

A Bad Suit-The Strategic Challenge of Irregular Warfare

Innovation for Peace





Outline

- Introduction
- What is Irregular Warfare?
- How do we address Irregular Warfare?
- What are the implications for the Future?
- Conclusion

War is a chameleon



Definitions

- References: JOC 2007; JOE 2008; CCJO 2009
- IW= Population Focus v. CW = Military Focus
- COIN, UW, CT, FID, SSTR
- Supporting Activities: IO, Psyops, Strategic Communication, CMO, Law Enforcement Against Transnational Crime....
- Simultaneous with Conventional Warfare or independent
- Definitely not Irregular and often not War
- -- Cigarette Smuggling in Mali?



Cause

- Total War Paradigm- Mechanism is....
- Strategic Problem is a balance of Capacity,
 Demand and Time to achieve a solution

 Faction without Capacity changes time and Demand parameters

Mines are the poor man's tank





A Conflict Sine Wave

- Spectrum of Conflict (High, Medium, and Low Intensity= Amplitude)
- Phases of Conflict (Strategic Engagement, Initial Entry, Build up, Decisive Combat Operations, Stability and Reconstruction, Transition= Frequency)
- Conflict is Persistent and Dynamic
 — Mao's
 Protracted Warfare
 - Resource Competition; Trans-National Crime; Population Migration;
 Clashes of Perception

Policy is War by another Means-A corollary

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A Human Problem

- Information Age Warfare- Alberts et al.
- OODA Loop- Col. John Boyd, USAF
- Emotional Decision Making
- Understanding Intent and Perception/ Apperception—Somalia Story
- Red Teaming (UFMCS)
- Dynamic Social Network Analysis (CADS/ MIT Program)



How do we address Irregular

Warfare? The Counter-Threat Cycle

- Deter
- Detect
- Prevent
- Protect
- Remediate
- Recover

 Requires a System of Systems approach, dynamic and persistent.

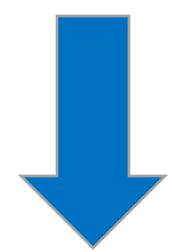


What are the implications for the

Future?

Strategic Evolution

- Combined Arms
- Joint
- International
- Inter-Agency
- Comprehensive



Making the Suit Fit the Fight

"We do not draw our boundaries where you draw yours"- USC Representative 1993, Near Baidoa, Somalia

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Conclusion

- "Irregular Warfare" has always existed and always will
- Managing perception (ours and theirs) is the critical element
- Capacity- Demand- Time Analysis= Get a better fitting suit or change the requirement to wear one



Questions

So Why Should I Care?

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