CONCEPTS

IDAD strategy involves the art and science of developing and using the political, economic, psychological, and military powers of a government, including all police and internal security forces, to prevent or defeat insurgency. The US concept is based on the strategy of simultaneous internal defense and internal development programs. The primary objective under this strategy normally will be a level of internal security which will permit economic, political, and social growth through balanced development programs. It is directed toward both the populace and insurgent.

THE POPULATION. Working at correcting the conditions that insurgents can exploit to promote an insurgency must be part of the national strategy. The police and military may help in winning the confidence of the people by providing security, but their efforts must be accompanied by positive economic, social, and political actions to improve the lot of the populace. This may require programs to meet the need of particularly vulnerable groups of people. However, economic, political, and social changes by their nature may promote unrest. Therefore, the strategy must include measures to maintain conditions under which orderly development can take place.

■ The populace can be mobilized on behalf of the government when the people are reasonably secure from insurgent pressure. Unless the people know they will be protected from the insurgent, their response to government programs will be cautious and reluctant.

■ The resources and capabilities available will seldom permit addressing all needs of all the people at once. Problems must be carefully analyzed and priorities established objectively.

■ The process of integrating the populace of a country into a society that enables people to work together to achieve their goals is known as institutional development. This kind of development is concerned with promoting organizations at the community level which involve the local people. Linking national and local community groups provides the two-way communication which is essential for mobilizing popular support for national objectives.

■ In a general sense, institutional development involves establishing new institutions where none exist to meet needs; strengthening or modifying existing institutions; and eliminating certain institutions which are counterproductive from the standpoint of national unity.

■ Of primary importance is the development at the community level of groups of people (organizations) which participate in developing and identify with the goals of the nation.