

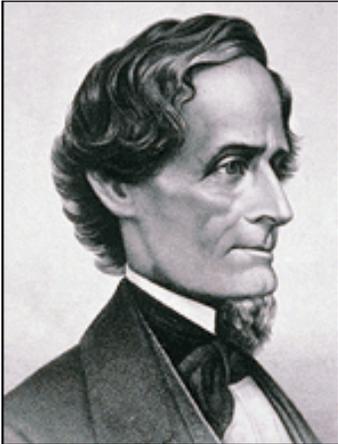
# The Civil War: An American Insurgency

Purpose: To analyze the Civil War as a Confederate insurgency against the Federal Government of the United States. The title civil war is actually a misnomer. A civil war is meant to gain control of a central government. The Confederacy wished to withdraw from the Union and establish a new nation, not take over the existing system, thus it cannot be classified as a civil war but as an insurgency.

Why: Although the Civil War occurred more than a century ago, secession is still a driving goal for insurgencies all around the globe. The danger of having a large, well developed portion of a nation secede through force of arms is still very real.

# Social Revolution Theory

- Political Opportunities: Election of Lincoln, Strong Reliance on Slavery
- Mobilization: Pre-existing Processes (state militias)
- Framing Process: Aggreviance (slavery), will to win.



## High Profile

## Inside Out



**High Profile:** The Civil War was initiated at the highest levels of state government with the decisions to secede from the Union and take Ft. Sumter. Almost overnight, there existed a second nation composed of 11 states in North America.

**Inside Out:** Although the United States had a large agrarian population base, cities were the hotbeds for the insurgency. Recruiting, propaganda distribution, and political infrastructure all originated within the cities of the Southern states.

# People's War



- Uniting Factors
  1. Vertical: Southern Nationalism, Strong ties to home states
  2. Horizontal: Some viewed war as a class struggle between the Industrial North and the Agrarian South

# Stages II and III of Insurgency

## Stage II (Guerilla Warfare)

During open hostilities, cavalry forces such as those of General Nathan Forrest were used in hit-and-run style raids, however these were a supplement to conventional forces. Partisan bands such as the infamous Moseby's Rangers also played an active role conducting irregular warfare. These forces, although effective, did not in themselves constitute a separate phase II stage of an insurgency

## Stage III (War of Movement)

With the seizing of Ft. Sumter, open hostilities began almost immediately. Because such a large portion of the US seceded, standing armies, war materials, and transportation infrastructure were readily available for Confederate use. Although branded a rebellion by Abraham Lincoln, the war was essentially a conflict between two sovereign powers.

Tactical BOS (Battlefield Operating System)

-MANEUVER-

***-The movement of forces to achieve a position of advantage with respect to enemy forces. This system includes the employment of forces on the battlefield in combination with direct fire or fire potential-***

Due to the overwhelming size of the Southern secession, large pools of weapons, manpower and supplies became readily available for Confederate use against the United States. As a result of this, both sides of the conflict engaged in a war of conventional means.

# Confederacy as a System

- External – Foreign Nations (lacking)
- Internal – Existing Process
- Inputs – Food/War Material & People
- Conversion – Military Training/Propaganda
- Output – Troops & Supplies
- Authority – Gained through battle victories
  - Note extensive use of existing structures

# So What

Today's movements:

Sri Lanka, Croatia, Kosovo, Former USSR satellite states, Palestine, Georgia.

The strength of insurgencies within succession movements will be high.

According to the US UW manual one of the five main goals of an insurgency is succession.