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CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATION: STATE OF KNOWLEDGE AND CHALLENGES ENCOUNTERED BY NIGERIA POLICE

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Abstract

The study examined the state of knowledge of crime scene investigation and challenges encountered by personnel of the Nigeria Police Force. Two research questions and two corresponding hypotheses were tested in this study. The research design adopted for this study was the descriptive design. The area of study is Zone five command in the South-South geo-political zone of Nigeria. Zone Five consist of Balyesa, Delta and Edo states command of the Nigeria Police. The population of the study was officers and men of the Zone Five command made up of Balyesa, Delta and Edo State Command of Nigeria Police. The sample was one thousand, one hundred and thirty (1130) which was arrived at through Taro Yamene formula. Mean and standard deviation while Chi-square was employed to test the hypotheses. Findings from the study reveal that Police personnel considered crime scene as integral aspect of criminal investigation where only serious crime scenes attracted the attention of the Police which imply evidence was not collected across all reported incident of crimes. The study concluded that there is alarming indifference, poor understanding, utilization and appreciation of the value of crime scene in criminal investigation which possess a major challenge to crime scene investigation in Nigeria. The study recommended that the issue of poor funding and underutilization of approved funds should be addressed by Police management so as to sincerely tackle the problems of training and logistics (transport and communication).

Keywords: Crime Scene, Investigation, State of Knowledge, Challenges, Nigeria Police

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INTRODUCTION

The success of criminal investigation as an intensive and knowledge rich endeavor depends on transforming collected information and evidences into usable knowledge. This starts from the crime scene which is an integral aspect of criminal investigative process. Shelton et al. (2007) maintained that the forensic and the Police world rely heavily on activities that happen in the crime scenes particularly as law courts emphasize more on forensic technology in the dispensation of justice. Crime scenes are locations where criminal incidents occurred. Gilbert (2004) defines crime scene as “location at which a suspected criminal incident occurred”. As noted by Horsewell (2004), crime scene is the location or locus of a criminal incident. In some criminal incidents it will be quite evident a crime has been committed, while in others it might be clearly inconspicuous or difficult to determine.

Garrison (2003) noted that the scenes of crime are dynamic events that constantly evolve and change. No two scenes are the same even when identical acts are committed by the same person. In fact, Douglas and Munn (1992) visualize the scene of crime as a reflection of differences in human interaction, behaviour characteristics and speech patterns of offenders, victims and witnesses to a crime. What this reflects is that scenes of criminal incidents are locations where you find people of different purposes and perceptions of issues which underpin their complexities. Changes in society and technology will therefore continuously pose new challenges to crime scene investigation requiring investigators to be knowledgeable about entire facet of social life as each investigation is unique with its own challenge even when committed by the same culprit.

Crime scene investigation is rooted in Edmond Locard exchange principle which states that when a person comes in contact with an object or another person, a cross transfer of evidence occurs (Bertino, 2012). By Locard exchange principle every contact leaves a trace (Trimm, 2003). Saferstein (2015) maintained that crime scenes contain evidences that are critical to investigation. Evidences encompass any and all objects that establish that a crime has been committed or link a crime and its victims or perpetrators. There is reciprocal transfer of traces whenever two objects or persons are in contact at the scene of crime (Van, 1986). By Locard principle, criminals leave traces of themselves at crime scene, on the victim and they take away evidence from the scene. Evidently, there is always clear contact at each crime scene and the investigator therefore needs to know which methods need to be applied in detecting such contact. The evidence that is transferred bears a silent witness to the criminal act. It is at the scene of crime that the gathering of evidence starts because the crime scene contains visible and hidden information that are vital to investigation.

Statement of the Problem

The Nigeria Police is therefore crucial in the administration of criminal justice system in Nigeria because it provides some of the basic information and evidence required by the courts to properly prosecute and conduct trials so as to determine the innocence or guilt of a defendant. In advanced societies, biometric technology is now available for purposes of identification, authentication, tracking and access control (Alemika, 2003). These facilities now make it easy for investigators to gather scientific based evidence from the crime scene that will afford the Police the opportunity to present water tight arguments in court proceedings against suspects. Evidence as we know is the foundation of justice and the judiciary cannot provide justice unless

they ascertain the underlying fact of a case. Peterson et al. (1984), found from their research conducted, that clearance rates in the United States for offenses with evidences from crime scenes scientifically collected and analyzed was three times greater than cases where such evidence did not exist. Briody (2004) equally observed that in the United States, homicide cases are now decided increasing more with DNA evidences from scene of crime than information extracted through confession, torture and eyewitness account.

This is in sharp contrast with what is obtainable in Nigeria, where authentic and concrete methods of proof backed by forensic evidences from crime scenes have not been attained. The Nigeria Police are constrained in the task of identifying crime and criminals through the use and application of modern surveillance and forensic appliances at the scene of crime. Onashile (2009) noted sadly that policy records in Nigeria are not backed by forensic evidence which makes it more problematic. In Nigeria, high profile killing, political assassination and other criminal incidents remain unresolved. This partly can be attributed to the poor state of crime scene investigation by Nigeria Police that is hampered by the lack of deployment of surveillance and forensic appliances to the scene of crimes for purposes of identification, verification and recording of evidences at crime scene. Research, therefore is an attempt to ascertain the state of knowledge and challenges encountered in crime scene investigation by Nigeria Police personnel.

Objective of the Study

Examine the state of knowledge of crime scene investigation and challenges encountered by personnel of the Nigeria Police Force. The specific objectives are:

- Determine State of knowledge of crime scene investigation
- Training and equipment for crime scene investigation

Research Question

- State of Knowledge of Crime Scene Investigation
- Training and Equipment for Crime Scene Investigation

Hypothesis

- There is no significant relation between skilled personnel/equipment's and crime scene investigation

CONCEPTUAL CLARIFICATION

Crime scene investigation is an integral aspect of criminal investigation and law enforcement. Crime scene investigation which involves the use of criminal tactics is the first step in investigative processes (Rubtcova et al., 2017). Science and crime solving intersect and determine the evidentiary value of items found during a criminal investigation at the scene of crime. Rubtcova et al. (2017) consider crime scene as deductive and inductive process. As a deductive process, it starts from general observation and ends up with specific hypothesis on the basis of clues found at crime scene. It equally passes from specific observation to general questions. Deductive and inductive approaches are not only a requirement in crime scene

investigation but tend to complement each other. Stelfox (2013) maintained that crime scene investigation allows and gives investigators the opportunity to not only identify but collect evidentiary materials that will aid proper prosecution of criminal and civil cases. Crime scene investigators respond to crime scenes to detect, collect, impound, preserve and document physical and biological evidence (Weisberg, 2001). Ramsland (2001) further emphasized that the target of crime scene investigation is not only to detect but also collect all potentially significant evidence that will associate the supposed suspect or witness to the alleged offence that will help in ascertaining type of crime committed and the possible motive behind the act. Ribaux and Sumerfield (2011) maintained that decision making at the crime scene is very critical and traverse all investigative processes particularly in a complex crime scene.

Criminals inadvertently always leave evidentiary materials in the scene of crimes which serves as basis of crime scene reconstruction. Crime scene investigator reconstructs the crime for the purposes of establishing a case against an offender. The basic consideration of crime scene investigation is the recognition of properties of evidence, comparison of that evidence to other evidence and the reconstruction of the crime scene. Warrington (2013) therefore concluded that knowledge is the dominant denominator of crime scene investigation as it is the determinant of limits of the investigators and capacity of other experts. As observed by Pickering and Bachmens (2001), crime scene investigation is built on techniques and procedures from other fields which a competent and skilled investigator should acquire through training and experience. The task of locating, identifying, collecting and preserving of evidence from crime scene by police personnel demands knowledge from multi-disciplinary fields (Buerger, 2004). Knowledge required cut across management, social sciences, arts and natural sciences. Bear (1999) therefore noted that modern crime scene investigation is no longer the preserve of the police and law enforcement agencies alone. Crime scene investigation involves wide range of professionals that are keen on justice and the improvement of the quality of community life in general. It requires thorough examination of the crime scene in a cooperative and coordinated approach that is done in sequential manner for public good.

Theoretical Framework

Research work anchors on social learning theory as propagated by Albert Bandura. Bandura (1977) opined that social learning is a reciprocal interaction between cognitive, behavioral and environmental determinants of human behavior. Social learning is actually a cognitive process that takes place within social context that allows direct observation and instruction that result in new behavior. Bandura (1986) however identified five key elements that are crucial for effective social learning to take place. The factors are:

- Learning through observation-We learn through observation but observation alone cannot guarantee learning. Four other mediational factors are prerequisite for effective social learning to occur.
- Paying attention- The learners need to pay attention to details as any little distraction will affect the quality of learning
- Retention-Good memory of the behavior to be imitated will guarantee its reproduction
- Reproduction- The reproduction of behavior can only take place if we observe, pay detail attention and commit same to memory.

- Motivation- Learner will be motivated to acquire new behavior if he perceives favorable outcome. It is for this reason that punishment and reinforcement are considered indispensable in social learning.

Definition of behavior are learned through imitation and subsequent reinforcement by peer and family members. Akers and Jensen (2006) identified attitudes, rationalization or meaning that an individual attach to a given behavior as defining principle of whether a behavior is good or bad, right or wrong, appropriate or inappropriate. The more individual learned a specific attitude or behavior is considered desirable (positive definition) or as justified (neutralizing definition) rather than undesirable, the more they are engaged in the behavior. The officers and men of criminal investigation bureau are forced into accepting as appropriate behavior pattern they are constrained into by lack of training, equipment and knowledge of what it takes to function effectively as a crime scene investigator.

METHODS

The study is on Nigeria Police Force and challenges encountered in protecting of crime scene.

Research Design

Survey research design was considered appropriate for this research. Survey research designs are procedures adopted in research in which researcher administer a survey to either a sample or entire population of people in order to elicit information on attitude, opinion and general characteristics that are difficult to measure using observational techniques (Pinonnseult & Kraemar,1993).

Area of Study

The area of study is Zone five command in the South South geo- political zone of Nigeria. Zone Five consist of Balyesa, Delta and Edo states command of the Nigeria Police.

Population of the Study

Population in research study is collection of objects and people with well-defined and similar characteristics (Bless & Higson-Smith, 1995). The officers and men of the Zone Five command made up of Balyesa, Delta and Edo State Command of Nigeria Police constitute the study population

Sample Size and Sampling Technique

In order to obtain an appropriate information from the target population of Police personnel in Zone five which stands at 21545 (NPF, 2017), the taro Yamane formula was used to determine the sample size. Taro Yamane

$$n = \frac{n}{1+N(e)^2}$$

Where
 n = sample size sought
 e = level of significance.

Table 1: Sample Size Computation Using Taro Yamene Formula

| Taro Yamene | Bayelsa | Delta | Edo | Total |
|--------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------|
| $n = \frac{N}{1+N(e)^2}$ | N = 4551 | N = 6719 | N = 10, 276 | 21, 545 |
| | 0.0025 | 0.0025 | 0.0025 | |
| | 0.0025 x 4551 = 11.375 | 0.0025 x 6719 = 16.7975 | 0.0025 x 10, 275 = 25.69 | |
| | 1+110375 = 12.3775 | 1+16.7975 = 17.7975 | 1+2569 = 26.69 | |
| | 4551 ÷ 12.3775 | 6719 ÷ 17.7975 | 10, 275 ÷ 26.69 | |
| | 367.68 | 377.52 | 385.01 | 1130.21 |

The sample was one thousand, one hundred and thirty which was arrived at through Taro Yamene formula as stated above. Purposive and snow ball sampling techniques which are non-probability sampling techniques was used. The purposive sampling which is equally known as subjective sampling technique relies on researcher’s sound judgment in choosing members of the population that will participate in the study (Black, 2010). Purposive sample was applied in picking three states in south south geo-political Zone which are Balyesa, Delta and Edo. sampling was applied in selected area offices that are situated in the urban and emerging urban centres in Zone Five Commands where incidence of crimes appear to be on the high side. The area offices selected are: Balyesa: Yenagoa, Okogbori, Brass, Nembe and Sagbama., Delta:Asaba, Agbor, Ozoro, Sapele, Warri and Ughelli; and Edo: Ikpoba hill, Ekiadolor, Oba market, Auchi, Ekpoma and Agenebode. Purposive sample is appropriate when studying a cultural domain with knowledgeable experts making it easier for generalization to be made on selected sample.

Snow ball was used in picking officers from the selected area officers in Balyesa, Delta and Edo State Command. Police personnel involved in intelligence gathering and criminal investigation are hard to reach because of the sensitive nature of intelligence and investigative task. Investigative task further necessitates constant movement of personnel in search of vital clues making the use of snow ball sampling appropriate in picking the sample size. Snow ball sampling technique is a technique for finding research subjects in which one subject gives the researcher the name of another subject who in turn gives the name of another research subject (Vogt, 1999). With snow ball sampling technique, police personnel assisted researcher in reaching out to their colleagues after a formal letter was presented to the Zonal Command Headquarters. This technique helped guarantee the confidentiality associated with this research subject. Snow ball is not only convenient but less expensive. The use of referrals makes it easy and quick to find research subjects as they are from reliable primary data.

Instrumentation

The instrument that was used for this study is the questionnaire. Self-developed and validated questionnaire that is titled Nigeria Police Force and challenges encountered in protecting the crime scene was patterned on four-point Likert scale. Likert scale which is unidimensional scaling method assumes equal weight for all items (Murphy & Likert, 1938). The questionnaire had two sections, which are section A and section B. Section A dealt with the personal data of the respondents while section B deals with the issues of crime scene management. The Likert

four-point type format was weighted thus: strongly agree (4) agree (3), disagree (2), strongly disagree (1).

Validity and Reliability

The validity of research instrument was ascertained through the standard practice of consultation with project supervisor and other experts in criminology. Their suggestions and corrections to the research instrument were integrated into the final draught which ensured ambiguity and poorly constructed questions were corrected and ensured instrument captured the objectives of research. Research instrument was subjected to reliability test using the Cronbach Alpha test statistical package of social sciences (SPSS) version 23 computer software for consistency.

Method of Data Collection

Bless and Higson-Smith (1995) identified that the objective of study and nature of information being sought greatly determine the process of data collection that will ensure that outcome of study is relevant to the investigation. Data were obtained from primary and secondary sources. The secondary sources included books, journals, seminal papers and documents from Nigeria Police force which are directly or indirectly related to crime scene management. The primary source involved the administration of questionnaire and oral interview which guaranteed first-hand information that is pertinent to the success of this survey was equally a source of gathering information from Police personnel.

Method of Data Analysis

Data collected from the field were analyzed using frequency, mean, standard deviation, percentage and chi-square (x2) statistics for the validation or invalidation of hypotheses through the use of SPSS version 23. This study was a survey that examined respondents view and perception on crime scene and investigative challenges encountered by Nigeria Police. The statistical analysis adopted for this study was the statistical package for the social sciences (SPSS) version 23. Chi-square was performed to ascertain if significant relationship existed between identified variables pertaining to crime scene and identified investigative challenges encountered by the Nigeria Police.

DATA ANALYSIS

Table 2: Descriptive statistics of Respondents Demographic Variables

| Demographic Variables | | Frequency (N) | Percentage (%) |
|------------------------------|----------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Gender | Male | 680 | 85.53 |
| | Female | 115 | 14.47. |
| | Total | 795 | 100.0 |
| Age | 18-30 years | 255 | 32.08 |
| | 31-43 years | 305 | 38.36 |
| | 44-56 years | 160 | 20.13 |
| | Above 56 years | 75 | 9.43 |
| | Total | 795 | 100.0 |

| | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------|-----|-------|
| Education | School Certificate | 305 | 38.36 |
| | Diploma | 255 | 32.08 |
| | Bachelor's Degree/HND | 185 | 23.27 |
| | Master's Degree | 48 | 6.04 |
| | Doctorate | 2 | 0.25 |
| | Total | 795 | 100.0 |
| Years of Experience | Under Five Years | 255 | 32.08 |
| | 5-15 Years | 325 | 40.88 |
| | 16-25 Years | 120 | 15.09 |
| | Above 25 Years | 95 | 11.95 |
| | Total | 795 | 100.0 |

The sample comprises 795 Police personnel of Zone Five Police command. Six hundred and eighty (85.53%) of respondents were male while 115 (14.47%) were female. Information on age shows that 255(32%) was aged 18-30years, 305 (38.36%) were age 31-43 years, 160 (20.13%) were age 44-56 years while 75 (9.43%) were above 56 years. Data on educational attainment revealed that 305(38.36 %) were school certificate holders, 255 (32.087%) holds diploma certificate, 185(23.27%) holds the bachelor/Higher Diploma degrees, 48 (6.04%) Master's Degree and 2 (0.25%) doctorate degree holders. Record of length of service the sample shows that 255 (32%) have worked under five years, 325 (40.88%) have worked between 6-15 years, 120 (15.09%) have worked between 16-25 years while 95 (11.95%) have worked for over 25 years. Respondents' demographic variables showed they were all literate with requisite experience on policing.

Research Question One: State of Knowledge of Crime Scene.

Table 3: Descriptive analysis of state of knowledge of crime scene investigation

| S/ N | State of Knowledge of Crime Scene Investigation | Mean | SD | Decision |
|---------|---|---------|--------|-----------|
| 1. | Crime scene for Nigeria Police is an integral aspect of criminal investigation | 3.3313 | .84335 | Agreed |
| 2. | Crime scene investigation involves sequence of activities which is followed by Nigeria Police | 2.1125 | .45344 | Disagreed |
| 3. | Crime scenes are visited in all investigation | 2.3688 | .58901 | Disagreed |
| 4. | Only serious scenes of incidents are visited | 3.3688 | .78082 | Agreed |
| 5. | Nigeria Police personnel have basic knowledge of science, arts and street sense which is essential for crime scene investigation. | 2.3438 | .53090 | Disagreed |
| 6. | For Nigeria Police crime scenes are processed for biological and physical evidences | 2.3406. | .55121 | Disagreed |
| 7. | Will report and document whatever incident that transpired in the crime scene | 2.3406 | .52992 | Disagreed |
| 8. | Specific investigators are assigned the task of crime scene investigation in Nigeria Police. | 2.2031 | .49362 | Disagreed |
| 9. | Crime scene is seen by the Police as their sole responsibility. | 3.6063 | .58825 | Agreed |

Research question one is on state of knowledge of crime scene investigation in Nigeria. The rationale is to evaluate the state of understanding and application of procedures in crime scene investigation by Nigeria Police. Item1, which is, if crime scene is an integral aspect of criminal investigation yielded an acceptable mean score of 3.3313and standard deviation of .84335. By this rating respondents agreed that crime scene investigation was an integral aspect of criminal

investigation. Item 2 had a mean score of 2.1125 and standard deviation of .45344. This showed that Nigeria Police do not follow the sequence of activities involved in crime scene investigation. On if crime scenes were visited in all investigations; mean score stood at 2.3688 and standard deviation at .53909. This showed that Police personnel disagreed. Crime scenes being not visited in all investigations is a reflection of Police discretion in the performance of their statutory responsibility. On if only serious scenes of incidents are visited by Nigeria Police yielded an acceptable mean score of 3.3688 and standard deviation of .78082. Item 5 had mean score of 2.3438 and standard deviation of .3309.

Score rating shows Police personnel do not have basic knowledge in science, arts and street sense that is an essential component of crime scene investigation. Item 6, had a mean score of 2.4063 and standard deviation of .5512 which reflect that respondent disagreed with the assertion that crime scenes are processed solely for biological and physical evidences. This by implication means only limited portion of evidence collected from crime scenes were not sent for laboratory analyses which is still a reflection of Police discretion. On if Police personnel will report all that transpired in crime scene, mean score stood at 2.3406 and standard deviation at .5299. This indicated Police personnel do not report all that transpired in crime scene. Item 8 had mean score of 2.2031 and standard deviation of .4936, showing that specific investigators are not assigned the task of crime scene investigation. Item 9 which state if Police personnel consider crime scene as their sole responsibility, yielded an acceptable mean of 3.6063 with standard deviation at .58825. The Police in Nigeria in virtually most circumstances consider their law enforcement role as exclusive and are therefore antagonistic to other law enforcement agencies and the military which is inimical to effective crime scene investigation and management.

Research Question Two: Training and Equipment for Crime Scene Investigation

Table 4: Descriptive analysis of training and equipment for crime scene investigation

| S/ N | Training and Equipment for Crime Scene Investigation | Mean | SD | Decision |
|---------|---|-------|-------|-----------|
| 10 | Police stations in Zone Five Command are equipped with basic tools and forensic gadgets to aid securing and processing of evidence | 2.115 | .4543 | Disagreed |
| 11 | Officers and men of Zone Five Command have required training for crime scene investigation | 2.346 | .5155 | Disagreed |
| 12 | Officers attached to Police laboratory are involved in crime scene investigation. | 2.296 | .5155 | Disagreed |
| 13 | Refreshers and advance training in crime scene investigation and forensic are extended to investigators regularly by Nigeria Police | 2.115 | .4545 | Disagreed |
| 14 | Forensic experts are invited to assist in the course of crime scene investigation by Nigeria Police. | 2.453 | .5662 | Disagreed |

Research question centered on training and equipment for crime scene investigation. The purpose of question was to determine respondent’s responses on if personnel of Nigeria Police are sufficiently trained and equipped for crime scene investigation. Item 10, had a low mean score of 2.1156 and standard deviation of .45430 which showed that Police stations in Zone Five Command are not equipped with basic tools and forensic gadgets that would aid securing and processing of evidence. Item 11, had a mean score of 2.3469 and standard deviation of .51555. This showed officers and men of the Police command do not have the requisite training for crime scene investigation. Item 12 had mean score of 2.2969 and standard deviation of .51555. This

shows that officers attached to Police laboratory are not involved in crime scene search. Zone Five Command do not even have forensic laboratory that will allow for participation of such staff in crime scene investigation. Item 13, on refresher and advance training in crime scene investigation had a mean score of 2.1156 and standard deviation of .56621. This shows that majority of respondents disagreed. Refresher and advance trainings are not provided regularly by the Nigeria Police. Item 14, had a mean score of 2.4531 and standard deviation of .56621. This showed that forensic experts are not engaged in the course of crime scene investigation.

Hypothesis: There is no significant relation between skilled personnel/equipment's and crime scene investigation

Table 5: Chi-Square analysis of training and equipment for crime scene investigation

| S/N | Training and Equipment for Crime Scene Investigation | Df. | Chi-Square | Sig. | Decision |
|-----|---|-----|--------------------|------|----------|
| 10 | Police Station in Zone Five Command are equipped with basic tools and forensic gadgets to aid securing and processing of evidence | 3 | 1.975 ^a | .225 | Accept |
| 11 | Officers and men of Zone Five Command have required training for crime scene investigation | 2 | 7.269 ^b | .512 | Accept |
| 12 | Officers attached to Police laboratory are involved in crime scene investigation. | 3 | 9.300 ^a | .090 | Accept |
| 13 | Refreshers and advance training in crime scene investigation and forensic are extended to investigators regularly by Nigeria Police | 3 | 6.325 ^a | .114 | Accept |
| 14 | Forensic experts are invited to assist in the course of crime scene investigation by Nigeria Police. | 3 | 3.500 ^a | .125 | Accept |

The purpose of this hypothesis was to ascertain if Nigeria Police have required training, skilled personnel and equipment for crime scene investigation. Chi-square results displays shows no significant relationships existing for all items on training /equipment and crime scene investigation. Consequently, hypothesis is accepted.

DISCUSSION OF FINDINGS

It was revealed that Police personnel considered crime scene as integral aspect of criminal investigation, but findings however showed that sequence of crime scene investigations were not followed and not all crime scenes were visited. Only serious crime scenes attracted the attention of the Police which imply evidence was not collected across all reported incident of crimes. Finding is at variance with Coetzee (2008) which stated that crime scene investigation goes beyond just search to complete sequence of activities that will ensure evidence collected from crime scene are not only authentic but admissible in court. The outcome is a further confirmation of Police discretion in task performance in Nigeria and corroborates earlier research findings that evidence from crime scenes are mostly collected in serious cases like rape and homicide (Hovath et al. 1998; Reid et al. 2011). Simon (2009) identified transport and communication as impediment to policing in Africa, particularly access to the scenes of crime. The Nigeria Police do not even acknowledge the fact that they require basic skills in science, arts and street sense to perform the task of crime scene investigation. In spite of the fact that the Police view crime scene as their exclusive statutory function, officers are not assigned the specific role of crime

scene investigation across Police stations visited. Inter-agencies rift will not augur well for information sharing that is required for swift response to scenes of crime and disaster. Udounwa (2013) however pinned the lack of cooperation with other law enforcement agencies and the military to competition for limited resources, need for visibility and quest for favorable public rating from the public.

It was revealed that Zone Five Command of Nigeria Police lacks requisite training, basic tools, equipment and forensic gadgets that will aid crime scene investigation. This research finding is buttressed by Baber and Butler (2012) earlier finding that identified training and experience as prerequisite for effective crime scene management. Available training in Nigeria Police is narrowed to drills and paramilitary (Karimu & Osunyikanmi, 2012). Finding further confirmed earlier research finding by Chukwuma (2014), that Police training has identified gaps in meeting the needs of the force in terms of specific task and expertise, interest of personnel and even taking skill acquired into consideration in the deployment of personnel. This lack of capacity, according to Oluwafemi (2009), has resulted in obtaining of evidence through coercion instead of sound analysis and interpretation of evidence from the crime scene. This finding corroborates the recent demand by the Inspector General of Nigeria Police that Police management henceforth must ensure regular training and refresher courses in critical areas of investigation, intelligence and surveillance to meet the challenges of policing in the 21st century (Onyegbula, 2018). Barzegar & Farjad (2011) in their study of on- the- job training, found it affected positively staff performance in task accomplishment. In a similar vein, Mburu et al. (2017) found out that on- the -job training improved the performance of Kenya Police personnel. On-the-job training according to Clotfeller (2005) is beneficial in the area of:

- Obtaining of new knowledge,
- Development of new skill and
- Enriched competencies.

On not seeking forensic experts outside the Force, outcome confirms Julian's (2005) position on Police culture. Police culture encourages an officer to seek for assistance from other officers before reaching out to other experts (forensic scientists). Police culture is a major determinant of procedure to adopt than scientific or legally accepted procedures.

CONCLUSION

There is alarming indifference, poor understanding, utilization and appreciation of the value of crime scene in criminal investigation which possess a major challenge to crime scene investigation in Nigeria. The Nigeria Police, unfortunately, lack capacity in terms of trained manpower and facilities for effective crime scene management. The Police in Nigeria have not advanced to the stage where they can deploy and apply forensic technology in the management of crime scene. Forensic technology is required for the purposes of collection, identification and authentication of evidence collected at crime scene. The limited spread of forensic laboratories across the federation has not actually encouraged the collection of biological and physical evidence. It is worthless collecting evidence from crime scenes that will not be analyzed.

Recommendation

- The issue of poor funding and underutilization of approved funds should be addressed by Police management so as to sincerely tackle the problems of training and logistics (transport and communication).
- The Nigeria Police should build capacity in crime scene management by training personnel in rudimentary knowledge of forensic application in crime management. Regular training and refresher courses will equip personnel with specialized skill and knowledge in crime scene methods and technique.
- Recruitment into Nigeria Police Force should be guided by suitable educational qualification that is broad based in the acquisition of multi-skill competency in view of complex chain of activities involved in crime scene investigation.

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