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EDITORIAL

This time we present the 60th edition of Triarius. After this tour, it must be obvious to everyone that this magazine is consolidated, and that quality, content and scope, is an important reference for community security, defense, intelligence and counter-terrorism. This is made possible by international experts and analysts who selflessly contribute their writings for dissemination through this medium, contributing to the intellectual and professional strengthening of our thousands of readers in different countries. This project will build together, and will last as long as people send us materials of interest for publication. Cheer !, Yours is one of the analysts Triarius.

The first article in this issue refers to the erratic President of the United States, who with his voluble decisions and constant setbacks, confuses and worries the international community. Thank Colonel (r) Blasco for their constant contributions.

Then go to Afghanistan where the situation tends to get complicated. Guadi Calvo article talks about the elections in Afghanistan and the threat posed by the Taliban, al-Qaeda Daesh and the stability and security of this country, which has been 18 years in the current war.

A step followed, we present an analysis based on the military balance between Colombia and Venezuela, where historical and current issues touch. This material is of interest to those who are monitoring the situation in Venezuela, and perceive their government as a threat.

Guadi Calvo takes us to Egypt, to present an analysis referred to General Abdul Fattah al-Sisi, and the complexities of his iron-fisted rule.

From Spain, our friend Juan Pablo Pardo Retortillo brings us an interesting analysis dealing with the issue of migration, seen from a geopolitical position, but primarily religious. John Paul's writings are notable for very original and unorthodox.

We turn to Yemen, where Guadi analyzed from different angles, the reasons why the powerful coalition headed by Saudi Arabia, has failed to subdue the forces defending this country from invaders. While this has had dire consequences for the non-combatant civilians.

Colonel (r) Blasco, quickly does a masterful analysis of the situation in the Middle East, with the common thread erratic and irresponsible actions of President Trump.

We end this issue with an article that talks about the complex situation in the Sahel region of Africa, where countries face a significant terrorist threat that puts stability at stake.

We hope, as always, that these contents are satisfactory for our valued readers.

Know to beat!

Douglas Hernandez

Editor



This newsletter has a Spanish version.

Triarius 060

Content:

More of the same, p.4

By Francisco Javier Blasco Robledo, Colonel (r), (Spain)

Afghanistan, the only choice is death, p.6

By Guadi Calvo (Argentina)

Interfering to beat. Brief analysis of military balance with Venezuela, p. 10

By Douglas Hernández (Colombia)

Egypt: Al-Sisi. Nasser to Mubarak, p.15

By Guadi Calvo (Argentina)

Immigration and religious issue, p.18

By Juan Pablo Pardo Retortillo (Spain)

Yemen of the offense on the offensive, p.23

By Guadi Calvo (Argentina)

USA withdraws from the Middle East. P.26

By Francisco Javier Blasco Robledo, Colonel (r), (Spain)

Sahel, the endless storm, p.29

By Guadi Calvo (Argentina)



TRIARIUS

The picture in Latin America has become more complicated than usual, with policies and governance crises that have destabilized at times to different governments. It is quite significant management that have given information to government spokespersons, the media and international organizations. All of which realizes that are not vertical and consistent with their positions, but obey these petty and momentary interests. Just and rational it would be that, if a government declares that popular protest should not be repressed with violence, not then violently represses its own people when he or she protests. Similarly, if a dignitary believes that silence the press is the characteristic of dictatorial governments, should not then justify that this be done elsewhere. As a final example, presumably if for a country is either dismiss the Congress Acting President and appoint an interim president should be fine for everyone else, where the constitution allows. We have had to live in interesting times, we have our eyes wide open.

Headlines, Romanian Army troops.
See more information at the end of the magazine.

Triarius favors freedom of expression, however, the responsibility for what is said in the articles, it is exclusive to their authors.

special international analysts that free us have submitted articles for this issue thanks.

More of the same

By Francisco Javier Blasco Robledo, Colonel (r), (Spain)



Donald Trump, President of the United States of America.

The theme of the meetings between the US and North Korea (CN) on nuclear and missile programs of the latter is becoming weary under the Administration Trump. In just two years they have had two meetings at the highest level, a recent brief meeting of the two leaders in the demilitarized zone between the two Koreas and several meetings, known or unknown, at different levels of negotiating groups. All with the same final result; nothing but words, pictures, greetings and more or less friendly long wet paper making it impossible that could lead to direct towards an effective state of tranquility, security and world peace.

Much has been written and spoken about Trump and ways of trading. I myself published a few days ago, work on several Achilles heels and dangerous character; in the same he highlighted the dangers that most of them contain about more than possible loss of credibility of their constant threats and punitive initiatives, as appropriate; and the negative influence of the insistence or repetition in such acts, even for different or unrelated reasons. His belligerent and at the same time as changing attitude does not lead to anything positive, in contrast, it is a tendency to increase the sense of real weariness among his fellow citizens, friends and strangers.

the origin and the real reason for so much change in attitude and orientation in its foreign relations is not

known. It may be due to the crossroads and tangle of accusations that currently surround the US president by several cases of personal pressure on their peers allies, prefixing or change certain national or not support, encourage delivery of sensitive information gained through activities spying on Biden and his family. Information that can be used against him in the long campaign in his country are beginning to emerge on the horizon.

The truth is that Trump, at least apparently, is very hungry or in need of internal and external notoriety that dampens somewhat the negative impact and the increasingly real risk of being stopped. Notoriety, quite possibly pass as the result of a position of firmness and hardness up to the problems that have more recently affected the US security and its allies in general.

Hence the explanation to the palpable and constant swings guidance on several of their problems and, in particular, two of its biggest infected kernels, North Korea and Iran and their nuclear programs. Lately, everything pointed to that person or in his circle of closest advisers and still "faithful" to him, it was thought that the key to success for the upcoming elections was to imitate somewhat Obama trying to seek new agreements sui generis to lower military and humanitarian pressure on certain enemies, that being

forced and pressured by domestic political and economic situation in their countries and especially the need for personal survival and the regime they represent,

But again, I do not know if being a man of choleric temperament and voluble; by its cyclical way of thinking or because he thinks that the position of softness subtracts credibility to some of his famous slogans like "America first" or "America does not throw threats false", decided in both cases, withdraw its launched peace initiatives and almost back to the starting position, although without explicitly mentioning the word war or invasion.

I warned in that work, which often find it very difficult to maintain a decision; that is becoming infamous for his frequent dalliances, and correcting very often; which contrary to popular thought some misunderstanding, if done fairly often or regularly, without any real justification precipitation is not true that it is wise himself, but rather the contrary; little thoughtful, spontaneous and visceral people who, somewhat later, fears of possible repercussions own atazan them and force them to correct itself almost immediately. Situations such vehemence that detract, and much, much of its prestige and credibility.

weapons and massive sale of Iranian oil; for just hours before taking him out, blow all the bridges and return to the situation of closure and even announce new and greater restrictions further acogoten already ailing Iranian economy.

Earlier, after the meeting of G-20 in Osaka at the end of June this year, unexpectedly, but with all the beating and possible informative impact, Trump made a stop on the journey back home, in an act

unprecedented cross the line between the two Koreas and make a brief encounter fifty minutes long with Km Jong-un in the so-called Demilitarized Zone. Meeting which, as stated in many means of information and intelligence, the meeting held yesterday in Stockholm, hosted by Sweden, was forged and that too after a not very long period either party came out with different face and point of view on the useless result thereof.

I do not think that this point was influenced by the test of a new North Korean missile - two days before the meeting in Stockholm and the eleventh trial in 2019 several missiles capable of carrying nuclear warheads. Trial, which was conducted from an offshore platform, enabling it to be capable of being fired from a submarine, which would mean that China could launch a missile from a distance of its territory, thereby increasing the scope of such weapons to unsuspected points.

His inexhaustible steps forward and backward - type dancing Yenka- are becoming pathetic, weary and too frequent; all linked to personal problems with the law and US law regarding the growing and real possibility of being tried by the House and the Senate of his country to be expelled from office, if any, are beginning to be a too heavy burden even for the incombustible Trump.

To end this brief chronicle-story, I must say in his defense, even partially, the fickleness of Trump is also accompanied by certain swings and a closure in its external partners; what make you more likely to change their intentions. Although such changes, always makes abruptly, almost disproportionate gestures and authentic theatrical performances, very worthy of Broadway.

Image source:

<https://www.thedailybeast.com/ok-this-trump-thing-isnt-funny-anymore>

Francisco Javier Blasco Robledo

(Spain) Army Colonel (retired). He sent for two years as Chief Colonel, Infantry Regiment Aereotransportable Isabel la Catolica No. 29, was Deputy Director of the Center of Intelligence of the Armed Forces (CIFAS) and Head of proliferation; Defense Attache in the Czech Republic and the Slovak Republic; 2nd Brigade Chief of the Spanish-Italian in the West (KFOR) in Kosovo Region; head teacher Army at the College of the Armed Forces (ESFAS) of CESEDEN, among other positions of great importance.

Afghanistan, the only choice is death

By Guadi Calvo (Argentina)



Afghan citizen after exercising their right to vote. Referential image.

In the midst of a war that already has more than eighteen years, and whose decision every day seems more distant now much more after the breakdown of negotiations last September 9, between the United States and the Taliban, after a US soldier He died in an attack, becoming the fourth American died in two weeks. (See: Trump bogged down in Afghanistan).

Meanwhile, Taliban attacks, the Daesh Khorasan and al-Qaeda, drench and "collateral damage" that are produced by actions of both the Afghan army and US aviation, generate dozens of deaths among the civilian population, increasingly often . In this context believe that the elections next Saturday 28, the best western style, you can solve something, it would still be an act of faith. If those behind it were pure and pristine souls, would Holy Innocents, but pure in this conflict much they have died long ago, and power, to shreds, is in the hands of interest rotting remains of jostle that some it was once a country.

The next time 72 thousand troops from the security forces Saturday will be deployed throughout the country while another 30,000 will be added as needed. It is known that the US Air Force and the

Afghan army are scouring hundreds of people classified as high risk, to cleanse them of insurgents.

The absurdity of this situation borders on magical realism or perhaps exceed it, as the democratic bid being waged between those responsible for the state of degradation of the country, along with the United States finally designate themselves as the great elector. Install the democratic process in a country with decades of war and violence of tribal structure, at the time where democratic systems around the world are on the verge of collapse is absurd, because it is obvious that the real power: markets, banks, holding companies or consortia, has taken control of the international situation except for a handful of countries, thanks to the media, conjugated or conspirators? with the incompetence of formal democracies were able to convince millions of people throughout the world that the output was in the hands of Trump,

Gear launched in Afghanistan, for Saturday can be stopped easily by a general action of the Taliban or dozens of small operations that are in perfect condition to perform, attacking electoral or much easier to go out and vote so centers.

Security forces are doomed these days to defuse mines and IED or famous homemade explosives manufacturing, which have wreaked havoc not only in Afghanistan but in all countries where they are used. In previous elections, the insurgents turned to using small arms or always effective suicide bombers, during parliamentary October last year some 110 attacks on polling stations in which 56 civilians were killed and wounded 380 were recorded, the figure highest of the four elections held in the country since the US invasion of 2001.

Are just under 10 million Afghans, of which 34.5% are women, who will vote next Saturday in the 7385 polling stations arranged which 675 are considered at high risk of being targeted by terrorist actions. Afghan citizens have to choose between eighteen candidates, of which only four have possibilities: the current president Ashraf Ghani, his eternal rival and current head of the Afghan government, Abdullah Abdullah; Gulbuddin Hekmatyar, a Mujahid veteran anti-Soviet war and Hanif Atmar, Minister during the government of Hamid Karzai.

The Taliban warned voters that "all polling stations are military objectives so that each will be responsible for what might happen." As an appetizer to these threats the Taliban last week, attacked in Charakar, a predominantly Shiite area in the northern province of Parwan, a suicide bomber who blew himself up amid a political act with the announced presence of Ghani, explosion he left at least 30 dead and 50 wounded. Hours after another explosion in Kabul, near a base of the Afghan army and US embassy killed 22 others.

More and more collateral damage.

After Trump canceled the chance of a peace deal with the Taliban, and facing the imminent presidential elections, the US has increased its drone operations, coordinated with the Afghan army ground actions. As part of the coalition has announced a series of successful attacks against insurgents, this obviously entails a corresponding response from the fundamentalists, which increases even more the permanent danger that the subject civilians living steadily two fires.

Sunday twenty night in the district of Musa Qala in Helmand province after a US airstrike, which was followed by a ground assault by Afghan special forces targeted a shelter of the Taliban were at least 40 civilians dead mostly women and children participating in a procession prior to a wedding party. The fighting also would have died twenty-two Taliban militants and arrested fourteen others including five

Pakistanis and one Bangladeshi. The attack was intended to capture the Pakistani Asim Umar, the first head of al-Qaeda in the Indian subcontinent (AQIS) who managed to finally managed to escape with his liaison with Ayman al-Zawahiri, Osama bin Laden's heir. AQIS was created by al-Zawahiri in 2014,

Hours before this new "incident" a spokesman for the United States had to recognize that in an air raid drone in Wazir Tangi district of Khogyani, in the eastern province of Nangarhar, killing at least 30 farmers who collected pine nuts densely in a wooded field, another 40 were injured. American spokesman said the attack was directed against fighters Daesh Khorasan, located in the area.

According to a UN report in April, which obviously does not include recent "mistakes" between military forces deployed by the United States, NATO and the Security Forces and National Defense Afghanis (ANSDF) have killed more civilians in the first three months of this year the Taliban and other armed organizations fighting in the Central Asian country, the approximate number of civilians killed is 305. According to the same report in the first half of civilian casualties in separate attacks amounting to 4 mil.

August was a particularly bloody month in which an average of 74 deaths a day and September did not start better with a series of suicide attacks, car bombs, and massive attacks occurred.

Thirty-nine people died and 140 were injured on Wednesday when a truck bomb nineteen was detonated outside a hospital in the southern town of Qalat. Most of the victims were reported among doctors, nurses, patients and visitors, although as reported by the Taliban, the target had been one, neighbor, office of intelligence and this list could be extended with US covert actions reported daily two or three dead who do not differentiate between civilians or militants, but that figure is "insignificant" to reach the mainstream media. The dead beyond the elections will continue to add, because no matter who prevails, always absolutely always wins death in Afghanistan.

Editor's note:This article was written by Guadi the pre-election week of September 28, but could not be published in due course. We offer excuses analyst and our readers.

The media reported that day 68 actions under the terrorist groups operating in Afghanistan, where two policemen were killed and 40 wounded, including 37 civilians. Taliban spokesmen speak of 114 attacks, 159 dead and 93 wounded among the Afghan security forces. Not even the results of the election are known, in which there was much abstention.

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Guadi Calvo

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Interfering to beat. A brief analysis of the military balance with Venezuela

By Douglas Hernandez (Colombia)



Colombian Army Special Forces.

our Region

The geopolitical and geostrategic context of our region is increasingly complex. While we have not been outside the confrontation between the great powers of the world, they had never before been so present in Latin America. Extra-continental powers, particularly Russia and China, but also India and Iran. Each seeking to strengthen its presence in the region and gain ground in terms of military sales, positioning personnel or logistic facilities, as well as establishing all kinds of cooperation agreements in various fields, issues that ultimately aim to gain the sympathy of local governments and strengthen alliances for the future.

This introductory framework puts in the spotlight to countries such as Cuba, Nicaragua, Bolivia, Suriname and Venezuela, being them the ones who have received support or have purchased arms from extra-continental powers, and because in the region they have worse relations with the United States.

For the purposes of this brief analysis, we focus on the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela. A country with which for decades we have had cyclically strained relations and the fact that we have a hypothesis of conflict. Venezuela has signed cooperation agreements with Russia, China and Iran, and these three countries have acquired large batches of weapons and equipment, as we shall see in the development of this article.

A full history of tensions

For more than five decades, the Military Forces of Colombia were committed to combat illegal armed groups of different nature, which forced them to organize, train, arm and equip in a way to be so efficient in this kind of conflict. In this context, the bulk of care and investment focused on irregular warfare, keeping just a few "strategic" elements to introduce minimum deterrence capabilities against potential adversaries that could drag us into a regular war.

During those five decades the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela had no major internal problems to be distracted its Armed their strategic missions Forces, on the other hand, the country experienced an oil boom that allowed them to equip themselves with weapons and advanced equipment, against which Colombia was always at a disadvantage.

The issue of delimitation of marine and submarine areas in the Gulf of Coquivacoa has been the center of major tensions between the two countries, and largely the engine that has driven military agenda Venezuela and acquisitions, pretending always maintain its strategic military capacity beyond the capabilities of Colombia.

To give an example of the above, the Mirage team operated with the Colombian Air Force from 1972 to 2010. Just in 2006 the capacity was acquired for these fighters could carry and launch missiles air-air (four years before retirement) before that his only weapon for aerial combat evolving or "dog fight" were their internal cannons. That means that, if we had a war with Venezuela in 1987 following the crisis corvette Caldas, we would have lost control of the air immediately against the fighters of the Venezuelan Air Force.

Indeed, the crisis prompted the government of Colombia to acquire the latest Kfir who came home with the ability to launch missile Phyton III type short range.

According to the Israeli manufacturer, the Python III has speed, turning radius and range, higher than the US missile AIM-9 Sidewinder in use by Venezuelan fighters in service at that time, which came to represent an improvement in capabilities FAC, however should not forget that for 1989 when Kfir acquired by Colombia, the Venezuelan Air Force already had 24 F-16 a / B, 18 VF-5 a / B and 16 Mirage III / 5, a total of 58 combat aircraft capable of carrying air-to-air missiles, against just 13 Kfir C2 / TC2 of the Colombian air Force. A ratio of 5 to 1 that gave a powerful advantage to Venezuela.

Ground things were no better. Armored regarding the Bolivarian Armed Force has a long history of operation of such equipment, and inventories has had different models from diverse backgrounds, both tracked and wheeled.

1987, year of the crisis of the corvette Caldas, Colombia Army armored available 54 TPM-113 transport armed only with machine guns M2-HB 12.7 mm (.50), and a batch of Brazilian armored acquired 1982, 128 formed by Engesa EE-9 CASCAVEL 54 and EE-11 URUTU, Cascavel are provided with a tube of 90 mm. Apart from the position mentioned, the remaining material of the Colombian Army consisted of obsolete vehicles dating from World War II. In contrast, the Venezuelan army tanks lined 81 AMX-30B 105 mm cannon., 40 M18A1 tank killers barreled 76 mm, and 40 AMX-13M51 with 75mm gun. (161 armored barrel against 128). In addition to the tanks, the Venezuelan army had a large number of armored personnel carriers, reconnaissance vehicles, portamorteros armored vehicles, armored vehicles with anti-aircraft guns, armored ambulance and armored command post, all supported by 155 mm self-propelled howitzers. AMX F3 and rocket propelled multiple 160mm. LAR, and hundreds of pieces of towed artillery. Like this is little, after the crisis of 1987, Venezuela acquired Dragoon system 300 (of which vehicles carry barrel 42), Alvis Scorpion light tanks (78) and light AMX-13C.90 (31). Unlike expand significantly, from 319 armored barrel against 128, a ratio of 2.5 to 1 in favor of Venezuela. AMX F3 and rocket propelled multiple 160mm. LAR, and hundreds of pieces of towed artillery. Like this is little, after the crisis of 1987, Venezuela acquired Dragoon system 300 (of which vehicles carry barrel 42), Alvis Scorpion light tanks (78) and light AMX-13C.90 (31). Unlike expand significantly, from 319 armored barrel against 128, a ratio of 2.5 to 1 in favor of Venezuela. AMX F3 and rocket propelled multiple 160mm. LAR, and hundreds of pieces of towed artillery. Like this is little, after the crisis of 1987, Venezuela acquired Dragoon system 300 (of which vehicles carry barrel 42), Alvis Scorpion light tanks (78) and light AMX-13C.90 (31). Unlike expand significantly, from 319 armored barrel against 128, a ratio of 2.5 to 1 in favor of Venezuela.

At sea the numbers also favored Venezuela. The only Colombian vessels capable of carrying missiles were the FS-1500 Corvettes (in fact, they are still the only ones), each of the 4 vessels had 8 Exocet missiles for a total of 32 anti-ship missiles ready to launch. Venezuelan armed possessed six Fragatas Lupo 8 Otomat missiles and three light patrol two Otomat missiles, for a total of 54 ready to launch missiles. Thus, the Venezuelan Navy had more combat units and anti-ship surface missiles, missiles being Otomat greater range and power than the Exocet. Worth noting that the Colombian FS-1500 Corvettes had no anti-aircraft missiles for self-defense, so that the Venezuelan air superiority would also be strong against our Navy.

In addition to the arms before related superiority, the Armed Forces of Venezuela constantly perform maneuvers regular war, and for decades perfectly handle the concept of ground fighting and joint operations, as well as Task Forces Combined Arms . These aspects in which the Military Forces of Colombia have entered only recently.

The military balance with Venezuela

The Armed Forces of Colombia have had a positive development regarding the acquisition of weapons, equipment, training, organization and doctrine in general. However, although we can say without fear of contradiction that the Military Forces of Colombia are now more powerful than at any time in its history, when compared with the Bolivarian National Armed Forces continue to be at a disadvantage and that disadvantage in some fields is enormous .

In the air, although the Mirage III / 5 and VF-5A / B Venezuelan fighters out of service, there is still a remnant of F-16 which now employ the missile Phytton IV. There are about 12 F-16s in active service. Maneuverability, range and weapons capability even make the F-16 a formidable foe. But they are not alone, Venezuela acquired 24 Russian Sukhoi Su-30 with an arsenal of weapons and electronic equipment difficult to match, including powerful BVR missiles and bombs LGB are included. China additionally acquired 24 aircraft K-8W advanced training and light fighter. While the total number of combat aircraft is only slightly higher than the inventory which had in 1987, its capabilities are exponentially higher, especially taking into account the capabilities of the Sukhoi and the availability of a network of ground radars latest technology that covers the entire Venezuelan territory (and part of ours), and to give them enough early warning and situational information, to move their fighter-bombers to the site precisely where required priority. The Integral Aerospace Defense Command (CODAI) integrates sensors, fighters, and also tubular and missile anti-aircraft weapons available to the Bolivarian National Armed Forces.

Thus, the anti-aircraft capabilities had Venezuela in the 90s (Swedish missile RBS 70, Israeli missiles Barak III, French missile Mistral Atlas, double mounts 40 mm Breda-Dart, double mounts 20 mm. TCM -20 Mk.5, Control Systems kick Fly Catcher viewpoint, mobile speed low altitude Elisra 2100H, surveillance radars Reporter and Giraffe, long-range radars TPS-43, TPS-63 and TPS-70, among other elements technological) came to join new systems of Russian origin and Chinese.

In addition to many of the above elements, the CODAI currently operates: double mounts ZU antiaircraft-23 / ZOM1-4 with 23 mm cannons, IglA-S antiaircraft missile systems portable, short-range missile systems S-125 Pechora. medium range missile systems Buck 2ME and long range missile systems S-300VM Antey-2500, allowing a stepwise territory defense.

The CODAI currently has seven monitoring and control groups, which correspond to the seven Integral Strategic Defense Regions (REDI). These groups operate mobile long-range radars Cetec JY-1B and JLY-11 both of Chinese origin. In addition anti-aircraft systems from Russia incorporate their own early warning radars and fire control. In 2014 it emerged that Venezuela had commissioned China 26 new radars and 11 command and control systems, although not specify the models, is presumed to be the latest technology.

Trinomio sophisticated sensors - antiaircraft weapons - Cazas allows Venezuela to fully protect its airspace, and quickly gain air superiority over the theaters of operations.

On land, the Venezuelan Army retained the capabilities that already had (in particular with the AMX-30 AMX-13 Scorpion 90 tanks, as well as combat vehicles Dragoon, and all armored support already had in their inventories), it also acquired new vehicles, weapons and equipment, arguing the need to protect its oil reserves, which are in fact the largest in the world against possible imperialist attempts to take them away.

So, President Hugo Chavez Russia took an important park Armored, vehicles and artillery, which roughly consists of:

- Tanks 92 T-72B1 + 1 Recuperators Brem.
- 123 infantry fighting vehicles BMP-3 + Recuperadores BREM-L + PdM BMP-3K.
- Armored Transport 114 (8x8) BTR-80A + Recuperators Brem-K + PdM BTR-80K
- 16 Mortars Self Propelled 2S23 Nona-SVK 120mm. in chassis 1V152 + BTR-80 OA / CDT.
- 48 self-propelled howitzers 2S19 MSTA-5 of 152 mm. + MT-LBU Observation Adelantada and CDT.
- Multiple Self-propelled rocket launcher 28 BM-21-1 Grad 122mm.
- Multiple Self-propelled rocket launcher 12 BM-30 Smerch 300 mm.

Chinese armored equipment was purchased for the National Guard of Venezuela, as follows:

- 111 4x4 armored vehicles Norinco VN-4 reconnaissance version and Transportation.
- 10 Armored Vehicle 4x4 Norinco VN-4 version command post.
- Vehicles 10 riot Norinco WCT-1 (Lanza water).
- Barriers 10 Vehicles Porta Norinco ABV-1

Following this first batch, a second batch of armored VN-4 for NGV was acquired.

As for the Bolivarian Navy Venezuela, to modernize sophisticated surface units, such as 4 and 4 Patrol Avante 1400 Avante 2200 Patrol the Spanish shipyard Navantia were acquired. They are currently in a process to provide them with anti-ship missiles

China Venezuela acquired the following material to give his Marines:

- 25 light tanks VN-16 with 105 mm cannon,
- 25 infantry fighting vehicles to track VN-18 with 30mm cannon
- 40 infantry fighting vehicles 8x8 VN-1 with 30mm cannon
- 18 self-propelled automatic 81mm mortars
- 18 propelled rocket launcher systems 122/220 mm (capable of launching tactical missiles).

Remember that body already had:

- 38 personnel carriers 6x6 EE-11 URUTU 14 armed with 20mm cannon and machine guns remaining M-2HB 12.7mm
- 11 personnel carriers to track LVT-7 armed with guns M-2HB
- 12 towed howitzers Oto / Melara 105mm
- 18 mortars towed Brant 120mm
- Unspecified amounts of 81mm mortars, portable anti-tank weapons, rocket propelled grenades, portable anti-aircraft missiles, anti-tank guns S / R of 106mm, automatic launch 40mm grenades, anti-aircraft guns 20 mm

Additionally, Venezuela Marine amphibious landing ships has to project its power in the opposing shores. In addition to the 4 class LST ships Capana already had, he has acquired other smaller sized but much more modern.

Complementing the above, Venezuela acquired a batch of 53 Russian helicopters in three versions: 40 Mi-17-V5 transport, 10 Mi-35-M of Assault, and 3 giant Mi-26-T transport, providing service in the various components.

The Bolivarian National Armed Forces acquired a batch of 100,000 AK-103 rifles to equip frontline units and veterans FAL rifles ran to second-line units and militias. Infantry units were equipped with RPG, anti-aircraft missile launcher IglA-S (5,000 units purchased) and Dragunov sniper rifles (5,000 units purchased).

It is scheduled to install in Venezuela a maintenance center Russian Helicopters and a factory AK. Recently opened a maintenance center Armored Russians who have mobile maintenance units. There is also a factory of military radios.

Worth noting that one of the few fields where Venezuela and Colombia lost superiority won was in submarine warfare. This because the operation of the two Venezuelan submarine is very low, while still healthy Colombia their submarine U-209 and U-206. President Chavez had the firm intention to acquire at least nine modern submarines to equip its army. They not died, probably would have bought.

Finally, an issue that has a lot of weight and is often overlooked, is that Venezuela has 3 satellites in orbit and two earth stations for control. What gives this government and its armed forces, important capabilities for communications and surveillance of the territory, which is complemented by an important batch of UAVs purchased from Iran.

Colombia disadvantaged

It is true that the Military Forces of Colombia have made a major effort to re-equipped with modern equipment in each of their specialties, and today as never before have enviable capabilities. However, these capabilities mostly have to do with irregular low-intensity conflicts or operations and peacetime, and are not useful in a regular war against a well endowed with weapons and enemy art equipment.

As for the possible materialisation of the hypothesis of conflict with Venezuela, it is clear that at this time, according to all the evidence presented in this paper, that Colombia would take the brunt of a military confrontation, mainly because of the arms superiority the Venezuelan armed forces.

Venezuela generally has many more armored Colombia in particular has several tank battalions, while Colombia has no tank no. Venezuela has more guns artillery Colombia in particular has multiple launch rocket systems as a weapon of saturation, while Colombia does not possess any multiple rocket launcher. Venezuela

has more fighter planes Colombia, and also Venezuelan combat planes have better skills and weapons than Colombian aircraft combat. Venezuela has more warships than Colombia, and is in the process of arming its Avante patrollers who are already equipped with cutting-edge electronics. Venezuela has a large Marine force with excellently equipped vehicles, armored vehicles, tanks, artillery, rocket launchers, antitank and anti-aircraft weapons, as well as amphibious landing ships such as LST, Colombia has a large infantry force, but without heavy equipment or landing ships of large size so it cannot fulfill its mission to project naval power into the earth. Venezuela's National Guard is equipped with a large fleet of armored transport, while in Colombia there is no equivalent to this body. Venezuela has a large and dense network of radar surveillance and control, which are integrated into a set of anti-aircraft guns of different capacities that create a staggered defense of the territory, but also has squadrons of fighter planes, able to confront and defeat warplanes from neighboring countries, Colombia has few fighters, few radars, and no modern anti-aircraft weapons on its territory. In other words, the Venezuelan Air Force could venture with impunity in Colombia, without attacking strategic objectives could do anything about it, while the Colombian Air Force would be detected immediately if trying to break into Venezuelan airspace.

What can be done?

At this point of the analysis, we want to note that there are three possibilities to reverse this situation: the first is that Colombia becomes part of a military alliance, in which the responsibility for safety is shared by several nations, but where would also be obliged to come to the defense of others. This option may not be popular among the Colombian people, because the end of the internal conflict portends for all, the decline in indicators of violence and pacifism stage. Citizens may not want to see their children dying elsewhere for difficult problems to understand. On the other hand, it is possible that Colombia is not accepted in existing military alliances, or at least equal,

A second option is that Colombia invest thousands of dollars in the purchase of tanks, armored vehicles, artillery, combat aircraft of last generation, more warships and submarines, which could result in rejection of citizenship, given the complex problems of poverty and exclusion that are occurring in different regions of the country. People might consider unjustified to excessively invest in weapons, when there are children starving in several parts of the country.

The third option would be to make a moderate expense to maintain and even improve the capabilities already possess, acquire technological resources that enable us to enhance our capabilities and / or neutralize the adversary capabilities. In this vein, it seems that Electronic Warfare is the best choice.

In its crudest form, the war is to move, shoot and communicate. With currently available for the Military Forces of Colombia, little can be done to prevent the Bolivarian National Armed Force to move or shoot, but if we interfere with their communications or blind their radar, we could have the opportunity to hinder their strategic maneuvers and make their fires ineffective, allowing the Military Forces of Colombia to move and shoot.

If Colombia is attacked militarily by Venezuela, sought to attain his old desire to seize the Guajira, it is clear that the brave Colombian soldiers would offer stubborn resistance, and it is clear that would cause many casualties on the enemy, but eventually perish crushed by the arms superiority of the opposite. If we had a unit of electronic warfare, capable of performing intelligence in peacetime, providing an invaluable early warning and wartime contact with the technological means to interfere with the communications of the adversary, we could prevent its strategic move enabling fight with superiority on those points of the theater of operations where the enemy is weaker.

In addition, taking into account the large capacities of the Venezuelan CODAI with sensors, radars and fighters to carry out an air counter-attack against any military aggression, Colombia should be able to blind the Venezuelan sensors so that our fighter planes have a chance to reach their targets and return.

Owning a battalion of electronic warfare with the above-described capabilities, it seems the logical choice for the cost - benefit little resistance would result in Colombian society, and the ability to take charge of our own defense against the fickleness of possible allies.

Egypt: Al-Sisi, from Nasser to Mubarak

By Guadi Calvo (Argentina)



General Abdul Fattah al-Sisi

The Egyptian people to sleep was too short and hectic, the illusion of having found a loyal successor of President Gamel Abdel ideario Nasser, ended in the nightmare of another Hosni Mubarak. The economic crisis translated into unemployment and inflation, coupled with repression and corruption charges, do it again, as in 2011, demonstrations have broken out across the country in pursuit, how then fell Mubarak, now do President Abdel Fattah al-Sisi.

The strong tax plan austerity after the agreement with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in 2016 which represented a loan of 12 billion dollars and although growth rates have achieved this year, the highest level since 2010, with a 5.5 percent and inflation is at the lowest record of the past four years, while the debt and the deficit this fall, with unemployment fell to 8.1% in the first quarter of 2019, the most low in 20 years. In the first quarter of 2018, unemployment was 10.6%. This apparent success of the government of General al-Sisi, has put the country among the fastest growing economies in the world and both economists and investors qualify this process as "the best economic reform in the Middle East."

Economic analysts attribute the drop in the unemployment rate to the construction of mega projects including the creation of new cities, thousands of kilometers of roads, power plants and

bridges, so labor for these projects employs 14.1 % of the Egyptian workforce, coupled with other sectors that are demanding additional labor. Another contributing to reducing unemployment element has been the incorporation of thousands of hectares of land for agriculture and fish farms in the Nile Delta and near the Suez Canal. The fall in imports has revived domestic production to meet local demand.

It is still unknown about how to continue to fall in the unemployment rate since the job market in Egypt are incorporated around a million workers a year.

But these are far from substantial changes in daily living perceived as poverty rates continue to rise and the cost of living does not stop. While official figures released in July spoke of 2018 the number of Egyptians living below the poverty line reached 32.5% in April, the World Bank put the figure at around 60 percent of the hundred millions of Egyptians. assistentialist as Takaful and Karama, programs are far from covering all the demands, since only reach 9.4 million people, representing about 10 percent of the population. Amid this situation box and can run under the IMF program, political repression, including detentions, torture, disappearances and extrajudicial executions do not stop.

So from Friday night September 20 the Egyptian people have taken to the streets of Cairo and

Alexandria, the second largest city, at the risk of falling under in severe repressive apparatus imposed in 2013 by the government of President Mohamed Morsi, has kept the General al-Sisi.

20 Day protest was repeated in the evening the next day and Friday 27, have begun to spread throughout the country, with slogans demanding the "fall of the regime". Again Cairo's Tahrir, Square has once again become the epicenter of the protests as happened in 2011 that ended thirty years of Mubarak. The new wave of protests replied in the port city of Damietta, on the area near the Nile Delta and Port Said where he also called for the fall of al-Sisi Mediterranean and in El-Mahalla al-Kubra about 60 kilometers north of Cairo

Beyond the criticism of the economic program and the repressive drive, also the government has been accused of having created large pockets of corruption behind the mega works, including the most important, building a new capital at a cost of 58 billion, announced in 2015 to open in 2020 about 45 kilometers east of Cairo.

This construction initially was to be financed by capital of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Emirates which have finally been withdrawn, so al-Sisi had to borrow from China for \$ 4 billion in order to meet the first phase your plan. Funding for the New Administrative Capital will have about 700 square kilometers to completion, although it is lurch in its second and third phases. The first of these phases will cover about 168 square km, where it plans to build ministries, residential quarters, a diplomatic neighborhood and a business district. Already they built a large mosque, a cathedral, a hotel and a convention center. The builder China State Construction Engineering Corp (CSCEC) is projected to raise skyscrapers including 21 that will become the highest on the continent with 85 floors. The project also aims to create about seven million homes, as well as an electrified to run between Cairo and New Capital which will cost 1,200 million dollars, also its construction will be undertaken by train Chinese capital.

The project of the new capital is needed as Cairo, which has had an extraordinary urban sprawl, mainly due to the arrival from inside hundreds of thousands of people inside the country fleeing poverty and fundamentalist violence. The approximately 20 million inhabitants, make it impossible to cairota traffic, including underground badly managed. There are four million passengers who use it every day that system, after passing through the metal detectors that are located at the entrance to all stations, while police patrols and video cameras monitor the movements to

monitor the safety always threatened nationwide by fundamentalist groups.

General Pharaoh.

As has already tried Hosni Mubarak's thirty years in power, General al-Sisi, seems to have intentions to perpetuate itself as the Rais, without removing the democratic varnish got after winning the presidential elections of 2014 and to renew the mandate 2018, with 97 percent of the vote, in a dispute that his rival was an ally.

Al-Sisi came to the limelight of national politics, having ousted Morsi in 2013 in a coup that has left an unknown number of dead and missing, do not drop from the 10 thousand, mainly among the hosts of Morsi who protected the powerful Muslim Brotherhood became the first elected president of Egyptian history in June 2013.

With the emergence of al-Sisi, who arrived vindicating the figure of the greatest leader of modern history Col. Gamel Abdel Nasser and away the specter of fundamentalism which sought to install Morsi, to give him cover the neoliberal policies that had begun turn, the Egyptian people found in the figure of al-Sisi, the possibility of the realization of dreams deferred.

Once in power, beset by economic reality, the terrorist insurgency and the international context al-Sisi instead of seeking alternative path promised, preferred first pact with Saudi Arabia and later with the proper Donald Trump, who has become a spokesman for their policies for the region.

Al-Sisi, deepens its repressive policies not only banning political activity and jailing thousands of dissidents. Since coming to power not only has imprisoned about 60 thousand people, mostly members of the Muslim Brotherhood, hundreds of them sentenced to death, not to mention the countless number of missing. also waging a dirty war against Wilāyat Sinai Sinai (Sinai Province), an al-Qaeda linked to organization and responsible for multiple attacks. Since the beginning of 2018, with Operation Sinai 2018, it has been virtually militarized the whole peninsula without practically know not only the fate of the mujahideen but also civilians at the mercy of military power.

In recent demonstrations in September were repeated for two weekends in a row, the police acted with extreme violence and imprisoning more than two thousand people. Human rights organizations reported that many prisoners remain unaccounted for after the protests.

an important human rights lawyer, Mahienour al-Massry also detained as he was leaving the office of State Security Prosecutor in Cairo, where he had been representing several detainees by protests.

Al-Sisi not only has not become a Nasser, but is increasingly taken the spectral silhouette of Mubarak.

Image source:

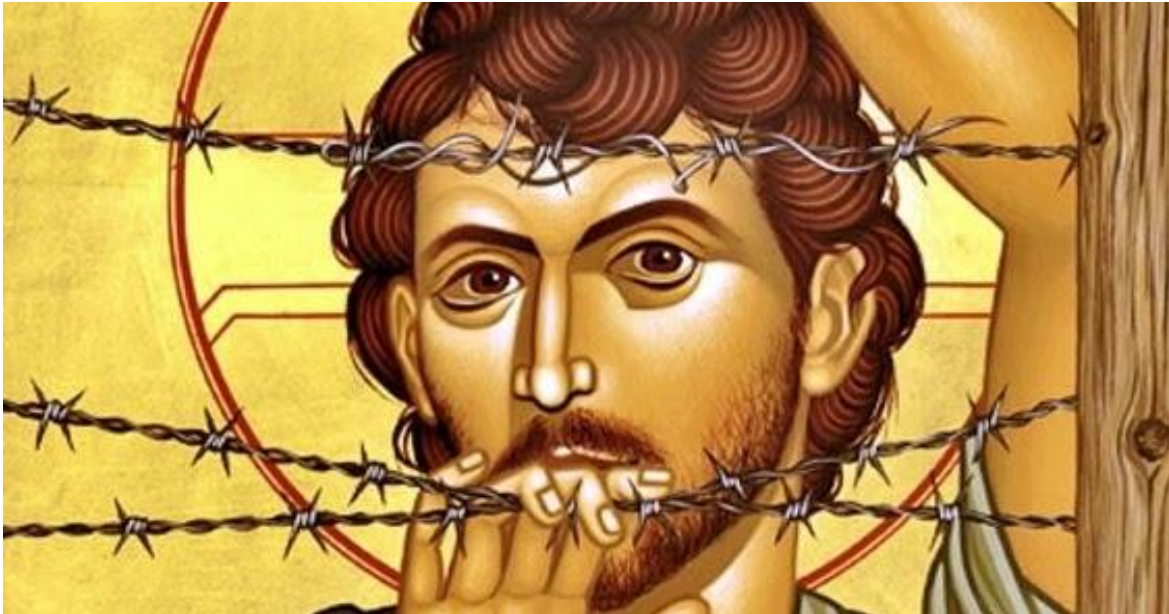
<http://elmed.io/que-alternativa-hay-en-egipto/>



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Immigration and religious issue

By Juan Pablo Pardo Retortillo (Spain)



Christ of Maryknoll. Work of Robert Lentz, Franciscan friar.

For many years now, and with increasing interest and concern, the issue of human immigration, their problems and their regulation are the subject of public debate. The need to establish laws that are fair and yet human, is evident. It is required to respond to this reality with rationality, social justice and efficiency, clearly establishing the obligations of hospitality, but also its limits.

To that end, this article is to analyze the migration issue in light of the Social Doctrine of the Catholic Church, analyzing the relations between the two legal subjects: the immigrant and human group or nation that receives it, it which shed light and clarify all major aspects of the issue. It is important not to mix the duty of rulers to ensure the common good of the nations that govern the demands that mercy and justice demands imposed on us to who we help and shelter.

In the first part the principles that should govern the activities related to immigration to then make an approach to the particular case of Spain as host nation of immigrants will relate.

Basic Principles Immigration

Reading the main literature on immigration, we relate the 7 basic principles to keep in mind when considering a deal as fair as possible with respect to migration:

1. Every human being has the right to seek decent living conditions for themselves and their loved ones, even through migration, which is a natural right.
2. The dignity of human being immigrant is given by God, and in no case is a "gift" of any State or fruit of any parliamentary consensus, human rights are inherent in man, and the positive law of societies and states only They must respect them and protect them. Never artificially create or expand, let alone remove them.
3. The right to emigrate is subsidiary; that is, a right that supplements or replaces the primary right to have a family living space in the place of origin, when the latter can not be maintained for reasons that are. Immigration is always the second option, the first is to intervene in origin.
4. It should not "consecrate" the figure of the migrant and repeat a "Angelista discourse" on immigration, let alone an "abstract immigrant", regardless of their cultural identity (ethos). It should differentiate

between intra- and extra-ethos ethos migration, also analyzing the problems of healthcare sustainability, cultural comprehensibility and massive proportions, as well as the degree of reciprocity in migratory treatment of other nations with our fellow citizens.

5. Every sovereign nation has the natural right to ensure the security of its borders and regulate the flow of immigrants. No one can take, or enter or settle in the territory of a nation without legal authorization of its legitimate authorities. The assistance that we demand emigrates who suffers and should not be confused with immediate, full and unconditional acceptance in the host society.
6. Immigration should always aim at integration, and never to disintegration or segregation, it ie the creation of small "nations" in conflict within a country.
7. Immigration should always seek to preserve both the unity of ethos as the common good of the host nation; You can not abuse it or destroy it or break it.

Immigration and Natural Law

Naturally, human beings are grouped by affinity ethos (cultural, linguistic, racial, common history, etc ...) and form social groups with a high degree of homogeneity, allowing them to both identify themselves as members of the group as mutually agreed decisions based on its own ethos and shared in which the vast majority are identified and considered more beneficial for their future as human group.

Said degree of homogeneity or self ethos originates as a natural and logical process, not looking exclusion. Keep it may be considered as a fundamental point to keep the common good of the community or host nation, as civilizations have a legitimate instinct for survival¹, So that must be fixed in advance about quotas or maximum percentages of foreigners (especially those belonging to social groups or hostile or nations highly beyond our ethos) which "should not be transferred or risk being overrun by other cultures and peoples can gradually reach outnumber the indigenous population and completely change our culture, beliefs and values "². Should not "prevent access to the poor born elsewhere and endowed with moral healthy as it is not contrary to public utility with accurate scales weighing"³, I.e. lorganic and proportionate to immigration has always been beneficial for health and strengthening societies, which brings a new breath of life and opportunity for new talent, but an excessive influx of foreigners from distant or hostile cultures, creates situations that destroy the elements of psychological and cultural unity of the nation (ethos), exceeding the capacity of society to absorb new elements organically.

These groups also tend naturally to occupy a physical space on which to carry out their sustenance and serves them to their vital needs. This physical space is their nation (where born), and have the right to keep it as private property and the duty to keep for future generations. Without forgetting the universal destination of all creation, ie, capture by so being always ready to use part of their vital resources to share with members of other nations for humanitarian circumstances (refugees) or the like, not making them an Absolute selfish and unnecessary.

Then it is legitimate for a nation investigate and decide first whether the intentions of immigrants are peaceful or hostile, considering as the latter generally those so tested or historical background, harboring contrary to the common good intentions Nation host, and may, in the exercise of the natural right to legitimate defense, defend its borders and its territory rejecting the elements considered dangerous. Naturally, this should not be cause for arbitrary actions of self-defense disguise what would be nothing more than irrational aversion to people.

Also, following the doctrine straight to attack the main causes of a problem first, and not only the final effects, a serious immigration policy of any nation must, among other things, to discern the intentions of foreign nations, strengthening commercial exchanges and working its bilateral relationship with those who have proven their friendly intention; and imposing sanctions and deterrent measures against those who have demonstrated hostile intent. Not only that, but to collaborate with the governments of the source of emigration nations, to create the nation of origin the necessary conditions for fair and proper "family living space" to ensure the necessities of life,

¹Dandrieu, L 'Église et Immigration: Le grand malaise. "Presses de la Renaissance. Hors Collection. ISBN: 978-2750913618.

² SARAH, R. Interview with Cardinal Robert Sarah Charlotte D'ornellas, Boulevard Voltaire, November 7, 2016.

³PIUS XII "Family Nazarethana Exsul Apostolic Constitution" (online) Accessed 06/09/19. Available in <https://www.mercaba.org/PIO%20XII/1952-08-01.htm>

which will largely the need to migrate unnecessary because "you first need to reinvigorate justice,"⁴ This also involves the fight against the mafias that exploit immigrants on their way to search for better living conditions.

Consistent with the above, it is found naturally gradation in immigration: first secure family living space in the place of origin, secondly, migrate preferentially to nations belonging to a common ethos, and not the hostile or otherwise the ethos possible to own.

And you should always remember the inherent dignity of the human being immigrant, given by God, not by limiting the vision of immigrants to a point economic view, like a simple consumer of goods and services, contributing or taking advantage of economic institutions or host country policies. Rather, immigrants are real people with real lives, families, hopes and dreams for the future.

Finally, once secured the good intentions of emigrant should be distinguish between "immigration work" (temporary and limited to individual workers) and "immigration settlement" (where clans and even whole families move permanently). Thus, for who passes through our land in transit to another place or who come to settle there as an outsider should be treated with compassion and respect, always assume the obligations and responsibilities to them; but they should not be allowed to possess citizenship.⁵ They should be treated with love, respect and courtesy, which is a duty of all people of good will. In these cases the law should protect abroad of any violence.

As for the requirements that must be met for foreigners they can be assimilated at all (granting citizenship or full citizenship) and integrate seamlessly into the life and culture of the host country "embracing their religion" is better not to admit them to the third generation as "not being rooted in the love of the common good, they could undermine the people"⁶. You have to place the common good, which is more than an instrumental desire to integrate into the host country life. By embracing the religion we do not mean that all community members are believers obligation but is meant to embrace the common religious spirit of the people of the host, which makes the country the spirit, forming real communities, which makes believers and unbelievers are recognized in the same religious tradition in some institutions born of that tradition, moral principles fed by it, a shared worldview, in an ethos at the end of the day.

The host should not be immediate because integration is a process that needs the time to adjust to the new culture, as they get to belong to the culture of a different country is very complex, and it takes time to learn their habits, history, mentality and, therefore, to understand their problems. Only in this way you will be able to judge the decisions most suitable for long-term common good. It is harmful and unfair to put the future of a country in the hands of newcomers. Even without fault, these people are rarely able to adequately understand what is happening or what has happened in the country they have chosen as their new homeland. And this can have disastrous consequences.

In addition to the advantages that are offered in their new homeland, the immigrant must also assume corresponding duties, ie, responsibility for the common good and participation in political, economic, social, cultural and religious life. By becoming a citizen, the immigrant member of a large family does, with a soul, a history and a common future, and is not, therefore, as a shareholder of a company that is only interested in profits and benefits derived from it.

In conclusion, saying that even as citizens may be admitted in exceptional cases immigrants from enemy nations and dispenses a virtuous act prize to the people of the host.⁷

Immigration in the case of Spain

Then we will analyze how immigration should manage a particular country, in this case Spain. We will use to guide the flow diagram of Figure 1, extracted from the lessons of about St. Thomas regarding immigration.

⁴PIUS XII "Family Nazarethana Exsul Apostolic Constitution" (online) Accessed 06/09/19. Available in <https://www.mercaba.org/PIO%20XII/1952-08-01.htm>

⁵AQUINAS, T. Summa Theological. Prima Secundae, issue 105, Article 3 (online) accessed 06/09/19. Available in <https://www.dominicos.org/media/uploads/recursos/libros/suma/1.pdf>

⁶AQUINAS, T. Summa Theological. Prima Secundae, issue 105, Article 3 (online) accessed 06/09/19. Available in <https://www.dominicos.org/media/uploads/recursos/libros/suma/1.pdf>

⁷ Ibid.

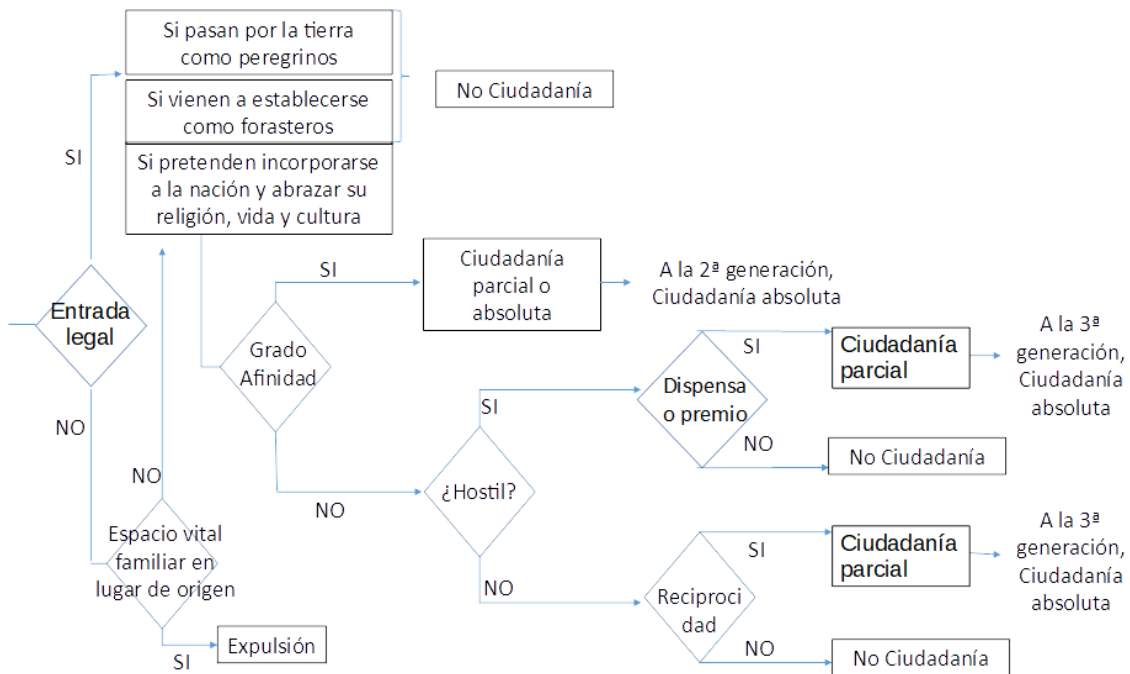


Figure 1: Flowchart proposed immigration treatment according to St. Thomas Aquinas.

The first thing to analyze, as we have seen in previous sections, will determine the ethos of the host nation and make a list of those nations or peoples with joining it friendly or hostile throughout history relationships.

As for the Spanish ethos, we can agree that Spain is a nation that is part of Western civilization (marked by Greek thought, Roman law and Christian moral values), belonging to both the European level and the Hispanic Heritage.

As a border with the Muslim civilization, and given the history of the invasion and subsequent Reconquista, Spain knows its southern border is especially dangerous from the military, and that a Muslim population on the peninsula can easily become a 5th Subversive column if conflict. Especially should exercise extreme caution with Morocco given its existing conflict with the Spanish cities of Ceuta and Melilla. To emphasize and remind the Jewish population, given its collaborationist character with the Muslim invaders during the invasion of the eighth century, why they were expelled during the reign of the Catholic Monarchs against the threat of a new Turkish invasion and armed uprising of the Moriscos (Muslims living in Spain reconquered and Christian).

Also, given the history of the wars of religion of the modern age in Europe, and the subsequent struggle for world hegemony, Spain must also have the general hostility of Protestant nations. In particular, given the historical lessons and maritime and geostrategic rivalry, it is noteworthy to England and France as the most interested in weakening Spain and, thus, divide your pieces and eliminate or weaken a strong competitor both military and commercial.

After this brief but necessary analysis and casuistry and following the flowchart in Figure 1, we must consider first whether the influx of immigrants has been legal or illegal. In the latter case they are discriminated against if they have a "family living space in origin" or whether they can be accepted in countries belonging to its cultural ethos, proceeding to the immediate expulsion of those who meet the affirmative with this condition. Other immigrants will be those considered entitled to the status of "refugee", thus swelling the contingent of legal immigration, which can reach our homeland "step,

If, on the contrary, the aim of the immigrant is to obtain Spanish nationality or full citizenship, the first thing to analyze is the "degree of affinity" of their cultural ethos with Spanish. In this case it is obvious that all those immigrants from the fraternal countries Hispanic Americans, many of whom are already dual nationality treaties can even get citizenship only after a few years spent in Spain and in any case from the second generation.

If you are immigrants belonging to unrelated cultural ethos, the next step is to ask whether this ethos is hostile or dangerous to the common good of the Spanish nation, denying the possibility of nationality if so (unless waived or reward for some meritorious action the Spanish people, and in this case only acquire full citizenship from the 3rd generation).

Finally, in the case of an immigrant from an unrelated ethos, but not hostile, we will ask for reciprocity in the granting of citizenship for the Spanish with the country concerned. If there is no reciprocity, nationality shall be granted, otherwise a partial citizenship will be granted, and may obtain full citizenship from the 3rd generation.

Image source:

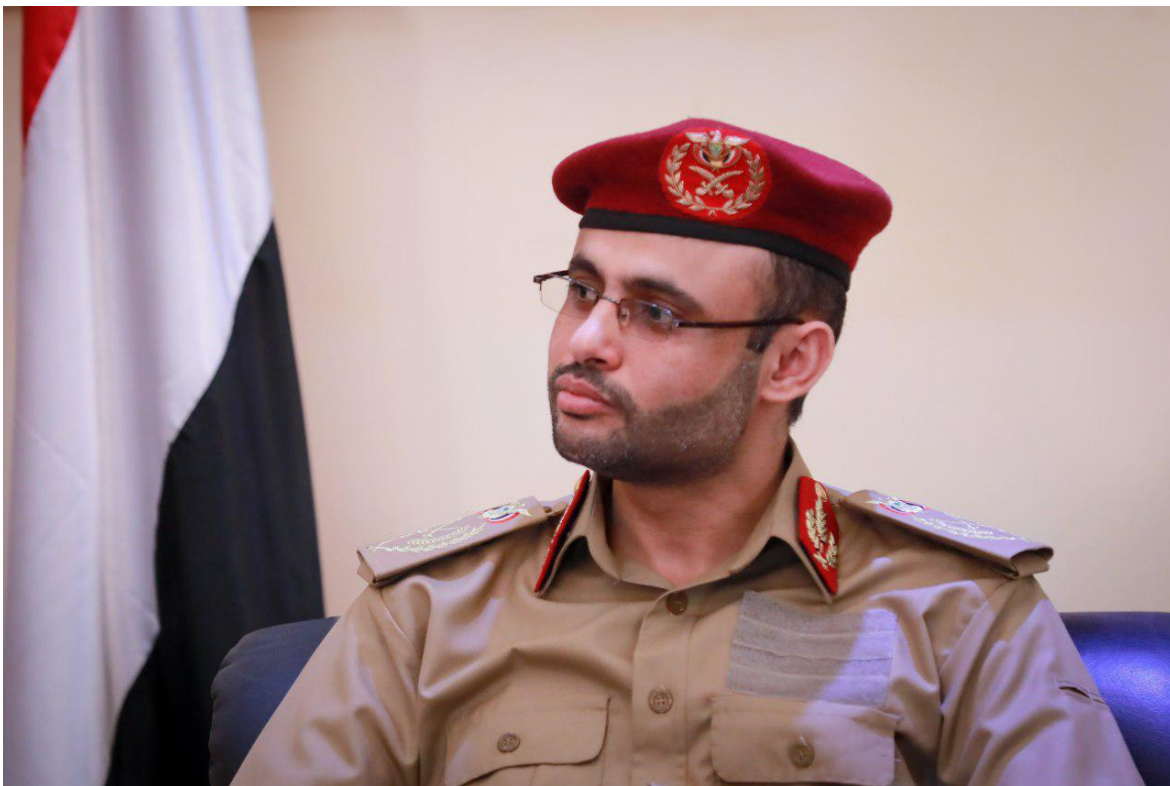
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Yemen of the offense on the offensive

By Guadi Calvo (Argentina)



President of the Supreme Council Political Yemen, Mahdi al-Mashat.

While Saudi Arabia is not recovering from the devastating blow that meant the attack on oil installations in Saudi-Aramco, last month (See: Yemen: More storms in the Gulf) again Ansarullah movement (Partisans of God) or Houthi the last weekend took another blow morally perhaps more devastating than Saturday 14 September.

With what became known as "Operation Nasrallah" (in honor of the mythical leader of Hezbollah Hassan Nasrallah) forces Ansarullah already deployed and operating in the Saudi province of Najran, having produced 500 casualties on the forces of the kingdom, they took 2,400 prisoners, with elements Yemenis and Sudanese mercenaries. Also they seized several hundred military vehicles and weapons, while another 250 had been destroyed in action.

While Riyadh, refused to recognize this new blow, various sources confirm that both prisoners and vehicles belonging to the National Guard of Saudi Arabia (SANG), trained and equipped by the United States.

The unofficial channel Houthi front, al-Masirah, has shown video fragments where the Saudis

armored seized by the rebels, including dozens of captured men who claim to come from Saudi Arabia are observed.

Najran is a province bordering Yemen, Shiite majority, which has been consistently sidelined by the reigning Wahhabism and pro Yemen where many agents reporting to the high command Ansarullah operate.

According to a statement issued by the Houthis, Saudi soldiers captured, are particularly poor physical condition, with ragged uniforms and low aptitude for combat.

This new blow, as well as the plight of the Saudi military in the south of his country, confirms the cohesion of Yemeni forces, particularly in the northern provinces of Yemen, where armed groups in recent months have joined the Houthi movement, as well as various local analysts, militants fighting in southern Yemen.

This alignment between tribes and other armed behind the Houthis groups have one unifying factor and struggle against foreign invaders, against the Houthis were the first to initiate resistance and an international campaign to denounce the war that

Saudi Arabia unilaterally it began in March 2015, with a major coalition of Muslim countries whose main partner was the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

Ansarullah, in addition to resist the invaders Saudis also fighting al-Qaeda in the Arabian Peninsula, one of the best trained and most active organization founded by Osama bin Laden franchise; infiltrated men Daesh and militias of the Transitional Council South (CTS) formed in 2017, seeking the creation of a Yemen independent South, the latter organization has the support of the UAE, who after leaving the Saudi coalition in July , aims to establish a wedge in Yemen because it is not resigned to give up its interests in the south of the Arabian Peninsula, particularly on Bab el-Mandeb (Gate of Lamentations) a maritime strait just 30 kilometers wide separating Horn of Africa coasts of Yemen,

Just a day after the success of "Operation Nasrallah," the International Committee of the Red Cross, announced the release by the Houthis, about 300 prisoners of the coalition, including three Saudis, as part of an initiative peace United Nations (UN) agreed last December in Stockholm, which provides for the release of some 7,000 prisoners from each side. Still it has not been known Riad reaction after the release of his men.

The phenomenal progress of Ansarullah occurs at the time that the kingdom has rejected the offer of a truce offered by the Chief Political Council of Yemen, Mahdi al-Mashat. So the Houthis have announced that air strikes against targets in Saudi territories will continue and even increase also threatening a third major operation against vital installations in the country.

Perhaps soon these threats begin to implement since the position of crown prince and strongman of the Saudi regime Mohamed bin Salman (MBs), son of King salman is passing one of the worst, as is also happening with the aged alliance between Riyadh, Washington and other Western powers, since the end of World War II. Crisis precipitated after the scandalous episode journalist Jamal Khashoggi with exactly one year ago.

MBs, when he launched this war believed that soon could divide Yemen and create several puppet states and thus achieve absolute control over Bab el-Mandeb, but the prince has not only achieved its goals, but created a risk to security of his kingdom and

its partners, much more serious than existed before 2015.

The head of a prince.

Several Western reports say that Saudi adventure in the south of the peninsula has been "clumsy, incompetent and stupid". Since, despite the monstrous damage to the Yemeni people, not only they have not advanced their claims, but have forced the Houthis to a rapprochement with Iran, who, in the shadows, seemed to emerge as the big winner in this war.

Until 2015, when a civil war raged between the Shiites with the poor sectors of Sunnism, against then-President Abd Rabbu Mansour Hadi, the Houthi movement, he was accused on numerous occasions of receiving assistance from Iran, which could never be confirmed. For some observers, once the war started by Saudi Arabia, the Houthis were practically forced to receive cooperation from Iran, which in the most extreme moments did not pass minimum. So everything Western and allied to the United States region governments have complained that the aid exceeded all limits, which enabled them to collaborate with Riad in the most blatant way, but also blaming Tehran for all the consequences of war , although it has not been found material nor men,

So all fundamentally Trump by the Israeli government, have not ceased to denounce the Islamic Republic and threaten military action, which has allowed to continue arming them and supporting the forces of Saudi coalition, which claims to fight against "Iranian expansionism" , which has not yet been verified, while nothing is said about the bravado of Benjamin Netanyahu, who on the campaign announced the will to annex the Jordan Valley in the occupied West Bank if elected, what remains to be seen because it has failed to form a government.

The Ansarullah movement, have gone to an offense, which is putting at risk, as it has already done, the world's supply of oil and all that it entails, so the prince MBs, has no room to negotiate with the Houthis, so the United States, if they want to be involved in a war of apocalyptic features, will have to put to negotiate with the Yemenis, someone who can use his head for more important issues to wear a crown.

Image source:

<https://www.ansarollah.com/archives/246248>



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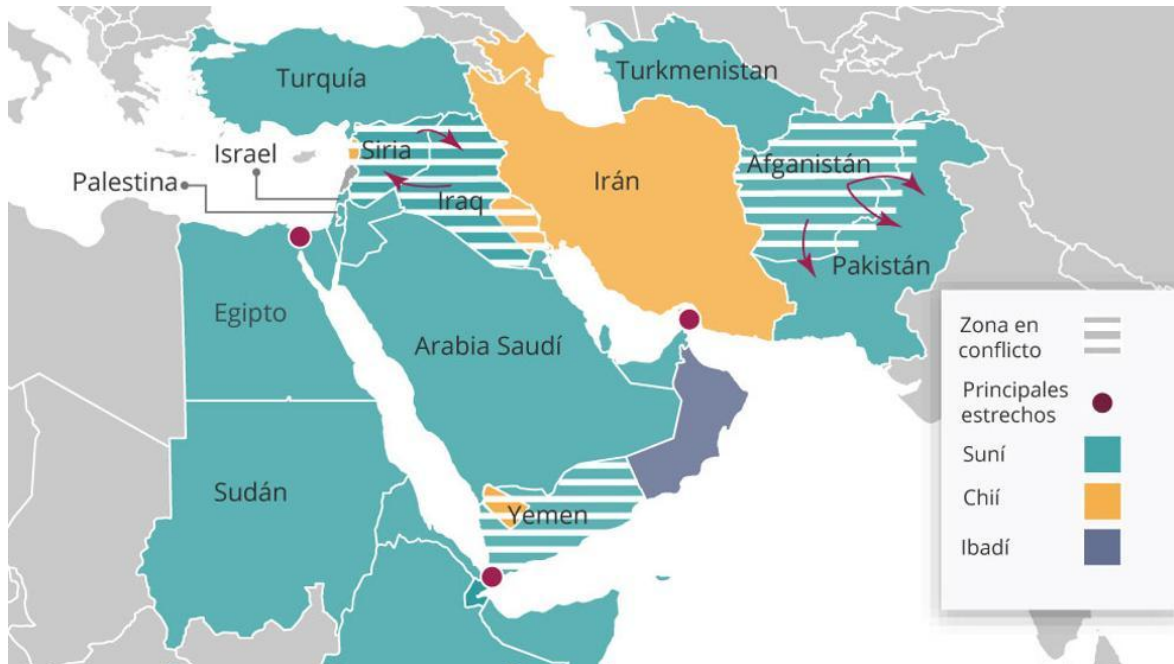
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USA withdraws from Middle East

By Francisco Javier Blasco Robledo, Colonel (r), (Spain)



Middle East. predominant religious aspect in each country and conflict zones.

From the beginning of his campaign, Donald Trump keeps several things in mind that constantly haunt you, we are very concerned and very possibly be the source of frequent lurches and Copernican spins on its internal and external policies. One of them is the orientation of their current and future geostrategic involvement in the Middle East.

An area in which US for many years, has invested huge human, political and economic efforts, where failures and has obtained more headaches than benefits palpable. Although their reasons to remain deployed in it have changed little, lately, his involvement was due to the strong demands in four main areas: secure and provided the necessary oil in the area, while domestic production is not enough for their enormous needs; fight through various means against the main enemy of his country, Iran, for their offenses toward the US and its nuclear program arrogant; combating and eradicating the custom jihadist terrorism in the self proclaimed Islamic State (ISIS for its acronym in English) and finally, keep the window open to collaboration with fixed partners,

Not forget that the area provides USA other headaches of minor, albeit in a not inconsiderable importance; so among them is solving the differences in their love-hate relationship with fly borriquera recent years, Turkey's new Erdogan. Precisely and because

of the many serious problems created by the US after the so-called self-coup three years ago and the recent refusal to sell special weapons (F-35), Trump has emerged that has forced the new Sultan to too snuggle Russia and Iran, as well as putting on the table the possibility that NATO might leave nothing to incordiaran a little more. So, as will be seen later, he had to pick up candles and give some candy to suck change.

Ente other matters, and in the same vein, the form and manner to offset the serious disadvantages and problems bequeathed on Iraq after its illegal and perverse war and occupation appears; and by the subsequent withdrawal of semi-fatal results for the country. It also highlights try to prevent or delay that Russia occupies the zonal leadership vacuum as a result of addition to the above, possible abandonment of the area by the US as a result of the resounding failures of the Arab Spring inducidas- -for them in several coastal countries the Mediterranean and the bloody civil wars in Libya and Syria.

Apart from the above, that is not small; takes two years of give and take, poking their noses into any matter and region in which it could, under the guise of "lead" or simply snooping what happened in the fight against ISIS and; dynamiting also, by all possible

means, the International Agreement on Nuclear Iranian program.

Recently, American calculations have been surprised negatively by certainly unexpected issues: have been unable to create a naval force to be the basis of a powerful coalition to protect, smooth, traffic of oil tankers through the Strait of Hormuz and tackle challenges, kidnappings and attacks on ships passing through the area, mostly from Iran. Also, the fact that his friend Netanyahu after the electoral repetition in Israel have bad future to govern the designs of Israel as it has done for several years; which also raises a big question about the next orientation of actions to seal peace between Israelis and Palestinians.

Similarly, the fact that Saudi Arabia, despite its powerful and modern military equipment, most of American origin, has not been able to defend its oil installations against a simple drones and missiles of origin and possible origin in Iran. Finally, this chapter of surprises worth mentioning that the great failure of Saudi Arabia is not expected in Yemen in its fight against huties supported by Iran and the recent announcement of the abandonment of this struggle by the United Arab Emirates, who had fought together for more than four years and since Saudi Arabia for such war depended largely of mercenaries and Yemeni tribal militia allies Emirates; which recently it has become a major setback for the forces led by the Saudis.

A larger, it should be remembered that the US due to the sharp increase in oil production by various means, including fracking, no longer has a high dependence on Arab oil and that China and Russia you are reaching and even going on several aspects Trump considers as vital geostrategic deployment, control and free passage through the waters and territories in Asia-Pacific, the Arctic, hegemony in the development and effectiveness of armed drones and capabilities of aerospace forces.

Apart from what has already been announced, the new reality in the area is quite evident and begins to be pathetic; again the situation in Iraq is complicated and the puppet government of the country is unable to calm the growing mood of its people, tired of waiting promises that never come, nor to reduce the influence of Iran in its territory where it unfolded, despite strong presence and support of norteamericano-, with the excuse of fighting ISIS.

For its part, Russia, in order to achieve zonal leadership and have ensured their presence in the Mediterranean Sea, has been settled increasingly in Syria and it looks to improve to portray themselves as a reliable and capable ally to defend at all costs his "friends" as much as, for example, Al Asad pringase

well with the use of chemical weapons against its people and causing massive military massacres of minorities against the regime; or Rouhani, Iran's President deploy its special forces and elite Revolutionary Guards where he pleases; Provide advanced weapons and Hamas missiles, huties Yemen and Hezbollah and has accelerated the momentum of a new and unstoppable spiral almost to resume, with the worst final consequences,

Turkey, taking advantage of the passes Pisuerga Valladolid and Trump owes a favor to calm months of instability and tension between the two, now it intends to invade part of Syrian territory bordering with them, which "coincidentally" reside Kurdish-Syrian minorities, which it relates strongly linked with his eternal enemy, the PKK. And it gives anyone a cent for the survival of those who were "friends" of Trump in the fight against ISIS.

In view of what is seen, you can ensure that the real American achievements panorama is very poor and that risks serious implications or backslashes are very high. Trump has understood that, except for the almost complete disappearance of ISIS and / or forced displacement of these other areas, very few of its objectives, if any have been met; that things are going to poison more and already he has little or no time to redirect much of its efforts and resources invested in this place, in order to meet the already mentioned other needs and concerns now occupy a higher priority in their strategic future plans.

Being true to his nature and close things, late, wrong and abruptly, leaving all other issues and unhorsed areas, some seated and held with tweezers or pins, so so wobbly that at any moment things could explode. His hasty announcement of the defeat of ISIS several months ago when it was not true, with practice solitude with the issues of Hormuz and breaking the nuclear deal Iran would have served to justify that it is time to stop engage in a area where nothing is well received; in carrying invested thousands of millions of dollars and many thousands of victims in various local and long wars and revolts.

Trump is not like Putin, he has no real friends or strategically. Therefore, no doubt let the feet of the horses even friends and allies, abandoning once used as cannon fodder and impact force to prevent thousands of casualties among his soldiers, as in the aforementioned case of the Kurds In Syria; case in which tries to justify his consciousness after giving the green light to Erdogan to enter and attack them in their territories, with the excuse that in his day, the US and paid the Kurds their services with large sums of money, training and weapons to "defend" the jihadi

terrorists; so with that, he firmly believes that his "small" debt was more than repaid.

Made dark and inhuman that has had repercussions around the world and even in the ranks of his own party; the same party that supports him even after the ugly and dirty scandals of espionage against political opponents to keep safe the place and even the skin itself. Such has been the rejection, the day before yesterday, as a false and delayed reaction, has been forced to "warn" Erdogan that much care of massacring Kurds or would sink the economy. I think, to such a threat, the Sultan, which no pulse trembled with the purchase of S-400 from Russia despite strong opposition and serious threats Trump, is trembling with fear and will behave like a child being caught red-handed stealing some candy or a mate.

Regarding Israel and Saudi Arabia, always subject to the possibility of helping in intelligence, information, special forces and sophisticated weapons for their defense; even support them both on the nuclear issue

if necessary. Once open season about and broken several pacts for control and nuclear disarmament, does it make do with some more. Especially if it provides more revenue to its arms industry and so calm their society.

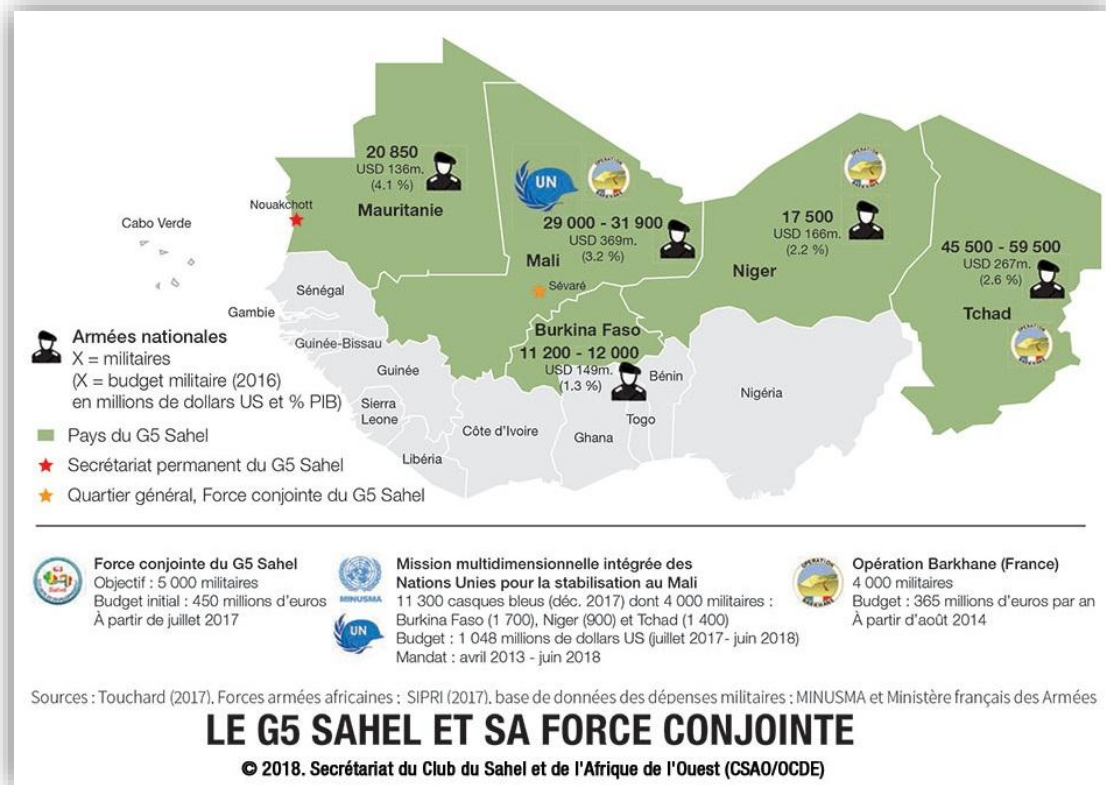
I do not doubt, that before the need for funds, personnel and resources for new projects and as derived from the reticence of their presence in the area and the few positive results achieved in the short and medium term, Trump is determined to go up the flight of an area you no longer need, which is not welcome and do not mind doing it at a time that can be exploited by one or more sides, since his "America first" is incompatible with becoming the International referee for nothing. It remains to be seen whether he will suddenly Zapatero in pure style, or will successively and gradual assignments of responsibility. Afghanistan will be your next stop and it has less to leave NATO, which, to follow him in command in the US, will also happen.

Image source:

<https://www.lavanguardia.com/internacional/20160428/401428478277/gps-polvorin-oriente-medio.html>

Sahel, the endless storm

By Guadi Calvo (Argentina)



Since the complex process of violence that began in 2012 in northern Mali, after what was a new attempt by the Tuareg people, to achieve the independence of Azawad, their ancestral lands, now occupied by Algeria, Burkina Faso, Libya, Mali, Mauritania and Niger, extraordinarily rich in minerals, mainly uranium, the entire central Sahel has become theater of operations of multiple terrorist organizations that fail to be contained despite the presence of African armies and several Western nations, particularly France, which in 2012 deployed a significant military strength to assist the then military government of Mali, who just gave a confusing coup against President Amadou Toure.

While the Tuareg insurgency retreated, and forces sent by Paris were installed to monitor uranium deposits exploited by French companies, emerged some militarized gangs, smuggling had gone to settle as fundamentalist organizations linked to al-Qaeda and also present at Daesh, generating the phenomenon already studied as "yihadización of banditry".

Those bands have since continued to grow and expand in the Sahel (border or coast in Arabic) a swath of 5,000 kilometers long that runs south of the Sahara, from the Red Sea to the Atlantic Ocean and in whose central sector, they have spilled from northern Mali to Burkina Faso, Niger, Togo, Benin, Ivory Coast and Ghana. He is forcing the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the Portuguese Antonio Guterres, during the last General Assembly to refer to this phenomenon of violence installed in the bowels of Africa: "I know we are all very concerned about the continuing escalation of violence in the Sahel and its expansion to the Gulf of Guinea."

Attacks by fundamentalist organizations have doubled every year since 2016, reached in 2018 causing 465 deaths, despite the thousands of troops fighting on the ground, so that September, several West African nations, implemented a plan billion dollars for the next four years to prevent terrorism continue seeping south.

Since 2017, the group known as S-5 (Sahel5), composed of Burkina Faso, Niger, Chad, Mali and Mauritania, was created with the intention to replace

the French operation barkhane, but so far the results have been very poor. Sahel5 has provided 5 thousand, to 4500, the barkhane established by France, 2013, along with an unknown number of US troops and 15,000 troops provided by the United Nations, have failed to stabilize the region, as insurgents continue making use the porous borders to move from one country to another and operate without consequences, the same porosity was provided so that multiple drug gangs, have operated for decades in this sector, making it the site where more routes illegal trafficking in the world.

This last Sunday, a vehicle MINUSMA (Multidimensional Integrated Mission United Nations Stabilization Mali) circulating near the town of Aguelhok, in Kidal, east of the country, he stepped on an improvised explosive device (IED), killing a blue helmet and leaving four others wounded. In the same area last January, eleven soldiers were killed Chad following an attack that the most powerful organization operating in the Sahel, Jama'at Nasr al-Islam wal Muslimin (Group Support Islam and Muslims or GSIM) won tax al-Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQMI).

Different camps have been targeted by terrorists since last March, the most important of these attacks was in Dioura, which left thirty dead soldiers.

In the last week of September and early October in different actions were killed 17 people in Burkina, while in Mali the army had twenty casualties, while another sixty soldiers are missing after heavy fighting that Malians occurred in two camps near the border with Burkina Faso.

On the night of September 30 to October, it was attacked the military detachment of Mondoro for an indeterminate group of terrorists, who after being rejected again attack Tuesday morning, causing the fighting from spreading during the day. Boulkessy in the camp, a hundred kilometers away from Mondoro, attacks by the Mujahideen, who lost 15 men, caused the largest number of casualties in army troops and the disappearance of sixty effective. During Monday morning Malian special forces were deployed to the Boulkessy, supported by air strikes barkhane operation.

In Mondoro, terrorists could hijack a lot of military equipment and some twenty, some military vehicles equipped with machine guns. While in Boulkessy two army helicopters and a dozen vehicles were destroyed.

This new attack against the battalion Boulkessy, located in a strategic area of traffic and influence of fundamentalist groups because of its proximity to the borders of Mali, Niger and Burkina is evidence of the inability of Bamako and its allies to control the center

and north of the country. The military strength installed in Boulkessy integrates Joint Force G5 Sahel and this attack has so far been the deadliest suffered by this force since its inception in 2017. None of the terrorist organizations operating in this sector has been awarded such attacks.

Burkina Faso out of control

In Burkina Faso, since 2015, more than 500 people were killed in over 450 attacks, especially in the north and east of the country, but also in the capital, Ouagadougou, there have been two bombings and an attack on the headquarters of army, which left eight dead in March 2018.

The Burkinabe government, which for years denied the presence of extremists in his country, without also observe the activities of radical preacher Malam Ibrahim Dicko, peddler of Wahhabi message to the most vulnerable sectors by the central government. Today President Roch Kabore, has lost control of a third of the territory. From west to east, it has lost half of the administrative region of Boucle du Mouhoun, two-thirds of north-central, the whole area of the Sahel and half of the eastern regions. While the borders with Mali, Niger, Ivory Coast, Benin and Togo, are in dispute.

Practically since August, when there was the attack on a military base in the province of Soum, in the north of the country near the border with Mali, where at least twenty-four soldiers were killed, after which it became known that officers they had left the place days before, since he has not spent a single day in any sector of the country there has been an act of fundamentalist violence.

In the northern operate about nine terrorist organizations, which sometimes can act organically, among the most powerful are Jama'at Nasr al-Islam and Grand Sahara Daesh (EIGs), while the military, demoralized, constantly harassed and ill-equipped, months ago they stopped patrolling for fear of ambushes and IEDs and have begun to desert in the most troubled regions. While the roads are in the hands of armed organizations, controlling rural areas and infiltrate more and more often in urban areas. Which, added to the violence by the army and police against civilians in conflict regions, precipitated the number of internally displaced persons in February were estimated at about 90 thousand,

Given the government and international agencies were unable to assess the danger of terrorist groups improvidence, while millions of people are denied the possibility of minimal development, the storm over the Sahel, will be infinite.

Fuerzas Antiterroristas del Mundo

Audentes Fortuna Iuvat



Romania

Grupului Naval Forta pentru Operatii Speciale

In Romania we talk very little about their Special Forces, maintain an aura of mystery. The Naval Grupului Forta pentru Operatii Speciale, or just GNFOs are the Romanian equivalent of the US Navy SEAL.

Enter the GNFOs, is not easy, it is said that only two out of ten candidates fail to pass the tests of income.



One test that serves as a filter to select only the fittest, is the permanence of 20 to 30 minutes in a barometric room, which becomes a sort of diving simulator. Thus, no matter how well trained applicants are, nor what their physical condition, in this test comes in its natural ability to tolerate various mixtures of oxygen, which are required for deep-sea diving.

GNFOs team is capable of carrying out missions on land, air or water, anywhere, anytime. Obviously these Special Forces teams are used against high-value targets.

Their training includes besides the obvious skills for combat-, mountaineering, survival in different scenarios, skydiving, techniques of evasion and escape, combat intelligence, long-distance recognition, and counter-terrorism.

The GNFO units were created a few years ago. They follow NATO doctrine for special operations. GNFO for anti-terrorist actions have priority, although fortunately for Romania, have been no hostage-taking events like the intervention of these teams that make it necessary.

Each of the members of the GNFO teams are highly trained, and is equipped with the most advanced on the market there. Wetsuits, are made of composite materials, and accessories are non-magnetic. All diving equipment including the suit (which is tailored for each command), fittings, and tanks, costs about 40 thousand euros. They also have weapons capable of shooting underwater.

Action against terrorism, are divided into two components, one to prevent possible attacks, where military and police intelligence is very important to detect threats, and a second component that is intervention when the terrorist action has materialized. The GNFO are trained to act quickly and annihilate the terrorists, intervention should last only a few minutes. The doctrine of GNFO states that all hostages -if the Hague-must survive. It is assumed that it is possible that some commands may die in action, due to the inherent danger to their missions, since for maximum mobility, body armor only covers vital parts.



History of Romanian Special Forces

When it comes to modern history Forces Romanian Special Operations (SOF) (ROU), we must consider that the first specialized in this type structure has been operational since 2003, when the 1st Battalion of Special Forces "Eagles" under the administrative control of the Ground Forces of ROU (ADMINCON), he had created in the garrison of Targu Mures.

The establishment and operationalization of such a structure in the territory of Romania, following the American model of "green berets" in the context of changes that have occurred in the global security environment just after the terrorist attacks of 11 September, visionary decisions have been some political and military leaders of the time.

The, albeit short, ride shoulder to shoulder with similar NATO structures captivating begins in 2004. It was the year to support the Greek government, several European troops SOF provided contingency plans to ensure the safety of the Olympic Games Summer in Athens, Greece. This initiative proved to be a catalyst for what later became the concept of "Global Special Operations Forces", the SOF global network based on a common framework of interoperability.

With the accession of Romania to the North Atlantic Alliance, in late March 2004, they continued the deep processes of transformation / modernization of the Armed Forces and adaptation ROU force to the new interoperability requirements. ROU SOF began an important stage of carrying out numerous training activities along with similar structures of other NATO member countries, both at home and abroad.

a specific structure of training and certification SOF, intended to supply the new elite force of skilled operators ROU was established in May 2005. School was Special Operations Forces "Major General Grigore Bastan" in Buzau, currently ISR, Paratroopers, Special Operations and Training Center JTAC "Major General Grigore Bastan".

In April 2006, under the 39° Center subordinated to the Naval Forces of the ROU Diving, it was established in Constanta Group Naval Special Operations Forces (GNFO). During the same year, Romania decides to support international efforts for stabilization and reconstruction to Afghanistan with detachments ROU SOF

deployed to carry out combat and train, advise and assist missions with the Special Security Forces Afghan National Defense, specifically special Units Police of Afghanistan (similar to Police SWAT - special Weapons and tactics). Initially, they started under the umbrella of Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF), then moved to the Force International Security Assistance (ISAF) and the authorities of the Resolute Support Mission.



2006 was also the year that the NATO Summit in Riga, Latvia, the Heads of State and Government adopted the SOF Transformation Initiative (NCTS) NATO. Consequently, the Alliance has established the Coordination Center of NATO SOF (NSCC) with the United States of America (EE. UU.) Like a framework nation. It was not a coincidence that the first commander of NSCC out Admiral (now reserve) William H. McRaven, the man who coordinated the raid carried out by the SEAL team in the United States Navy when capturing the most wanted terrorist in earth, Osama Bin Laden.

Since 2007, this structure type command, established and operating in a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between contributing nations (including Romania), has been implemented at the headquarters of SHAPE in Mons, Belgium, with a mission to facilitate standardization and improved equipment, training, operation and generally interoperability of SOF from allies. In this venue, SOF ROU took over personnel officer who also served as Liaison Officer ROU Special Operations (SOLO). During the first tenure ROU SOLO, Romania also signed the MoU.

In the same year, NATO had certified the first operational detachment ROU SOF available to the Alliance.

A year later, after the NATO Summit 2008 in Bucharest, Romania, the Heads of State and Government agreed in the joint statement that "continue to improve the capability and interoperability of our special operations forces. With the support of defense planning processes, we will enhance our efforts to develop and deploy the right forces and capabilities, with greater interoperability and standardization practicable. "

Capacity development continued with the establishment, in 2008, the garrison of Bucharest, Detachment combat search and rescue (CSAR) under the ADMINCON Air Force ROU and as a natural consequence of the evolution towards a joint structure with land, sea and air forces special operations with the establishment Component Command special operations Staff of the ROU. A structure of command and control of strategic and operational levels designed to exercise operational command (OPCOM) of all ROU SOF. During that time, ROU SOF missions performed in the theater of operations (TO) Afghanistan had been under the authority of the ISAF mission led by NATO with ISAF SOF.



In 2009, the North Atlantic Council authorized the reorganization of the Coordination Center SOF NATO in a SOF NATO Headquarters (NSHQ) able to cover a wider range of missions range, including the provision of a component command of Special Operations (SOCC) - Core deployed in support of a NATO command. Meanwhile, ROU SOF began the process of operationalizing the 1st Regiment of Special Operations (SOR) subordinating and further transforming the 1st Special Operations Battalion "Eagles", the 60th Parachute Battalion "Băneasa-Otopeni" Buzau and 498^o Battalion paratroopers "Smaranda Braescu" Bacău. Soon after, many operators SOR deployed on his first mission in Kosovo TO.

In 2010, takes place NSHQ the transition to NATO and, in 2011, the Sixth Brigade of Special Operations (SOB) "Mihai Viteazul" is established transforming the 1st SOR "Mihai Viteazul".

2012 comes with a number of new initiatives through the participation decision of the troops of Task Forces Naval Special Operations ROU specific missions in the Western Indian Ocean, under the authority of Operation of the Navy EU Atalanta to combat Somali piracy, approached the frigate "King Ferdinand" Navy ROU and increase the contribution of ROU SOF to the ISAF mission in Afghanistan until a task Force special operations (SOTG). In the same year, the Special Operations Command US. UU. Europe (SOCEUR) a Special Operations Command US. UU. Deployed since 1967 Panzer Kaserne, Stuttgart, Germany, he established a permanent representative of SOF in Romania.

In early 2015 marks the transfer of the ISAF Mission Support Mission Resolute led by NATO in Afghanistan and the subsequent modification of the contribution ROU SOF Special Operations Advisory Group (SOAG). In the same year, Romania established a permanent liaison officer in the Special Forces Special Operations Command US (USSOCOM) in Tampa, Florida, USA.

In 2016, due to significant changes in the security environment in the area of interest in Romania, decision-military decisions begin the planning process of modernization and adaptation of force to new challenges and, from 2017, the SOF starts processing ROU.



In the same year, officials from the Group of Naval Forces Special Operations ROU start training missions, advice and assistance with SOF countries of the Association of Mediterranean Dialogue NATO integrated into an element of NSHQ command, interested in Operation Sea Guardian NATO in the Mediterranean Sea part. In addition, in May 2017, Romania joined the International Special Training Center (ISTC), located in Stauffer Kaserne, Pfullendorf, Germany, through a representative ROU SOF as a permanent instructor.

Basically, 2018 brought the first actions to modernize ROU SOF concrete as measures implemented so-called "Program for transformation, development and equipping of the Armed ROU Forces until 2026 and in the future", through the establishment in March, the garrison of Targu Mures command Special Operations Forces ROU (SOFC), the structure of command and control, for which the Chief of Defense ROU exercises command of all SOF ROU, subordinating since June 2018, the newly established School ROU SOF in Vladeni, Braşov. Thus, the implementation of a project started to organize and conduct a course qualifying Special Forces in Romanian territory, similar to the initial training required for access to "green berets" Americans.

Recruitment for qualifying and then access the SOF from RA structures continues, as the School of Application SOF is, according to the announcement on his Facebook page in a recruitment process for 2019-2020, to fill effective staffing gaps. Modernization and adaptation to new security and defense structures.

The force as a whole has been transformed and reorganized, some units and subunits have stopped working, others have been reconfigured and renamed, and all have returned to subordinate the SOU ROU. Therefore, in addition to the headquarters dedicated command and control, today has compiled ROU SOF combat (special operations command and battalions), combat support, logistics support and education and training structures. Involving all operators ROU SOF units in missions in theaters of operations, including TO Iraq, has continued.



In the process of providing interoperability with similar NATO structures, ROU SOF has adapted its conception of organization, training, equipment and use in the fight, has adopted new standards, it has been commonly trained with similar structures of the alliance members or partner countries, has gained experience in real missions performed in theaters of operations, have adapted the method of planning, implementation and evaluation of special operations, techniques, tactics and procedures, have improved their endowment with equipment, weapons, technologies last generation, have successfully completed their assigned tasks, have presented throughout the Alliance, but, what is more important, continue to improve its human resources given the rapid changes in the security environment and society. Not bad!

The level reached today ROU SOF needed vision, determination, major investments and all kinds of resources, but above all, all kinds of sacrifices. The current commander of NSHQ, Vice Admiral (EE. UU.) Colin Kilrain, spoke about the level reached by the SOF from RA, during his visit to Romania, 2018, showing his appreciation for the great relations of cooperation between them and similar structures NATO. and we.

The popularity that the SOF ROU enjoys today in the global system SOF won many sacrifices and major losses. And, unfortunately, there are only a few days to fulfill 10 years since ROU SOF was paying the first sacrifice on foreign soil, in the AT from Afghanistan, only remember about 3/31/2019, Sunday of the Holy Cross, to greet and honor the memory of the five heroes of the Romanian army SOF who were killed under the colors of the national flag: Mr. (PM) Tiberius Petre Marcel, Slt. (PM) Vasile Claudiu Popa, Slt. (PM) Adrian Postelnicu, Slt. (PM) Iulian Dumitrescu și Slt. (PM) Adrian Vizireanu.

In addition to them, since the process of training and education for further participation in the mission, operations and the fight it is a difficult and challenging process, which requires great physical and psychological risks for operators who chose to serve their country in elite structures ROU 10 other brave young soldiers have died during training activities on national territory.

15 years after Romania's accession to NATO, the SOF ROU they continue transforming itself to eventually become the specialized component of the Armed Forces of the ROU of a quick reaction and importance of strategic level with air ground units, naval and dedicated organized, trained and equipped. to carry out specific missions, which play a decisive role in countering the risks and threats to security and defense in Romania, regardless of how classic, conventional, asymmetric or hybrid can be.

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TRIARIUS

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