



SHERIFF DEPUTIES

MONTHLY SECURITY REPORT

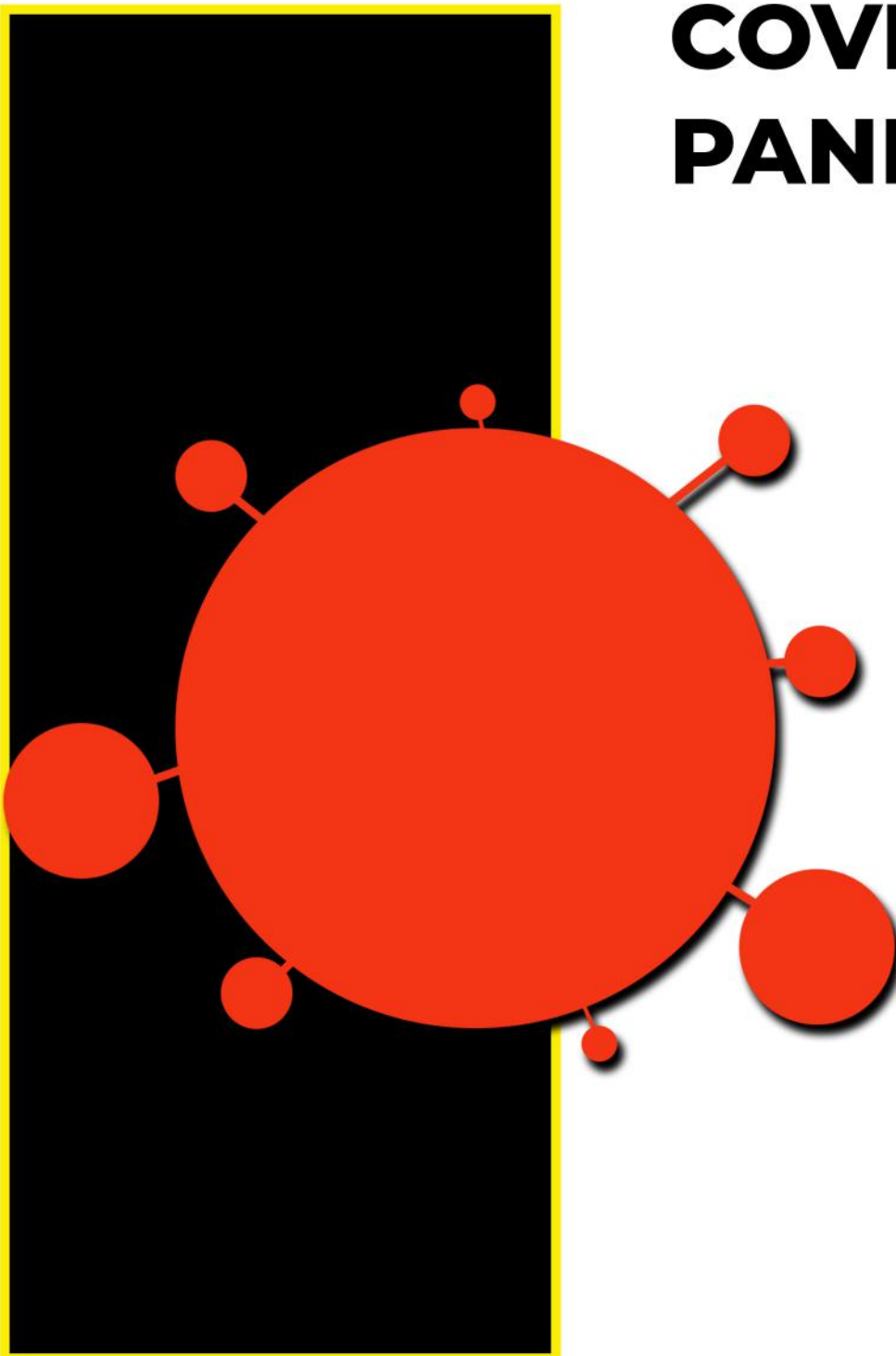
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Sheriff Deputies is a grade A licensed Private security company with broad interests and clientele base cutting across all industries. Security is a dynamic sphere, more so in Nigeria which has recently been riddled with ever worsening insecurity across the nation. We hereby highlight some developments which have impact on security of public and private interests in the country.

COVID-19 PANDEMIC



The nouvelle Corona virus COVID-19 is the nightmare you had only to wake up and realize it's the grim reality. From a largely unknown micro endemic from Wuhan China in 2019, it spread to become the prevailing headline of 2020, affecting billions of individuals in every country.

World leaders and all countries around the globe are facing unprecedented times as they battle with treating the millions (over 2million) of infected people. Around the world the focus has been on preventing the spread of the disease and the primary measure for achieving this has been prolonged lockdowns, a policy that has been almost universally applied across the globe. This has been achieved through;

- .Travel bans on international and most local flights, border closures etc
- .Closure of businesses and all non-essential services
- .Movement restrictions and work from home policies.
- .Limitations on social, political and religious gatherings

The world is essentially at a halt, schools, religious centers, restaurants and bars, hotels, museums, the aviation industry, and all manner of factories and retail businesses have been closed. The negative ripple effects of these actions have caused soaring employment rates and an impending global economic recession.

Traditional security aimed at protecting national borders and addressing conflicts and wars, has failed the world this time. Investments in human security, especially the policies and infrastructure needed to ensure the health of the general population and ability to respond to health crises have been sacrificed over the years. COVID-19 has united the world in being a common enemy, sadly it is one that is impervious to guns, missiles, soldiers and conventional warfare. A radical rethink by governments of their priorities with a focus on health infrastructure and emergency response is therefore an urgent necessity.

In Nigeria, the government has been very proactive in responding to the crises, scaling up their capabilities in terms of testing, contact tracing and isolation of positive patients. A lockdown of the epicenters of the disease (Lagos, Ogun and FCT) for the entire month of April was largely successful as the governments of those states currently have a firm control of the evolving situation.

However, people have easily slipped through cracks in the interstate border closures and 30 of the 36 states of the federation currently have active cases. The country's north is set to be particularly hard hit as in the last week of April a surge in cases has been confirmed in Kano, with its teeming estimated population of 15 million inhabitants, poor sanitary conditions and ill-prepared health infrastructure, local authorities have their work cut out for them as they fight to control the spread of the disease.



NCDC CURRENT DATA
ON COVID-19 IN NIGERIA
- MAY 4, 2020

The President of Nigeria General Mohammed Buhari has addressed the country and announced the lifting of the lockdown, however physical distancing and limits on gatherings have been put in place, stipulated hours of operations for banks, markets, offices etc, and curfews are the new conditions.

We encourage full compliance with all government policies and maximum support by all individuals. Your personal health and safety is a priority, adhere to the following WHO approved guidelines to stay safe;

- . Wash hands regularly or use a hand sanitizer.
- . Avoid touching your face, eyes, nose or mouth.
- . ALWAYS Use a facemask if you must go outdoors.
- . Avoid crowded places and always maintain a distance of at least 3ft (1m).
- . If you have a cold, sneeze/cough into your elbow or a clean tissue, then dispose immediately and wash hands.
- . If you have symptoms of COVID-19 (fever, cough, sneezing, difficulty breathing) call the emergency numbers, do not go to a hospital unless advised.
- . Keep up to date on the latest information from your local health authorities.



ONE MILLION BOYS VS A MILLION VIGILANTES

The Government lockdown had its significant impact on security of individuals and businesses in many areas. A combination of; low earning power, large population of predominantly daily wage earners, high unemployment, poorly equipped and motivated security forces with insufficient numbers and large numbers of criminal elements and hoodlums in many communities all came together during the lockdown to result in large scale systematic criminal operations in communities of Lagos and Ogun states.

One week into the lockdown these communities came under attacks by gangs of boys, looting, robbing and raping defenseless citizens. Their attacks were so brazen, some gangs would actually send letters of intent to different streets, stating that they would be visiting and the residents should prepare to get robbed. Their infamy soon spread and they have come to be known by as the "One million boys" gang. Initially, they struck at the fringes of communities at the border with Ogun state. Later, they extended their onslaught into the cities including Meiran, Agege, Ibadan, Badagry, Surulere, Odo-Iran, Igando, Ikotun, Shasha, Abule-egba, Pen Cinema, Cele bus stop, Onipetesi axis of Ikeja Local government area etc.

Within police circles the One million boys gang was well known even before the COVID-19 pandemic, however the group had been disbanded and become defunct due to the relentless efforts of the Lagos State Police Command under the previous state CP in tackling their activities.

The name is aptly chosen to instil terror in the hearts of defenseless citizens, however, they never numbered more than a few hundred as a group. Their tactic is to gather in large numbers to carry out their crime spree, armed with machetes, planks, locally made guns etc, they are definitely best not underestimated.

On receiving the information that criminal gangs were unleashing mayhem in suburbs of Lagos and Ogun the Inspector General of Police Musa Adamu was swift to respond. Orders for logistic support and extra police units to be deployed to the state were immediately issued and DIG was tasked with the duty of bringing the situation under control. The response of the NPF was reassuring and highly commendable.

More interesting though is the organized response these communities were able to mount within a week of the onset of these crimes. The police seemed overwhelmed and did not respond to distress calls. The emboldened hoodlums even carried out attacks in broad daylight leaving civilians cowering in their homes, expecting the worst. In an extraordinary example of community policing, local youth associations rapidly evolved into vigilante groups with many men willingly volunteering to join these groups. These vigilantes are the heroes of another battle that is an indirect consequence of COVID-19, the battle against insecurity that was brought about by the lockdown.

As the lockdown is about to be eased and replaced by restrictions on gatherings and curfews, the security situation remains one that must be continue to be closely monitored. We are reassured that with community policing through these local groups, Lagos neighborhoods are capable and more than ready to counter head-on the threat of a million boys with that of a million vigilantes

Recommendations

Security is the responsibility and right of every member of society, therefore every individual must take steps to ensure their safety, we advise the following

Formidable security doors and burglary proofing to prevent unwanted access to your apartment and premises

Good perimeter security; a high fence, with minimum of concertina wiring or electric wiring on it

A CCTV camera surveillance system

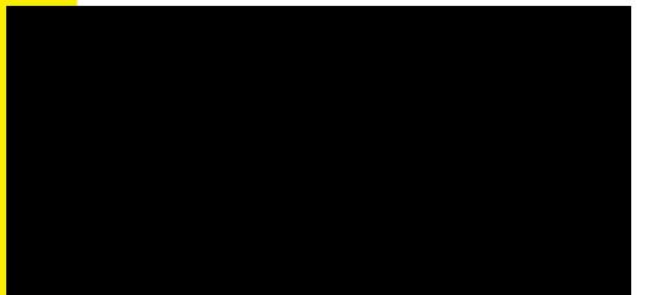
In some premises, security dogs would be ideal

Active engagement with street and estate committees, local police and with neighbors in general.

Engaging the services of a licensed security company to manage the security of your residence or business premise



MARITIME SECURITY



90% of all goods and produce are transported around the world by ships, therefore the maritime industry remains essential for world economies. Partial to complete shutdowns of most manufacturing plants across the globe have however meant that there has been less maritime traffic.

Recently the international oil industry has been hard hit by a drop in demand for crude oil products due to the global lockdown of key sectors of business such as the aviation and manufacturing industries, with more people staying at home, the demand for fuel by motorists is also minimal. This has had its impact on the Maritime sector with a glut of super oil tankers stuck off the ports of oil producing and consuming nations.

Possibly due to a combination of above factors there has been a fall in the number of security incidences recorded in the coastal waters off Nigeria and in the Gulf of Guinea at large. However, this is not to say that all has been completely quiet.

In April 2019 Nigeria hosted the 9th edition of the multinational annual joint naval fleet exercises facilitated by the US Naval forces, Europe-Africa 6th fleet command, it was code named Obangame Express 19 and 33 countries took part, including the navies of most West African nations. Its focus was on counter-piracy, energy security and counter illegal fishing. The 33 partner nations worked together on better information sharing, and refining tactics, techniques and procedures during gulf of guinea maritime naval operations.

The joint exercises have yielded result exactly one year later as a combined naval operation, under the auspices of ECOWAS Maritime Zone E (Nigeria, Benin Republic, Togo and the Gendarmerie of Republic of Niger) involving Nigerian Navy Special Boat Service (NN SBS) operatives and Benin Navy has led to the rescue of 11 crew men onboard a Portuguese flagged container ship, MV Tommi Ritscher in Benin Territorial Waters. Major General John Enenche, Coordinator, Defence Media Operations, said the vessel was reportedly attacked by gunmen at Zone 3 anchorage in Cotonou waters at about 11pm on 18 April 2020.

At the time of the attack, there were 19 crew members, comprising Ukrainian, Bulgarian and Filipinos. "Following the pirate attack, the Nigerian Navy (NN) received a request for assistance from Benin Navy

(NN) received a request for assistance from Benin Navy under the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) of ECOWAS Zone E. "Consequently, Nigerian Navy Ship (NNS) OSE embarked 10 NN SBS operatives and proceeded to the objective area. "NNS OSE and the SBS boarding team arrived the objective area on 19 April 2020 to join 2 other vessels (P110 Queme and Zou) from the Benin Navy already in the Area. "Consequently, NNS OSE and the other 2 Benin Navy patrol boats adopted a patrol plan around the MV Tommi Ritscher throughout the night of 19 Apr 20 to ensure that the pirates, if still onboard would not have any room to escape. Accordingly, after the necessary briefings, the boarding operations commenced at about 5.30pm on 20 Apr 20, with the NN SBS elements in the lead. After the successful boarding of the Ship, which eventually was to be unopposed, 11 crew members were rescued from different parts of the ship. However, eight crew members of the Ship and the pirates could not be located onboard the ship. The SBS remained onboard to ensure security of the vessel and the crew. MV Tommi Ritscher came alongside to Cotonou Port for a more comprehensive search of the ship on 21 April 2020. "The team was received by the Chief of the Naval Staff.

Meanwhile, the Chief of Naval Staff Benin Navy, Captain Albert Ezin Badou after the operation commended the personnel of Nigerian Navy Ship OSE for their show of gallantry and high level of professionalism during the rescue of the 11 crew members onboard the Portuguese flagged container ship, MV Tommi Ritscher.

Read more at:

<https://www.vanguardngr.com/2020/04/nigeria-benintogo-niger-navies-in-joint-operation-rescue-11-foreign-crew-members-of-hijacked-vessel/>

On the backdrop of incessant pirate attacks and kidnappings in the gulf of guinea, this recent joint operation is a commendable achievement that points to the increased capabilities of the NNS in joint operations and general response. It is advisable that a high level of operational alertness be maintained by the Nigerian Navy and that there be increased naval patrols in the gulf of guinea.

NATIONAL SECURITY



The government of Nigeria, through the Nigerian Armed Forces and the Nigerian Police Force continue to put up a strong front against the various conflicts and violence across the country. Insecurity however remains a serious issue across the country.

Boko haram remains a prevailing concern and cause of insecurity in Nigeria, but the month of April has been a particularly heated month, one the BH insurgents may never recover from. On April 8 the Chad government released an official statement claiming to have killed close to a 1000 insurgents in an operation by their armed forces in the Lake Chad basin. The Nigerian army also reports about 105 BH insurgents killed in Yobe on April 18 and another 100 killed in various operations in Borno over the month of April. The armies of both countries sustained relatively minimal casualties during these operations.

Banditry remains an emerging problem, one that the NA has resolved to nip in the bud by all means possible. The attacks by these bandits were particularly violent in the North Central and North Western states. In one attack in Katsina bandits killed 47 in one community alone. They were also active in Zamfara, Sokoto and Niger states.

The NA has been equally unrelenting in their battle against these groups and reports 89 bandits killed in Zamfara on 24 April and a total of 50 killed in other operations within the state. There numbers were also decimated in attacks on their enclaves in Niger state.

Another worrisome trend is the continued killings and attacks on rural communities predominantly in southern Kaduna by so-called herdsmen. On 8 April there were reports of at least 25 kidnapped and 2 killed by gunmen.

Herdsmen continue to launch sporadic attacks on communities in the south of Nigeria also. For example in Oshimili and Aniocha North local governments of Delta state, there are 4 deaths and 5 kidnappings attributed to herdsmen. One of those killed was a Pastor in Aniocha North.

It is also important to note that human rights watch have reported about 19 deaths around the country in clashes between government security forces and civilians protesting against the COVID-19 lockdown.

Recommendations

- Updated travel advisory should always be sought before any journey is embarked on, especially when traveling outside urban areas by road.
- If travel is an absolute necessity then adequate security in the form of armed security personnel and escort vehicles must be engaged
- To avoid kidnappers, always maintain a low profile while in transit; no flashy jewelry, simple attire, simple phones etc.
- Community policing must be increased in all LGAs

Sheriff Deputies Limited remains evermore dedicated to the task of adding value to the businesses of our broad array of clients, the economy and the country at large, through excellent service delivery and speedy response to all security challenges.

We remain charged to deliver...

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