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O&G-OPS SECURITY NIGERIA
VIRTUAL AGORA
“Mitigating Threats to Travel & Journey
Management in Nigeria”

July 15th 2021



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FOOD FOR THOUGHT FROM DISCUSSION /TOPICS COVERED



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O&G-Ops Security Nigeria - Virtual Agora

"Mitigating Threats to Travel & Journey Management in Nigeria."

Thurs 15th of July 2021 14.00-15.30 (WAT)

To register: phil.manny@agoranexus.com

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Session Leader: **David Wanogho**
Security Lead Field Operations
FIRST E&P



Under Chatham House Rule, **David Wanogho, Security Lead Field Operations - First E&P** lead an interactive debate with regards to the journey management challenges security professionals face:



Preamble:



Travel and Journey Management in Nigeria has at no time, been more threatened and at risk, than it is, today. This is no doubt, a function of the state of security in the country, as apart from the now-traditional threats from kidnap-for-ransom groups and armed robbers; government security agents, including the police and the military, have become targets of attacks by armed assailants. In different parts of the country, from North to South, Irredentist groups like the IPOB have not hid their disdain for symbols of the Nigerian State as encapsulated in the security forces. So-called bandits, criminal herdsmen, Boko Haram terrorists, as well as the Islamic State of West Africa, and "Unknown Gunmen"; are perpetrating criminality across the nooks and crannies of Nigeria



The Problem:



Practitioners in Protective Security are faced with the onerous task of operating in such a hostile environment. Mitigating the threats that plague travel and journey management, is both strategic and tactical for security professionals; as professionals must continue to show dynamism in confronting the threats that subsist.



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FOOD FOR THOUGHT FROM DISCUSSION /TOPICS COVERED

KEY SESSION OUTCOMES COVERED



- Threats to travel and journey management from the perspective of diverse organisations.



- Mitigation measures by different organisations. Operational environment peculiarities.
- SOPs for effective journey management



WHAT ARE THE THREATS?

Conventional & Mainstream



- Kidnap for Ransom
- Terrorism
- Armed Robberies
- Revenue Agents / Area-Boys
- So-called "Banditry"



- Activities of Hostile Competitors
- Indiscriminate Attacks on Security Personnel



- Traffic
- Piracy



Latent & Intrinsic

- Degraded Road Infrastructure
- Security Check Points
- Complacency of Team Members
- Maintenance state of Vehicles
- Poor training/motivation of GSF members
- Activities of VIPs / Life-Style Issues



- Airline Issues



- Curfews
- Cultural Practices/celebrations
- Information Management



FOOD FOR THOUGHT FROM DISCUSSION /TOPICS COVERED



Scenario Interrogation - Review of various incidents

➤ Scenario 1



August 2013 Kidnap of Mike Ozekhome. Benin-Auchi Road (South-South). 4 Policemen Killed.



➤ Scenario 2



July 2019 Suspected herdsmen in a kidnap attempt, killed Funke Olakunrin, daughter of Afenifere leader, Reuben Fazoranti. The incident occurred between Kajola and Ore, along Ondo-Ore Road (South-West).



➤ Scenario 3

May 2021 Kidnap of scores of travelers along Kaduna-Abuja road by suspected bandits. (North-Central & North-West).



➤ Scenario 4



July 2021 Assassination of Director General of Science and Equipment development Institute, SEDI, Prof. Samuel Ndubisi in Port Harcourt Express Road, Enugu by unidentified gunmen. (South-East). 1 Policeman killed.



➤ Scenario 5



July 2021 Assassination of Club Owner of FC Udala, Philip Nonso Udala, along Eke Agu-Ideani Road, Anambra State. (South-East). 3 Policemen killed.



FOOD FOR THOUGHT FROM DISCUSSION /TOPICS COVERED

Takeaways from session /debate/thoughts:



- K&R has almost become a tradition in Nigeria
- Nigeria is becoming more complex and defiling all mitigation methods



- Challenges at present emphasizes the need for security professionals to run security



- Latent & Intrinsic threat are not usually considered
- These have a chain reaction i.e delays can result in fatigue of security personnel



- Traffic is often overlooked as a threat
- Activities of VIP can unduly expose threat
- Advanced checks needed for cultural practices i.e Roadblock due to religious celebration
- Common belief that organisations won't get hit as hasn't happened historically



- Information Management

- 50% of attacks are a result of poor information
- Keep information in closed circle on a need-to-know basis so itinerary isn't in public domain



- Information management needs to be discussed at highest level - Only Team leader should know route and destination
- Mitigation of potential information leaks



- Kidnappers are aware of potential of information leaks when 'pricing up' target
- Establish rapport with team so they stay with you and train in various scenarios



- We discussed the differing journey management threat between day and night
- There isn't a "One fits all" silver bullet solution to journey management. Need to consider every location and movement is different



- Agree on top level risk assessment template to identify risk and firm plan
- Training is important especially for those deployed for VIPs
- Unsuccessful ambush attempts have reputational consequences



FOOD FOR THOUGHT FROM DISCUSSION /TOPICS COVERED

Takeaways from session /debate/thoughts cont....



- Brief all GSA before a trip to provide level of understanding on needs, requirement and modus operandi



- Track communication - update on changes of environment information
- Crew changes can be problematic
- Importance at company level of have continuous policy in place to maintain company security plan



- Risk assessment for any journey
- Duty of care for all company personnel from VIP to general population



- Challenges when resources are difficult
- Remote location - What are the protocols?
- Need to have team in place who can think clearly and respond to issues appropriately



- Most exposure is on intrinsic movement
- Conduct essential movement only in order to reduce exposure
- Security leaders are losing ability to innovate in approach



- Insider threat - "Those leaks, sink ships"
- Importance to conducting continuous background checks on staff.



- Which credible companies do you outsource security to?
- Key to have a signed agreement for services to be rendered. This helps both parties to understand the expectations and operations of the company



- Debate regarding the types of and linearity of convoy vehicles
- Importance of knowing various route options in case of challenges



- Happiness of customer is top priority, however importance of deviating if safety being compromised
- Legislation - The importance of keeping up to speed.

