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INSURGENCY

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ASSIGNMENT

IN NOT MORE THAN THREE PAGES DISCUSS THE
TACTICS EMPLOYED IN COUNTER-INSURGENCY
OPERATIONS.

Definition of counter-insurgency

Counter-insurgency can be defined as the measures undertaken by the government officials and their multinational and external support partners to defeat insurgents. Counter insurgency also makes use of all instruments of national power to integrate and combine the political, security, legal, financial, and psychological activities carried out by national and their allies to create a holistic approach aimed at weakening the insurgents while simultaneously boosting the government legitimacy in the eyes of the people. It can also be defined as an holistic approach embarked upon by the government forces and their external supporter to contain and diminish an insurgency, it involves both military and non-military approach. Counterinsurgency is a struggle for legitimacy, the government seeks to prove it can provide basic amenities for the people and that it can do better than the insurgents, the main aim of counterinsurgency is to separate the people from the insurgents through population control measures and also requires unity of efforts.

Principles of counter-insurgency

1. The counter-insurgency regime should seek accommodation including opportunities for participation in the governance of the country with the reconcilable armed opposition.
2. The counterinsurgency regime should use violence discriminately when targeting the irreconcilable opposition or hard core of the insurgency.
3. The counter-insurgency regime should provide public goods to disaffect population in order to ensure their loyalty and prevent their support of insurgent groups

Strategies of counter-insurgency

1. The enemy centric
2. Population centric
3. Comprehensive approach

These strategies focuses on the target of an action, here the state and other participants direct their effort to target a specific insurgent group or individual.

Tactics employed in counter insurgency operations

There are some tactics or measures employed by the government to tackle insurgents through their counter-insurgency approaches and strategies these tactics includes;

1. **Public diplomacy:** these is one of the many tactics described to help win when faced with insurgents, the use of public diplomacy through military means. Counterinsurgency is effective when it is integrated into a qualitative strategy used in employing all instruments of national power. the goal of COIN operation is to portray the insurgents as weak and non-effective, by having a cooperative and committing relationship with their people and external authorities. Public diplomacy in counterinsurgency is only essential when they is a clear difference between the culture and people, one of the main factor for defeating an insurgency involves having a strong understanding of the people, how they lives have been affected by the insurgents, their relationship with non-government organizations and lastly their views and opinions regarding the counter-insurgency operations. During counterinsurgency operations the prisoners and detainees humanely, counterinsurgency is a battle between ideas and implementation to tackle the problem of insurgents permanently, counterinsurgency can be won by utilizing strategic operations successfully, it is a competition of ideas and movement in order to defeat insurgents. Public diplomacy is a negotiation between the government and the insurgents to bring an end to the insurgents in a particular nation, but states will never give up their sovereignty to please any insurgents group instead the state stages their military forces/means to defeat the insurgents.
2. **Population:** as the name implies it involves securing the people's support for the government, this tactic is also operates by destroying the insurgents that is the secondary but equally important. Population centric tactic is often characterized by a clear hold-build approach by which forces clear an area of insurgents maintain more security forces. With regards to this tactic it involves the forced relocation of the people to expose insurgents, in order words relocation deprives these insurgents support an ability to gain resources from the people, an example of this tactic was applied by the british empire during the second BOER war to segregate potential BOER supporters from BOER commanders, scorched earth tactics were used to destroy BOER farmlands while BOER

were shipped abroad or confined to concentrated camps. If the government is able to secure the people's trust and support then they will be able to defeat the insurgent.

3. **Cordon and search:** this is a military tactic, one of the basic counterinsurgency operation, it involves where an area is cordoned off and the area or house will be checked for the possession of weapons or insurgents, other related operation includes cordon and kick and cordon and kick. It is a type of operation whereby there is no solid intelligence weapons in the area and therefore is less intense than a normal area search. It is usually used in urban neighborhoods to get to insurgents, the purpose of the mission is to search the house with a little inconvenience to the resident family as possible.

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REFERENCE:

1. US government. (2012). Guides to the Analysis of Insurgency, Public domain (copy right).
2. JSTOR(2020) counter-insurgency in comparative perspective, (chapter 2) or www.jstor.org