

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The National Defence College (NDC) was established in 1992 as the highest military institution in Nigeria for the training of senior officers. Since the Nigerian Armed Forces had already established a strong tri-service heritage in the Nigerian Defence Academy (NDA), Kaduna and the Armed Forces Command and Staff College (AFCSC), Jaji, it was appropriate and cost effective to continue the tradition by establishing the new top level military institution on a tri-service basis. Consequent upon the above, NDC became a reality in 1992 on a temporary site at the former Ministry of Foreign Affairs building on Marina, Lagos. In August 1995, the College was moved out of Lagos to Abuja (the Federal Capital), on a temporary site located on Herbert Macaulay Way (North). The then Head of State and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, General Sani Abacha inaugurated the NDC Course 4 on 14 September, 1995 to herald the movement of the College to its new temporary site. Elaborate plans are in place to relocate the College finally to its permanent site in Piwoyi District of Abuja.

ORGANISATION

The College is organized into an Academic Faculty, Administrative and Logistic Branches, as well as the African Centre for Strategic Research and Studies. The College is headed by the Commandant, a “3-star” appointment, who is the Chief Executive. The Commandant is supported by the following senior appointments:

- a. **The Deputy Commandant** who is also the Director of Studies assists the Commandant in the day-to-day running of the College. He is responsible for course design and curricular planning. His post is authorised as an appointment for a “2-star” Officer.

- b. **The College Secretary** is the Commandant’s Chief of Staff and Senior Executive. He heads the Administrative and Logistics Branches. He is responsible for negotiating the College resources, administration, logistics, budgetary control and the external profile of the College. The post is authorised as a “2-star” level.

- c. **The Dean** is the head of the African Centre for Strategic Research and Studies (ACSRS). The post is designed for an academic professor, a retired “2-star” officer, a retired ambassador or a retired vice chancellor. The Dean is answerable to the Commandant of the College.

ACADEMIC FACULTY

The Academic Faculty comprises the Studies Department and the African Centre for Strategic Research and Studies. It is under the Deputy Commandant/Director of Studies. There are 7 Studies Department and an integral Coordination department. These departments are:

- a. **Department of Higher Military Organization and Operations (DHMO)**, headed by a Brigadier General.
- b. **Department of Academic Research and Analytical Support (DARAS)**, headed by a Commodore.
- c. **Department of National and Military Strategy (DNMS)**, headed by an Air Commodore.
- d. **Department of National and Geopolitical Affairs (DNGA)**, headed by an Ambassador who is also the Commandant's adviser on international affair.
- e. **Department of Curriculum and Programmes Development (DCPD)**, headed by a Commodore.
- f. **Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT)**, headed by an Air Commodore.
- g. **Department of History Research and Archives (DHRA)**, headed by a Brigadier General.
- h. **Coordination Department**, headed by a Brigadier General, is responsible for detailed programming of the College academic activities, generation of teaching materials, and practical organizational work related to the implementation of the academic programmes of the College.

AFRICAN CENTRE FOR STRATEGIC RESEARCH AND STUDIES (ACSR)

The ACSRS was formerly known as the Centre for Peace Research and Conflict Resolution. On 3 August 2004, the Governing Board of the College gave approval for a change of the name of the Centre to ACSRS. It is headed by the Dean. The Centre has 5 Departments, and each Department is headed by a Director. These departments are:

- a. Defence and Security Studies.
- b. Conflict Studies, Peacekeeping and Humanitarian Affairs.
- c. Regional and Area Studies.
- d. Governance and Public Policy.
- e. Science and Technology.

MISSION AND OBJECTIVES OF THE COLLEGE

MISSION

The Mission of the NDC is:

To impact knowledge and develop expertise and skills of senior military officers and their civilian counterparts through a firm understanding of all the essential factors that impact on national security and prepare them for higher responsibilities at operational and strategic levels in both national and international assignments.

OBJECTIVES

The objectives of the NDC are:

- a. To study and analyze:
 - i. The socio-political environment of Nigeria and its impact on national security.
 - ii. The role of science and technology in national security
 - iii. The nature, evolution and dynamics of international relation, including issues related to international security and how they impact on Nigeria's foreign relations. It also looks at the role of Nigeria's foreign policy in promoting her national interest.
 - iv. The various issues which relate to countries in the strategic neighbourhood of Nigeria; and their impact on the fortunes of the country.

v. The fundamental concepts and processes of national security decision making.

vi. The broad understanding of Nigeria's economy and its impact on national security. The emphasis is on clarity of basic economic concepts, analysis of current policy issues, understanding of the design and implementation of viable economic policies and strategies to ensure development and national security.

b. To develop an in-depth understanding of elements of national power which will aid in the formation of grand national strategy.

c. To proffer policy recommendations on specified national issues that border on national security.

d. To undertake advanced academic research at national strategic policy levels.

PHILOSOPHY

The National Defence College provides the highest level of formal military education intended to inculcate a sense of advanced military professionalism and involvement in the decision making process under democratic political culture and structures.

In the pursuit of its professional training programmes, the College has developed sound and consistent military expertise in the study of policy options as to where, when and how the application of force could be applied for security and peaceful purposes.

To achieve this educational objective, participants are encouraged to be imaginative and creative and to cultivate the confidence of expressing their views openly. In order to encourage this, the

College applies a fine exchange of ideas through a “Rotunda Rule” policy of non-attribution in the Auditorium, where participants, staff and Directing Staff (DS) will be able to express personal views frankly but privately to a privileged audience.

The curriculum of the College is designed to be **provocative, demanding** and **rigorous**. Participants will be faced with a variety of problems for which there is no College ‘template solution’. They will be encouraged to consider and challenge their own intellectual assumptions and standpoints about the **nature of war, peace, leadership, politics, ethics** and the **application of force**.

The College, therefore, works intensively at the conceptual level, researching and analysing issues in depth to produce well informed, critical judgments, and to cultivate the art of intelligent questioning and conceptual thinking. Overall the intention is that the NDC and its fellows should play a part in the evolution of military thoughts to meet the new circumstances of the 21st century.

METHODOLOGY

The mission and philosophy of the College is pursued through lectures, seminars, workshops, conferences and syndicate assignments. The Participants also write term papers and all year round research projects on approved topics. There are also geo-strategic tours of the nation and other parts of the world. The activities of the College are conducted in English Language.

ADMISSION POLICY

Admission into the programme of the College is based on selection of senior military officers, civilians and other similar cadres from Africa and the world at large. The selection level of the Participants is set high so that apart from professional skills and qualifications, they would have considerable experience to enable them contribute meaningfully and authoritatively to discussions. For instance, nominees from the Armed Forces are pegged at the rank of Colonel in the Army or its equivalent in the other services, while in the Civil Service, it is a Director and above.

COLLEGE CREST

The Crest of the College is made up of two circles with a white background. The space within the inner circle is strapped in the national colours, green-white-green, while the name of the College is inscribed in the lower part of the white space between the two circles. Within the inner circle, the armed forces insignia is placed on the white background between the two green colours. An eagle and a searchlight of peace are placed in succession on top of the emblem. At the base is a scroll in yellow parchment bearing the College motto: *Intellect, Courage and Patriotism*.

MAIL

The College postal mailing address is:

National Defence College Nigeria
Herbert Macaulay Way (North)
Central Area,
P. M. B. 323,
Garki, Abuja.

WEBSITE

The College Website address is <http://www.ndc.gov.ng>
Additional information about the College could be obtained from the Website.

ACADEMIC PROGRAMME

COLLEGE CURRICULUM

The course curriculum is designed such that participants are faced with a variety of problems for which there are no College template solutions. Participants are encouraged to consider and challenge their own intellectual assumptions and standpoints about the nature of war, peace, leadership, politics, ethics and the application of force. The 11 month study programme is organized into 8 blocks conducted in 3 terms. The blocks are:

- a. **Block 1:** Research Methodology.
- b. **Block 2:** The State and Socio-Political Environment.
- c. **Block 3:** Economy, Science and Technology.
- d. **Block 4:** Strategy, Statecraft and National Security.
- e. **Block 5:** International Affairs and Regional Studies.
- f. **Block 6:** War Study Package.

- g. **Block 7:** Peace Support Operations.
- h. **Block 8:** Higher Management of Defence.

The blocks are conducted in the following manner:

First Term: Foundation Studies (14 Weeks)

- a. Global Scene in Perspective.
- b. National Economy.
- c. Elements of Strategy.
- d. Warfare and Military Strategy.
- e. Strategists and Military Thinkers.
- f. Technology and Warfare.
- g. Strategic Installations' Visit.
- h. Geo-strategic Visit to States.
- i. Term Paper and Research Projects.

Second Term: Defence Policy Development, Operational Art and Geo-strategic Studies (14 Weeks)

- a. Global Scene in Perspective.
- b. Defence Policy Development.
- c. The Art of Command.
- d. Military Aid to Civil Authority/Military Assistance to Civil Power.
- e. Peacekeeping Operations.
- f. Campaign Studies.
- g. Joint Operations/Logistics at Operational Level.
- h. Geo-strategic World Study Tour.

Third Term.

Higher Management of Defence (16 Weeks)

- a. Crisis Management at the Operational and Strategic Levels.
- b. National Defence Planning Exercise.
- c. Country Briefs by Foreign Participants.
- d. Policy Paper Presentation
- e. Term paper and Defence of Research Projects.

Country Brief by International Participants: As part of the Third Term curriculum, foreign participants are expected to make presentations on their countries to other members of the course and the Faculty. The presentations are normally for about one hour, followed by an interactive session of 30 minutes. At the discretion of the presenters, the presentation could incorporate film clips and mini-exhibitions.

Visits. The following visits are conducted during the Course:

- a. Tour of Abuja.
- b. Geo-strategic tour of States.
- c. Visit to Strategic Installations.
- d. Visit to Military Establishments.
- e. Geo-strategic World Study Tour.

With the exception of the tour of Abuja, which is to acquaint participants with their immediate environment, all other visits are study tours which require them to submit papers and make presentations on the visits.

Electives. In addition to the course curriculum, there are some electives, which provide participants with the opportunity to tailor their academic programme to meet individual interests, to go beyond the limits of the core curriculum and expand their professional expertise, by taking advanced studies in specific additional subjects. Each participant must offer at least one elective during the course. The approved electives are:

- a. Military History.
- b. French Studies.
- c. Information and Communication Technology.

However, participants are free to propose additional or alternative electives at their own time for consideration.

LECTURES AND SYNDICATION

The methods of instruction is mostly through lectures by experts in different fields, seminars, individual and group work. Lectures take place at the College Auditorium also called Abacha Hall. Copies of Lectures and other instructional materials needed for the course are made available to each participant in their respective boxes. Participants are divided into syndicates for group discussions and assignments and are expected to make valid contributions in their various syndicates. There are 9 syndicates in all and each have at least one Directing Staff (DS). The DS coordinate the discussions and activities of the Syndicate.

AIDS TO RESEARCH

The College maintains a computerized library equipped with books, records reports and other publications as provided for the advancement of knowledge in different areas. The current collection in the library stands at over 15,000 titles, comprising books in various fields of military, politics, international relations, strategic studies, peace studies and capacity building. In addition, the College in its efforts to bequeath her academic community with advanced Information and Communication Technology (ICT) tools for training and research purposes, also has in place both intranet and internet facilities.

FELLOWSHIP AWARD AND GRADUATE PROGRAMMES

AWARD OF FELLOWSHIP

Successful graduation leads to the award of the qualification: Fellow of the Defence College (fdc). Directing Staff (DS) who complete one year of the 2 year tour and act as Syndicate DS for at least one term, as well as Academic Directors are eligible for the award of Distinguished Fellow of the Defence College (fdc(+)).

MASTERS DEGREE PROGRAMME IN STRATEGIC STUDIES

A Masters Degree (MSc) Programme in Strategic Studies is organised by the University of Ibadan on affiliation basis. This programme is open to all qualified graduates of the Defence College who are selected to undertake the programme. There is a residency requirement which makes it mandatory for those entering the programme to reside in the University for 16 weeks to complete the programme.

ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

COURSE ALLOWANCE

Participants are advised to collect course allowances from their respective Service Headquarters/Ministries or home government before resumption date.

TRAVEL DOCUMENTS

In preparation for the Geostrategic World Study TTour, each participant is required to ensure that he is in possession of a current valid International Passport, preferably official Passports. In addition, each Participant is advised to bring along passport size photographs (on white background), as may be required for visa purposes in certain countries. **The College would not accept the responsibility of renewing expired international passports for participants.**

VISA ARRANGEMENTS FOR INTERNATIONAL PARTICIPANTS

International Participants are expected to apply for a 2 year multiple entry visa for themselves and their spouses at the Nigerian embassy or high commission in their respective countries. This is to cover the duration of the course and the Masters degree programme at the University of Ibadan.

ARMS AND AMMUNITIONS

Participants are not allowed to bring arms and ammunition to the College.

DRESS

For the purpose of uniformity and orderliness, Participants are expected to always appear dressed in a manner appropriate to the occasion. Participants on NDC Course will need the following dress:

- a. **Special Activities**: During all special NDC activities such as Course Inauguration and Graduation, the dress would be Service Dress for the Army and Air Force and No. 1 for the Navy. **These are to be worn with peak caps and appropriate shirts and ties.** For the Police, the dress shall be No. 2 while Lounge Suit/French Suit/National dress or any attire befitting their status shall be worn by civilians.
- b. **Work**: Unless otherwise directed, the working hours dress for Participants and Members of Faculty is lounge suit. However, there are occasions when military Participants will be required to wear uniform as appropriate.
- c. **Visits**: Participants are expected to carry along with them No. 4 or 5 for the Army, Bush Jacket for the Navy and Tunic for the Air Force during all programmed visits. This is in addition to lounge suits. For tour of military establishments, special instructions on dress would be issued.

REPORTING AND DOCUMENTATION

On arrival, Participants are to report directly to the National Defence College Complex located at Herbert Macaulay Way (North) Abuja, where a reception centre is usually established 3 days before the course officially commences. All inquiries are to be directed to the Principal Staff Officer Coordination (PSO Coord) or the Staff Officer 1 Coordination (SO 1 Coord) on the following telephone lines:

- | | | |
|---------------|------|--------------------------------|
| a. PSO Coord | Tel: | 0813 955 5555
0708 055 1432 |
| b. SO 1 Coord | Tel: | 0803 452 8525
0805 043 0363 |

Participants are to submit to the Coordination department 20 passport photographs (28mm x 28mm on white background) each, in uniform for service personnel and mufti for civilians to the Coordination department.

All Participants are to complete a bio data form online and submit a hard copy to the SO1 Coord on arrival.

All Participants are to report with a complete and duly certified medical report.

ACCOMMODATION

The College provides each participant with accommodation in Apo Quarters. Two or 3 Participants will share a flat of 3 bedrooms. This accommodation is however not convenient for Participants to live-in with their spouses or dependents. **It is the College policy that on no occasion a Participant will allow a ward or personal staff sleep or be accommodated in the Quarters. All wards/dependants/staff could be in the Quarters from 0600 hours and must depart by 1800 hours daily.**

PARKING

Participants, who have cause to bring their cars from their residence to the College, are to make use of Participants' car park located within the College premises. Participants' cars should not be parked in spaces provided for College permanent staff and Members of Faculty.

MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES

Medical treatment is provided within the College premises through its Clinic, using up-to-date techniques, drugs and equipment. The Clinic has been recently renovated and expanded to cope with the increment of Participants in recent courses. The Clinic is manned by qualified and specialised doctors, nurses (both civil and military) and other experienced service personnel. All participants will be requested to undergo a medical test on arrival. Foreign Participants are to cater for their medical bills.

INTEGRATED PRINTING PRESS

An Integrated Printing Press has been installed in the College. The Printing Press has greatly enhanced the timely and quality production of published documents and manuscripts. It is important to note that other departments of the government now patronise the Press for their printing works.

WORK PRODUCTION CENTRE

To support the Printing Press is the Work Production Centre (WPC). It is the nerve centre for the production of all teaching materials for the College. It is therefore a very busy centre which demands the cooperation of all its users. The WPC is available for syndicate or group official works. Requests for such jobs should be directed to the Office of the PSO Coord. For works involving research projects and term papers, individuals will bear the cost for materials and production.

THE COLLEGE LIBRARY

The College maintains a Library equipped with books, records, reports and other publications as directed by the Board for the advancement of knowledge in the areas of work undertaken by the College. The current collection in the Library stands at over 15,000 titles, comprising books in various fields of military, politics, international relations, strategic studies, peace studies and capacity building.

The Library has begun the digitilisation of all its research resources and has indexed editorial opinions, feature articles and commentaries in relevant national and international newspapers, magazines and journals, which are concerned with conflict prevention, peace, security and defence issues generally. The Library is also fully automated. Internet facilities are available in the Library. Participants

are free to avail themselves of the facility for their research projects and term papers.

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

The College operates a Local Area Network (LAN) which links all offices and syndicate rooms to a central server for both Intranet and Internet services. Using Very Small Aperture Terminal (VSAT) transmission technology, the College acts as an autonomous Internet Service Provider (ISP), with the entire College community as its client. With the available Internet facility, the College, including the ACSRS, is provided with the capacity to surf the internet, download, send and receive e-mails, amongst other on-line data services. The participants' residential quarters is also linked to the VSAT ICT system infrastructure located in the College complex.

INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TRAINING LABORATORY

The College in its efforts to bequeath her academic institutional community with advanced Information Technology (IT) tools for training and research purposes also has commissioned her computer training laboratory to achieve this aspiration. The computer unit trains, organises seminars and workshops programmes for staff.

The computer laboratory is endowed with computer system/accessories, and multimedia computer project for power point presentations. It is connected to the College LAN for wireless Internet access.

OFFICIAL FUNCTIONS

The social contacts among the Participants and Staff are enhanced through periodic formal 'get together' and parties. Lunches for important guest lecturers on working days will be announced. Occasionally, spouses of participants would be invited to attend some official functions of the College such as the graduation ceremony.

RECREATIONAL FACILITIES

Sporting activities in the course programme of the College is very important. To this end, both the participants and Staff of the College will be privileged to enjoy various recreational facilities such as Swimming, Lawn Tennis and Squash at the Mogadishu Barracks in Abuja, as well as have a feel of professional golfing at the IBB Golf Course, also in Abuja. This arrangement will continue until the College moves to its permanent site in due course.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Participants are to socialise within acceptable limits as expected of senior officers. Facilities and events at NDC Officers' Mess as well as other Military and Police messes could be utilised by Participants for their comfort and relaxation. International Participants are expected to behave in a manner that recognises and respects the customs and norms of the host community.

LEAVE

Leave is granted at weekends and between terms. Only in very exceptional circumstances will leave be granted during working days. Request for exceptional leave will be submitted to the Deputy Commandant in writing through the Syndicate Directing Staff (DS). All Participants must obtain the necessary Directorate of Military Intelligence (DMI) forms and military passes from the PSO Coord before any travel.

THE COLLEGE ENVIRONMENT

GEOGRAPHY AND CLIMATE

Abuja, where the College is sited, is centrally located and easily accessible from all parts of the country by road and air. The major international airports with connecting flights to Abuja are the Murtala Mohammed International Airport, Lagos and Mallam Aminu Kano International Airport, Kano. The Nnamdi Azikiwe International Airport in Abuja also operates international flights.

The city is located in the Guinea Savannah region of central Nigeria. It has two seasons, namely, the dry and rainy seasons. The rainy seasons starts from around mid March to October while the dry season, characterised by hot sunshine and subsequently windy cold, starts from October to the March in the following year.

Abuja's landscape has beautiful natural features, consisting of lowlands, rolling hills dotted with isolated highlands and massive granite deposits. The hills include the Gun range in the North-West, the Bwari-Aso in the North-East, the Gurfate range in the South-West of Suleja and the Idon Kasa range in the North-West of Gwagwalada. The North-East has the highest peaks in the territory with many reaching over 760m above sea level.

PLACES OF INTEREST

Apart from the recreational facilities available in Abuja, there are other places of leisure which may be of interest to participants. These include rocky sites, dams, International Conference Centre, ECOWAS Secretariat, Centre for Women Development, National

Ecumenical Centre, National Mosque, Gowon Centre for National Unity and International Cooperation, Nigeria Law School, and University of Abuja.

HOTELS

Abuja has some beautiful five star hotels like Transcorp Hilton Hotel and Sheraton Hotel and Towers as well as numerous 3 and 2 star hotels. These hotels serve international cuisine as well as local menus.

ROCK SITES

The Federal Capital Territory (FCT), in which Abuja city is located, is dotted with massive granite outcrops that are very attractive to tourists. These include Zuma Rock which appears to be a giant elephant squalling its head in between its front legs.

Aso Rock, which in Gbagyi dialect means 'victory' rock, adorns the background of the "Three Arms Zone", which is the seat of power in Nigeria. The "Three Arms Zone" is the area that houses the National Assembly, Supreme Court and the Presidential Villa.

Another attractive rock of interest is the Katampe Hill, believed to be the Centre of Nigeria. The Hill offers a beautiful panoramic view of the capital city at dawn and dusk. It is a resort place for picnic lovers and tourists. One fascinating feature of the hill is that vehicles can be driven straight to its top.

DAMS

There are two major dams in Abuja, which are Lower Usman and Jabi Dams. The Lower Usman Dam is about 40km drive from the city centre and supplies the bulk of water to the city. The environment is very good for picnic and outings. Jabi Dam which is just 4km from the city centre also has bush resort for picnickers.

CONCLUSION

These joining instructions are intended to guide Participants stay at the National Defence College. Participants are requested to carefully read and comply with the instructions herein. On arrival, they are to avail themselves of all arrangements made for their convenience.

The College wishes all participants an exciting and rewarding experience at the National Defence College.