

counterelite, may attempt to take advantage of these conditions, seeking to gain power through peaceful or violent means.

Developing nations often lack a united population. Various groups within these nations tend to be isolated, in some cases straddle international boundaries, and often relate to government only in local terms. Centuries of rural living or tribal dominance have established definite patterns and values. Changes in the economic and political situation disrupt these established patterns and values and can produce tension. Some may resist change which they see as threatening to their traditional tribal, religious, or ethnic ways.

A traditional elite unwilling to surrender or share power; a small, poorly developed middle class; and a poverty-stricken people who do not have a voice in government; all contribute to a potential for internal conflict.

Within many developing nations, the military often plays a major role in development. The military's impact on the modernization process depends upon its capabilities and its influence within the government, its relations with the population, the extent of internal conflict, and the presence or absence of an external threat. The military may promote change or resist it.

The many problems of developing nations and the growing gap between the industrial and developing nations not only cause internal problems but seriously affect relationships between the nations.

## **SECTION II**

# **SOCIAL, ECONOMIC, AND POLITICAL FACTORS OF DEVELOPING NATIONS AND THEIR POTENTIAL FOR INTERNAL CONFLICT**

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Social Factors

Economic Factors

Political Factors

Potential for Conflict

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