

MBAH MICHAEL CHIBUZO

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#### QUESTION

In not more than 3 pages, discuss the tactics employed in counter-insurgency operations?

## INTRODUCTION

Insurgency can be defined as an organized political movement which has the sole motive of changing an existing government. An example of an insurgent group is I.S.I.S (Islamic State of Iraq and Syria), Boko Haram. Also, Insurgency can be defined as rebellious acts that did not reach the proportions of an organized revolution. It has subsequently been applied to any such armed uprising, typically guerrilla in character, against the government of a state or country.

Counterinsurgency can be defined as a measure taken by a government in order to put the activities of an insurgency group in place. The U.S.A military defines counterinsurgency as the combination of measures undertaken by government and their multinational support patrons to defeat an insurgent. In this operation, the government of the day makes use of all its resources and technical-know-how in order to weaken the insurgent group. Counterinsurgency operations are modelled in a way that the government at the same time while squashing the insurgents they are protecting lives and properties of their citizens.

## TACTICS OF COUNTERINSURGENCY OPERATIONS

Tactics of counterinsurgency operations are skills employed by the government of the day in order to deter and stop the activities and uprising of the insurgent group. The following are the tactics employed in counterinsurgency operations:

-Population control

-Infiltration of the base of the insurgent group

-Support from neighboring state and allies

-Information operations

#### Population control

This is an initiative of the government to prevent casualties during counter insurgency operations. Here, government relocate citizen living in a territory dominated by the insurgent group to another enclosed area where the insurgency aren't there in order to be able to face the insurgent group with full force without fear of casualty.

This strategy was used by U.S.A forces in South Vietnam until 1969, initially by forcing the rural population into fenced, secured villages, referred to as Strategic Hamlets, and later by declaring the areas people in the Strategic Hamlets had come from as free-fire zones to remove the remainder of the population from their villages and farms. Widespread use was made of Agent Orange (which was first used on a large scale by the British during the Malayan Emergency), sprayed from airplanes, to destroy crops that might have provided resources for Viet Cong and North Vietnamese troops and their human support base.

#### Infiltration of the base of the insurgent group

The government of the federation makes use of its national power that is its military forces to squash the insurgent group. Here, the government makes use of the intelligence report gotten concerning the insurgent group and the military forces will carry out the infiltration in order to clamp down on the activities and members of the insurgent group. For example, this was used when the Nigerian government infiltrated one of the bases of the book haram group in Sambisa forest.

#### Support from neighboring states and allies

This is the use of diplomatic ties with neighboring states and allies in order to secure their support in their fight against the insurgency group. Here, the state makes use of agreement with neighboring states

for the state to aid them in capturing the insurgents when they seek asylum in their nations. Also, they enjoy military support and expertise from its allies who are specialists in this area in order to achieve the goal of putting an end to the insurgency. This can be seen in the support Nigeria is getting from U.S.A in the war against boko haram. Also, with the border support Nigeria is getting from Cameroon and Niger during the war against boko haram.

## Negotiation

Negotiation is a dialogue between two or more people or parties intended to reach a beneficial outcome over one or more issues where a conflict exists with respect to at least one of these issues. Here, the government negotiates with the insurgent group in order to reach a compromise and end of the insurgency. This tactic is sometimes used as the first counterinsurgency method and sometimes it depends on the type of leader of this tactic would be used. For example, this was used in the administration of Late former Nigeria president Umaru Musa Yar'adua when he negotiated and reached an agreement with the Niger delta militants.

## IN CONCLUSION

With the examples and tactics given, one can see how the government of the day tries as much as possible to prevent and put an end to the insurgency. Here, one would be able to consult for government with the type of skills gained in the study of counterinsurgency operations

## REFERENCES

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