



CURTIS E. LEMAY CENTER FOR DOCTRINE DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION



ANNEX 3-22 FOREIGN INTERNAL DEFENSE

FID OPERATIONS

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Foreign internal defense (FID) operations are divided into three major categories—indirect support, direct support (not involving combat), and combat operations. Although various capabilities, programs, and activities within these categories may occur simultaneously, the categories themselves represent significantly different levels of Air Force involvement. They also indicate the broad range of Air Force FID options that can be exercised depending upon the level of US military commitment.

Airpower functions as a force multiplier in countering subversion, lawlessness, and insurgency (including terrorism) by increasing the survivability and effectiveness of internal security activities. However, government success is not directly related to the variable of time. A government that can provide adequate services and is slowly reducing violence may succeed, while a government that achieves a quick military victory, but fails to make fundamental reforms to address the sources of an insurgency may fail over the long term. Nonetheless, early Air Force activities to develop or improve host nation capabilities also reduce the need for higher forms of direct support or intervention.