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**COURSE: ird 214**

**ASSIGNMENT**

IN NOT MORE THAN 3 PAGES DISCUSS THE STAGES OF INSURGENCY

**INTRODUCTION**

An insurgency can be defined as a protracted Military struggle between ruling and non-ruling parties .It is indeed directed toward subverting or displacing the legitimacy of a constituted authority. It is paramount to state that insurgency involves different stages and it would be discussed below

***STAGES OF INSURGENCY***

**PREINSURGENCY STAGE**

This connotes the realities, the conditions, grievances that motivated the insurgency. Due to the asymmetrical nature of insurgency, as insurgents are the ultimate opportunist .They aim to capitalize on the weakness of the adversary by organizing calculated attacks.

The organization in that context embodies the underground recruiting of members, the stockpiling of arm. And the strategic role played by the leader to embolden the insurgents with the shared grievances

*PREEXISTING CONDTIONS*

These involves the motivating factors, that motivates the insurgency .It entails winning the emotional sentiments of the people

* It includes a recent history of internal conflict that has left lingering grievances against the government or hostility among groups and that establishes violence as an accepted means of resolving political dispute
* Recent or ongoing conflicts in neighboring states that generate refuges who could become recruits, make weapons available , or establish ungoverned spaces in the neighboring countries that can serve as sanctuaries for insurgents
* Societal factors like marginalization and the idleness of youth that can lead to the recruitment of insurgents
* The location and setting also plays a critical role ,as most times the terrain are inhospitable eg jungles , forests , mountains deserts , swamps , which indeed allows insurgents keep a low profile to move and hide in remote areas that are difficult for government officials to enter
* Governments policies that disadvantage a segments of the population on the basis of religion , tribe, ethnicity , region , or class , reinforcing insurgents efforts to foster a group identity
* The inability of the government to provide basic services, such as security forces, healthcare, education etc.

*GRIEVANCES*

This refers to the captivating narrative that is targeted at the masses. It entails the shortcoming of the government that triggers the need to create a parallel in government .This narrative further justifies the insurgent ambitions as legitimate.

They indeed capitalize on the use of social media to pass their message across, for instance the use of provocative flyers, article etc.

This in return sparks widespread demonstrations

*GROUP IDENTITY*

This is defined by their area of shared or common incentive that distinguishes the insurgents from their adversary. It could be in terms of ethnicity, race, religion, tribal affiliation, political affiliation, class etc.

*RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING*

This involves the identifiable change or pattern in a society. That is noticeable when a chunk of the population goes missing or when reports emerge that; some set of people are training with arms

*ARMS AND SUPPLIES / GOVERNMENT REACTION*

This involves the funding of weaponry. Insurgents engage in illegal businesses like oil bunker, human and drug trafficking, to fund the actualization of ammunition on the black market.

Now, government reaction entails the counter insurgency strategies. It connotes how the government responds to insurgent’s attempt, so they can return the system to its status quo.

**INCIPENT CONFLIICT STAGE**

This remains the most critical stage of the insurgency as violence as a means to incite change is deployed by the insurgents. To spark an overreaction from the government and rally round supporters and ultimately pass a message.

Mind you, insurgents must keep their asymmetrical shape and continue to organize as they avoid the strength of the government.

Most times than not the government has strategically discredited insurgents and term them as bandits but with the increase in violence, the insurgents bid to incite change remains undeniable.

*INSURGENT LEADERSHIP*

This connotes understanding the motivation of the insurgent leader, his background, upbringing, experiences and grievances. Studying his pattern gives a slight idea of what to expect.

An insurgent leader illuminates charisma etc.

*THEORY OF VICTORY*

This entails the actualization of the targeted goal, either inciting change, or sparking a negotiation with the government or getting foreign support

**OPEN INSURGENCY STAGE**

This ultimately remains the climax of the struggle between ruling and non-ruling group. At this point frequent attacks are being conducted by the insurgents .They politically aim to delegitimize and overthrow constituted authority.

**RESOLUTION STAGE**

This ultimately is the anti-climax of the insurgency, it is indeed the outcome that either declares the insurgents or the government as the victor, of the protracted struggle.

**REFRENCES**

1. (Guide to the Analysis of insurgency, 2012)