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Abandoning Counterinsurgency: Reviving Antiterrorism Strategy

# Introduction:

This paper aims to provide a brief description of the article on counterinsurgency compiled by Steven Metz. In the article, the author discusses the pros and cons of the strategy in the context of historical as well as modern wars.

# Procedures:

In order to investigate the effectiveness of the counter-insurgency strategies, the author takes different wars as case-studies and analyzes the American military and foreign policy for the accomplishment of its goals.

# Findings:

In most Americans fought wars, in which counter-insurgency was used as the main narrative, American-backed governments in the war-ridden countries did not want to end as the war as war brought sustenance into their economy. The theory of counter-insurgency is based on an outdated definition of modernization which no longer makes sense. It has crumbled in Vietnam as well as in Afghanistan.

# Conclusion:

The author suggests that the US must leave this rhetoric of counter-insurgency behind as it has proven to be an ineffective way of achieving its goals. According to Metz, the core security issue on which America should focus is Trans-national terrorism. The author suggests that America should develop a new and more effective strategy in which large scale punitive raids should be conducted for the accomplishment of its goals (Metz). Furthermore, US military needs to redesign all its forces along with developing strategic concepts and large-scale expeditions as well.

# Personal comments:

I can understand the point of view of the author and I agree with the strategy that the author is proposing. In my opinion, a large number of punitive strikes against trans-national terrorists will go a long way in the fight against terrorism. The one for Osama bin Laden is a prime example. Economically though, we should be weary of the advancements that China is making and we should be willing to hold our international ambitions to stay with it.

Works Cited

Metz, S. (2017). Abandoning Counterinsurgency: Reviving Antiterrorism Strategy. *Parameters*, *47*(3), 13-23.