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by D R

COUNTERINSURGENCY, LIKE INSURGENCY WILL ALWAYS BE DIRTY. DISCUSS.

Introduction

The current essay will discuss the dangers of a counterinsurgency operation similar to an insurgency. Counterinsurgency is defined as the usage of the elements of a nation's power, which includes the arms operations and also psychological, political, intelligence and diplomatic operations required to defeat an insurgency. Besides, there will be a discussion on the approaches of counterinsurgency using a model and also on the elements required to carry out a counterinsurgency. Moreover, there will be an analysis on the formation of a conflict resolution strategy in counter-insurgency. The five examples of counter-emergency operations were written and lastly social- institutional theory in insurgency was discussed.

Discussion

Approaches of counterinsurgency

Dr McCormick's Counterinsurgency Model involves four key elements namely population, international community, coin force and insurgent force which has mirrored the strategy of their interactions. Each of the elements should consist of a mirrored strategy which imposes or shows the insurgency in one image and the process of interaction with counterinsurgency in the reflected image. The four elements of the model will be discussed below:

Insurgent Force

This force consists of the group which is planning to oust the existing Government authorities. In addition to the fighters, it includes the assistance of their supporting network and also foreign assistance who is supporting the potential overthrow of the Government (Yourous, 2019). It becomes very difficult for the counterinsurgency force to distinguish between the counterinsurgent force to distinguish between a voluntary individual who is taking out the insurgency, an individual who is pursued and an innocent bystander. The reason being, it is found that the insurgents are typically supported by the local population who may be from the same ethnicity since they agree with the insurgency's reason.

Counterinsurgent force

This force consists of individuals from the current government ruling a country who are in direct combat with the insurgent forces. As per the model, the counter-insurgency forces use all State resources such as financial, military and informational capabilities to thwart the efforts of insurgents in toppling the government (Arriola *et al.,* 2021). When the counter-insurgency forces believe that they are not taking an active part in peacekeeping efforts and are believed by the insurgents, they can influence a situation, then they have indirectly become part of the CF.

Population

The population of a country also plays an indirect role in counterinsurgency operations by a country's government. The common people of the country may provide weapons to a force or provide shelter to counterinsurgency officials in combating the people related to insurgency.

International Community

This element also plays a key role in carrying out counterinsurgency operations by sending peacekeeping forces into a region without choosing any side. The troops sent by the UN retain a non-combatant status unless it does not support the counterinsurgency and insurgent forces.

Counterinsurgency elements

According to Bennett's 2008 model, regarding the early stages of insurgency since it includes a full range of military strategies and eliminates aid strategies. In the first stage, it is shown that in the course of each simulation run of the model, the interaction between the agents may develop a defeat of the insurgents. Each tick on the above figure considers two factors, namely whether there are any soldiers or civilians in the location's range where an insurgency event is taking place (Pechenkina and Bennett, 2019). It also showcases the action sequence by an insurgent which is randomly selected which is then followed by the action sequence by a randomly selected soldier. After that, the selected insurgent decides which soldier needs to be attacked and thus invites a counterinsurgency by a soldier. Then, during the turn of the State, the selected soldier in the above model decides on attacking an insurgent and aid-providing civilians.In addition to the above, the model also shows that there are two core types of agents namely the rebels or the insurgents who attempt to topple the Government and the soldiers who never change their identity (Schubiger, 2022). Besides, the civilians represent a bulk of the country's population in which they are characterized by their anger against the Government's policies and hence utilize violence or indirectly support it by providing arms to the insurgents.

Interaction range

It is defined as the size of the estimated size of the neighbourhood in which the insurgents are looking to attack and analyze the collateral damage which will be caused by the attack.

Effectiveness

This parameter is considered in the above model to estimate the probability of removing an insurgent during a soldier's counterattack. It is important since it helps in calculating the probability a rebel will be eliminated during the counterattack of a soldier.

Accuracy

It estimates the probability an innocent civilian can get killed by a military's ammunition during carrying out counterinsurgency operations by a Government.

Violence threshold

It is the level of anger against the Government's policies by the civilians that they will get themselves engaged in the insurgency.

P(Insurgent recruits)

It is the probability an insurgent will recruit fresh individuals in revolting against a Government. A rebel or an insurgent is willing to engage against the counterinsurgents (the army men representing the Government) when it gets angry regarding the implementation of a Government's policy (Asal *et al.*, 2021). The model states that in this case there is a chance that ordinary citizens also turn into insurgents and revolt against the counterinsurgents. The goal of the insurgent is to convert more civilians into rebels. Hence a randomly latent insurgent either attacks a soldier who is posted nearby or provides aid in pursuing the ordinary civilians in carrying arms against the State.

On the other hand, the role of a counter-insurgent or soldier is to eliminate all insurgents or potential insurgents, thus attempting to permanently defeat the insurgency. The lower portion of the above model highlights the soldier and whether there are any civilians or insurgents within his range. If an insurgent is detected who poses a danger to social stability, he is eliminated by a counter insurgent (soldier) and if any civilian is detected, the counterinsurgency tries to understand the reason for the anger against the government.

Conflict resolution strategy in counter-insurgency

It is observed that since the end of the cold war, the conflicts between the States have declined sharply. However, there has been a rise in civil wars in which two key players are the ruling Government and its related arms such as the military and individuals in the same country who wish to topple the Government. Thus there has been growing importance on forming a conflict resolution strategy in counter-insurgency operations. In theory, counter-insurgency includes coercive means in defeating the clandestine insurgents on the one hand and improvement of the non-combatant population on the other hand (Salihu, 2021). One of the underlying philosophies in the counter-insurgency activities is winning the confidence of the population who does not take up arms regarding the Government. Besides, it also includes the reconstruction of the State institutions which had been damaged due to the conflict between the soldiers and the militants. The second aspect of forming a conflict-insurgency strategy is that its success depends on a lot of political cost. It has been observed that the public has perceived failure regarding the prolonged conflicts between the Government institutions(counterinsurgents) and the insurgents who wish to change the current system. Hence, Government officials should plan according to the long-term benefits of the general public regarding the conflict and accordingly launch the plan. This will assist in the reduction of the property and losses of lives as low as possible.

The third aspect which should be considered in planning a counter-insurgency strategy is post-conflict mobilization. In the aftermath of the counter-insurgency operation, there has been a lot of impact on the general public such as damage to homes. It is often poorly managed due to the lack of political will of the ruling government as well as the scarcity of reconstruction resources (Asal and Greig, 2021). Hence, the Government should keep aside a separate budget for re-building the critical infrastructure which may critically get damaged due to conflict between the rebels and the counter-insurgents. The countries who are intervening in the political matters of other countries by using armed forces, could not decide the alternative rulers suitable for ruling that particular country. Hence, constructive dialogue between the counter-insurgents and the insurgents in resolving the conflicts remains the only option.

Dirty impacts from Counterinsurgency scenarios

Anglo-Boer War

There were two wars between the British and the Africans between the late 19th century and early 20th century. In the first Anglo-Boer war, the British soldiers suffer heavy losses with 92

soldiers killed and 134 were injured. One major general was shot fatally while trying to rally his soldiers. It was the first time since 1789, the British had suffered a crushing defeat in the war with major losses and were forced to sign a treaty with the locals of the country with unfavourable conditions. Besides, the South African Republic needed to be recognized by the British rulers. After a decade, a second war broke out between the Boers and the ruling British empire in 1899. The conflict broke out when Boer militias attacked the nearby colonial settlements due to the poor conditions in concentration camps and the scorched earth policy. The war created a severe impact on the South African region due to the guerilla tactics used by the Boers in fighting an insurgency against the British. The overall cost of the war was 21 million pounds at that time and many prisoners and exiles were unable to return to their farms due to the devastating effects of the war (Wessels, 2022). Statistically, 25000 Africans were killed in the war with most of them in concentration camps which were set up by the British to imprison the insurgents. Besides, 22,000 British soldiers were also killed.

Malay Emergency

The Malayan Emergency was a guerilla war fought between the communist and pro-independent fighters and the military forces of the British Federation of Malaya between 1948 and 1960. The British Government declared a State of Emergency after there were attacks on its plantations on 17th June 1948. During the twelve-year long conflict, 6710 guerilla fighters were killed by the British army and 1287 were captured by the counter-insurgents. On the other hand, 1300 troops of the British Malayan army during the counter-insurgency operations as well as 529 troops from other commonwealth operations. Moreover, 2400 civilians were also killed in the course of the conflict and 810 had gone missing.

Besides, during the conflict, it is also found that there were instances war crimes were committed which included the bombing of civilian targets and mass massacres. Many villagers were allegedly tortured by British Malayan forces on suspicion of aiding the insurgents. During the massacre in Batang Kali in December 1948, 24 unarmed civilians were shot by the Malayan police on suspicion of communist insurgents which included both young and elderly people (Keo, 2019). During the emergency, internship camps were built by the British for giving collective punishment to the villagers who were through to support the insurgents. Besides, most of them were evicted from their homes.

Second Intifada

It was a major uprising against the Israeli forces that has been centred on failed 2000 Camp David summit in which a final agreement was supposed to be reached between Israel and Palestine. There has been a significant negative impact on Israel's commercial sector which resulted in a sharp drop in tourism. Israel's Chamber of Commerce stated that there has been economic damage of 45 billion dollars. Besides, the UN's special coordinator of the Middle East's Peace Keeping process estimated that there has been damage of $ 1.1 billion in the Palestinian economy (Bures and Hawkins, 2020). The number of fatalities of Israeli soldiers and citizens has exceeded 1000 as per records of August 2004.

The reports of B'tselem on 30th April 2008 stated that 4745 Palestinian citizens were killed by Israel's security forces and 44 of them were killed by Israeli citizens. It is also noted that during the counter-insurgency operation between Israel and Palestine between September 2000 and January 2005, 69 percent of Israeli fatalities were male and 95% of Palentine fatalities were female. Another concerning fact of this conflict between the insurgents and counter-insurgents is 119 children of Israel had been killed by the Palestinian authorities. On the other hand, more than 900 children who were aged below 17 were executed by the Israel Security forces and the country's citizens.

Huk Rebellion

The Huk Rebellion was staged by former Hukbo Hapon soldiers against the then US-backed Philippine Government between 1946 and 1954. The tension between Huk soldiers and Philippine Government authorities rose regarding the issue of surrender of arms. The Huk soldiers were against a US-backed government and went to the villages and engaged the peasants in rebelling against the government. The Huks were trained in guerilla warfare and there were severe human casualties (Lee, 2020). In 1949, the Huk soldiers ambushed and killed the wife of Phillipines second president. A large number of CPP cadres and Huk soldiers were captured during the raid by US-backed Philippine government soldiers. However, by the end of the war, it had inflicted at least 25000 casualties on the enemy.

After the second world war, the Philippine government launched a counter-offensive against the Huk soldiers. During September 1954, one of the key guerilla leaders Luis Taruc surrendered to the Government officials and the remaining guerillas eliminated by the end of 1955. It caused chaos and anarchy in the Philippines and severe casualties of innocent civilians.

Philippine Insurrection

The war between the Phillipines and the Americans which is also known as Philippine Insurrection was fought between the First Philippine Republic and the United States. There were more casualties among the Filipino soldiers than the US soldiers with statistics showing 20000 Filipino armed forces were killed in the war and 4200 US soldiers were dead. It is also alleged that numerous atrocities were committed by the US army which includes the extermination of 1000 men, women and children. Besides, around 2500 civilians of the Philippines were killed in the expedition during March across Samar. In the aftermath of the war, there were several wars between the US-supported government and the locals (Řepová, 2021). There was an insurgency and counter-insurgency conflict between the Moro people and the US army. There were casualties on the side of Moro people while official casualties are not recorded. Besides, 130 US soldiers were killed and 270 of them were injured.

In addition to the above, 2 lakh civilians of Philippines had died from diseases or starvation during the battles. In the later stages of the fighting, there were reports of torture and various other attrocities on both sides. The guerillas of Philippines captured and tortured the US soldiers and threatened those who sided with them whereas US forces captured the prisoners into concentration camps and tortured them.

Social-institutional theory in insurgency

The various insurgent groups are built on the basis of various social bases. Even if the insurgent groups are highly popular and pure, they may face long-term problems in the management of leadership issues as well as the hiring of new fighters. Besides, there will be difficulty in the construction of institutions where there is an absence of social ties. One of the key components social institutional theory in insurgency is to gain control over its territory as well as its resources. Hence, it undercuts the ability of a Government on public services to the people. Otherwise, an insurgent group may supplant the State in providing alternative basic services to people.

The Social Institutional theory is that organizations which are built with weak horizontal or vertical ties combine the thoughts of urban intellectuals with socially distant peasants. Hence, the preexisting social, political and economical conditions which play a role in generating discontent among the population assist in rallying their support (van der Zwet *et al.,* 2022). During the stage of pre-insurgency, the insurgents can identify the grievance which can assist them in gaining support from the neglected section of society. After that, the individuals who share a similar

opinion on the issue of insurgency are provided training on how to catch the attention of the ruling elite.

The theory further states that incipient stage of the insurgency is a crucial phase since they make their presence felt in the public by attacking the public property. There must be a balance between conducting the demonstrations and portraying their cause as the reason for the insurgency.

In addition to the above, the theory further states that there should be awareness regarding whether there is any exterior motive within the members of the insurgent group (Estrada Metell 2022). It may cause infighting among the members, thus enabling the State in the defection of some members which will lead to the non-achievement of the goals of insurgency.

Conclusion

In the current essay, there was a discussion on the drawbacks of counter-insurgency similar to insurgency. The various approaches of counter-insurgency were discussed using Dr McCormick's Counterinsurgency Model using four elements namely insurgent force, counterinsurgent forces, population and the international community. In addition to this, the various parameters which assist in the success of a counter-insurgency operation were analysed and the importance of conflict resolution strategy in counter-insurgency was evaluated. The five examples of insurgency scenarios were discussed namely Boer War, Huk Rebellion, Second Intifada, Philippine Insurrection and Malay Emergency. Lastly, a social institution theory in insurgency was briefly explored.

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