A Bad Suit-
The Strategic Challenge of Irregular Warfare

Innovation for Peace
Outline

- Introduction
- What is Irregular Warfare?
- How do we address Irregular Warfare?
- What are the implications for the Future?
- Conclusion

War is a chameleon
Definitions

- References: JOC 2007; JOE 2008; CCJO 2009
- IW = Population Focus v. CW = Military Focus
- COIN, UW, CT, FID, SSTR
- Supporting Activities: IO, Psyops, Strategic Communication, CMO, Law Enforcement Against Transnational Crime….
- Simultaneous with Conventional Warfare or independent

- Definitely not Irregular and often not War
  -- Cigarette Smuggling in Mali?

©2010 Center for Advanced Defense Studies
What is Irregular Warfare?

Cause

- Total War Paradigm - Mechanism is….
- Strategic Problem is a balance of Capacity, Demand and Time to achieve a solution
- Faction without Capacity changes time and Demand parameters

*Mines are the poor man’s tank*
What is Irregular Warfare?

A Conflict Sine Wave

- **Spectrum of Conflict** (High, Medium, and Low Intensity = Amplitude)
- **Phases of Conflict** (Strategic Engagement, Initial Entry, Build up, Decisive Combat Operations, Stability and Reconstruction, Transition = Frequency)

- **Conflict is Persistent and Dynamic—Mao’s Protracted Warfare**
  - Resource Competition; Trans-National Crime; Population Migration; Clashes of Perception

**Policy is War by another Means—A corollary**
A Human Problem

- Information Age Warfare - Alberts et al.
- OODA Loop - Col. John Boyd, USAF
- Emotional Decision Making
- Understanding Intent and Perception/ Apperception—Somalia Story

- Red Teaming (UFMCS)
- Dynamic Social Network Analysis (CADS/ MIT Program)
How do we address Irregular Warfare?

The Counter-Threat Cycle

- Deter
- Detect
- Prevent
- Protect
- Remediate
- Recover

- Requires a System of Systems approach, dynamic and persistent.
What are the implications for the Future?

Strategic Evolution

- Combined Arms
- Joint
- International
- Inter-Agency
- Comprehensive

Making the Suit Fit the Fight

“We do not draw our boundaries where you draw yours” - USC Representative 1993, Near Baidoa, Somalia

©2010 Center for Advanced Defense Studies
Conclusion

- “Irregular Warfare” has always existed and always will
- Managing perception (ours and theirs) is the critical element
- Capacity- Demand- Time Analysis= Get a better fitting suit or change the requirement to wear one
Questions

• So Why Should I Care?
INFORMATION IN THIS DOCUMENT IS PROVIDED IN CONNECTION WITH CADS® PRODUCTS. NO LICENSE, EXPRESS OR IMPLIED, BY ESTOPPEL OR OTHERWISE, TO ANY INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS IS GRANTED BY THIS DOCUMENT. EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN CADS’ TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF SALE FOR SUCH PRODUCTS, CADS ASSUMES NO LIABILITY WHATSOEVER, AND CADS DISCLAIMS ANY EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTY, RELATING TO SALE AND/OR USE OF CADS® PRODUCTS INCLUDING LIABILITY OR WARRANTIES RELATING TO FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, MERCHANTABILITY, OR INFRINGEMENT OF ANY PATENT, COPYRIGHT OR OTHER INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHT.

CADS may make changes to specifications and product descriptions at any time, without notice.

All products, dates, and figures specified are preliminary based on current expectations, and are subject to change without notice.

The Center for Advanced Defense Studies, CADS, the CADS logo, are trademarks or registered trademarks of the Center for Advanced Defense Studies or its subsidiaries in the United States and other countries.

* Other names and brands may be claimed as the property of others.

Copyright © Center for Advanced Defense Studies