

Illumination

Attributes

- Fast Tempo
- Fluidity of Action

permits

Tactics

- Concentration
- Dispersion

Strategy

- Select initiative (or response) that is least expected
- Move along path of least resistance
- Pursue direction that threatens alternative objectives

generates

Outcome

- Uncertainty
- Confusion
- Disorder
- Chaos

PATTERN FOR SUCCESSFUL OPERATIONS

- Goal
 - Deprive an adversary of his capacity for independent action.
- Plan
 - Select initiative (or response) that is least expected.
 - Move along path of least resistance (to reinforce success).
 - Pursue direction which permits many branches and threatens alternative objectives.
- Action
 - Exploit fast tempo and fluidity-of-action as basis for either quick concentration or fluid dispersion;
- Support
 - Superior mobile communications
 - Minimum essential logistics

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to sustain appropriate pace of operations within available resources.
- Command
 - Decentralized to encourage lower level tactical initiative to exploit opportunities as they present themselves.

NOTE

Counter-Blitz imposes a greater stress upon friendly combat teams (as opposed to Blitz combat teams) -- however results gained can far outweigh those of Blitz offensive.

?NATURAL QUESTION?

How can we defend against or counter the Blitz?

FUNDAMENTAL MESSAGE

Action

- Blitz and Guerrillas concentrate or disperse more quickly from or to lower levels of distinction (team cohesion) without losing cohesion of overall effort.
- Put another way, Blitz and Guerrillas "get inside adversary's" Mind-Space-Time Framework.

Result

- Such activity by Blitz and Guerrillas make them appear ambiguous (unpredictable) and awesome which magnifies into confusion, disorder and panic among their adversaries -- in accordance with Godel's Proof, the Heisenberg Principle and the Second Law of Thermodynamics.

GUERRILLA RESULTS

Successful

- American Colonies 1775-81
- Spain 1808-14
- Russia 1812
- Arabia 1916-18
- China 1927-49
- Russia 1941-45
- Yugoslavia 1941-45
- Indochina 1945-54
- Algeria 1954-62
- Cuba 1956-59
- South Vietnam 1958-75

Unsuccessful

- Greece 1944-49
- Philippines* 1946-54
- Malaya* 1948-60

*Regime exercised particular care not to inflict casualties and to protect population.

GUERRILLA CAMPAIGN

KEY TO SUCCESS

- Support of population (both psychological and physical) that willingly furnishes recruits, intelligence, transportation, shelter, refuge, food, money and medical aid.
- Continuously demonstrate government weakness and force government to harsh anti-population measures.
- Fast tempo/fluidity-of-action coupled with cohesion of tiny bands and environmental background as basis for "never affording a target" and never "being" on the defensive except by accident and in error."
- Sanctuary (or base) as safe area to which guerrillas "can retire, voluntarily or involuntarily, for rest, recuperation, repair of arms, clothing, and equipment, and where recruits can be indoctrinated, trained and equipped."

Guerrilla Campaign

Action

- Solicit support of population, set up organization, sanctuary and communications network without arousing adversary's intelligence and security apparatus.
- Employ tiny cohesive bands for fluid hit-and-run raids against lines of communications (to gain arms and supplies) but retreat and melt into environment when faced by superior police and armed forces.
- Force adversary into harsh anti-population reprisal and suppression measures.
- Harass ever larger adversary concentrations (in front, flank, and rear) with ever larger bands by ambush against supply columns and patrols and by infiltration or sneak attack against isolated strongpoints. Disperse to avoid open combat or a major assault by superior forces.
- Demonstrate adversary weakness by carefully selected attack against major force units using methods of conventional warfare.

Idea

- Defeat adversary by continuously using fast tempo/fluidity-of-action and cohesion of small bands as basis for dispersion, concentration and shifting of forces to harass, confuse and ultimately destroy his will or capacity to resist.

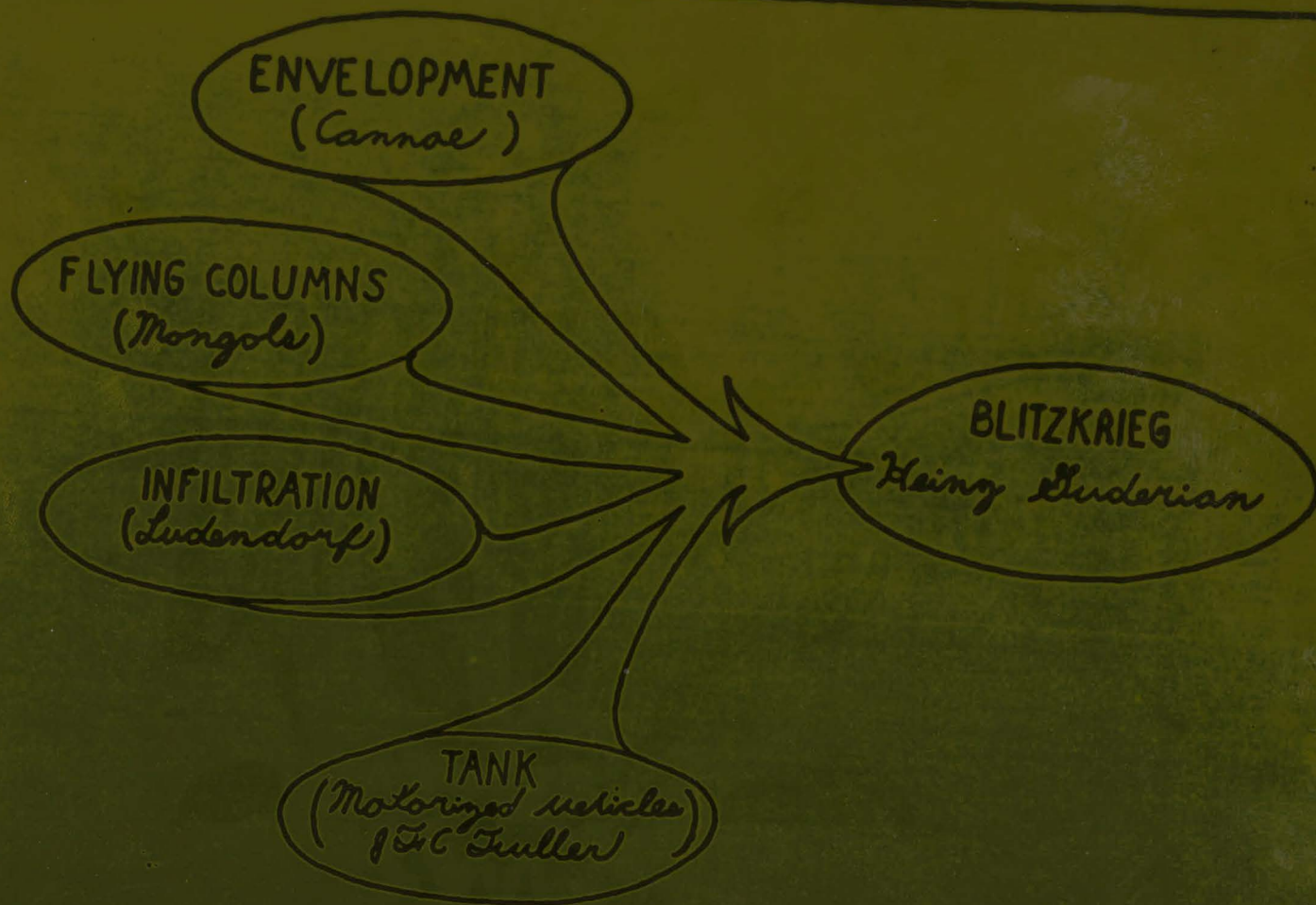
WORLD WAR II

Blitzkrieg

Key to Success

- Fast tempo/fluidity-of-action and cohesion of armored teams to permit repeated and rapidly shifting concentration of strength against weakness thereby generate doubt and uncertainty which magnify into panic and chaos.
- Decentralized command with wide freedom for lower level combat leaders to exploit opportunities generated by rapid action within a broad loosely woven scheme laid down from central command.
- Superior mobile communications to maintain cohesion and to enable higher command levels to allocate reserves and support and to shift center of overall action.
- Essential and only essential logistics tail to support high speed movement and rapid shifts among routes of advance.

Creation of the Blitzkrieg



Impression of the Lincen



WORLD WAR II

Blitzkrieg

Action

- Brief but intense (or possibly no preliminary) bombardment by artillery and/or air
- Armored reconnaissance teams (leading armored columns) advance rapidly to contact adversary on a narrow front from regions of least expectation and along paths of least resistance.
- Assault by constantly reinforced armored combat teams of tanks, assault guns, infantry, and combat engineers together with close air support to open breaches and gaps along paths of least resistance.
- When breakthrough occurs follow-on relatively independent mobile/armored teams, led by armored reconnaissance, blow-through to penetrate (at max. speed) into adversary's rear along paths of least resistance. Objective is envelopment to destroy command and lines of communication.
- Motorized or foot infantry further back supported by artillery and armor pour-in to wipe-out isolated pockets of resistance, enlarge the breaches and gaps along paths of least resistance and secure the captured terrain or encirclement against possible counter-attack.

Idea

- Conquer an entire region in the quickest possible time by using fast tempo/fluidity-of-action and cohesion of armored teams as basis for quick concentration and shifting of attacking and reserve forces against an adversary's command communications and support structure in order to confuse, disorder, and finally shatter his will or capacity to resist.

BETWEEN WORLD WAR I AND II

- Lightning War (Blitzkrieg)

- Infiltration Tactics of 1918 were mated with:

- Tank
- Motorized Artillery
- Tactical Aircraft
- Motor Transport
- Better Communications

by

- JFC Fuller
- Heinz Guderian

- Result:

- Blitzkrieg to generate a breakthrough by piercing a region about 1-2 kilometers wide at two or three points on a narrow front with armor, motorized infantry, and follow-up infantry divisions supported by tactical aircraft.

- Guerrilla War

- Guerilla Strategy and Tactics were codified by Mao Tse-Tung.

- Result:

- Modern Guerrilla Warfare has become an overall political, economic, psychological and military framework for "total war".

IMPRESSION

- Infiltration tactics a'la Ludendorf seem to be similar in nature to Irregular or Guerrilla tactics a'la Lawrence.
- ✓ ● Why? Both use fluidity-of-action and cohesion of small units to concentrate strength against weakness -- but at different levels of concentration.

WORLD WAR I

Guerrilla Warfare (a.k.a T.E. Lawrence)

Action

- Gain support of population. Must "arrange the minds" of friend, foe and neutral alike. Must "get inside their minds".
- Must "be an idea or thing invulnerable, without front or back, drifting about like a gas" (fluidity-of-action). Must be an attack-in-depth.
- Tactics "should be tip-and-run, not pushes but strokes" with "use of the smallest force in the quickest time at the farthest place".
- Should be a war of detachment (avoiding contact and presenting a threat everywhere) using mobility/fluidity-of-action and environmental background (vast unknown desert) as basis for "never affording a target" and "never being" on the defensive except by accident and in error".

Idea

- Disintegrate existing regime's ability to govern.

WORLD WAR I

Infiltration Tactics

- Result

- Immediate success at platoon/company/battalion level coupled with ultimate failure at corps/army level.

- Why?

- Ludendorf violated his own concept by his tendency to use strategic reserves to reinforce hardened resistance -- hence at the strategic level, he seduced himself into supporting failure not success.
- Logistics too inflexible to support rapid/fluid penetration and deeper exploitation of breakthrough.
- Communications too immobile to allow command to quickly identify and reinforce successful advances.

WORLD WAR I

Action

- Offensives conducted on Wide Fronts
- Evenness of advance maintained to protect flanks and provide artillery support as advance makes headway
- Reserves thrown in whenever attack held up -- against points of strong resistance

Reaction

- Defense organized into depth of successive belts of fortified terrain
- Massed artillery and machine gunfire designed to arrest and pin down attacker
- Counter-attack to win back lost ground

Result

- Stagnation and enormous attrition since advances made generally as expected and along paths of hardened resistance because of dependence upon railroads and choice of tactics of trying to reduce strong points by massed infantry and firepower.

BACKGROUND

