



FM 3-24 Counterinsurgency Revision—Is COIN Dead?

The Army Combined Arms Doctrine Directorate released the Final Draft of FM 3-24 for official service staffing. This has been one of the most controversial Army/Marine field manuals produced in the last decade of war. There are proponents, adherents, and fans of the 2006 version who have implemented the fundamentals of the doctrine in Iraq, Afghanistan, the Philippines and other places. On the other hand, there are critics of the same precepts and fundamentals who have also served in those very same places.

Some are critical of using COIN as US national strategy. Politicians are the ones making the decisions about committing US military forces, and are informed by military leaders. Critics claim that COIN at this level can mean nation building, which has proven enormously expensive in many ways and is fraught with multiple unforeseen social, political, economic and other problems. It is also viewed as a long term approach that eschews the use of firepower.

Others believe that as long as there are insurgencies, the US will always need to be prepared to combat them if US national interests require. I do not think it opposes the viewpoint above. If the national command authority does due diligence in weighing national interests and considers ends, ways and means to support a rational strategy – then counterinsurgency operations executed by US ground forces in support of a host nation may be a sound approach. In this case, COIN would not be used as national strategy, but as a tactic or operation (the ways) in support of a larger US strategy (the ends).

Our team of writers, both Army and Marine, were cognizant of these arguments and these cautions are written into the doctrine. Our team structured the revision of FM 3-24 on the Brigade Combat Team and below, but we included enough theory to ensure that practitioners can understand the concepts behind the methods. Additionally, we are currently authoring five Army Techniques Publications to expound on the FM 3-24 content. The writers of Joint Publication 3-24 are structuring JP 3-24 to include a higher level viewpoint – so there is more content devoted to operational/strategic level methods and theory that applies to all US forces, not just ground forces (as in FM 3-24). All these publications are necessary for ensuring readiness when the US commits military forces to foreign countries where there is an insurgent threat. The Army and DoD must ensure that the publications remain current and relevant, through periodic revision based on practice, lessons and research.

My education and experience in Haiti, Bosnia, Somalia, Iraq and Afghanistan informs my personal opinion. In these places, and especially Iraq and Afghanistan, lethal military operations were by themselves insufficient to counter or defeat our adversaries and enemies. Had we institutionalized the lessons from our nation's previous experiences in counterinsurgency rather than turning away from the lessons, we might have reduced the cost in resources and lives in these most recent conflicts. When our Army is called upon to embark on a similar experience, we should shudder to think that those Soldiers and Marines must learn for themselves what we did not teach. COIN only dies with the "last" insurgency. Let's be prepared.

I welcome your comments and observations. What do you think?

LTC Brian Payne

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Special points of interest:

- COL Nestor Sadler was selected for Garrison Command, US Army Kwajalein Atoll. This is his last month as Director here.
- We pass our congratulations and thanks for his excellent service to the Army and the Army Irregular Warfare Center. Best of luck!

FM 3-24 Revision Released for Review

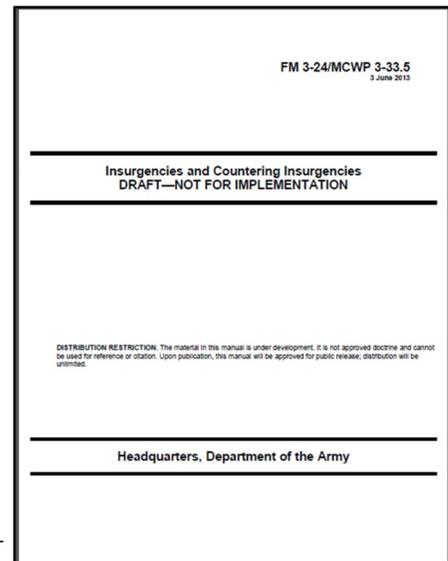
The Army Combined Arms Doctrine Directorate (CADD) released the Initial Draft of FM 3-24 for review and staffing last month to the Army and Marine doctrine writing community. Now titled *Insurgencies and Countering Insurgencies*, the revised FM 3-24 seeks to account for operations and lessons learned since the release of the first version in 2006. The new manual is structured in three parts with twelve chapters:

Part One - Strategic and Operational Context: Understanding the Strategic Context; Understanding an Operational Environment; Understanding Culture

Part Two - Insurgencies: Insurgency Prerequisites and Fundamentals; Insurgency Threat Characteristics

Part Three - Counterinsurgencies: Command and Control and Mission Command; Planning For Countering Insurgencies; Indirect Methods for Countering Insurgencies; Direct Methods For Countering Insurgencies; Intelligence and Operational Considerations; Assessments; Legal Considerations

The Army and Marine doctrine writing communities will provide review and comment and CADD will adjudicate recommendations for change, leading to the release of the final draft this fall. Expected completion is no later than December 2013. For more information, contact AIWC at usarmy.leavenworth.cac.mbx.coin@mail.mil.



*FM 3-24 has a new title: **Insurgencies and Countering Insurgencies***

Web-Based Seminar—SFA Ops in Afghanistan, 25 June



AIWC hosted a web-based seminar for OEF-Afghanistan deploying units to assist them in pre-deployment preparation. The topic of the seminar was security force assistance operations. The Commander 1/3BCT, COL Jim Crider and staff presented an in-depth briefing and dialogue on their experience in advising ANSF units in OEF. AIWC hosted the event using Defense Connect Online-S and participants included 3/1AD BCT, 3/1ID BCT, 4/82BCT, 83rd CA Bn, CALL, JCISFA, Human Terrain System, NTC, and OE Lab FLWKS.

The briefing included pre-deployment considerations; understanding the Afghans; synchronization of operations; Zabul Ops synch; Ops TTP; ANSF sustainment; ISR requirements/capabilities; intelligence sharing; situational awareness; engineering (pre-deployment issues, counter IED, TTPs and partnering); field artillery operations and partnering; network cross domain violations; negligent discharge of classified information; and network switch security. COL Crider and staff responded to questions from participants during the briefing.

For more information about this briefing, to include URLs for downloading briefing products and accessing the live recording, contact the AIWC by email at usarmy.leavenworth.cac.mbx.coin@mail.mil

See back page for the current schedule. As updates occur, go to the AIWC AKO portal (CAC enabled) and click the Seminar folder. AIWC AKO Link: <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/files/40235241>

This Seminar was recorded on DCO-S and is available anytime for viewing

Country Reports on Terrorism 2012

The Department of State released this fact sheet to accompany the release of their latest report on terrorism:

“On May 30, 2013, the State Department submitted Country Reports on Terrorism 2012 to the U.S. Congress as required by law. This report, available on www.state.gov/j/ct, provides the Department of State’s annual assessment of trends and events in international terrorism that occurred from January 1 to December 31, 2012. It includes a strategic assessment, country-by-country breakdowns of counterterrorism efforts, and sections on state sponsors of terrorism, terrorist safe havens, and foreign terrorist organizations.”

“The 2012 report marks the first year the statistical annex was prepared by the National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism (START) at the University of Maryland. As a result of differences in data collection methodology with prior versions of the annex prepared by the National Counterterrorism Center, the statistics in this report are not directly comparable with data from previous reports.”

The following were among the most noteworthy counterterrorism developments in 2012:

- A marked resurgence of Iran’s state sponsorship of terrorism.
- The al-Qa’ida (AQ) core in Pakistan continued to weaken.
- Tumultuous events in the Middle East and North Africa have complicated the counterterrorism picture.
- Leadership losses have driven AQ affiliates to become more independent.
- We are facing a more decentralized and geographically dispersed terrorist threat.
- Although terrorist attacks occurred in 85 different countries in 2012, they were heavily concentrated geographically.

Country Reports on Terrorism 2012

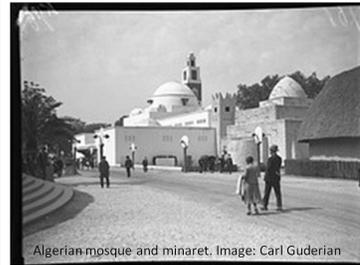
May 2013

United States Department of State Publication
Bureau of Counterterrorism
Released May 2013

Country Reports on Terrorism 2012 is submitted in compliance with Title 22 of the United States Code, Section 20505 (the Act), which requires the Department of State to provide to Congress a full and complete annual report on terrorism for those countries and groups meeting the criteria of the Act.

For more information and to download **Country Reports on Terrorism**, see this link: <http://www.state.gov/r/pa/prs/ps/2013/05/210103.htm>

Critique of Country Reports on Terrorism -- Combating Religion-Based Terror



Mr. Knox Thames is the Director of Policy and Research at the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom and he provided a commentary on the Department of State’s recently released report on terror (cited above). His article appeared in the Georgetown Journal of International Affairs in which he concluded that the report needs a more critical lens towards various government initiatives, one that recognizes not all activity is equally effective and can actually be counterproductive.

He writes that a prominent theme of the report is the important role that religion plays in issues of security and stability across the globe – roles which can be either positive or negative. He notes that the report is often uncritical in reporting how various governments combat religiously inspired extremism. Thames cites a number of instances in which the report presents examples of legitimate means of controlling or limiting extremism, which often constitute human rights limitations that could actually increase violent extremism.

The report at the same time provides positive examples of how governments engage religious leaders in combating violent extremism. These governments understand how many terrorist threats stem from twisted theologies morphed into political ideologies. Nevertheless, the report is uneven in the citation of what is problematic and what is not. Thames asserts that the Department of State needs to develop a more critical lens towards various state initiatives and that U.S. engagement would benefit from recognizing the difference between state actions that limit the growth of violent extremism versus ones that create grievances and potentially future terrorists.

Read the article here: <http://journal.georgetown.edu/2013/06/29/combating-religion-based-terror-by-knox-thames/>

Challenging the ideological roots of religiously justified violence can damage the strength, vitality, and longevity of a terrorist organization.

Counter IED Integration Cells — Invaluable Training Resources for Units.

Future enemies will attempt to counter or interrupt U.S. Army technologies in armor protection, mobility, and fire power through adaptive techniques and innovative improvised explosive devices (IEDs). The Counter Improvised Explosive Device Integration Cells (CI2C) are FORSCOM's solution to help the Army solve these complex problems in modern warfare. The CI2C provides Soldiers, leaders, and units—from squad to battalion—with current and relevant training on friendly and adversary tactics, techniques and procedures (TTPs) that are required to win the counter-IED (CIED) fight and integrate non-standard and non-Program of Record (POR) systems into home station training.

objectives. The CI2C is consistent across FORSCOM, capable of rapidly adjusting training to adapt to ever-changing IED TTPs and providing resources to support leaders who train Soldiers on individual and collective CIED tasks.



To find the points of contact at each CI2C element in the Army, go to the FORSCOM CI2C site and click the interactive map. Also access robust training support packages for home station training. Access the site at this link: <http://www.forscom.army.mil/CI2C>.

Quote

"A combat role for U.S. armed forces in Third World conflicts has to be viewed as an exceptional event."

Joint Low Intensity Conflict Center, Analytical Review of Low Intensity Conflict (Ft. Monroe, VA: US Army Training and Doctrine Command, 1 August 1986), p. 1-2.

The CI2C is a squad(-) sized element that is composed of experienced CIED Subject Matter Experts and located at multiple CONUS installations and all First Army Mobilization Training Centers (MTCs). The CI2C provides initial and sustainment training as well as over-the-shoulder coaching in a garrison and field environment tailored to local commander training

CI2C Training Support Packages

The CI2C team has developed an excellent series of turn-key training support packages immediately available for units in a variety of subjects. The latest to be released is the Company Intelligence Support Team TSP, which includes everything needed to forming the COIST, conducting basic analysis, and producing actionable intelligence. Descriptions of TSPs include:

CI2C COIST training is a 40-hour course directed at non-intel Soldiers, which provides unit commanders with a trained company-level intelligence team able to conduct basic analysis and produce actionable intelligence.

CI2C COIN training produces current and relevant training material in accordance with FM 3-24.2, to meet the Commanding General, Army Forces Command's directive in order to educate Active, Guard, and Reserve Soldiers.

CI2C Biometric training is available on current equipment in use. CI2C researches emerging Biometric technologies for use by FORSCOM units and provides standardization of Biometrics training across the FORSCOM training enterprise.

CI2C EW/CREW training provides Soldiers with initial, sustainment, and over-the-shoulder training that meet the FORSCOM and First Army pre-deployment training requirements for individual, leader, and collective training

Access these and other TSPs and products here: <http://www.forscom.army.mil/CI2C>

What do you think?

Have our military leaders done due diligence with this idea with US political leadership?

Send us an email at usarmy.leavenworth.cac.mbx.coin@mail.mil

IW Seminar: ISAF Joint Command Intelligence Update



The IJC Deputy CJ2, COL Paul Norwood provided an intelligence summary for deploying unit leaders and staff using Defense Connect Online-S in order to provide units an understanding of the threat and environment in the combined joint area of operation.

The briefing included a summary of adjacent country relations and impacts on Afghanistan; status of AQ; ANSF performance; Afghanistan/Pakistan relations; political posturing; COMIJC problem sets; insider threats overview; insurgent campaign plan overview (Khalid bin Whaleed); ANSF casualty trends; and 2014 elections discussion.

For more information about this briefing, to include URLs for downloading briefing products and accessing the live recording, contact the AIWC by email at usarmy.leavenworth.cac.mbx.coin@mail.mil

Participants included XVIII ABN

Corps HQs, 1st Inf Div HQs, 10th Mtn Div HQs, 4th Inf Div HQs; 3rd Inf Div HQs (RC-South), 4/82IBCT, 1/25SBCT, 4/4IBCT, 1CAB 1ID, 15th Sig Bde, 7th Engr Bn, Joint Staff J7, JCISFA, JRTC, and ISR Topoff.

See below for the current schedule. As updates occur, go to the AIWC AKO portal (CAC enabled) and click the Seminar folder. AIWC AKO Link: <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/files/40235241>

Irregular Warfare Community Events

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| 25 Jul | Army IW Ctr Web-Seminar, Elections and Beyond in Afg, IJC CJ3/5/7, DCO-S |
| 8 Aug | Army IW Ctr Web-Seminar, Enablers/Asset Access During Drawdown, ISAF Joint Cmd J3/5/7, DCO-S |
| 22 Aug (t) | Army IW Ctr Web-Seminar, C2 Restructure, ISAF Joint Cmd J3/5/7, DCO-S |
| 5 Sep (t) | Army IW Ctr Web-Seminar, Interagency During Drawdown, State Dept, DCO-S |
| 14-15 Oct | Countering Terrorism Overseas Conference , RUSI, London |
| 25 Oct | 20th Annual Terrorism Trends & Forecasts Symposium , IACSP, Mahwah, NJ |

Updates to the AIWC Web-Seminar Schedule are on the AIWC AKO here: <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/files/40235241>

Contact the AIWC staff to obtain links for the IW Center Seminars at usarmy.leavenworth.cac.mbx.coin@mail.mil

We're on the Web!
[http://
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What's in a name?

The Army IW Fusion Center dropped a word from its title: fusion. As we have grown and worked IW issues over the last several years, we have discovered that fusing information is only a subset of our mission. Our focus is irregular warfare writ large, and how conventional forces apply Army and Joint doctrine in irregular environments. The Army Irregular Warfare Center exists to ensure that conventional force units have the doctrinal, training, leader development, and educational products available to best prepare for planning, preparing, and conducting operations in an irregular environment. We want to make sure that when and if conventional force soldiers are directed to conduct irregular operations in foreign countries, they have all they need from the Army institution to be successful. We are the advocate for conventional forces' irregular warfare issues and requirements.