



What is Psycho-Political Warfare?

Political warfare may encompass everything other than military operations, from assassination to political campaigning. Political warfare is the extension of armed conflict by other means. Political warfare in

War is not at all such a difficult art as people think. . . In reality it would seem that he is vanquished who is afraid of his adversary and that the whole secret of war is this.
-- Napoleon, 1807

short, is warfare—not public relations. It is one part persuasion and two parts deception.... The aim of political warfare...is to discredit, displace, and neutralize an opponent, to destroy a competing ideology, and to reduce the adherents to political impotence. It is to make one's own values prevail by working the levers of power, as well as by using persuasion. First, demoralize the enemy, destroy his faith in his own side; "exdoctrinate" him—eradicate the doctrines in which he has been taught to believe by his own side; and third, if possible to indoctrinate him with positive doctrines which we wish him to possess. The options in ideological war are reduced to two—conversion or annihilation. If Christians, or democrats, or progressives—whatever free men may be called—are put in a position of underprivilege and shame for their beliefs, and if the door is left open to voluntary conversion. . . the winning side will sooner or later convert almost everyone who is capable of making trouble. "

Political warriors realize that good intelligence on the enemy is the first requisite. Intelligence is prized as an all encompassing and continuous requirement.

Political Warfare Intelligence Questions About The Enemy

- 1. Leaders' Qualities:** Are opposition leaders strong or weak, steadfast or faltering? How do they compare with our own?
- 2. Coordination of Forces:** How does each side manage communication, command, and control?
- 3. Perceptions and Intentions:** How do our opponents see the conflict? What courses of action are they likely to pursue?
- 4. Moral Resources:** Is the other side's morale stronger or weaker than ours? Why? What keeps each side going-and what could cause it to quit?
- 5. Material Resources:** What kinds of force can both sides bring to bear? Under what circumstances would each side have the material advantage?
- 6. The Lay of the Land:** At what points would each side be strongest? What features of physical or human geography would help or hinder which side?

Political warfare does not focus exclusively on enemies who are at large or end with their capture. Political warfare is a universal struggle against the enemies of freedom first domestically, and then internationally. Practitioners of political warfare constantly target associations of enemies and always zero in on their vulnerabilities. Such enemies are not respected and they are targeted everywhere. The Political Warrior targets those on their way into enemy ranks, those who might be persuaded to quit, and those in custody.

According to Brian Jenkins: "Political warfare sees the enemy not as a monolithic force, but as a dynamic population of individuals whose grievances, sense of humiliation, and desire for revenge, honor, status, meaning, or mere adventure propel them into jihad and resistance." Jenkins left out the fact that the left wing, found in positions of dominance in the media, government and academia of every nation on earth, is the real driving force of all enemies of freedom. If you want freedom, destroy the left!

Political warfare perceives "enemy combatants as constantly calibrating and recalibrating their commitment." It realizes that every prisoner is a source of operational intelligence, and also a potential threat in being, if the leftist lawfare denizens "bring his case to court."

Political warfare must be infinitely flexible and ferociously pragmatic as long as the goal of destroying the left and Muslim imperialism is never forgotten. Political warriors may accept apparent local accommodations to seize advantages, offer amnesties to induce divisions and defections, and cut deals to co-opt enemies. Political warriors never allow the enemy to co-opt them.

There are many approaches utilized in political warfare. For example, Pre-emptive recruiting is one approach. The immediate benefit of recruiting large numbers of Iraqis into government security forces, for example, is keeping them employed and out of the clutches of the Muslim jihadists.

Another approach involves interfering with recruiting. Political warriors might deploy hundreds of young undercover agents to likely recruiting spots. Their mere presence will cause the already paranoid left to suspect every new volunteer.

Terrorists say they are all determined to fight to the death, an illusion they foster with suicide attacks. But the ranks of even the most fervent fanatics include latent defectors who might quit if offered a safe way out. They should meet Allah or Marx, after they are disarmed, if possible.

The Latin maxim divide et impera . . . refers to a tactic in which one side physically splits the opposition's forces, blocking unified action, The Political Warrior divides and conquers the enemy coalition. Iraq's interim president floated the idea of a broad amnesty to Iraqi insurgents who turned away from the resistance, not criminal jihadist terrorists from abroad. The objective, he said, was to split the insurgency between nationalists fighting to evict foreign troops and viscous foreign fighters engaged in jihad. That's fine, if no amnesty is given to people who have killed Americans. They must be hunted down and slaughtered.

Political warfare does not end with terrorist captivity. Enemy detainees, whose family or community background suggests that they could be moved away from violence, may be released if they pledge to help in the fight against the left. The mere fact that some enemies have repented, dismays those still at large, and the information they provide could be crucial in cracking the terrorists'/leftist power base. "Ahmed Ressam, the man convicted of planning to bomb Los Angeles Airport as part of the terrorist millennium plot, currently awaits sentencing. In prison for more than five years, he has renounced terrorism and helped identify more than a hundred terrorists. He faces a possible sentence of 35 years. Would it not be better... to employ him as a spokesman against al-Qaeda's brand of jihad, telling his story to would-be jihadists – his initial illusions, his experience in prison, his decision to cooperate?" We must win by any means possible. Why not shift the public debate from terrorists versus government spokesmen to terrorists versus former terrorists?

Political Warfare is protracted warfare. Peace is what the left calls subjugation of the masses.

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