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MATRIC NUMBER:

18/SMS09/074

DEPARTMENT:

INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND DIPLOMACY

COURSE CODE:

IRD214

COURSE TITLE:

INSURGENCY AND COUNTER INSURGENCY

QUESTION: DISCUSS THE TACTICS EMPLOYED IN COUNTER-INSURGENCY

OPERATIONS.

Definition of Counter insurgency:

Counter Insurgency can be defined as the combination of measures undertaken by government and their multinational support partners to defeat an insurgent, (COIN) counter insurgency makes use of all instruments of national power to integrate the economic, psychological, military, political, legal activities taken by governments to defeat an insurgency.

Counter insurgency is a proactive approach involving all elements of national power and even down to the tactical level. COIN operations strive to achieve unity of effort amongst many joint interagency, intergovernmental and multinational organizations. COIN includes tactical planning, infrastructure development, information engagement, tactical level operations.

TACTICS EMPLOYED IN COUNTER INSURGENCY OPERATIONS

Regarding to the main purpose of the government using different tactics to carry out counter insurgency and the tactics employed are in different forms which include the enemy centric, population centric, comprehensive approach, economic based, information based. The government bodies imposed these employed tactics in regard to deceive the population and serve as a decent government in the country.

The Enemy centric:

This is the type of counter insurgency that has to do with the defeat of an insurgency before any form of counter insurgency takes place and the insurgent group are identified as convicts and an opposition to the government. The government tends to eradicate any form of opposition before reason. The major component of this type of counter insurgency is the military. The military officials are mostly for the protection of the nations the capability and possession of military hardware actually determines this approach. The weakness of this insurgency lies in the inability of this counter insurgency to fight an insurgent group that is not tangible and doesn't reside in a particular country or area. The upmost example of Nigeria insurgency group Boko Haram, this insurgency group has terrorised Nigeria for years the reason why the

government are not able to arrest them is because of their ability to cross the border and causing problems to the Nigerian government they go to another country knowing that the Nigerian government cannot cross the border without approvals.

Population centric approach:

This type of tactics employed by counter insurgency is the people of the state. The civilians or individuals of the states this determines the ability of how the government can protect the people of the states the provision of jobs, good roads and hospitals. In this type of approach, it can also be in the favour of the insurgent group. Reason is because sometimes the maintaining and support of the people for a ruling authority. This term means that how the people are been treated determines who is worth of power. For instance, an insurgency group is able to perform the roles of the government effectively whereas the government hasn't been able to achieve any of its goal the people will give their full support to the insurgency group which can lead to a successful overthrow of government. But if the government is able to achieve its goals and perform properly the eyes of the people can be directed and can give the government the full support, they need to stop an insurgency. This type of insurgency can be input after the enemy centric approach because the government will always see an insurgency group as the enemy before anything else, this type of counter insurgency cannot reach every part of the country like the creak where there are people who don't even know their president talk less of their governor's people who don't even know what electricity is. An insurgency group can provide these people amenities and seek asylum there from time to time.

Comprehensive counter insurgency:

This counter insurgency is the combination of both enemy centric approach and population centric approach in tackling insurgency. It words together of one after the other with the flexibility to swap at any time between each other. This might be a political factor of the state to confronting the insurgency reconstruct and settle the cause of the insurgency. Militancy is a good example to explain the comprehensive counter insurgency. In militancy in order to get the attention of the government they have to use certain actions or method like bombing of pipelines, kidnapping etc. in

situations like this the government reactions towards action likes this are usually enemy centric to use its military to instil peace in the area but militancy is usually citizen or individual who want a change to a specific area as a result of bad governance. The government will now have to introduce population centric approach to talk to the people or the group to find the root of the problem so that it can be resolved. Although this method is not the most ideal to handle insurgency. The weakness of this insurgency lies in the deployment of this approach to a situation when it is not demanded for. Or when the government doesn't have enough resources to carry out a counter insurgency approach this complex.

Economic based approach:

In this approach the government address the society on the problem that cause or what lead to the cause of the insurgency sometimes the rise of an insurgency is because of the failure on behalf of the government the government inability to provide the basic amenities like good schools, hospitals, roads, and average life style can be as the reason for the rise of an insurgency group. For instance, in Libya for the desperate change in government the people of Libya were force to create insurgency groups to fight Muhammad Gaddafi. In this type of approach, the government has to reason with the people discuss issues that can and create opportunity that will address the situation. In addressing these needs the government generates trust in its power to provide essential services to the people to win the support the people and get them back on their side.

Information based approach:

This counter insurgency approach is basically the information based and has to do with intelligence and I.C.T. information is power the knowledge about something and how it works is a key importance of life. The much information gotten on an insurgency group like their movement, tactics, external support, and strategies is very important to government as well as insurgency group on the government because information works in both way when it come to a situation like this. The more information gotten on an insurgent group, the more chances of the government winning. For instance, WhatsApp is encrypted in this case insurgents' groups used this platform to communicate with

each other.

REFERENCE

<https://books.google.ca/books>