



MARCH – APRIL 2016

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Hybrid Warfare and the Lower End of Conflict Spectrum

'Hybrid War' and 'Little Green Men': How It Works, and How It Doesn't

by Mark Galeotti

In an age of interconnected economies, expensive militaries and the 24/7 news cycle, if anything, the fusion of a range of different types of conflict will become the norm.

<http://www.e-ir.info/2015/04/16/hybrid-war-and-little-green-men-how-it-works-and-how-it-doesnt/>

Russian Hybrid Warfare and Extended Deterrence in Eastern Europe

by Alexander Lanoszka

Hybrid warfare incorporates the most potent attributes of an insurgency while minimizing the drawbacks associated with using conventional force. It is a strategy born not out of weakness but out of strength; belligerent states like Russia use it to advance their political goals on the battlefield by applying military force subversively.

<http://www.stratcomcoe.org/alanoszka-russian-hybrid-warfare-and-extended-deterrence-eastern-europe>

Improving Strategic Competence: Lessons from 13 Years of War

by Linda Robinson, Paul D. Miller, John Gordon IV, Jeffrey Decker, Michael Schville, Raphael S. Cohen

The military should examine ways to build effective, tailored organizations that are smaller than brigades and equipped with all the needed enablers to respond to a range of contingencies. Special operations forces and conventional forces should expand their ability to operate together seamlessly in an environment of irregular and hybrid threats.

http://www.rand.org/pubs/research_reports/RR816.html

about projectgray

Project Gray is an initiative to promote dialogue and discussions on gray zone challenges through events and publications bringing together academic scholars, research institutes and practitioners.

Upcoming

NDU Joint Special Operations Master of Arts Thesis Symposium
 May 18-20, 2016
 Fort Bragg, NC

Distinguished Lecture Series
 Featuring
 Dr. David Kilcullen
 May 9, 2016
 Fort Bragg, NC
 see details on page 2

For details email:
admin@projectgray.org

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Hybrid War: Old Concept, New Techniques by Alex Deep

Commanders of a military fighting a hybrid war will need to leverage a wide range of capabilities including conventional high intensity conflict units, decentralized special operations forces and sophisticated information operations and technology platforms. <http://smallwarsjournal.com/jrnl/art/hybrid-war-old-concept-new-techniques>

Thinking Forward

Maneuver and Engagement in the Narrative Space by BG Charles L. Moore Jr; LTC Brian Steed; MSG Sohail Shaikh; Dr. Dana Eyre; Dr. Ian McCullohb; Dr. Jason Spitaletta; Mr. Randall Munch; Mr. Chris Worret

A U.S.-led, multinational coalition could significantly degrade ISIL's ability to influence others by maneuvering and engaging in the narrative space. Doing so, however, would require a long-term commitment by the U.S. and it's allies. Achieving significant effects would require a coordinated, integrated and synchronized effort. The ultimate goal would be to change the landscape of the human domain by shaping perceptions through influence.

<http://www.soc.mil/swcs/ProjectGray/Maneuver%20in%20the%20Narrative%20Space.pdf>

Treating the Islamic State as a State by Mike Pietrucha

If we recognize the state-like attributes of the Islamic State, even those we normally attribute to a failing state, our methods for dealing with it change from those we would use to fight a non-state actor to those we would use to fight an inter-state war. In the context of this conflict, this would lead to significant changes in the application of U.S. airpower and psychological operations. <http://warontherocks.com/2016/03/treating-the-islamic-state-as-a-state/>

South China Sea Militarization: Not All Islands Are Created Equal by Shannon Tiezzi

Chinese military assets in the South China Sea have been widely publicized of late, with reports focusing in particular on the deployment of HQ-9 missile batteries and J-11 fighter jets to Woody Island in the Paracels. However, due to China's long history in the Paracels, developments there aren't a great example of the sort of militarization U.S. officials and security analysts alike are watching for. A focus on Woody Island's missiles and jets might actually be counter-productive. <http://thediplomat.com/2016/03/south-china-sea-militarization-not-all-islands-are-created-equal/>

Chinese worldviews and China's foreign policy by Dr. Merriden Varrall

In this Lowy Institute Analysis, Dr. Merriden Varrall examines four key narratives that help explain the way that China acts in and interprets the world. Varrall argues that an understanding of these narratives provides a more nuanced guide to China's aims and ambitions and can help to shape more effective responses to China, both in the short and long term.

<http://www.lowyinstitute.org/publications/chinese-worldviews-chinas-foreign-policy>

Event Update**Distinguished Lecture Series**

The National Defense University's Joint Special Operations Master of Arts Program, in partnership with the U.S. Army Special Operations Center of Excellence, will host a distinguished lecture featuring author Dr. David Kilcullen.

The event will be held at the John F. Kennedy Auditorium, Kennedy Hall, Fort Bragg, North Carolina at 11:00 a.m. on May 9, 2016.

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