



The African strategic environment 2020

Challenges for the SA Army

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2005 Human Security Report



- Dramatic decline in number of armed conflicts and battle deaths since end of Cold War
 - 1989 to 2002 saw end of 100 armed conflicts
 - Least battle deaths in 1990s since end of WW 2
- Today 95% of conflict fought within states



Trends

- Increased reliance on child soldiers, growth in paramilitary organizations and private military firms
- Increased violent crime in developing countries - tripling of homicides in SSA in 1980s
- Civilian war-related deaths now 90% of war-related deaths
- More refugees and internally displaced persons (IDPs)
- Increased divergence between rich and poor countries with exception of India and China



Key Relationship

- Most conflict in poor countries: in 2000 in sub-Saharan Africa - more people killed than in rest of world combined

“Almost every country across the broad middle belt of the [African] continent – from Somalia in the east to Sierra Leone in the west, from Sudan in the north to Angola in the south – remains trapped in a volatile mix of poverty, crime, unstable and inequitable political institutions, ethnic discrimination, low state capacity and the ‘bad neighbourhood’ of other crisis-ridden states – all factors associated with increased risk of armed conflict.”

- Link between equitable development, good governance, inclusive democracy and war

Human Development Index



- Measures three dimensions of human development:
 - Living a long and healthy life
 - Being educated
 - Having a decent standard of living
- Norway at no 1 - Niger at no 177
- Seychelles highest African country at no 51 ...

HDI ranking of Africa

58	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
103	Algeria
119	Egypt
120	South Africa
121	Equatorial Guinea
123	Gabon
124	Morocco
125	Namibia
126	São Tomé and Príncipe
131	Botswana
132	Comoros
138	Ghana
141	Sudan
142	Congo
143	Togo
144	Uganda
145	Zimbabwe
146	Madagascar
147	Swaziland
148	Cameroon
149	Lesotho
150	Djibouti
152	Mauritania
154	Kenya
155	Gambia
156	Guinea

154	Kenya
155	Gambia
156	Guinea
157	Senegal
158	Nigeria
159	Rwanda
160	Angola
161	Eritrea
162	Benin
163	Côte d'Ivoire
164	Tanzania, U. Rep. of
165	Malawi
166	Zambia
167	Congo, Dem. Rep. of the
168	Mozambique
169	Burundi
170	Ethiopia
171	Central African Republic
172	Guinea-Bissau
173	Chad
174	Mali
176	Sierra Leone
177	Niger



So?

- Chances for South African engagement in major inter-state war very slim
- As strongest and most capable military state in Africa, conventional threat to South Africa very low
- Chances for internal conflict in many African countries very high



2006 World Bank

- Countries at risk of collapse - fragile states.
- From 17 in 2003 to 26 in 2006 of which 16 in Africa
 - Burundi, the Central African Republic, Comoros, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Eritrea, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Côte d'Ivoire, Liberia, Nigeria, the Republic of Congo, Somalia, Sudan, Togo and Zimbabwe





Battlespace # 1

- Small, secured, capital intensive enclaves of development
 - Angola, DRC, Sudan ...
 - Secured/governed by private or semi-private means
 - Insolated from the wider economy but linked to global economy
- Large tracks of ungoverned spaces controlled by NGO's traditional authority, banditry and warlords



Challenges

- Intensive and intrusive media and international civil society scrutiny - and no control over reportage
- Complex humanitarian challenges
“the corporal’s war”



Battlespace # 2

- Urbanization
 - 1950 - 15%, 2000 - 37%, 2015 - 45%
 - By 2010, 50 cities with 1-5 million people
 - Not cities, but slums and shantytowns
 - Urban poverty - no sanitation, water, transport, health services - or policing
- Youth
 - Slums breed crime, gangsterism & anti-social behaviour



Battlespace # 2 (cont)

- HIV/AIDS, malaria, etc
 - 70% of people with HIV/AIDS in Africa of which 25 million in SSA
 - 85% of children with HIV/AIDS in SSA
 - 12 million AIDS orphans in SSA, by 2020 this will have increased to 18 million
 - 3 000 SADC citizens die of AIDS every day
- Loss of skills and professional people



Challenges

- Urban operations
 - Inaccessible slums and a dangerous environment for life and health
- Rural operations
 - Absence of infrastructure, services or governance
- Food insecurity common all over
- All supplies flown in and then trucked
- Tremendous demand for medical services, protection and general humanitarian action



Challenges (cont)

- High demand for engineers, medical services, aerial surveillance, communications, self-sufficiency
- Mainstay of operations provided by wheeled infantry
- Nature of training counter-insurgency and peacekeeping



Conclusion



Signs of Hope

- Although no changes in fundamentals
 - Greater activism by international community and
 - African regional organizations, AU in particular
- Leadership and commitment by South Africa is key

Defence Policy in South Africa



- Use of armed forces today much more political than previous era's
- Civilian control of the military a dialogue - little evidence of this in present South Africa. The appearance is rather:
 - An absence of policy, strategy and doctrine
 - An absence of political/strategic guidance
 - Little of no public discussion or information



Future Tasks of SANDF

- Not participation in 'conventional' operations
- Low intensity and counter-insurgency type operations within a multilateral environment
- South Africa will be expected to play the role of lead/framework nation
- Very long logistic lines and requirement for self-sufficiency



The Final Constitution

Act 108 of 1996

“The primary object of the defence force is to defend and protect the Republic, its territorial integrity and its people in accordance with the Constitution and the principles of international law regulating the use of force.”



‘Secondary functions’

Act 200 of 1993

- a. for service in the defence of the Republic, for the protection of its sovereignty and territorial integrity;
- b. for service in compliance with the international obligations of the Republic with regard to international bodies and other states;
- c. for service in the preservation of life, health or property;
- d. for service in the provision or maintenance of essential services;
- e. for service in upholding of law and order in the Republic in co-operation with the South African Police Service under circumstances set out in law where the Police Service is unable to maintain law and order on its own; and
- f. for service in support of any department of state for the purpose of socio-economic upliftment”.



Interpretation

“a force for crisis prevention and intervention”

Territorial defence against external attack can be provided by the collateral utility for secondary functions

Not about the use of **force**, but the use of **forces**

Demand and tempo of operations will increase - expectations and needs are massive

Peacekeeping, disaster & humanitarian relief



Tasks

- Protection of civilians
- Active monitoring of agreements
- Disarmament of combatants
- Operations against spoilers
- Support of elections
- VIP protection during peace processes
- Demobilization, reintegration and security sector reform
- Provision of basic/emergency services



Two Key uncertainties

- The US war on terror!
- The internal security situation?
 - Rural and border security gap
 - Spike in violence
 - World Cup in 2010



Thanks!

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