

Guerilla Movement as a Well Planned organization

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"The enemy advances, we retreat. The enemy camps, we harass. The enemy tires, we attack. The enemy retreats, we pursue."

Mao Zedong, Chinese General and Head of State

Abstract

Guerrilla warfare is a type of combat that's fought by a civilian population or other people who aren't part of a typical military unit. Often, guerrilla warriors are attempting to overthrow an existing government or are rebelling against a much larger, organized military forces. The word *guerrilla* means "little war" in Spanish and the term was first documented during one of the Napoleonic War, when the British enlisted Spanish and Portuguese *guerrillas* to help them overthrow the French from the Iberian Peninsula. A variety of other words mean pretty much the same thing as *guerrilla*, including rebel, insurgent, irregular, and partisan. But frustrated military commanders have consistently damned them as barbarians, savages, terrorists, brigands, outlaws, and bandits. Guerrilla combat often involves surprise attacks such as ambushes and raids, or sabotage of a vulnerable target. Though guerrilla troops use this kind of improper tactics it seems well organized when it examine deeply. So the purpose of this article is to examine and elaborate the guerilla warfare into deep.

History

The Chinese general and strategist Sun Tzu, in his *The Art of War* was the earliest to propose the use of guerrilla warfare. This directly inspired the development of modern guerrilla warfare.; Communist leaders like Mao Zedong and North Vietnamese Ho Chi Minh both implemented guerrilla warfare in the style of Sun Tzu, which served as a model for similar strategies in another place while the tactics of modern guerrilla warfare originate in the 20th century, irregular warfare, using elements later characteristic of modern guerrilla warfare, has existed throughout the battles of many ancient civilizations.

Guerrilla warfare in time became a useful addition to larger political and military strategies a role in which it complemented conventional military operations both inside enemy territory and in areas seized and occupied by an enemy. Early examples of this role occurred in the first two Silesian Wars and in the Seven Years' War when Hungarian, Croatian, and Serbian irregulars fighting in conjunction with the Austrian army, several times forced Frederick the Great of Prussia to retreat from Bohemia and Moravia after suffering heavy losses. Toward the end of the U.S. War of Independence a ragtag band of South Carolina irregulars under Francis Marion relied heavily on terrorist tactics to drive the British general Lord Cornwallis from the Carolinas to defeat at Yorktown, Virginia. Wellington's operations in Spain were frequently supported by effectively commanded

regional bands of guerrillas perhaps 30,000 in all who made life miserable for the French invaders by blocking roads, intercepting couriers, and at times even waging conventional war. In 1812, in the long retreat from Moscow, the armies of Napoleon I suffered thousands of casualties inflicted by bands of Russian peasants working with mounted Cossacks.

Guerrilla wars flourished in the following two centuries as native irregulars in India, Algeria, Morocco, Myanmar, New Zealand, and the Balkans tried, usually in vain, to prevent colonization by the great powers. Indian tribes in North America stubbornly fought the opening of the West; Cuban guerrillas fought the Spanish; and Filipino guerrillas fought the Spanish and Americans. In the South African War 90,000 Boer commandos held off a large British army for two years before succumbing.

As these bloody campaigns continued, political motivations became more and more important. The Taiping Rebellion in China, a peasant uprising against the Qing dynasty, killed an estimated 20 million Chinese before it was suppressed. During the American Civil War mounted guerrillas from both sides raided far behind enemy lines, often looting and pillaging randomly. Mexican peasants, fighting under such leaders as Emiliano Zapata and Pancho Villa, used guerrilla warfare to achieve a specific political goal in the Mexican Revolution. Arab tribesmen under Faysal I employed the brilliant guerrilla strategies and tactics of British officer T.E. Lawrence in their campaign to liberate their lands from the Ottoman Empire in World War I. In 1916 the Easter Rising in Ireland led to a ferocious guerrilla war fought by the Irish Republican Army (IRA) a war that ceased only with the uneasy peace and partition of Ireland in 1921. In 1927 communist leader Mao Zedong raised the flag of a rural rebellion that continued for 22 years. This experience resulted in a codified theory of protracted revolutionary war, Mao's On Guerrilla Warfare which was later called "the most radical, violent and extensive theory of war ever put into effect."

Guerrilla Warfare during the Cold War period

Political ideology became a more pronounced factor in the numerous guerrilla campaigns of World War II as well. In most of the countries invaded by Germany, Italy, and Japan, local communists either formed their own guerrilla bands or joined other bands. In the following decades the Soviet Union and United States supported a series of widespread guerrilla insurgencies and counterinsurgencies in dangerous and often unproductive but always costly proxy wars.

In Yugoslavia and Albania the communist takeover of government was simple and immediate; in China it was complicated and delayed; in South Vietnam it succeeded after nearly three decades; in Greece, Malaya, and the Philippines it was foiled but only after prolonged and costly fighting. After 1948 the new state of Israel was faced with a guerrilla war conducted by the fedayeen of its Arab neighbours a protracted and vicious struggle that over the next 30 years led to three quasi-conventional wars followed by renewed guerrilla war.

Asia, the Middle East, and Africa and old and new insurgencies flourished in Peru, Colombia, El Salvador, Nicaragua, the Philippines, Thailand, Sri Lanka, India, Kashmir, Lebanon, Syria, Morocco, Angola, Mozambique, Northern Ireland, and Spain. The Afghan War of saw a coalition of Muslim guerrillas known as the mujahedeen, variously commanded by regional Afghan warlords heavily subsidized by the United States, fighting against Afghan and Soviet forces.

Guerilla Warfare during the post-Cold War period

The collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991 did little to alter this gloomy prognostication. Variations of communist ideology, Marxist or Maoist, continued to fuel insurgencies in Colombia, Peru, Mexico, Spain, Sri Lanka, Turkey, Nepal, East Timor, and the Philippines. Added to this was the growth of the Muslim religious factor in such localized insurgencies as Israel-Palestine and Kashmir and in renegade terrorist organizations such as Osama bin Laden's al-Qaeda. Bin Laden, a wealthy Saudi Arabian expatriate and religious fanatic, patched together a worldwide network of followers whose activities during the 1990s and beyond included a series of hideous bombings. Forced to take refuge in Taliban-ruled Afghanistan, bin Laden planned the aerial suicide attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, on the United States. Although this deed led to the elimination of bin Laden's headquarters in Afghanistan and to a subsequent "war on terror," al-Qaeda continued to take credit for terrorist attacks.

Tactics of a Guerilla Team

The fundamental tactics of Guerrilla warfare are completely different from that of conventional military warfare, but that doesn't mean that it is any less effective. In military language, tactics are the practical methods of achieving the grand strategic objectives - winning the war. The tactics of Guerrilla warfare does not require soldiers willing to die in every battle nor does it require that every attack should result in enemy kills. That may sound completely backwards to a conventional soldier, but the successfulness of Guerrilla warfare become clear when its characteristics are closely examined.

The oldest formulation of basic guerrilla tactics can be found in: Sun Tzu's Art of War. Guerrilla warfare tactics rely on never-ending, primarily psychological, harassment like attacking the enemy by causing defection, fear, political and social pressures within its ranks accomplished by extremely slight, flexible, and ad hoc tactics designed to overextend the resources of the enemy. The time guerrilla warfare gains can be critical for the development of a conventional army to confront the enemy or to divide and conquer the enemy psychologically. Above all of course, guerrilla tactics adhere to the principles of survival and success. And guerrilla warfare is entirely opposed to terrorism, but degenerated and weak guerrillas may resort to terrorist tactics.

The tactics which are used by the guerrillas will be driven by the organization, support, and equipment which is available. First the guerrillas concentrate on small attacks against isolated units and supply facilities in an attempt to obtain supplies and equipment. As more supplies and equipment become available, and the size of the guerrilla force expands, the guerrillas enter in to serious attacks. Then they begin to attack larger enemy facilities

and units. When the guerrilla organization is of sufficient size and strength, and possess adequate supplies and equipment, the guerrillas expand their attacks. In all these attacks of guerrilla warfare, some of the common tactics are the dispersion of guerrilla forces, the night attack as a psychological weapon against the enemy, the emphasis on attacking isolated forces, and the use of the local public for support. This local support can be medical assistance for the wounded, food supplies for the guerrillas, or intelligence.

Guerrilla team as an organization

Though all guerrilla bands that spring from the masses of the people suffer from lack of organization at the time of their formation, they all have in common a basic quality that makes organization possible. All guerrilla units must have political and military leadership. This is true regardless of the source or size of such units. Such units may originate locally, in the masses of the people; they may be formed from an admixture of regular troops with groups of the people, or they may consist of regular army units intact. And mere quantity does not affect this matter. Such units may consist of a squad of a few men, a battalion of several hundred men, or a regiment of several thousand men.

All these must have leaders who are unyielding in their policies resolute, loyal, sincere, and robust. These men must be well-educated in revolutionary technique, self confident, able to establish severe discipline, and able to cope with counter-propaganda. In short, these leaders must be models for the people. As the war progresses, such leaders lack of discipline which at first will gradually overcome the lack of discipline which at first prevails; they will establish discipline in their forces, strengthening them and increasing their combat efficiency. Thus eventual victory will be attained.

Unorganized guerrilla warfare cannot contribute to victory and those who attack the movement as a combination of banditry and anarchism do not understand the nature of guerrilla action. Evil does not exist in guerrilla warfare but only in the unorganized and undisciplined activities that are anarchism,' said Lenin, in his book *On Guerrilla Warfare*.

Guerrilla strategy must be based primarily on alertness, mobility, and attack. It must be adjusted to the enemy situation, the terrain, the existing lines of communication, the relative strengths, the weather and the situation of the people.

Successful guerrilla campaigns

Guerrilla warfare has been used throughout history. There are lot of successful guerrilla campaigns around the world and have mentioned some campaigns below.

- American Revolutionary War (1775–1783)
- Peninsular War in Spain (1808–1814)
- First Boer War (1880–1881)
- Greek War of Independence against the Ottoman Empire (1821–1830)

- Algerian War (1954–1962)
- Afghani Mujahideen against the USSR (1980–1989)
- Burma Campaign (1942-1945)
- Cuban Revolution (1956–1959)
- East Timor (1999)
- Kosovo Liberation Army (1992–1999)
- Eritrean War of Independence (1961–1991)
- Turkish Revolutionaries at Turkish War of Independence against partitioning of the Ottoman Empire by the Allies
- Arab Revolt (1916–1918)
- Haitian Revolution [5]
- Independence War in Latin America [6]
- Indonesian National Revolution
- Hezbollah in southern Lebanon (1982-2000)
- Philippines' during the Japanese occupation of World War II^[48]
- Rhodesian Bush War (1972–1980)
- portions of the Wars of Scottish Independence; notably, actions led by Robert the Bruce (13th century-14th century)
- Irish War of Independence (1919–1921); campaign organized by Michael Collins^[49]
- First Indochina War (1946–1954)
- Vietnam War (1959–1975)
- Cambodian Civil War (1967–1975)
- Bangladesh Liberation War (1971)
- People's War in Nepal
- The Partisans of Yugoslavia
- China (Communists vs. Nationalists) (1946–1949)
- Nicaragua (1977–1979)

Unsuccessful guerrilla campaigns

- Irish Guerrilla campaign (1799–1803)
- Caucasian War (1817–1864)
- Abd al-Qadir in Algeria (1830–1847)
- Taiping Rebellion in Qing China (1850–1864)
- Polish uprising (1863–1865)
- Second Boer War (1899–1902)
- Ukrainian nationalist partisans and guerrillas during and after the Russian Civil War
- Makhnovist anarchists and guerrillas in Ukraine after the Russian Civil War
- Basmachi rebels in Soviet Central Asia 1916-1931
- Tambov Rebellion in Soviet Russia 1919-1921
- Irish Civil War (1922–1923)

- IRA S-Plan campaign 1939-1941 Northern Campaign (IRA) 1942-1944 Border Campaign (IRA) 1956-1962
- Spanish Maquis after the Spanish Civil War
- Polish resistance movement 1939-1944, unsuccessful until USSR replacement of German occupation
- Greek Civil War (1945–1949)
- Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) (1944–1949)
- Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania 1944-1965, Forest Brothers, Latvian national partisans, Lithuanian partisans
- Malayan Emergency (1948–1960)
- Karen National Liberation Army in Burma
- Mau Mau Uprising
- Peshmerga forces of Kurdistan
- Philippine–American War (1899–1902)
- Italian guerrilla war in Ethiopia (1941–1943)
- Nazi German Werwolf movement 1945
- Tibet 1958-1974, resistance against Chinese occupation ultimately failed when American Central Intelligence Agency withdrew its support in context of President Richard Nixon's diplomatic overtures to the People's Republic of China
- Dhofar Rebellion in Oman, (1962–1976)
- Thailand 1964-1982 Communist Party of Thailand (CPT). It suffered major setbacks in late 1970s and an amnesty was granted by the Thai government to all of its fighters in 1982, ending a long rebellion that once had much of rural areas under control.
- Uruguay 1965-1973, the Tupamaros were suppressed by the army forces that later took power
- Argentina 1969-1981 Montoneros and ERP were suppressed by security forces around 1977
- Dominican Republic US forces suppressed Dominican guerrillas
- El Salvador Due to the Treaty
- Polisario Front in Western Sahara
- Second Sudanese Civil War 1983-2005
- Parrari in Pakistan
- Balochistan Liberation Army
- Kachin Independent Army in Burma
- Internal conflict in Peru - insurgencies led by two rival Marxist guerrilla groups, the Shining Path and Túpac Amaru Revolutionary Movement from 1981–2000
- Armed Islamic Group (GIA) in Algeria

Conclusion

Guerrilla warfare is a method of combat by which a smaller group of combatants attempts to use its mobility to defeat a larger, and consequently less mobile, army. It is typical that a smaller guerrilla army will either use its defensive status to draw its enemy into territory

which is better suited to the former or take advantage of its greater mobility by conducting strategic surprise attacks. Guerrilla warfare commonly begins spontaneously, but may be used as a means of revolutionary struggle. And as discussed in the article guerrilla warfare is organized and carefully planned combat, commonly employed in conjunction with conventional warfare tactics.

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