

Viewing cable 01ABUJA1941, MEETING WITH NIGERIAN POLICE OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS

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SUBJECT: MEETING WITH NIGERIAN POLICE OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS TRAINING REQUIREMENTS

¶1. (U) On Friday, July 20, the Abuja RSO met with several senior level Nigeria Police Force (NPF) officials. The purpose of this meeting was to obtain information requested by the Department in preparation for providing the NPF training under the Anti-Terrorism Assistance (ATA) program.

The following information is in response to information requested by DS/DSS/ATA.

¶2. (U) A. LAW ENFORCEMENT ORGANIZATION AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

A) What police organizations exist and operate

in Nigeria? Please provide the organizational structure(s), missions and chains of command, and, if possible, an organizational chart(s) (National/local Civil Police, Military police or units, if applicable other law enforcement entities).

Nigeria is a Federal Republic. The Nigeria Police Force is a centralized police force, serving the entire country.

There are 36 states in Nigeria (plus the Federal Capital Territory); each state has its own police command, but all police commands report to the Inspector General of Police (IGP), who is the senior police official in Nigeria. The IGP is based in Abuja. A Commissioner of Police leads each of the state police commands. The state police commands are aggregated into 7 zones. An Assistant Inspector General of Police is responsible for supervising all police commands in his/her zone.

The NPF is a civilian law enforcement agency. The Nigerian military has decreasing responsibilities for law enforcement and security in the civilian sector. The NPF includes the following agencies:

-The Nigeria Police Force (NPF): The primary agency responsible for law enforcement in Nigeria.

-The Federal Highway Patrol (FHP): Responsible

for patrolling inter-state highways and some VIP/dignitary security (escort of motorcades).

-The Federal Road Safety Commission (FRSC): Responsible for enforcement of motor vehicle safety regulations, vehicle inspections and taxation.

-Police Mobile Force (PMF): Responsible for responding to incidents requiring crowd/riot control and the protection of Nigerian government facilities.

-There are several specialized units within the NPF, to include the Bomb Squad, Diplomatic Protection Unit (responsible for providing security to foreign missions), Central Intelligence Bureau (CIB) and Criminal Investigations Division (CID).

¶3. (U) HOW DO THE VARIOUS POLICE FORCES AND MILITARY COMPLEMENT ONE ANOTHER?

The NPF is responsible to enforce the law in the civilian sector, to include traditional law enforcement in cities, towns and rural areas. The NPF also has special units dedicated to protecting GON civilian facilities, to include the Presidential Villa, federal offices, airports and seaports.

The NPF works with the Nigerian military to patrol land borders and provide oil pipeline security. Military law enforcement organizations are primarily responsible for policing on military bases, and ensuring the security of military officials and facilities. Joint patrols are occasionally established to

confront special threats.

Senior level police officials, to include the IGP, are selected from NPF career officers. Most senior level NPF officials have completed advanced degrees, to include law school.

¶4. (U) CRISIS MANAGEMENT:

The IGP is in charge of all NPF operational efforts in response to crises with national impact. The NPF will typically deploy large numbers of officers assigned to the Police Mobile Force (PMF) to respond to a crisis. The NPF officials on the panel advised they have experienced the following problems in responding to a crisis situation:

- Logistics (transportation);
- Inadequate equipment;
- Communications;
- Training.

¶5. (U) INVESTIGATIONS

The NPF Central Intelligence Bureau (CIB) is responsible for gathering intelligence used by the police. The NPF Criminal Investigative Division (CID) is responsible for conducting all criminal investigations. CIB and CID are led by Assistant Inspector Generals of Police (AIGP), who report directly to the IGP. Each of Nigeria's 36 states and the FCT has its own separate CIB and CID commands, which report directly to the Commissioner of Police for the State. Overall supervision is provided by the NPF CIB and CID located at NPF Head Quarters in Abuja.

The NPF relays on the use of both evidence and interrogation in the prosecution of cases. NPF regulations prohibit the use of force during interrogations.

The CIB is the NPF entity responsible for detecting and identifying any potential terrorist groups or activities.

This responsibility is also shared by two other GON agencies that are not part of the NPF, the State Security Service (SSS) and Nigerian Intelligence Agency (NIA). The NPF CID is responsible for investigating and prosecuting any terrorist acts.

¶6. (U) TERRORIST CASE MANAGEMENT:

The NPF was involved in responding to an aircraft-hijacking incident in the Republic of Niger in 1995. The NPF sent several officers to Niger to assist local authorities in response to the incident, and conducted the investigation after the incident was resolved.

The NPF officials on the panel advised their agency does not possess adequate forensic capabilities, equipment and training required to conduct an investigation of a major terrorist incident. The NPF officials expressed a strong interest to receive assistance in this area.

¶7. (U) EXPLOSIVE INCIDENTS:

The NPF has several late model Mercedes Benz bomb squad trucks equipped with bomb handling robots and bomb containment trailers. However,

the NPF officials on the panel advised they are in dire need of bomb suits, explosive detectors and portable x-ray devices. The NPF bomb squad also lacks trained bomb dogs.

The NPF bomb squad has received previous bomb handling training from the Federal Republic of Germany, and post-blast investigation from the United States.

The NPF bomb squad does not have significant experience responding to actual bomb threats requiring them to "render safe." However, the NPF bomb squad has responded to numerous industrial accidents involving explosive chemicals.

The Nigerian military does not typically provide the NPF with assistance in response to explosive incidents.

¶8. (U) POST BLAST INVESTIGATION:

The Post Blast Investigations (PBI) unit is a part of the Nigeria Police Bomb Squad and CID units. Bomb Squad units are strategically located throughout Nigeria, to include Lagos and Abuja.

The NPF Bomb Squad PBI unit has not conducted any significant investigations in the past 36 months.

¶9. (U) URBAN PATROL AND POLICING:

The sizes of NPF police jurisdictions varies. There are 37 NPF state police commands. A Commissioner of Police supervises each police command. Each command has several different zones (supervised by a Deputy Commissioner of Police), usually defined by the geographic

boundaries of cities or local area governments. Each zone has several areas, further broken into districts. Districts are supervised by District Police Officers (DPO). The officers serving in a district are assigned to a post or beat.

The Nigerian Police lacks adequate resources (vehicles, communications, etc.) to effectively respond to an overwhelming crime situation. Many local area, city and state governments seek to reduce these inadequacies by providing the NPF with additional patrol cars, boats, etc.

The NPF has not received any outside training in hostage negotiation, roadblocks and response to high threat crimes in progress. The NPF officials on the panel expressed a strong interest to receive additional training in these areas.

¶10. (U) LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING AND EDUCATION SYSTEMS:

All NPF recruits are required to have completed secondary school (the equivalent of U.S. High School) before acceptance into the service. The recruitment process included a written examination and medical examination before initial training. The NPF does not conduct any physical fitness examination on potential recruits. All NPF recruits must be able to speak and read English.

The major NPF training academies are located in Ikeja (Lagos), Jos, Kano, Kaduna and Enugu. The NPF does not receive regular training from foreign law enforcement agencies. The NPF has

received training in the past, to include bomb handling training from the Federal Republic of Germany and post blast investigation from the United States. Several senior level NPF officers have attended training in the United States hosted by the FBI.

The NPF officials on the panel admitted there are serious inadequacies in their training program, especially in the area of firearms training. Most recruits are lucky if they have the opportunity to fire more than a dozen rounds while in training. There is no requirement to pass with a minimum score, and targets are hardly every evaluated.

¶11. (U) CRISIS REACTION TEAMS (SWAT):

The NPF does not have a dedicated Crisis Reaction Team. In the event of a crisis situation, the NPF draws officers from regular police units. These NPF officers do not receive any special Crises Reaction training or equipment.

The NPF officials on the panel expressed a strong interest in receiving assistance in this area.

¶12. (U) CONTROL OF INTERNATIONAL BORDERS:

Nigeria's borders are protected by joint patrols of the NPF and Nigerian Military. The NPF has dedicated units assigned to protecting seaports and airports. Special NPF marine units patrol waterways, and enforce maritime law in cooperation with the Nigerian Navy and Coast Guard. Like most other NPF units, these

units are ill prepared, equipped and trained to adequately perform their duties.

¶13. (U) PERSONAL PROTECTION OPERATIONS:

The NPF has a large number of officers assigned to VIP and dignitary protection. Most of these officers are assigned to CIB or PMF. The NPF only protects persons inside Nigeria. NPF officers are assigned to current and former high-level GON officials. The NPF also provides security for any foreign government official upon request. The protection services provided by the NPF includes crowd control, motorcade escort and the manning of security posts.

The NPF regularly provides security for high-level official USG visits. This support has been invaluable.

The NPF officers on the panel expressed a strong interest in learning proper motorcade procedures, site advance work and close quarters protection operations.

¶14. (U) INSTALLATION SECURITY:

The NPF Police Mobile Force is responsible for manning security posts at GON facilities. The NPF does not conduct any threat/risk analysis of these facilities.

The NPF officials on the panel expressed a strong interest in receiving training in these areas.

¶15. (U) ASSISTANCE:

The NPF has not received any significant hands on training

or assistance from other countries.

¶16. (U) WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION (WMD):
The NPF does not have the capability to respond to a WMD scenario. The NPF does not have an emergency plan, equipment, logistics or training to respond to a WMD incident.

The NPF officials expressed a strong interest in receiving training and assistance in this area.

¶17. (U) MEDICAL SERVICES:
The NPF officials on the panel characterized their medical emergency disaster plan as inadequate. Nigeria lacks adequate medical facilities and response services. The NPF officials on the panel expressed a strong interest in receiving additional training and assistance in this area.

¶18. (U) RSO COMMENTS:
The Abuja RSO has worked with the Nigerian Police Force and other security agencies for the past two and a half years. The level of support provided by the host country law enforcement and security services has been phenomenal. Although the NPF seriously lacks adequate resources to effectively respond to an overwhelming responsibility, they consistently provide the U.S. Diplomatic Mission in Nigeria everything they have to ensure the security of Mission personnel, facilities and high-level USG visits. After two decades of neglect under military rule, Nigeria's civilian law enforcement and

security services are in dire need of training
assistance in all areas.