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**QUESTION; IN NOT MORE THAN 3 PAGES DISCUSS THE TACTICS EMPLOYED IN COUNTER INSURGENCIES OPERATION**

**TACTICS IN COUNTER INSURGENCIES;**

Firstly, what is counter insurgencies? COIN involves all political, economic, military, paramilitary, psychological, and civic actions that can be taken by a government to defeat an insurgency. It can also be a holistic approach embarked upon government forces and their multi-national sponsor’s to contain, diminish, or eliminate an insurgency.

This entails series of actions used to curtail insurgencies, it can also be actions embarked upon to achieve a specific or general objective. Different state actors have proposed different strategies of counter insurgencies, many of these are focused on directly combating the insurgents.

**Tactics used to curtail insurgencies;**

**Military approach;** what is military approach? This relies on various operations of violence, detention and elimination of individual insurgents, disruption of insurgent support networks, and decapitation of insurgent organizations. It may be carried out using specific using either selective or indiscriminate violence. This selective state involves the behavior of the individual, targeting only rebels or individuals who aided rebellion.

These can be broken into 2;

**FOREGIN INTERNAL DEFENCE;** This is the process whereby civilians and government military agencies to take actions or programs to free and protect its society from subversion, lawlessness, and insurgency. It is a tool used by the US government agencies to eliminate the root causes of an insurgency.

**INTERNAL DEFENSE AND DEVELOPMENT;** This involves series of measures taken by a state to protect itself from subversion, lawlessness, and insurgency.

**THE AID APPROACH;** This involves “carrot” operations to persuade citizens to support the government delivering political, economic, and development to benefit in direct aid, employment, medical care, infrastructure, and other non-violent projects. This approach is employed by Nigeria in dealing with the Niger Delta militancy it is called the “the carrot and sticks” approach

There is also some strategy in counter insurgency which includes;

* BROAD STRATEGY
* COMPONENT STRATEGY

The broad strategy is broken into 3

* The enemy centric
* The population centric
* The comprehensive approach

THE ENEMY CENTRIC COUNTER INSURGENCY STRATEGY; its fundamental orientation is first defeat the enemy and all else will follow, it therefore priories the defeat of the insurgents before all other counter insurgency actions can take place. the Nigerian security forces and government have applied the enemy-centric approach to counterinsurgency. This approach has made the military to lose the support of the local population. Over the past four years, the Nigerian military lost much local support due to the bluntness of its tactics. Many non-combatants have allegedly also been killed by the military in the counter-insurgency campaigns and others have been wrongly detained.

The enemy centric approach involves various variants such as soft and hard, direct and indirect, violent and non-violent etc.

POPULATION CENTRIC COUNTER INSURGENCY STRATEGY; This targets the counter insurgency activities in maintaining or recovering the support of the population or ruling authority. The security forces have recorded successes and failures in counterinsurgency operations. in India, where the population-centric approach to counterinsurgency was used and more successful. This approach centers on the gravity in the government relationship with its people. It can be said to be “first protect and support the population and all else will follow”.

COMPREHENSIVE COUNTER INSURGENCIES STRATAGY; This strategy accounts for the deployment of both enemy centric and population centric approach. This strategy is most ideal to handle an insurgency. Security is necessary in countering an insurgent but it will not defeat the insurgent on its own so simultaneously to achieve a successful operation the two both military and civilian measures showed be considered

**COMPONENT STRATEGY;** this is a sub-category of the whole, it helps to sallow for the counter insurgencies to address a gap in a society or to counter a weakness in the society that the insurgents’ exploits.

They are;

* Political based counter insurgency strategy
* Security based counter insurgency strategy
* Economic based counter insurgency strategy
* Information based counter insurgency strategy
* Control based counter insurgency strategy

POLITICAL BASED COUNTER INSURGENCY; This entails the political plan formulated to address the insurgency political factors are key in addressing insurgents, it addresses the very nature of the government, power, the constitution. The strategy aims as a framework or foundation for political leadership, reforms of government etc. This shows the depth of seriousness and commitment by a political class in addressing insurgency.

SECURITY BASED COUNTER INSURGENCY STRATEGY; This is usually used to analysis the degree at which government will go to contain eliminate and curtail an insurgent. This is an essential strategy for counter insurgency that is developed and employed along with political and economic approach. It entails a comprehensive plan of hoe national security sector is deployed to deal with an insurgent either by degrading the insurgent or protecting the population. The important concern is the absence of physical violent but the protection of human right and maintenance of law.

ECONOMIC BASED COUNTER INSURGENCY; It could also be called economic and development function. It includes livelihood assistance, humanitarian reliefs, and also to build local economies and generate government revenues. It is based on government plans to address the economic lapses in a society that led to the insurgency in the first place or could lead to an insurgency. In addressing these needs is how government generates confidence in its ability to provide essential services to its people and win over the population supports.

INFORMATION BASED COUNTER INSURGENCY STRATEGY; This is the foundation of all activities, it is core to counter insurgency operations. This seeks to match intelligence with influence and strategic narrative with physical actions.

CONTROL BASED COUNTER INSURGENCY STRATEGY; It allows for an integrated approach to deal with counter insurgency, it functions to access the nature of the insurgency, formulate policies to address the insurgency.