

SPECIAL EDITION – NOVEMBER 2025 FOR DEFENCE AND SECURITY PROFESSIONALS

FOREWORD

In today's volatile and interconnected world, national security can no longer rely solely on force. The complexity of Nigeria's security environment, ranging from insurgency and banditry to cyber threats and disinformation, demands a comprehensive, adaptive, and humane response. This maiden issue of the PBDC National Security and Non-Kinetic Strategy Digest is dedicated to deepening professional understanding of non-kinetic operations and their central role in modern security management.

Through the contributions of distinguished military and security experts, this edition highlights how dialogue, intelligence, information, and leadership can achieve what firepower alone cannot: enduring peace and societal resilience.

We invite readers to engage critically with these insights, translate them into institutional learning, and continue the national conversation on a Whole-of-Society approach to security.



**Mr Kayode Bolaji, Executive Director Peace
Building Development Consult**

NATIONAL SECURITY AND NON- KINETIC STRATEGY DIGEST

FOR DEFENCE AND SECURITY PROFESSIONALS

From the Editor's Desk

Welcome to the inaugural edition of the PBDC National Security and Non-Kinetic Strategy Digest. This readable digest curates perspectives from across Nigeria's defence, intelligence, and law enforcement community, focusing on the evolving dynamics of non-kinetic strategy—the art of influencing, stabilizing, and securing without relying solely on combat.

Each article presented here draws from lived experience, strategic scholarship, and institutional practice. Together, they reflect a shift in Nigeria's security paradigm—one where coordination, communication, and community engagement are recognized as strategic force multipliers.

This publication aims to inform, challenge, and inspire every reader—whether in uniform, in government, or in civil society—to champion a holistic, sustainable vision of national security.

Okwaraji Festus Uchechukwu, PhD



Feature 1: Understanding Non-Kinetic Operations and Non-Kinetic Capabilities for Irregular Warfare By AVM G. A. Bello, Defence Headquarters

AVM Bello offers an in-depth exploration of non-kinetic capabilities—ranging from psychological operations and cyber influence to civil-military engagement—as indispensable tools for modern irregular warfare. He emphasizes that success in such environments requires influencing adversary perceptions, fostering legitimacy among local populations, and integrating strategic communications with kinetic actions.

His paper calls for institutional reforms that prioritize intelligence, influence, and inter-agency cooperation, ensuring that the Nigerian Armed Forces operate with both moral authority and operational adaptability.

Feature 2: The Use of Soft Power and Technology in Policing and Crime Prevention

By A. N. Thomas, PhD, fsi, Assistant Inspector General of Police, National Centre for the Control of Small Arms and Light Weapons (NCCSALW)

Dr. Thomas argues that effective policing in the digital age depends on the fusion of soft power and technology. Trust, legitimacy, and cooperation are as vital as surveillance and analytics. Through community engagement, artificial intelligence tools, and digital forensics, law enforcement agencies can preempt threats and build public confidence.

He advocates for embedding soft-power principles—dialogue, empathy, and transparency—into policing strategy, ensuring that enforcement operations enhance rather than erode social cohesion.



Feature 3: Surveillance, Control, and Communication for Effective Non-Kinetic Operations in Nigeria: Defence Space Administration in Perspective

By Capt (NN) C. C. Ali representative of AVM Oluwatoyin

Captain Ali examines the Defence Space Administration's (DSA) role in integrating space-based surveillance, communication, and command systems to support non-kinetic operations. He highlights DSA's capacity to deliver real-time situational awareness, counter disinformation, and enhance coordination across multiple agencies.

The paper concludes that technological sovereignty and digital literacy are critical to safeguarding Nigeria's non-kinetic posture in the information domain.

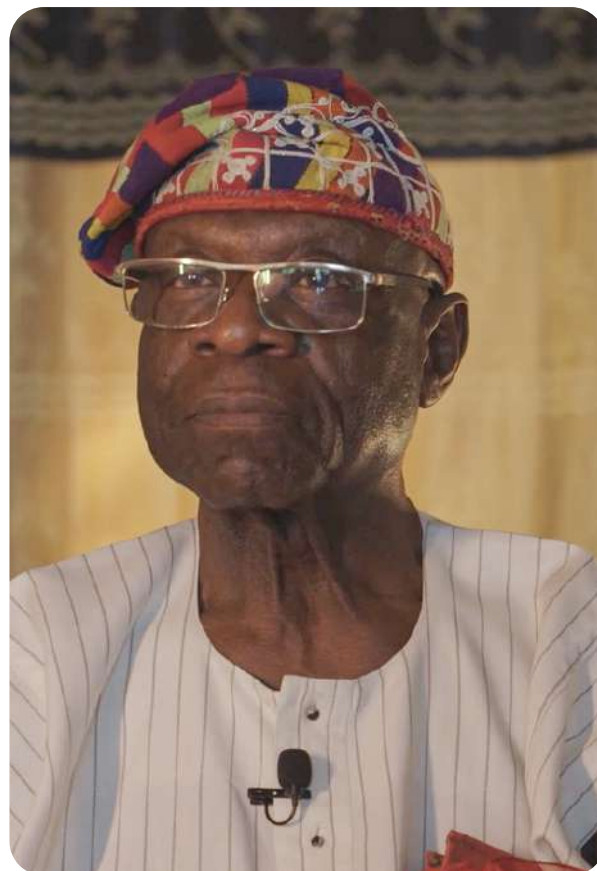


F4.The Non-Kinetic Operations During the Nigeria-Biafra Civil War (1967–1970): Lessons for Contemporary Security Management

By Brigadier General G. Alabi-Isama (Rtd)

Drawing from direct operational experience, General Alabi-Isama revisits how the 3 Marine Commando Division integrated humanitarian relief, psychological operations, and civil engagement into its campaigns. His analysis demonstrates that wars are not only won on battlefields but through disciplined compassion and leadership.

He draws parallels between those lessons and today's asymmetric security challenges—insurgency, banditry, and cybercrime—urging modern commanders to balance might with morality.



Feature 5: Examining a Whole-of-Society Approach in Kinetic and Non-Kinetic Operations in Nigeria

By Rear Admiral Yaminu E. M. Musa (Rtd), GSS, psc+, usnwc, BSc, MA Int. Rel., PhD

Rear Admiral Musa advances the doctrine of a Whole-of-Society Approach (WOSA)—a framework that integrates military, civil, technological, and psychological resources to address security holistically. He argues that modern operations must transcend traditional silos and cultivate partnerships among the Armed Forces, academia, media, and local communities

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Through case studies, he illustrates how non-kinetic synchronization enhances operational legitimacy, conflict prevention, and post-conflict stabilization.

Feature 6: National Security and Non-Kinetic Strategy: Integrating Knowledge and Practice Compiled by the PBDC Editorial Team

This integrative section synthesizes recurring themes across all contributions:

- Non-kinetic operations are no longer secondary—they are central to national defence.
- Leadership, ethics, and communication remain the backbone of operational success.
- Technology must complement—not replace—human intelligence and empathy.
- Civil-military coordination, soft power, and public trust are enduring instruments of national stability.
- The article concludes that peace and security are collective enterprises, requiring informed professionals and empowered citizens alike.

Policy Insight

To institutionalize non-kinetic operations, Nigeria should:

- Integrate non-kinetic doctrines into officer training and promotion criteria.
- Strengthen inter-agency information-sharing frameworks.
- Develop strategic communication units at federal and state levels.
- Expand public education on security awareness and civic responsibility.

About Peace Building Development Consult (PBDC)

Peace Building Development Consult (PBDC) is a Nigeria-based policy and training consultancy dedicated to advancing peace, governance, and national resilience. Through research, advocacy, and capacity-building initiatives, PBDC bridges the gap between security theory and practice, empowering institutions and communities to prevent, manage, and resolve conflict sustainably.

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