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Unconventional Warfare: The Greatest Threat

Bharati Sharma

bharatisha@gmail.com

Government Science College, Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh

ABSTRACT

Machiavelli said Warfare had started along the origin of mankind, but the continuous development of the arsenals altered the face of warfare. With technological outburst, surpassing all limitations of an attack through air, ground, and water. The World War II summed up with a weapon, nuclear bomb, capable of devastating a whole population of a region and may continue to deform genome perfectness of human race as multiple side-effects. All countries are aware of this fact and therefore cannot afford a war that may enter the atomic stage. With impending atomic threat in the state of war unconventional types of war finds favor and that this moral dilemma provides a safe umbrella to terrorist activities too. Effect of these warfare are not limited in time or space, it is incomprehensive and most of the times enemy remains unknown leaving the suffering state to guess a counter-strategy. The World must be a secure and safe place and therefore eradicating NBC weapons from the scenario, we together can fight against the brutality of Unconventional Warfare.

Keywords: Unconventional Warfare, Weapon, Atomic Threat.

1. INTRODUCTION

Machiavelli said Warfare had started along the origin of mankind. 'Every race must indulge in conflict with others and overpower them for survival of themselves.' (Darwin) But continuous warfare changed the face of war-field with the development of the arsenals. 'Techniques of warfare have been adopted with various conditions related to the type of force' (Mackey, 1986) i.e. infantry, armed, artillery or naval and size and organization of the enemy such that an effective plan may be developed to combat, attack and defense. Against a well-organized and huge army, unconventional methods have been found to be most effective. With the air attack incorporated with defense/attack system, the warfare achieved an entirely fast, sudden and route-free approach in the fields of the enemy. However, there are limitations associated with air strikes due to the nature of terrain; narrow passages through mountainous regions do not allow a successful accessibility in the exact location of an enemy.

Surpassing all limitations of an attack through the air, missiles, ground advancement or naval harboring, the World War II summed up with a weapon, nuclear bomb, capable of devastating a whole population of a region and may continue to deform genome perfectness of human race as multiple side-effects. It can blow away in a satanic moment of ill-fated decision the untiring and assiduous attempt of nature for billions of years to create a life of the order of human form (Griffiths Peter, 1987). This catastrophic probability rules out any pertinence of Machiavelli's statement; rather the need of human race is diametrically opposite to Machiavelli's statement. Under this utter threat to survival due to nuclear weapons, nonconventional warfare has come forth uncouth shocking and covering the civilized world.

Our survival is in danger; in fact at the precarious edge of extinction in a moment. We the people of the World want a secure and fearless environment to live in. It is the greatest challenge how and when the environment of our world shall be free from any danger and be safe for life. After the use of atom bombs, on the August 6th and 9th, 1945, the first and so far the only in warfare dropped on two Japanese cities of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, some 120,000 soldiers and civilians died outright, and at least as many died of sickness and injuries during the next 5 years. Japan surrendered short after that horrific scenario. Arguments linger over whether the use of such massive destruction weapon was justified. But one thing for sure: the threat of nuclear weapons hovers overhead of the humankind.³

2. EFFECT OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS

Nuclear weapons represent the ultimate defense of the nation, a deterrent against any and all potential adversaries. The Weapons designed to threaten large populations, or to generally deter attacks are known as strategic weapons and the Weapons designed for use on a battle field in military situations are called tactical weapons. Combined with diplomacy and conventional military capabilities, nuclear weapons have helped to avoid a large-scale conflict between leading world powers for over seventy years. This is an astonishing achievement given the acceleration in communications and transportation that took place during this time⁴

It is unfortunate that the best of scientific researches, the equation $E= mc^2$, discovered in the last century by Einstein yielded the worst for us—the Nuclear weapon. Nuclear weapons are explosive devices that utilize the processes of fission and fusion to release nuclear energy. An individual nuclear device may have an explosive force equivalent to millions of tons (megatons) of trinitrotoluene (TNT, the chemical explosive traditionally used for such comparisons), more than enough to completely destroy a large city. The destructive power of nuclear weapons derives from the core of the atom, the nucleus. One type of nuclear weapon, the fission bomb, uses the energy released when nuclei of heavy elements, such as plutonium, fission or split apart. A second even more powerful type of nuclear weapon, the fusion or hydrogen bomb, uses the energy released when nuclei of hydrogen are forced to fuse (join together).⁵

Nuclear devices have been fashioned into weapons of many shapes with many purposes. Bombs can be dropped from airplanes; warheads can be delivered by missiles launched from land, air, or sea; artillery shells can be fired from cannons; mines can be placed on the land and in the sea. Some nuclear weapons are small enough to destroy only a portion of a battlefield; others, as already mentioned, are large enough to destroy entire cities and more. 'Unlike chemical explosives, nuclear weapons have had no peacetime uses.'⁶ For long years following the world war the Bipolar power world balanced each other perfectly in the name of cold-war. Yet, it is fact that some miscalculations for a few critical moments did occur when some objects in the USA sky were misjudged as an atomic attack, and in response, the USA was about triggered its nuclear warheads. Human race made a narrow escape on that occasion. (Bennet, D.J.& Thomson, J.R., 1989).

3. CAUSE OF THE PRESENT PROBLEM

Having realized the ultimate threat of the nuclear warheads, countries with the ability to produce and use the nuclear weapons applied great wisdom in restraining from possible situations of nuclear war. Any organized war may lead to such a situation if the two countries involved in the war have the nuclear power. This fact may be anticipated with Pakistan and China having boundary problems with India. All the three countries are aware of this fact and therefore cannot afford a war that may enter the atomic stage. Naturally, under such circumstances, with the apprehensions of potential atomic threat in the state of war, non-conventional war finds favor. It can be long-term harassment for any country on one and the same time it cannot open a war of traditional type for its counter attack lest atomic war may open up. This provides a safe umbrella to terrorist activities. (Mohindra, S.1993).

4. THE UNCONVENTIONAL WARFARE

Unconventional warfare is not fought by conventional means or they may fight with undeclared means called unconventional warfare. They are more dangerous because of their uncertainty. They called cold war, guerilla warfare, insurgency, biological warfare, psychological warfare, asymmetric warfare etc. Effect of this warfare is not limited in time or space it is uncountable and most of the times enemy remains unknown so the victim faces great problem to counter it. They are easy to attack but no nation has any effective method to defend against it as yet. (Dando, Malcom, 1996).

Nuclear weapons played a pivotal role in international security during the latter half of the twentieth century. Despite rapid increases in communications, transportation, and weapons technology, there has been no large-scale strategic conflict since the Second World War. Nuclear weapons, as the most destructive instruments ever invented, had a stabilizing effect on superpower relations by making any conflict unacceptably costly. This is a shouting evidence of savagery of the most civilized worlds---the so-called developed and the communists. However, geopolitical change and the evolution of military technology suggest that the composition of our nuclear forces and our strategy for their employment may be different in the twenty-first century.⁹ that catalyzes the unconventional warfare and activated the nonmilitary fronts. Now the types of warfare World is facing at present - are a cold war, proxy war, psychological warfare, guerilla warfare and many more types of unconventional warfare.

The theory holds that warfare has evolved through four generations: 1. the use of massed manpower, 2. firepower, 3. maneuver, and now 4. Evolved form of insurgency that employs all available networks—political, economic, social, and military—to convince an opponent's decision makers that their strategic goals are either unachievable or too costly¹⁰

Wars of the future might be decided through manipulation of people's minds, concludes a report of the Royal Society of UK. It warns that the potential military applications of neuroscience breakthroughs need to be regulated more closely. "New imaging technology will allow new targets in the brain to be identified, and while some will be vital for medicine, others might be used to incapacitate people," says Rod Flower of Queen Mary, University of London, who chairs the panel that wrote the report.

The report describes how such technology is allowing organizations like the US Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency to test ways of improving soldiers' mental alertness and capabilities. It may also allow soldiers to operate weaponry remotely through mind-machine interfaces, the report says'.¹¹

5. CONCLUSION

So long as we do not have mercy for our kind and life as a whole, we cannot throw away the dreaded thought of use Nuclear weapons and till then we cannot save our people from falling prey to monstrous ways of unconventional war. We must understand the situation of the world and also beware of being a victim of unconventional weapons' attack. Whole humankind should come forward to support nuclear energy's use for development of mankind to compel their governments to destroy the nuclear warheads. Let the security issues remain in the hands of conventional Armed Forces, thereby only innocent mass of human race shall be saved against the brutality of non-conventional warfare.

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The new weapons system During the last century, become far more complicated, much more difficult to manufacture and infinitely more lethal than anything known in the past. The new instrument of war has not only changing the nature of war but also the entire course of international relation. Military technology is dominating the international course of action.

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