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Know Thyself: The Organizational Culture, Networks, and Behavior of Counterinsurgency and Stability Operations

Understanding how to effectively deal with insurgencies and conduct reconstruction and stability operations is central to the core mission of the United States military. However, this question has been largely studied from a small number of cases focusing on insurgents. Why do they resist? How can they be mollified or destroyed, etc. This project approaches from the other direction: a large number of cases focusing on the organization of counterinsurgency. What organizational innovations are needed in order to transform war-fighting units into counter-insurgent forces? How should these units work with civil society or international non-governmental organizations? What factors in the relationship between the units in theater and civilian and military leaders foster or impede success on the ground? This grant is designed to develop the instrumentation necessary to answers these questions. The deliverable will be a report that outlines the materials and strategies developed to collect and analyze the data required to address the broader questions raised by this grant.