



'Current and Foreseeable Problems of Military and General Security'

The Aalborg Airbase Seminar
Nine_Eleven_Plus_Five_Years



The General Background: The Growth of the Modern Society 1850-1970



- From being dominated by the traditional, static rural life conditions to the dynamic life of the industrialised, urban centres
- From the hierarchical and authoritarian class society to the egalitarian democracy
- From one with fixed roles and positions – in classes and guilds or castes - to free competition – even with women!

The General Background: The Growth of the Modern Society 1850-1970



- From the framework of organised religion with fixed norms to a permissive one of individual freedom and responsibility
- From families ruled by the father with the mother as 'home base commander' to a far more democratic one requiring the ability to argue and compromise with wife and even the children (who became 'invented' as individuals during the period)

The General Background: The Competition of two Models for the Modern Society



- The capitalist, liberal democracies - gradually developing state and international mechanisms for 'civilizing and managing' the weaknesses of capitalism (state centred or global) – **still very much alive**
- The scientific egalitarian world, controlled by an elite 'Party' – working hard to reconstruct Man on the path to Utopia (internationalist) – **collapsed due to corruption and inefficiency 1985-92**

The General Background: And the Reaction to the Modern Society



- The authoritarian, reactionary or otherwise critical (anti-globalist, -abortion, animal protection, organised religion, etc.) (state centred or internationalist) – still very much alive, often supporting fundamentalists of all types
- The militant fundamentalist trying to recreate an utopian vision of the past on earth – using the tools of modernity to the extend necessary – to get back the constructed 'Asterix Village' they long for:

The General Background: And the Reaction to the Modern Society



The German National Socialists (state centred) => The Rural and Pure Aryan Peoples Home – defeated in 1945

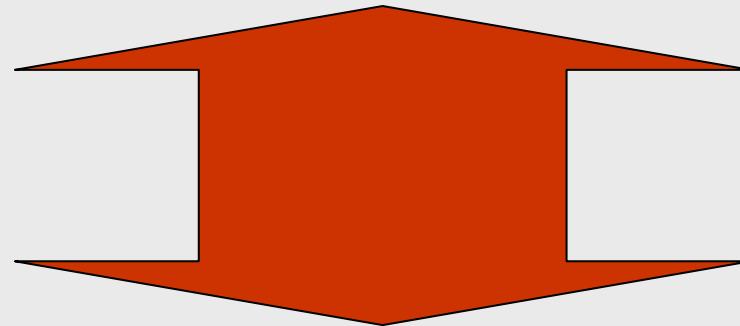


The Jihadist Islamists (internationalist) => The recreated pastoral Khalifat of all Islam – presently in quick and uncontrolled growth

The General Background: The Situation Now



The capitalist, liberal democracies representing the values of modern society - challenged and weakened internally by critical nationalist, authoritarian or idealistic-reactionary groups



In a declared war, that is neither officially nor subjectively recognized by the West: The war takes place at home and in large areas of the world with fast-growing groups of Jihadist Islamist youngsters of pure hearts and simple minds – a sort of grass-root mass ‘Waffen SS’ – fighting the projects and agents of modernity



Actors

- **USA:**
 - Satisfied
 - Presently with ideological blinders and weak development of political sophistication
 - With its own strong opposition to aspects of modernity
 - No real answer to the challenge outside the U.S. after the purely military response failed
 - Unresponsive and unsuitable military structure and doctrine led to the failure
 - The luxury of distance from the challenge
- **Russia:**
 - Envious - with prestige and power ambitions
 - Enjoying and using the problems of others
 - With a corrupt and largely ineffective leadership
 - Not really civilised in a Western sense and not really challenged
 - Manoeuvres with limited risks against its Sunni-Arab neighbours/competitors



Actors

- **China:**
 - Ambitious
 - Not really challenged
 - Concentrating on trying to balance economic growth with containing social pressure
- **Latin America:**
 - Gleefully watching USA's problems
 - Not challenged by the Jihadists
- **Iran**
 - Ambitious
 - Uses USA's problems to the maximum
 - Manoeuvres with limited risks against its Sunni-Arab neighbours/competitors



Actors/Confrontation Areas

- **Israel – and the Levant (Israel-Palestine-Lebanon-Syria)**
 - The situation is now deadlocked for years ahead
 - Ties-up a fair amount of the remaining available elements from Europe's armed forces.
 - South Lebanon now a potential 'operational training ground' for the Jihadists
- **India:**
 - Ambitious
 - Concentrates on its own shares of the problem:
 - the Kashmir Dispute,
 - the tension between its Hindu and Muslim populations and
 - the fundamental lack of stability of the Nuclear Armed Pakistan



Actors/Confrontation Areas

- **Europe:**
 - Satisfied
 - With the weakness of civilised doubt
 - A loose confederation of proud, self-serving, national egos
 - With most states (the UK and France only real exceptions) with militaries that are fair weather and welfare supported missions only, bureaucratically lame top-heavy, and with privileges blocking the development of professional focus
 - Ill suited to handle the fact that it is both actor and a confrontation area without any realistic vision of how to respond effectively



Confrontation Areas

- **North Africa:**
 - Population pressure spilling to Europe
 - Authoritarian governments trying to balance economic growth with containing the social pressure
 - In a very basic sense unstable
- **Sub-Saharan Africa:**
 - Population pressure spilling to Europe
 - The Muslim-Christian/Local religions friction zone is only one problem in an area too often dominated by greedy irresponsible leaders, deeply corrupt officials, rebel movements and the pressure of a HIV-AIDS-epidemic
 - No change in the swamp of basically self-inflicted problems



Confrontation Areas

- **Iraq:**
 - Three autonomous regions
 - 1) The stable Kurdish American-loving North,
 - 2) The fighting Sunni West,
 - 3) The Shiites competing for control in the South
 - Plus a Centre around Baghdad with civil war and ethnic cleansing
 - Presently the best training area for the Jihadists - better than Afghanistan due to real opposition
 - Tying up US and European troops desperately needed in Afghanistan due to political lack of ability to face the situation – and the consequences - and cut costs.
- **Afghanistan:**
 - To be discussed hereafter

Afghanistan: NATO's 'Article 5-operation'



- **The level of acceptance of the Karzai Government:**
 - The ethnic-tribal-confederative character of Afghanistan
 - War-Lords
 - The irresponsible behaviour of his clan at home in Kandahar
 - Attitude to foreigners in Afghanistan a potential problem
- **The state structures**
 - Army and Police quality with little loyalty and meagre pay
 - Administrative traditions
 - Destroyed Infrastructure
- **Economic development**
 - Level of reconstruction aid
 - Required security for development depending on troop levels
 - The War on Opium <undermining> the War on Terror until viable alternative crop available and the required irrigation infrastructure, etc. in place

Afghanistan: NATO's 'Article 5-operation'



- **Operations**

- Should be restrained, classical counter-insurgency operations (in practice not understood, therefore fighting to kill and force a surrender)
- All forces – including American and Afghan – should follow this doctrine under one command (not enforced, because doctrine not understood)
- Multi-agency integration – civil, intelligence, reconstruction, police, military – led by the government representatives at all levels (not enforced, because not understood)
- Minimum force, extreme care with offensive air operations (not really understood – therefore 'body counts')
- Intelligence (essential, but not available)
- No sweeps or 'search and destroy' operations where you depart for the enemy to return to claim victory (not really understood in practice – because offensives makes the soldier feel good)
- High force levels – especially of tough, high quality light infantry with a willingness to take casualties in the attempt to avoid innocent casualties (not available – also due to bad NATO advice to new members)

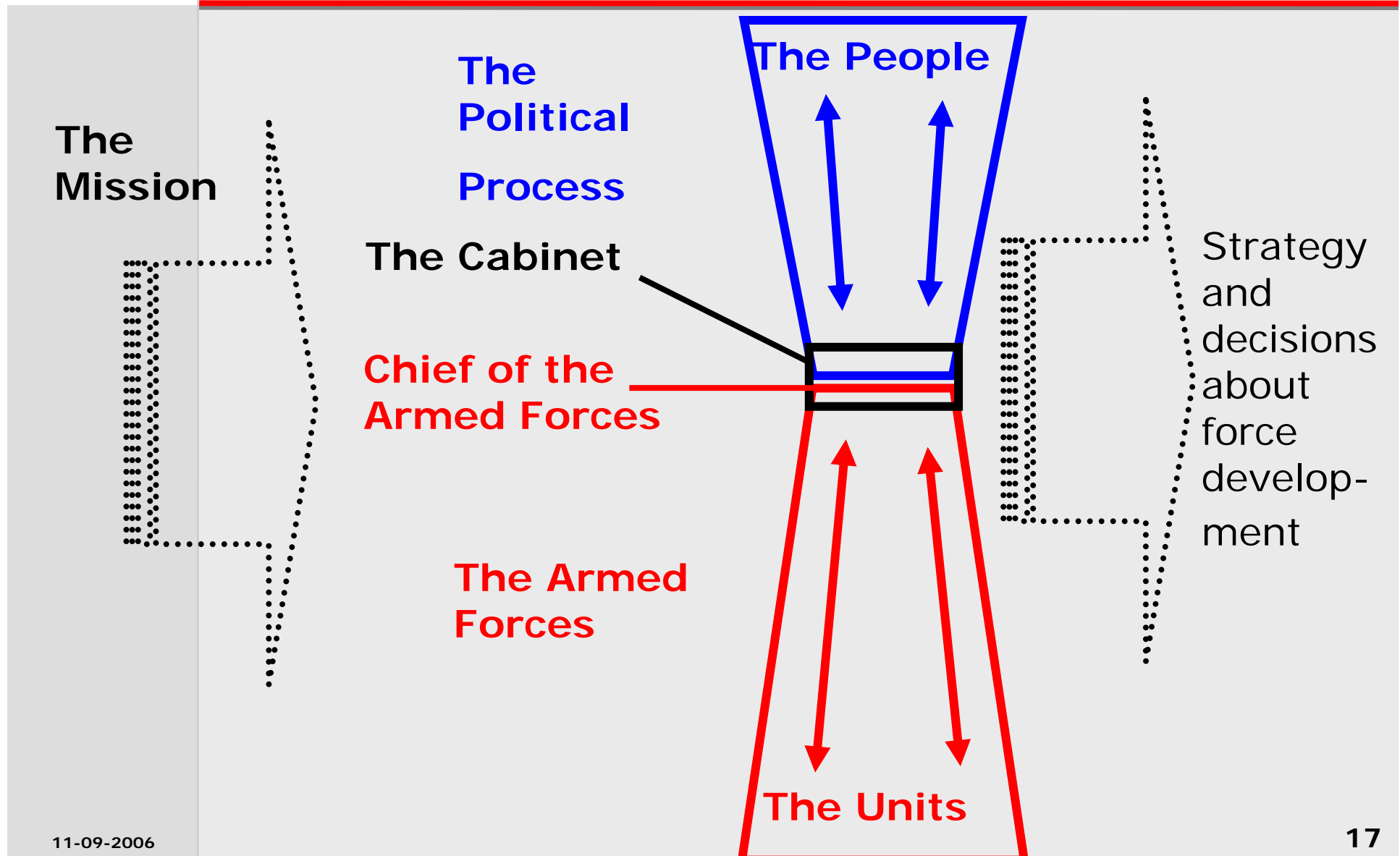
Afghanistan: NATO's 'Article 5-operation'



- **The open border with Pakistan's North West Frontier and Baluchistan Provinces**
 - Birthplace of the Taleban in Baluchistan and bases in the two provinces
 - Safe area for training and supply bases ('like trying to exterminate sharks only hunting in one part of the sea.')
 - To have success, the troop level must allow for quality and honest picketing of the entire border with local reserves for quick reinforcement.
- **Civil-Military Dialogue in the sending states**
 - Apparently defect with serious weaknesses on both civilian and professional military sides. Most states have forgot that they have to make up their minds on the basis of a thorough sovereign advantage-risk analysis, not only to get 'Brownie Points' with Bush



The (Clausewitzian) Political-Military Ideal





Comments or Questions?

