Civil-Military Responses to Terrorism'  
Monterey, CA (14-25 April 03) Course Overview

Shemella, Paul

http://hdl.handle.net/10945/43359
I. Background. This course is about all nations wishing to fight the scourge of international terrorism – together.

   A. Patterns of Global Terrorism. There is not much good news out there. The United States – along with 90 other counties – is pursuing Al Qaeda and other terrorist groups all over the world. We have seen the destruction terrorists can now inflict on any society whose government opposes them – not just in New York City, Washington, and Bali – but in Tokyo, Manila, Bogota, and a growing list of cities around the world. Whether you choose to call it a war or not, we are all in this together.

   B. Terrorism is a Domestic problem. Responses must use a variety of civilian and military organizations.

   C. Terrorism is International. Responses must be regional and global.

   D. Terrorism is becoming more lethal, and time is running out for civilized nations to get it under control. But how do we do that?

II. Objectives of the Seminar

   A. To introduce principles and concepts aimed at generating thoughtful discussion and firm understanding in a variety of areas related to international terrorism.

   B. Investigate the ways in which nations can contain or defeat terrorism without sacrificing the values that bind our societies together.

   C. To discuss how democratic governments, both old and new, can develop improved civil-military processes that lead to better national security decisions.

   D. To advance the broader goal of strengthening mutual understanding and cooperation among the United States, Indonesia, The Philippines, Colombia, and others.
III. **Description of the Faculty**

A. The seminar will be led by instructors from two organizations – The Center for Civil-Military Relations (CCMR) and The Center of Excellence in Disaster Management and Humanitarian Assistance (COE). These institutions bring to the classroom a wide spectrum of experience and academic background in the field of terrorism and its consequences.

B. This program is presented under the sponsorship of the U.S. Secretary of Defense and builds on a variety of other programs designed to enhance regional and global security cooperation.

C. Faculty members do not speak for U.S. policy.

IV. **Principles and Structure of the Seminar**

A. CCMR and COE will not attempt to dictate how participating nations should structure their responses to terrorism.

   1) While every national government faces the same broad challenges, each has a unique historical experience and distinct political climate. Solutions to resolving the decision-making process and responses to terrorism will necessarily be different for every country.

   2) The U.S. model is far from perfect. A large country with global interests, civil-military decision-making in the United States is a very complex process. While some U.S. examples will be offered for their value as education tools, the course will draw upon many other experiences in combating terrorism.

   3) Education is the key to developing civilian officials and military officers charged with protecting the nation’s citizens or responding to terrorist activities. This course attempts to widen each participant’s perspective on terrorism, leading to a better understanding of the phenomenon and how governments can deal with it.

B. The seminar is designed to include presentations, full group discussions, a four-part classroom exercise, and five case-studies. There is enough flexibility in the structure to allow for additional topics, most importantly for participants to explain how their own governments respond to terrorism. The
main objective of the faculty will be to provoke as much discussion as possible, forcing all participants to think creatively about each subject – and to understand how each issue fits into the larger whole.

C. All comments during the week will be ‘non-attributable’ to specific individuals. Each participant is strongly encouraged to express his or her honest opinions, and to challenge (politely) those with whom they disagree. As an educational experience, this course does not take an indoctrination approach to any topic. All points of view are worthy of discussion.

V. Key Issues for the Seminar

A. How terrorism is changing, and what this means to the governments trying to deal with it.
B. Who the terrorists are, and why they act as they do.
C. Describing ‘tools’ that all democratic governments have at their disposal for responding to terrorism.
D. How governments meet the challenge of protecting their societies from terrorists.
E. The role of ‘risk assessment’ in preparing for terrorism.
F. The special challenges of defeating terrorism in a liberal state.
G. Case Study: The United Kingdom
H. Case Study: India
I. The threat of terrorists using ‘weapons of mass destruction’
J. Case Study: Argentina
K. Managing the consequences of terrorist attacks.
L. The crucial role of Intelligence in combating terrorism.
M. The importance of ethics considerations, both in the field and at the policy level.
N. Restructuring the defense establishment to make it more effective in combating terrorism.
O. Case Study: The United States
P. Case Study: Turkey
Q. Determining how to measure success in combating terrorism.
R. The legal basis for combating terrorism.
S. International approaches to combating terrorism.
T. How to develop strategies for combating terrorism.
U. The crucial role of the media in responding to terrorism.
V. Research methods for the continuing study of terrorism issues.
W. A summary of lessons-learned and best practices from countries confronting terrorism.
X. Classroom Exercise: ‘Terror in Utopia’
VI. **Overall Goal of the Seminar.** To provide an opportunity for all participants to learn as much as possible about how governments can protect against and respond to terrorism. Insights gained here will be applied in home countries within the context of each nation’s unique circumstances – with the ultimate aim of strengthening the growing global consensus (and coalition) against international terrorism.