



## Counterinsurgency SITREP – 9 January 2009

### Director's Comments:

Appreciate everyone's efforts this past year toward the continued enhancement of counterinsurgency capabilities in support of our troops. While there has been progress across many fronts, there is much yet to be done. The nation's ability to **institutionalize its counterinsurgency, security force assistance, and stability operations competencies** has been a hot topic of senior leadership this past month (see President's Dec 08 USMA [speech](#) and Secretary of Defense's Jan 09 article in [Foreign Affairs](#)). It is important to emphasize that **these skills should not be in competition with, but inherent to, full-spectrum capabilities**.

Like each of your organizations, the COIN Center was busy in 2008 -- presenting COIN Leader Workshops and COIN Fundamentals instruction to over 1,000 Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, and NATO Allies; travelling to Iraq, Afghanistan, UK, France, Germany, Netherlands, Canada, and Poland for observation, training, and exchange; & presentations to U.S. & foreign military and civilian leadership to strengthen interagency and multi-national COIN linkages. Based upon your needs, we continued to refine <http://coin.army.mil> as a knowledge gateway and have engaged along all our lines of effort (***Integrate COIN Initiatives, Research Best Practices, Improve Doctrine, Improve Education, Advise Leaders and Organizations, and Conduct Outreach to other Military and Civilian Entities***) to enhance linkages across COIN, IW, & Stability Operations communities (& added a Canadian exchange officer & an LNO from JFCOM, increasing our ability to contribute in a joint & multinational context).

Our Goal for 2009 is movement of the COIN community of interest toward a **community of action**. Our priorities:

- Improve support to deployed COIN Centers in Iraq and Afghanistan (potentially through implementation of [COIN Triad initiative \(CAC Access\)](#)).
- Establish "Coalition COIN Consortium" to codify COIN, Stab Ops, & IW linkages with Joint, Interagency, Intergovernmental, & Multinational partners.
- Begin revision of FM 3-24 to incorporate both recent operational experience & innovative thinking about Counterinsurgency in an *era of persistent conflict*. (See [2009 research topics of interest](#)).
- Mobilize thought leadership in development and institutionalization of Joint, Interagency, Intergovernmental and Multinational counterinsurgency expertise and capability for the long term.

We look forward to continued partnership with you in 2009. Please provide your recommendations re: COIN Way Ahead on COIN [blog](#) or [coin@conus.army.mil](mailto:coin@conus.army.mil).

Thanks for your efforts in support of our troops,  
Colonel Dan Roper

## MONTHLY COIN ACTIVITY SUMMARY

### INTEGRATION.

- **COIN Triad Huddle (5-6 Jan).** COIN community of practice (JCISFA, PKSOI, Iraq CFE, CTC-A, JFCOM, CALL, BCTP, CTC-D, Allied LNOs, COIN Center) met to harness organizations' efforts to support in-theater CFEs. Key question was, "How can generating force harness efforts of disparate organizations to provide resources, reach-back, and support to these critical initiatives?" Outcomes included: hosting of all organizations' POIs on single site; assisting in-theater CFEs with virtual training and assistance visits; generating information exchange requirements; and working with JIIM community to fill manning gaps for in-theater CFEs. Complete briefing [here \(CAC Access\)](#).
- **Monthly COIN Integration Mtg/DCO (8 Jan).** Monthly COIN Integration DCO's purpose is to coordinate efforts in COIN COI and share lessons learned from Iraq and Afghanistan. There were over 50 participants including: CTC-A, COIN CFE Iraq, USAF Coalition and IW Center, JFCOM IW Center, SOCOM IW Center, USMC IW Center, Fort Riley DCC, PKSOI, AWG, QAO, CAC-T, SCP, CTAC, JCIFSA, CGSC, CTC-D, & CAC LNOs from UK, Canada, New Zealand, Australia and Brazil. Key topics of discussion:
  - Iraq CFE Director highlighted best practices garnered MNF-I COIN CFE Survey Team Visits to 12 Provinces in Iraqi Theater of Operations from Jul-Dec 08. Major focus on nonlethal ops and interagency working groups. Complete briefing [here \(CAC Access\)](#).
  - Recent ISAF FRAGO 442- 2008 tasks CTC-A with training and education requirements for Coalition and ANSF units in Afghanistan.

Next DCO is scheduled for 29 January 09.

### ADVISORY, EDUCATIONAL, & ASSISTANCE VISITS

- **COIN Leaders' Workshop Fort Bragg (1-4 Dec).** COIN Leaders' Workshop provided operational education and training recommendations to 60 participants from 3rd Battalion, 3rd Special Forces Group; 1st and 4th Brigades, 82nd Airborne Division; 4th Psychological Operations Group; and Special Warfare Training Group. Additionally, briefed Commander, 3/3 Special Forces Group and staff on focused areas of COIN in preparation for future deployments.
- **USMC CIW COIN Leadership Seminar (8 Dec).** USMC Center for Irregular Warfare's (CIW) COIN Leadership Seminar highlighted demand for adaptive leaders at all echelons in a COIN environment ( [Seminar Opening Remarks](#).)
- **COIN Leaders' Workshop Fort Carson (10-12 Dec).** Workshop emphasized mindset and training approaches to 50 participants from 10th Special Forces Group; 43<sup>rd</sup> Sustainment Bde, Canadian Land Forces, 759<sup>th</sup> MP Bn, and JIEDDO Joint Center for Excellence.
- **1<sup>st</sup> Army Training.** COIN Center conducting COIN workshops for 1<sup>st</sup> Army (W) (12-15 January: Fort Carson) & 1<sup>st</sup> Army (E) (9-12 Feb: Fort Meade) to enable trainers for non-landowning, non BCT reserve component units. For more information contact [MAJ Niel Smith](#).

## Doctrine Updates

- **FM 3-24.2**, *Tactics in Counterinsurgency*, will be published as FMI in Feb 09.
- **JP 3-24**: Comment adjudication for first draft of JP 3-24 is complete. Goal for publication is September or October 2009.
- **FM 7-0**, *Training for Full Spectrum Operations*, published in December 2008. Release highlighted on an [interactive website](#) that featured video comments from senior Army leaders including GEN Chiarelli and LTG Thurman.

## Other Publications of Interest:

- **Interagency Counterinsurgency Guide**: to be published in January 2009, collaborative document of the Secretary of State, Secretary of Defense and USAID; finalizes interim document from October 2007, *Counterinsurgency for U.S. Government Policy Makers: A Work In Progress*. Useful primer for interagency policy-makers and practitioners operating in a COIN environment.
- **[Forging a New Shield](#)**: *Project on National Security Reform*, published in November 2008, outlines shortcomings in national security system and offers recommendations for reform. Reinforces need for whole-of-government approach to national security -- specifically development of interagency mechanisms for collaboration.
- **[DoDD 3000.07, Irregular Warfare](#)**: signed by Secretary of Defense in December 2008, formalizes DoD approach to IW and clarifies [DoD Directive 3000.05](#) on Stability Operations, which led to the revised Army's FM 3-0 (Operations). Potential significant implications for future training and force structure. Interesting [discussion thread](#) on this topic in *Small Wars Journal*.
- **[FID COIN JIC](#)** (CAC access): published November 2008, multiple implications for COIN C.O.I. including: greater pre-deployment resources allocated to train and prepare GPF for COIN.
- **[JCISFA Study: Insights from Mosul](#)**: JCISFA's *Case Study-Mosul* provides perspective into connection between SFA and COIN. JCISFA researchers interviewed leaders and advisory teams in Mosul and found that advisory efforts in 2006 and 2007 had positive impact on COIN effectiveness in 2008. Advocates for a "cultural and philosophical" change in way military recruits, trains, educates, & retains advisors from general purpose force.
- **[CG MNF-I SOFA Guidance](#)**: On 4 Dec 08, CG MNF-I provided guidance to Multi-National Force–Iraq personnel regarding recently-approved SOFA -- "Despite some adjustments to the way we conduct operations, the agreement simply reinforces transitions that are already underway, and I want to emphasize that our overarching principles remain the same."
- **[COIN Reader II](#)**
- **[Armor Magazine COIN Selected Works](#)**
- **[Global Counterinsurgency: Strategic Clarity for the Long War](#)** (*Parameters*)
- **[Lost Lessons of Counterinsurgency](#)** (Armed Forces Journal)

## RESEARCH

- **Virtual Brownbag with Linda Robinson.** On 3 Dec 08, COIN Center hosted Linda Robinson, author of *Tell Me How This Ends: General David Petraeus and the Search for a Way out of Iraq*, for a Virtual Brownbag with 50 participants. Ms. Robinson's presentation drew on her interviews and embedded reporting with conventional and special operations units, as well as senior military leadership in both Iraq and Afghanistan. COIN Center will continue to host 'Virtual Brownbags (for inclusion on notification list contact [Mr. Terrell Bruner](#).)
- **Project Starfish.** JSOU/JFCOM/IWSG educational initiative to connect the dots within IW community to leverage vast amount of intellectual capital (ie: SME database of PhDs, sharing of IW curriculums, briefs, papers). Irregular Warfare Support Group contracted survey on all existing IW initiatives, will report outcomes, discuss project Starfish players and scope in late Jan meeting. If interested in joining this initiative, contact [George Young](#).
- **Threat Open Source Information Gateway (TOSIG)** has begun producing a new report, "Insurgency Literature Review" to become a monthly pub for the review of insurgency and COIN-related journals, books, research projects, scholars, conferences, web sites, etc. Register for access [here](#).
- **COIN Center Research Topics of Interest.** Check out [topics](#) that have generated interest in recent discussions with COIN partners. If your organization is actively researching or has published on any of these topics -- we would like to receive a copy of your products. Among the topics that have generated significant interest are COIN experiences in **Colombia, Philippines, Uganda**, as well as Case Studies of **PRT/Military Synchronization, Amnesty and Reconciliation, Tactical Intelligence Support, Criminality, and Targeting and Lethal Ops in a COIN environment**.

## STRATCOMS & OUTREACH

- **Canadian Expeditionary Forces Command (CEFCOM) Visit (18 Dec):** COIN Center engaged with CEFCOM representatives to discuss US-Canada COIN synergy and to develop methods for increasing support to CFE Kabul.
- **NPR broadcast (12 Jan):** "[Army Training Turns to Tackling Counterinsurgency](#)" focused on COIN training efforts at NTC and discussion on challenges in training forces for full spectrum operations.
- **JFCOM JIWC Update:** [Commander's Intent \(CAC Access\)](#) and vision for JIWC is to make irregular warfare a core competency of the Joint Force. Considering options re: JUOO/JIWC support to COIN CFE & CTC-A as well as continued development of FID-COIN JIC. POC: COIN Center JIWC embed [John Moulton](#).
- **COIN on Intellipedia:** To increase collaboration with COIN classified community, we have begun to populate the general counterinsurgency page in Intellipedia on SIPR. We encourage users to link organizational pages and content in order to create a one stop shop for COIN on SIPR.

**COIN Community Upcoming Events**

<b>12-15 Jan 09</b>	COIN Leader Workshop, 1 <sup>st</sup> Army West (Fort Carson)
<b>12-16 Jan 09</b>	Unified Quest 09 – SOF/GPF Integration (Tampa, FL)
<b>21-22 Jan 09</b>	Marshall Lecture Series: LTC Mansoor (Fort Leavenworth)
<b>26-27 Jan 09</b>	IW Support Group Project Starfish Meeting (DC)
<b>29 Jan 09</b>	Monthly COIN Integration Meeting (DCO)
<b>Feb 09</b>	Release of FMI 3-24
<b>4-6 Feb 09</b>	MORS US Irregular Warfare Analysis Workshop (SOCOM)
<b>9-12 Feb 09</b>	COIN Leader Workshop, 1 <sup>st</sup> Army Division East (Fort Meade)
<b>23-27 Feb 09</b>	Iraqi Counterinsurgency School MiTT COIN Leader Workshop
<b>Mar 09</b>	RAND Insurgency Board: The Role of Development in COIN
<b>24-25 Mar</b>	JHU/APL Unrestricted Warfare Symposium
<b>31 Mar- 2 Apr 09</b>	JCISFA Advisor Training Center Working Group (Ft Dix, NJ)
<b>20-24 Apr 09</b>	COIN Leader Workshop (Fort Leavenworth)
<b>May 09</b>	RAND Insurgency Board: Psychology of Participation in Insurgency
<b>Jun 09</b>	FM 3-24 Next Conference
<b>Jul 09</b>	RAND Insurgency Board: Insurgency and Counterinsurgency as a Competition in Governance
<b>Sep 09</b>	RAND Insurgency Board: Understanding Insurgent Intelligence Operations

**Next Monthly COIN Integration MTG/VTC 29 Jan 09 (1000 Central Standard Time)**

- Request all COIN Integration Meeting organizations share next 60 days of upcoming events of interest to the community to [terrell.w.bruner@conus.army.mil](mailto:terrell.w.bruner@conus.army.mil).

*Questions or Comments - contact us at:*

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