. Admiral Ibas further attributed the successes to the newly acquired warships and assault gunboats for the Nigerian Navy Fleet.

Overall, the Chief of the Naval Staff said that the improved security at sea had resulted in steady rise in production of oil as well as improvement of the economy of the Nation. He stated that his visit to NNS PATHFINDER was part of the routine function to appraise the operational readiness of the Nigerian Navy. He concluded that he is happy with the performance so far. "It is on that note that I commissioned a medical centre in addition to other welfare facilities to further encourage the officers and ratings and their respective families" he added.



The CNS being received at the Medical Centre



The CNS Vice Admiral IE Ibas at the Medical Centre



The Medical Centre at a glance



The Commissioning marble





# A WAKE UP CALL



The Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Naval Command, Rear Admiral David Adegbola Adeniran on behalf of the Chief of the Naval Staff Vice Admiral Ibok-Ete Ekwe Ibas, beckons on the good people of Eastern Naval Command Area of Responsibility to continue to be patriotic Nigerians.

**A patriotic Nigerian would protect oil infrastructure always.**

- Crude oil deposit in Nigeria is a blessing. Do not sabotage oil facilities as doing so could lead to economic depreciation and environmental degradation.
- Environmental degradation could affect fishing, other marine lives and commercial activities in general.
- Any act of vandalism perpetrated within your community could adversely affect the wellbeing of the entire community. It could cause cancer and other chronic diseases.
- Pipeline vandalism causes explosions and fire outbreaks which could lead to loss of lives and properties.
- Illegal refining of crude oil causes loss of revenue to the nation.

**Shun crude oil theft and other forms of criminalities in Nigeria's Maritime Environment.**

**We enjoin you to be vigilant in your respective communities and report any suspicious attempt by vandals and crude oil thieves to the Nigerian Navy or other security agencies.**

**You can reach the Eastern Naval Command through this number: 07011098760.**



Courtesy:  
Eastern Naval Command

# ENHANCING NIGERIAN NAVY CIVIL-MILITARY COOPERATION THROUGH MEDICAL RHAPSODY: EFFORTS OF EASTERN NAVAL COMMAND

Commodore MI Adetola

## INTRODUCTION

The nature and complexity of contemporary security challenges necessitates the conduct of military operations in the vicinity of the civil populace. The success of such military operations is strongly dependent on the support of the people living within the operational environment. Accordingly, military commanders make frantic efforts to win the hearts and minds of the people in order to gain their support through the inclusion of various Civil Military Cooperation (CIMIC) activities as part of military operations. These could be through CIMIC activities assistance/support to the civil populace in form of infrastructural development such as repair of roads and bridges. Other forms of assistance/support include capacity building such as educational support and medical assistance carried out in form of medical outreach.

Medical outreach commonly referred to as medical rhapsody in the service is one of the CIMIC activities carried out by the NN to complement its operations. The regular conduct of medical rhapsodies enhances the relationship between the NN and its host communities which in turn facilitates intelligence gathering and civil cooperation for improved Security Operations.

The purpose of this article is to highlight the importance of medical rhapsody to NN operations. It would cover overview of medical rhapsody for enhanced NN operations, medical rhapsodies conducted by ENC as well as the achievements of the conduct of medical rhapsodies by ENC.

## OVERVIEW OF MEDICAL RHAPSODY FOR ENHANCED NIGERIAN NAVY OPERATIONS

The NN was established and charged with the territorial defence of the nation from seaward threats as well as the security of the nation's maritime domain which is of utmost strategic and economic importance. In performing these responsibilities, the NN is organized into 3 operational commands; namely, Western Naval Command (WNC), Eastern Naval Command (ENC) and Central Naval Command (CNC). The commands conduct various operations within their respective Area of Responsibilities (AOR) to achieve the overall goal of establishing the NN. Some of such operations include anti-crude oil



*Responding to a patient at the medical centre*

theft, anti-illegal bunkering, anti-sea robbery and anti-piracy operations. Others are operations conducted to combat smuggling, drug and human trafficking as well as kidnapping amongst other maritime threats. The aforementioned operations are conducted in the vicinity and in close interaction with the civil populace who live and conduct economic activities for their wellbeing and survival within the AORs of the commands.

The ENC conducts its operations in its AOR which covers Rivers, Akwa Ibom and Cross River States



and their respective maritime areas. The population of persons living within ENC AOR totaled about 12 million, most of whom are fishermen, farmers and petty traders. By virtue of their income, these persons, especially those living in rural areas do not have access to and cannot afford good health care services. It is in this light that units under ENC conduct regular medical rhapsodies to bridge identified gaps in health care delivery in their host communities. This is with a view to winning the hearts and minds of the people in order to strengthen the relationship that exists between the units and the host communities so as to continue to enjoy their support for NN operations.

The conduct of medical rhapsodies is usually done in an open place in the community such as a football field or a civic centre and this is to ensure ample space for the participants. Rhapsodies are conducted periodically either to mark one NN event or another such as NN Week. Some of the services rendered during rhapsodies include free health talks, medical consultations, eye check, dental services and medical laboratory tests. Others are deworming, sharing of mosquito nets, free drugs and sometimes, identified critical cases are referred to NN hospitals for management. Feedbacks from the communities indicate high

level of satisfaction from beneficiaries and this enhances cooperation from the communities during NN operations. Thus, there is need for the Command to sustain this gesture in order to continue to win the support and cooperation of various communities in its AOR.

### **MEDICAL RHAPSODY CONDUCTED BY EASTERN NAVAL COMMAND FROM 2016 TO 2019**

In the last 3 years, many medical rhapsodies were conducted by units under ENC at communities within ENC AOR. The major objectives of the medical rhapsodies conducted were to provide appropriate counseling and health education, basic diagnostics and treatments of some ailments and referrals to NN hospitals and medical centres. Furthermore, services in areas of public health, family and general medicine, pediatrics, optometry and dentistry amongst others were provided during the medical rhapsodies conducted.

The medical rhapsodies conducted are as follows:

- a. Medical Rhapsody conducted by HQ ENC at Odukpani community on 23 Jul 16.
- b. Medical Rhapsody conducted by NNS PATHFINDER at Rumuolemeni Community on 25 Sep 16.



*Medical experts at a glance*



- c. Medical Rhapsody conducted by NNS JUBILEE at Ikot Abasi on 2 Nov 19.
- d. Medical Rhapsody conducted by HQ ENC at Bonny Islands to commemorate NN SixtyThird Anniversary on 28 May 19.
- e. Medical Rhapsody conducted by FOB IBAKA at Ibaka park on 25 Oct 19.
- f. Medical Rhapsody conducted by NNS JUBILEE at Ikot Abasi on 2 Nov 19.

### **ACHIEVEMENTS**

The Command has made several achievements in the conduct of medical rhapsodies. Some of the achievements include enhanced health status of the populace and improved synergy/cooperation with communities.

**Enhanced Health Status of the Populace.** The NN receives feedbacks from communities where medical rhapsodies were held previously. The reports indicate improvement in the health status of the populace who benefited from the free medical treatment given by the NN. This gesture has in no small measure added to the enhancement of the health status of the Nigerian population especially those who hitherto could not afford healthcare services. Therefore, it is imperative for ENC to sustain the conduct of medical rhapsodies in its AOR so that more people could benefit from it, thereby enhancing the civil-military relations between the NN and the host communities.

**Improved Synergy/Cooperation with Communities.** With medical rhapsodies, the populace get familiar with the NN and this has gone a long way in improving the relationship between ENC and communities in its AOR. This acceptance of the NN by the communities results in cooperation with the Service during operations. In some cases, communities volunteer information that could be useful in the operations conducted in their areas and this contributes to the success of NN operations. In view of this, there is need for more medical rhapsodies to be conducted by ENC as this would improve synergy with communities in ENC's AOR.

### **CONCLUSION**

The success of military operations is strongly

dependent on the support of the people living within the operational environment. Accordingly, military commanders make frantic efforts to win the hearts and minds of the people so as to gain their support through the inclusion of various Civil Military Cooperation (CIMIC) activities as part of military operations. It is in this light that the NN units under ENC conduct regular medical rhapsodies to bridge gaps in health care delivery in their host communities. This is with a view to winning the hearts and minds of the people in order to strengthen the relationship that exists between the units and the host communities so as to continue to enjoy their support for NN operations.

Through the conduct of Medical Rhapsodies, the NN units in ENC have really enhanced the medical wellbeing of the civilian populace in its AOR. This in turn has helped the NN to retain the support of the people which has contributed immensely to the success of operations.



*Deworming exercise during a medical outreach*



*Medical consumables and other items donated by NN during the medical outreach*





# FOCUS ON THE EASTERN NAVAL COMMAND OPERATIONS DEPARTMENT

By Commodore ZM Ayabina

## **INTRODUCTION**

The Operations Department is responsible to the Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Naval Command Rear Admiral David Adeniran for the efficient conduct of operational activities in the Command. The Department coordinates and monitor onshore and offshore crude oil, petroleum oil and lubricant loading and discharge operations, patrol of the Command Area of Responsibility, anti-Crude Oil Theft/illegal oil bunkering and refining operations. Similarly, anti smuggling, anti poaching of fishery resources and surveillance of Eastern Naval Command maritime space as well as conduct of exercises and operations are under the purview of the Department. Likewise, the Department coordinates the activities of Private Maritime Logistics Support Companies (PMLSC) collaborating with the Nigerian Navy for enhanced security of critical offshore oil and gas infrastructure.

Additionally, the operational activities of the Command are sustained through the Eastern Naval Command Fleet comprising several class of ships including Offshore Patrol Vessels and Inshore Patrol Vessels. Also, 3 Type-A operations bases, 2 Forward Operating Bases and One Naval Outpost equipped with several classes of boats including Manta and OCEA boats complements the patrol activities of the Eastern Fleet. Also, the Command has a Naval Flying Unit as well as Maritime Domain Awareness infrastructure (RMAC and FALCON EYE) which provide real time intelligence of Eastern Naval Command maritime space. In line with the CNS Strategic Directives - 2, the synergy between the Command interdiction capabilities and the Maritime Domain Awareness infrastructure has culminated in the modest operational achievements of the Eastern Naval Command:

## **IMPROVED PATROL EFFORT**

The Eastern Naval Command in her quest to ensure safety and security within the maritime environment had 6 ships alternating to sea daily. From 1 January to 30 November 2019 the ships patrolled for about 5,929 hours which was 74.86 per cent of the expected 7,920 hours. To complement the patrol effort in the Command's backwaters, operation bases deployed several boats for patrol duties in their various Areas of Operation within the Command's AOR. The boats patrolled for about 60,266 hours which was 126.74 per cent of the expected 47,520 hours. Cumulatively, the patrol hours of ships and boats amounted to 66,155 hours. It is worthy to state that, the Command's patrol efforts resulted in the arrest of 326 suspects, 8 vessels, 4 trucks and 8 vehicles. Others were



the recovery of 204 pumping machines and destruction of 147 large wooden boats.

## **ANTI-ILLEGAL BUNKERING/REFINERY OPERATIONS**

The Command has not relented in its efforts to curb illegal oil bunkering/refinery operation within its Area of Responsibility. From 1 January to 30 November 2019, the Command anti-illegal bunkering/refinery operation led to the location and destruction of 175 illegal refineries with about 20,014.91 Metric Tons of



illegally refined Automotive Gas Oil. The estimated value of the seized illegally refined Automotive Gas Oil is about ₦4,002,982,000.00 (Four Billion, Two Million, Nine Hundred and Eighty Two Thousand Naira). This value is based on prevailing pump price of Automated Gas Oil at ₦200 per litre. The destruction of illegal refining sites was achieved with the employment of swamp buggies.

### **ANTI-PIPELINE VANDALISM/CRUDE OIL THEFT**

The Command anti-crude oil theft and pipeline vandalism operation is still ongoing. For the period under review, the estimated quantity of stolen crude oil seized was about 27,863.8 Metric Tons. The Command's effort is frustrating the activities of oil thieves and denying them financial returns from their criminal activities. Additionally, Anti-Crude Oil Theft and anti-illegal oil bunkering sensitization campaigns were done in oil producing communities and selected areas as a means of enlightening the public on the dangers associated with supporting or patronizing persons involved in Crude Oil Theft and illegal bunkering activities

### **ANTI-SMUGGLING ACTIVITIES**

The anti-smuggling activities/effort of the Command from January –30 November 2019

led to the seizure of 16946 x 50kg smuggled bags of parboil foreign rice. The estimated value of the seized parboil foreign rice is about ₦ 503,380,000.00 (Five Hundred and Three Million, Three Hundred and Eighty Thousand Naira). This value is based on prevailing market price of foreign rice at ₦30,000.00 per bag. The anti-smuggling efforts of the Command are contributing to the Federal Government initiative of boosting local rice production which is aimed at ensuring food security in the Country.

### **ANTI-PIRACY/SEA ROBBERY**

The activities of criminals and militant groups within the Command's Area of Responsibility have been drastically reduced. They now lack freedom of action to perpetrate their criminal activities. The Command achieved this feat through regular patrol activities within her Area of Responsibility to curtail sea robbery and sabotage to oil installations by unscrupulous elements. Nonetheless, between January–30 November 2019, a total of 10 vessels were attacked. It is worthy to state that out of the 10 incidences, 5 were successful while 5 were unsuccessful (voided by own patrol teams).

### **JOINT OPERATIONS**

The Command has sustained its collaboration with sister Services. The units under the Command in collaboration with sister Services are participating in the ongoing Operation DELTA SAFE, as well as different states Internal Security operations. The Internal Security operations include Operation SKOLOMBO, Operation THUNDER and Operation STING/SPARK in Cross River, Akwa Ibom and Rivers States respectively. The impact of the operations has stemmed the tide of oil theft, pipeline vandalism, illegal oil bunkering, and smuggling and by extension enhanced security within the states in Eastern Naval Command Area of Responsibility.



## **OPERATIONS AND EXERCISES**

The Command is actively engaged in the ongoing Operations BEKAN MMON, and SWIFT RESPONSE. Similarly, in the last one year the Command initiated and conducted Exercise ANIOFORIOFORI 2018 and Exercise YANGHA MI 2019 as well as participated in Ex OBANGAME EXPRESS 2019, Exercise JUNCTION RAIN and Exercise GRAND AFRICANNEMO 2019.

a. **OPERATION BEKAN MMON.** The Command activated Operation BEKAN MMON (Operation CALM WATERS) on 27 May 2019 and is still ongoing. The Operation is aimed at fighting criminal activities of pirates/robbers, militant groups, arms smugglers, poachers, oil thieves/pipeline vandals amongst others. This is to secure critical maritime infrastructure, while ensuring safe and secure maritime environment for optimum production of crude oil and gas, safety of shipping, fishing and other economic activities in Nigeria's maritime domain. The Command recorded huge achievements made in the course of the operation.

b. **OPERATION SWIFT RESPONSE.** Operation SWIFT RESPONSE is a multi-agency operations activated in the Command on 22 August 2019. The operation was aimed at collaborating with other security agencies in order to combat maritime crimes particularly irregular migrants, smuggling of contrabands, illicit drugs and human trafficking within Eastern Naval Command Area of Responsibility. The Nigeria Customs Service is the lead agency for the operations and Eastern Naval Command is zoned under Sector 1 with its headquarters at Nigeria Customs Service Rivers Zone C. ships/units under command participating in Operation SWIFT RESPONSE include 2 Offshore Patrol Vessels, 6 bases and 5 inshore patrol boats

amongst others.

c. **EXERCISE ANI-OFORIOFORI 2018.** The Command initiated and conducted Exercise ANI-OFORIOFORI 2018 which means 'Chase Thief' in Kalabari dialect from 5–9 November 2018. The main objective of the Exercise was to assess the operational readiness of ships of the Eastern Fleet and gunboats in operations bases as well as test the practical skills of personnel in tackling maritime threats within the Command's Area of Responsibility. During the Exercise vessels engaged in various exercises at designated Exercise Areas entailed Search and Rescue, Communication Exercise, Visit Board Search and Seizure (VBSS), Fleet manoeuvres and Gunnery Exercise as well as test the practical skills of personnel in tackling maritime threats. The exercise had in attendance representatives of Naval Headquarters, Naval Doctrine and Assessment Centre, Sister Services and other security agencies. The exercise was deactivated on the 9 November 2018.

d. **EXYANGHA MI 2019.** The Command initiated and conducted Exercise YANGHA MI 2019 which means 'Rescue Me, in Efik from 3 - 6 September 2019. The main objective of the Exercise was to consolidate on the gains of Operation CALM WATERS and Operation SWIFT



RESPONSE as well as assess the operational readiness of ships of the Eastern Fleet. During the Exercise, vessels engaged in various exercises at designated Exercise Areas and the Exercise entailed Search and Rescue, Communication Exercise, Visit Board Search and Seizure, Fleet manoeuvres and Gunnery as well as test the practical skills of personnel in tackling maritime threats. The Exercise had in attendance representatives/observers from Naval Headquarters, Naval Doctrine and Assessment Centre, Sisters Services and Ministries Departments and Agencies. The Exercise was deactivated on 6 September 2019.

e. **EXERCISE OBANGAME EXPRESS 2019.**

Exercise OBANGAME EXPRESS was a 7 day exercise activated on March 2019. The Exercise presented African, European, South American and United States Maritime Forces the opportunity to work together, share information, refine tactics, techniques and procedures. The exercise was aimed at assisting Gulf of Guinea, maritime nations in capacity building, monitoring and enforcing regulations governing territorial waters and exclusive economic zones. Nigerian Navy ships that participated in the Exercise were Nigerian Navy Ships; THUNDER, CENTENARY, UNITY and SAGBAMA as well as ZARIA, EKULU and NGURU. Essentially, the vessels were engaged in various exercises and INDEX at designated Exercise Area. Some of the exercises conducted include; anti-piracy, anti-illegal bunkering and fleet manoeuvres, amongst others. The Exercise was deactivated on 22 March 2019.

f. **EXERCISE JUNCTION RAIN 2019.**

Western Naval Command conducted Exercise JUNCTION RAIN 2019 from 11-18

Apr 19. It is pertinent to state that 4 Eastern Naval Command vessels participated in the Exercise. The vessels include Nigerian Navy ships ; THUNDER, CENTENARY, UNITY and EKULU. Accordingly, the vessels were engaged in various exercises at designated Exercise Area. Some of the exercises conducted include; anti-piracy, anti-illegal bunkering, fleet manoeuvres, Search and Rescue, man overboard drill, firefighting drill and Gunnery Exercise amongst others. The Exercise was deactivated on 18 April 2019.

g. **EXERCISE GRAND AFRICAN NEMO 2019.**

Exercise GRAND AFRICAN NEMO 2019 was a multinational Exercise sponsored by France for the navies of countries bordering the Gulf of Guinea from 28 October – 5 November 2019. The main objective of the Exercise was to support African partners to ensure operational autonomy at sea for maritime safety and security missions and operationalization of land based maritime security structure in the Gulf of Guinea. Exercise GRAND AFRICAN NEMO 2019 was conducted in Central Naval Command AOR and the participating countries include United States of America, Spain, and France as well as Nigeria, Togo and Benin Republic. Eastern Naval Command ships that participated in the Exercise were Nigerian Navy ships THUNDER and CENTENARY. Some of the exercises conducted include; anti-piracy, Search and Rescue, anti-narcotics trafficking and anti illegal and un-reported and unregulated fishing amongst others.

**RESCUE OF NIGERIAN MIGRANTS FROM CAMEROON**

On Monday 28 October 2019, a wooden boat conveying 238 migrants of different nationals was intercepted by Cameroonian Naval Ship BENOUE. Accordingly, the Defence Attache' to Cameroon informed Nigerian Navy ship



VICTORY of Cameroonian Naval Ship BENOUE's arrest of irregular migrants and arrangement to handover the migrants to Nigerian Navy. At about 0800 on Wednesday 30 October 2019, Nigerian Navy



Ship VICTORY gunboats rendezvous Cameroonian Naval Ship BENOUE at Lat 04° 26' 883N Long 008° 22' 753 E for the handover. A total of 61 Nigerian irregular migrants were rescued and conveyed to Shoreline Logistics Limited Jetty Calabar. The migrants were received at the Shoreline Jetty by Nigerian Navy Ship VICTORY Intelligence operatives, representatives of Nigeria Immigration Service, National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons, National Drug and Law Enforcement Agency, Nigeria Customs Service and Department of State Services. After preliminary documentation at the Jetty, the irregular migrants were then transferred to the Cross River State Command of the Nigeria Immigration Service for further necessary action.

### **CONSTRUCTION AND RECHARGING OF EARTHLING SYSTEM IN ENC REGIONAL AND MARITIME AWARENESS CAPABILITY CENTRE**

The prevalence of thunder storm and lightening in the equatorial rainforest belt has put MDA infrastructure within the Command AOR in great danger. Overtime, damages experienced at the Centres were traced to failing lightening arrestors and degraded

earthling facilities at RMAC Centres and Sensor Sites. Consequently, the Command constructed and recharged 3 earthling pits for ENCRMAC Centre and Mast. This initiative was aimed at eliminating the dangers posed by the effect of lightning strike to valuable RMAC equipment. This has enhanced the operational efficiency of the Centre and sustained unbroken surveillance of the ENC maritime space in support of Nigerian Navy operations.

### **CONCLUSION**

The Operations Department of the Headquarters Eastern Naval Command is pivotal to the conduct of operational activities in the Command. The Department continues to coordinate and sustain various operational activities of the Command that culminated in some modest achievements which include improved patrol efforts, reduction in illegal bunkering and refining, crude oil theft and smuggling activities. The Command is actively participating in the ongoing Operation BEKAN MMON and Operation SWIFT RESPONSE as well as initiated and conducted Exercise ANI-OFORIOFORI and Exercise YANGA MI. Similarly, the Command participated in Exercise OBANGAME EXPRESS 2019, Exercise JUNCTION RAIN and Exercise GRAND AFRICA NEMO 2019. In addition, the Command rescued Nigerian migrants from Cameroun. The Command also, constructed and recharged the earthling system of Eastern Naval Command RMAC. The Operations Department's efficient conduct of operational activities in the Command has continued to ensure the security of the maritime environment for economic activities to thrive in pursuit of the overall economic prosperity of Nigeria.





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# EASTERN NAVAL COMMAND INTRA COMMAND SPORTS CHAMPIONSHIP TORCH MOVES TO UNITS UNDER COMMAND

The Eastern Naval Command Intra Command Sports Championship Torch was ignited by the Command Sports Officer, Commander Sunday Ozah who in turn presented it to the Command Administration Officer, Commodore Godfrey Kwetishe. The Command Administration Officer, then presented the Eastern Naval Command Sports torch to the Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Naval Command, Rear Admiral David Adeniran. In his address during the ceremony, the Flag Officer Commanding stated that the ignition and movement of the Sports Torch signifies a number of things including, unity, purity, synergy, smartness and a strive for perfection among personnel of the Eastern Naval Command.

Subsequently, the Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Naval Command deployed the Eastern Naval Command sports championship torch to units under Command, which signifies various teams. These teams are; Calabar, Uyo, Fleet and Port-Harcourt. The sports torch left the headquarters Eastern Naval Command to NNS

VICTORY. The Command Administration Officer, Commodore Godfrey Kwetishe handed the sports torch to Commander NNS VICTORY, Rear Admiral Vincent Okeke who detailed a representative to handover the torch to Captain Peter Yilme; Commanding Officer Forward Operating Base IBAKA.

The torch eventually moved to NNS JUBILEE and thereafter Eastern FLEET at Onne and finally to NNS PARTHFINDER, where Commodore Samson Bura received the Sports torch and handed over to the Flag Officer Commanding who in turn handed it over to the Special Guest of Honour to herald the 2019 Eastern Naval Command Sports Championship open.



Cdre GE Kwetishe presenting the games torch to R Adm VC Okeke



The FOC R Adm DA Adeniran receives the ENC games torch



Capt (NN) PG Yilme receiving the games torch



Cdre AO Ayo - Vaughan in the mood to receive the games torch



Capt (NN) TA Bamidele receiving the games torch



Capt (NN) TA Bamidele presenting the ENC games torch to Capt (NN) AT Ebo



Capt (NN) AT Ebo presenting the ENC games torch to Cdre SJ Bura



# HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE OF EASTERN NAVAL COMMAND CALABAR



**A**t the end of the Nigerian Civil War in 1970, the Naval Base at Apapa Lagos became congested with men and ships necessitating the need for the NN to expand. Consequently, Naval Headquarters put a request to the Coastal States of Rivers and Cross River on 7 January 1971 for the establishment of naval bases in Port-Harcourt and Calabar respectively. The Eastern Naval Command (ENC) Headquarters (HQ) was thereafter established and occupied an office building at former NNS ANANSA now NNS VICTORY in Calabar. The pioneer Naval Officer Commanding was Commander DE Okujagu and was appointed on 25 January 1971. Due to the expansion of the HQ ENC was relocated to the present location at Essien Town on 4 May 1987.

The ENC Area of Responsibility (AOR) stretches from Longitude 006 degrees 30 minutes East (006° 30' E) to the median line of the Akpa Yafe River at Longitude 008 degrees 30 minutes 44 seconds East (008° 30' 44" E). The Command has a coastline of about 110 nautical miles and a sea area of about 22,000 square nautical miles using an Exclusive Economic Zone of 200 nautical miles. The Command land area extends from Rivers, Akwa-Ibom, Abia, Enugu, Ebonyi, Benue, Taraba, Adamawa, Bauchi, Gombe, Yobe and Borno States. The Command's sea area is host to several vital strategic national economic assets which

include 12 crude oil terminals, over 500 oil fields, 6 liquefied natural gas plants, 2 refineries, 3 major sea ports, numerous flow stations, a rich fishery field and various industrial complexes lying across 9 major rivers serviced by over 5,000 creeks and estuaries.

The ENC AOR hosts various economic activities ranging from fishing, oil to shipping activities. These activities are being challenged by sea robbery/piracy, crude oil theft/illegal oil refining and illicit smuggling of goods and persons amongst others. To effectively monitor and confront these challenges, the Command has 3 type A operation bases, forward operating bases, naval outpost, several units and a fleet consisting of 14 capital ships of various classes and 72 inshore patrol boats for effective patrol and safety of the maritime environment for economic activities to thrive.



*Visit of PSOs from the NHQ to HQ ENC*





# THE EASTERN NAVAL COMMAND 2019 END OF YEAR ACTIVITIES AT A GLANCE

By Commodore GE KWETISHE

## **INTRODUCTION**

The Eastern Naval Command Area of Responsibility (AOR) is comprised of a vast stretches of water bodies and land mass. The Command has a coastline of about 110 nautical miles and a sea area of about 22,000 square nautical miles based on the Exclusive Economic Zone of 200 nautical miles. The Command's sea area is home to several vital strategic national economic assets which include 12 crude oil terminals, over 500 oil fields, 6 liquefied natural gas plants, 2 refineries, 3 major sea ports, several flow stations, rich fishery fields and industrial complexes. Therefore, within the Eastern Naval Command AOR there are various economic activities that take place, these activities range from fishing and oil related operations to shipping. However, these economic activities are being challenged by sea robbery/piracy, crude oil theft/illegal oil refining and illicit smuggling of goods and persons amongst others.

To effectively curtail and confront these challenges, the Command applied and deployed its strategic assets such as the maritime domain awareness platform, the FALCON EYE, capital ships of various classes and boats for effective patrol of its sea area and internal waters. Therefore, in monitoring and confronting these challenges the ENC has continue to carry out operational activities towards the attainment of Nigerian Navy statutory roles and responsibilities. In this regard, the Command has made moderate achievements which warranted the Flag Officer Commanding to initiate various activities to mark the ENC 2019 End of Year Activities. In this regard, events conducted for the ENC 2019 End of Year Activities include Intra Command Sports Championship and Range Competition, Regimental Dinner, FOC's Division /Ceremonial

Sunset and 2019 ENC Golf Tournament. Also, the corporate social responsibilities of the Command to its host communities and the spiritual wellbeing of the Command was not left out. All these were to celebrate the Command team work at achieving the mission and vision of the Chief of the Naval Staff. The Afore mentioned activities will be discussed subsequently.

## **INTRA COMMAND SPORTS CHAMPIONSHIP**

The Command hosted an Intra-Command Sports Championship from 4 – 9 Nov 19. Consequently, the Command was sub-divided into 4 teams, which are; Teams Calabar, Fleet, Uyo and PortHarcourt. These teams competed in various events which included track and field, swimming, volley ball, football, badminton,



basketball, table tennis, range competition and golf tournament. The range competition was conducted at 164 Battalion firing range Abak, while swimming as well as golf championship took place at NNC Onne and NNS PATHFINDER respectively. The track and field events were held at the UJ Esuene Stadium Calabar. It is gratifying to state that the sports championship was successful and hitch free. Team



PortHarcourt emerged as the overall champion winning 17 gold medals, 14 silvers and 12 bronze.

### **REGIMENTAL DINNER**

In keeping up with naval tradition, the ENC held a regimental dinner at NNS PATHFINDER on 26 November 2019. The importance of regimentation as one of the key factors used in reinforcing professionalism cannot be overemphasized. This was an opportunity to reunite and enforce the regimentation that usually foster comradeship among senior and junior officers both retired and serving. If there is any institution which adheres to tradition no matter how long ago established, it is the military. As such, all military ethics and values are said to be built and anchored on regimentation. Part of the tools employed in resonating attributes of regimentation such as discipline and fostering of comradeship among personnel is the Regimental Dinner. The concept of Regimental Dinner began in 16<sup>th</sup> century in England. It was at that time held to honour heroes and celebrate victory in battles. The dinner which held at NNS PATHFINDER attracted about 250 participants including invited officers from other security agencies, civilians and retired officers. The Special Guest of Honour at the occasion, Admiral OP Fingsi (Rtd) who was quick to remind the officers that in the avowed mission of defending the nation, they would need one another always, and someone to watch and lend a helping hand while sharing sacrifices. The bond he said needed to be nurtured and messing is a veritable medium to achieve this. He further stated that we have a mandate under the constitution and sacred duty before God to preserve and defend life and concluded by asserting that we have the responsibility to guarantee the freedom we have all freely subscribed to as a nation.

### **CONSTRUCTION AND REHABILITATION OF RELIGIOUS CENTERS**

The ENC made effort to improve the spiritual

wellbeing of personnel under the Command. In this regard, the Command embarked on reconstruction and rehabilitation work on the 3 identified worship centres within the Command. These are; the ENC Central Mosque, All Saints Protestant Church and Holy Trinity Catholic Church. Specifically, the Command constructed new toilet and ablution area for the mosque at Akim Barracks, commenced the expansion of the church complex for the Protestant Church and rehabilitation of the Catholic Church at Atimbo Barracks. This was to make the place of worship conducive for the personnel of the Command.

### **CORPORATE SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY**

The ENC in its effort to enhance cooperation and give back to host communities, the Command Headquarters and Units under the Command embarked on different projects and provision of basic amenities to improve the livelihood of the populace within own AOR. Notably among the projects executed are construction of Rest Centre at Calabar Golf Course, construction of water bore hole for Atimbo and Akim communities. These efforts have improved the relationship between the Command and locals to support the Command's operations at combating criminalities in her AOR.

### **CONCLUSION**

It is germane to state that the ENC commitment towards organising the Intra Command championship has enhanced mental and physical fitness. It also has yielded dividend especially the sterling contributions of the Command to the security of the region, peace and prosperity. It is not a coincidence that the Command has produced many athletes that have done well in the state and national sporting events. Hence, athletes that participated in the championship and won medals could use the games as a spring board for brighter future.



# ENC END OF YEAR ACTIVITIES AT A GLANCE

## SPORTS COMPETITIONS



The FOC awaits receiving the ENC End of Year Activities Flag



The FOC receiving the ENC End of Year Activities Flag to herald the commencement of events



Team Uyo



Team Fleet



Team Port Harcourt



Team Calabar



Tug of war event



Contending teams for Basket ball



# ENC END OF YEAR ACTIVITIES AT A GLANCE

## ■ SPORTS COMPETITIONS



*The Special Guest of Honour AVM E Osim (rtd) endorsing the football*



*Representative of the Deputy Governor of Cross River State Dr Alfred Mboto and the FOC appreciating the footballers*



*Football team sets out*



*Tug of War*



*Footballers in action*



*Tug of War*



*400 metres relay men*



*400 metres relay women*



# ENC END OF YEAR ACTIVITIES AT A GLANCE

## REGIMENTAL DINNER



*Dignitaries at a glance*



*The Special Guest of Honour R Adm OP Fingsi (rtd) and the FOC East*



*R Adm DA Adeniran making a presentation while R Adm BB Kole looks on*



*The Special Guest of Honour R Adm OP Fingsi (rtd) and the FOC East*



*Reflection of Regimental Dinner*



*R Adm VC Okeke, SGOH and the FOC East*



*The FOC East and invited Guest*



*An array of Distinguished Senior officers at the Regimental Dinner*



# ENC END OF YEAR ACTIVITIES AT A GLANCE

## ■ FOC'S DIVISION



*Personnel giving hearty cheers to the FOC East*



*The FOC East fielding questions from the press*



*Parade*



*The FOC East reviewing the parade*



*Submitting parade state to the FOC East*



*Reviewing Parade*



*Parade Commander giving salute*



*Arms Guard on parade*



# ENC END OF YEAR ACTIVITIES AT A GLANCE

## ■ CEREMONIAL SUNSET



*Awaits sunset*



*The SGOH R Adm El Okpo (rtd) and distinguished Senior Officers*



*The FOC East and the SGOH R Adm El Okpo (rtd)*



*Admirals at a glance*



*R Adm VC Okeke giving address of welcome*



*The SGOH and the FOC East*



*At the Sunset*



# SHIPPING OF STRIPES OF NEWLY PROMOTED SENIOR OFFICERS ENC



*Distinguished Newly promoted Senior officers*



*L-R: R Adms BB Kole, AO Ayobanjo and DA Adeniran*



*R Adm BB Kole giving words of advice to the newly promoted Senior Officers*



*The FOC East rounds off the words of advice*



*Distinguished senior officers, newly decorated Senior Officers and Spouses*



*Newly Decorated Senior Officers*



*The FOC East and newly decorated Senior Officers*



*The FOC East, newly decorated Senior Officers and families*





# FOC FLAGS OFF EXERCISE AS PART OF CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT FOR PERSONNEL OF ENC

By Commander ED Yeibo

The Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Naval Command Rear Admiral David Adeniran recently flag off a week long intensive maritime security exercise code named Exercise YANGHA MI 2019. The exercise name was derived from Ibibio dialect, meaning rescue me. According to the Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Naval Command the exercise was to assess the operational readiness of ships within the Eastern Naval Command and also to evaluate the practical skills of personnel in handling maritime threats and also to improve on the capacity to conduct maritime interdiction operations aimed at defeating criminal elements within the Command's Area of Responsibility. He added that the exercise was also to dislodge maritime criminals, such as crude oil thieves, sea pirates, sea robbers, kidnappers and illegal oil bunkers in Rivers, Cross Rivers, Akwa Ibom and part of Bayelsa States.

Admiral Adeniran reiterated that as the Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Naval Command, he keyed into the Strategic Directives of the Chief of the Naval Staff, Vice Admiral Ibok-ete Ekwe Ibas. The Strategic Directive was geared towards zero tolerance

against maritime crimes, such as illegal oil bunkering, pipeline vandalism, kidnapping, piracy and re-emerging militant activities and other sundry crimes that debilitate the socio-economic activities within the Niger Delta Region. He emphasized that the professional and operational efforts in



The Foc East R Adm DA Adeniran Flagging off the exercise

reducing crude oil theft, illegal oil refining, illegal bunkering, pipeline vandalism and attack on oil and gas infrastructure within the Eastern Naval Command Area of Responsibility has yielded desired successes and therefore, the essence of the exercise was to consolidate on the numerous successes recorded.

The Flag Officer Commanding noted that over 500 personnel took part in the exercise in which 14 Ships which comprised frigates and town class ships, 46 boats and aircraft were deployed.



In summary, Exercise YANGA MI provided the Flag Officer Commanding, who doubled as the Officer Commanding Exercise the opportunity to assess the operational state of readiness and combat efficiency of the Eastern Fleet in conducting maritime interdiction operations, protection of critical offshore oil and gas installations, Visit Board Search and Seizure, Fleet Manoeuvre, Gunnery and Communication Exercises. Others are Man Overboard, Abandoned Ship Drill and Man and Cheer Ship Drill.

Rear Admiral Adeniran concluded that Exercise YANGA MI was among the many sea exercises or operations, such as operation

BEKAN MMON (Calm Water) Operation SWIFT RESPONSE among others that are on going in the Eastern Naval Command Area of Responsibility. The Flag Officer Commanding added that the gains these operations have resulted in decrease of incidences of piracy and sea robbery, re-emerging militancy, kidnapping, crude oil theft, pipeline vandalism and illegal oil bunkering. He also said that the gains have led to increase in shipping activities, crude oil production and other forms of economic activities in the maritime environment.



*The FOC East and Senior Officers during Man and Cheer Ship Drill*



*The FOC East, Observers, Senior Officers and Ships Company*



*The FOC East*



*Ships Formation*



*At the bridge giving coning orders*



*The FOC East making remarks during the exercise*



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# NIGERIAN NAVY REFERENCE HOSPITAL CALABAR IN RETROSPECT

By Commander UI OKEKE



## **INTRODUCTION**

The NNRH Calabar was conceived in the mid 1970s to emplace a centre of excellence in healthcare for the NN, comparable to the best facilities in developed countries of the world. After about 4 decades, the NN successfully completed and equipped the hospital for take-off in 2018. The hospital commenced operation on 30 Jul 18 following its commissioning by the President Commander -in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria on 26 Jun 18.

Though designed as a multi-specialist centre, on commissioning, the hospital had 2 consultants and a hand full of medical officers and other health care professionals. The Dental and Radiology departments were the only departments that were fortunate to benefit from comprehensive upgrade with state-of-the-art equipment at the time of commissioning. Thus, at the time of commissioning in Jun 18, the hospital had excellent infrastructure with a few of the departments being fully equipped with ultra-modern equipment. Therefore, the hospital had

the potential to become a referral centre of excellence for healthcare in Calabar and Nigeria as a whole.

Within 16 months of its operation, the NNRH Calabar has transformed into an effective tertiary healthcare facility and the bastion of healthcare delivery in Calabar and its environs. The capacity of the hospital has been expanded with the boost in its manpower holding including specialist manpower and the establishment of new specialties and sub-specialties. There has been a massive upgrade in equipment across all departments. The hospital has made significant leaps in improvement of the quality of its services and has also made some progress with medical research.

With these achievements, the utilization of the hospital has significantly increased. For instance, there has been a progressive increase in General Out Patients' attendance to the hospital from 4915 in Aug 18 to 7241 patients in Nov 19. The purpose of this brief therefore is to highlight the notable achievements in NNRH Calabar from



Aug 18 to Nov 19. This brief therefore will cover upgrade of medical manpower, establishment of specialists departments, equipment upgrade and maintenance and renovations and remodeling of infrastructure. It will also cover facility maintenance and safety, installation of Electronic Medical Record (EMR), other improvement projects and corporate social responsibility.

### **UPGRADE OF MEDICAL MANPOWER**

At commencement of operation at the new facility of NNRH Calabar, the hospital had a total of 11 consultants comprising 4 uniform and 7 locum consultants. There were 8 General Duty Medical Officers made up of 5 uniform doctors and 3 locum doctors. For the nursing staff, only 54 nurses consisting of 35 uniform nurses and 19 locum nurses were available in the hospital. Generally, the manpower level in the hospital then was grossly inadequate to provide the level of services envisaged for the hospital. To address the situation, the hospital leveraged the following to augment its medical manpower.

**Memorandum of Understanding.** Within the period under review, the NN entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the University of Calabar Teaching Hospital. The major objective of the MoU was to leverage the abundant specialist manpower available in the Teaching Hospital to boost specialist service delivered in the NNRH. With the coming to force of the MoU, the services of 14 consultants are now available to the Hospital. This has boosted the manpower of the hospital and its capacity to delivery variety of specialist care to its clients.

**Deployment of Uniform Consultants.** In May 19, a total of 4 newly enlisted uniform consultants were deployed to the hospital. The consultants included a Paediatrician, Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeon, Ear, Nose and Throat (ENT) Surgeon and an Anesthesiologist. The arrival of these new crop of consultants led to improvement of service delivery in their areas of specialty. For instance, following their arrival, the ENT Unit, Oral and Maxillofacial Section of the Dental department, Special Care Baby Unit (SCBU), Intensive Care Unit (ICU) were all

activated thereby expanding the scope of services provided by the hospital.

**Employment of Locum Staff.** Within the period under review, the hospital has employed additional 111 locum staff comprising 14 consultants, 7 medical officers, 30 nurses and other support staff. Among the newly engaged consultants is a consultant Physician who is employed on a full time basis. It is important to note that the hospital is fully responsible for payment of the wages of all the locum staff.

### **ESTABLISHMENT OF SPECIALIST DEPARTMENTS**

Due the progressive increase in utilization of the hospital within the period under review, the demand for establishment of specialist services was created. The hospital has achieved the following to meet the demand for services.

**Establishment Of Ears, Nose and Throat (ENT) Department.** On commencement of services in the new center, a Consultant ENT Surgeon was employed in the hospital. With the help of the consultant, the hospital was able to procure necessary equipment to run the ENT clinic and to carry out surgeries in the department. The deployment of a uniform ENT surgeon further boosted service delivery in the department.

**Establishment of Special Care Baby Unit.** Due to the incidence of pre-mature births in the hospital and pre-mature babies referred from other centers, the unit conceived the idea of establishing a Special Care Baby Unit (SCBU). This was to cater for babies of this category within the hospital and those referred from other centers. To this end, the hospital embarked on partitioning and remodeling of a space for the establishment of an SCBU. Various equipment were purchased and installed in the department. These include; Incubators, infant warmers and 2 x Phototherapy lights. Additionally, Baby Cots were also purchased in the department. This has enhanced adequate care for premature babies delivered in the unit as well as those referred from other medical facilities.



### **Construction of Labour Suite With Theatre.**

Another major achievement made in the hospital is the construction of a labour theatre suite and the installation of all necessary equipment.



Additionally, an Epoxy reflective floor was constructed in the theatre to improve on infection control, while necessary facilities were installed in the theatre. These include; Mayo's Trolley, instrument Trolleys, Gown Trolley and surgeon stool. Others are: Operating light bulb refrigerator, laryngoscope and scrub lotion.

**Establishment of ICU.** Management of critically ill patients has been a challenge in the hospital due to the absence of an Intensive Care Unit (ICU). To establish a functional ICU in the hospital, various equipment were purchased and installed in the department. These include: Multi parameter Monitors, Mobile monitor, Blood warmer, Infusion pump and syringe pump. Others are ventilators and ABG gas analyzer. This has helped in the management of critically ill patients in the department.

### **EQUIPMENT UPGRADE AND MAINTENANCE**

Apart from the establishment of specialist services, the hospital has undertaken upgrade of equipment across all departments as outlined below:

**Laboratory Department.** The Laboratory department needed to be upgraded to international ISO standard. To achieve this effect, the hospital has bought the following equipment

in the department: Bosch Electrophoresis Machine, GeneXpert Machine, Micro Lab 300, Parasite Automated Malaria Detecting Machine and a spectrophotometer.

Additionally, 4 x 100KVA inverter was installed, while 10 x 120V Batteries were purchased for the department. The NHQ has also supported the hospital with the following: A Chemwell 4200 chemistry Analyzer, Elisa Machine, micropipette burners and gas cylinders. Presently, the ISO representative have visited the Laboratory for the first stage assessment. The second stage assessment is expected soonest, this will enable the final accreditation of the Laboratory department to ISO standard. Also, a training on Molecular Pathology

Service was conducted for personnel of the department. This was aimed at ensuring improved service delivery in the department.

**Dental Department.** The deployment of a uniform Maxillofacial Surgeon to the hospital necessitated the purchase of maxillofacial surgery equipment in the department. This was to enhance major maxillofacial surgeries in dental department and reduce cases of referral made in the department. These equipment include; Straight surgical handpiece, surgical drilling machine and Rows Disimpaction Forceps. Others are Bone Nibbler and Bone holding forceps.

**Pediatrics Department.** For prompt and adequate response to pediatric patients in the unit, a Pediatric department was adequately furnished with necessary equipment due to the unique features of the pediatric wards. To adequately manage the patients by the pediatrician, various equipment were purchased for the department. These include; Baby COTS, Blood BT 500 Infant Incubator, Surgifriend Infant Incubator Hematocrit 200 centrifuge, oxygen cylinders and crash cart.



**Ophthalmology Department.** For effective service delivery in the department, various equipment were supplied by NHQ. Additionally, the hospital purchased some other equipment to complement those supplied by NHQ. Some of these are; Pachymeter machine, Peckins Applanation Tonometer and Digital Iesometer.

**Ears, Nose and Throat Department.** The NHQ supplied some equipment to the ENT department, however there was need to put in place some other accessories for effective services in the department. Consequently, various equipment were as well purchased for the ENT department. This include: 2x UPS, 2x pack of silver nitrate cautery. This has enhanced patient's management in the department.

### **RENOVATIONS AND REMODELLING**

In the course of the period under review, some major repairs and reconstruction were carried out in the hospital. This has helped to accommodate more facilities and thus enhance service delivery.

**Construction, Tilling and Equipping of the Mortuary.** Construction, tilling and equipping of the mortuary was carried out to create the desired ambience and improve on the hygiene situation inside the mortuary. This has improved the aesthetics and infection control in the mortuary.

**Construction of Second Exit Doors in O & G Waiting Room.** There was need for construction of a second exit door in the O and G waiting room of the hospital. This was necessary in cases of emergencies. A second exit door was constructed to serve as escape route in cases of emergencies.

**Renovation of Consultant Accommodation.** The employment of a locum Physician in the hospital was a major requirement for specialized service delivery in the hospital. In this regard, there was need to accommodate the only locum inhouse physician that was recently employed by the hospital. Consequently, a 3 bed room flat was renovated and furnished at Ikot Ansa Navy Barracks for the physician.

**Roofing of Generator House.** The generator house was successfully roofed to give a befitting look and as well prevent frequent leakages experienced in the generator house.

### **FACILITY/EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE AND SAFETY**

Due to the consistent wear and tear on equipment and facilities, the hospital has committed considerable resources to maintain the infrastructure in standard shape, keep the equipment functional and ensure the safety of patients and staff as well as the property. Some of the initiatives undertaken by the hospital in this respect are as follows:

**Repair of Computer Tomography Machine.** Within the period under review, the Computer Tomography Machine in radiology department developed some faults. The faulty parts were purchased and successfully installed by the engineers onboard.

**Enhancement of Security.** To enhance security architecture of the hospital, 25 CCTV cameras were initially procured and installed in the hospital. However, it was observed that some areas were not adequately covered hence 39 more were installed to cover the entire areas of the hospital. Additionally, hand metal detectors, vehicle mirror detectors and observation post were purchased/constructed. These initiatives were to further strengthen the security architecture of the unit. Furthermore, the perimeter fence between the hospital and Calabar highway was completed. This has helped to check infiltrations and security breaches from that flank of the hospital.

**Fire Fighting Equipment.** To strengthened the firefighting facilities in the hospital, mobile fire points were constructed in the unit, while fire alarm panels, smoke detectors and its accessories were installed in every part of the hospital building.

**Installation Earthing and Lightening Arrestors.** As part of safety measures, earthing and lightening arrestors were installed in the



generators areas. This was to replace the old ones that has expired and thus safe guard the building from effects of lightening during heavy rainfall.

**Upgrade of Hospital Transformer.** For improved source of power, the transformer that presently supplies the hospital was successfully upgraded to higher capacity of 2500KVA. This has effectively enhanced consistent power supply to the unit.

### **INSTALLATION OF EMR PLATFORM**

Prior to the upgrade of the hospital, documentation of patients was done manually. This affected the overall efficiency of services as the waiting time for patients was extended. To improve the efficiency of hospital services, there was need to install an EMR platform which will involve computerization of documentation of patients' data.

Currently, the installation of EMR at the NNRH Calabar is ongoing. The laying of the cables and installation of the software have been completed. The hospital also purchased scanners and the process of scanning of already exiting patients' information is ongoing. Additionally, 56 computers were recently purchased for the purpose. The next phase of the project is the training of core and support group. Training of end users and roll out of the platform.

### **OTHER ACHIEVEMENTS**

Apart from the major areas captured above, the hospital has recorded significant achievements in some other areas in its bid to improve the quality of its services. Some of the other improvement projects include:

**Accreditations.** Within the period under review, the NNRH Calabar has received accreditation to train interns and house officers in the various fields. Accordingly, the following councils have granted accreditation to the hospital to train their interns; Nursing and Midwifery Council of Nigeria, Medical Laboratory Science Council of Nigeria (MLSCN) and Pharmaceutical Council of Nigeria. Similarly, the Optometrist and Dispensing Opticians Board of Nigeria, Dental Therapist Board of Nigeria, and Dental Technologists Boards

of Nigeria have all granted accreditation to the hospital to train their interns. The accreditation from the Medical and Dental Council of Nigeria is being awaited for the training of house officers (medical doctors and dentists). The Laboratory Department of the hospital is also undergoing accreditation process by the MLSCN under the ISO 15189. The laboratory attained 3 stars in the baseline assessment conducted by the council and is expected to achieve the accreditation accordingly.

### **Website Domain and Professional Indemnity**

**Cover.** The hospital has continued to maintain its website domain by renewing this facility annually. This was necessary because of the services of some department in the hospital such as Radiology and Dental department is dependent on active internet access. Also, Professional Indemnity cover was renewed with Guinea Insurance Ltd. This was to ensure that medical personnel and the hospital were duly covered in the course of their medical practice within the year 2019.

**Construction of Illuminated Sign Post.** In order to ensure easy access to the hospital especially at night, there was need to put in place a reflective sign post at the main diversion into the hospital at Calabar highway. This has enabled easy access to patients in the environs.

**Procurement of Office Equipment.** Some of the office equipment that were purchased are: Two desktop Computers met for the Research Committee, and 2 Desktop computers for the dental department. Others are monitors, CPU and others accessories. These were to facilitate research activities in the department and to replace faulty desktop in the dental department.

**Construction of Carport.** Prior to this period, there was no Carport for the hospital utility vehicles. The vehicles were kept at the open car park without coverage. To ensure protection from effect of weather, a Carport was constructed for the hospital utility vehicles.





## **HEALTH AWARENESS CAMPAIGN**

The hospital has been involved in various health awareness campaigns within the period under review. These outreach was intended to foster healthy civil military relations in the communities. It was to act also as part of NN cooperate social responsibilities. Additionally, major world health days were commemorated alongside these outreaches. This was to create health awareness among the populace and personnel.

Within this period, a medical outreach was carried out at Nasarawa community in Calabar on 9 Feb 19. Another was conducted on 23 Mar 19 at Edimotop Community in Calabar municipal. Also, eye screening exercise was conducted for students of Community Secondary School Akin in October 19, while a Medical Rhapsody and World AIDS Day campaign was carried at Government Secondary Aniagtigna in Calabar South LGA of the State on 30 Nov 19.

## **CONCLUSION**

Within 16 months of its operation, the NNRH Calabar has transformed into an effective tertiary healthcare facility and the bastion of healthcare delivery in Calabar and its environs. The patronage of the hospital within the period has witnessed a remarkable increase. Consequently, the capacity and scope of services has been expanded through employment of additional locum staff on full and part time basis whose wage is being borne by the hospital.

As part of the achievements within the period, the hospital has established/activated some specialists departments including the SCBU, ICU and Labour Ward Suite. The period also witnessed remarkable upgrade of equipment across all departments of the hospital. To ensure the hospital infrastructure meets the desired standards, the hospital undertook a number of renovations and remodeling some of which include construction, tiling and equipping of the Mortuary, renovation of consultant's accommodation and roofing of the Generator House amongst others.

Within the period under review, efforts were not spared to maintain the infrastructure and equipment of the hospital. Apart from minor repairs, the hospital undertook the repair of the Computer Tomography machine in the Radiology department. The safety/security gadgets were also improved with installation of additional CCTV cameras and provision fire fighting equipment. Other notable achievements within the period were the accreditation of the hospital by various regulating councils and boards to train interns and installation of EMR platform amongst others.





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# UNDERSTANDING THE ROLE OF FAMILY IN PREVENTING AND COUNTERING VIOLENT EXTREMISM

## INTRODUCTION

As the international community continues to grapple with the challenge of increased asymmetric warfare imposed by the global war on terrorism, there is an ongoing debate on the efficacy of hard measures in combating the threat. Since the 11 September 2001 terrorist attacks on the United States of America, there has been an increasing growth of terrorism across the globe. The expansion and persistence of terrorist movements, such as al-Qaeda, Boko Haram, Islamic States in Syria (ISIS), along with numbers of lone wolves attacks, from the middle east and South East Asia through Africa and across Western countries, has again opened space for re-examining the success of 'hard approach' to the current 'War on Terror'.

Lessons so far learned from over a decade of international efforts to combating terrorism have indicated that hard approaches are seemingly ineffective on their own without robust soft power initiatives. Sometimes hard powers could actually undermine efforts to discourage the appeal and participation in violent extremism. Hard measures often tend to discredit the good intentions of state actors and this often creates opportunities which are mostly exploited by the violent extremists as tools for their propaganda. Evidently, hard powers involving military or kinetic operations are not only too costly to prosecute but also inherently too destructive, resulting, at times, in collateral damages to own or friendly forces, territories, and populations.

The threat posed by self-radicalized violent extremists acting alone or as groups and newly



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OFFICE OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISER  
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emergent terrorist groups, as well as growing use of the internet by recruiters to propagate violent extremist ideologies, has prompted greater attention on prevention and countering violent extremism (PCVE). Progressively, counter-terrorism policies are being developed inclusive of proactive approaches, emphasizing the need for prevention by reducing the appeal and support for, extremist groups and ideologies.

This progressive thinking has been enshrined in a growing number of emerging instruments and practices developed at the national and multilateral levels. One of such is the United Nations' Global Counterterrorism Strategy (2006), which promotes a multidimensional approach to countering terrorism and violent extremism and urges states to address "conditions conducive to the spread of terrorism." This position has also been underscored in the UN Plan of Action to Prevent Violent Extremism, 2016. The Plan calls for a comprehensive approach encompassing not only security-based counter terrorism measures but inclusive of systematic preventive measures to address the underlying conditions that drive individuals and groups to radicalization and join violent extremist groups. As part of its recommendations, member states were urged to consider developing their national plan of action to prevent violent extremism which sets national priorities for addressing the local drivers of violent extremism and complements national counter-terrorism strategies where they already exist.

Nigeria currently attracts a significant global



attention as a result of insurgency and terrorism orchestrated by Boko Haram, which has greatly undermined the country's national security and well-being of her citizens. In reaction to the threat and in line with the UN prescriptions, the Federal Government formulated a National Counter Terrorism Strategy (NACTEST) in 2014 and reviewed it in 2016. Nigeria has also developed a Policy Framework and National Action Plan for Preventing and Countering Violent Extremism which was launched by President Muhammadu Buhari on 28 November 2017. By these developments, Nigeria has joined the countries in the World and few in Africa to develop her domestic PCVE policy based on local realities and peculiarities.

In recent times, a great deal of effort has been made at understanding reasons and ways individuals are being radicalized, support or commit acts of terrorism. Efforts have also been made in identifying intervention points along the process of radicalization for possible prevention or counter radicalization. However, not so much effort has been made at understanding the environment or context in which the individual is being radicalized or driven to violence and the role that families and communities can play to prevent or counter violent extremism (PCVE). The Family as the basic unit of human social relationship is critical in character formation and trust building among individuals in the society. As a basic unit of a society, the family is a medium of expression of our culture and beliefs and hence plays a vital role in shaping attitudes towards some particular societal issues or activities.

The purpose of this article, therefore, is to examine the roles families can play in efforts to prevent and counter violent extremism and how this can advance a pragmatic PCVE practice. The article discusses how family characteristics such as commitment and cultural identity influence members' attitude and behaviour. How the roles of wives/mothers

as a protagonist and fathers as heads of families could help to prevent and counter-radicalization of members; and how families could partner with social workers, religious and other community leaders to enhance their roles in PCVE.

### **CONCEPTUAL DISCOURSE**

For ease of common understanding, this part briefly conceptualizes what family is, and examines some scholarly views on underlying root causes of violent extremism.

#### **What is a Family?**

The family can be conceptualized in different perspectives, based on structure, function or legal construct. Some scholars define a family in terms of biological kinship, while others view the family as a blended collection of individuals related by marriage, adoption, partnership, or friendship. How individuals conceptualize the family is influenced by culture, religion, law, and politics, hence the diversity. Generally speaking, a family is the basic social unit in a society consisting of parents and their children, considered as a group, whether dwelling together or not. Shorter (1998, p.83) defines a family as "a minimal effective group of relatives by blood and or marriage and analogous groups." Where analogous here represents those family members not represented by either blood or marriage, for instance adopted or foster parents and adopted children.

Families could be classified into various types which include, nuclear, extended, family of origin, and family of procreation. The nuclear family comprises parents and biological/adopted children. A nuclear family is usually more autonomous and cohesive. The extended family consists of the nuclear family and other members which include all the aunts, uncles, cousins, and grandparents. A traditional African family has a wider circle of members than the word suggests in the western world, it includes children, parents, grandparents, uncles, aunts, brothers and sisters and each



may also have their own children and other immediate relatives. Similarly, a typical Nigerian family recognizes the wider conceptualization, and this position is adopted in this article.

What then is the function of a family? Barbara Riggs and Cynthia Tweedell (2006, 2010), assert that the strongest influence in an individual's life stems from the family. According to them, a family "gives more than a name—it gives identity." Whether negative or positive, their concepts of love and choices in life are largely determined by the influence of the families, such as the ways people handle conflict or develop possible prejudices about situations in life. In most cultures, the extended family provides an important base of emotional, economic, and social support. Many religions recognize the value of extended family, particularly the elders, who are given a special status within the family. The functions of both the nuclear and the extended family, as a strong influence on individual behaviour within a society, will continue to evolve as family conditions change based on prevailing life situations: socially, economically and politically.

### **ROOT CAUSES OF VIOLENT EXTREMISM**

Nancy Lindsborg, President of United States Institute of Peace, once remarked that violent extremism is a global and interrelated trend but the reasons why individuals get involved in violent extremism are all different. Therefore, it is imperative to understand these differences and peculiarities within the various contexts in developing sustainable measures and approaches to prevent radicalization and violent extremism. Similarly, Magnus Ranstorp (2016) observes that there is no single cause or pathway into radicalization and violent extremism as there is a wide array of factors. He asserts that neither poverty nor socio-economic deprivation is a direct root cause of terrorism, but that violent extremism could at best be conceptualized as a result of a mixture of factors, creating complex interlocking combinations. These include

individual socio-psychological factors; social factors; political factors; ideological and religious dimensions; culture and identity; trauma and other trigger mechanisms; group dynamics; and the role of social media. He argued that it is the combined interplay of some of these factors that drive individual or group into violent extremism.

Individual socio-psychological factors include grievances and emotions, frustration, anger created due to alienation and exclusion, and injustice as well as feelings of humiliation resulting from imposed or personal vulnerabilities. Social factors pertain to social exclusion due to marginalization and discrimination (real or perceived); self-exclusion, education or employment. Group dynamics include peer group influence, relationship with charismatic leadership; pre-existing friendship and kinship ties.

The advent of the internet and social media further enhance these factors as it provide connectivity, virtual participation and a meeting place for likeminded extremist views and unsuspecting participants, some of who then could become vulnerable victims. The internet "reaches otherwise unreachable individuals". It accelerates the process of radicalization; and increases opportunities for self-radicalization.

Recent research on local drivers of violent extremism has identified two main factors: the push and pull factors. The push factors refer to the structural conditions that make an environment more conducive to the growth of violent extremism. These include unemployment, poverty, inequality, health, socio-economic factors and poor governance. The pull factors are those that drive the individual and group to extreme ideologies or positions. These include the existence of grievance, urge for social inclusion, ego and status, strong influence of a charismatic leader, and the search for answers to complex issues



burdening the individual. This may also include even the promise of financial or material benefits, such as marriage or revenge against unresolved grievances.

The immediate cause of terrorism can simply be said to be radicalization leading to expressed violence. Therefore, preventing and countering violent extremism is about early identification of signs and averting or mitigating the threat through soft approaches that address directly the root causes of violent extremism. This includes enhancing the capacity of the family and community to recognize vulnerable wards to prevent and counter violent extremist behaviours before they hatch into full-blown terrorism.

The war against terrorism is a 'war of idea' which only can be won by winning the 'hearts and minds'. Michael Waller put this succinctly that 'If the war of ideas is a clash of wills, and human will is centered in the brain, then the target in this war is the mind' Therefore, influencing the individual's mind for attitudinal and behavioural change becomes an imperative in PCVE. Changing the behaviour of radicalized individuals is possible by recognising the vital role family can play in PCVE programmes targeted at youths, women, schools and religious places. The Policy Framework and National Action Plan for Preventing and Countering Violent extremism in Nigeria aptly recognised this vital role of families in its guiding principles.

The Policy Framework on PCVE is anchored on four core objectives, among which is to enhance the capacity of individuals and communities to prevent and counter violent extremism and to recover from violent extremism. The PCVE Policy provides for seamless interactions across government agencies, collaborating with whole-of-society, involving civil society organizations and communities. The Framework clearly identifies with the family as a key constituent in the

implementation of the PCVE Action Plan. It acknowledges the family unit as integral to character development and influential to the role of people in society and hence believes that families have an important role to play in preventing and countering violent extremism.

### **ROLES OF FAMILY**

The role of the family in PCVE is easily understood when one reflects on the importance of interdependence and commitment of members. Families are vital to preventing and countering violent extremism, from shaping attitudes toward non-violence to serving as front-line actors. Usually, family members are the first point of contact and best suited to detect early signs of potential radicalization to violence by anyone within the family. The major challenge, however, is that families may not even be aware of this onerous role, or lack the capacity to recognize the changing behaviour of their members. Another challenge is that governments too may be reluctant to involve families in its counterterrorism and PCVE efforts either due to fear that families may at times be part of the problem by being supportive of the terrorist ideology or by compounding issues. On the other hand, most Counterterrorism and PCVE efforts have been so securitized that families may be unwilling to cooperate with the government to address issues of violence. These challenges notwithstanding, family members could be influential in pulling their members away from violent extremism. What is required, however, will be to address these obstacles and encourage the inclusion of family as partners in PCVE effort across government and civil societies.

Hedayah, the International Center of Excellence for CVE, under the auspices of the Global Counter Terrorism Forum/ CVE Working Group, hosted a workshop on the PCVE roles of families from 23-25 May 2016 in Abu Dhabi, and made comprehensive strategic recommendations to address the various



challenges identified with understanding the roles of families in PCVE. One of which is the need to “prioritize strengthening family-based social networks – and particularly parental influence – to build resilience to violent extremism (VE). Participants agreed that the family is a very important social network in shaping individual perspectives on nonviolence. Parental influence is a vital element in moulding characters of children, and hence, where PCVE efforts of governments and civil societies include enhancing family influence on children and youth, this could reduce their appeal to VE. Participants at the workshop also agreed that family commitments can be utilised in support of PCVE efforts. It is believed that fulfilling “obligations to a spouse, children, or elderly parents/other family members to some reasonable extent make individuals to pursue peace” and preserve the interest of their families.

### **Role of Mothers in PCVE**

The unique strength and capabilities of women as mothers and wives in preserving the values and integrity of the family institution can be utilized in enhancing PCVE efforts, specifically in preventing the family members from straying down the path of radicalization and violent extremism. Mothers have the most intimate knowledge of their children and would be able to readily recognize any attitudinal or behavioural changes in them. Similarly, Wives play an influential role in decision-making of their husbands, hence could help discourage any behaviour pointing to radicalization or supporting extreme violent ideologies. The family- nurturing qualities of mothers and wives could be deployed to protect their family members from radical influences. In most cases, women are also well-positioned to offer meaningful counter-narratives: they could humanize the impact of terrorism, or highlight the hardships, economic and otherwise, that may be impacted on own family if any member leaves to join an extremist

group.

Mothers may be able to identify an emerging VE risk in the family, but may not have the tools or support to stop children from committing a crime. The womenfolk in the family need to be equipped with necessary capacity and knowledge to enable them to effectively appraise even seemingly harmless act of their children or spouses, such as getting involved with extremist narratives, questionable characters or self-seclusion. Mothers must be encouraged to use their natural position to persuade their children to embrace positive values of tolerance, inclusiveness and peaceful relations with others. As wives, they must have the moral courage and responsibility to advise or discourage their spouses when they observe their husbands perform or plan to perform acts of violence in whatever disguise. Therefore, for mothers to play a significant prevention role, they must be educated, well informed and empowered within the home and the larger community.

### **Role of Fathers in PCVE**

In households and societies, fathers and mothers have important complementary roles to play. Together, parents could play a major role in preparing their children to reject extremist narratives. Another relevant issue pertaining to family in PCVE is the vital role of a father-figure in both recruitment and prevention of violent extremism. Research has shown, especially in the context of father-son relationship and the position of a father in most cultures, that the absence of father figure could create resentment and isolation especially in a boy-child which could make him vulnerable to recruitment into violent extremism.

In many cultures, men act as heads of their families and leaders of their communities. Their cooperation and understanding are vital to the successes of community and family-based PCVE efforts. Hence the need to engage “fathers and respected community males to



gain access to vulnerable communities, and to shape existing cultural narratives” often manipulated by violent extremist recruiters. To this end, fathers should be empowered with necessary capacity and skill to play an effective role in PCVE, including emerging trends in VE and how best to communicate with children at homes and youth within the community.

### **ENHANCING THE ROLE OF FAMILIES IN PCVE**

As mentioned earlier, the over securitization of counter terrorism measures alienate the family from sharing information, especially about any noticeable changes in attitude or behaviour of their members. At a workshop convened by Hedayah, and the Global Centre on Cooperative Security in Abu Dhabi from 4-5 December 2013, on “Role of Families and communities in strengthening communities against violence Extremism”, participants observed that families play a vital role in both preventing violent extremism, but could also encourage it. The discussions in Abu Dhabi, as well as those that followed it, therefore, recommended the need to partner with families in designing intervention programmes on PCVE. Similarly, Hedayah CVE Workshop also recommends the need to “promote interaction between families and authorities, particularly security forces, to enhance information-sharing, cooperation, and collaborative opportunities for prevention.” There is the need to build trust between families, local communities, and local authorities to encourage effective information sharing and for such information not to be misused.

The advent of the internet and social media has further put strains on parental ability to monitor their children's activities. Today's parents must be acquainted with the social media and how such media are being used to propagate violence extremism and other heinous ideologies. Hence, regular dialogue with parents and training to bring to their awareness, emerging extremist tactics would be helpful in building capacity to cope with

these challenges. There is the need to build parental capacity towards understanding their role in PCVE. Accordingly, government and civil society organizations could organize regular discussions to raise parental and family awareness of violent extremism and associated odious practices online and offline. This may include sensitization on the use of social media by violent extremist recruiters and their tactics, training for women as wives, mothers, fathers, and community-figures, to recognize early signs of, and techniques to prevent radicalization.

Other family members also have vital roles in PCVE. It is therefore, necessary to engage and assist other family members, like siblings, relatives, and peers in identifying signs of radicalization and ways of preventing radicalization leading to violence. School-based initiatives, such as PCVE clubs, presentations and demonstrations could be employed to engage young students as leaders and role models in PCVE-relevant activities.

### **CONCLUSION**

This article concludes that the family, as the basic unit of a society, is a major stakeholder and hence should play a vital role in preventing and countering violent extremism. As whole-of-government and society approaches are now the hallmarks of PCVE efforts, it is particularly important that parents take more active part in following up on their children engagement at homes, schools and social activities. Families should be willing to collaborate with government agencies, teachers /counselors, civil societies, social workers, religious and community leaders, to share observations and experiences regarding their members. Like the popular saying goes, that “a stitch in time saves nine”, early detection of radicalization signs among children/youth could easily be addressed through various intervention measures before they are hardened into expression of violence.





# PHYSICAL FITNESS

## KEY TO OPERATIONAL EFFICIENCY



**T**he Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Naval Command, Rear Admiral David Adeniran reiterated during the Nigerian Navy Second Quarter Route Match in Calabar, that physical and mental fitness are panacea to operational efficiency of troops. He added that the 14 kilometres route match held by the Eastern Naval Command Calabar Area was to further improve the combat readiness of personnel in the discharge of their constitutional responsibilities. The Flag Officer Commanding, also used the medium to advise personnel to always evaluate their respective Body Mass Index Scale (BMI) from time to time and ensure that preventive measures are taken.

Subsequently, the FOC thereafter advised personnel to be of good conduct of their duties. He cautioned that the Nigerian Navy will not tolerate any act of misdemeanour, unprofessional conduct or any act capable of bringing the Service into disrepute by any personnel. No fewer than 360 officers and ratings as well as youth corps members in Calabar area participated in the Route Match. He therefore commended and gave bravo zulu to all that participated in the Route Match. Finally, Admiral Adeniran promised that he will continue to ensure adequate security of lives and properties in the nooks and crevices within the Eastern Naval Command Area of Responsibility.



# GOLF IS NOT FOR THE RICH ALONE

By Sub Lieutenant TI Fowowe

The game of Golf has been described as an enhancer for both physical and mental alertness contrary to the public view that it is for the rich. The health benefits of the game outweigh its social aspects.

The Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Naval Command, Rear Admiral David Adeniran gave the description of the exercise at a golf tournament held at the Sealord Golf Club NNS PATHFINDER, Naval base Port Harcourt.

The tournament, tagged the Flag Officer Commanding End of Tour Kitty was to mark the end of his familiarization tour of

ships/bases/units under Command. Participants at the tournament were drawn from all works of life especially stakeholders in the Maritime Sector. Rear Admiral Adeniran stated that the tournament was aimed at building a stronger synergy within the maritime stakeholders thereby creating an atmosphere and rendezvous for sharing ideas on possible solutions in tackling the challenges of the maritime domain.

While thanking the participants for a highly competitive outing, he reiterated that the game of golf is not exclusive to the rich and enjoined the general public to develop interest in the game.

## GOLFERS AT A GLANCE



# FORWARD OPERATING BASE BONNY IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CRIMINALITIES WITHIN ITS AREA OF OPERATION



The Nigerian Navy (NN) Forward Operating Base BONNY located at Akiama Bonny Island was established in Dec 05. Bonny Island is host to strategic vital national and international assets such as the Nigerian Liquefied Natural Gas (NLNG), Shell Petroleum Development Company (SPDC) and ExxonMobil amongst others. The Base, in its resolve to effectively execute her operational mandate, carries out various activities to reduce Crude Oil Theft (COT), illegal oil refining, sea robbery and piracy to mention a few. In carrying out her roles effectively, FOB BONNY employs both Military measures and CIMIC activities.

## **MILITARY OPERATIONS**

Military operations such as maritime patrols, static deployments on installations, internal security operations and shipping monitoring amongst others have become regular aspect of FOB BONNY operations in the last 8 months or thereabout. As a direct offshoot of the Chief of the Naval Staff's vision to create a secured maritime environment for National Prosperity, the Base conducts maritime patrols within her area of operation (AOO) which has drastically forestalled

illegal bunkering, crude oil theft as well as sea robbery/piracy and other maritime crimes that debilitate the socio-economic development of the Nation. Notably, FOB BONNY conducted a 30 day Swamp Buggy operation within her AOO and destroyed cluster of illegal refining sites. The continuous patrols have recorded the arrest of vessels for either carrying or attempting to carry tons of illegally refined AGO and were handed over to the EFCC for prosecution.

As part of the achievements in anti-piracy/sea robbery patrols, the Base rescued several vessels, dislodged and destroyed numerous identified pirates' camps. Furthermore, the Base along with NA146 Battalion conducted 3 successful joint raids of pirate camps at Asaramatoru and Iwogono fishing ports. These operations led to the destruction of the camps and recovery of items utilized by the pirates to perpetrate attacks on vessels at sea. Such Patrols are either carried out independently or in collaboration with Nigerian Navy Ship PATHFINDER and 146 Battalion Troops under the auspices of Operation DELTA SAFE. In addition, static patrols were sustained by deploying men on arrested vessels



within anchorage area. These patrol activities have enhanced security and Naval presence within the Base's AOO.

Similarly, FOB BONNY carries out deployment of personnel to platforms, some government installations as well as to vessels on request or as directed in line with extant regulations. Also, the Base deploys boats for static and mobile patrols for various operations, missions or tasks in line with the Total Spectrum Maritime Strategy (TSMS) of the Nigerian Navy. These include surveillance and intelligence gathering, protection of Key and Vulnerable Points (Oil and Gas Installations) as well as to conduct riverine, special and joint operations. The Base also monitors shipping traffic and activities within the Base's AOO, particularly, vessels transiting in and out of Bonny Channel. Pertinently, from Jan 19 to date, well over 63 vessels have been intercepted and interrogated.

Similarly, as part of its statutory responsibility, the Base carries out internal security (IS) operations within her AOO. Such operations are mostly carried out in collaboration with Operation DELTA SAFE. The Internal Security operation are principally geared towards dislodging identified militants, pirates and destroy kidnapper's camps, hide outs, and to disrupt cult activities.

### **CIMIC ACTIVITIES**

While carrying out its operations, the base also engages in CIMIC activities with similar vigour, optimism and professionalism. It conducts seminars and lectures to sensitize the inhabitants of Bonny Island and its environs on the need to abstain from indulging in practices that could sabotage the nation's economy. In particular, on 20 August 2019 the Base organized and hosted a sensitization and awareness lecture tagged illegal Oil Refining **KPO FIRE: Issues, Challenges and Way Forward**. The lecture was aimed at preventing forms of illegalities such as crude oil theft, kidnapping and cultism within Bonny Island and its environs.

The seminar was attended by indigenes of Bonny Kingdom, Bonny Council of Chiefs, some principal staff officers from Eastern Naval Command and

Joint Task Force Operation DELTA STATE. Furthermore, to maintain and strengthen the Civil-Military Relations between Forward Operating Base BONNY and the host communities, the Base organises periodic medical outreach to provide free medical services to its host communities, as well as conflict resolution meetings between groups to avert break down of law and order. Forward Operating Base BONNY has continued to project the full power of the Nigerian Navy in the Bonny River estuaries and environs which has translated in to peaceful co-existence in her Area of Operation.



*A seized vessel*



*Products suspected to be illegally refined AGO*



*The Commanding Officer Cdre KO Oguntuga handing over seized vessel to Law Enforcement Agency*



*An EFCC Official taking over seized vessel from the NN*



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## GOODWILL MESSAGE

The entire management and staff of Zenith Bank Plc, Mary Slessor Road Branch, wish to heartily felicitate with the Command on the production of its magazine; (EASTERN TIDE).

As a Bank, we are glad to be part of this great event and the impact your command has had in its immediate environment, by way of safe-guarding Nigeria's territorial waterways and many more.

The leadership and educational content of the EASTERN TIDE will go a long way in positioning the command on a colourful platform, even outside the shores of Nigeria.

Congratulations.

Yours faithfully,

**For: Zenith Bank Plc**

  
**Ekpenyong Umoh**  
Relationship Manager

  
**Nnamdi Uzoewulu**  
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## SHOWCASING THE PROWESS OF THE NIGERIAN NAVY: THE EASTERN NAVAL COMMAND PERSPECTIVE

**N**avies worldwide carry out exercises for different reasons. While some conduct exercises for perceived or anticipated security challenges, others engage in exercises in order to review existing operational directives and for training purposes. The outcome of such exercises determines the quantity of training offered to participating personnel. The need for training and retraining has become expedient to navies of the world because of the dynamics in contemporary maritime security threats. Maritime threats are generally similar in nature however, the efforts of individual nations determines the viability of such threat. Africa as part of the world has had its own share of these security challenges. Some of these threats include; piracy, hostage taking, illegal bunkering, illegal fishing amongst many others.

Nigeria as a littoral state is confronted with these security menace. Tackling these threats will ensure peace and stability in the region for enhanced economic prosperity. The NN has in the past conducted series of exercises. Some of these Exercises which are aimed at check mating criminality within Nigeria's maritime domain include Exercise OBANGAME EXPRESS, Exercise TAKUTE EKPE, AFRICAN

WINDS among others. The reinforcement of the gains and the need to combating these threats therefore necessitated the Eastern Naval Command (ENC) to embark on EXERCISE ANI-OFORIFORI, meaning 'Chase Thief' in Kalabari Language. Naval training is generally expensive because of logistics required to sail ships. Nevertheless, realizing that training builds confidence in personnel, reinforces loyalty to Services and motivates performance, the NN takes personnel training in all aspects of the Service seriously hence Exercise ANI-OFORIFORI. According to the Flag Officer Commanding (FOC) ENC, Rear Admiral DA Adeniran, the conduct of the Exercise was in furtherance of Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS), Vice Admiral Ibok-Ette Ibas mission which is 'to develop a naval force that is well trained, organised and highly motivated to discharge its constitutional roles professionally and efficiently for the defence of Nigeria in ensuring her economic prosperity'. The Exercise objective was to assess the operational readiness of ships, gunboats, helicopters and other platforms of the Eastern Fleet in order to practice personnel in tackling maritime threats within the Command's Area of responsibility. Specifically, the Exercise was designed to chase oil theft, pipeline vandals,



*The FOC EAST, Observers and Senior Officers*



militancy, piracy and illegal refinery bunkering operators.

Exercise ANI-OFORIFORI gave the Command the opportunity to tackle the menace of piracy, sea robbers and associated crimes in our maritime environment. In addition, the Command also used the opportunity to assess the Eastern Fleet. The Exercise was in furtherance to an earlier simulation conducted at the Simulation Center of the Armed Forces Command and Staff College Jaji, Kaduna State. Simulation Exercise involves the use of sophisticated Information Communication Technology software to practice participants in preparation for real time exercises. The simulation training exercise covered fleet maneuvers, steering gear failure/breakdown, machinery breakdown, visit board search and seizure (VBSS) among others. To replicate real time situation, the Eastern Naval Command set to sea at the Eastern flank of Nigeria maritime domain.

The Exercise was carried out in 4 phases. Phase one was the preparatory aspect which involved training in various aspects of Seamanship as well as provision of Logistics for participating ships. Phase 2 was the movement phase to the designated exercise area which dovetails into conduct of the Exercise. The final stage was the termination stage which ended with entry of all participating ships into harbour, followed by wash-up and appraisal of the entire exercise to identify gray areas that may require improvement in future operations. It is instructive to note that while transiting through the channel, other participating ships conducted a naval ceremony known as Man and Cheer Ship (signifying a successful conclusion of the Exercise) in honour of the Flag Officer Commanding who was the Officer in Tactical Command.

The Exercise also gave the Command the

privilege to practice man overboard, semaphore/flashing, gunnery, interrogation of vessels, abandoned ship and boat operation among others. During boat exercise for instance, life buoys were deployed for rescue of simulated man overboard while Nigerian Navy Ships ) CENTENARY, BURUTU and ANDONI were contacted for search and rescue. Finally, the entire scenario was professionally handled – leaving ship companies with great lessons. Another training conducted was in the area of abandoned ship where life raft was deployed for Ship Company. To many onboard, it was the first time of witnessing the content of life raft. Life rafts are floatable life - saving equipment provided for ships for use in times of emergencies especially in situations where ships are abandoned due to mishap at sea. It contained some medications/safety materials for sailors onboard.

The importance of communication was exhibited onboard as various ships while in formations communicated through Semaphore – use of flags/signs for communication onboard. According to the then Command Operations Officer, Commodore AO Bamidele, Semaphore is the earliest aspect of sea fearing that emphasizes the importance of communication between ships in formation using signs and symbols. He stressed that where all other forms of communication failed onboard, the ship resort to adopt semaphore; he further stated that Semaphore is safer because it is secured among participating ships. Therefore practicing it gave personnel the opportunity to be abreast with it.

In the area of gunnery exercise (test firing of weapons onboard), participating ships conducted series of firing by engaging identified targets at sea. Various calibre of weapons onboard were test fired by ship company. It is instructive to note that the conduct of gunnery exercise at sea has its





unique features. Unlike on land where targets are static, at sea it is a different ball game because of instability of the sea as a result of prevailing sea/weather conditions. It is therefore portend that special attention must be given to designated area by firers while engaging targets. The conduct of firing exercise during the period kept away criminals with dubious intentions as evidenced in the increase in commercial activities by sea fearers along the area.

Although the Exercise was for training purposes, participating ships patrolled the entire Eastern flank of Nigeria's maritime environment and in the process interrogated several vessels and platforms in the area. Some of the oil fields and terminals in the area include; Yoho oil terminal, Ima oil terminal, Okono oil terminal, Oso Gas field, Usari oil field, Terminal Ebok and Antan. Others include; Qua lboe terminal, Kwa lbo and lots of others.

Exercise ANI-OFORIFORI was concluded with a

debrief onboard NNS CENTENARY. Some of the security/law enforcement maritime agencies that participated in the exercise expressed their gratitude to the NN for giving them the opportunity to participate in the Exercise. These agencies include the Nigeria Police, National Drug Law Enforcement Agency, Nigeria Security and Civil Defence Corps, Nigerian Customs, Nigeria Immigration and Nigerian Maritime Administration and Safety Agency. It should be noted that, the Exercise was also conducted simultaneously by Operations units under the ENC in pursuant of same objective to rid the creeks of all forms of criminality. These units include NNS JUBILEE, PATHFINDER, VICTORY as well as Forward Operations Bases BONNY in Rivers and IBAKA in Akwa Ibom States as well as Naval Outpost IKURU in Rivers State.

On the whole, the Command successfully deployed ships and boats in order to tackle maritime crimes such as illegal bunkering, crude oil theft and smuggling amongst others.





It is gratifying to state that the Command patrolled a cumulative of about 135 thousand hours. These patrols led to arrest of suspects, seizures of materials, destruction of illegal facilities. The consistent presence of the Command at sea has discouraged illegal activities within ENC Areas of Responsibility.

The Command within the period under review shut down more than 146 illegal refineries. Also, the Command seized more than 23 thousand of 50kg bags of smuggled imported rice and several other contrabands. It is believed that with the reduction of smuggling activities, the Command has been able to support Federal Government efforts in revamping the economy and also enhancing the activities of our local farmers. Similarly, some militant groups in Akwa Ibom, Cross River and Rivers States surrendered along with their weapons.

Apart from training and Operations, the Command has improved personnel welfare and physical security measures within the Command Headquarters, bases, barracks and schools with the expansion of accommodation facilities and providing conducive learning environment for students of Nigerian Navy Secondary Schools (NNSS). The recent foundation laying for 300 bed accommodation for NNSS students in Port Harcourt, commissioning of the remodeled Naval Medical Centre and the expanded 9 to 18 holes Sea Lord Golf Course in NNS PATHFINDER by CNS were some of the efforts made in order to provide quality education, health, and sporting facilities in the Command.



# FOC CAUTIONS PERSONNEL ON THE USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA



The Flag Officer Commanding (FOC) Eastern Naval Command (ENC), Rear Admiral David Adeniran has cautioned personnel of the command on the indiscriminate use of social media to divulge; issues of security. He maintained that any military operation or activity posted on social media is a violation of the nation's social media policy.

Rear Admiral Adeniran made the assertion during his maiden dialogue with officers and men of the command. He noted that "improper use of social media by personnel could have an untold effect on military activities and operations. According to Nigerian Armed Forces security classification, it is not permitted and it is a grievous offence to post location and official operations including weapons beings used for such operation. Therefore he warned

that personnel should be careful when collecting or posting materials, as such act could give rise to hate speeches and fake news about all of which are capable of contributing negatively in nation building"

He therefore enjoined personnel to be mindful of what to post on social media so as not to grind down the Nigerian Armed Forces' contributions to nation building, and to enable optimal performance in the discharge of their duties.



*Personnel listening with rapt attention*

# COLLECTION AND PRESERVATION OF EVIDENCE IN CRIME SCENE

BY LIEUTENANT COMMANDER BM ATAGHER

## INTRODUCTION

The most important aspect of evidence collection and preservation in crime investigation is the protection of the crime scene. This is normally carried out to keep the pertinent evidences uncontaminated until it can be recorded and collected. The successful prosecution of a case can hinge on the state of the physical evidence at the time it was collected. Law officers have the prime responsibility of protecting crime scene to ensure the protection and preservation of evidences.

The first officer on the scene of a crime should approach the scene slowly and methodically. In some cases this may not altogether be practical. However, effort must be made to disturb things as little as possible in assessing the situation. Once the scene has been stabilized, the scene and any other areas which may yield valuable evidence should be cordoned off to prevent unauthorized people from entering the area and potentially contaminating it.

The purpose of this article is to highlight ways in which evidence can be collected and preserved. The paper will cover definition of terms, likely things that can be found at the scene of crime, persons qualified to visit the scene of crime and handling of visits to the scene of crime. Others are exhibits, their identification, preservation, collection and packaging. Thereafter, the chain of custody and the procedure for forwarding of exhibits to the laboratories for examination will also be examined.

## AIM

The aim of the paper is to discuss collection and preservation of evidence from crime scene for successful prosecution of a case.

## DEFINITION OF TERMS

- a. **SCENE.** The concise Oxford English Dictionary defines "A scene" as the place where an incident in real life or fiction occurs or occurred.

- b. **CRIME:** An act or omission which is prohibited by the Law of the state and for which punishment is attached.
- c. **SCENE OF CRIME:** It is the location or the place where an act or omission which constitutes a crime or an offence has taken place. For example, scene of armed robbery, murder or culpable homicide punishable with or without death, burglary and stealing, assault, and criminal offences. Others are; brigandage with culpable homicide, rape, willful and malicious damage and many more.

## LIKELY THINGS THAT CAN BE FOUND AT THE SCENE OF CRIME

Crimes, accidents and incidents vary but they have one common feature which is the scene or location of the occurrence. Answers to questions as to how, why, what, when, and who are provided at the scene or location of crime. Visits to scene of crimes are very important aspect of criminal investigation and the scene of crime is one of the important sources of exhibits. Articles or objects used in the commission of crimes are diligently searched for at the scene of crime. Objects such as guns, cutlasses, broken bottles, knives, blood stained materials, vomited matters and poisons. Others include drugs, bullets, shell of expended ammunitions, documents, finger prints, footprints, axes and any material of evidential value are found at the scene of crimes. The list is inexhaustible depending on the type of crime/offence committed.

## PERSONS QUALIFIED TO VISIT THE SCENE OF CRIME

When crimes are reported and are under investigation urgent arrangement should be made to visit the scene without delay. In major and serious crimes like homicide, the practice whereby only one investigator visits the scene should be discouraged. A team or teams of investigators should visit the scene of crime. For a given case, the people to visit the scene may be determined by the nature of the crime. Generally, the complainant, suspects, witnesses, investigators and any other



person having relevant information would visit the scene of crime. However, in serious and major crimes such as murder, culpable homicide punishable with or without death, burglary and stealing, the following persons are qualified and should be added to the team earlier mentioned above; the Investigating Police Officer, Regulating Officer (RO) or an assistant or both, the Pathologist (Medical Officer), fingerprint expert, Photographer, Dog handler with his dog, Modus operandi expert, the Mobile Crime Unit and Uniform personnel for security and crowd control. The undermentioned items would be useful to the detectives and should be taken along to the scene of crime and these are; Writing material-pen, pencils, tape for measurement, scene of crime receipts and stretchers.

### **EXHIBITS**

The word exhibit refers to any physical objects e.g axes, guns, blood stains or any weapon recovered at the scene of crime and which could be presented in a court of law for inspection by the Judges and Magistrates and are vital ingredients to the successful prosecution of a case. Therefore, care must be taken in their collection and custody. In this wise, detailed care must be taken to ensure exhibits are not contaminated during collection, collation, packing, preservation and during forwarding to forensic laboratories. It is advised that exhibits should not be lifted until suitable containers for collection have been made available.

Similarly, Exhibit may be defined as an object or document produced before a court of law and referred to while giving evidence. This include all items recovered and connected with any case under police investigation which has evidential value eg a blood stained skirt or knife may be an exhibit in a case of murder, broken louvers in a case of malicious damage and recovered money from the suspect may be exhibit in a case of stealing. In criminal cases, exhibit may be defined as anything which has to do with an offence under investigation and which may eventually be tendered in evidence. Exhibits are found under two main conditions or status; WET and DRY. Articles commonly found wet include blood, wine, semen, vomit and water etc.

### **EXHIBITS COLLECTION AND PRESERVATION**

The collection, collation, preservation and packaging of exhibits in Nigeria at the moment are the responsibilities of the investigators. In most of the advanced countries, exhibits are collected and collated by officers who are specially trained for such exercise. It is very important so that exhibits go to the laboratory as early as possible, the condition in which it was first found. This will prevent the experts from coming to a wrong conclusion after carrying out their examination. The search for exhibits is a systematic one and police officers must ensure that nothing is done to destroy the process. All unauthorized persons should be excluded from the scene and no exhibits should be moved until proper notes are made and photographs taken. In the absence of a photographer, sketches and diagrams could be drawn. The investigator should be equipped with a kit bag containing necessary materials such as; papers, pen, pencil, envelopes of different sizes, gloves, tapes, plastic bags, scissors, bottles or plastic containers with lids and in various sizes. All exhibits collected must be carefully labeled, packed and properly initialed by the investigator. There are many sources opened to the investigator to get exhibits connected with a case. Exhibit can be recovered from the complainant, suspect, witness, scene of crime, recovered or seen from Police informant during execution of search warrant and also recovered from the articles abandoned by criminals.

### **TREATMENT OF EXHIBITS**

The aim of collection, collation and of course packaging is to ensure protection, integrity and safe transit, so that the expert may receive the exhibits in good condition and uncontaminated from other exhibits. Therefore, after collation, each exhibit must be packed in a separate and clean bag, bottle, box or other suitable containers. Great care must be taken when polythene bags are used. Never fold clothing, because if the exhibit is wet or even residual dampness is present, it deteriorates very quickly, making the examinations difficult and in many cases impossible. As a general rule polythene bags should never be used to transport wet clothing.

### **RULES OF PACKAGING EXHIBIT**

The following rules must be strictly adhered to when packaging exhibits for examination:



- a. Each exhibit must be packed separately and each container must be sealed and stamped with the original sealed stamp.
- b. The wrapping or containers must carry label showing their contents.
- c. Under no condition should bottles or glasses containing liquids be packed with other exhibits since they may break and contaminate others.
- d. Objects having finger prints on them should be packed in such a way that they do not come in contact with each other. This will prevent the rubbing off those finger prints during transit.

### **CHAIN OF CUSTODY OF EXHIBITS**

To prove that an exhibit being offered in evidence is exactly what it purports to be, requires proof of who had possession of the exhibit at all times between the time investigators seized it and the trial. This is the "Chain of Custody" (CoC), and its especially important when exhibits have been altered in some way or tested prior to trial. CoC in legal contexts refers to the chronological documentation showing the seizure, custody, control, transfer, analysis and disposition of exhibit. Therefore, all exhibits should be properly recorded in the register of exhibits and carry tags which shall show the number and date of registration, the type of exhibits, name of the case and that of the investigator of the case.

Exhibits must be handled in a scrupulously careful manner to prevent tampering or contamination. The idea behind recording the CoC is to establish that the alleged evidence is in fact related to the alleged crime rather than having been planted fraudulently to make someone appear guilty. Accordingly, the CoC documentation and testimony is presented by the prosecution to establish that the substance in evidence was in fact in the possession of the defendant. Transactions and succeeding transaction between the collection of the evidence/exhibit and its appearance in court, should be completely documented chronologically in order to withstand legal challenges to the authenticity of the evidence. Therefore, documentation should include the conditions under which the evidence is gathered, identity of all evidence handlers, duration of evidence custody, security conditions while handling or storing the evidence and the

manner in which each time such a transfer occurs. Finally, in Nigeria, exhibits are generally sent by hand to ensure safety. Exhibit must contain a brief history of the case and brief description of each exhibit labeled A-Z.

### **CONCLUSION**

Crime scene is one of the important sources of exhibits. It contain physical evidences that are pertinent to a criminal investigation. These evidences collected by crime scene investigators often needs to be preserved and protected to ensure successful prosecution of cases. When crimes are reported and under investigation, it is important that the scene of the crime should urgently be visited without delay. The scene of a crime should be visited by team of investigators. For a given case, the people to visit and the team may be determined by the nature of the crime.

Exhibits are vital ingredients to the successful prosecution of a case. They can be classified as wet or dry depending on the nature and are to be collected in suitable containers. Exhibits are to be searched systematically and investigators are to ensure that nothing is done to destroy the process. There are many sources opened to the investigator to get exhibits connected with a case. It can be recovered from the complainant, suspect, witness, scene of crime or from police informant. The aim of collection, collation and packaging exhibits is to ensure that it gets to the expert in good condition and uncontaminated. It is therefore necessary that exhibits when collected should be packaged properly in suitable containers and handled in a professional manner. The procedure for recording CoC of exhibits should be followed at all times.

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# NIGERIAN NAVY SHIP THUNDER IN PERSPECTIVE



**N**igerian Navy Ship THUNDER, formerly known as United States Coast Guard Cutter (USCGC) CHASE is one of the Hamilton Class High Endurance Cutters. Her keel was laid on 26 October 1966 at Avondale Shipyard in New Orleans. Thereafter, she was commissioned into the United States Coast Guard on 11 Mar 1968 and subsequently decommissioned on 29 Mar 2011 after 43 years of service. During her time of duty, she participated actively in several operations, major of which was Operation MARKET TIME, where she conducted more than 12 naval gunfire support missions during the Vietnam War. Consequently, the Ship was awarded the US Navy Meritorious Unit Commendation and Vietnam Service Medal in recognition of her contributions during the war. On 13 May 2011, USCGC CHASE was transferred to the Nigerian Navy (NN) as an Excess Defence Article, under the US Foreign Military Assistance Programme, at Alameda California and was subsequently renamed Nigerian Navy Ship THUNDER.

Nigerian Navy Ship THUNDER has a displacement of 3,250 tons. She has a length of 115.6m, beam of 12.5m, draught of 4.6m and cruising range of about 9,600nm at 20 knots. Her maximum speed is 29 knots and has a range of 14,000 miles with full load endurance of 45 days. In addition to the aforementioned characteristics, the ship has a 24.4m<sup>2</sup> flight deck for helicopter operations, making her a good platform for extended patrol missions.

On 23 January 2012, Nigerian Navy Ship THUNDER was commissioned into the Nigerian Navy. Since then, she has taken part in various exercises, operations and patrols within Nigeria's maritime domain. Presently, she is deployed in Eastern Naval Command Area of Responsibility and engages in various assigned duties and activities in fulfilment of NN constitutional roles and in line with the CNS Strategic Directives. Some of these roles within Eastern Naval Command's Area of Responsibility include; protection of oil and gas offshore installations, anti-illegal oil bunkering and crude oil theft as



well as anti-illegal fishing operations amongst others. To this end, the Ship has within the period under review, maintained presence around IMA Oil Terminal, Bonny Offshore SBM1, 2 and 3, Okwori Oil Terminal and Okono Oil Terminal. It is important to note that while carrying out her assigned duties, Nigerian Navy Ship THUNDER interdicted and interrogated a total of 51 vessels from January 2019 to date. These vessels comprised Motor Vessels, Fishing Trawlers and other service vessels plying the Eastern Naval Command Area of Responsibility, of which about 12 vessels suspected for various illicit maritime crimes were arrested. Significantly, on 17 August 2019, Nigerian Navy Ship THUNDER successfully rescued 22 crew members of MT NAVIGATOR CAPRICON, which was attacked by pirates. Besides routine patrol duties, Nigerian Navy Ship THUNDER participated in some exercises during the time under review. These include; Exercise JUNCTION RAIN 2019 and Exercise YANGHA MI 2019 where several simulation exercises were carried out such as abandon ship and a Life-Raft was deployed at sea. This exercise afforded some personnel the opportunity to swim in open waters in order to board the fully inflated Life Raft. She recently participated in the just concluded Exercise GRAND AFRICAN NEMO 2019, a joint Exercise in which French Naval Ships (FNS) GERMINAL and SOMME partook. It is noteworthy to mention that successful missions such as these have not only increased the rating of the NN but boosted the confidence of seafarers in the region.

In order to achieve successful outcomes in operations, personnel must be well trained to ensure operations are conducted smoothly and professionally. To this end, Nigerian Navy Ship THUNDER places a high premium on training. The Ship conducts regular trainings of her personnel both alongside and at sea. While alongside, trainings are mostly theoretical, however, sea training programmes are designed elaborately to include practical exercises like Gunnery Exercises, Communication Exercises, Firefighting and Man-overboard. These are conducted regularly to consolidate on theoretical lectures done alongside. Furthermore, exercises like Visits

Boarding Search and Seizure (VBSS), as well as Fishing and Anti-Piracy Operations are also conducted to practice personnel on boat handling and boarding operations. Additionally, the Ship successfully conducted training of Nigerian Navy personnel in various capacities. She embarked students of Junior Course 87/19 from Armed Forces Command and Staff Course – Jaji Nigeria to sea during their operation visit and also trained midshipmen of 66RC of whom are Sub Lieutenants today. More so, the Ship has on different occasions conducted sea training for Officers' Application Course and Artificers and Mechanic ratings' Course from Nigerian Navy Engineering College Sapele.

Nigerian Navy Ship THUNDER has indeed recorded many achievements. However, these achievements have not been without certain challenges bedeviling the Ship. Some of the major challenges include; limited type training for personnel especially engineers, lack of critical spares, weak decks and inadequate number of personnel protective equipment. These have in one way or another hampered the operational efficiency of the Ship. Hence, addressing them would largely boost personnel output and Nigerian Navy Ship THUNDER's operational efficiency in general.

The Ship also maintained a cordial relationship with other agencies within her Area of Operation. This was done as part of her informal and social responsibilities. It was achieved by inviting members of civilian and sister agencies to functions onboard, particularly during the commemoration of the Nigerian Navy 63rd anniversary from Friday 24 May to Saturday 1 June 2019. Furthermore, in line with recent directives, the ship along with other ships in the Eastern Fleet organized an end of the year party for the ratings. This is designed for personnel to unwind with members of their family, friends and other invited guests. It is believed that informal activities of this nature would create a healthier and more stable working environment towards the growth and advancement of the NN and Nation at large.





## FOB IBAKA RECORDS OPERATIONAL SUCCESSES

The Commanding Officer Nigerian Navy Forward Operating Base IBAKA, Captain Peter Yilme has declared zero tolerance for smuggling of contraband, illegal oil bunkering, pipeline vandalism and other sundry crimes within its Area of Operation. He assured legitimate users of the waterways that the Nigerian Navy would not relent in its efforts to ensure perpetrators of illegality are frustrated in their shady deals within its Area of Operation. Also, the base has embarked on corporate social responsibility packages in form of medical rhapsody to win the hearts and minds of the civil populace to enhance its operational efficiency as well as establish mutual relations and co-existence with the host communities within its AOO.

In the course of its operational activities, the base team intercepted a wooden boat laden with 220 bags of 50 kilogrammes of foreign par boiled rice while transiting Eiffiat waterways. In the process the base arrested 4 suspects believed to be rice smugglers. The 220 bags of foreign rice are suspected to be smuggled from Cameroon. The Commanding Officer while handing over 4 suspects and 220 bags of 50 kilogrammes of foreign rice, reiterated that he has achieved a noble feat in effecting 17 arrests barely 3 months of assumption of office as the Commanding Officer. He emphasized that he has recorded operational successes due to the holistic approach to combating crime and the synergy with other stakeholders. In furtherance, he disclosed that the arrest of rice smugglers will further strengthen the production of indigenous rice and also promote government policy on ban of importation of foreign rice.

The Deputy Superintendent of Nigeria Customs Service, Mr Alabi Adedokun, while receiving the 4 suspects and the 220 bags of foreign rice, commended the Nigerian Navy for



*The CO FOB IBAKA handing over seized bags of foreign rice to the representative of the Nigeria Customs Service*

the synergy existing between the Nigerian Navy and the Nigeria Customs Service. He applauded the Nigerian Navy for the consistent and frequent arrests of smugglers. He emphasized that the Nigerian Customs will continue to partner with the Nigerian Navy to mitigate or totally eradicate smuggling activities in the waterways. He also urged the Nigerian Navy not to relent in its effort to rid the state of all forms of illegalities and criminalities.

In another development, the Nigerian Navy Forward Operating base IBAKA while on routine patrol around Effiat waterways intercepted and arrested 8 suspects and a medium sized wooden boat laden with 536 bags of foreign par boil rice suspected to be smuggled from Republic of Cameroon. Other items recovered from the arrest include 2 by 40 Horse Power Yamaha outboard engines, 2 pumping machines and medium sized wooden boat.



The Commanding Officer was able to attain these feats amidst numerous challenges. These challenges are majorly due to resource constraints as well as berthing spaces. Regardless, the base has recorded achievements in area of effecting arrest of criminals, equipment and infrastructural upgrade.



Arrested suspects involved in rice smuggling

Overall, the Nigerian Navy forward Operating Base IBAKA has recorded series of arrests within the short period on assumption of duty of the Commanding Officer. Details of the arrests from 16 September 2019 to 27 November 2019 is tabulated below.



Medical Rhapsody at a glance

### FOB IBAKA SUMMARY OF ARRESTS FROM 15 SEPTEMBER TO 27 NOVEMBER 2019

S/N	Suspects	Rice	AGO Drums	Outboard Engines	Pumping Machines	Wooden Boats	Fibre Boat	Date of Arrest	Handed Over to	Hand Over Date
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(j)	(k)	(l)
1.	2		50	1	1	1	-	15 Sep 19	NSCDC	18 Sep 19
2.	10	486	-	2	2	2	-	18 Sep 19	NCS	18 Sep 19
3.	12	1072	-	2	2	2	-	21 Sep 19	NCS	23 Sep 19
4.	6	256	-	1	1	1	-	28 Sep 19	NCS	30 Sep 19
5.	4	202	-	1	1	1	-	1 Oct 19	NCS	2 Oct 19
6.	4	236	-	1		1	-	17 Oct 19	NCS	22 Oct 19
7.	8	472	-	4	2	2	-	22 Oct 19	NCS	22 Oct 19
8.	4	389	-	2	2	1	-	27 Oct 19	NSC	30 Oct 19
9.	4	261	-	2	1	1	-	29 Oct 19	NSC	30 Oct 19
10.	1	-	10	1	-	-	1	1 Nov 19	NSCDC	2 Nov 19
11.	5	449	-	2	2	1	-	19 Nov	NSC	19 Nov 19
12.	4	259	-	2	2	1	-	17 Nov 19	NCS	19 Nov 19
13.	1	-	5	1	-	-	1	17 Nov 19	NSCDC	18 Nov 19
14.	6	295	-	2	1	1	-	18 Nov 19	NCS	19 Nov 19
15.	5	422	-	2	2	1	-	17 Nov 19	NCS	17 Nov 19
16.	6	294	-	2	1	1	-	27 Nov 19	NCS	28 Nov 19
17.	-	-	25	1	-	1	-	27 Nov 19	NSCDC	28 Nov 19
<b>Total</b>	<b>76</b>	<b>5,093</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>2</b>			



# FOC'S VISIT TO FOB BONNY



# FOC'S VISIT TO FOB IBAKA



# FOC'S VISIT TO FOB PATHFINDER





## Introduction

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# ENHANCING MARITIME SECURITY IN THE GULF OF GUINEA THROUGH AN EFFECTIVE SECURITY ARCHITECTURE: THE YAONDE CODE OF CONDUCT IN PERSPECTIVE

By

## **INTRODUCTION**

The global Maritime Domain (MD) is made up of the oceans, seas and the marine ecosystem. This domain is characterised by activities such as seaborne trade, recreation and exploitation of marine resources. The MD remains the core of world commerce because about 90 per cent of global trade is moved through shipping over sea lanes. The transnational nature of the MD in addition to insecurity has made trans-border collaboration crucial in the fight against illicit maritime activities worldwide. This is majorly important in key maritime trade zones of the world like the Gulf of Guinea (GoG).

The GoG is laden with strategic resources like hydrocarbon, oil, minerals and aquatic creatures, making it attractive for global trade. The desire to secure the GoG and the resources there in necessitated the promulgation of the Yaoundé Code of Conduct (YCOC) also known as the GoG Code of Conduct. The Code was promulgated by Heads of States of The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), Economic Community of Central African States, (ECCAS) and Gulf of Guinea Commission (GGC) in 2013. It encouraged states within the GoG to implement measures to ensure the safety and security of the GoG MD. Accordingly, ECOWAS in particular drafted a multi-national strategy known as the ECOWAS Integrated Maritime Strategy (EIMS). Conversely, ECCAS has had a Protocol Relating to the Strategy to Secure ECCAS' GoG Vital Interests at Sea since 2009. These security strategies have been instrumental in enhancing the safety and security of the GoG. Despite measures to maximize effectiveness of these strategies in curbing maritime insecurity and improving maritime safety in the GoG, the results appear marginal especially considering the resources invested. Additionally, the YCOC by itself has not made a remarkable addition to the empirical framework of anti-piracy and other illicit maritime crimes in the GoG. Whereas the envisaged cooperative structures and information sharing



*Lt Cdr AC Yakubu*

mechanisms under the Code are important for its implementation.

The purpose of this paper therefore is to proffer ways of improving implementation of the YCOC in order to enhance maritime security in the GoG. The paper would be limited to the implementation efforts by law enforcement bodies, particularly navies and coast guards of member states within ECOWAS. It is assumed that the reader has a fair knowledge of the geographical setting of the GoG as well as its security challenges. The paper will cover an overview of the YCOC and some of the implementation

structures of the Code by ECOWAS states. It will then look at the challenges faced by ECOWAS states in the implementation of the Code and recommend a way forward.

## **AIM**

The aim of this article is to assess the implementation of the YCOC by ECOWAS States with a view to making recommendations.

## **OVERVIEW OF THE YCOC**

There was a sharp rise in the rate of maritime crimes in the GoG between 2003 and 2012. Concertedly, ECCAS and ECOWAS member states desired to succeed in the field of maritime security. In line with that, a request was made by leaders of these organisations to the United Nations (UN) for support and assistance against piracy and other forms of maritime crimes in the GoG. This request was inspired by the successes recorded by similar codes like the Djibouti Code of Conduct (DCOC) in the fight against piracy and other maritime crimes in West Indian Ocean and the Gulf of Aden. Accordingly, the UN through its Security Council (SC) adopted Resolution 2018 (2011) and 20139 (2012) in relation to piracy and armed robbery in the GoG. The SC further welcomed the intention by the 2 regional organisations to convene a summit of GoG Heads of States in order to develop a comprehensive strategy for combating piracy and other maritime crimes ravaging the region.





The YCOC concerning the repression of piracy, sea robbery and illicit maritime activities in West and Central Africa was adopted in Yaoundé, Cameroun on 25 Jun 13. It was modeled after the DCOC. The Code serves as a meeting point for all national, sub-regional, regional and international maritime security efforts and initiatives towards finding lasting solution to the insecurity situation in the Region. Signatories to the code pledged, to cooperate to the fullest possible extent in the repression of piracy and other illicit maritime activities consistent with their available resources and related priorities. In doing so, states were to take cognizance of their respective national laws and regulations as well as applicable international laws. They were also to act in a manner consistent with the principles of sovereign equality and territorial integrity of states.

Article 3 of the YCOC provided the guiding principles on the implementation of the Code. The article required signatories to take measures pursuant to the Code employing law enforcement or other authorized officials from warships or military aircraft. Also could be from other ships or aircraft clearly marked and identifiable as being in government service and authorized to that effect. Similarly, Article 4(3) required that states develop national maritime security plans with related contingency plans or systems. These plans or systems were to be for harmonizing and coordinating the implementation of security measures designed to enhance the security in the international maritime transport sector and other mode of transport. Additionally, Articles 11, 12, 13 and 14 gave guidelines on coordination and information sharing, incident reporting, assistance among signatories as well as training and education respectively. These guidelines were to foster cooperation and joint participation in the fight against maritime insecurity. The UN thus encouraged member states in the GoG Region to cooperate using their existing regional organisations and initiatives in formulating framework for joint participation in the fight against maritime insecurity. In response, ECOWAS promulgated the EIMS. One of the strategic objectives of the EIMS was to enhance maritime security and safety of the ECOWAS Maritime Domain (EMD). The Strategy however lacks funding mechanisms which is necessary to mobilize the resources and funds for the implementation and realization of its objectives.

## **ASSESSMENT OF THE IMPLEMENTATION STRUCTURES OF THE YCOC BY ECOWAS MEMBER STATES**

ECOWAS Member States succeeded in developing initiatives for the implementation of YCOC. Some of these initiatives included EIMS, contribution of naval forces and platforms, coordination and information sharing as well as training and education amongst ECOWAS member states.

### **ECOWAS Integrated Maritime Strategy.**

EIMS was based on a 3-zonal approach with each zone equipped with its monitoring and enforcement mechanism known as the Multinational Maritime Coordination Centre (MMCC). The zones are zones E, F and G. Zone E which comprises Nigeria, Niger, Benin and Togo, is the only zone that has started operating its MMCC. The MMCC was set up in Cotonou, Benin, and was to be used to coordinate joint maritime security drills and operations activities with other Zones. Zone F, which includes Burkina Faso, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, Guinea, Liberia and Sierra Leone is in the process of establishing its MMCC in Ghana. Zone G, which comprises Cape Verde, the Gambia, Guinea Bissau, Mali and Senegal, will also be linked to security operations covering the entire GoG Region. A Regional Maritime Coordinating Centre (RMCC) was established to coordinate the activities of the 3 zones. An EIMS Unit was also established with the Regional Security Division of the ECOWAS Commission to oversee and play complementary roles to ensure the implementation of the strategy. In order to mobilize the necessary resources for the implementation of EIMS, funding will be required. However, The Strategy lacks an appropriate funding mechanism needed to generate fund for its implementation. For instance Ghana being the host for Zone F bears the financial burden in the provision of infrastructures and equipment to sustain nationals in the MMCC about to commence operations. This is similarly the case in Zone E which is also struggling to meet up with financial challenges of running her Center. If EIMS is not given the requisite fund backing to ensure its implementation, it may end up a written strategy with little or no result. There is thus the need for ECOWAS to develop an appropriate funding mechanism for the implementation of EIMS.

### **Contribution of Security Forces and Maritime Platforms.**

One of the major highpoints in the implementation of the Code is physical presence at sea to constantly patrol the vast GoG Maritime Domain (MD). However, a look at most of the navies



of ECOWAS littoral states indicates they lack the requisite naval or coastal defence forces to physically maintain presence at sea. In this regard, only the Nigerian Navy (NN) had recently acquired more Offshore Patrol Vessels (OPVs) and patrol boats. Despite receiving assistance and training from international partners, including China, US, the European Union and Japan, most West African navies still operate near-obsolete naval ships, naval defense systems and specialized maritime aircraft. The navies also lack the essential radar and remote surveillance systems needed to monitor their vast MDs. This contrasts with the DCOC implementation which had produced remarkable results in East African Waters because of the commitment of multinational naval warships from contributing navies. The reliance of West African navies on the grants of international partners will limit the execution of requirements of the Code. There is thus the need for states to have a platform acquisition strategy to cater for the platform requirements to enhance presence at sea which will consequently enhance security and safety of the MD.

#### **Coordination and Information Sharing.**

Another area where a remarkable progress is made in the aspect of regional cooperation is information sharing. There are existing arrays of sensors installed along the West African Coastline under the Regional Maritime Awareness Capability (RMAC) programme supported by the US and UK. This is to facilitate real time information acquisition and dissemination within the GoG. The capability has translated to an acceptable level of information sharing amongst West African Navies and security agencies. The Federal Government of Nigeria in collaboration with Messrs RT.com Limited recently established the Falcon Eye infrastructure for maritime surveillance to enhance MDA in Nigeria's waters. There is however a compatibility problem with the surveillance equipment as well as language barriers amongst the Anglophone and Francophone states. This was the case during the erstwhile Operation PROSPERITY between Nigerian Navy and Beninian Navy where it was difficult for the forces to communicate. There will be the need for West African navies to develop communication policies that will promote interoperability of communication equipment as well as fix the problem of language barrier. This can be achieved by developing an integrated communication and emissions policy to include equipment requirement and frequencies designations. This will help curb spoofing and evade active jammers.

#### **Training and Education amongst ECOWAS**

**Member States.** There are a couple of scheduled joint and combined training initiatives amongst navies of ECOWAS states. Most of these trainings are sponsored by the US, some of which are, African Partnership Station, Exercise OBAGAME EXPRESS and Exercise FLINTLOCK. Another training initiative is Exercise NEMO by the French Navy and AMLEP by the US Africa Command. Participating ECOWAS states like Ghana, Nigeria, Cameroun and Benin Republic contribute their platforms and personnel for the training. The NN also has held several sea exercises where some ECOWAS navies such as Ghana and Cameroon were active participants. These trainings have contributed towards building the efficiency and effectiveness of these navies in the fight against insecurity in the GoG. However, the trainings are limited in scope because they are usually done within a short period of time due to prevailing policies and limited resources. Additionally, ECOWAS navies don't have scheduled joint and combined training exercises besides the US initiated trainings. The navies absolute reliance on international aids limits the extent of trainings that can be achieved. Also, it limits interoperability of navies and security outfits since proactive measures are not taken by ECOWAS states to commit resources to ensure regional maritime security trainings are conducted at least once each year. If this is not addressed, exploiting the peculiar operations tactics and skills of ECOWAS navies will not be achieved. This is imperative to the attainment of homogenous modus operandi in combating crime in the ECOWAS MD. There is therefore the need for ECOWAS states to develop a training and education unit similar to the US Mobile Training Team (MTT), with members drawn from all the littoral ECOWAS states. They will be responsible for initiating and conducting training and maritime security awareness seminars within the region. This will foster partnership and bring up the navies up to speed in the current global best practice as far as combating maritime crime is concerned.

#### **CHALLENGES IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE YCOC BY ECOWAS MEMBER STATES**

There are several challenges that are observed to impede the implementation of the Code. These challenges are categorized into Strategic, Operational, Regional Cooperation and Collaboration Challenges as well as Legal Challenges.

**Strategic Challenges.** Strategic challenges are identified as those challenges at the national and



grand strategic levels of government. They are challenges that arise from flawed implementation strategy. One of the strategic challenges is 'sea blindness' on the part of the political elite due to their narrow conceptualization of national security. Security in the GoG region until recent times had been perceived to be land-centric, resulting in less attention given to maritime security by the political elite. This sea blindness is also associated with the inability of governments to appreciate the link between the economy and their navies. The disconnect in coming to terms with the reality that the navy is the guardian of the nation's maritime wealth accounts for these lapses. The reality being that dominant percentage of GoG resources in terms of fisheries, hydrocarbons and minerals are dependent on navies ensuring a safe maritime environment. If these resources are not protected and the trade lanes secured, there shall be no production and sustenance of governance will be a problem. It is therefore imperative that the governments' strategic thinkers are continually educated on the need to keep their navies afloat. In this regard, policies should be promulgated that will ensure their navies are resourced accordingly with ships, shipyards and repair facilities.

**Operational Challenges.** Operational challenges are those issues that have the potential of impeding the successful execution of operations with existing resources, capabilities and strategies. These challenges impact on personnel, equipment, tactics, techniques, information, technology and procedures that would enable navies achieve their mission objectives at sea. For instance lack of requisite expertise to handle opposed boarding at sea. Some of these challenges had been addressed by some navies like the NN which established a new command and also repositioned her Special Boat Service (SBS) roles to include counter insurgency and counter piracy amongst others. Ghana Navy (GN) is also establishing a Special Boat Unit (SBU) fashioned after the NN SBS with 2 pioneering teams already trained at the SBS Training Camp Lagos. The NN also acquired new maritime assets and installed 5 Coastal Maritime Radar Surveillance Systems (COMORASS) to enhance surveillance at sea. That notwithstanding, there are still challenges in funding of operations in terms of logistics, repairs and maintenance of assets, fuel and lubricants as well as training. With the immense loss of revenue to illicit maritime activities, there is the need for ECOWAS states to re-establish their navies pre-eminence in maritime law enforcement. They could deliberate the extra-budgetary means of funding

and recapitalizing their navies, considering the centrality of the navy as the custodian of maritime wealth.

**Regional Cooperation and Collaboration Challenges.** Another key challenge is that of regional collaboration and cooperation. The GoG comprises 23 countries across 2 regions which has developed various maritime security strategies. The Central African states established the Regional Center for Maritime Security in Central Africa (CRESMAC) which aims at promoting information sharing and joint naval operations. In West Africa, ECOWAS adopted EIMS to combat illicit maritime activities in the Maritime Domain. Combating trans-national maritime crimes requires regional cooperation. In this regard, the commitment of leaders of the countries of these regional bodies namely, ECOWAS, ECCAS and GGC and their willingness to work together and harmonize their maritime security policies are most important. This will necessitate the adoption of a holistic approach to streamline their effort through the elimination of redundant administrative bureaucracies. It is therefore necessary for ECOWAS states to consider a meeting point for all the GoG maritime strategies to foster homogeneity in their execution.

**Legal Challenges.** The lack of conventional definition for piracy and its impact on the prosecution process poses a challenge for countries in developing a standard legal framework. Added to this complexity is the fact that the United Nations Convention on the Laws of the Sea (UNCLOS) definition of piracy solely entails crimes perpetrated in high seas. However, a number of attacks in the GoG occur within the various territorial waters which imply international law cannot be applied in the prosecution. The intricacy of the situation being, the crimes occur in states' jurisdiction where some international laws are not ratified in domestic laws. Particularly where certain imperial legacies influence legal interpretations of criminal prosecuting process, harmonizing the laws become a challenge. In the same vein, law enforcement becomes a challenge, since the powers to prosecute alleged criminals are not vested on the navies and the legal systems has not made provisions for their prosecution. Hence, there remains a dilemma on the appropriate statute to try pirates in local waters. If this is not addressed, the fight against piracy will not be successful as criminals may have to go free due to lapses in the legal systems. There is therefore the need to develop a unified comprehensive legal framework for the prosecution of crimes in line with



the YCOC which will invariably help in fighting crimes in the GoG.

### **WAY FORWARD**

**An Effective Ocean Governance.** In view of the centrality of the ECOWAS Maritime Domain (EMD) to regional development, the way out of 'sea blindness' is to ensure effective ocean governance. ECOWAS Leaders need to develop sea culture. In this regard, there is the need to develop a policy which may be termed 'Regional Policy on West African Ocean' (RPWAO). The policy could harmonize the stream of countries maritime laws and agencies. It could also address the random approach to maritime governance. The Policy if considered will enable more integrated approach to planning, managing and improved conservation of the oceans and inland waters. The policy will bring to the fore inter-state corporation under the auspices of ECOWAS to enhance effectiveness in maritime law enforcement. It will also spell out roles and functions as well as define the maritime environment within the context of regional interest as it impacts economy, maritime security, strategic maritime assets and sustenance of the maritime ecosystem. By so doing, MDA and the importance of securing the EMD will increase which is vital to the implementation of the YCOC in the West African Sub-region.

**The Need for an ECOWAS Maritime Security Funding Scheme.** Governments of ECOWAS member states will need to make extra effort at funding naval operations if the region hopes to experience regional development. The need for funding calls for attention especially considering the emerging and increased threats in EMD.

For example, the budgetary release of the NN as at 2014 stood at N 4,933,711,968.00 as against the proposed N174,178,470,358.00 for capital projects. This amounts to just 2.8 per cent of the proposed funds. This is grossly inadequate to achieve capital projects of the NN. Similarly due to poor funding, some West African states like Gambia, Togo, Benin, Senegal etc, have few patrol boats with very limited endurance at sea. It therefore implies that depending on nations to fund an ECOWAS mandated strategy is not feasible. There will be the need for ECOWAS to develop a funding scheme which could be called 'Common Maritime Security Fleet Fund for West Africa' (COMSEFFWA) to bolster ship acquisition. The funding scheme will center on the acquisition and modernization of navies amongst ECOWAS member states. Funds will be collected from member states in the form of annual

remunerations and grants from international organizations and key stakeholders in the maritime sector. Consequently, the funds will be used to run operations at the various MMCCs and also for acquisition of maritime assets for navies operating in these MMCCs.

### **Developing a Legal Framework for Implementation of YCOC.**

Implementing the YCOC will necessitate the creation of an effective counter-piracy legal framework which will enact offences for piracy. The framework should also have accompanying penalties which the judicial systems of states must ensure are ratified in domestic laws. Additionally, as suggested by Captain (GN) Kamaal Deen Ali, it will be necessary for states to ratify and incorporate the Suppression of Unlawful Acts (SUA) framework into their domestic laws. The SUA Convention 1988 provides the basis for responding to insurgent-type attacks against ships in the GoG. The convention gives GoG states the opportunity to effectively respond to both typical maritime piracy and insurgent-type maritime attacks. To this end, state parties to UNCLOS are obligated to criminally prosecute offenders in their custody, even if the offences were not committed in their waters. This cracks the juridical uncertainty in the GoG where pirates commit crimes off the coasts of other states and flee into their nations' waters as a safe haven. The SUA framework obligates their home state to prosecute them or extradite them to any state that so request. As at June 2015, the convention has 166 state parties which include 164 UN member states as well as Cook Island and Niue. Presently in West Africa, only Ivory Coast as at 2012 has ratified the convention into her domestic law.

### **Creation of a Single Regional Maritime Security Architecture.**

In order to circumvent the unnecessary administrative bureaucracy created by sub-regional maritime security bodies in combating maritime crimes, there will be a need for single regional maritime security architecture. This architecture should cover the entire GoG region. By so doing, it is expected that the unified structure would save costs while promoting investments in building naval capabilities and joint exercises. It is also necessary to establish a regional operational network capable of triggering response across naval forces of the region. The structure would be expected to establish the required maritime security blueprint with specified operational actions, measurable objectives and sound monitoring as well as evaluation processes. Operational actions should include amongst others, intelligence sharing,



human intelligence and profiling and systematic coordination in maritime security operations between countries allowing for hot pursuit across regional waters. By so doing, the implantation of YCOG by ECOWAS member states will become more promising and feasible.

## **CONCLUSION**

The UN encouraged member states of the GoG Region to cooperate using their existing regional organisations and initiatives in formulating framework for joint participation in the fight against maritime insecurity. Consequently, GoG states adopted the YCOG concerning the repression of piracy and illicit maritime activity in June 2013. The code became a framework for addressing the upsurge of piracy in the region. Therefore, parties undertook to adopt appropriate national maritime security policies to safeguard maritime trade from all forms of unlawful acts. ECOWAS promulgated EIMS of which one of the strategic objectives was to enhance maritime security and safety of the ECOWAS Maritime Domain (EMD). The Strategy however lacks funding mechanisms which is necessary to mobilize the resources and funds for the implementation and realization of its objectives.

Some implementation strategies for YCOG were developed by ECOWAS states to help mitigate the upsurge of illicit maritime acts. Some of these strategies include EIMS, contribution of naval forces and platforms, coordination and information sharing as well as training and education amongst ECOWAS member states. These implementation strategies recorded some successes prominent of which is the development of the EIMS into a workable maritime strategy and a breakthrough in information sharing amongst member states. Others are acquisition of maritime platforms by some member states and establishment of Maritime Coordination Centers in the EMD. These implementations were however faced with challenges.

These challenges are categorized into Strategic, Operational, Regional Cooperation and Collaboration Challenges as well as Legal Challenges. One of the strategic challenges is the issue of 'sea blindness' associated with the inability of governments to appreciate the link between the economy and their navies. This translates into operational challenges which impacts on personnel, time, materiel, equipment, tactics, techniques, information, technology and procedures that would enable navies achieve their mission objectives at

sea. Intertwined to this is regional collaborative challenge which views the harmonizing of sub-regional maritime security policies as a vital missing link. As a result the legal interpretations of criminal prosecuting process and harmonizing of maritime laws becomes a problem for the region. Likewise law enforcement is made difficult, since the powers to prosecute alleged criminals are not vested on the navies and some of the legal systems have not made provisions for their prosecution.

In order to overcome these challenges, it is needful that governments' strategic thinkers of the ECOWAS Region imbibe sea culture and are continually educated on the need to keep their navies afloat. In this regard, policies should be promulgated that will ensure their navies are resourced accordingly with ships, shipyards and repair facilities. Also, they should deliberate on an ECOWAS Maritime Security Funding Scheme to fund EIMS. With regards to regional cooperation, the commitment of leaders of the countries of these regional bodies namely, ECOWAS, ECCAS and GGC and their willingness to work together and harmonize their maritime security policies are most important. Also, there is the need to develop a unified comprehensive legal framework for the prosecution of crimes in the West African sub-region.

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

It is therefore recommended that ECOWAS States should:

- a. Enhance Sea culture by developing RPWAO.
- b. Develop an ECOWAS Maritime Security Funding Scheme.
- c. Develop a legal framework for the implementation of YCOG.
- d. Develop single regional maritime security architecture in conjunction with ECCAS and GGC.

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## FOC ADMONISHES PERSONNEL TO BE OF GOOD CONDUCT

The Flag Officer Commanding, Eastern Naval Command, Rear Admiral David Adeniran has advised officers and ratings of the Command to be of good conduct in the discharge of their respective duties. He gave this charge during his dialogue with commanders and commanding officers of ships, units, establishments, officers and ratings under the Eastern Naval Command. The Flag Officer Commanding also used the opportunity to admonish personnel to be security conscious and always ensure that movement of persons within and out of the barracks should be vetted maximally. He also emphasized on the need for personnel to be alert while on duty and ensure proper check of vehicles and person's coming in and out of the Command and barracks.

Likewise, Admiral Adeniran reiterated the need for personnel to desist from illicit use of drugs. In this regard, he enumerated the negative impact drug abuse will have on personnel in the discharge of their duties, personal life and family. As a way of reprimand the Flag Officer Commanding

directed the Commander Nigerian Navy Reference Hospital Calabar, Commander Uche Okeke to conduct random drug test on personnel. These measures were to ensure that personnel desist from indulging in drug abuse.

In another development the Flag Officer Commanding emphasized on Body Mass Index and the need for personnel to keep fit at all times by regularly exercising. He also dwelled on swimming proficiency as prerequisite for promotion and advancement of personnel. He therefore, advised personnel to take swimming exercise seriously.



*ENC Personnel listening with rapt attention*



# OIL THEFT PIRACY HAS REDUCED IN NIGER DELTA

**R**eal Admiral David Adeniran, The Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Naval Command, recently stated that Oil theft and Sea Piracy have reduced drastically in the Niger Delta Region. Adeniran said this in an interview with newsmen on board Nigerian Navy Ship Okpabana in Calabar. He was speaking on the sideline of the fourth quarter exercise of the Nigerian Navy tagged "Exercise Ani- Oforifori" meaning chase thief in Kalabari language. The FOC attributed the reduction to the constant patrol of the region by navy presence at sea.

According to him, the reduction to the constant patrol of naval personnel also boosted the confidence and operations of oil platforms at sea. He told NAN that the patrol also help the Navy to interrogate and question other vessels operating in the maritime domain. "The more we are at sea, the better for the economy and the oil platforms including those operating legally at sea, "it is however bad news for criminals operating at sea to know that we are on patrol." He said commenting on the exercise, the FOC told NAN that the 'man- overboard' was conducted to enhance the skills of personnel in saving the lives of anyone who may fall into the sea by accident. "The man- overboard exercise we just did is one of the exercises of the Navy.

We have to practice it regularly to rescue anyone who may fall into the sea, "We have accident all over the places. We have vehicle



accident aircraft accident and likewise sea accident. "Sea accident can be through collision of ships, navigational hazards such as grounding and others." On the gunnery exercise, the Commanding Officer of Nigerian Navy Ship Okpabana, told NAN that the Navy was fully committed to the protection of the country's natural resources.

The Commanding Officer said that the gunnery exercise was one of the series of activities lined up for the exercise Ani-Oforifori. "Our participation in this exercise is in furtherance of the Total Spectrum Maritime Strategy of the Nigerian Navy in the Chokepoint Control area.

"We are exercising our men and equipment and also closing up on all gaps that might exist in the maritime space," he said that other exercises such as semaphore, life raft flash light for night communication signals and others were also conducted at sea during the exercise.





## NOWA NATIONAL PRESIDENT COMMISSIONS CLASS ROOMS BLOCK



The National President, Naval Officers' Wives Association, Barrister (Mrs) Theresa Ibas recently commissioned classrooms block at the Naval Officers' Wives Association Secondary School, Atimbo, Calabar. Speaking during the commissioning ceremony, the National President said that modern facilities improve not only the school's physical environment but also its learning culture. Mrs Theresa Ibas used the opportunity to congratulate the School Authority on its recent upgrade to Senior Secondary School status by the Cross River State Ministry of Education. She added that approval of the school to senior secondary school will enable the school to obtain its accreditation as center for West African Examination Council and National Examination Council which is currently being pursued.

The National President reiterated that, pertinently, the modern classrooms block being commissioned would further add impetus to the accreditation pursuit. She applauded the Naval Officers' Wives Association Executives under her leadership and stakeholders for the courage to erect 5 classrooms block to augment the existing projects already carried out in the school. Mrs Theresa Ibas emphasized that the building alone cannot infuse the vision and passion that guide the school's development. The National President buttressed that it is the human spirit and interaction between teachers and students that will make the difference and exploit the new building to achieve robust learning atmosphere.

The National President revealed that the needed interaction has already been entrenched in the school over its 4 years of existence.

The National President added that Naval Officers' Wives Association has plan to construct a school hall and dormitory which was the ground breaking that was shortly witnessed. Mrs Ibas emphasized that the hall will enable the school meet one of West African Examinations and National Examinations Council requirements to qualify as examination centre. The National President also said that the dormitory will act as a quick response to the continuous request from our esteemed parents for the school Management to provide boarding facilities. In furtherance, the National President said the dormitory would avail the students the opportunity to imbibe strict naval discipline and excellence, which the Naval Officers' Wives Association Secondary Schools are known for. Mrs Ibas disclosed that 90% of the students' population is made up of students from neighborhood outside the Atimbo Naval Barracks. Mrs Ibas concluded that the school is Naval Officers Wives Association's efforts at supporting the larger Nigerian Navy's corporate social responsibility packages.

In his speech, the Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Naval Command, Rear Admiral David Adeniran commended the efforts of the National President. He thereafter enjoined the students to make effective use of the facility.





*The National President NOWA Barr (Mrs) Theresa Ibas making remarks during the commissioning ceremony*



*NOWA celebrating successes recorded in educational excellence*



*The National President NOWA cutting the commissioning tape*



*Barr (Mrs) Theresa Ibas laying foundation for dormitory*



*National President NOWA fielding questions from the press*



*FOC East R Adm DA Adeniran presenting a souvenir to the National President NOWA*



*Barr (Mrs) Theresa Ibas and students of the school*



*Barr (Mrs) Theresa Ibas and Staff of the school*



## NOWA CARRIES OUT INTENSIVE SANITATION EXERCISE ACROSS NAVAL BARRACKS IN PORT HARCOURT AND CALABAR AREAS

Members of the Naval Officers' Wives Association (NOWA) Eastern Zone has re-affirmed their commitment to their primary Role as Wives by ensuring the home and its environs is kept clean as part of their loyalty to their husband who work round the clock to ensure that Nigerian territorial integrity is preserved. This commitment was expressed when the Association embarked on a three-day intensive sanitation exercise across the Naval Barracks in Calabar and Port Harcourt simultaneously.

The coordinator of the Eastern Zone, Mrs Ngozi Adeniran who flagged off the Exercise at NOWA Secretariat, Navy barracks Atimbo said, the exercise became necessary as their own contribution to support their husbands who do not have all the time at home to ensure a clean and healthy environment.

In her words; Mrs Adeniran said, "as our spouses are busy out there working for the family and the nation, there is the need to compliment their efforts irrespective of our working status." Adding that, the health benefit of living in a clean and healthy environment cannot be over emphasized, because only; a healthy environment promotes healthy personnel to defend the Nation.

Mrs Adeniran who was seen leading by example accompanied by other key NOWA executives, moved round the barracks to ensure maximum compliance as they also used the opportunity to distribute cleaning gears, food and drinks to motivate all that were working. The exercise recorded a maximum turnout and also served as fun for children as they were seen assisting their mothers in carrying out cleanship even as it was still a holiday period.



# NNSS CALABAR IN PERSPECTIVE

By Commander AJ Bello

Nigerian Navy Secondary School (NNSS) Calabar witnessed a number of activities in the Year 2019. These activities were geared towards enhancing an effective social and academic environment for both staff and students. In the year under review, the School's 11th Annual Inter-House Sports Competition took place. The objective of the Competition is to build friendship among students, encourage the spirit of sportsmanship and expose the students to an all-round physical, mental and psychological development. Events competed for include football, volley ball, scrabble, chess, table tennis as well as track and field events. The grand finale of the competition was held on Saturday 2 March 2019. Adekeye (Blue House) garnered a total of 525 points to emerge the over-all champions, whereas Ajadi, Adeniyi and Baje houses followed in this



respective order.

As the year progressed, the Chief of the Naval Staff Inter-Command School Quiz and Debate Competition was hosted by the Nigerian Navy Secondary School Calabar between 4 and 5 April 2019. The two schools under the Eastern Naval Command namely; NNSS Calabar and NNSS Port Harcourt, participated in the Competition. Several academic fireworks were witnessed as the two schools keenly competed in the Quiz and Debate. At the end of the Competition, NNSS Calabar emerged the over-all champion.

The need to train and re-train teachers cannot be over-emphasised. This affords the teachers the opportunity to keep abreast with current developments and global best practices in education. The School organised a workshop tagged **Train the Trainers** on 4 June 2019. Several facilitators were drawn from the University of Calabar. Different papers were presented on Public Service Rules; Communication Skills, Evaluation Techniques and Methods. Participants were presented with certificates of participation at the end of the exercise. It was indeed a refreshing experience.

Series of activities were organised to mark the graduation and Passing out Parade (POP) of the Set 2019 students of NNSS Calabar. A dinner night in honour of the granduands was organised on 20 August 2019. The students were dressed in their colourful dinner attires (boys in black suit and bow tie and girls in their dinner gowns). The staff and students were treated to a variety of tasty meals. The event featured speeches and words of advice by the Commandant.

A valedictory/thanksgiving service was held to appreciate God for his protection and seeing the students through their academic career. A Jumat service for the Muslim students was held on Friday 19 August 2019 followed by a church service for the Christians on Sunday 21 August 2019. Parents and invited guests participated in both services. Parents sang praises and worshipped God for keeping their children and seeing them successfully through their academic endeavour.



Representative of the FOC East Cdre ZM Ayabina during the NNSS Calabar students POP



The graduation activities came to a climax with the passing out parade. The School's sport arena was beautifully decorated for the event. Parents, teachers and invited guests participated in the occasion. The FOC, Rear Admiral DA Adeniran, who was also the Reviewing Officer for the occasion was represented by the Chief Staff Officer of the Eastern Naval Command, Rear Admiral TA Imam. The Special Guest and other dignitaries were treated to a colourful parade displayed by the students. The Special Guest advised the students to eschew all vices and be of good behaviour in their respective universities and the society at large.

Teachers occupy a central place in the educational system of any institution. They are moulders of character and destiny of the students. The 5th of October is observed annually as the Teacher's Day. This Day is set-aside to celebrate the hardwork, dedication and ingenuity of the teachers as well as their roles in national development. In the Nigerian Navy Secondary School Calabar, the Day was marked with a workshop which featured presentations on Qualities of a Good Teacher; Lesson Preparation and Delivery, Appropriate and Inappropriate Punishments; Reward and Motivation of Staff; etc. It was an enlightening experience as teachers bared their minds on the key topics presented.

On Assumption of duty to the NNSS Calabar, Cdr AJ Bello saw the need to have a happy hour with the staff. This is to enable him familiarise and get acquainted with the staff. The occasion was held in the School Multi-Purpose Hall. Music, dance and tasty meals were served during the occasion. He encouraged the staff to unwind from their busy schedules and also solicited their co-operation during his tenure. The staff appreciated the initiative of the Commandant, stating that this has never happened in a very long time. The staff members left the occasion determined to work harder and ensure that the vision of the Commandant which is hardwork and academic success is attained.

The menace of examination malpractice, cultism and bullying has assumed a worrisome

dimension among some secondary schools in Nigeria. To check this trend, the Director of Naval Education, Cdre IA Ahmed paid an advocacy visit to the School on 12 October 2019 to flag off the campaign against examination malpractices and other social vices. During his interaction with staff, the Director emphasised that teachers are role models. He encouraged the teachers to continue to work hard and be committed, stating that their reward is assured. On the part of the students, the Director counselled them to shun these negative vices, promising that those found wanting would be sanctioned.



*Director of Naval Education, Cdre IA Ahmed (Middle) Commandant NNSS Calabar, Cdr AJ Bello (Left) and PSOs during DNED'S visit to NNSS Calabar*



*The Command Education Officer, Cdr PS Ozah, presenting a trophy to the winners of the Intra-Command debate competition*



*The Nigerian Navy Secondary School Calabar Students during the dinner night*



# RELIGIOUS DIMENSION OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

By Lieutenant Commander KI Ndaks

Understanding what the Bible says about faith issues that relate to domestic violence is key to our society today

## **INTRODUCTION**

To understand why domestic and family violence is a problem in our society, we must be willing to dialogue about violence, power, gender, and marriage within the wider faith community. This is how the Bible speaks about these key areas that are often used against women – violence against women, power, Justices, and repentance.

## **VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN**

In the Bible, all violence is considered an offence against God and against humanity. Scripturally violence is condemned in its entirety – time and again violence is associated with wickedness and condemned as “detestable to the Lord” (Psalm 11, Proverbs 3 & 10).

In particular, violence against women is condemned. In Jewish law, rape was viewed as equivalent to murder (Deut 22:26), as was pressuring a woman physically (Deut 22:25–27) or psychologically (Deut 22:28–29) into sex. The Bible recounts many stories of the horrific sexual abuse of women. In Old Testament narratives, rape is viewed as an “outrage” (nebalah in Hebrew) - a term which only occurs 13 times in the Old Testament and is reserved for extreme acts of violation against God and human beings, including the rapes of Dinah, Tamar, and the woman of Bethlehem.

We never see the word 'abuse', but the term 'oppression' (meaning crushing or burdening someone by the abuse of power or authority) is everywhere. The Psalms in particular portray oppression in a manner that echoes the way abuse survivors describe their abuser:

"His mouth is filled with cursing and deceit and oppression; under his tongue are mischief and iniquity." (Psalm 10)

God is on the side of the oppressed and abused (Psalm 56). The scriptures clearly express God's desire for a dramatic transformation of society for those who are burdened, marginalized, or unjustly treated (Luke 4:18-21; Proverbs 14:31; Matthew 9:13; Mark 3:4-5).

Jesus refuses to play by the rules of violence and power (Isaiah 42:3, Matthew 26:52, Mark 10:41-45). This new revolution - modelled by Jesus himself - means that the powerful should give up their privilege to the vulnerable, the abuser should stop using violence against those powerless to resist, and the institution should stop ignoring the trauma of the abuse survivor.

The way of Jesus calls us to relationships of non-violence and peace. We are to resist using violence even in retaliation for violence used against us (Luke 6:29). This does not mean a capitulation to the inevitability of violence, but the promise of a day when those who continue to pursue violence will be dealt with (Romans 12:17-19; Revelation 22:12-15)

## **POWER**

Abuse and oppression of the vulnerable by the powerful is sadly prevalent in a fallen world and men's violence against women is well documented throughout scripture. The underlying driver of violence is the need to find some recognized level of power in how we see ourselves and our place in the world. People in powerful positions are anxious about their power and the acquisition of power is a never-ending process as those who achieve any level of power quickly become accustomed to it. It becomes the status quo, and the need for power can be fulfilled only by acquiring more.

For an abuser, the belief that they have an inherent right to power and the threat of the potential loss of their personal power fuels their violence. The abuser typically views marriage as a pyramid of power with themselves on top and



is constantly trying to secure their position. This is why abusers are controlling, easily angered, critical, and why they isolate their spouses from friends and family.

**God uses power very differently.** God has revealed himself to us as a Trinity, and so Christians worship and image a relational God. The relationships within the Trinity (Father, Son and Holy Spirit) are self-given and use power that is shared and transformative - the very antithesis of authoritarian and abusive power. When God made us in his image he shared (some of) his creative power with us, as he commissioned us to fill the earth. This power has a particular character – it is power that enables human flourishing. Philippians 2 tells of how despite being God, Christ made himself nothing by taking the status of a servant. On the cross he set aside his power and humbled himself completely for us and for his Father.

### **JUSTICE**

Justice and mercy lie at the very heart of God's character. When God introduces himself, justice is a key trait: "I am the Lord, who exercises kindness, justice and righteousness on earth, for in these I delight" Jeremiah 9;24, I am the God "who shows no partiality and accepts no bribes" God hates evil and he judges and punishes evildoers. There will come a day when time will be up for all those who refused to abandon violence; who silenced the wounded, who could not embrace truth and justice. We do not need to take revenge for abuse, knowing that God condemns it, punishes evildoers and will hold everyone to account: Deuteronomy 10;17-18 "God will bring into judgment the righteous and the wicked, for there will be a time for every activity, a time to judge every deed" Ecclesiastes 3;17 Hebrew 10;30 Romans 12;19. So what does this commitment to justice mean for people experiencing domestic and family violence? In particular, what constitutes a sin to be handled by one's society, versus a crime to be handled by local authorities?

It could not be clearer that God hates violence and abuse within families. Loving justice and acting justly means refusing to tolerate abuse, exposing it (Ephesians 5:11-13) and stopping it. It is also vital that local authorities punish those who commit offences. Many acts of domestic and family violence are against the law. We can and should embrace the God-given authorities of human government and law enforcement to stop abuse and bring perpetrators to justice (Romans 13, 1 Peter 2, Acts 23:12-22).

### **REPENTANCE**

Repentance is a biblical term that describes the deep sorrow of recognizing our sin and wanting to turn away from it towards God. It involves a confession of wrongdoing - naming sin and recognizing responsibility for it. It also involves grief at our wrong behaviour, recognizing the limits of our ability to make amends, and acknowledging its impact on our relationships with God and others. In addition to this, it involves a change of heart – deciding that the future will involve new plans, new ways of behaving, and acting on this. Repentance that does not lead to behavior change is not repentance at all. "Godly sorrow" always produces a genuine concern to ensure that justice happens (2 Corinthians 7:10-11). The key term used in the New Testament is 'metanoia' – which refers to both a change of mind, and regret/remorse. In the book of Matthew and Mark, Jesus begins the public declaration of his mission with a call to repent. In fact, Jesus puts it at the core of his mission:

### **CONCLUSION**

The society should take a deeper look at what it means to apologise corporately to victims of domestic and family violence. There is nothing in the Bible to support the view that it is God's will for people to endure relationship abuse. The Bible is clear that violence is evil and must be confronted – Jesus tells us we need to bring evil into the light. We are to rebuke the wrongdoer, seek justice and hold them accountable.

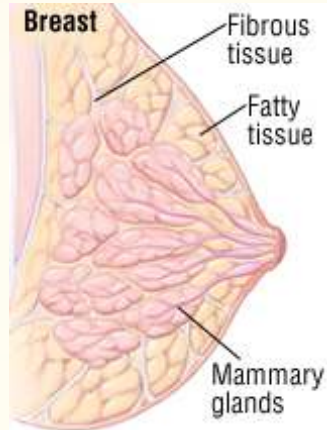


# MAMMOGRAPHY VERSUS BREAST ULTRASOUND SCAN: IS FORTY YEARS THE IDEAL CUT OFF AGE

By Commander UI Okeke

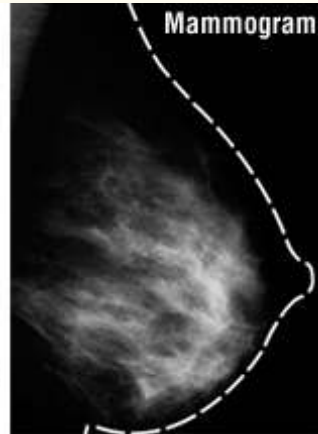
## INTRODUCTION

Breast cancer remains the top cancer in women both in the developed and the developing world<sup>1</sup>. It is estimated that worldwide over 508,000 women died in 2011 due to breast cancer<sup>2</sup>. According to CANCER RESEARCH UK, there



were 55,213 new cases of invasive breast cancer between 2014 and 2016 with over 11,000 deaths in the United Kingdom<sup>3</sup>. Figures from the United States of America show that breast cancer alone accounts for 30% of all cancers in women. In 2015, an estimated 231,840 new cases of invasive breast cancer were diagnosed, along with an estimated 60,290 additional cases of in situ breast cancer<sup>4</sup>. In Nigeria, breast cancer accounts for the highest cancer related mortality in women according to the World Health Organisation (WHO). The figure is put at 13,267 deaths<sup>5</sup>.

The incidence of breast cancer is increasing in the developing world due to increased life expectancy, increased urbanization and adoption of western lifestyles. Therefore, early detection in order to improve breast cancer outcome and survival remains the cornerstone of breast cancer control<sup>1</sup>. Imaging studies used in breast cancer screening includes mammography, breast ultrasonography and Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI). Focus will however be on the first two modalities in this paper. Various expert groups have lent their voices and recommendations to breast cancer screening. However, there are controversies as there is no consensus on when to start or end, frequency of screening and even what technique to use<sup>6</sup>. This write-up attempts to examine breast ultrasound versus mammography with a brief look at available data and recommended protocols on



when to begin breast cancer screening among women.

## BASIC ANATOMY OF THE BREAST

The breast is essentially a modified sweat gland between two layers of pectoralis fascia on the anterior thorax, between the second and

sixth ribs. 12 to 20 lactiferous ducts exist, and their lobules, along with fat and stroma, making up the parenchyma of the breast. The breast ducts converge at the nipple end, and at the other end, the branch and terminate in lobules. The breast undergoes cyclical changes, functional and anatomically. The ratio of the breast parenchyma to the fat varies individually and even in the same woman at different ages and during pregnancy and lactation. This ratio, also known as breast density, is the most important anatomic feature that significantly impacts the choice of imaging modality.

## BREAST ULTRASONOGRAPHY

In 1951, Wild and Neal reported the first known clinical use of breast ultrasound.<sup>7</sup> Subsequently, efforts were made to improve on the technique and equipment for breast ultrasound scans. Despite declining interest in ultrasound notably from the 1970s, interest in ultrasound use for breast imaging has resurged due to better resolution and image quality.<sup>8</sup> The indications for the use of breast ultrasound include: palpable breast abnormality, nipple discharge, breast pain, cancer staging (assessment of lymph nodes) and guiding interventional procedures. The only contraindication to breast ultrasonography would be inadequate operator experience. It is considered a very safe procedure.





The use of breast ultrasonography has been largely restricted to women below 40 years who have denser (more lobular) breasts.<sup>9</sup> However, there is increasing evidence of the usefulness of breast ultrasonography in women above 40 years who are believed to have less dense breasts. It is also gradually being developed as a supplement/adjunct to mammography in screening women with mammographically dense breasts.<sup>10</sup>

### **MAMMOGRAPHY**

Mammography is a special type of low-dose x-ray imaging used to create detailed images of the breast. Mammography is currently the best available population-based method to detect breast cancer at an early stage, when treatment is most effective.<sup>1, 11</sup> The goal of mammography is the early detection of breast cancer, typically through detection of characteristic masses or microcalcifications. Although mammography remains the most cost-effective approach for breast cancer screening, it is far from a perfect screening test, with a sensitivity of 76.5% and a specificity of 87.1% for women younger than 40 years.<sup>12</sup> By comparison, the sensitivity and specificity for mammography in women age 75-79 years is 88.4% and 93.5%, respectively.<sup>13</sup>

### **BI-RADS**

The American College of Radiology (ACR) has established the Breast Imaging Reporting and Data System (BI-RADS) to guide the breast cancer diagnostic routine. BI-RADS is the product of a collaborative effort between members of various committees of the ACR in cooperation with the National Cancer Institute (NCI), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), the FDA, the American Medical Association (AMA), the American College of Surgeons (ACS), and the College of American Pathologists (CAP).<sup>14</sup> BI-RADS reporting enables radiologists to communicate results to the referring physician clearly and consistently, with a final assessment and specific management recommendations. The ACR BI-RADS Atlas® 5th Edition published in 2013 is the current standard reporting reference for mammography, breast ultrasound and breast MRI.

BI-RADS Assessment Categories are classified from Category 0 to Category 6 as indicated below:

- a. Category 0:
  - i. Mammography: Incomplete – Need Additional Imaging Evaluation and/or Prior Mammograms for Comparison
  - ii. Ultrasound & MRI: Incomplete – Need Additional Imaging Evaluation
- b. Category 1: Negative
- c. Category 2: Benign
- d. Category 3: Probably Benign
- e. Category 4: Suspicious Mammography & Ultrasound:
  - i. Category 4A: Low suspicion for malignancy
  - ii. Category 4B: Moderate suspicion for malignancy
  - iii. Category 4C: High suspicion for malignancy
- f. Category 5: Highly Suggestive of Malignancy
- g. Category 6: Known Biopsy-Proven Malignancy

### **IS THERE AN IDEAL SCREENING AGE OR MODALITY?**

Strong debate still rages as to what the breast imaging modality would be at different ages. The American College of Radiology Imaging Network published data in 2016 from their ACRIN6666 study that cancer detection rate with ultrasonography is comparable to that with mammography. Cancer detection was comparable for each of ultrasound and mammography at 58 of 111 (52.3%) versus 59 of 111 (53.2%,  $P = .90$ ) but false positives were more common with ultrasound.<sup>15</sup> This large multicenter study gave life from many previous inquiries into the possible use of breast ultrasound for routine breast cancer screening. Kolb et al and Buchberger et al found that when performed carefully, ultrasonography may be useful in detecting occult breast cancer in dense breasts.<sup>16,17</sup> Various studies are still ongoing to ascertain the place of ultrasound in breast cancer screening and they have reported reasonable results from ultrasound breast screening. A



number of serious issues still need to be solved before the practice is recommended for general application. These drawbacks include interobserver variability, unknown sensitivity and low specificity (leading to many false positives and biopsies).<sup>18,19,20,21</sup>

Regarding the cut off age for breast cancer using mammography, different guidelines from various groups have different recommendations. The Cochrane Collaboration states that the best quality evidence does not demonstrate a reduction in mortality from all types of cancer from screening mammography.<sup>28</sup> However, the WHO still recommends that routine mammography screening should start at 40 years. In limited resource settings with weak or relatively strong health systems, WHO recommends against the implementation of population-based screening programmes for women aged 40–49 years.<sup>22</sup> In the same document, the WHO clearly notes that “On the basis of the limited evidence available, there is uncertainty as to the balance between benefits and harms of mammography screening programmes in women aged 40–49 years. Therefore, there is a need for research in this age group.”<sup>22</sup>

The US Preventive Services Task Force (USPSTF) analysis of seven randomized trials of

mammographic screening found that the point estimate of the reduction in mortality from screening mammography was 22% in women aged 50 years or older and 15% in women between 40 and 49 years.<sup>23</sup> This finding is responsible for USPSTF recommendation in its guidelines that “No requirement for routine screening mammography in women aged 40-49 years (grade C recommendation); the decision to start regular, biennial screening mammography before age 50 years should be an individual one and should take into account patient context, including the patient's values regarding specific benefits and harms”<sup>24,25</sup>

In support of screening mammography in women between the ages of 40-49, Kimberly M. Ray et al in their 2018 literature review concluded that models of different breast cancer screening strategies consistently show the greatest breast cancer mortality reduction and life-years gained with annual screening starting when women reach 40 years old.<sup>13</sup> The review article took an in-depth look at randomized control trials, observational studies as well as ACR and USPSTF guidelines. Also, the American Cancer Society opined in its 2015 guidelines that women should have the opportunity to begin annual screening between the ages of 40 and 44 years while women aged 45 and above should be routinely screened.<sup>26</sup> The 2017 update of the American





College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists guidelines recommends offering mammography screening from age 40.<sup>43</sup>

### **CONCLUSION**

The discussion on which imaging modality is better at different ages is still an ongoing one. Available data till date is inconclusive as regards changing the age for mammography screening from age 40. However, it is evident that women between the ages of 40 – 49 are still in the grey area as regards screening protocols. Breast cancer is an important health problem for women 40–49 years old, yet screening mammography for this age group remains controversial. This can be largely attributed to the not so distinct nature of their breast densities as well as a low incidence in that age group. Therefore in breast cancer screening, clinicians should discuss breast density as one of several important breast cancer risk factors, consider the potential harms of adjunctive screening, and arrive at a shared decision consistent with each woman's preferences and values.

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# CONTRIBUTION OF EASTERN NAVAL COMMAND TOWARDS IMPROVING THE STANDARD OF NN WELFARE SCHOOLS

By Commander PS Ozah



Newly constructed Boys Hostel in Nigerian Navy Secondary School Borokiri

## **INTRODUCTION**

The Eastern Naval Command oversees the activities of 2 Nigerian Navy Secondary schools located in Port Harcourt and Calabar respectively. The schools were established to cater for the educational needs of the wards of Service personnel, civilians as well as the host communities. The schools were established between 1995 and 2005 and have performed exceedingly well as compared to their contemporaries in terms of academic performance, infrastructural development amongst others.

The schools have contributed immensely to national development as graduates of the schools could be found in almost all facets of professions contributing their quota to national development. The purpose of the paper is to

highlight the contribution of the Eastern Naval Command to the development of Nigerian Navy welfare schools in the Command. The paper would give an overview of the activities of the schools in the ENC. It would further give an update of the various projects embarked by the Command before discussing on their future plans for the schools.

## **AIM**

The aim of the paper is to highlight the contributions of the Command towards improving the standard of Nigerian Navy welfare schools in the Command.

## **ACTIVITIES OF WELFARE SCHOOLS**

The Schools in the Command have unified schedule for most of their activities. The schools conduct various programmed activities such as



continuous assessment and visiting days as well as terminal examinations. All these are programmed activities aimed at ensuring uniformity in standard and quality in education. The assessment of the schools in this regard could be adjudged satisfactory.

The schools enrolled for West African School Certificate Examination (WASCE) and National Examination Council (NECO) for the Senior Secondary School students. The Junior Secondary School students enrolled for the National Examination Council (NECO). The schools have been performing exceedingly well in these examination and have been recording between 95-100 percent credit pass in 5 subjects including Mathematics and English Language. Suffice to state that Nigerian Navy Secondary School Port Harcourt recorded 100 per cent pass in 5 credits including Mathematics and English Language. The Command had put in concerted efforts to consolidate on the performances of the schools in order to continuously attain the desired objective of 100 per cent credits in WASCE, NECO and Junior NECO examinations.

In order to continuously improve the schools performance and enhance their capacities to function competitively, the schools in the Command holds seminars termly on capacity building for all the teaching staff. Resource persons from the Faculty of Education in Universities the schools are domiciled are invited to give presentations on areas that would enhance the teaching and learning processes in the schools

#### **CONTRIBUTION OF THE COMMAND TOWARDS THE PROGRESS OF THE SCHOOLS**

The Command embarked on several measures to



improve the teaching and learning processes in the schools. Furthermore, the Command executed projects that would enhance the comfort of the students in the schools. Consequently, the following projects were executed:

- a. Provision of 80 desktop computers and accessories for e-library in NNSS Calabar.
- b. Provision of 120 computer tables/chairs for the e-library in NNSS Calabar.
- c. Completion of an abandoned 1x6 classroom block in NNSS Calabar.
- d. Installation of 10 KVA solar light inverter for the e-library in NNSS Calabar.
- e. Provision of 2 X computer servers for the e-library in NNSS Calabar.
- f. Provision of inverter air-conditioners to enhance the cooling of the computer systems in NNSS Calabar.
- g. Provision of 1,500 e-books for the library covering material for WASCE and NECO in NNSS Calabar.
- h. Construction and re-construction of 2 hostel accommodation in NNSS Calabar.
- i. Provision of walkway and drainages in the Soccer Academy Quarters in NNSS Calabar.
- j. Flooring of New boys hostel in NNSS Port-Harcourt.
- k. Re-construction of Deputy Commandant's residence in NNSS Port-





Harcourt.

- I. Construction of 220 students' capacity hostel in NNSS Port-Harcourt.

The Command would be replicating similar facilities emplaced in NNSS Calabar in NNSS Port-Harcourt.

### **FUTURE PLANS OF THE COMMAND FOR THE SCHOOLS**

The Command intends to consolidate on the performances recorded by the schools. To this end, the Command would create enabling environment for the schools to conduct series of capacity building programmes as well as performance evaluation exercises in order to achieve the overall target of 100 percent credit in all subjects in WASCE and Senior as well as Junior NECO examinations.

The improvement of the infrastructure in the schools is a cornerstone to having conducive learning environment. Consequently, the Command would vigorously focus on improving the infrastructure available in the schools. This is aimed at enhancing the teaching and learning processes as well as positioning the schools to be among the best sought schools in their locality.

### **CONCLUSION**

The HQ Eastern Naval Command Education Department oversees the activities of 2 Nigerian Navy Secondary Schools located in Port Harcourt and Calabar. The schools were established to cater for the educational needs of the wards of Service personnel, civilians as well as the host communities. The schools have contributed immensely to national development as graduates of the schools could be found in almost all facets of professions contributing their quota to national development.

The Command embarked on several measures to improve the teaching and learning processes in the schools. Furthermore, the Command executed projects that would enhance the comfort of the students in the schools. The projects executed include the provision of 80 desktop computers and accessories for e-library and the provision of 120 computer tables/chairs for the e-library in NNSS Calabar. Others are the completion of an abandoned 1x6 classroom block and the installation of 10 KVA solar light inverter for the e-library in NNSS Calabar amongst others. The provision of these infrastructure in the schools is a cornerstone to having conducive learning environment.



# COMMISSIONING OF BOYS' HOSTEL NIGERIAN NAVY SECONDARY SCHOOL BOKKIRI PORT HARCOURT BY THE FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING EASTERN NAVAL COMMAND REAR ADMIRAL DA ADENIRAN





# COMMISSIONING OF REMODELED GIRLS' HOSTEL AND QUARTER GUARD PLATFORM AT THE NIGERIAN NAVY SECONDARY SCHOOL AKPABUYO CALABAR BY THE FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING EASTERN NAVAL COMMAND REAR ADMIRAL DA ADENIRAN



# COMMISSIONING OF JUNIOR RATES' MESS NIGERIAN NAVY SHIP PATHFINDER BY THE FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING EASTERN NAVAL COMMAND REAR ADMIRAL DA ADENIRAN



# FOUNDATION LAYING CEREMONY OF ADDITIONAL BOYS' HOSTEL IN NIGERIAN NAVY SECONDARY SCHOOL AKPABUYO BY THE FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING EASTERN NAVAL COMMAND REAR ADMIRAL DA ADENIRAN



# COMMISSIONING OF VICE ADMIRAL IBOK-ETE EKWE IBAS RECREATIONAL GARDEN AT THE NIGERIAN NAVY REFERENCE HOSPITAL CALABAR BY THE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE FLAG OFFICER COMMANDING EASTERN NAVAL COMMAND REAR ADMIRAL TA IMAM





# JOIN THE NIGERIAN NAVY'S CAMPAIGN



Illegal oil refining site



Militant activities



Pipeline Vandalization



Illegal oil bunkering activities

*On*

## **Zero Tolerance to**

Crude oil theft,  
Pipeline Vandalism and  
Other Criminalities in Nigeria's  
Maritime Environment.

### **These vices cause:**

- Economic Depreciation and Environmental Degradation, Killing Fish and Other Marine Lives.
- Explosions and Fire Outbreaks.
- Hardship to Generations.
- Health hazard such as Cancer and other Chronic Diseases and
- Insecurity to Society.

Courtesy:  
Eastern Naval Command

# ADMIRAL ADENIRAN BAGS AFRICAN STUDENTS' UNION PARLIAMENT AWARD

The African Students' Union Parliament has honoured the Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Naval Command, Rear Admiral David Adeniran with the Pan-African Leadership award. The award was necessitated due to the fact that African Students' Union Parliament took time to scrutinize the leadership of Rear Admiral David Adeniran who was observed to be committed to serve the common good of mankind in accordance with the Pan-African ideology of isolating leaders that are painstaking and exceptionally outstanding in service delivery.

The African Students' Union Parliament is the umbrella body that covers all students within the 54 member countries with the core objective of encouraging cooperation and harmonious co existence among member states. The speaker of the African Students' Union Parliament, Rt Hon Kewul Abel while presenting the award to the Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Naval Command said the Flag Officer Commanding is a detribalized Nigerian, Lover of students/youth with a charismatic personality, whose credible credentials of efficient and effective service delivery, high administrative acumen, capacity building, economic development, financial prudence, dedicated leadership, Patriotism, Youth empowerment and community relations mark him an iconic Patriot of African society

worthy of a role model.

Commander Edward Yeibo, who received the award on behalf of the Flag Officer



Commanding Eastern Naval Command, appreciated the parliament in their objectivity to have bestowed the honour on Rear Admiral David Adeniran. He commended their effort on the issue of drug abuse and highlighted the amnesty corridor for personnel indulged in drug abuse in the Nigerian Navy. The amnesty corridor was for a time frame for personnel to out of volition own up for rehabilitation after which it will be seen as an offence and be punished according to extent regulations. He also commended the focus of the African Students' Union Parliament on Africanism and sensitization of youth on drug abuse.



# EMERGENCE OF NIGERIAN NAVY YOUNGEST NAVAL OUTPOST

CAPT SB AYUBA



## **INTRODUCTION**

The Nigerian Navy (NN) is constitutionally tasked to continuously police the Nigerian Territorial waters as well as enforce embargo on smuggling and immigration laws at sea amongst others. Overtime, the security challenges of Nigeria increased with internal threats such as piracy, sea robbery, pipeline vandalism, crude oil theft (COT), illegal refinery, kidnapping, cultism, insurgency and terrorism amongst others than external threats, thus the Nigerian Armed Forces (AFN) of late were seen taking the front lines in internal security. In meeting up with these challenges, the NN had witnessed gradual increase in platform acquisition and expansion in operational bases, it is in this process that Naval Outpost (NOP) IKURU was conceived and given birth to on 29 December 2014 after Navy Board (NB) 3 of 2014 approval. This is to position the NN to more effectively respond to maritime security challenges in the maritime environment.

NOP IKURU is located in Ikuru Town, Andoni Local Government Area (LGA) of Rivers State, at position Lat 04.48°N and Long 007.48°E and can be accessed by both land and sea. However, due to the bad state of road, only auxiliary

geared vehicles can effectively ply the road. Ikuru town is bordered by Opobo Town to the South, Atlantic Ocean to the West while Agbama and Okorobo towns are to the East. The town is about 180 km by road from NNS JUBILEE in Ikot Abasi and about 30 minutes boat drive from ALSCON Jetty in Ikot Abasi. NOP IKURU is situated about one kilometer away from the jetty-line towards the Eastern part of the town and 2 kilometers from the Atlantic Ocean shore line.

## **DEVELOPMENTAL STAGES OF NOP IKURU**

From inception, NOP IKURU has been operationally and administratively under NNS JUBILEE which is at Ikot-Abasi in Akwa Ibom State. This could be attributed to the proximity of the Outpost for synergy and backup while allowing NNS JUBILEE control additional supporting units within its Area of Operations (AOO). The NOP commenced operation in a humble beginning with twin blocks of 2 x 4 flats each, 6 x one bedrooms for the officers and one x 2 bedrooms for the Commanding Officer. Since then NOP IKURU has undergone remarkable transformation. This transformation cuts across various aspects of



the Base, its operations and general management that has added value to NN operations and image making. Some of the structures improved upon to enhance effectiveness includes electrification and safety harnesses.

### **ACHIEVEMENTS**

It is worthy to state that, the level of welfare management and quality of structures put in place in a military setting or Base goes a long way in establishing the proper atmosphere suitable to breed success and fighting capacity. Structure under this concept include housing, lighting (Electricity) network, landscape development, water treatment, worship centres and supply system, as well as officers' quarters among others.

It is pertinent to state that the Base enjoys the good will of the locals and the indigenous oil company Green Energy International Limited (GEIL) operating in the NOP AOO to achieve the milestone relative success in the Base. For instance the community leadership evacuated/relocated all her indigenes and carried out survey of the land including the placement of beacons and assisted in the sand filling of some portion on the allocated land for the establishment of the NOP. These have ensured safety of the land and reduce future ground for litigation by the locals. Furthermore, the indigenous oil operating company GEIL donated a new JAC Toyota Hilux to the Base in appreciation of the collaboration of the company and the NOP and as part of her corporate social responsibility. This has enhanced the operation of the base, increased mobility and reduced cost of maintenance of the aging vehicles issued by the Rivers State Government to the NN.

IKURU town is now connected to the national grid for her power needs, the terrain of NOP which is waterlogged and open to the creek, experiences flooding during the changing

tides and rains which falls virtually every day making the existing underground cables used for the electrification of the base unsafe for personnel, hence the need to install electricity poles to convey power from the generator room to the buildings. Consequently, the outpost erected galvanized electric poles mounted on cast pedestals and procured electric wires that were used to distribute a 3-phase power supply to buildings within the Base. It is pertinent to state that this project is a continuum as more poles are being erected as the Base develops.

NOP IKURU has 3 x diesel generators of different capacities previously located under different make-shift houses. The situation made the surrounding especially the administrative area clogged with small shelters for generators. There was the need to centralize the generators, reduce the noise ratio, fire risk, economy of efforts and use of generating set within one housing unit located at a construction of a generator house capable of sheltering the 3 generators. The building project was commissioned by the Flag Officer Commanding, Eastern Naval Command (FOC ENC) Rear Admiral David Adeniran on 24 May 2019.

To aid riverine operations and the Base efforts in making the water ways safe, the Base was allocated 3 gunboats by the NN while the Ataba community donated a single boat. Maritime operations all over require robust logistics arrangement, before now fuel allocated for operations were always kept at NNS JUBILEE fuel dump, the distance of the base from Ikot Abasi to access this POL makes operation difficult, lost surprise and hence, the unit saved some funds and built a walled surfaced fuel dump under roof capable of storing 2 x 22,000 litres for AGO and PMS to directly store her POL and this has greatly improved effectiveness of operation as well reduce wear and tear. The POL





dump also contains 2 x rooms designated as office and store rooms for stowage of oil and lubricants amongst others.

The NN new arrival, NOP IKURU, needed to be armed to bite as at when the need arises. To this end, the Navy Building Construction Company Limited (NBCCL) was contacted to build an Armoury for the Base in November 2016 and spanned for a period of 3 years to reach a completion status in April 2019. The relevance of an armoury to any military formation cannot be over emphasized, as its presence (especially when well-equipped) and content not only enhances operational efficiency but instills high confidence in personnel and promotes efficacy in the discharge of their duties. The Base in its efforts to further fortify the armoury embarked and emplaced the construction of a walled fence, carried out interlock of the surrounding within the armoury and further attached the wall with concertina wire round the fence of the armoury. The Armoury was commissioned by the FOC ENC Admiral DA Adeniran on 24 May 2019 with several dignitaries including senior serving personnel, the King of Ikuru and his cabinet, senior stakeholders of Green Energy International Limited (GEIL) among others.

Water is said to be life, as portable water not only rehydrate the body but is used for other domestic reasons. The personnel needed good treated water for cooking, washing their cloths, flushing of toilets amongst others. Hence the NOP undertook the installation of a borehole and a treatment plant to guarantee quality drinking water and reduce health situation likely associated with untreated water.

Administration is germane in every organization, the safety of document and separation of the office from living area will be very key to the success of any organization. Before now the administrative block and detention quarters was attached to the living quarters. This to a large extent was not in tandem with the requirements of an ideal working office environment as work and personal life were hardly separable. This is unethical and made it difficult to keep suspects/inmates under custody but put the unit in a compromised state. Hence the NOP took advantage of the unused foundation already built by NNBCCL when they constructed the armoury to erect the police post that contains 2 cell accommodation to cater for detention of suspects and defaulters. The other offices are used as the temporary



secretariat and administrative blocks. The block was commissioned for dual use by the FOC ENC Rear Admiral Adeniran on 24 May 2019.

Welfare of troops is essential as one of the principles of war, it can make or mar any operation no matter how well the operation was planned, even with the best weapon giving to the man who handles it. The physiological needs of the troops must always be considered to achieve the needed success desired. Decent accommodation is essential not only to personnel physiologically, for assigned tasks but also helps them in maintaining focus and a clean bill of health, as well as provides a resting place after a day's job so as to ensure effectiveness in the discharge of their duties. It is pertinent to state that, prior to the construction of the Men arrival Hall the only buildings available to house ratings were the 2 x 4 and 2 x 6 accommodations respectively. The numerical increase in personnel deployed to the Base as a result of operational requirements and other factors prompted the need for the construction of additional accommodation for ratings. Consequently NHQ directed NNS JUBILEE to supervise the construction of arrival hall for ratings to ease the accommodation deficit of the NOP, the building has been completed and it was commissioned by FOC EAST on 24 May 19.

In furtherance of the need to provide decent accommodation for the personnel, one of the 4 x 2 bedroom block had its roof blown open by storm which deteriorated the block overtime thus affecting the walls, woods, ceiling and electrification of the building. Worthy of note is that the 4 x 2 ratings' accommodation is one of the oldest buildings in the Base, coupled with the prevalent weather conditions, nature of roofing materials etc, there is need to carry out renovation of the building. Consequently, the Base commenced the renovation of the Block in October 19 which is now completed and put to use once again.

The spiritual wellbeing of the combatant cannot be underscored, it was observed that there was no worship place for both Christian and Muslim personnel. Accordingly, the base embark and built temporary worship areas to cater for the 2 faiths, the mosque has been completed and put to use while the Chapel is at 96% completion.

It would be necessary to mention that the development of any child is work in progress, this require time and patience, focus and determination to midwife the child to adulthood. NOP IKURU would require its own jetty in order to keep its assets, more transit accommodation and galley as a matter of urgency. This would reduce the risk of exposing the gunboats to the glaring eyes of the community, surprise is not achieved and would reduce risk of gas fire from the temporary galley.

### **CONCLUSION**

NOP IKURU was conceived and established as the youngest operational unit of the NN to curb criminalities in Andoni axis of Rivers state and environs. The base has passed through various developmental challenges and has recorded remarkable successes in addressing the welfare of personnel in providing a conducive operating environment including meeting their spiritual commitment. Despite the challenges and irrespective of the tangible achievements by the Base so far which is evident in various ramifications, efforts are ongoing to ensure the projects that are ongoing are brought to commendable conclusions whilst hatching plans for new projects which include construction of permanent of Administrative Block, a sports complex, a jetty, more accommodation blocks for officers, senior and junior rates, a galley, observation post etc.



# HOUSE COMMITTEE ON NAVY LAUDS NAVY'S COMMITMENT TO MARITIME SECURITY



The House Committee on Navy has applauded the commitment of the Nigerian Navy to maritime security through strategic deployment of personnel and available infrastructure. Rt Hon Yusuf Adamu Gagdi, the Chairman House Committee on Navy, who led 11 other members on oversight function to the Eastern Naval Command made the remark in Calabar at the end of a 3-Day exercise. Rear Admiral David Adeniran, the Flag Officer Commanding, Eastern Naval Command, conducted members of the committee around units, ships and establishments within the Eastern Naval Command area of operations.

The legislators inspected facilities such as ongoing construction of accommodation for officers and ratings at the Nigerian Navy Primary School, Ikot Ansa, Calabar, living quarters for medical interns at its Nigerian Navy Reference Hospital Calabar as well as the Navy barracks at Atimbo and Akim in Calabar. Others included the proposed construction site for administrative offices to be utilized by NNS

VICTORY, Naval War College and Eastern Naval Command. At the Reference Hospital, the legislators, who were visibly pleased with the modern medical equipment for treatment and the overall ambience of the facility, congratulated the Navy for the feat achieved. Rt Hon Gagdi stated, my colleagues and I were wondering why Nigerians have to go outside

the country for medical checks. I have seen the same facilities in the Reference Hospital. The assets the Nigerian Navy has and the manner in which its personnel are handling the equipment has made us proud as representatives of the people. The legislators also commended the Chief of Naval Staff, Vice Admiral Ibok-Ete Ekwe Ibas for what he described as his doggedness, his comportment in ensuring that he has provided the necessary physical infrastructure, other equipments and services that would help in promoting the commitment of our gallant personnel of the Nigerian Navy.

Meanwhile, at the Nigerian Navy Secondary School, Akpabuyo in Cross River State, the lawmaker promised outstanding students, payment of free one year's tuition by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Rt Hon Femi Gbajabamila. The Chairman of the House Committee, Rt Hon Yusuf Gagdi, who announced this to the students, said it would cut across best overall students in



Junior Secondary 1 to Senior Secondary 3 as a motivation for hard work. As part of the oversight function, the Committee held a stakeholders meeting in Calabar with the navy and maritime operators within the Eastern Naval Commands Area of Responsibility.

At the meeting, Rt Hon Gagdi attributed the sharp decline in criminalities along the nation's waterways to the presence of the navy and for its arrest of suspected oil thieves, pirates and other sundry criminals. Rt Hon Gagdi averred that for the Navy to increase patrol of the maritime domain, more personnel must be recruited, calling for effective collaboration with other stakeholders.

The Chairman stated that, from available record, the crimes in the maritime industry are depreciating. The issue of oil theft has reduced as well, therefore, we need to sustain this tempo in reduction of crime in the Command Area of Responsibility. "As an assembly, we would do our best possible to support the Navy with basic required facilities. We have seen the quality of projects and programmes that

have been put together by the Navy. We have identified challenges of recruitment and also seen the need to make sure that jetties are provided for maritime patrol, he said.

The Flag Officer Commanding the Eastern Naval Command, Rear Admiral Adeniran, emphasized that the job of securing the nations maritime environment should be the collective responsibility of all maritime stakeholders. The job of securing the maritime environment to move Nigeria forward is not one man's endeavour, therefore all hands must be on deck. He commended the Committee for bringing all maritime stakeholders together to deliberate on issues that affects the security of the maritime domain. The stakeholders meeting included representatives of the Nigeria Port Authority, NPA, Nigeria Customs Service, Nigerian National Petroleum Corporation, the Nigeria Maritime Administration and Safety Agency as well as the Calabar Free Trade Zone.



# ADMIRAL ADENIRAN BUILDS CONFIDENCE AMONG CORPS MEMBERS

The Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Naval Command Rear Admiral Adeniran recently organized a maiden edition of the Eastern Naval Command Public Speaking Competition for the National Youth Service Corps Member serving within the Command. This was in bid to enhance confidence in corps members, orientating them in the right direction and giving them the understanding as well as requirement for national development. In cognizance of the Navy's support for the National Youth Service Corps Scheme as well as National Youth Policy of the Federal Government of Nigeria, the Command came up with the topic 'The National Youth Service Corps as a tool for National Development: My Perspective and Contribution.'



According to the Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Naval Command, the exercise was not intended as an academic endeavour, because scripts were not collected and marked. He emphasized that Corps Members were to painstakingly make presentations in original thought and show some level of proficiency in making presentation to the public. He reiterated that Youth in any society are the engine of growth and development, because the labour force for production of goods and services are the critical masses of the people, whose action or inaction can develop or destroy the hegemonies/ fabrics of the society. He therefore asserted that Nigeria is blessed and that about 70% of Nigeria's Population is 30 Years and below. He also asserted that Nigeria could witness tremendous growth and development, if this population is guided or aligned rightly and that is part of the focus of the Public Speaking exercise.

He further said, for the Command to achieve the required guidance for the corps members, the Command decided to enhance their confidence and give them the understanding / requirement

of national development in order to inculcate in them patriotism as well as the spirit of sacrifice to our dear nation and humanity in general. He also emphasized that one of the things that gave birth to the National Youth Service Corps Scheme in 1973 was the need to involve Youth in building leadership skills and develop human capacity.

Participants for the Public Speaking Competition were drawn from units under the Eastern Naval Command. These units are Nigerian Navy Ships VICTORY, JUBILEE and PATHFINDER. On the whole a total of 18 Corps Members out of over 250 corps members were selected for the Final Public Speaking Competition that held at the Vice Admiral Usman Otibe Jubrin Auditorium, Calabar. After a critical assessment Okwu Priscilla emerged the overall best in the Public Speaking Competition. Yusuf Amina Ene and Mson James Tegetom emerged second and third respectively in the competition.



# NN AND CIVIL LITIGATION UNDER ENC AOR: THE JOURNEY SO FAR

By Lieutenant Commander MM Magami

## PREAMBLE

Disagreements and misunderstandings are inevitable and often arise in our day to day activities. Naturally the best approach to resolve a disagreement or misunderstanding is to liaise with the other party on how to resolve the issues amicably, through negotiation, mediation, arbitration or conciliation. When such methods fail to solve the issues, parties will naturally have to resort to the Courts of Law to adjudicate on the issue.

## CIVIL LITIGATION

Civil Litigation is a process of resolving disputes between parties and includes any interactions between disputing parties prior to proceedings being commenced, such as letters of demand, the initiation and defence proceedings in courts or other tribunals. It also involves pre-trial procedures which entails interlocutory applications, court and tribunal appearances, alternative avenues of dispute resolutions such as negotiation, mediation and arbitration, post-trial procedures such as costs recovery and enforcement of judgments. Civil litigations involve disputes of private law issues between individuals, organizations, businesses and sometimes public law.

## LITIGATION AGAINST THE NN UNDER ENC AOR

Eastern Naval Command overtime has been faced with litigations involving individuals and private organizations across its AOR. These litigations have been handled in courts by external solicitors and Ministry of Defence lawyers on behalf of the Nigerian Navy and closely supervised by the Command, under close supervision of the Legal Department of



the Command. In handling these litigations, successes are made and challenges faced. There are a total of 31 pending cases in courts within Eastern Naval Command AOR. The breakdown of the number of cases and their areas is as follows:

### CALABAR AREA:

- Supreme Court: 3 cases
- Court of Appeal: 3 cases
- Federal High Court: 2 cases
- State High Court: 2 cases

### PORTHARCOURT AREA:

- Supreme Court: Nil
- Court of Appeal: 3
- Federal High Court: 11
- State High Court: 3

### AKWAIBOM AREA:

- Supreme Court: Nil
- Court of Appeal: Nil
- Federal High Court: 2 cases
- State High Court: 3 cases

The above breakdown shows the total of 32 pending cases in various courts across Eastern Naval Command AOR.



## RECORDED SUCCESSES

In addition to the pending cases, a good number of cases have been concluded. Although some cases were lost, 14 cases from 2017 to date had judgments in favour of the NN. Most of the cases were for claims for ownership of land owned by the NN which ended in favour of the NN, garnishee proceedings for execution for judgments where ruling was delivered in favour of NN. For instance in the case of NN v Orok Orok Iron Bar N10, 000, 000 (Ten Million Naira) garnishee Order was reversed in favour of the NN. Also, in CNS and others v Friday Ukpung and 3 others a garnishee absolute of over N300m was reversed by the Court of the Appeal in favour of the NN. Other cases for enforcement of fundamental human right were also dismissed in favour of the NN. Despite the successes achieved, solicitors representing the NN in courts have been tasked to gear up their efforts in order to achieve more favorable judgments in the other pending cases.

## CHALLENGES

Generally, Civil Litigation as the most common method of resolving disputes comes with its challenges. Litigation comes at a significant cost and the expenses are so high, sometime exceeding the amounts paid or received in the course of litigation. When litigation cost is calculated, the external solicitors' fee is considered distinct from court filing fees, court reporter fees for depositions, expert witnesses fee if any and appeal fees. Such fees can most times equal or exceed the solicitors' fees. In addition, the procedures are usually complex before cases are being resolved which translates to more expenses to the NN.

Another notable challenge is the uncertainty and long duration it takes to conclude cases in courts. The process of litigation is very complicated, it needs to go through many steps and stages before the trial starts, it takes

a long time to complete the pre-trial and the trial before judgments are finally given. In view of the above, civil litigation is said to be a very expensive and a slow process of settling disputes. Consequently, it is always better to explore the Alternative Dispute Resolution Mechanisms (Negotiation, Arbitration, Mediation and Conciliation). Even after winning at the lower courts, litigants normally appeal to Court of Appeal and Supreme Court. This occasions unnecessary expenses and time wasting to the NN.

It is pertinent to note that some persons and lawyers bring frivolous claims against the NN in Courts. A case study in this respect is the case of Barrister George Ekene vs NN, where over a N100m was awarded against the NN. Same thing applies to the case of CNS and others v Friday Ukpung and 3 others where over N300m was removed from the NN account through garnishee proceedings, thank God the efforts of the NN in fighting these unpatriotic and dubious elements is yielding the right result. This is evident in the Court of Appeal Victory in the case of Nigerian Navy vs Friday Ukpung where the Court ordered the respondent to refund the N300m belonging to the NN taken through Garnishee proceedings.

## CONCLUSION

Despite the influx of cases filed against the NN by desperate and dubious litigants, ENC always ensured that appropriate defence are filed and pursued in earnest to avoid any laxity that will lead to unnecessary loss of cases in courts thereby discouraging desperate litigants to file more cases against the NN. This has reduce the number of cases been filed against the NN within ENC AOR.



# ENHANCING PATRONAGE OF CALABAR SEA PORT



by

## **INTRODUCTION**

Globally, seaports are the precursors of social and economic growth of a coastal state. They serve as hub for trade, social and economic activities to thrive. They also form part of a complex structure in a country's transportation system. Seaports are of great strategic significance to a nation, apart from their economic importance, they could provide berthing spaces and ancillary services to a nation's naval forces as well as staging areas for embarkation of land forces. For instance, approximately 90 per cent of Nigeria's total imports and exports are sea borne. Therefore, an efficient, secure and cost-effective port system is vital for the economic growth of the Country.



Commodore ZM Ayabina

dredging, pilotage, towage, construction, rehabilitation and maintenance of the breakwater, berth structures, quay apron and stacking areas amongst others. Likewise, capital and maintenance works of port development, quick turnaround time of vessel and cargo traffic at the port are under the purview of the NPA. Despite the emplacement of these services, some of the ports are confronted

by inadequate patronage, particularly Calabar Port due to largely inadequate equipment infrastructural and security challenges. The purpose of this paper therefore is to highlight some challenges impeding the patronage of Calabar Port. Accordingly, the paper will cover location of Calabar Port, challenges impeding patronage of Calabar Port and the way forward.

## **LOCATION OF CALABAR PORT**

Calabar Port is located in Calabar by the Calabar River at Longitude 008° 051'E to 008° 251'E and Latitude 04° 481'N to 05° 011'N. It is about 45nm





from the Calabar channel Fairway Buoy to the berth. Anchorage is at Parrot Island between buoys number 24 and 25 with depth of 8m. Historically, during the pre-colonial and colonial era, Calabar Port served as a medium of international trade between the Eastern States and the world as well as local trade with Northern States of Nigeria. In December 1969, the Federal Government handed the management of old Port which was being privately administered and operated by various shipping companies to the Nigerian Port Authority.

The 3rd National Development Plan of 1975–1980 heralded the modernization and expansion of the Calabar Port to handle increasing economic activities of the Nation. Consequently, on 9 June 1979, the new Calabar Port Complex was commissioned. Presently, the Calabar Port Complex comprises of the Old Port, the New Port and the Dockyard. It also has jurisdiction over Antan, Odudu, Yoho and Qua Iboe Oil Terminals as well as NIWA, Mc Iver, NNPC, ALSCON, Dozzy and Northwest Jetties. The Calabar Port Terminals are operated by ECM Terminal Ltd, INTELS Nigeria Ltd and Shoreline Logistics Nigeria Ltd. these operators adopt global best practices in their operations.

### **CHALLENGES IMPEDING THE PATRONAGE OF CALABAR PORT**

The NPA has emplaced several measures to enhance the operational efficiency and patronage of Calabar Port. However, the Port is still bedevilled by inadequate patronage due to some challenges which borders on inadequate infrastructure and equipment, dredging, wrecks and sea robbery as well as dilapidated road network to and from Calabar.

#### **Inadequate Infrastructure and Equipment.**

A survey revealed that there are some dilapidated warehouses which are underutilised and bad roads which hinder efficient port operations and smooth operations of cargo handling equipment. In terms of pilotage, Calabar Port is also challenged by lack of pilot boats and inadequate tugboats to assist in berthing and sailing of vessels within the port

approaches.

**Silting of Calabar Channel.** Calabar Channel is about 45 nm from the Fairway Buoy to the Port. Silting along the channel has resulted in shallow areas which is impeding the movement of large vessels with long draught. This limitation has made it impossible for bigger vessels to come to Calabar Port. The non-completion of the dredging of the channel to the required depth is a serious threat to the development of the Port. Also, this has adversely affected the projected income of Calabar Port

**Wrecks.** There are several wrecks along Calabar Channel and some in close proximity to the jetties. These wrecks pose significant navigational hazard to shipping and prevent maximum utilization of berthing and other related operations. Also, these wrecks serve as a hide out for hoodlums who steal wheat and other cargo from vessels berthed at the quays thereby posing threat to investors and unsuspecting port users.

**Sea Robbery and Kidnapping.** The incidents of sea robbery and attacks on commercial and passenger vessels plying the Calabar Channel has discouraged many shipping companies from plying the route. Notably, passenger vessels coming from Cameroun and Sao Tome & Principe are targeted by criminals and passengers are kidnapped for ransom. The extension of patrols by the NN to cover flash points and regular escorts to these passenger vessels has curtailed the activities of these criminals. In this regard, 3 Manta boats are deployed at strategic locations; James Island, Parrot Island and Agbani Platform for static and mobile patrols. It is essential to deploy additional gunboats to ease this challenge.

#### **Dilapidated Road Network To and From**

**Calabar.** The road network to and from Calabar is seriously dilapidated. For instance the Calabar – Itu Road is almost impassable. Similarly, the Calabar-Ikom-Ogoja Road to Katsina-Ala is also in a very bad condition. This dilapidated road network is preventing importers from the South-East and North-Central states from bringing in



their cargo through Calabar Port which was built to service the importers/exporters from these areas. The repairs and rehabilitation of these roads would significantly enhance the patronage of Calabar Port

### **WAY FORWARD**

In view of the various challenges hindering the optimal patronage of Calabar port, the following are the suggested way forward to these challenges:

**Upgrade of Port Infrastructure and Equipment.** The upgrade of port infrastructure and equipment would result in the availability of port facilities like warehouses, giant cranes, radio communication networks, tugboats, pilot vessels, port security boats, utility boats and forklifts amongst others. These would facilitate the optimization of the Port.

**Periodic Dredging and Wreckage Removal.** Periodic survey, dredging, wreckage removal and continuous buoyage system maintenance of the Calabar Channel would enhance the safety of navigation and the confidence of shippers on the use of Calabar Port.

**Support to the NN.** It is essential for the management of the NPA to consider supporting the unrelenting efforts of the NN in maintaining presence through patrols, VBSS and escort duties within Calabar Channel. Hence, the support in terms of the provision of additional patrol boats and supply of POL would enhance patrol efforts and the security of the Channel and the seaward end of the Calabar Port.

**Rehabilitation of Road Network.** It would be necessary for the management of the NPA to lobby the National Assembly and the Ministry of Transportation to commence immediate rehabilitation and expansion of the road network to and from Calabar. This would

accommodate articulated trucks and vehicles used for moving containerized cargo.

### **CONCLUSION**

The importance of seaports as the precursors which herald the social and economic growth of a coastal state through trade and transportation as well its strategic importance to a nation's naval and land forces was brought to the fore. Notwithstanding, the emplacement of several services aimed at efficient port operations by the NPA, some of the ports are confronted by inadequate patronage, particularly Calabar Port due largely to infrastructural and security challenges.

The challenges encumbering the patronage of Calabar Port include inadequate infrastructure and equipment, silting of Calabar Channel, wrecks, sea robbery and kidnapping as well as dilapidated road network to and from Calabar particularly Calabar –Itu and Calabar –Ikom-Ogoja Roads. These challenges are impeding the patronage of Calabar Port by importers from the South-East and North-Central states. Also, a way forward encompassing upgrade of infrastructure and equipment, periodic dredging and wreck removal as well as support to the NN and rehabilitation of road network to and from Calabar was suggested. It is envisaged that the implementation of the way forward would enhance the patronage of Calabar Port and the fortunes of the NPA.

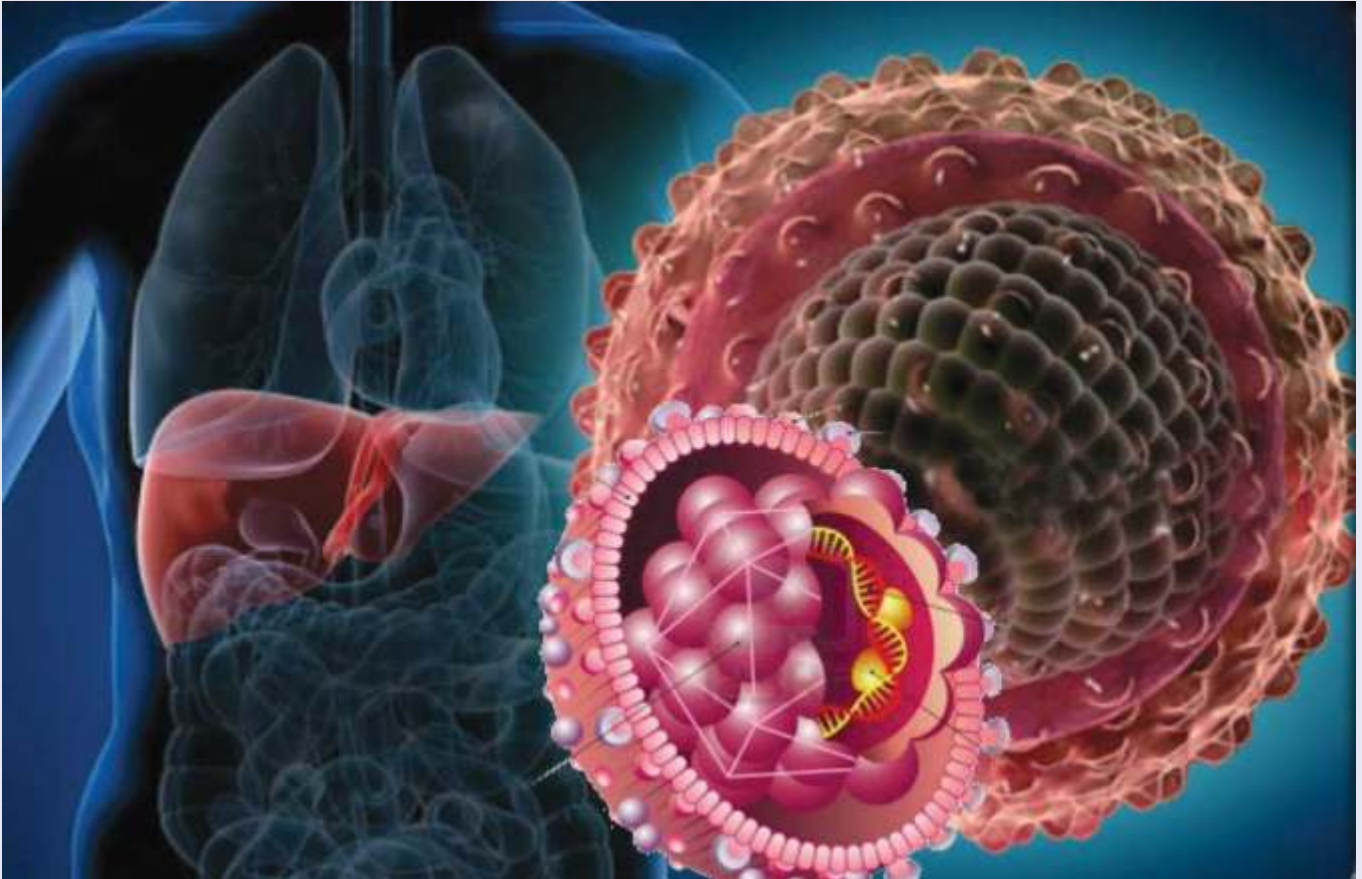
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# HEPATITIS B: AN ACUTE VIRUS

By Surg Lt Cdr KO Nwagwu



## **INTRODUCTION**

Hepatitis B is an infection of the liver caused by the Hepatitis B Virus (HBV). It can be acute and resolve without treatment. However, some forms can be chronic and these could lead to cirrhosis and liver cancer. HBV is a major global health concern. In 2015, HBV-related liver disease caused around 887,000 deaths worldwide.

For most adults, HBV is a short term condition that causes no permanent damage. However, 2–6% of adults with HBV go on to develop a chronic infection that can potentially lead to liver cancer. HBV can cause infection and inflammation of the liver. A person can have HBV and transmit the virus to others without knowing that they have it. Some people experience no symptoms. Some only have the initial infection, which then resolves. For others, the condition becomes chronic. In chronic cases, the virus continues to

attack the liver over time without detection, resulting in irreversible liver damage.

## **SYMPTOMS**

Acute symptoms appear around 60–150 days after exposure to the virus, and they can last from several weeks to 6 months. Early symptoms of Hepatitis B may include; fever, joint pain, fatigue, nausea, vomiting, loss of appetite, abdominal pain, dark urine, clay colored stools, jaundice, or yellowing of the skin and sclera (whites of the eyes.)

## **TRANSMISSION**

HBV is transmissible when blood, semen, or another bodily fluid from a person with the virus enters the body of an individual who does not have it. The virus can survive outside the body for at least 7 days. During this time, it can still cause infection if it enters the body of a person who has



not received vaccination against it. More specifically, infection can occur in the following ways:

- a. When a woman with HBV gives birth.
- b. During sexual activity.
- c. Sharing needles, syringes, or other drug injection devices.
- d. Sharing personal hygiene items, such as razors and toothbrushes.
- e. From health workers through unsafe medical practices, such as reusing medical equipment, not using personal protection, or incorrectly disposing of sharp objects.
- f. Transfusion of unscreened blood with Hepatitis B.

### **RISK FACTORS**

People with a high risk of HBV include:

- a. Infants of mothers with HBV.
- b. Sexual partners of people with HBV.
- c. People who engage in unprotected sexual intercourse.
- d. People who have multiple sexual partners.
- e. Men who have sex with men.
- f. People who inject illicit drugs.
- g. Healthcare and public safety workers.
- h. People receiving hemodialysis.
- i. All women during pregnancy.

### **PREVENTION**

The goal standard for prevention of HBV infection is vaccination. However, HBV infection can also be prevented by:

- a. Wearing appropriate protective equipment when working in healthcare settings or dealing with medical emergencies.

- b. Not sharing needles.
- c. Safe sexual practices.
- d. Transfusion of screened blood.

### **VACCINE**

A vaccine against HBV has been available since 1982. People who should receive this vaccine include:

- a. All infants, children, and adolescents without a previous vaccination.
- b. All health care workers.
- c. People who may have had exposure to blood and blood products through work or treatment.
- d. People undergoing dialysis and the recipients of solid organ transplants.
- e. People who inject drugs.
- f. People who engage in sexual intercourse with someone who has a chronic HBV infection.
- g. People with multiple sexual partners.
- h. People who travel to countries where HBV is common.

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# TOTAL EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION NIGERIA LIMITED COMMISSIONS PROJECT AT NNS PATHFINDER

The Deputy Managing Director Total Exploration and production Nigeria Limited, Mr Francoin Le-Coco recently commissioned a 20 self contain accommodation for officers of Nigeria Navy Ship PATHFINDER. The Deputy Managing Director reiterated that the idea was conceived as part of the corporate social responsibility package of the company .He emphasized that he is happy to note that the support and assistance from the Nigerian Navy Ship PATHFINDER have been of immense succor in providing an enabling environment for the conduct of multinationals to operate in their respective business , both in the onshore and offshore .He added that the security outfits and the energy companies play complementary roles in developing the economy of the country. Similarly, he said that, while the multinationals provide the energy to drive economic growth, the armed forces provide security for the people, so that economic and social activities could strive in peaceful ambience.

The Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Naval



*The newly remodelled 20 self contained accommodation for officers*

Command, Rear Admiral David Adeniran who was represented by the Chief Staff Officer, Rear Admiral Taiye Imam during his remarks commended the management of Total Exploration and production Nigeria Limited for the philanthropic gesture accorded the Nigeria Navy .Admiral Imam, on behalf of the Nigeria Navy took delivery of the IX 20 self contain transits accommodation remodeled by Total Exploration and production Nigeria Limited .He pledged that the accommodation will be judiciously used to attend to the accommodation needs of the base .He further pledged that the Nigeria Navy will continue to discharge its constitutional responsibility of defending the territorial integrity of Nigeria. Dignitaries that graced the occasion were the representative of the Chief of the Naval Staff, Commodore Semiu Olubode –Fazaz, Commander Nigerian Navy Ship PATHFINDER Commodore Samson Bura, The Executive Officer Nigeria Navy Ship PATHFINDER Captain Adegoke Ebo. Other dignitaries include senior officers and some management Staff of Total Exploration and Production Nigeria Limited.



*An event to mark the commissioning ceremony*



## ADMIRAL ADENIRAN COMMISSIONS LIBRARY AND CLASSROOMS BLOCK

The Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Naval Command Rear Admiral David Adeniran recently commissioned a library and block of four classrooms at the Nigerian Navy Military School Ikot Ntuen in Akwa Ibom State.

While commissioning the facility, the Flag Officer Commanding urged students to be disciplined and dedicated to assigned responsibility. He reiterated that discipline and dedication to duty are major factors upon which the Nigerian Navy rest in achieving its mandate. He also emphasized that discipline is very important in the military and without discipline, the Nigerian Navy cannot achieve anything. He further advised that young sailors in Nigerian Navy Military School should be disciplined as this is the only way they can succeed. He added that if you are disciplined as a young sailor (Students of the Nigerian Navy Military School) you could aspire to become a Senior Military officer.

During the commissioning ceremony, the Flag Officer Commanding enumerated that the Chief of the Naval Staff, Vice Admiral Ibok-Ete Ekwe Ibas is passionate in providing the state of the art facilities to improve academic learning in Nigerian Navy Schools across the country. He added that the Chief of the Naval Staff recognizes the importance of giving the need for the commissioned projects. In furtherance, Admiral Adeniran said the projects are part of the ongoing efforts by the Nigerian Navy to improve access to learning for the young sailors who are major beneficiaries of the newly commissioned projects.

The commissioning ceremony incidentally coincided with the Chief of the Naval Staff birthday being 27 September 2019. To commemorate the birthday, the Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Naval Command Rear Admiral David Adeniran directed a special parade by the young sailors in honour of the Chief of the Naval Staff.

In another development, the Flag Officer Commanding, gave a cash benefit and award to



Mr Shuaibu Kelechukwu who emerged the overall best graduating student in 2019 West African Examination Council and Joint Admission and Matriculation Board Examinations in Nigerian Navy Secondary Schools across the Country.

Mr Shuiabu kelechukwu garnered eight alphas and 1 bravo in the just concluded West African Examination council results and also scored 312 in the recent Joint Admission and Matriculation Board Examination. Mr Shuaibu Kelechukwu also emerged the overall best in the Nigerian Navy Secondary schools in the Post University matriculation Examination with a total score of 320/400. His aspiration is to become a medical doctor.

The Flag Officer Commanding Eastern Naval Command used the opportunity to advise Kelechukwu not to rest on his oars when he gets to the university and that he should continue to apply the skills that emerged him the overall best in academics. The benefactor of the award thanked the Flag Officer Commanding and promise he will continue to sustain the effort that made him emerged the overall best in academics. He also appreciated the Flag Officer Commanding for the prize money gift.





# NNS MAKURDI: ENHANCING CAPACITY DEVELOPMENT OF PERSONNEL

By LIEUTENANT COMMANDER BO OMOTAYO

**N**NS MAKURDI is one of the River-Town Class vessels, which was commissioned into the Service of the Nigerian Navy on 14 August 74. She was part of the Patron One Squadron in the then Nigerian Naval Flotilla and has participated in several operations and exercises. She is presently the oldest commissioned NN ship that is still operational. The ship marked her Sapphire Anniversary (45th years) in Service on 14 August 2019. This shows how resilient the Ship has been in the last 45 years in Service. NNS MAKURDI has over the years been deployed singly and as part of a force for various roles. These roles include anti-piracy, fishery patrols as well as other roles in assisting in policing the Nigeria's maritime domain. The ship has been through a successful service, taking part in many exercises and operations among which include Exercise OD II in 2009, involving United States of American Navy ships and fishing vessels operating within Western Naval Command Area of Responsibility. The operation was aimed at testing the capability of the Regional Maritime Awareness Capability (RMAC) Centre at carrying out surveillance of the maritime domain. In 2012, she participated in a 7 day scheduled Joint Exercise tagged "Exercise FARAUTA" in company of other 7 Nigerian Navy Ships, the ATR 42 Maritime Patrol Aircraft and Nigerian Army component. The aim of the Exercise was to intensify naval operations in the

Niger Delta region focusing on Bonny-Akassa-Escravos axis. The Exercise enabled the Nigerian Navy to assess its operational capability with a view to identifying gaps and taking necessary measures to fill such gaps for enhanced operational readiness in joint operations.

NNS MARKURDI also took part in Exercise ICHUNTA in Western Naval Command Area of Responsibility as a follow up to Exercise FARAUTA. The Exercise was aimed at boosting the capacity of the Nigerian Navy in maritime security and strengthening its deterrent posture in Nigeria's maritime domain while focusing on escort of visiting foreign naval vessels, counter piracy and counter sea robbery efforts. Other exercises she participated in included Exercise AFRICAN WINDS in Dec 2013, Exercise NZOGBU as well as Navy Week Sea Exercise and Exercise MAMAKI in May and November 2015 respectively. The Ship is currently berthed alongside Federal Ocean Terminal Jetty Onne and involved in training of officers and men alongside. The training onboard is aimed at enhancing the capacity of personnel on seamanship, navigation, Nuclear Biological and Chemical Defence / fire fighting as well as other naval training. So far the ship has been involved in training of newly commissioned officers, newly recruited ratings as well as specialized personnel.



# ENC PROJECT DEPARTMENT: THE JOURNEY SO FAR

## **INTRODUCTION**

The Logistics/project department is one of the key departments in Headquarters Eastern Naval Command. The Department is responsible for monitoring and supervision of all building and civil engineering projects under the command as well as direct labour projects executed by the Command within its Area of Responsibility. The department is also responsible for major and minor repair works in all buildings and physical infrastructure and the well-being of the built environment under the Command. It is against this background that this paper will seek to bring to fore the successes and achievements of the department from January 2019 to date.

## **DEFINITIONS**

**Project Management.** Project management is the application of processes, methods, skills, knowledge and experience to achieve specific project objectives according to the project acceptance criteria within agreed parameters. Project management has final direction that is constrained to a finite time scale, quality and budget.

**Project Monitoring.** Project monitoring is a systematic regular collection of occasional analysis of information to identify and possibly measure changes over a period of time.

**Project Evaluation.** Project evaluation is analysis of the effectiveness of project activity for proper decision making about impact and progress.

## **PROJECTS UNDER EASTERN NAVAL COMMAND AOR**

Eastern Naval Command currently has a total of 4 completed and 19 ongoing NHQ driven projects at various stages of completion. In addition the Command executed 8 projects through direct labour by the project department. The projects are categorized according to their locations as follows;

## **CALABAR AREA**

Calabar area has 8 ongoing projects which include:

### **a. Construction of NNS VICTORY Arrival Hall at Akim Barracks**

- (1) Client: Naval Headquarters
- (2) Contractor: Messrs Sejima Ventures Limited
- (3) Project Status: The project is at super structural level; ground and first floor block work are currently ongoing.

### **b. Construction OF 1 X 3 Bedrooms, CBM Accomodation at Akim Barracks**

- (1) Client: Naval Headquarters
- (2) Contractor: Messrs Habana Nigeria Limited
- (3) Project Status: The project is presently at finishing. POP ceiling and wall screeding are ongoing.

### **c. CONSTRUCTION OF 6 X 1 BEDROOM CBQ AT ATIMBO BARRACKS**

- (1) Client: Naval Headquarters
- (2) Contractor: Messrs Lantech Solutions.
- (3) Project Status: The project is at superstructure level, block work in ground floor has been completed and forming of upper floor slab was ongoing.

### **d. Construction of 24 X 1 Bedroom Apartment at NNRH Calabar**

- (1) Client: Naval Headquarters
- (2) Contractor: Messr Onye Bros Nigeria Limited.
- (3) Project Status: The project is at finishing stage, POP ceiling, wall screeding, floor tiling as well as plumbing are simultaneously ongoing.

### **e. Construction of 24 X 1 Officers lodge at NNRH Calabar**

- (1) Client: Naval Headquarters
- (2) Contractor: Messr Marpak Engineering Limited..





(3) Project Status: Work is at superstructure level and casting of first floor slab is ongoing.

**f. Construction of NN Mess and Suite at ENC Officers Mess**

- (1) Client: Naval Headquarters
- (2) Project Status: The project is at substructure level.

**g. Construction of 24 X1 Bedroom Apartment at NN Officers Quarters Ikot Ansa**

- (1) Client: Naval Headquarters
- (2) Contractor: Messr Rockmart Nigeria Limited.
- (3) Project Status: The project is now at super-structure level and forming of first suspended slab is ongoing.

**h. Construction of 6 X 3 Bedroom Apartments at NN Officers Accommodation Ikot Ansa**

- (1) Client: Naval Headquarters
- (2) Contractor: Messrs Hedge and Pembroke Nigeria Limited.
- (3) Project Status: The work is at superstructure level and forming and casting of first floor columns is ongoing.

**j. Construction Of Residential Accomodation for Commandant Naval War College Nigeria.**

- (1) Client: Naval Headquarters
- (2) Contractor: Messrs Amborg Global Resources Limited.
- (3) Project Status: The contractor has cleared the site but is yet to fully mobilize to site and commence work.

**PORT HARCOURT AREA**

6. The following projects are located within Port Harcourt area;

**a. Construction of NNS PATHFINDER Ratings Arrival Hall**

- (1) Client: Naval Headquarters
- (2) Contractor: Messrs Hasraj Integrated Services Limited
- (3) Project Status: The project is at finishing

level. Installation of aluminum door at anterooms, plumbing fittings and external work is ongoing.

**b. Construction OF 1 X 3 Bedroom CBM Accommodation at NNS PATHFINDER**

- (1) Client: Naval Headquarters
- (2) Contractor: Messrs Habana Investment Limited
- (3) Project Status: The project is at finishing stage tiling and external works are currently ongoing.

**c. Construction of 6 X 3 Bedroom Block of Accommodation at NNS PATHFINDER**

- (1) Client: Ministry of Defence
- (2) Contractor: Messrs Creation Consult Solution Limited
- (3) Project Status: The work is at substructure level

**d. Construction of 1 X 24 Ratings Quarters at NNS PATHFINDER**

- (1) Client: Naval Headquarters
- (2) Contractor: Messrs 360 Scope Services Limited
- (3) Project Status: The project is at substructure level, laterite and hardcore filling were completed and arrangement for casting over site concrete is ongoing.

**e. Construction of 10 X 1 Bedroom Block AT NNS PATHFINDER**

- (1) Client: Naval Headquarters
- (2) Contractor: Messrs Hasraj Integrated Services Limited
- (3) Project Status: The project is at finishing level. External work and construction of second cess pool.

**f. Construction of Base Armoury (Type B) at FOB BONNY**

- (1) Client: Naval Headquarters
- (2) Contractor: Messrs Flavour Tech Engineering Limited
- (3) Project Status: The project is at 87% completion



## **UYO AREA**

### **CONSTRUCTION OF 1 X 36 RATINGS ARRIVAL HALL AT NNS JUBILEE**

- a. Client: Naval Headquarters
- b. Contractor: Messrs Global Falcons Nigeria Limited
- c. Project Status: The project is at finishing level and external work is ongoing (Construction of tank stand)

The Command project department has been fully involved in the monitoring and supervision of the aforementioned projects and other ongoing projects in unit under command and renders weekly project report as well as monthly project returns to project directorate at Naval Headquarters. More so, the department has over the past 12 months supervised to completion and handing over of the following projects;

- a. Construction of civilian personnel staff offices at HQ ENC
- b. Renovation of block 6 at 1006 officers' quarters
- c. Renovation of blocks G and F at Atimbo Barracks
- d. Renovation of blocks B,C,D,E and F at Akim Barracks.

The project department geared concerted effort towards ensuring proper and efficient project implementation. However, the department is faced regardless of doubting challenges hindering its activities. Principal amongst which is lack of dedicated project vehicle. It would be noted that the projects in Calabar area are in widely dispersed locations within the metropolis. As such, to cover the project sites at appropriate times, it requires a dedicated vehicle to move round the project sites and to also access the ones outside Calabar area. There is therefore the need to procure a dedicated project monitoring vehicle for the Projects Department.

### **PROJECTS EXECUTED BY DIRECT LABOUR**

The Command project department executed the following projects:

- a. Construction of HQ ENC OOD's Cabin.
- b. Construction of Boys Hostel at NNS

Borokiri.

- c. Construction of 11m speed breaker and raising of Akim barracks gate to control flooding of water into the Barracks.
- d. Construction of borehole and community water supply point at Akim Barraks.
- e. Construction of borehole and community water supply point at Atimbo Barraks.
- f. Reconstruction of toilet and ablution area at Command Central Mosque in Akim Barracks.
- g. Renovation of civilian medical consultants flat at Ikot Ansa Officers Quarters.
- h. Construction of relaxation centre at Calabar Golf Course.

11. In addition to the above mentioned projects the Command project department has carried repairs and maintenance of infrastructural facilities within the Command and offers professional advice to the FOC on projects and construction contract administrations and ensures strict compliance to terms and conditions of contracts by contractors handling projects within the ENC AOR.

### **CONCLUSION**

The Command project department engages actively in project monitoring and supervision and renders weekly report of ongoing projects and monthly project returns to NHQ. The department has executed a total of 8 projects through direct labour and has supervised to completion and handing over of 4 projects while 16 projects are ongoing. The department also advises the FOC on project matters and construction contract administration. However, the department is faced with some challenges



# ENC TAKES MEDICAL AWARENESS TO NASARAWA NNRH CALABAR OPEN TO ALL

By Slt Fowowe

The FOC ENC, Rear Admiral David Adeniran has assured the public that the NN Reference Hospital Calabar was established to cater for the medical needs of all and sundry and not exclusively for her personnel.

Admiral Adeniran said this at a medical outreach hosted by the Command at Nasarawa community in Calabar metropolis. He noted that the choice of the community was to create awareness being the Host community, as well as identify prevailing medical conditions in the area, with a view to subjecting it to further analysis for possible collaboration with other research institutes.

He therefore encouraged them to use the hospital and noted that their charges have been subsidized by the Navy. He said "we chose this community because being the Host community, we want them to know that the Navy hospital has been established to render medical services as may be

required by members of the community.

The hospital is open to all who are in need of medical attention. The residents numbering over 400 enjoyed free medical services such as free eye checks, hepatitis treatment, malaria, high Blood Pressure test, free drugs and many others.

The hospital which is the biggest military hospital in Africa equipped with modern technology has commenced Operation in earnest. Services rendered include; surgery, orthopedics, cardiology, accident and emergency, Ophthalmology, Endocrinology, ear, nose and throat, obstetrics and gynaecology, paediatrics, and general laboratory.

In his remarks, the leader of the community Mr Sani Baba Gombe thanked the Nigerian Navy for the gesture which he said would go a long way in uplifting the health conditions of the community.



# FUNDAMENTALS OF VOUCHERING AND CASH DUTIES IN THE NIGERIAN NAVY

By Commander MO Abani

## **INTRODUCTION**

All organizations, whether they operate in the private sector or the public sector, exist in order to achieve one or more objectives. While the exact nature of the objectives may vary considerably, as to the manner in which they are pursued, there is one feature that seldom varies; the resources available are never sufficient to permit the achievement of every desired aim. The Nigerian Navy (NN) as an organisation was established in 1956 as a vital arm of national security assigned with specific roles in the nation's defence apparatus. To fulfil these roles it has to recruit, train and retain capable hands. Similarly, it has to procure, maintain and update its platforms and weapon systems, in addition to providing and maintaining support facilities for running them. These activities requires huge amount of funds. The funds allocated to the NN to enable her perform her duties to the nation are derived from various sources which include agriculture, trading, oil exploration, direct and indirect taxes etc. The resources available are so limited to match the varied and competing needs of the NN. This is coupled with the problem of increasing competition for funds among the various sectors of the economy

The revenues generated by the Government are paid into the 'Consolidated Revenue Fund' (CRF) and subsequently disbursed as allocation to the Accounting Officer of Ministries or Parastatals through warrants. The warrant is further supported with cheque to the face value on the warrant. The charges made from this account to Ministries or Parastatals by means of warrants is called public fund. "A fund is an independent item of expenditure that is provided for a specific purpose, governed by special regulations and different from other

funds". Every allocation made from public account must be judiciously utilized and accounted for in the various books of account. The process of recognizing obligations and authorizing disbursement of public fund for accountability purpose is called vouchering. Also, payment is a financial obligation by the disbursement of money for goods supplied and services rendered. Payments can either be made by cash or cheque and bank transfer. However, all payments are made through vouchers made out in appropriate Treasury Forms. These payment vouchers are checked, audited and posted into the cash book. Additionally, the general duties of the cash office are mainly the receiving and payment of cash. It also include the keeping of cash book to record all the cash transactions and the operations of a bank account on which cheques and electronic mandates are drawn in providing timely, accurate and relevant financial information to its users. The survival of the NN and its continued ability to perform its assigned roles calls for an efficient and sound vouchering and cash duties in the system. It also calls for proper understanding of the intricacies of a sound management of security documents by all accounting officers. The paper would cover vouchering system in the NN, types of voucher and its use in the NN, rules governing preparation of voucher and essential features of a valid payment voucher. It will also consider preparation of payment voucher, limitations of vouchering process and cash duties as well as security of accounting documents.

## **AIM**

The aim of this paper is to highlight the fundamentals of vouchering and cash duties in the NN.



## VOUCHERING SYSTEM IN THE NN

Funds are being classified into Public and Non-public. Public funds are monies provided by government through the allocation of warrant or authority to incur expenditure (AIE) such as running cost, ration, funds from special government grants and proceed from the disposal of government assets. These monies are allocated from taxpayers' money and are therefore subjected to audit by Federal Auditors. The audit is carried out with a view to ascertaining its trueness and fairness, as well as compliance to existing regulations.

The non-public funds on the other hand, are monies generated internally from the sales of scraps, donations from philanthropist, dividend from investment, etc. These are not subjected to audit by the Federal Auditors but internal audit and investigation is carried out for the purpose of proper management. Chapter 6, Section 601 of the Financial Regulation of Nigeria states that "All payments, entries in the accounts must be vouched for, on one of the prescribed forms. Vouchers will be made out in favour of the person or persons to whom the money is actually due". "A voucher is an accounting document made out of a prescribed form to contain the full particulars of a transaction in favour of a person or persons to whom sum of money is due". This will enable Accounting Officers to have proper checks without reference to any other documents. In the NN, all payments are made through vouchers made out in appropriate treasury forms. It must be supported with relevant documents such as approved authority, local purchase order, store receipt voucher, invoices and receipts, signals, minutes of meeting, job completion certificate, due process certificate etc. It is to be noted that, retirements of accounts without the necessary accompanying documents amounts to effort in futility and an invitation for investigation.

## TYPES OF VOUCHERS AND THEIR USE IN THE NN

Vouchers as accounting documents are classified according to the nature of transaction or circumstances attached to the expenditure. They are as follows:

- a. **Salary Payment Voucher.** Salary payment vouchers are prepared base on monthly nominal rolls through which deductions are made and the balance paid into individual bank account through bank schedules.
- b. **Other Charges Payment Voucher.** Other charges vouchers are prepared on various treasury forms and cover all other payments other than salary and contract.
- c. **Contract Payment Voucher.** Contract payment vouchers are made on treasury form 1 for settlement of bills. The voucher must be supported by necessary accompanying documents.

## PREPARATION OF PAYMENT VOUCHERS

In the NN financial administration, 3 payment vouchers are in commonly use. They are the monthly salary voucher, contract voucher and other payment vouchers. The monthly salary voucher is prepared on receipt of the personnel Personal Emolument Record form (PE) once in every fiscal year. The information contained in the PE form are transferred into a pay card opened for personnel with a sizeable recent passport photograph at the Nigeria Navy Central Pay Office (NNCPO). These individual pay cards are collated into different group(s) in accordance with the status, banks and branches. Several number of pay cards of the same bank, branch and status are bonded together in a big file called Kalamazoo. All information contained in the pay cards are transferred into the voucher and balanced. The Kalamazoo is passed through senior rate to the various Staff Officers for cross-checking and authorization by appending their signatures on



the vouchers and all receipt vouchers. The authorized vouchers are passed through the checking office to the Internal Audit for pre-paid audit as a means of internal control established by the system. On completion of the pre-paid audit, the vouchers move to the Cash Office for collation according to banks. Cheques/mandates are raised to the value of the bank schedule and paid to the personnel's account. However, the recent migration into the IPPIS platform had shortened most of the processes.

The self-accounting Commands, Units and Establishments raises payment vouchers for all other transactions outside salary. The officer demanding for fund makes a demand through appropriate file, seeking for approval by the chief accounting officer of the units. Once the request for fund is approved, it becomes a legal document for vouchering. The vouchering section prepares PV in favour of the officer. The PV is registered and numbered accordingly. Subsequently, the voucher passes through the checking section before posting into the departmental cash and vote book. The officer controlling vote will authorize the PV before dispatching it to the Internal Audit for pre-paid audit. On completion, the voucher returns back to the Cash Office for disbursement of fund to the Payee and stamp "PAID" on the pages of the PV. All the paid vouchers are in turn entered into the cashbook, balanced it, and prepared for dispatch to the Final Accounts with necessary accompanying documents attached to each payment voucher.

## **RULES GOVERNING PREPARATION OF VOUCHER**

Section 604-608 of the Financial Regulation of the Federal Republic established rules to be observed strictly when preparing payment vouchers to avoid audit queries and appearance before Public Accounts Committee of the National Assembly. These rules are listed as follows:

- a. Vouchers shall be made out in ink or typewriting. All copies must be legible.
- b. There should be no erasures of any kind in both methods.
- c. A single thick horizontal line will be drawn immediately before and after Naira (N) figure where it appears in words. Space is not allowed where the Naira figure is Nil.
- d. The original copy of payment voucher must be signed full in legible ink by certifying officers and their payee.
- e. Each certificate on a payment voucher must be signed separately.
- f. Duplicate and Triplicate copies must be marked "Duplicate" "Triplicate" where carbonated copies can not suffice.
- g. Alteration to the amount on a voucher in words or figures is not permitted. A new voucher must be prepared when necessary. Any other alteration must be supported by the full signature certifying the voucher.
- h. All vouchers must be accompanied with the proper documents such as approved authority, receipt(s), LPO or Work orders etc.
- j. All vouchers must be entered in the voucher register and forwarded for checking through voucher schedule.
- k. All contract vouchers must carry the business name of the contractor and the office address.

Once these rules are observed, the preparation of payment voucher becomes easier and subsequent retirement of public funds will be achieved.

## **ESSENTIAL FEATURES OF A VALID VOUCHER**

A good PV must contain full particulars of such services rendered, and must be supported by relevant documents such as invoice, local purchase orders, letters of authority etc. however, the following are the essential features of a well prepared PV:

- a. Date of the PV which determines its life span.
- b. Classification code i.e. Head and sub-heads.



- c. Amount in words and in figure which must agree.
- d. Voucher number.
- e. Description of payment.
- f. Name and address of payee.
- g. Signature of the cashier.
- h. Signature of the payee.
- j. Cheque number or Mandate, where payment is by cheque or e payment respectively.
- k. Cashiers stamp 'PAID' which prevent representation of the voucher for payment a second time.
- l. Voucher stamp certificate. (Which indicate: prepared by, checked by, entered into vote by, passed by and paid by).

It is to be noted that, payment vouchers without the prescribed essential qualities will be qualified for an audit query. Thus the need for all accounting officers to ensure payment vouchers are prepared in line with the provisions of extant financial regulations.

**GENERAL RULES ON PAYMENT**

The following rules apply when making payment:

- a. Payment would be made only to the person named in the voucher or his authorised representative.
- b. When payment are made to legal representatives, authorities such as powers of attorney, letter of administration must be presented and attached to the PV.
- c. Cash advance and PV register must be maintained.
- d. If a PV is reported lost, proper investigation and report must be made by the accounting officer.

**LIMITATIONS OF VOUCHERING PROCESS IN THE NN**

The vouchering process in the NN may be hindered as a result of the following:

- a. The urgency involved in the demand for fund.
- b. Pressure from the Appropriate Superior

Authority to carry out an immediate task/operation.

- c. Unexpected and unforeseen circumstances that might require immediate or urgent attention.

**CASH DUTIES AND SECURITIES OF ACCOUNTING DOCUMENTS**

In all offices handling cash transactions, a safe must be provided for the safe custody of cash, stock of stamps and receipt. Such safe should be built into the wall of the building or securely attached to the structure of the building. Transfer of cash from one place to another should be done in approved cash tank with armed security escort. Similarly, Officers holding the key to safes and strong room are personally responsible for the safe custody and content of the safe. Loss of any key must be reported immediately to the Chief Accounting Officer. It is to be noted that cash officers must be responsive to their duties and avoid delving into issues that would bring disgrace to the NN. The duties of the cash office are: receipts, custody and disbursement of approved cash, revenue collection on behalf of the Federal Government and balancing of cashbook, Other duties of the cash office are reconciliation of all bank transactions with cashbook, maintenance of adequate cash control measures, maintenance of adequate security measures and maintenance of proper books of accounting records such as cash book, vote book, bank reconciliation statement, electronic payment mandate etc. These books are to be updated and inspected regularly by the staff officer controlling expenditure.

When a payee is illiterate, his mark must be witnessed by literate official other than the paying officer stating his rank, title etc on the voucher. Similarly, when payments are made to legal representatives, authorities such as powers of attorney, letters of administration must be presented to the sub accounting officers and attached to the payment voucher.



A payment voucher register will be maintained for authorised vouchers until it has been entered into the cash book. Furthermore, if a payment voucher is reported lost, prompt investigation will be made and a report submitted to chief accounting officer.

Accounting books are security documents. Proper care must therefore be taken by the finance officer to protect these security books from unauthorized access and guard against damage by fire. Issuing and handling of such books should be limited to a small number of staff of the pay office. The best protection for accounting documents is storage in strong room or safe. Accounting documents are not to be destroyed or discarded at the expiration of their active lives. In order to destroy accounting documents, proper application must be sought from AA.

### **CONCLUSION**

The activities of the NN as a component of the national security requires huge amount of funds to meet up her statutory commitments. Public fund is the money generated from various sources including tax collection paid into an account called 'Consolidated Account'. Allocations are made out of this account to Ministries, Parastatals and Departments via warrants to execute projects or to carry out certain expenses on behalf of the Government for specified purpose. This allocation is subject to Federal audit while non-public funds are monies generated from donations, dividend from investment and not subjected to Federal audit but can be investigated internally at the discretion of the unit Commander. A voucher as an accounting document is used as a record of payment made on behalf of Government for specific purposes and entered into the cashbook. There are various types of vouchers used in the NN. These vouchers depend on the nature of transaction. The salary vouchers are used for the payment of personnel through the Central Pay Office while other vouchers are

being raised by self-accounting Commands/units for non-salary expenses.

The preparation of vouchers is being governed by some rules to prevent manipulation and fraudulent practice. The urgency in demand for fund in the military and pressure from Appropriate Superior Authority are the limiting factors experienced in the due process of vouchering before disbursement of fund. A good PV must contain full particulars of such services rendered, and must be supported by relevant documents such as invoice, local purchase orders, letters of authority etc. The responsibilities of Cash Office include receipts and disbursement of fund and maintenance of proper books of accounting. In all offices handling cash transactions, a safe must be provided for the safe custody of cash, stocks of stamps and receipt. Accounting books are security documents, therefore, proper care must be taken by the Accounting Officers to protect them.

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**AND**

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House boat construction and repairs



NSL 272m Jetty



ACSOL-NSL 5,000 tons floating dock anchored mid stream  
NSL frontage with crane barge alongside.



Installed gun mounts and anti-ballistic shield on MV BARAK DEFENDER



Slipway

## EXECUTED PROJECTS



NN TUG CDR UGWU BUILT BY NSL IN 2016



SPDC RAMPED BARGES BUILT BY NSL IN 2002



WILOL TUG BOAT BUILT IN 2006



MAINTENANCE OF NAVAL SECURITY STATIONS (HOUSEBOATS)



QUEEN OF CALABAR, after Ballistic Protection Installation and Colour Conversion



MV SAUKA LAUFIA BUILT BY NSL IN 2009

## SERVICES

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- Docking of Vessels up to 5,000 tons (In view)
- Sand Blasting
- Water Sweeping
- Ultrasonic Tests
- Painting
- Refurbishing of Ships and Boats
- Hull and Craft Modification
- Marine Fabrication
- Construction of Houseboats and Barges
- Construction and Installation of Gun Mountings
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- Jetty Load Out Service
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SOCIAL CIRCUIT





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# 2020 ALMANAC



PROPOSED ADMINISTRATIVE COMPLEX FOR HEADQUARTERS EASTERN NAVAL COMMAND, CALABAR

## JANUARY

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
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## FEBRUARY

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## APRIL

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## JUNE

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## AUGUST

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## SEPTEMBER

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## OCTOBER

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## NOVEMBER

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## DECEMBER

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26	27	28	29	30	31	

## PUBLIC HOLIDAYS IN THE YEAR 2020

- New Year's Day - Jan 1
- Good Friday - Apr 10
- Easter Monday - Apr 13
- Ramadan - Apr 23
- Labour Day - May 1
- Id el Fitri - May 25
- Democracy Day - Jun 12
- Id el Kabir - Jul 31-Aug 1
- National Day - Oct 1
- Id el Maulud - Oct 29
- Christmas Day - Dec 25
- Boxing Day - Dec 26