



SHERIFF DEPUTIES

MONTHLY SECURITY REPORT

JULY 2020

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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.

CONTENTS

i

CYBERCRIME AND
INFORMATION SECURITY

ii

NATIONAL SECURITY
REPORT

iii

COVID 19 UPDATE



CYBERCRIME AND INFORMATION SECURITY

In today's world, you can buy food, clothes, travel tickets, cars, virtually any and everything online. Business meetings and deals are conducted via social networking platforms like Zoom, WhatsApp, Facebook etc. We can even get most of our education online.

Then comes Cybercrime which is the newest field of play in the world of crime and there are many individuals who have dedicated their lives and resources to perpetuating such crimes. In a 20th Century world where progressive digitalization in all industries is the watchword, digital information can be likened to Gold and it is surprising what can be achieved when seemingly innocent and trivial information gets into the wrong hands.

We will briefly highlight some recent incidents that show just how vulnerable we are when no measures are taken to secure our digital information.

Twitter Hack

On July 16 the social media giant's security firewalls were breached and the accounts of many prominent verified users were hacked, with misleading content requesting for bitcoins to be sent to a certain account with a promise to double the value to the senders. Accounts affected include Bill gates, Warren Buffet, Barrack Obama, amongst others.

Twitter was able to fend off the attack but only after several hours. They later released statements apologizing and promising a detailed investigation. They suspect that sophisticated phone phishing apps and software were targeted at their staff, and a successful hit provided a back end through which the hackers were able to perpetrate their mischief.

This was a sophisticated backdoor attack and no measures taken on the part of the account holders could have prevented it, the onus of responsibility lies solely with Twitter and points to the need for them to tighten their security protocols.

Hushpuppi Arrested

Mr Ramon Olorunwa Abbas aka Ray Hushpuppi who was already

already famous on social media (IG Handle_ @Hushpuppi) as an influencer, flaunting a lavish lifestyle of the most expensive clothes, food, cars and destinations. The Nigerian born 37 year old was arrested in UAE in a joint operation of FBI and Dubai Police. He was shortly thereafter extradited to USA to face charges of grand larceny and internet fraud to the tune of over 140 million dollars in various scams.

The FBI's investigation has revealed that Abbas finances this opulent lifestyle through crime, and that he is one of the leaders of a transnational network that facilitates computer intrusions, fraudulent schemes (including Business Email Compromise - BEC schemes), and money laundering, targeting victims around the world in schemes designed to steal hundreds of millions of dollars.

WhatsApp hackers and OTP

More commonly many people have experienced suspicious posts on WhatsApp groups vouching that they invested money in businesses that yield instantaneous profit. On closer scrutiny, claims of 100% returns in 24hrs can obviously be nothing but scams and with little experience one can see that these are also phishing strategies to get information and defraud unsuspecting victims.

They get into these groups by hacking into WhatsApp accounts, this requires a victim to provide an OTP (one time password) that is sent as a text message to the registered WhatsApp number. The target is called and usually told some fictitious story of a free invitation to a seminar on health/business etc, the only requirement being that they provide the digits in the just sent OTP to complete their registration. This grants unfettered access to all WhatsApp chats, groups and messages of the victim. However, once WhatsApp is contacted the account will be blocked temporarily until the issue is resolved. A 2-step verification protects from this kind of attack.

Bank Customer Care callers

In this COVID-19 era and even prior to it, many have received calls from individuals claiming to be bank representatives. They would often make suspicious claims, that your account or ATM card has issues that are being resolved, however you need to provide personal details such as full name, account number, BVN, Date of Birth etc. Their most recent

tactic is to claim that you have qualified for palliative but you need to provide bank details.

The above mentioned cases are a few examples of strategies currently being utilized by criminals in committing cybercrime. Their aim is often to perpetuate financial fraud, however they have been known to act against business and national interests by crippling certain key internet based infrastructures, like airport traffic control, online banking etc The key is to trick intended targets into divulging specific information which is then utilized in accessing sensitive data. This is called PHISHING.

What is phishing?

Phishing is a cybercrime in which a target or targets are contacted by email, telephone or text message by someone posing as a legitimate institution to lure individuals into providing sensitive data such as personally identifiable information, banking and credit card details, and passwords.

Recommendations

- Knowledge is key, be aware that your personal information is vital and can be used against you, maintain a high index of suspicion at all times when giving out sensitive information.
- Be wary of public internet networks, free wifi could be a backdoor for easy access into your devices by criminals
- No bank will request for your card details, BVN or personal details via telephone. If you have any doubts, go to the bank instead
- Do not reveal your login details or passwords to anyone. When filling out forms online ensure to check that the site is secure (secure website links start with https://)

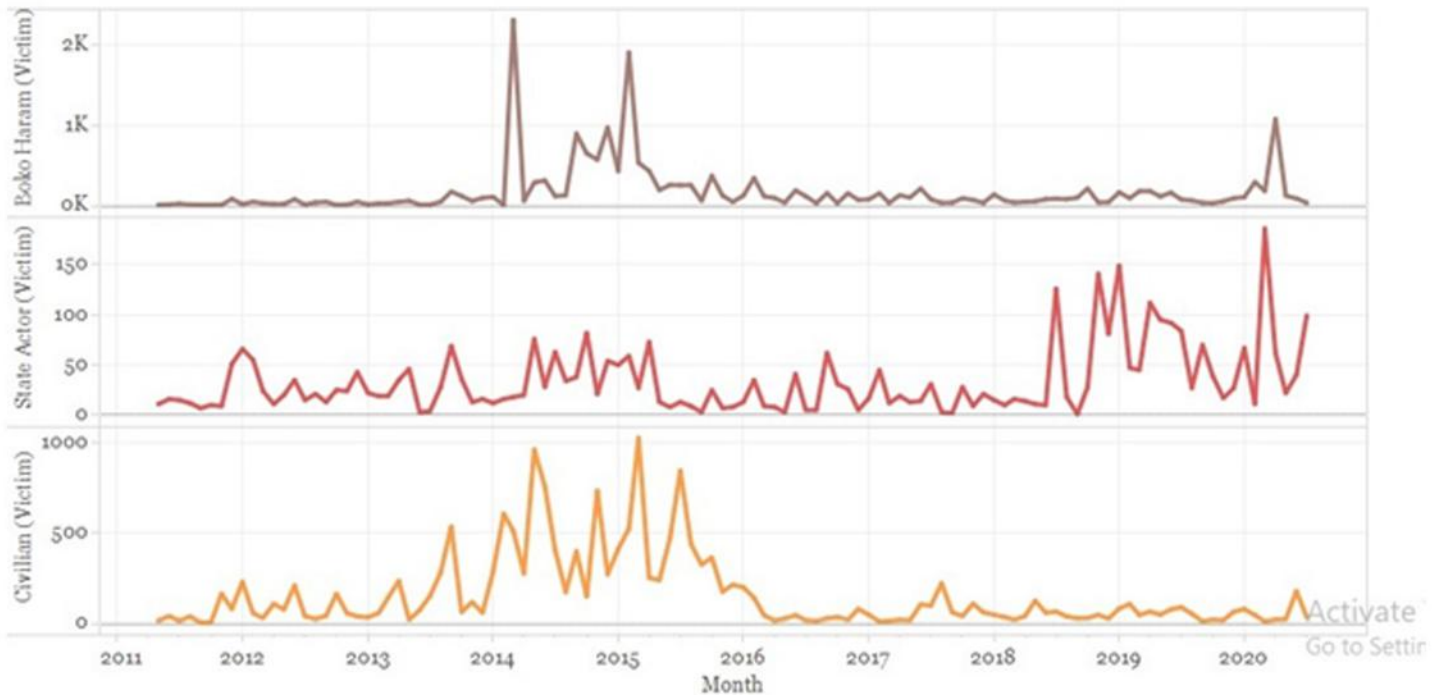
- Setup a 2 step verification for your whatsapp and emails. (<https://www.theverge.com/2017/6/17/15772142/how-to-set-up-two-factor-authentication>). It is an uncomplicated process taking less than 2 minutes.
- Secure your devices and networks using antivirus software and IT security platforms.



NATIONAL SECURITY REPORT: JULY UPDATE

Monthly Deaths of Boko Haram and State Actors

The final three charts show the number of Boko Haram and state actors who have been killed in the conflict, respectively. Even though there is an apparent spike in the number of state actors killed compared to Boko Haram killed since June 2018, the scale of the impact on each actor is significantly different. Far more Boko Haram have been killed, compared to state actor deaths.



The security situation in Nigeria remains evermore complex with multiple state and non-state actors simultaneously active in perpetrating violence across the Nation. This report is an attempt to capture the most notable incidences of violence, however the life and security of every citizen is considered priceless.

In the month under review, our sources report 324 deaths due to violence by non-state actors such as Boko Haram insurgents, bandits, Fulani militia and herdsmen, gunmen, armed robbers and kidnappers. There are reports of 124 abductions in the same period, notably 5 aid workers were kidnapped on July 22 in Safana, Katsina.

On July 2 in Mobbar, Damasak LGA of Borno, the military engaged Boko Haram fighters who had tried to overrun the town. The insurgents came in 13 gun trucks and were heavily armed, however the gallant military personnel were able to dislodge them after violent clashes. During the gunfight a UN humanitarian helicopter was hit and seriously damaged

by bullets, but no live was lost. However on ground there were some civilian and military casualties, amongst which was a 5 year old child hit by a stray bullet as the insurgents fired wildly to cover their retreat.

Clashes were also reported in Gwoza, Damboa, Bama, Ngala, Konduga, Kukawa, Kaga and even Maiduguri. On July 13 BH fighters are reported to have killed 10 civilians in an attack in Maiduguri, On July 30, as the muslim faithful prepared for the Sallah celebrations mortar attacks within the capital were reported with 7 casualties and dozens injured. The Northeast remains restive and the battle seems famous to have reached a stalemate with no clear end to the war in sight. Borno state remains essentially a war zone at this time.

In the Northwest the situation is slightly different as the armed forces continue to mount coordinated attacks which decimate the numbers and capabilities of the Bandits. Reports from public and military sources put the number of bandits engaged and killed to be around 200 in the month of July. The bandit attacks have occurred in Batsari, Dutsinma, Danmusa, Jibia, Kurfi and Matazu areas of Katsina state, also in Talata-Mafara, Maru, Zurmi and Birnin Magaji of Zamfara state. Sadly there was a bomb explosion on July 11 in Malumfashi, Katsina in which 6 children died and several others were injured. No groups have come up to take responsibility for the incident.

The Nigerian armed forces have equally been very active in curbing violence in the month of July with reports of engaging and killing 306 criminals. However significant number of casualties were sustained in the course of their duties with a large number reported dead. The army confirms 2 soldiers dead, with other sources reporting higher figures from a clash with insurgents at Damboa on July 7. However investigative reports suggests significant casualties for the army (over 40), from ambushes and skirmishes with BH insurgents at various points along the dangerous Damboa-Maiduguri highway.

On July 9 along okene-lokoja highway 2 naval officers a male and female, travelling in a Toyota highlander, were stopped and killed by unknown gunmen. This happened after an army officer GSM Abubakar was killed on the same highway on July 7, while his wife and mother who accompanied him were abducted.

The Nigerian Police Force also recorded casualties in the line of duty,

on July 8, in Benin, Edo state, 2 police officers attached to one Elder Pius Omofuma were killed in an unsuccessful kidnap attempt. In the same vein, on July 22 gunmen killed one Sg. Pius Ifere Sampson during a kidnap operation in Akamkpe, Cross rivers state, in which 4 Chinese nationals were abducted from a quarry site. Also on July 29, an armed robbery squad killed a police officer during their operation on a first generation bank at Kajola, Oyo state. The gang was later engaged by local vigilantes and 4 members of the 6-man gang were killed while 2 escaped. On July 29 in a brazen attack on a Cash In Transit (CIT) convoy moving towards Abakiliki along the Enugu-Ebonyi highway, robbers opened fire on the escort vehicle killing 4 police officers and injuring 2, they were however unsuccessful in getting their target.

This report would be incomplete without highlighting the ongoing repeated attacks and gross underperformance bordering on complicity of the security forces in southern Kaduna. Kaura, Kauru, Kajuru, Zangon-Kataf and Chikun areas were wantonly attacked several times during the month under review with civilian casualties placed at 85 deaths and dozens injured. Despite a curfew and beefed up security forces, the hapless residents of this mainly Christian farming population have known only grief and mourning for most of 2020.

Recommendations

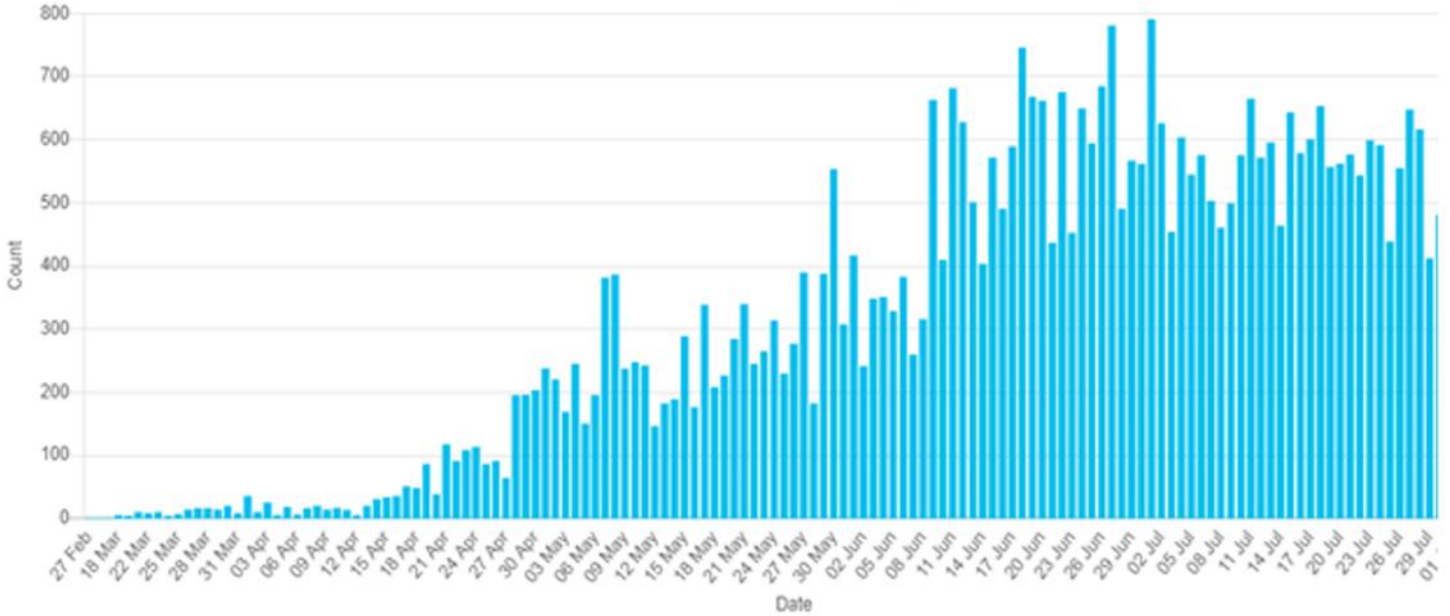
- Updated travel advisory should always be sought from a qualified security consultant before any journey is embarked on, especially when traveling outside urban areas by road.
- If travel is an absolute necessity then adequate security in the form of armed security personnel and escort vehicles must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

- Robust grassroots engagement by Social agencies to address the recruitment of fighters into armed groups



COVID 19 UPDATE

Confirmed COVID19 Cases - Nigeria 2020



In the month under review there have been many changes in regards to the COVID-19 pandemic and the Nigerian response to the situation. In every situation and challenge, the results will justify the actions taken and in this case the government and health officials must be doing a large number of things correctly because the number of infections and mortalities from the disease remain relatively low in comparison to other countries.

This a particularly welcome surprise since prior to the pandemic, Nigeria was known both locally and in the larger international community for their poor and dismal healthcare sector. Malaria remains endemic, a Lassa fever endemic is ongoing and Nigeria ranks second in regards to high maternal mortality 814/100,000 (approximately 1 out of every 100 women die in childbirth). Average life expectancy for men and women in Nigeria remains at 56yrs ranking 188 out of 191 countries. This low life expectancy in Nigeria has played a key role in the statistical indices of this pandemic.

The Nigeria Center for Disease Control - NCDC reports indicate that the highest incidence of the disease is in 31-40 yr olds, however those over 60 account for the majority of deaths, this is in keeping with global data. Nigeria's challenged health care system and low average life

expectancy seem to have deprived the pandemic of the elderly fertile ground to exert its maximum havoc, thus leading to lower than expected fatalities.

SITUATION UPDATES

Total (New in the last 24 hours)

SAMPLES TESTED

283,916 (4,241)

CONFIRMED CASES

43,151 (462)

AFFECTED STATES INCLUDING FCT

37

DISCHARGED CASES

19,565 (295)

CONFIRMED FATALITIES

879 (1) – 2.0% CFR

DEMOGRAPHICS

MALE – 27,932 (65%)
FEMALE – 15,219 (35%)

MOST AFFECTED AGE GROUP

31 - 40 (25%)

PERSONS OF INTEREST

11,197 (Total)
11,084 (99% - Exceeded Follow Up)

PROVENANCE

TRAVEL HISTORY – 804 (2%)
CONTACTS – 10,621 (25%)
UNKNOWN EXPOSURE – 31,726 (73%)

GLOBAL UPDATES

TOTAL NUMBER OF CASES
17,106,007 (668,910 deaths)

COUNTRIES & TERRITORIES AFFECTED*

214

*Excluding the 2 International Conveyance

July recorded the highest number of new infections according to the NSCDC with 790 cases recorded on 1 July. However from mid-July a trend of steady fluctuating decline in new cases as seen on the chart has been observed. This has led to further lifting of precautionary measures that were put in place in the early stages of the lockdown and pandemic response, namely;

The final exams for Senior Secondary and Junior Secondary School students are around the corner and the government has taken the bold step of reopening schools for SS# and JSS3 students in preparation for their exams, to take effect 4 August, 2020. Stringent conditions of physical distancing, running water at multiple points, hand sanitizers etc are required of the schools and government inspection teams have

been mandated to visit all schools and ensure compliance. Religious houses of worship have been given leave to reopen as from 14 August. Similar requirements have been placed on them, in particular physical distancing by receiving only 50% of their usual attendance. How this requirement is to be implemented and compliance ensured, is yet to be seen.

On July 7 a few airports were reopened for local flights only and at the time of this report most of the local airports in the country have returned to full operations. They worked closely with NCDC, FAAN and other agencies to implement new guidelines to ensure zero to minimal risk of transmission of disease. Inflight services have been stopped and access to airport terminals and halls is only for intending passengers. However, international flights have not resumed and no clear dates have been set.

In Lagos state, non-essential markets continue to operate on alternate days, and the curfew is still in place. There are now more testing centers around the state in all LGAs, however several isolation centers have been shut down or are being prepared for closure. Event centers, bars, hotels etc remain under restrictions and do not operate at full capacity.

In the general population the virus is no longer a novel phenomenon and complacency has set in with compliance to health guidelines. The popular Danfo - yellow buses, have returned to loading at full capacity. Wearing of masks is not complied with fully and life seems to be returning to a new normal.

On the global scene the pandemic continues to be a serious challenge with USA, Brazil, India and South Africa currently the worst hit countries, however, health services in South America, UK, Phillipines, etc are also increasingly overwhelmed with some countries reinstating previously lifted lockdown measures. The virus remains a deadly threat and we recommend;

- . 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.

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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