

The American Revolution

A successful Insurgency

Outline

The Insurgents:

- Theory – how and why
- Strategy
- Operational Template
- Tactics (BOS)
- System

The Counter-Insurgents:

- Strategy

Final Analysis and Conclusion

Theory

- State Centered Structuralist
 - Regime has different ideas than society
 - Social ties
- Social Movement
 - Political opportunity
 - Organization
 - Framing process

Strategy

- Low Profile, Outside In; Exhaustion
 - Built over time
 - Pose a political and military challenge to regime
 - 3 phases: defense, stalemate, offense
- High Profile tendencies

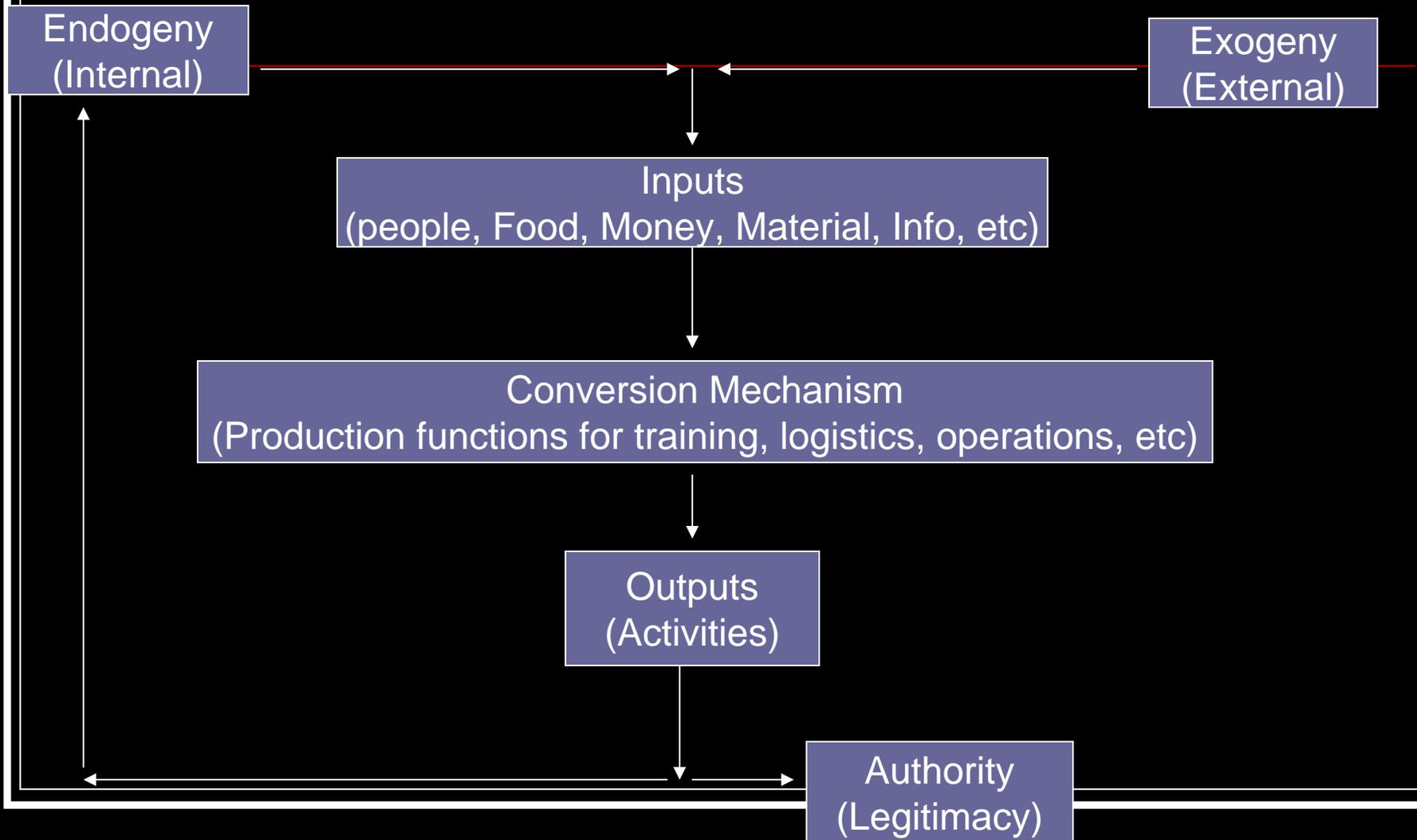
Operational Template

- Traditional and Mass oriented
 - Organization
 - Operational patterns
 - Phase 1 (preparation)
 - Phase 2 (initial contact)
 - Phase 3 (infiltration)
 - Phase 4 (equip and train)
 - Phase 5 (development)
 - Phase 6 (combat employment)
 - Phase 7 (demobilization)

Tactics (BOS)

- Intel
- Mobility, counter mobility, survivability
- Fire Support
- Maneuver
- CSS
- C2

System



COIN Strategy

- 2 Theatres – North and South
- 5 COIN Strategies
 - Reduce resources
 - Impede conversion mechanisms
 - Reduce forces
 - Reduce effectiveness of actions
 - Conduct IDAD

Analysis and Conclusion

- British
 - Miscalculated strength of Revolutionary forces
 - Original problem not addressed
 - Ongoing global operations affected capabilities
 - Turn of Tory government in Britain
- Americans
 - Never decisively engaged
 - Kept army alive, hit hard when possible
 - Disruptive to process of Americanizing the war
 - Attrited British resources
 - Gained external support
- September 3, 1783, a peace treaty was formally signed between Great Britain and the United States

7 Dynamics of an Insurgency

- 1 – Leadership
- 2 – Ideology
- 3 – Objectives
- 4- Environment and Geography
- 5 – External Support
- 6 – Phasing and Timing
- 7 – Operational and organizational patterns

Sources

- <http://www.multied.com/revolt/>
- www.revolutionary-war.info
- Internal existing psychological resources