



**II MEF:  
Fourth Generation  
Warfare (4GW)**

**LTC Greg Wilcox USA (Ret.)**

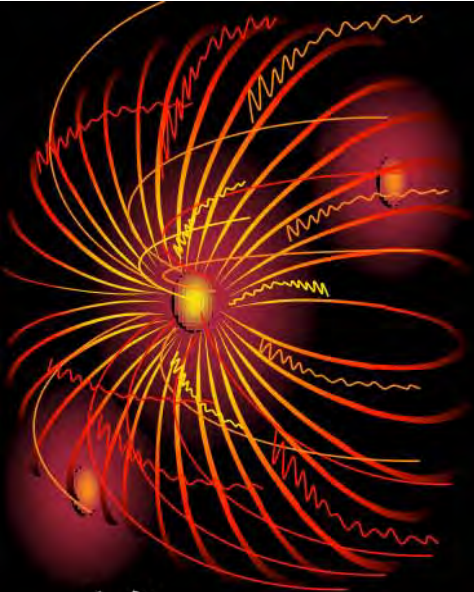
**23 April 2004**

**[wilcox@wdc.sri.com](mailto:wilcox@wdc.sri.com)**

# New Marine Camo Pattern



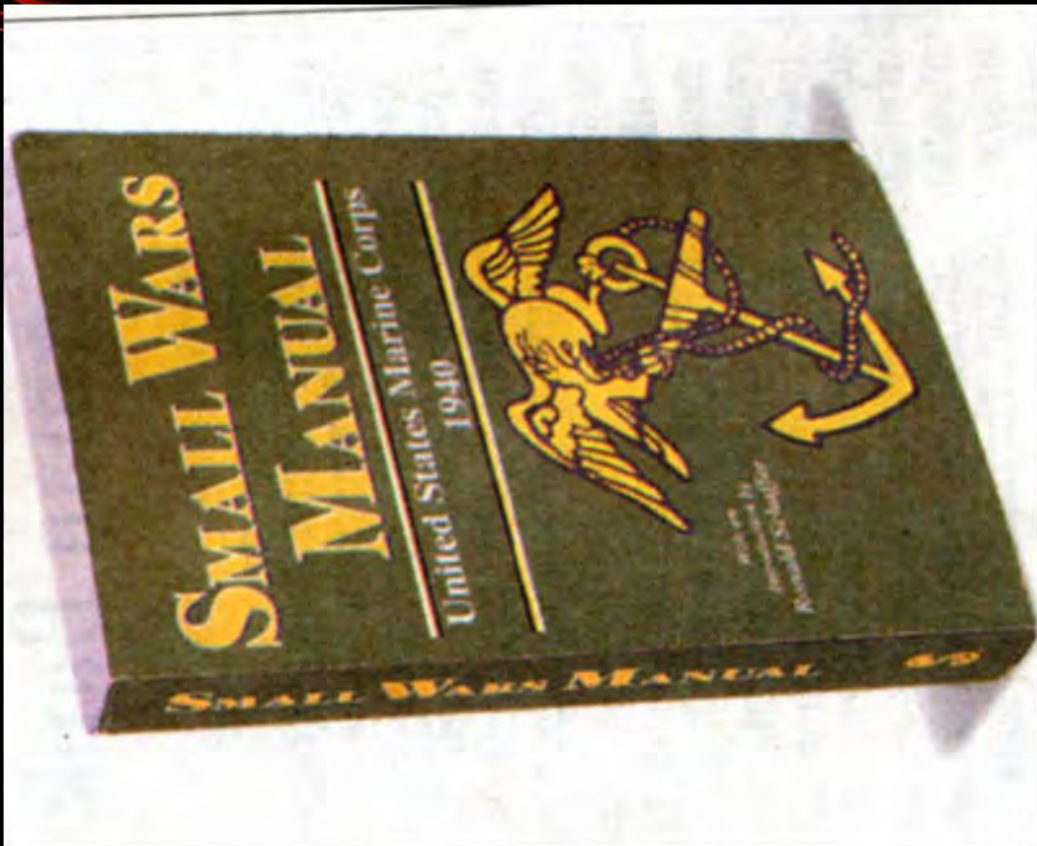
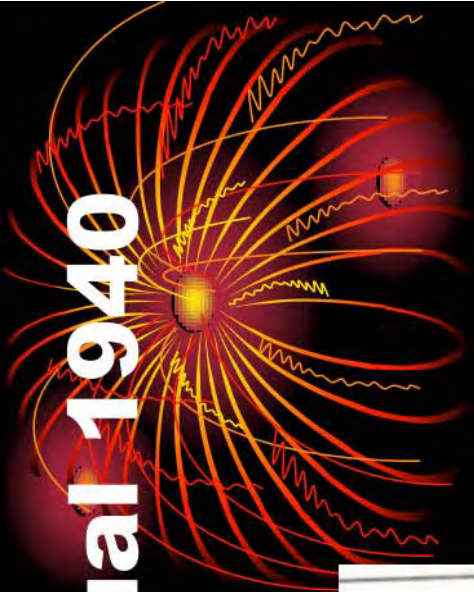
# Salute to the USMC



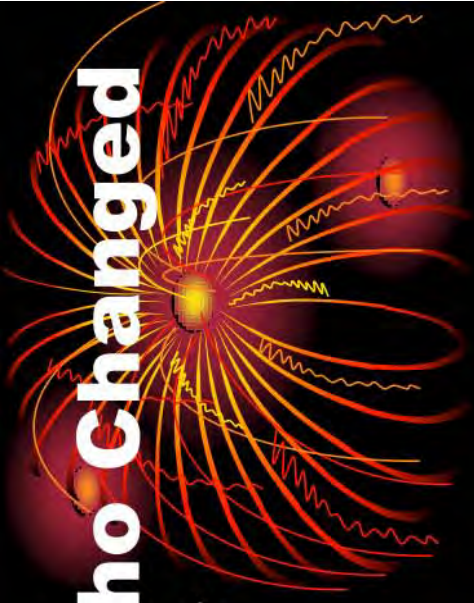
U.S. Sgt. Jahmal Guy Of Marietta, Ga., with the 2nd Battalion 1st Marine Regiment rides on a military truck through the town of Fallujah, Iraq, Monday, April 5, 2004. Hundreds of U.S. and Iraqi troops in tanks, trucks and other vehicles surrounded the turbulent city of Fallujah ahead of a major operation against insurgents following the grisly slayings of four American security contractors.

WXYZ.com, Detroit, The Associated Press April 5, 2004

# USMC Small Wars Manual 1940



# Boyd: The Fighter Pilot Who Changed the Art of War



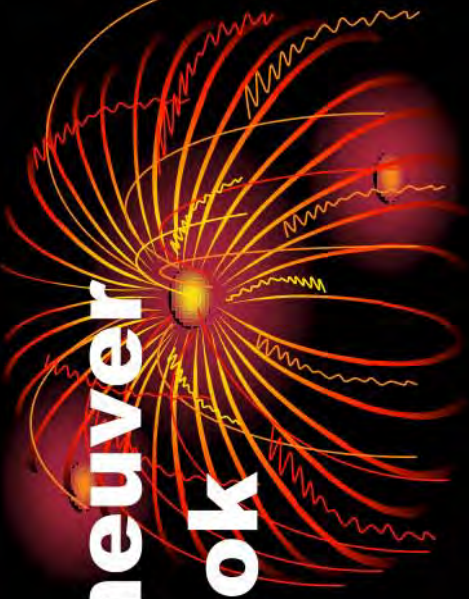
Biography by  
Robert Coram



Boyd developed:

- OODA Loop Concept
- Energy-Maneuverability Theory
- Patterns of Conflict Analysis of Ground War

# William S. Lind: Maneuver Warfare Handbook



Wrote and taught Maneuver Warfare to USMC officers at Quantico and elsewhere.

Co-authored the initial article describing 4GW in October 1989 Marine Corps Gazette and subsequent articles on 4GW

# Victor O'Reilly Wrote 3 Novels that are Experience-Based

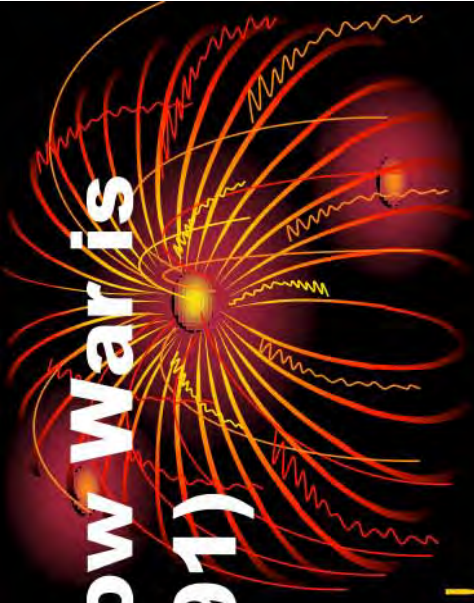
The Devil's Footprint



You Need:

- Regional experts
- Intelligence orientation
- Very bright/quirky people
- More than just a military solution
- Moral high ground
- Pushing the message to the people
- Leadership
- Long term frame of reference

# Martin Van Creveld on how War is Transforming (1991)

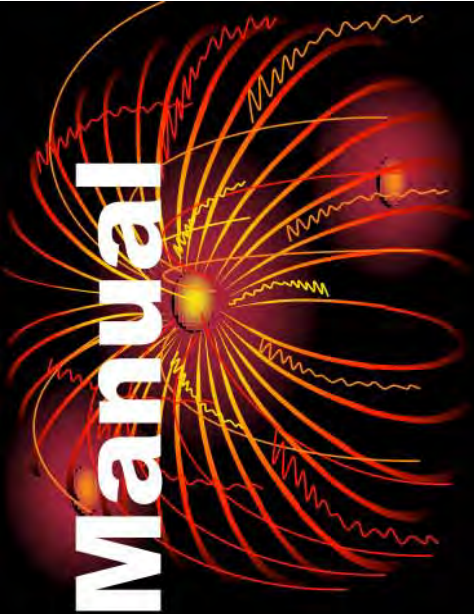


- Clausewitz is dead!
- Future wars waged by terrorists, guerrillas and bandits
- Motivation by fanatical, ideological-based fanatics
- Characteristics of future war:
  - Bombings
  - Skirmishes
  - Massacres
- Weapons less-sophisticated not more
- High-tech arms dealers will collapse





# Al Qaeda Training Manual



- Manchester (England) Metropolitan Police found this manual during a search of an Al Qaeda member's home. The manual was in a computer file described as "the military series" related to the "Declaration of Jihad." The manual was translated into English and was introduced in 2002 at the embassy bombing trial in New York.
- Worth reading to get inside the mind of a terrorist

<http://www.usdoj.gov/ag/trainingmanual.htm>

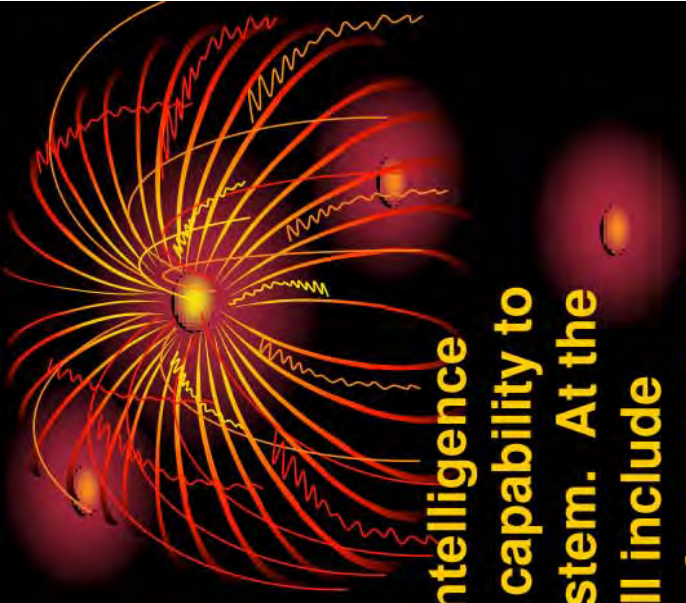
# Definition of 4GW



- Combined terrorism, hi-tech, non-national base (an idea or a religion) in a direct attack on the enemy culture with highly sophisticated PSYOPS especially through manipulation of the media, particularly TV
- Distinction between war and peace blurred (to include distinction between military and civilian), non-linear, no fronts

William S. Lind, Col Keith Nightengale (USA), Captain John F. Schmitt (USMC), Col Joseph W. Sutton (USA), LtCol Gary I. Wilson (USMCR), "The Changing Face of War: Into the Fourth Generation", *Marine Corps Gazette*, Oct 89

# 4GW Complexities



- **“Fourth generation war will require much more intelligence gathering, analysis, and a greater dissemination capability to serve a highly flexible, interagency command system. At the same time, the fact that fourth generation war will include elements of earlier generations of war means our forces must be prepared to deal with these aspects as well ... therefore, it will be essential for leaders to make an accurate analysis of the war they are about to enter.**
- **The complex mix of generations of war with their overlapping political, economic, social, military, and mass media arenas makes determining the type of war we are entering more critical than ever” .**

**Col. T.X. Hammes, USMC, “The Evolution of War: The Fourth Generation”, <http://www.d-n-i.net/hammes.htm>**

# Who is the Enemy?



Courtney Kealy / Getty Images

# How is 4GW Different, or Is It?



- Some say “nothing has changed”
- Others recognize Asymmetric Nature
  - e.g., Gen Van Riper
- Still Others believe there is a radical difference

# We've Seen Some Things Before



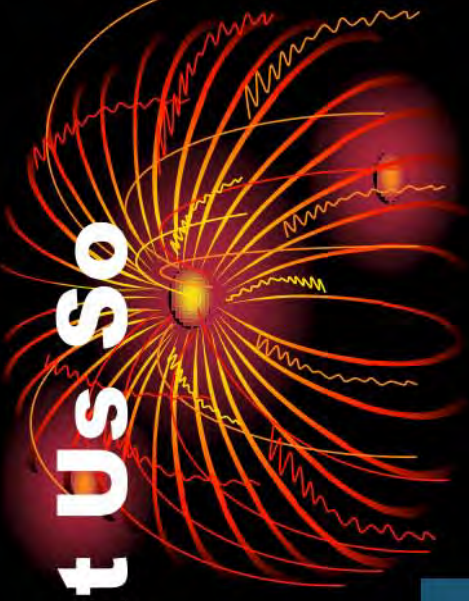
Abu Sayyaf in the Philippines

# Fundamental Differences in Nature of this War



- **Global war** by non-state entities against nation-states
- Ability to use **WMD**
- Attempt to make this into a **cultural war** between America and Islam
- No identifiable centers of gravity
- **Self-forming adaptive cells** that require little C2
- **Psychological war** to target the American will and the American economy

# So Why Do They Fight Us So Fiercely?

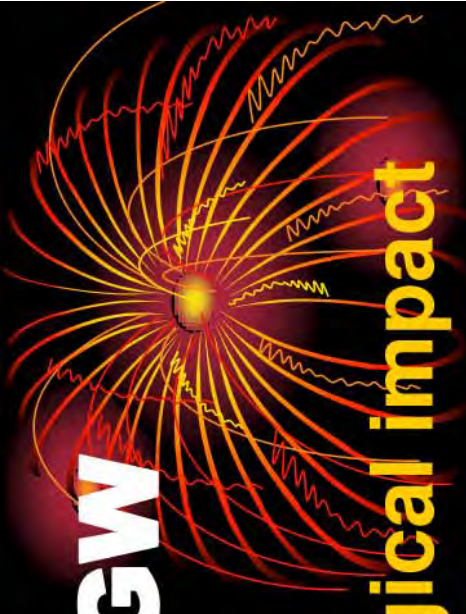


**Our freedoms and our way of life a threat to their belief system**

**Young people in Iran have had their fill of fundamentalism**

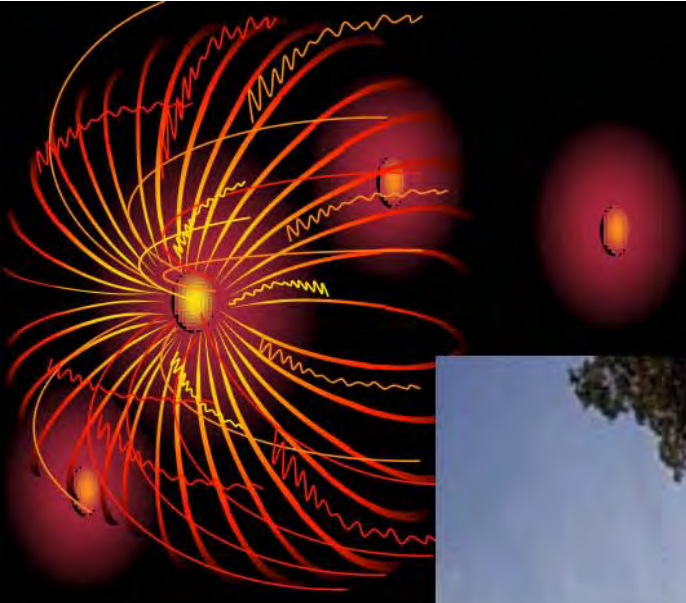
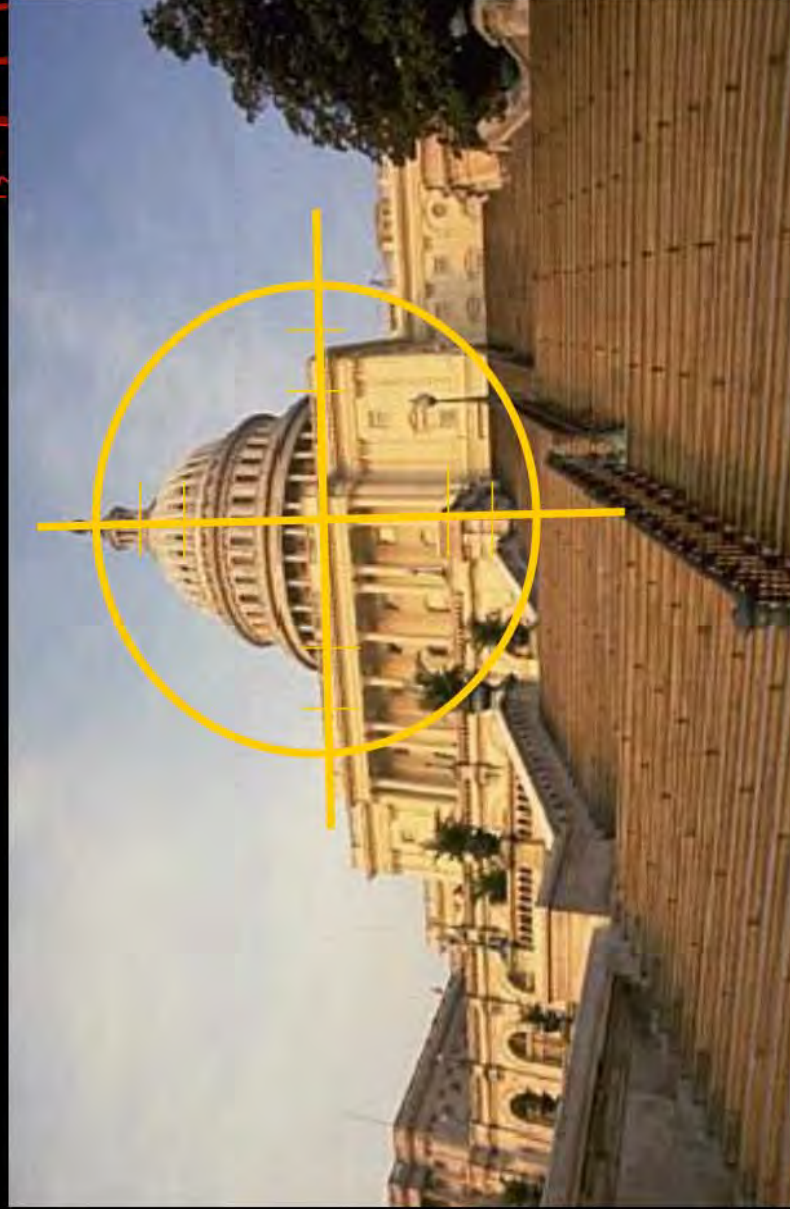


# Characteristics of 4GW



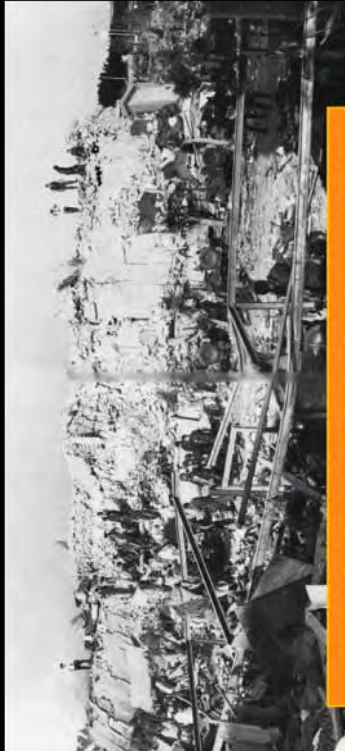
- They seek a major **psychological impact** (shock or confusion)
  - To degrade our initiative, freedom of action or will to fight
  - To shape our public opinion
- They aim for results **disproportionate** to invested efforts
- They employ **innovative or nontraditional tactics, weapons, and technologies**

# The Strategic Target: U.S. National Will



**This formula worked in the Vietnam War and we can see it at work today!**

# How Do You Anticipate?



US MARINE BARRACKS  
IN LEBANON



USS COLE



WTC



KHOBAR TOWERS

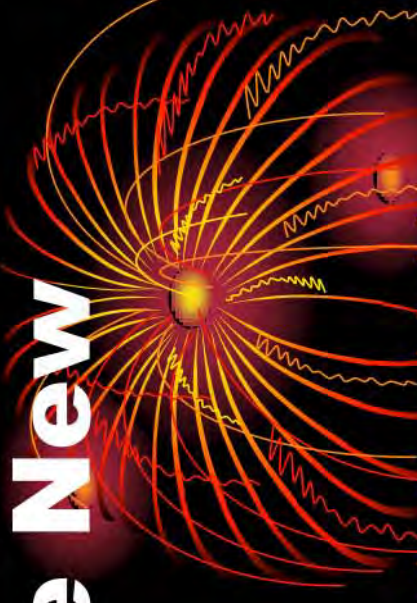


US EMBASSY KENYA



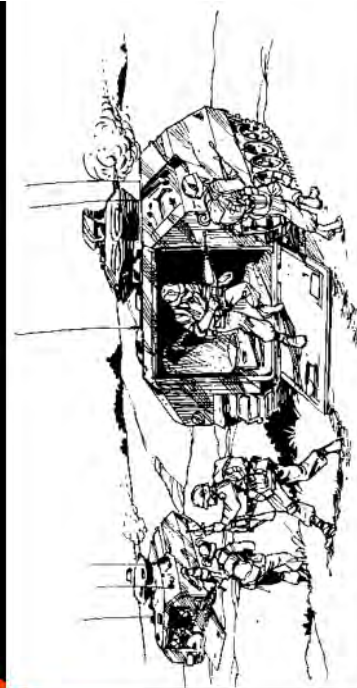
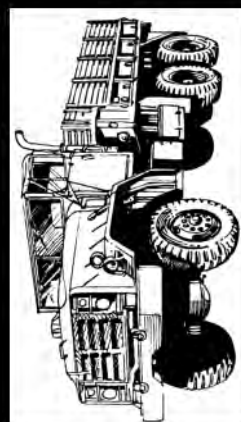
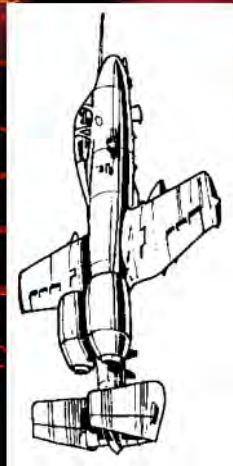
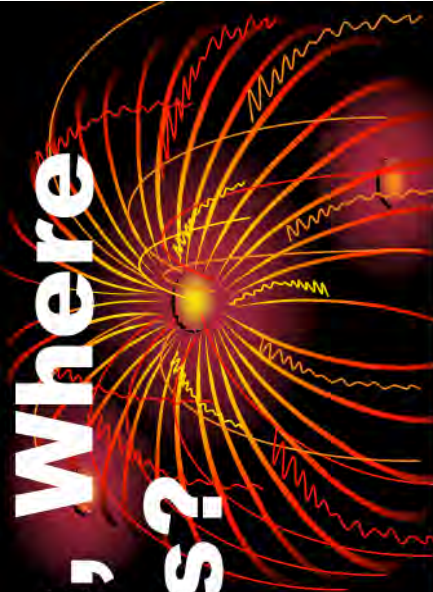
UN BUILDING BAGHDAD

# Intelligence in the New Generation

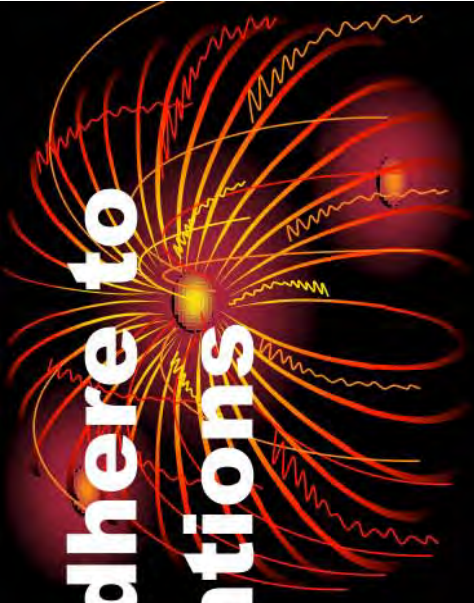


- Coordinated not only within Government but worldwide
- Regional experts, local experts (FAOs)
- Regional long-term MI centers that don't rotate with "reach-back" capabilities
- Data bases on local tactics, individuals, weapons, and patterns
- Derived weaknesses
- Actionable intelligence supplied to police, military commanders
- Background furnished to Public Affairs, Media
- HUMINT and eyeballs

# Speaking of Eyeballs, Where are the Cessnas?



# The Al Qaeda Don't Adhere to the Geneva Conventions



There are no “codes of conduct” for  
the enemy, but we must adhere to  
ours.

The Al Qaeda execution of Daniel Pearl,  
Reporter for the Wall Street Journal

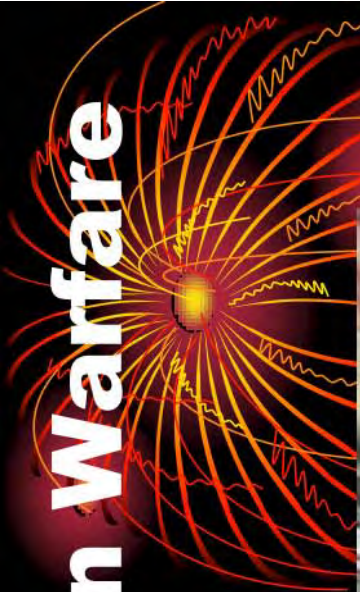
# BLURRING OF CONCEPTS



- Strategic objective: Win the moral war
- Operational objective: Win the mental and moral war
- Tactical objective: Win the physical, mental, and moral war
  - Fighting may be the least important (Sun Tzu)

*The world turned upside down???*

# PSYOPS and Information Warfare



Rumor: "Bert is Evil"



Proof: "Bert is Evil"

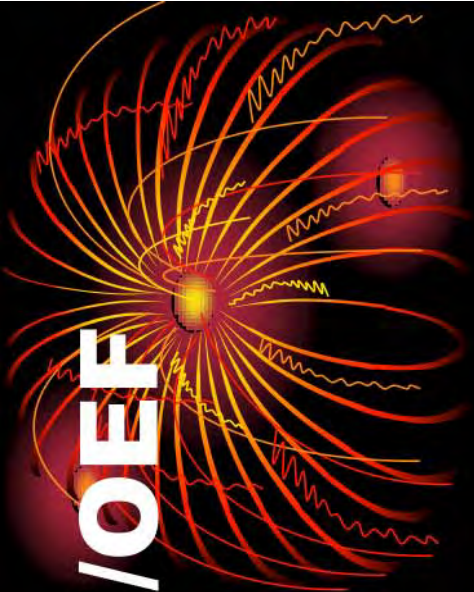


# IO: Seize the Moral High Ground



**This young boy did not want to commit suicide. The promise of rewards in heaven and monetary rewards to his family just weren't enough.**

# Civil Affairs in OIF/OEF



The “soft power” approach



Needs hard power for protection

# The Three Block War: Gen Charles Krulak, CMC

## Different Battle Needs:



- High-intensity warfare against trained, well-equipped enemy
- Counter-Guerrilla warfare
- Peacekeeping and humanitarian aid

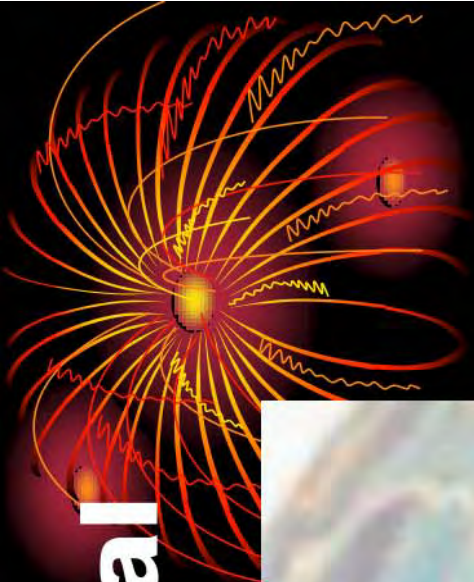
# GEN Zinni on Leaders



“I don't need someone who's only good at the killing and breaking, I need somebody that has the breadth of education experience and intellect to take on all the rest of these missions that he or she is going to be saddled with when the shooting stops or when it subsides to some level. They're the ones that are going to count on the ground out there, more than anything else. And I think that's the issue in any discussion as to what happens to our military from here on out.”

Source: Gen Anthony Zinni, Address at the Marine Corps Association and Naval Institute: Forum 2003: “How Do We Overhaul the Nation's Defense to Win the Next War?”, Crystal Gateway Marriot, Arlington, VA, 4 Sep 03

# The Strategic Corporal



# Shock and Awe Comes Out of the Barrel of a Gun

- Remember, when necessary to close with and destroy the enemy, do it decisively and swiftly
  - He won't do that any more
  - He will revert to unconventional warfare
- Firepower counts in a world that understands only power (There is a role for attrition warfare in 4GW)
- Watch your 6 o'clock (non-linear)
- Plan, plan, plan, rehearse, rehearse, execute!
- Hot wash! (AAR)
- Do not forget the concurrent mental and moral wars

# Some practicalities: IEDs in Iraq

1<sup>st</sup> IED

Side View



Top View

Note: Wires attached to nose running away from device.



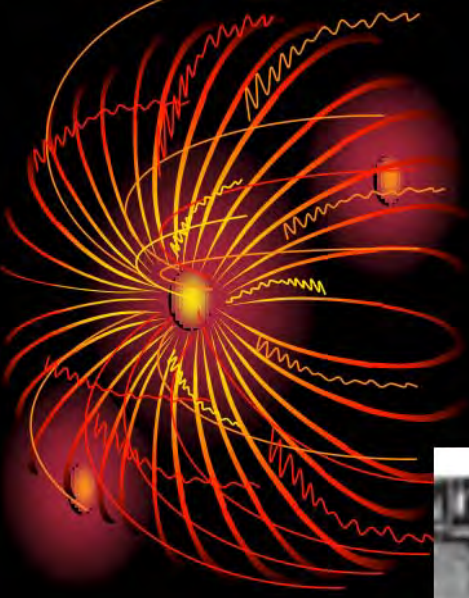
# Suicide Bomber Indicators



- Some signs in spotting a bomber are:
  - Potential Wearing unseasonably warm attire.
  - Protruding bulges seen in clothing.
  - Sweating, mumbling or fidgeting.
  - Avoiding police/military forces.
  - Trying to fit into crowds.
- Disguises: As friendly forces have become more vigilant in recent months, homicide/suicide bombers have employed new tactics to avoid detection, such as dyeing their hair to look more European, and by dressing in civilian clothes or similar appearing army uniforms. Women have also been used as bombers.
- Car bombs indicators:
  - suspicious or mismatched license plates,
  - vehicles parked in unusual locations
  - the car is weighed down at the back, because of explosives in the trunk.



# ***The Battle of Algiers: Moral War***



***The Battle of Algiers, Gillo Pontecorvo's 1965 classic film of urban terrorist insurgency***

# Cultural Problem: Women!



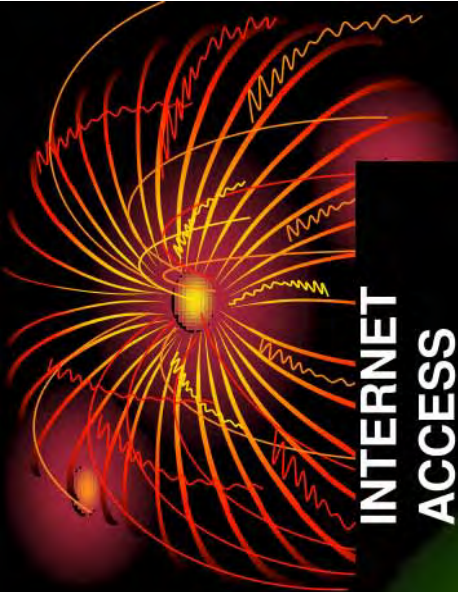
**Don't Touch the Merchandise: If necessary get a female MP**

# Cultural Problem: Search of House



How would you react if the police left your house like this after finding nothing?

# Technology



**INTERNET  
ACCESS**

**INTERCEPTOR  
BODY ARMOR**

**PGM**

**LAPTOPS**

**NVG**

**UAV**

**FIREFINDER  
RADAR**

**AIR & GROUND  
MOBILITY**



# Lessons Learned

**USMC**

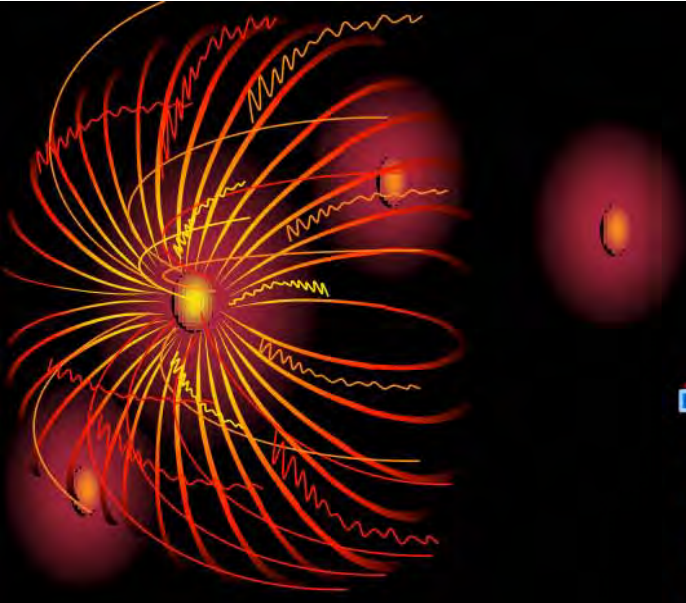
<http://www.smallwars.quantico.usmc.mil/>

## Joint Center for Lessons Learned

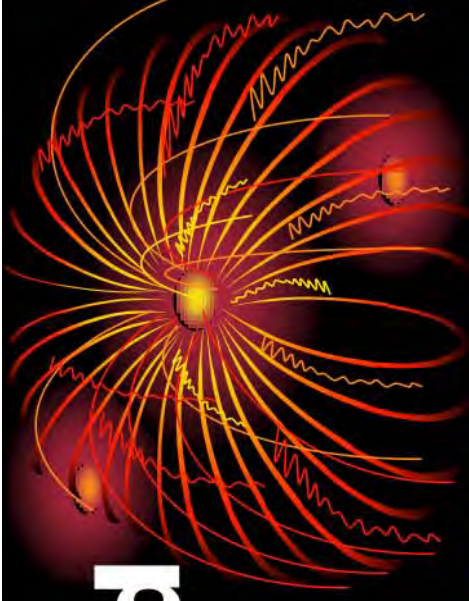
[http://www.jwfc.jfcom.mil/about/fact\\_jcll.htm](http://www.jwfc.jfcom.mil/about/fact_jcll.htm)

## Center for Army Lessons Learned

<http://call.army.mil/tools.htm>



# Report Card



- **Not all doom and gloom**
- **Positive steps in all AORs with little reporting about the positive**
- **Khadaffi may have been influenced by our efforts in Iraq (time will tell)**
- **Iran is clearly attuned to Iraq**
- **Issue is still in doubt**
- **Do not expect a short war(s)**
- **Do not expect it to be without sacrifice (as we have seen)**
- **We are floundering in Iraq; Afghanistan uncertain**
- **Aim is to de-escalate, not escalate!**



# Recommended Study (1)

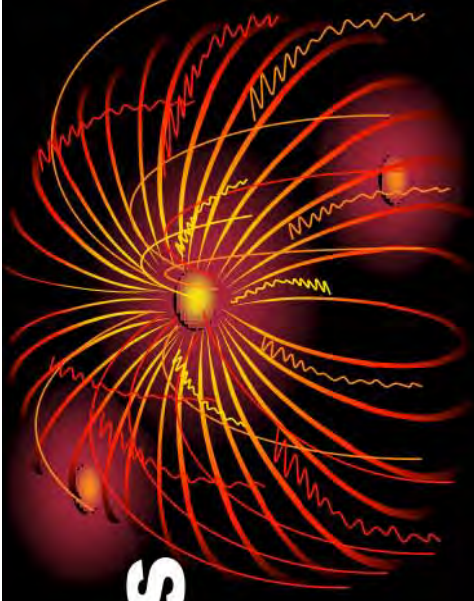
- Sun Tzu, *The Art of War* (many different editors but I recommend Samuel B. Griffith)
- Miyamoto Mushashi, *The Book of Five Rings*
- \*John Poole, *Phantom Soldier* and *The Tiger's Way*
- Mohammed Yousaf and Mark Adkin, *Afghanistan: The Bear Trap*
- Lawrence of Arabia, *Seven Pillars of Wisdom* and *Letters Home*
- Peter Mansfield, *The Arabs*
- William S. Lind, *Maneuver Warfare Handbook*
- \*Martin Van Creveld, *Transformation of War*
- \**Small Wars Manual USMC 1940* <http://www.smallwars.quantico.usmc.mil/>
- Mao Zedong, *On Guerrilla Warfare*
- \*Jean Larteguy, *The Centurions*
- \*Victor O'Reilly, *The Devil's Footprint*
- Bernard Fall, *Street Without Joy* and *Last Reflections on War*
- Mark Bowden, *Blackhawk Down*
- Robert Coram, *Boyd: The Fighter Pilot Who Changed the Art of War*

# Recommended Study (2)

- **Movies:**
  - Documentary: "The Battle of Algiers" available through [Amazon.com or at](http://www.amazon.com/orat) local Video Rental Stores
- **Web Sites:**
  - More than 100 4GW articles maintained on <http://www.d-n-i.net> including: William S. Lind, *et. al.*, "The Changing Face of War: Into the Fourth Generation", *Marine Corps Gazette*, Oct 89 and LtCol Thomas X Hammes, "The Evolution of War: The Fourth Generation", *Marine Corps Gazette*, Sep 94
  - William S. Lind articles and seminar reports on 4GW on <http://www.military.com>
  - GySgt Howard's Website: <http://home.ec.rr.com/links/index.htm>
  - Company Commander's website: <http://www.companycommand.com>
  - Platoon Leader's website: <http://www.platoonleader.com>
  - Al Qaeda Training Manual, DOJ Website: <http://www.usdoj.gov/ag/trainingmanual.htm>



# Concluding Remarks



**“You Marines and your Army brothers will  
write this new page in history: Write it  
well.”**

**(MG Mattis, 1<sup>st</sup> MARDIV)**