

America's Irregular Enemies

14 April 2005

Disclaimer

- Not official DoD position
- Not official Marine Corps position

Definition of 4GW

- Uses all available networks – political, economic, social and military
- Attacks policy makers directly
- Superior political will defeats greater economic and military power.
- Wars are measured in decades.

Political, Protracted, Networked

4GW is Just a Model

- **Varied terminology used in descriptions**
 - Toffler's Waves
 - Form of Energy
 - Generations of RMA
- **Fourth Generation Construct**
 - Focus on modern war
 - Just one model

What's new?

- Stand alone war winner – no phase III
- 4GW best exploits societal changes
 - Networked – Coalition of the Willing
 - Transnational
 - Information based
- Multi-discipline attack on minds
 - Velocity
 - Impact

Reality

- Attacked to the depth of available weapons systems.
- Driven by changes across society – not just technology
- New generation beats old
- Continuing and continual process
- **EVOLVES BECAUSE IT WINS!!!!**
 - Darwinian with one major recent exception

4GW Enemies

- Nation State –
 - Uses 4GW approach to neutralize US power
 - Mixed with earlier generations
- Non-nation State Organization
 - Uses 4GW approach
 - Not vulnerable to earlier generation attacks

Listen to what
they say!!!



Watch what
they do!!

China – 4 GW Nation State

- No Limit War Theory- not ‘official’;
good insight
 - ‘New concept of weapons’
 - Diplomatic warfare
 - Economic warfare
 - Financial warfare
 - Cyber warfare
 - Media/information warfare
 - Network warfare
 - Ridicules US focus on “military-technological domain”

China in Practice

● System of Alliances

- Not like Soviets. Don't seek control. Think venture capitalist
- Look at SE Asia, SW Asia, Africa, Europe

● Seek vulnerabilities

- Financial and economic

● Goals:

- Neutralization of American Power in their sphere of influence
- Expand economic and political connections worldwide

Al Qaeda

- “Fourth Generation Wars have ... proven the superiority of the weaker power.”

Ubeid al-Qurashi Jan 2002

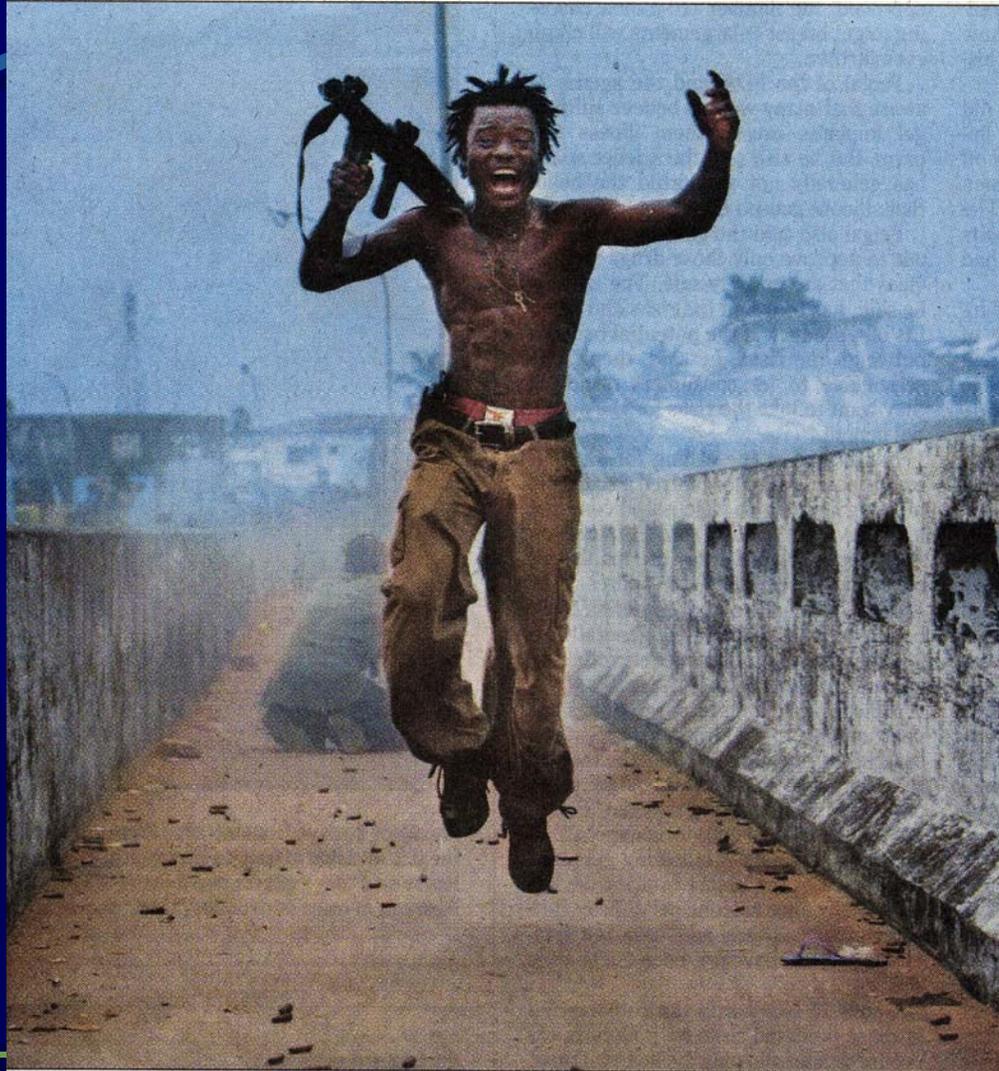
- Proto-typical non-nation state 4GW enemy
 - Transnational coalition of willing
 - Idea based
 - Global network of local insurgents
 - Strategic guidance is vertical
 - Tactical support is horizontal



Iraq

- Classic 4GW approach
 - "The war is very long, and always think of this as the beginning. And always make the enemy think that yesterday was better than today." ZARQAWI
- Tribal, ethnic and religious networks
- Network of the willing
 - Sunni Salafi, Sunni secular, Shia radicals, Free Lancers, Foreign Jihadists
- Plan to beat us

Problem has changed



BY CHRIS HONDROS—GETTY IMAGES

Liberian militia commander loyal to the government exults after firing a rocket-propelled grenade at rebel forces at a key bridge in Monrovia. At least 120 civilians have been wounded in two days of fighting.

Solutions must too

- Get rid of 1900 Personnel system
 - Hierarchical, vertical bureaucracy
 - Designed to prevent change
 - Amateurs and too many of them
- Professional development
 - 360 performance evaluation
 - Cmd select list to advisor = 1 yr prep/2 year tours
 - Majors for companies
- Cut FO/GO by 50%

Solutions must too

- Drop Network Centric Fantasy
- Interagency
 - End strength increase
 - Exchange tours and schools
 - Deployability and duration
- Change Personnel System
 - CIA and GSA have same system

Solutions must too

- Culture counts – nets are unique
 - Talk to cops
- Languages
 - Interpreters – tens of thousands
 - Grad students/1st Generation
 - Understanding
 - ROTC/Mil Acad & GO requirement

Solutions must too

- New sciences – Complexity, Network Theory, Emergence
- History
- Unit training -- must link minds
 - TDGs, Terrain Walks, Discussions, Games
 - Free Play
 - Allow mistakes
- Appropriate technology

Random Thoughts

- Rethink OODA loop
- Is Rapid good?
- Joint does not equal good
- Spend the money
- Wpns are already in US –
 - Bhopal
 - Texas City

Flexibility

- Certainty of Uncertainty
- Prediction of Unpredictability
- Deal with it
 - Get svcs and DoD to 1939
 - Generation long project

Final Disturbing Thought

- Fifth Generation is incubating now
 - Political – Post-nation state
 - Economic-Transient companies
 - Social – Transient allegiance
 - Technology - Bio tech, Nano-tech, Always on Net
- **COMING SOON TO A COMMUNITY NEAR YOU!!**

Additional Information

www.d-n-i.net

“The Sling and the Stone”

txhammes@excite.com