

"Small Wars: Their Principles and Practice"

- Colonel C. E. Callwell
 - Written at the beginning of the 20th Century
 - Based on the experiences of the European Imperial Age wars of the 19th Century
 - » Small wars: "expeditions against savages and semi-civilized races by disciplined soldiers; campaigns to suppress rebellions and guerilla warfare in all parts of the world where organized armies are struggling against opponents who will not meet them in the open field"
 - » Suppression of insurrections and lawlessness, frequently a sequel to conquest and annexation
 - » Campaigns to wipe out an insult or avenge a wrong
 - » Campaigns for the overthrow of a dangerous power
 - » Campaigns of expediency

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Kinds of Opponents

- Regular Organization
- Highly Disciplined but Badly Armed
- Fanatics
- Guerillas, civilized and savage
- Savages in the bush

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Objective of the Campaign

- The need for a clearly defined objective
- The Capital as an objective
- Bringing the enemy to pitched battle
- Raids on livestock
- Destruction of crops
- Suppression of rebellions

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Intelligence in Small Wars

- Absence of trustworthy information
 - Eliciting correct information from natives
 - Treachery
 - Sudden concentration and dispersion of the enemy
- Uncertainty as to
 - Who is the enemy and where they are
 - Routes, resources, positions of localities
 - The strength and fighting qualities of the enemy
 - A hostile population will take place in the campaign
 - Movements and intentions of the enemy

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Influence of Supply

- Need to guard lines of communications/lines of supply
- Limitations on deployed forces
- Water an overarching need (food and ammo too)
- Alternative: living off the land, abandoning communications, controlling regions of enemy territory
 - Flying columns
 - Fortified posts and depots
- Deny supplies to the enemy
 - Reverse scorched earth policy

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Bringing the Enemy to Battle

- Avoid prolonged campaigns
 - Supply difficulties
 - Attrition to disease
- Once enemy brought to battle, he must be crushed
 - Easier said than done!

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Small Wars Manual US Marine Corps 1940

- "During the initial phases of intervention, when the landing and movement inland may be opposed by comparatively large, well led, organized, and equipped hostile forces, the tactics employed are generally those of a force of similar strength and composition engaged in major warfare. If a crushing defeat can be inflicted upon those forces, the immediate cessation of armed opposition may result. This is seldom achieved."

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Small Wars Manual US Marine Corps 1940

- "Usually the hostile forces will withdraw as a body into the more remote parts of the country, or will be dispersed into numerous small groups which continue to oppose the occupation. Even though recognized leaders may capitulate, subordinate commanders often refuse to abide by the terms of the capitulation. Escaping to the hinterland, they assemble heterogeneous armed groups of patriotic soldiers, malcontents, notorious outlaws, and impressed civilians, and, by means of guerrilla warfare, continue to harass and oppose the intervening force in its attempt to restore peace and good order throughout the country as a whole."

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Small War Manual US Marine Corps, 1940

- Small War Tactics
 - Infantry patrols and outposts dispersed over a wide area
 - Ambushes and surprise-meeting engagements
 - Combat in mountainous, wooded terrain, attendant limited visibility and lack of centralized control
 - Principle of the offensive: seek out, capture, destroy, disperse, the hostile groups and drive them from the country
 - » Garrisoning only the more important cities and towns—recipe for disaster
 - » Guerrilla leader left unmolested—recruits flock to his standards; rarely attack fortified towns, but pillage defenseless areas
 - » Pacification of the country will be jeopardized!

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Small War Manual US Marine Corps, 1940

- Small War Tactics
 - Mass Movement, Surprise, Security
 - » Bring to bear superior force (through increased fire power, better armament, superior training, spirit of offensive)
 - » Mobility equal to or better than that of the opposing force
 - » Varying patrol routines: guerrilla intelligence decreases with increasing mobility, variability, number of patrols
 - » Keep secure plans and intentions

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Small War Manual US Marine Corps, 1940

- Operations after War
 - Disarmament of Population
 - Organization of a Constabulary
 - Establishment of a Military Government
 - Supervision of Elections
 - Withdrawal

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