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Editor

Douglas Hernández

Triarius Analysts

Guadi Calvo, Juan Pablo Pardo
Retortillo, Douglas Hernández.

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Contact information:

Douglas Hernández
Medellín Colombia
Mobile: (+57) 321-6435103
director@fuerzasmilitares.org
hernandez.douglas@hotmail.com



EDITORIAL

From TRIARIUS we send an affectionate greeting to our readers, as well as our solidarity, hoping that everyone comes out of the health crisis facing the world well. Regarding this, our first article is an analysis where the problem of COVID-19 is approached from different angles. I wish other people from different countries would be encouraged to write on the subject, in order to have different points of view.

Next, our Argentine analyst Guadi Calvo presents us with an analysis referring to the progressive withdrawal of US troops present in Iraq, and the political and strategic issues surrounding said withdrawal. Moving on to Burma, where serious clashes are taking place between the Armed Forces and multiple insurgent groups, in a tense and complicated situation that in the West is not reported by the news.

The following article is from our Spanish collaborator, Juan Pablo Pardo Retortillo -active naval officer- who sheds light on how a war economy should work, based on examples from history. Given the current situation in the different countries, it seems to me that in practice we are observing the application of some measures of this type. The war is against the coronavirus.

The senior analyst, Guadi Calvo, returns with a report on the latest activities of the terrorist group Boko Haram in Nigeria. Highlighting the ineffectiveness of the combined security forces of several countries. Closing this edition with an analysis of the possibilities open to the terrorist group Deash in India, due to the repression to which Narendra Modi subjects Muslims in that country.

Our best wishes to all our readers. We hope to be a good reading option in these quarantine times. Why not dare to write something now that there is time?

Know to win!

Douglas Hernández

Editor



This newsletter has a Spanish version.

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TRIARIUS

We have been monitoring the world situation for many years, attentive to emerging threats, and to everything that could endanger international security. The governments of the different countries have spent billions of dollars acquiring weapons and equipment, to equip their armies with the most modern. Fighter planes, armed drones, bombers, tanks and all kinds of armored vehicles, ships and submarines, surveillance satellites, communications satellites, positioning satellites, rifles, machine guns and mortars, cannons and missiles, nuclear weapons. We have reached a point where there are aircraft carriers whose offensive capacity would allow them to single-handedly subdue the conventional military forces of most countries in the world, and there are also submarines capable of devastating the world in a massive launch of nuclear missiles. None of that works against a virus like SARS-CoV-2, everything has to be rethought.

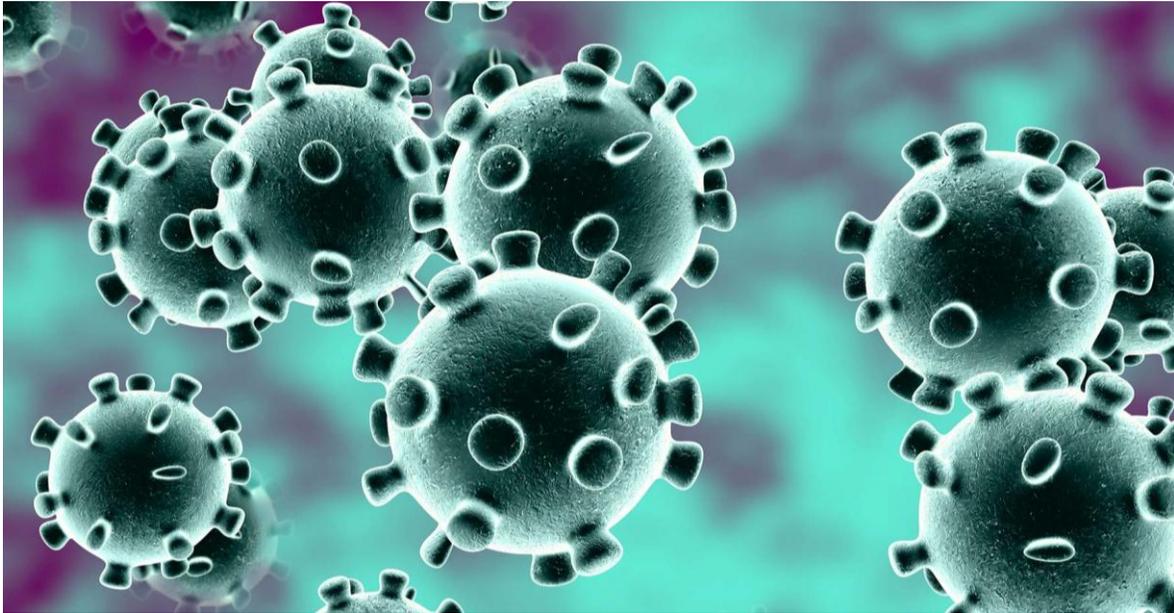
On the cover, **Russian personnel, equipped for war NBC.**
See more information at the end of the magazine.

TRIARIUS privileges freedom of expression, however, the responsibility for what is said in the articles is exclusive to their authors.

Very special thanks to the international analysts who have sent us their articles for this issue free of charge.

Reflections on the new Coronavirus

By Douglas Hernandez (Colombia)



Multiple conspiracy theories have emerged around the current pandemic generated by the SARS-CoV-2 virus, which produces the disease called COVID-19. There are those who claim that it comes from the Pangolin and/or the Bat, "exotic" animals that are consumed in Asia, and in particular in China. In other words, it would be a disease that jumped between species, as has recently happened with others, such as bird flu or swine flu. It would then be "bad luck", because eating a bat or a pangolin is for these people as normal as eating a chicken or a cow, we cannot judge these cultural matters, without falling into an absurdity. However, there are those who claim that it is nature's revenge for the damage we do to it, revenge that we also deserve.

Others assure that the disease caused by COVID-19 is a simple "little flu" ¹and that politicians, scientists, and the media generated a collective psychosis/panic. What the medical industry is taking advantage of to "make a killing". Another, more gruesome theory is derived from this theory: there are those who believe that the virus was created and released by the medical/pharmaceutical industry to, in a first stage, sell medical supplies, and later profit from the vaccine, which they had ready from the start. beginning.

From the previous theory there is "the Chinese variant". In other words, the Chinese government plotted with its medical industry, created the virus and released it in order to enrich itself through the sale of medical supplies, but at the same time to facilitate the purchase of many companies around the world, whose Stocks fell due to the pandemic. Once the situation is restored, the shares will rise again and China would be the big winner.

There are other people who point out that COVID-19 is a Chinese strategy to dominate the world. It would be the final and absolute victory of communism. But, on the other hand, there are those who claim that it is a conspiracy of capitalism, which has created a selective epidemic to kill the old, who constitute a "burden" for capitalist society, having already passed their "expiration date". and not be productive, but at the same time the future labor force is preserved: the children. When it comes to conspiracy theories, other variants are emerging when observing that in New York the pandemic seems to be affecting the African-American population group more.

There are those who see in the phenomenon the hand of God, who would be punishing us for promoting abortion. This theory of the supernatural is based precisely on the fact that children seem to be the least vulnerable age group to be infected. They then conclude that God protects children. Apocalyptic visions tell us that this is indeed the end of time. Speaking of which, and taking into account that the Mayans supposedly predicted the end for the year 2012, some dare to affirm that the carver suffered from a bit of dyslexia and instead of putting 2021, he put 2012.

Those who review history and see in it cycles that repeat themselves over and over again, have observed that something horrible always happens in the twenties of every century.

¹<https://www.telesurtv.net/news/rouseff-criticizes-statements-bolsonaro-20200326-0019.html>

We can also read other conspiracy theorists on social networks, who claim that everything is a social experiment, to dominate society through fear. I imagine that this is based on the fact that the virus appeared just when the entire world was convulsed by massive social protests. Everywhere, regardless of the political color of the governments, we saw mobilized peoples, and suddenly... boom!, a disease arises that forces us to be separated, quiet, in quarantine, while the security forces take control of streets. In such a complex and delicate situation, that whoever opposes, speaks against government measures, or goes out to protest, would be considered crazy or criminal, and in both cases will be "contained", while everyone else will applaud the repressive actions "for the general good".

Complementing the above is the possibility of using fear to control future dissent. In other words, when a society presents high levels of tension, or governments have acceptance or popularity problems, there can always be a re-outbreak of Coronavirus, forcing everyone to return home and enter quarantine.

All these theories, some of which may sound crazy, and others much more grounded and even feasible, are based on certain signs and things that have been happening and make it seem that there could be something else behind it. We are going to try a brief review of some facts and their possible connections, in order to get an idea of what is happening and what is to come.

What are we up against

There is no single coronavirus. It is a complete family of viruses, to which a new member is added from time to time, as is the case with the most recently discovered, and which causes the infectious disease COVID-19. This disease and the virus that causes it were unknown to scientists before the outbreak that broke out in Wuhan, China, in December 2019, and which, due to its spread and characteristics, the World Health Organization (WHO) described as a global pandemic. March 11, 2020 ².

There is a similarity between the current COVID-19 disease and the disease called ³Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, SARS, which first appeared in November 2002 in Canton province, China. . But they are not the same, both are caused by viruses, both from the same coronavirus family, but not by the same virus. It is worth noting that SARS is more lethal than COVID-19, but COVID-19 is more infectious, that is, it spreads faster. SARS disease is caused by the virus that was called SARS-CoV, while the virus that causes COVID-19 is called SARS-CoV-2.

The incubation period of SARS-CoV-2, that is, the time that passes between the moment of being infected, until the appearance of the first symptoms of the COVID-19 disease, is between 1 and 14 days. Being the average of five days ⁴.

Among the most common symptoms of COVID-19 we find fever, tiredness and dry cough. However, it has been observed that some patients may have some additional symptoms such as diarrhoea, sore throat, nasal congestion, pain, and/or runny nose.

Symptoms come on gradually and are usually mild. According to the WHO, about 80% of people who become infected recover without any treatment being necessary. It fundamentally depends on age, physical condition, and state of health when contracting COVID-19. According to the observations made, those who have a higher risk of getting sick are the elderly, and those who have other pre-existing diseases, such as diabetes, heart problems and hypertension. About one in five people who become infected develop severe illness and have difficulty breathing. According to the world average, around 6.2% of patients have died.

It has been verified that the disease spreads through microscopic droplets of saliva or mucus that are expelled when an infected person exhales, coughs or sneezes. This way it can pass from person to person. However, these droplets can fall on objects such as bus handrails, subways, tables, pencils, or anything else, then a healthy person who touches those objects while the virus is still alive, and then touches his eyes, nose or mouth, will be infected. This is the reason why people are asked to keep their distance from other people and avoid crowds, wear face masks, wash their hands frequently, use disinfectant gel, and avoid touching their faces. It is worth noting that depending on the surface in question, the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus that causes COVID-19 can survive from a few hours to several days.

As already mentioned, the symptoms of COVID-19 are usually mild, especially in young adults, children, and generally healthy people, but obviously there are people who get sick and present a serious picture (including the aforementioned population), it has been determined that about one in five infected may require hospitalization.

In the preceding paragraph is the essence of the problem. On the one hand, the mild symptoms cause many people to contract and overcome the disease without even realizing it, however, in the process they were infecting many of the people around them. On the other hand, a high number of infections makes it statistically likely that among those infected there will be high-risk people who will need hospitalization. In a crude exercise, but which serves to exemplify, suppose that, in a city of ten million inhabitants, half are infected, and that one

²<https://elpais.com/sociedad/2020-03-11/la-oms-declara-el-brote-de-coronavirus-pandemia-global.html>

³<https://www.cdc.gov/sars/about/fs-sars-sp.html>

⁴<https://elmedicointeractivo.com/el-periodo-de-incubacion-de-covid-19-se-situa-en-51-dias/>

million of them develop severe symptoms that require hospitalization. Obviously, no city in the world has hospital beds for 10% of its population, much less so many intensive care units. Remember that the COVID-19 disease fundamentally causes respiratory problems that require the patient to be admitted to an Intensive Care Unit, with the presence of respirators.

As there is no healthcare infrastructure to meet such a high demand, many of those infected will die even though they could have been saved just by having the respirator available. It is happening in many places that doctors have had to triage patients who arrive at the medical center, and have had to decide who will live and who will die, since there are not enough respirators for everyone ⁵.

It is worth noting that antibiotics work against bacterial infections, viruses and bacteria are two different things, and COVID-19 is caused by a virus, therefore, antibiotics are ineffective in preventing or curing the disease. At this time there is no vaccine and no cure. However, some medicines can relieve symptoms and make convalescence more bearable in less seriously ill patients. The WHO even accepts some traditional or home remedies. Rejecting self-medication with commercial products.

So, with no vaccine, medicine, or specific treatment for the disease called COVID-19, caused by the most recent coronavirus that has been discovered, health care is based solely on symptom relief. Which can be done at home with people with mild or moderate symptoms. For cases that require hospitalization, the person is given supportive measures, mainly by respirator.

Different countries are advancing in the development of a vaccine and different specific pharmacological treatments for COVID-19. Cuba has tried a drug called *Interferon Alfa 2B* ⁶, with good results.

Humanity is better prepared than ever before to face a pandemic, not only in terms of medical knowledge, but also in relation to health infrastructure, international cooperation, and mass communication. However, the fundamental danger -as already mentioned- is the rapid spread of this virus, which overwhelms the care capacity of health systems in different countries.

In epidemiological terms, emergency care goes through several stages ⁷, the first being prevention, the second containment, and the third mitigation. Basically, there is prevention when no case has been reported, and then useful information is disseminated to prevent contagion, and measures are taken at points of access to the country to prevent/control the entry of infected people. It is in the containment phase, when the first cases are detected, the chain of infections is sought to be established and those infected are preventively isolated. It is in the mitigation phase when it is established that there is a significant number of infections on which it is not possible to establish the chain, at this point more severe measures are taken, such as quarantine and curfews, to prevent a phase extreme that is the generalization, where everything gets out of control.

Some notes for analysis

Below, I list some issues that I consider of interest, and that should be taken into account for further analysis on the subject:

1. The first people who were infected with the SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus were detected in Wuhan, a Chinese city with eleven million inhabitants ⁸. However, it has not been determined exactly how they became infected, that is, how it passed from animals to people. It is important to find the source of the infection, otherwise it can eventually start all over again.
2. The incubation period is between 1 and 14 days.
3. The main symptoms are fever, dry cough, and feeling tired.
4. From Wuhan, the spread around the world began, through people who traveled to other countries, in particular using international flights.
5. Taking into account that the poor are the majority of the world's population, and they do not usually travel, much less by plane, it can be stated categorically that people in better economic conditions brought the SARS-CoV-2 virus to different countries, helping to infect the poorest majority.
6. These people in better economic conditions have access to high-level medical care in private clinics, with better treatments and drugs. Not so for the general population.
7. When it is established that the most effective thing to stop the chain of infections is quarantine, the population is asked to take advantage of a mandatory quarantine, which in some cases has the character of a curfew, under threat of death. For the wealthy people who initially brought the virus to the countries, cloistering themselves in their mansions with all the comforts, food supply and even servants, should not be a major problem. The majority of poor people face a crossroads: if you go out to work, the coronavirus kills you, and if you don't go out, you die of hunger.

⁵https://www.elespanol.com/mundo/20200313/dilema-medicos-italianos-eligir-paciente-muere-coronavirus/474452837_0.html

⁶<https://mundo.sputniknews.com/america-latina/202003271090931978-mas-de-45-naciones-solicitan-a-cuba-el-medicamento-interferon-alfa-2b-contra-el-covid-19/>

⁷<https://www.redaccionmedica.com/secciones/ministerio-sanidad/contencion-mitigacion-y-generalizada-los-3-escenarios-para-el-coronavirus-8490>

⁸https://elpais.com/elpais/2020/04/08/album/1586352755_916895.html#foto_gal_2

8. Governments must take measures to deal with the situation described above. Teleworking has been proposed for all possible cases, and companies of all types and sizes have been asked to allow their employees to go into quarantine, except in cases of force majeure. Committing governments to continue providing essential services. Supermarkets and pharmacies are allowed to remain open.
9. Shifts have been established to be able to go out to stock up or carry out certain procedures (banking or notary), according to identification number, gender, and other considerations, which seek to avoid crowds of people.
10. Those who live from what they produce day by day, must be helped. We are talking about taxi drivers, hairdressers, street vendors, peddlers, shopkeepers, beggars, messengers, delivery men, painters, welders, masons, artisans, plumbers, prostitutes, among many others. Help plans are then drawn up, which obviously will never be completely efficient.
11. Countries enter a kind of war economy, creating multiple disorders, whose consequences remain to be seen.
12. If European countries have had serious difficulties in dealing with the number of patients, seeing their health systems collapse, the level of tragedy that could occur for the poorest countries can be inferred.
13. The World Health Organization has assumed a leading role, as expected when dealing with a matter of global interest and such urgency.
14. The virus has reached all regions and countries. Where there are no "confirmed cases" it is because the corresponding tests have not been done. Either due to government negligence, or due to economic or technical incapacity, or because wars and conflicts are taking place in the country.
15. The global average fatality rate is around 6.2%.
16. In South Korea they report cases in which people who had recovered have become ill again ⁹. Although it is not clear if what happened was that the disease was reactivated, or if they were infected again. The first means that anyone who has been infected is in itself a "time bomb" for society, which can become a vector of spread at any time, and the second that contrary to what is usual, people do not they would be developing antibodies, and therefore their vulnerability to the disease would be permanent.
17. The need to carry out mandatory quarantines has implied the closure of companies and businesses, which will cause significant economic losses. Presumably, when the pandemic is overcome, an economic crisis will ensue in many countries, where each one will demonstrate its resilience.

The figures of the pandemic

We observe the Secretary General of the UN, António Guterres, making emotional but firm statements, in which he calls for global solidarity. In particular, he called for a global ceasefire ¹⁰, to face the common enemy together: the virus. But the wars and conflicts do not stop. The UN also calls for the lifting of sanctions ¹¹ against countries such as Iran, Venezuela or Cuba, in order to facilitate their fight against the pandemic, but instead of taking this humanitarian request into account, the United States intensifies with more sanctions and threats. . This could be considered a crime against humanity.

Curiously, while Washington's actions worsen the crisis in the aforementioned countries and make their fight against the SARS-CoV-2 virus more difficult, at the same time and due to the incompetence of the Donald Trump government in internally handling the threat, his country has become -at the time of writing these lines- the one that reports the most cases of those infected by the virus, and the one that registers the most deaths from the same cause. This and other errors of his administration have made the famous Washington Post newspaper describe Donald Trump as the worst American president of all time ¹². On April 12, he was forced by the weight of the facts to declare, for the first time in history, the 50 states of the union in a situation of major disaster ¹³. Analysts agree that such a disaster could have been avoided, and are confident that voters will take it into account in the November presidential election in which Donald Trump is running for re-election.

Reviewing the figures offered by the Website [awebanalysis.com](https://www.awebanalysis.com) in its real-time interactive map ¹⁴ on COVID-19, to date (APR 12, 2019), a global X-ray of the problem can be obtained. The figures are surprising: worldwide at the moment there are 1,846,833 cases, 113,883 people have died, which gives an overall fatality rate of 6.2%. 421,876 people have recovered (22.84%), leaving 1,311,074 active cases. Every day more cases are added and there are more deaths.

⁹<https://www.lavoz.com.ar/mundo/korea-del-sur-confirma-111-reinfectados-por-coronavirus>

¹⁰<https://news.un.org/en/story/2020/04/1472342>

¹¹<https://www.hchr.org.co/index.php/informacion-publica/comunicados-de-prensa/comunicados-del-alto-comisionado-en-el-mundo/9198-covid-19-se-deben-lift-economic-sanctions-to-prevent-hunger-crises-un-expert>

¹²<https://www.washingtonpost.com/en/post-opinion/2020/04/08/the-worst-american-president-of-all-time/>

¹³<https://www.msn.com/es-us/noticias/coronavirus/coronavirus-forces-trump-to-declare-the-50-states-in-disaster-for-the-first-time-in-the-story/ar-BB12w1Oo>

¹⁴<https://awebanalysis.com/es/coronavirus-world-cases/>

Statistics by country in relation to COVID-19

#	Country	cases	Deaths	Lethality	recovered	Deaths x Million
one	U.S.	557,071	21,952	3.94%	5.63%	61.18
two	Spain	166,127	17,113	10.30%	37.56%	368.83
3	Italy	156,363	19,899	12.73%	21.88%	335.62
4	France	132,591	14,393	10.86%	20.50%	220.64
5	Germany	127,459	2,996	2.35%	47.31%	36.41
6	United Kingdom	84,279	10,612	12.59%	0.41%	159.40
7	China	82,052	3,339	4.07%	94.54%	2.36
8	Iran	71,686	4,474	6.24%	61.23%	54.55
9	Turkey	56,956	1,198	2.10%	6.05%	14.62
10	Belgium	29,647	3,600	12.14%	21.80%	313.08
14	Brazil	22,169	1,223	5.52%	0.78%	5.80
16	Russia	15,770	130	0.82%	8.19%	0.9
22	India	9,205	331	3.60%	11.73%	0.24
26	Japan	6,748	108	1.60%	11.29%	0.85
47	Colombia	2,709	100	3.69%	7.90%	2.02
51	South Africa	2,173	25	1.15%	18.87%	0.44
117	Venezuela	175	9	5.14%	53.14%	0.28
208	Yemen	one	-	-	-	-

Elaborated from awebanalysis.com on 12APR2020 at 16:30

The world's leading economies in order of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) are: United States, China, Japan, Germany, India, United Kingdom, France, Italy, Brazil, Canada, South Korea, Russia, and Spain. Most of them are leading the list by number of COVID-19 infections. This is perhaps explained by the greater purchasing power of its population, which allows them to travel frequently, and greater internal mobility. While, on the contrary, in the poorest and most difficult countries, not only does the general population not travel, but they also receive very few tourists.

The list of awebanalysis.com and that we have partially represented in the table above, has 208 records, however, the second half of the database has incomplete information due to multiple circumstances. For example, the last on the list is Yemen, a country that is currently in a terrible war, facing an invasion by Saudi Arabia that is carrying out a genocide in the face of the complicit silence of "the international community." Obviously, the health system there must not be working well, nor will there be much tourism. The official figures do not have to be the best.

No country has been spared the virus, and all have struggled to contain the threat. At the time of this writing, the United States is the worst off. While China, which was under a lot of pressure as the place where the outbreak began, has a recovery rate of patients close to 95%.

Making a balance on how the different political, economic or military alliances have fared, it seems that the European Union / NATO has had the worst part, while the BRICS (an alliance formed by Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) present low rates of infections and deaths, compared to the United States - European Union - NATO. For example, the sum of infections of the BRICS is 131,369, and the number of deaths to date is 5,048, we are talking about the sum of five very important countries, four of them are among the 10 most populous in the world, and the total sum of its statistics around COVID-19 is only slightly higher than those presented by Germany, and they are lower than those presented individually by France, Italy, Spain, or the United States.

Statistics by country in relation to COVID-19

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one	U.S.	557,071	21,952	3.94%	5.63%	61.18
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4	France	132,591	14,393	10.86%	20.50%	220.64
	BRICS	131,369	5,048	3.03%	26.82%	9.74
5	Germany	127,459	2,996	2.35%	47.31%	36.41
6	United Kingdom	84,279	10,612	12.59%	0.41%	159.40
7	China	82,052	3,339	4.07%	94.54%	2.36

Elaborated from awebanalysis.com on 12APR2020 at 16:30

The table above makes it obvious that the United States as a country and the European Union as an alliance have borne the brunt, subsequently NATO as a military alliance that groups the United States with countries of the European Union. In short, Western powers are among the 10 countries with the highest number of infections and deaths. China is also there, but with favorable figures in terms of patients who have recovered and in general seems to have control of the crisis. Until now, it is the BRICS that have the least bad figures, and possibly they can recover more easily from the economic crisis that will come after the pandemic.

Other Matters of Interest

The question that anyone could ask themselves to try to understand the origin and development of the pandemic is, without a doubt, who will benefit? A subsequent, or post-pandemic, analysis must consider different dimensions and levels, something like:

Dimensions	Level of Benefit with the Pandemic			
	Much	Little bit	Any	harmed
Social	Country A	Country B	Country C, Country D	Country E
Economic				
Politics				
Geopolitics				
Geostrategic				
Military				
Others				

For the moment we can venture some preliminary analyses, which should be revised later.

Politically and geopolitically, a big loser so far is the United States, its government has been inefficient in dealing with the internal emergency, endangering the lives of millions, thereby compromising Donald Trump's chances of re-election. But that administration also showed little interest in lending a hand to its allies, even the closest ones. The sin is not only by omission, but also by action: for example, Trump ordered the 3M company to stop its exports of N95 masks and surgical gloves ¹⁵, their main destinations being Canada and Latin America. This undoubtedly creates a serious fissure, at least with the Trump administration. It is possible that things will be put back together with a new government.

The United States is also at this time the great loser in the social field, presenting the most critical statistics. As already mentioned, millions of lives are at stake as the pandemic has spread across states. This country right now has the highest number of cases and also the highest number of deaths.

In the military, there is a quite notorious situation and it is the spread of the virus in the USS Theodore Roosevelt aircraft carrier ¹⁶of the United States Navy, putting it practically out of action. But this case crosses over into a political issue, as its captain, Brett Crozier, was removed from command. The officer announced to his superiors that the disease was present on the ship and made several requests for help and proposed courses of action to protect the personnel, but he was not listened to, and the information was finally leaked to the media, resulting in his dismissal. His call to action is striking, claiming that his men did not have to die since they were not at war. Crozier's dismissal left the current United States government in a very bad light, which did not prioritize the well-being of the crew and severely sanctioned those who did. Upon disembarking Captain Brett Crozier from his ship, he was applauded by his crew, who recognized him as a true leader, victim of injustice.

In this way we see how a microscopic virus sent to the port one of the most powerful war machines in the world, whose embarked wing - between planes, helicopters and drones - is more powerful than most of the world's Air Forces. But it was not the only case, there were also infections in the French aircraft carrier Charles de Gaulle ¹⁷, also taking it out of service. It is worth noting that it is certain that these ships carry nuclear weapons in the form of aircraft bombs and cruise missiles, that is to say that by themselves they could pulverize entire countries. Here is an example of asymmetric warfare: not every country has nuclear weapons, but any country is capable of producing, storing and disseminating an infectious disease (taking care to first have enough vaccine for its own population/troops) , and thereby neutralize the conventional power of his adversary.

Politically and geopolitically, another big loser is the European Union. We have seen how internal divisions have arisen, and cases in which a country has made determinations for its individual benefit to the detriment of

¹⁵<https://www.biobiochile.cl/noticias/internacional/eeuu/2020/04/04/trump-prohibe-a-3m-seguir-exportando-mascarillas-y-guantes-medicos-a-latinoamerica-y-canada.shtml>

¹⁶<https://www.bbc.com/world/noticias-internacional-52157730>

¹⁷<https://www.elmundo.es/internacional/2020/04/10/5e90a08f21efa042718b465b.html>

other members of the Union. A publication that appeared on April 4 on Twitter is emblematic, whose author is someone who identifies himself as *El Malacitano*¹⁸, which says:

“The US steals masks from Italy
France withholds masks from Spain and Italy
Poland and Czech Republic steal masks from Italy
Turkey steals respirators from Spain
The US steals masks from Germany
This is NATO”

It is obvious that the European Union will emerge politically weakened in its internal cohesion, which will lead to economic weakening. Consequently, NATO will also be weakened as a military alliance that depends on the political will of its European and American members, now with resentments among themselves.

So far the big winners in politics and geopolitics are China, Russia and Cuba. While the United States government does not help anyone - some will say not even its own citizens - every day it is announced by the press that China and Russia have sent tons of equipment, supplies and medicines, as well as health personnel and scientists, in the latter the Republic of Cuba has stood out with its *Henry Reeve Brigade*¹⁹ or formally *the International Contingent of Doctors Specialized in Disaster Situations and Serious Epidemics*, which are currently present in multiple countries. Cuba announces that it still has a large army of doctors at the disposal of the world. Italy is an emblematic case. In the region with the greatest presence of COVID-19, which would be Lombardy, a contingent of Cuban doctors and specialists from the Henry Reeve Brigade works, we would say that they are "in the lion's den" of their own free will. This will remain imprinted in the minds of Italians, and will surely be reflected in diplomatic and economic relations in the future, this being a gain for Cuba -especially considering that a similar situation occurs in other countries, where they are also gaining the minds and hearts of the population. But even more striking is to see columns of Russian military trucks²⁰ on the roads of Italy, transporting contingents of doctors and epidemiologists, as well as materials and equipment, sent by the Kremlin to the aid of Italy. Something unthinkable a few years ago. The Russians are supposed to be the enemy for the NATO countries.

A video that circulated on social networks at the end of March is revealing of the current feelings among Italians, and shows a possible future. There an Italian citizen is seen removing the flag of the European Union from its place next to the flag of Italy, and replacing it with the flag of Russia²¹. Although there is a fracture within the European Union/NATO, to speak of a future scenario in which the alliances in that region are reconfigured is unlikely, but not impossible. At least it is foreseeable that, for example, the sanctions that the European Union currently applies to Russia on the issue of the annexation of Crimea will be relaxed or lifted²², and that diplomatic relations and cooperation with Russia will be improved, but also with China. and with Cuba.

Speaking of sanctions, it is important to emphasize that the UN has asked the United States to lift sanctions²³ on countries such as Iran, Cuba, North Korea and Venezuela, to allow them to face the pandemic, but instead of giving in, the United States government threatens with imposing new sanctions or taking violent action. Which can be read as an attack on human rights, and even a genocide.

It is worth noting that the United States has imposed a whole range of sanctions on different countries, outside the UN framework, which is understood to be unilateral, abusive, and serving Washington's particular interests and not international law. By the way, the Russian government has asked in the assembly to lift all sanctions on developing countries, imposed outside the UN, in order to allow them to face the very serious threat of the pandemic²⁴. This is hardly logical, if the main economic powers are having serious difficulties in dealing with this crisis, we can imagine that for developing countries the situation will be more complex even under normal conditions, but with sanctions on their backs closing all options, it will be tragic. Here, too, Russia plays its chips very well, unlike the clumsy, counterproductive, and even cruel actions of Donald Trump.

But when it comes to cruelty, we cannot fail to mention Rodrigo Duterte, the bloodthirsty President of the Philippines. Who in his bloody fight against drug traffickers has authorized extrajudicial executions, without the Western press seeing the matter as something picturesque (and secretly desirable). Now, in the face of the complicit silence of the "international community" that has not put a stop to the violation of human rights and its uncivilized way of proceeding, it has taken another step. Alleging that sectors of the left are instigating the social protest, he has ordered those who do not comply with the strict quarantine to stop the coronavirus to be killed

¹⁸https://twitter.com/El_Malacitano/status/1246377830801461248

¹⁹<https://www.telesurtv.net/news/cuba-brigadas-medicas-mundo-combate-coronavirus-20200413-0003.html>

²⁰<https://mundo.sputniknews.com/video/202003251090905391-a-helping-hand-russian-military-circulan-through-the-streets-of-italy-hit-by-the-coronavirus/>

²¹<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=h6cL0CIU72I>

²²<https://www.consilium.europa.eu/en/policies/sanctions/ukraine-crisis/>

²³<https://www.hispantv.com/noticias/politica/462781/ono-levantar-sanciones-eeuu-coronavirus>

²⁴<https://world.sputniknews.com/russia/202004101091066657-russia-calls-for-lifting-sanctions-on-developing-countries-imposed-outside-the-un/>

on site. The issue is that people are locked in their homes with empty refrigerators and no way to earn a living, while the promised economic aid from the government is delayed ²⁵.

In the Western press no one calls Duterte a dictator, no one mentions these excesses with a critical spirit, no one seriously denounces, no one contemptuously calls his government a "regime", after all, deep down he is a "good boy", functional to the western interests. In addition, there is a danger that he will change sides ²⁶, it is better to leave him alone. Duterte has made it clear that he is in charge in the Philippines and does not accept being criticized. Surely in the end the same thing will happen to him as other "good guys", who ruled with a heavy hand and oppressed their people, but once they have fulfilled their role, they have been betrayed, discarded, and thrown to the lions.

The pandemic has allowed many authoritarian governments to impose measures that are epidemiologically fully justified, such as quarantine. That comes as a glove to control society and keep it subdued. So there is another pandemic that is affecting democracy ²⁷.

Human nature is complex. We have shown that many actors -of different hair- have tried to take advantage of this crisis for their particular benefit. We talk about blocs, countries, regions, parties, and people. The lack of solidarity has been a constant, even among those who were great friends a few months ago. There are governments that intensify their repressive measures such as Duterte in the Philippines or Modi in India, others that take the opportunity to steal more than usual, as in Colombia ²⁸, but ordinary people also abused mercilessly, merchants raised prices of alcohol, antibacterial gel, face masks ²⁹and basic food. This is what capitalism teaches. "The invisible hand of the market" was working there, how can we claim them if the desire for profit and individualism is what they instill in us in the West every day of the year?

What comes, remains to be seen. The consequences are unpredictable, and what we have done here is just scratch the surface and digress a bit. There are already governments - like the Colombian one - asking for billionaire loans ³⁰that will indebt future generations, and that will surely be lost in multiple acts of corruption.

Eventually it will be necessary to do a retrospective review, list the lessons learned, and determine what things we must change to face similar threats in the future.

Meanwhile, dozens of biotech labs around the world are racing against time to develop a vaccine. Those who succeed will win billions, and unusual power. How much would you be willing to pay to get vaccinated and your family?

We cannot close these reflections without mentioning the issue of terrorism. What if it was them? What if they take ideas for the future from all this?

"Who controls the fear of people, becomes the master of their souls"
Machiavelli

Douglas Hernandez

(Colombia) Founder and director of the website [www. Fuerzasmilitares.org](http://www.Fuerzasmilitares.org), he works as a journalist specializing in security and defense. He is a contributor to the *Air and Space Power Journal* -the institutional magazine of the USAF, now called *the US Air Force Professional Magazine, American Continent-*, and to the Brazilian magazine *Segurança & Defesa*. He is a Sociologist and Master in Education from the University of Antioquia (Medellín, Colombia), a PhD student. He has a Diploma in International Relations.

²⁵<https://elpais.com/internacional/2020-04-02/duterte-ordena-disparar-contra-quien-viole-la-cuarentena.html>

²⁶https://elpais.com/internacional/2020/02/16/actualidad/1581881434_307602.html

²⁷https://elpais.com/elpais/2020/04/04/opinion/1586004396_580374.html

²⁸<https://www.elheraldo.co/columnas-de-opinion/humberto-mendieta/atun-20-mil-la-lata-716448>

²⁹<https://www.pulzo.com/economia/triplica-precio-tapabocas-colombia-PP857293>

³⁰<https://www.semana.com/nacion/articulo/coronavirus-en-colombia-colombia-pide-al-fmi-credito-de-usd-11000-millones-por-covid-19/662163>



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Iraq: In the shadow of the martyr

By Guadi Calvo (Argentina)



Following the assassinations of Iranian General Qassem Soleimani, commander of the elite al-Quds force of the Islamic Revolutionary Guards of Iran, along with the leader of al-Hashd Al-Sha'abi (Popular Mobilization Units) Abu Mahdi al-Muhandis, in an attack with drones on January 3 at the Baghdad airport, (See: Qassem Suleimani, who will stop death?), the US forces installed in Iraq since 2003 have raised their alert levels to the maximum.

We will never know what the final assessment has been, by the Pentagon, of having taken the decision to assassinate two of the most charismatic leaders of the Shiite world, thus deepening the well-earned hatred of those peoples for the United States and its allies, while the consequences of that operation are still in full swing.

The attacks on various US bases in Iraqi territory, the effects of which are practically a state secret for Washington, together with the execution of the person who was apparently the leader of the operation on January 3, CIA agent Mike D' Andrea, head of the Agency's anti-Iranian department, (See: Soleimani, a dark day of justice.) plus the constant actions against the occupation troops, means that these troops must maintain their alertness at the highest level.

Soleimani's assassination also prompted the Iraqi government to order the closure of its airspace to US military flights, and to demand the withdrawal from the country of foreign troops that have been present since

2003. Despite Baghdad's claim, voted unanimously by the parliament, the Coalition led by the United States restarted its operations at the end of January and even accompanied by local security forces, while nothing has been done about the request for the withdrawal of the 5,200 US soldiers who remain in Iraqi territory. Washington has only said it will close some of the smaller bases. Although the gesture tries to be disguised, as a tactical withdrawal since, according to the coalition spokesman, this fact occurs: "Following the successes achieved by the Iraqi security forces in their fight against Daesh, the coalition is repositioning the troops from some small bases" (al-Qaim, Qayyarah and the K-1 near the city of Kirkuk). Clarifying that these bases will return to the control of the local security forces, while Washington will continue advising on the counterinsurgency war. Finally, the last layer of makeup was given with an unverifiable: "The American troop reassignment plan had been decided months ago and does not have its roots in the recent attacks." While the consular activities of the United States have been reduced to a minimum.

On Wednesday the eleventh, a rocket attack on Camp al-Tayi north of Baghdad killed several US and British soldiers, while fourteen other men from the US-led coalition were wounded, five of them in serious condition, among them is a Polish soldier and a "contractor" (mercenary) of Iraqi nationality. This

latest attack was the 23rd recorded against coalition units since last October. Just a few days later, on Saturday fourteen, thirty-three missiles were launched against the same base and in broad daylight, the attack was claimed by an Iraqi group called Osbat al-Saerin (Group of the Avengers). Camp al-Tayi houses coalition personnel belonging to the Combined Joint Task Force, in charge of Operation Resolution, designed to hunt down Daesh elements. In the place where the truck where the launcher was installed, another twenty-four missiles were found in conditions to be used. Members of the security forces at a nearby checkpoint were detained for questioning. At the same time, the North American command has justified not having detected the launcher bases due to the fog that affected the area in those days.

The fourteenth day attack sealed a critical week for the US military stationed in Iraq. Two Marines were killed in one of the most intense clashes the coalition has had in recent months. The action was fought in the mountainous region of Makhmour in Iraqi Kurdistan, with a commando belonging to Daesh, which, according to Washington, would have lost some twenty men.

After the attacks on Camp al-Tayi, the US air force carried out several incursions against bases of the al-Hashd al-Sha'abi militia, (Popular Mobilization Units), presumably linked to the Kata'ib Hezbollah (Hezbollah Brigades).

The commanding general of the United States Central Command, Kenneth F. McKenzie, explained that the attacks "were designed to destroy advanced conventional weapons such as the 107mm rockets that were used in Wednesday's attack, presumably supplied by Iran, and that the United States The United States acted in self-defense in response to a direct and deliberate attack on an Iraqi base housing coalition members." In a statement on Friday, Baghdad condemned the air raids, saying that at least five members of the Iraqi security forces were killed or wounded in the attacks.

A future on alert

The participation of the United States in the conflict -generated by themselves- is being strongly questioned by a reality that, just as in Afghanistan and Syria, has subdued them, beyond their excuses to justify their withdrawal.

It is estimated that in Iraq there are about forty irregular groups that operate outside the control of the authorities in Baghdad and the coalition forces, which could be advancing a disaster similar to what has happened in Libya, although there is a more ordering factor that are somehow the Shiite groups linked to Hezbollah that have a firm leadership and a predetermined course.

In the framework of the debacle that Iraq may be approaching, suspicions are very strong that even sectors of the security forces are secretly supporting Daesh, so that the United States cannot withdraw.

The emergence of new armed organizations operating in the country has begun to occur steadily. One of the last of these groups has been the self-styled League of Revolutionaries, which on March 15 claimed responsibility for the attacks against Camp al-Tayi in a video, in addition to announcing future actions against US targets inside the country and vindicating the memory of General Soleimani and Commander al-Muhandis.

Iran was immediately accused of financing and encouraging the creation of these groups, linking them to the Iranian Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), a force that has been held responsible by the West for a significant number of actions throughout the Middle East, but particularly in Iraq, including the kidnappings of an American soldier in 2006 by the Kata'ib (Brigade) Ahl al- and of five British soldiers in 2007 by the group Asa'ib Ahl al-Haq (Islamic Shia Resistance), also known as Red Khazali.

The United States is about to begin a second humiliating withdrawal from its map of the war against terrorism, leaving the Taliban one step away from absolute power in Afghanistan and, in the case of Iraq, beginning to flee, chased by the shadow of a ghost that has begun to tour the Middle East.

Image Source:

<https://rubenluengas.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/01/Irak-United-States-Ejercito.png>

Guadi Calvo

(Argentina) Argentine writer and journalist. International Analyst specialized in Africa, Middle East and Central Asia.

Burma, the battlefield for China and India

By Guadi Calvo (Argentina)



Burma Army troops on patrol.

Despite the fact that the world is submerged, as never before in history, with terror and helplessness in the tragedy of COVID 19, because, fundamentally, each one of us has gone from the comfortable chair of a spectator to a tense wait on the gallows, in different parts of the world, equally tragic actions continue to take place, although more limited. In western Burma, strong strategic interests are at stake between India and China.

In mid-2019, India completed the construction of the Sittwe port and inland water terminal in Paletwa, Burma, part of the multimodal transport project worth close to \$500 million, which will eventually link the Indian city of Kolkata, with Sittwe, Rakhine state and through a river route with Paletwa in the state of Chin and from that city by land, it would reach Zorinpui in the northeastern state of Mizoram in India, still under construction, a project that once completed would significantly increase trade between Burma and India. Part of the old Indian project, of "looking towards the east" that Prime Minister Narendra Modi relaunched in 2014, with which he aspires to reduce the strong influence of Beijing, not only in that country, but throughout Southeast Asia.

This project started in 2008, now stopped by separatist violence, has put the farming and fishing communities of Sittwe, Pungna Island, Chauhtaw and

Paletwa on alert, since they are being forced to leave their lands, so that Burmese or Tamaward army is established in the vicinity of the Kaladan River and the border areas.

The actions in the state of Rakhine, in the west of the country, of the Arakan Army (AA) founded in the north of the state of Kachin in 2009, one of the most violent insurgent forces of a significant number of separatist groups supported by different ethnic groups, which operate in Burma in search of their autonomy, after seventy-two years of absolute control by the Bamar, the majority ethnic group in the country, of the 135 officially recognized ethnic groups, according to official sources it represents 68% of the population, some 30 million out of a total population of close to 57 million, to reject the presence of the army.

The critical situation has forced between 60,000 and 100,000 civilians to abandon their homes, not counting the 900,000 members of the Rohingya Muslim community who, as of 2017, by order of the central government, have been expelled from their villages and forced by any means to leave Burma (See: The forgotten cry of the Rohingyas).

The United Nations has denounced that almost daily reports speak of civilians killed or maimed, who are denied the help of both national and international organizations, there are 17 Rakhine municipalities,

totally isolated and under military control, subjected to all kinds of abuses from rape to torture and death.

The military situation in Rakhine and neighboring areas of the state of Chin, where the Burmese government has deployed between 15,000 and 20,000 troops, since it lacks tactical intelligence in the theater of operations due to the lack of popular support, has become more complex, to the point of being able to drag the political situation in Burma, as a victim of the tensions between India and China, for which the Burmese government has decreed an information blackout in the region, from the operations against the Rohingya of 2017 and 2018, to which Chin has also added him, so that Tamaward's actions against humanity cannot be evaluated.

In the context of the growing military escalation, major clashes were fought between the Tatmadaw and the Arakan Army on March 10-11.

On the morning of Tuesday the 10th, a battalion of paratroopers from the Tatmadaw, belonging to the powerful 77th Light Infantry Division (LID), seeking to rescue a fortified outpost on the banks of the Kaladan River, in the Paletwa municipality, established in search of to take control of the river, since it is one of the most important supply routes of the Arakan Army, reaching remote regions where its bases are based from where it launches its operations towards Rakhine.

Before the abortive intervention of the paratroopers, between March 8 and 9, the Burmese high command ordered a series of air and artillery operations against several villages including Mont Than Pyin and Pyaing Tine and along the Kaladan River.

In Mont Than Pyin, with four hundred inhabitants, 62 of the 66 houses were destroyed, also killing a significant number of cows and goats, which are the fundamental means for the economic sustenance of these populations.

The paratroopers' action was disastrous, as a result of resistance by AA militiamen, who killed between 20 and 25 Tatmadaw soldiers and captured another 36, including Lieutenant Colonel Thet Naing Oo battalion commander. It is believed that the losses could be greater since there is no information about some of the units, with one hundred men each, that were able to break the insurgency's siege. So these losses represent one of the largest suffered in a single action, since the fighting in the Kokang region, in northeastern Shan state, in February 2015, where about 50 soldiers were killed and another 67 wounded.

After the fighting between the insurgents and the paratroopers, the high command of the army ordered

to intensify the air attacks against other villages located in the east of the river, which would have killed more than 25 civilians, while another two thousand, the attacks forced them to leave their villages.

Despite the lack of verifiable information, it is known that the army has acknowledged that it lost contact with the paratroopers, without acknowledging defeat, while the information from the AA has released lists with names, ranks and numbers of casualties, in addition of images, which makes the information of the insurgents reliable.

The lack of any popular support is what explains the disaster of the parachute battalion and undoubtedly heralds further debacles. Given the predictability of the outcome of the conflict, if it continues down this path, the Tamaward command seeks to increase the speed of its responses, with the renewal of its fleet of Chinese CH-3 unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), already obsolete, so failing to get an upgrade, the result will be tragic for Naypyidaw.

An unpredictable result

In the seventy-two years of Burma's independent life, the Tatmadaw has governed most of that time and, although since 2015 there has been a civilian government, led behind the scenes by the Nobel Peace Prize winner Aung San Suu Kyi, it has had to associate to them in order to maintain a pseudo-democratic regime, since beyond the factual power, the military consortium continues to control practically all the resources of the economy.

Tamaward has not been able to translate that power into a strictly military field, and it continues to be unable to control the multiple pro-independence groups that have settled in different regions of the country for decades.

But the successive blows that the Arakan Army is inflicting on the Tamaward, produces the sensation that its absolute power could be beginning a certain decline in light of the images uploaded to social networks by the AA at the end of February in which observes army personnel detained in previous combats of extremely young soldiers, probably still in their teens,

As the news of the failures spreads among the ranks of the army, a certain resentment is beginning to run in the middle command, who would be the first to suffer the consequences of a mutiny, much more if it occurs in the remote areas where they are. being assigned, since in addition many of the troops recruited by the Western Command of the army are natives of those regions, so they must operate against

family, friends and members of their own tribes and ethnic groups, a substantial value for these cultures.

On the other hand, the increase in air strikes against the villages, where the militiamen can supposedly try to hide, inevitably causes civilian casualties, as already happened east of the Kaladan River on March 14 and 15.

In response to these accusations, the army spokesman, Brigadier General Zaw Min Tun, indicated that. "When we use the planes, we are more careful and aim only at the location of the enemy."

Today the true dimension of the critical situation of the inhabitants of Rakhine is unknown, and perhaps subjected to the severity of the Pandemic, it will be submerged forever, once again.

Image Source:

https://cdn.hispantv.com/hispanmedia/files/images/thumbnail/20190515/06524058_xl.jpg



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el portal militar colombiano

10 laws of the War Economy

By Juan Pablo Pardo Retortillo (Spain)



Summary

It is obvious that the war and resistance capacity of a nation is inextricably linked, among other factors, to its economic resistance capacity³¹, to the nation's capacity to go from a peacetime economy to managing a wartime economy. This article will analyze the main laws that a war economy must comply with in order to be effective, based on the lessons learned in conflicts as disparate as the Spanish Civil War or the Russian or Chinese Civil Wars, and successfully put into practice by ethos as antagonistic as Chinese communism and Spanish national-Catholic traditionalism.

Introduction

War economy is what is applied in national historical moments of strong violent convulsions, whether or not they are armed conflicts, pandemics such as the current Covid-19, or in periods of extreme autarky, and whose objective is to maintain the functioning of the essential economic activities for a country, ensure self-sufficiency, guarantee food production and control the national economy from the State.

Naturally, this interference of the State in the economic and market sector, although it obeys the superior obligation of the State to intervene in it for a more efficient search for the Common Good in difficult times, must be done within clear limits. The State must guarantee a stable legal, institutional and political framework that favors economic investments, tending to Zero corruption and applying exemplary punishments for offenders. Likewise, it must apply the principle of subsidiarity, since the main obligation to make the economic and productive system work must fall on the "intermediate bodies" of society, to avoid suffocation, rigidity and the lack of free initiative of the State. . The State also has the right to intervene in the economic market to avoid abusive monopolies or obstacles to development. Lastly, it can assume market substitution functions in exceptional cases and for a very limited time.

The range of fundamental actions in which the State must or can intervene is very wide, among others: the exhaustive control of monetary policy (to avoid hyperinflation processes), favor autarky to avoid dependence on foreign imports in products basic and military material, measures to save energy consumption, activate the mobilization of the nation's human resources to achieve their optimization (for example, encouraging female

³¹LIDELL HART, B. *Strategy. The classic study on military strategy*. Arzalia Ediciones, SL Madrid, 2019. ISBN: 978-84-17241-49-0, Page 281.

labor to fill the jobs of those who join the army), changes in the agricultural policy that directs the crops and the processing industry towards the production of grain and, in general, crops that provide a high amount of carbohydrates, control the national industrial mobilization and direct it towards an efficient increase in the production of the heavy industry and military material, and finally establish reductions in private consumption, which may include rationing to industry and families.

Laws of Economic Warfare

Next, the 10 main laws that must be complied with by any economic policy of a government that has been forced to take charge of the nation's economic-productive system to guarantee its survival in serious emergency situations or "Hanibal ad portals"³².

1. **PROMOTE BASIC HUMAN ANTHROPOLOGY. BEFORE OFFERING A REWARD TO ENCOURAGE THAN A PUNISHMENT. REWARD AND PUBLICIZE THE EXEMPLARS, PUNISH THE BREACHERS.**

This first law is basic and essential to achieve success in state intervention in the economy. You cannot legislate and govern against the nature of the human being, against human anthropology. Although it may seem like a contradiction, the action of the State must favor the capacities of individual initiative, autonomy and personal responsibility, the freedom of economic initiative and support the activity of companies by creating job opportunities.

The fair balance between private freedom and public action is achieved by acting in concert with the market and by being complementary rather than exercising a rigid and inoperative totalitarianism. For example, for the industry to provide essential goods for the nation can be done in two ways: through coercion and forcibly forcing the seizure of said goods (forced expropriation) or by offering a fair price for them, as well as the promise of future purchases and tax discounts if production is continued or increased. With the first method we eliminate the natural sense and purpose of fair profit for the businessman for the manufacture and sale of his products, with which he will very possibly stop producing them, while with the second method we have implemented a win-win relationship in which the two parties have a common interest in the final objective, and the normal thing that happens is that production is maintained or grows. That is, even if there are some expropriations, a vast confiscatory expropriation apparatus should NOT be developed.

And of course, basic Catechism, reward the businessman or citizen who has a supportive and collaborative behavior, and punish those who fail to comply with the minimum directives of the State (although not mercilessly, but punctual and exemplary).

2. **GUARANTEE THE NATURAL RIGHT TO PRIVATE PROPERTY. AVOID CORRUPTION AT ALL LEVELS AND IN ALL ECONOMIC FACTORS.**

This second law is also very important and has been the capital error of numerous revolutionary movements, normally of leftist ideology. The right to private property is natural to human beings and necessary for their subsistence and full development and, although there is a moral concept of the universal purpose of goods, a war economy policy that wants to be successful must guarantee respect for property private, leaving a record of the owner of the seized asset, proceeding to return it to it once the public service has ended if it is still in use, or to pay its fair price if it has become useless (for example, a vehicle, tractors, etc...).

Likewise, corruption in the state economic control system must be combated at all levels and in all economic factors (banking, production, etc.). It is highly counterproductive for the confidence that citizens must have in the exceptional measures imposed by their authorities, as well as for maintaining war morale and for maintaining the social cohesion that is essential at such times.

3. **LEAVE THE ECONOMY FREE BUT WITH STATE SUPERVISION AND ACT IN SPECIFIC CASES TO GUARANTEE THE COMMON GOOD DURING THE WAR.**

The State must not unduly condition business forces. Rather, their task consists of controlling the entire flow of production processes, and intervening in a limited and sufficient manner, proportionate to the real demands of society, when particular situations of monopoly create obstacles to development, when the market is unable to obtain the desired efficiency results and when it comes to implementing the redistributive principle (equitable distribution of essential goods and services)³³.

³²SEIDMAN, M. *The National Victory. Counterrevolutionary effectiveness in civil war*. Alianza Editorial, SA, Madrid, 2012 ISBN: 978-84-206-0863-1.

³³SOCIAL DOCTRINE OF THE CHURCH. Chapters VI (Human work) and VII (Economic life). (online) (Accessed 04/03/2020) Available at:

http://www.vatican.va/roman_curia/pontifical_councils/justpeace/documents/rc_pc_justpeace_doc_20060526_compendio-dott-soc_sp.html

4. COUNT ON SPECIALIZED CIVIL ADVISORS AND COLLABORATORS IN EVERYTHING (BANKING, AGRICULTURE, ETC...)
It is obvious that the majority of officials (civilian or military) who are in charge of all the economic-productive factors will not be profound experts on these issues, and will lack the knowledge at the macro and micro levels that the social agents and armed forces possess. Intermediate (unions, guilds, associations, etc...). It is therefore a priority to surround yourself with the widest range of expert representatives of the sector, in order to take the best measures that favor production efficiency and performance. Never make unilateral decisions without taking into account the opinion of advisors and experts.
It is very important for effective compliance with this law and the triumph of the national economy, the "attracting of business talent", that is, selecting and involving businessmen of recognized prestige (they have invaluable know-how), encouraging them to create or regenerate the industries in which they stand out, facilitating their management by exempting them from taxes and/or bureaucratic obstacles.
5. CREATE STATE CONTROL ORGANISMS FOR EACH ECONOMIC ASPECT. FINES FOR BREACH.
The necessary state control of the war economy demands and includes the creation of state control bodies for each economic aspect (for example, the "National Wheat Service", etc.), in order to guarantee adequate control and subordination of all factors of production.
Said organism will be in charge at the national level of dictating the obligatory norms, grouping the officials in charge of their control as well as the civil advisers and experts of each sector. Likewise, it will also be in charge of applying the fines for non-compliance with said regulations.
6. TRANSFER WEALTH FROM THE CITY TO THE COUNTRYSIDE (TAXES, ETC...)
In a war economy there is undoubtedly an economic sector that requires priority from the State: the primary sector, agriculture. The State must create the pertinent economic measures to enhance or "transfer" part of the national wealth to the actors of the primary sector. Through taxes or other measures, wealth must flow from the secondary and tertiary sectors to the primary, and from the city to the countryside. All in order to guarantee the vigor of the primary productive forces, as well as the supply of basic food goods, both to the troops and to the civilian population. The primary sector must be protected especially by the government, which also affects military objectives, since defending and/or attacking wheat-producing areas will be a priority.
A progressive income-earning system must be introduced (flexible fiscal policy, tolerance of the market economy) from which the poorest families would be exempt. Rural interests must be defended and higher taxes applied to urban wealth, mandatory contributions or taxes must be lower for farmers, otherwise many farmers would prefer to leave their land uncultivated.
7. ALLOCATE THE WEALTH TO IMPROVE THE SITUATIONS OF THE SOLDIERS (RATIONS, SALARY, DISABLED, ETC..) AND THEIR FAMILIES.
It is also important that the State design an economic system for times of war that is in accordance with the principle of subsidiarity and is inspired by the principle of solidarity, establishing limits to the autonomy of the parties, to defend the weakest or the one that has the most war effort is making (soldiers, invalids, their families, etc...). The State must be the guarantor of social security and protection systems for those who suffer the most in the crisis in question, and achieve public finances capable of being an instrument of development and solidarity with those hardest hit by the war. Economic concessions must be made to the troops and their families, including amnesty for rebellious peasants and tax fraudsters.
Examples of this were the "family allowance", intended to help large rural families, and the "combatant's allowance", linked to the soldier's income, number of dependents, family income, cost of living and residence, It was conceived for members of the family of the private soldier stationed at the front who was the main breadwinner in his household. Other benefits included an exemption from paying rent and electricity for low-income families of soldiers. In addition, half of the jobs available in the national, provincial and municipal administrations were reserved. Soldiers' widows also had preference in employment.
8. EFFECTIVE POLICY OF RECRUITMENT, AND/OR TRANSFER OF WORKFORCE, WITHOUT LEAVING SPECIALIZED PERSONNEL NEGLECTED IN TRANSPORTATION AND THE FIELD (LABOR ARMY).
The always delicate balance between "army of arms" and "army of work" finds its culmination in a situation of war economy. The State must develop an effective human mobilization policy to meet both the needs of the armed forces and the need for specialized personnel (planters, truck drivers, etc...) for the primary sector. Any imbalance in this distribution of available personnel will generate serious problems in the primary sector and will threaten to paralyze the basic logistics of the nation and its army. For example, the authorities must try to make enough labor available to harvest the crops, if necessary by suspending local public works projects.

9. AVOID INFLATION. CONTROL THE CURRENCY.

A solid and stable currency, healthy and successful finances, together with respect for private property, guarantee faith in the victory of the nation, and are essential for the success of policies in fishing, livestock and agriculture.

The state must stabilize prices and prevent inflation by recording the amount of money by marking bank notes in circulation and limiting the issuance of any new currency, while properly taxing consumption and profits. It is also important to ensure good salaries for officials, to prevent them from supplementing their income with illicit profits.

In this economic sector, perhaps more than any other, you need some of the best business and financial minds among your advisors and experts. It is also an important objective to ensure that investors/savers leave their savings in banks, so that there is no capital flight.

10. IDENTIFICATION OF THE MIDDLE CLASS WITH THE POLITICAL IDEA. ABILITY TO SACRIFICE HIS BLOOD AND GOODS.

It is essential for the success of a war economy policy to have the support and the ability to sacrifice of the most modest taxpayers, who must demonstrate that they are dedicated to the cause not only emotionally, but also financially. It is only by being able to finance a substantial part of the purchases yourself that foreign capital can be convinced that the risk is worth taking. Foreign aid is not an independent variable and generally depends on the behavior of the recipient, on his ability to sacrifice his money and his blood.

Conclusions

From the success in the implementation of these measures by ethos as disparate as Chinese Marxism and Spanish national-Catholic traditionalism, strong economic logistics were derived that decisively helped victory on the military plane. As General Franco expressed during the Spanish civil war: "*The battle of wheat, the first battle of the rearguard, as important or more so than those fought in the vanguard, I will win it paying for everything and above everything.*"

Respect and promote human anthropology, have the advice of experts in each economic sector, transfer wealth to the primary sector and to those who suffered most from the war, avoid inflation and food shortages for both the military and the civilians, regularly paying soldiers, peasants and workers, protecting private property, along with the moral and financial support of the elites and the middle classes, made Franco the most successful counterrevolutionary of the 20th century, proving himself more competent than Chiang Kai-Shek in China, or Anton Denikin, Piotr Wrangel or Aleksandr Kolchak in Russia.

Source of information:

<https://sialamineria.com/contenido/11358/la-economia-de-guerra-el-volantazo-del-gobierno-y-los-dilemmas-aun-un-resolved>

Juan Pablo Pardo Retortillo

(Spain) Spanish Navy officer, expert and consultant in logistics, public procurement and quality management. Doctor in contemporary history.



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Boko Haram, the powerful muscle of terrorism

By Guadi Calvo (Argentina)



Members of the terrorist group Boko Haram in a video released by that organization.

The fundamentalist organization Boko Haram is undoubtedly the deadliest of those operating in Africa. On March 23, in just two actions, some 500 kilometers apart, it eliminated 139 soldiers from the Chadian and Nigerian armies, in yet another demonstration of its military capacity, in the face of increasingly lauded by the multinational force that fights this insurgency, which since 2009 has not stopped striking surrounded by the thunderous spectacle to which its messianic leader Abubakr Shekau is so adept. Since then, nearly 50,000 have died, and almost two million have been displaced, while another eight million need humanitarian aid, in northeastern Nigeria, due to actions by the insurgent group.

Nigerian mujahideen commandos, possibly members of the sub-faction or khatiba led by Mallam Bakura, who was reportedly killed in a military action on March 13, operating in the Lake Chad region, killed 92 soldiers in an attack which began at five in the morning and lasted until noon, at a Chadian army base on the Boma peninsula, in the province of Lac in the west of the country. The country's president, Idriss Déby Itno, who went to the site of the assault the next day, declared: "This is the first time we have lost so many men. The enemy has dealt a heavy blow to our defense system in this area." It was learned that the

terrorists, while attacking the base, were able to prevent the arrival of other military units that arrived in support of the assaulted unit. In the attack, the Boko Haram militiamen destroyed some 24 army vehicles, including several armored units, while a significant amount of weapons and military supplies were seized by the terrorists who left the place in five speedboats.

Boko Haram, in recent months, has increased its actions in the entire area of the swamps of the lake basin, while the actions of the joint forces fade. Since 2015, the countries of the region have been fighting terrorists within the framework of the Multinational Joint Force (MNJTF), a regional coalition made up of military units from Benin, Chad, Cameroon and Niger, while different vigilance committees participate. made up of civilians from the populations affected by the fundamentalists.

After his visit to the province of Lac, President Idriss Deby has declared a "war zone" in two departments of that province, imposing a state of emergency. The measure came into force from midnight on Friday the 27th and will last until midnight on April 16. With this decision, Déby also grants the military and administrative authorities of the province, under the supervision of the Minister of Defense and the Minister of Territorial Administration, power to

prohibit the movement of people and vehicles and establish protection or security zones, in which the presence of people is regulated. The measure also provides for the closure of the borders of the affected departments, the closure of bars and entertainment venues after 10 p.m., and any type of meeting, demonstration or protest, for which any anomaly will be punished with prison sentences.

Practically at the time that the base of the Boma peninsula (Chad) was attacked, other Wahhabi commandos killed at least 47 soldiers in the north of the state of Yobe (Nigeria), being the deadliest action against Nigerian army troops, in several years. Boko Haram militiamen launched and machine-gunned military vehicles. A significant number of survivors were transported to hospitals in Damaturu and Maiduguri to be treated for various injuries.

The ambush targeted a military convoy that had just left the northeastern city of Maiduguri carrying ammunition as it approached the village of Gorgi. According to the Coordinator of the Defense Media Operations Directorate (DDMO), General John Eneche, the locals have been responsible for the massacre for leaking information to the terrorists about the movement of troops, when those troops were returning to their base after a successful military action, which took place between March 21 and 23, within the framework of Operation Well Done or in the Hausa language, Lafiya Dole, launched in May 2016. According to General Eneche, the platform commanders quickly of Intelligence Surveillance and Reconnaissance (ISR), ordered an airstrike against the insurgents "immobilizing or killing some terrorists and destroying an armed truck. Some others who managed to flee were swept away in later actions."

It has not yet been clarified who was responsible for the ambush, since some sources indicate that they would have been members of the Jama'at Ahl al-Sunnah Wal Jihad Lil Dawa (Islamic State of West Africa province) or ISWAP, a splinter of Boko Haram. in 2016 and led by Abu Musab al-Barnawi, son of the organization's founder, Muhammad Yusuf, who died in 2009.

The lightning that never stops

With these two new actions, both Boko Haram and the ISWAP show that they are still in a position to not only contain the onslaught of the Nigerian army, in

their territory, and in those of the Multinational Joint Force alliance, and continue their actions in the extreme north of Cameroon, where throughout 2019 and the beginning of 2020, 275 deaths were recorded from terrorist attacks, most of them against civilians (See: Nigeria: The wide trail of terror.)

A day before the attacks in Bomo and Gorgi village, an unidentified group killed around 30 people belonging to civilian volunteer patrols providing local support to the Nigerian Army, Police Forces and Civil Security and Defense Corps. (NSCDC) in the Galkogo Forest, in the Shiroro area of Niger State (Nigeria)

Military sources said that the security agents attacked the unknown men and that they would have caused several casualties, although it has not been reported if the unidentified group belongs to any of the terrorist organizations that operate in the north of the country. Since the police spokesman only limited himself to declaring in response to the journalists' demand: "This problem is purely military, I urge you to contact the military because they are the ones who handle it."

This is not the first of the actions that have taken place in the state of Niger, caused by alleged "bandits" who have already caused dozens of deaths. In addition to countless kidnappings

The critical security situation in the north of Nigeria, which is replicated in several neighboring countries, due to the actions of Boko Haram and the ISWAP, is connected by the increasingly serious context in the north of Mali, which spills over into Burkina Faso and Niger with the presence of two powerful groups linked to al-Qaeda and Daesh, particularly the Jamaat Nusrat al-Islam wal Muslimin (JNIM) Islamic State of the Greater Sahara (ISGS).

In Burkina Faso during 2019, the lethality of terrorist actions produced several hundred deaths and the displacement of almost a million people and, in Niger, actions in the Niger-Mali border sector in three attacks between last December and January killed 174 soldiers, also sealing a "record" of casualties for Niger, which cannot contain the fundamentalist attacks, which will undoubtedly multiply as Covid-19 occupies the attention and resources of the nations.

Image Source:

<https://time.com/3655969/boko-haram-nigeria-advance/>

Daesh in India, an inevitable clash

By Guadi Calvo (Argentina)



Fighters of the terrorist group Daesh.

The virulent anti-Islamic campaign of the Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi, which is verified in the violent repression against the pro-independence groups of Kashmir, with a Muslim majority, and the application of the Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA), which seeks to leaving perhaps millions of Indian Muslims without nationality, which has caused major protests throughout the country, during the month of February, which have resulted in dozens of deaths, thousands of detainees, in addition to large losses materials in Islamic neighborhoods and communities, (See. India; the bastard Gods). To which must be added that the constant propaganda of Modi's neo-Nazi regime is also causing thousands of episodes of individual and "spontaneous" violence against Muslims, in communities that a short time ago, lived in harmony. It is repeated more and more frequently that ordinary citizens of Hindu origin attack Muslims causing serious injuries and, in some cases, even death.

The irrational hatred installed by Modi, which has radicalized the passions of both sides, which can escalate to a real civil war, considering that Muslims represent the largest religious minority in India with just over 200 million souls, which in fact means a true silver bridge that the Prime Minister is extending to Islamic fundamentalism, always prone to sharpening the polarization between the different religious groups. It has deepened the vectors of hate, which is how it

has managed to get thousands of young people around the world to join their organizations.

And taking advantage of the religious polarization of India, the Willat Daesh Khorasan, the global Daesh franchise, which operates Afghanistan, Pakistan, Kashmir and India, has initiated actions against New Delhi.

Last Wednesday, March 25, a Daesh Khorasan commando attacked the Sikh religious center, Gurudwara Har Rai Sahib, in Kabul, (Afghanistan), according to witnesses between six and eight mujahideen, entering two by two and opening fire at the time of worship. Killing twenty-five faithful, after which they took the building in which there were about eighty people, resisting for several hours the attempts to retake by the men of the police and the Afghan army. Authorities have been able to identify Mohammed Mohsin, also known as Abu Khalid al-Hindi, from the Indian state of Kerala, who left India in 2018 and arrived in Afghanistan via the United Arab Emirates, to enter Iran.

In the statement from the terrorist organization that claims the attack, it is stated that it was "revenge for Kashmiri Muslims", who have suffered constant repression from the Indian army since last year. According to some local sources, the original target of the attack was not the Gurudwara complex in Kabul, but the Indian consulate in Jalalabad, the capital of Nangarhar province, or the New Delhi embassy in Kabul. Attacking Indian interests is not accidental, but

rather involves political speculation on the part of the ideologues of the attack, since India has made significant economic and political efforts in Afghanistan in an attempt to consolidate a strategic alliance against the always threatening Pakistan.

This is the second attack carried out by Daesh Khorasan against the Sikh community, in Afghanistan, the previous one occurred in the East, it was the second ISKP attack against the minority Sikh community in Afghanistan after the suicide attack in July 2018 against a caravan of Hindus and Sikhs in Jalalabad, the capital of Nangarhar province, where 19 people traveling for a meeting with Afghan President Ashraf Ghani, on tour in Nangarhar, died when a suicide bomber detonated the explosive charge attached to his body.

The attack against the Gurudwara complex occurs as a reaction by Daesh, after the harsh setbacks it has been receiving in recent weeks by the US and Afghan security forces and the Taliban itself, who does not admit any other organization of its characteristics in his country. The force founded in 2014 by Caliph Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi concentrates the majority of its troops, some two thousand fighters, in the Kunar province in eastern Afghanistan.

Despite the setbacks, the organization continues to resist and wait, having carried out a significant number of attacks in recent weeks, particularly intense, after the peace agreements reached by the Taliban and the United States in Doha, last February. (See: Afghanistan: Agreement or Safe Conduct for Trump?). Daesh's strategy is based on its ability to summon the most intransigent Taliban militiamen and their al-Qaeda allies, who refuse to accept the agreement with Washington, a much more than probable possibility.

Bound for India

Daesh, immediately after the Easter attacks in Sri Lanka in May 2019 (See: Sri Lanka: Death on Easter) and the loss of the last territories in Iraq and Syria, Caliph Ibrahim (Abu Bakr al-Baghdadi) is still alive) declared India, as a province of his caliphate or Wilāyat al-Hind.

After the riots last February in Delhi, which left nearly fifty people dead, on March 29, the Daesh, in the second issue of its magazine, Sawt al-Hind (Voice of the Hind) on whose cover appears the title " So, where are you going?, a call to the Muslims of India" where Indian Muslims are asked, in the name of Islam, to join Daesh, and where the Taliban are cataloged as

apostates and demand their militiamen to defect from the organization of Mullah Haibatulá Ajundzada and join Daesh Khorasan.

Experts consider that Daesh's use of a shahid (suicide) of Indian origin in the attack on the Gurudwara complex in Kabul is not accidental, first of all because it includes the Indian presence in a terrorist action carried out in one of the safest points in the Afghan capital, when the city is also blocked by COV-19 restrictions, thus encouraging Indian Muslims to join the takfirist cause in any way; Demonstrate that Daesh is still present in Afghanistan and has not been defeated. The use of an Indian citizen as an attacker for the operation against a Sikh temple is also not accidental, which at a time of great internal revulsion in India for religious reasons, incorporating Sikhists (followers) into the disputes, would add a new headache to Modi. Since Sikh believers, a religion founded in the 16th century by a holy man named Nanak Dev Ji, taking elements from Hinduism and Islam, such as reincarnation, vegetarianism or the prohibition of alcohol, are particularly fervent, and despite representing only 2.2 percent of the 1,300 million inhabitants of India, reaching barely twenty million, which makes it the fourth largest in the country, they have participated in innumerable revolts. The majority of this community is in the Punjab state bordering Pakistan, a purely Muslim nation and a sworn enemy of New Delhi.

Although, until now, the Muslim community in India has kept away from the postulates of Daesh, and there are few Indian militants in the ranks of Wahhabi organizations, even in Kashmir, Modi's actions could provoke the radicalization of many Muslims, particularly the young.

In February, the Daesh khatibas (brigades) in Jammu and Kashmir issued a statement threatening military action against the Intelligence Services, which work in those states and particularly against ultra-nationalist Hindu groups such as the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh or RSS (Patriotic Association Nacional) one of the organizations that give ideological and political support to President Modi, and that operate illegally as paramilitary gangs.

While President Narendra Modi continues with his anti-Islamic diatribe, the radicalization of Indian Muslims in the medium term given the significant number of madrassas and mosques of the Wahhabi order, propagators of the most extreme ideology of Islam, that exist in India, will make a major Daesh irruption inevitable.

Image Source:

<https://www.ecsaharai.com/2019/12/reino- Unido-lanza-una-alerta-sobre.html>

Fuerzas Antiterroristas del Mundo

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Russia

Troops for Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Protection (NBC)



The Troops for Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Protection (NBCP), of the Armed Forces of the Russian Federation, are special forces designed to carry out the most complex set of measures aimed at preventing or mitigating the possible damage that formations could suffer. of the Land Forces that maneuver in the Theater of Operations, in conditions of radioactive, chemical and biological contamination, helping them to fulfill the combat tasks assigned in the operations, as well as improving their survivability and protection against high-tech weapons. precision, among other important missions.

The main tasks of the NBCP Troops include:

- Identification and evaluation of radiological, chemical and biological environments, scales and effects of radiation damage, or chemical and biological contamination;

- Protection of formations and units against the nuclear effects of weapons of mass destruction and radiological, chemical and biological contamination;
- Reduce the visibility of troops and facilities;
- Recovery from disasters (damage), due to radiation, or chemical or biological contamination;
- Causing losses to the enemy using incendiary means.



The NBC Protection Troops organize and fight in environments where nuclear, biological and chemical weapons have been used or are likely to be used. Its capabilities include:

- nuclear detection;
- Recognition and control NBC;
- collection and processing of data and information on radiological, chemical and biological environments;
- Troop notification of NBC contamination;
- Carrying out special treatments (decontamination, degassing and disinfection) of weapons, military and special equipment, buildings and other objects, as well as disinfection of personnel;
- Aerosol counterattack against enemy reconnaissance and attack means.

NBCP troops are developing as dual-purpose forces, capable of solving tasks in both war and peacetime, after accidents and disasters at hazardous industrial facilities due to radiation, or chemical and biological contamination.

Increasing its capacity is achieved by creating a modern system to identify and assess the range and effects of weapons of mass destruction, integrated with automated troop and weapon control systems, and stable operation in the threat environment NBC and strong electronic countermeasures. In addition, there is a process to equip NBCP formations, units and subdivisions with new and highly effective means of NBC reconnaissance, individual and collective defense, technical means of reducing visibility and masking, incendiary weapons, as well as to introduce improved materials, formulations, methods and technical means of decontamination.



Units

- 1st NBC Mobile Protection Brigade (Shikhany-2, Oblast of Saratov)
- 16th NBC Protection Brigade (Lesozavodsk)
- 27th NBC Protection Brigade (Kursk)
- 28th NBC Protection Brigade (Kamyshin Oblast of Volgograd)
- 29th NBC Protection Brigade (Yekaterinburg)
- 2nd NBC Protection Regiment (Samara)
- 4th NBC Protection Regiment (Sevastopol)
- 6th NBC Protection Regiment (Sapyornoye, LO, Priozersk D.)
- 10th NBC Protection Regiment (Topchikha)
- XIX NBC Protection Regiment (Gorny)
- 20th NBC Protection Regiment (Tsentralny)
- 25th NBC Protection Regiment (Sergeyevka)
- NBC's 26th Protection Regiment (Onokhoy)
- 35th NBC Protection Regiment (Belogorsk)
- 39th NBC Protection Regiment (Volgograd Oktyabrsky Oblast)
- 40th NBC Protection Regiment (Troitskaya, Republic of Ingushetia)
- 70th Separate Flamethrower Battalion (Razdolnoye, Primorye)



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