

# **IRD 211: Strategies of Revolutionary Warfare**

## **WEEK 3: *The Revolutionary Process***

### ***From Revolutionary Conditions/Situations to Revolutionary Warfare***

#### **3.0. INTRODUCTION**

Revolutions are not static in their modus operandi. Every Revolution is unique in its own right. Despite such, revolution most time has common denominators/factors that can be grouped into a process that we can regard as the "**Revolutionary Process**". Such differ dependent on the viewpoint of scholars. For this course, one of such will be adopted here.

#### **3.1. WHAT IS THE REVOLUTIONARY PROCESS**

The Revolutionary Process can be viewed as a series of actions or steps taken by elements germane to a revolution in order to achieve a revolutionary end. Such a process is not set in stone, i.e. any of the process may come before the other. The process involves step, decision, response. In understanding the revolutionary process, it must be stated that the process of a revolution may begin but must not necessarily end.

### **3.2. REVOLUTIONARY CONDITIONS/SITUATIONS**

For a revolution to occur, certain conditions/situation must be met, the most important of which must be a situation that requires a change, this condition must have lingered over time such that it warrants a revolutionary response. E.g. the Sit-Tight Syndrome of Authoritarian regime.

### **3.3. THE REVOLUTIONARY**

Revolutionary is an individual or group who have a desire to pursue a revolutionary change in society. These persons are driven and committed as well as will most likely populate the leadership ladder of the Revolution. They most times are the initiator or sustainers of a revolutionary movement. Likewise, they are a rallying point for revolutionary activities. E.g. Mahamat Gandhi, Nelson Mandela, etc.

### **3.4. REVOLUTIONARY IDEAS**

Revolutionary Ideas entails the dominant views that form the ideological foundation of the revolutionary groups. It covers the idea of the change that is clamoured for and how that change should be achieved. It can be said to be the Revolution in mind. E.g. Mahamat Gandhi "Non-Violent", The American Revolution "Non-Taxation without Representation" etc

### **3.5. REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT**

A revolutionary movement is a group of persons who are joint together in a platform. They have as their core objective a desire or commitment to bring about a change to the established system. They are violent in their operation or non-violent. E.g. Red Card Movement (Nigeria), The Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF), etc

### **3.6. REVOLUTIONARY WARFARE**

Revolutionary warfare is a campaign of violence by a revolutionary movement representing an alternative to a current regime. Such occurs by mobilizing sufficient element of the population to threaten the established system. It usually results from the failure of peaceful means to change a revolutionary condition. E.g. The Movement for the Emancipation of the Niger-Delta (MEND).