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MATRIC NUMBER: 19/SMS09/082

COURSE CODE: IRD 214

QUESTIONS

1. In not more than three pages, discuss the tactics employed in counter-insurgency operations.

**Tactics employed in counter-insurgency operations**

1. **Population control**

Population control involves the forced relocation of the citizens or population so as to expose the insurgents. This tactic can be very difficult sometimes, especially when the citizens have been held as hostages so it becomes difficult for the counter insurgents to move in and execute the insurgents without hurting the hostages. In cases where there are hostages, a better plan has to be made in order not to hurt the hostages. For example, the Chibok girls who have been held hostage by the Boko Haram terrorists in Nigeria, it now becomes difficult for the government and armed forces to make a move without hurting the hostages so they execute this terrorists bit by bit and gradually move in. But in cases where there are no hostages, it is easier for the counter-insurgents to take action.

1. **Cordon and search**

[Cordon and search](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cordon_and_search) is a military tactic, one of the basic counter-insurgency operations[]](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Counter-insurgency#cite_note-35) in which an area is cordoned off and premises are searched for weapons or insurgents. The cordon and search method can be carried out in an urban neighborhood whereas the sole mission is to search a house with a little inconvenience to the resident family.

1. **Air operations**

Air power can play an important role in counter-insurgency, capable of carrying out a wide range of operations. In counter-insurgency the use of aircraft to carry out specific tasks like the transportation of weapons or soldiers, the evacuation of citizens from an attacked region, are very vital in counter activities. While conducting air operations in attacked regions, it is important that surveillance is carried out, intelligence gathering. Psychological operations too are also being assessed; through leaflet drops, loudspeakers, radio broadcasts, and other communication devices. In an open land where enemies have occupied, the use of air strike can be necessary so as to defeat enemies easily.

### **Public diplomacy**

Public diplomacy can be carried out through the thorough understanding of a nation’s culture, its environment. When the counter-insurgents are familiar what all this are huge step to defeating the insurgents can be carried out. Also working hand in hand with the citizens occupying that region can be used for gaining information about the enemies’ hideouts, plans, weaponry’s. But by using the citizens, counter-insurgents must win their trusts and treat them humanly. For example, setting health care facilities for the wounded citizens during the attacks of the insurgents. By so doing this, the citizens feel safe around the counter-insurgents and give them vital information that can be used in defeating the insurgents.

REFERENCES

1. [www.smallwarsjournal.com](http://www.smallwarsjournal.com)
2. www.wikipedia.com