

افغانستان آزاد – آزاد افغانستان

AA-AA

چو کشور نېاشد تن من مېباد بدین یوم ویر زنده یک تن مېباد
همه سر به سر تن به کشتن دهیم از آن به که کشور به دشمن دهیم

www.afgazad.com

afgazad@gmail.com

European Languages

زبان های اروپایی

M. Mandl

The psychological war and ideological struggle

"The simple introduction of the doubt, in the brains of people, and it means a great success"

<https://lapupilainsomne.wordpress.com/2016/06/06/la-guerra-sicologica-y-la-lucha-ideologica-por-fabian-escalante-font/>

By Fabian Escalante Font

6 JUNE 2016

These days, the heat of the latest political developments in our country, -the restoration of diplomatic relations with the United States many people are concerned and rightly so, of the capabilities of the empire to destabilize our society from within and it seemed appropriate to clarify the concept of psychological warfare and ideological struggle, while knowing them will be better able to face and overcome new battles ahead.

The concept of "psychological warfare" began to form in the United States in the late 40s in the last century began with what the "cold war" was called. It is in 1951 that will appear for the first time in the US Army dictionary under the following definition:

"The psychological war, is the set of actions undertaken by one or several nations in advertising and other media against enemies, neutral or friends of the population groups to influence their ideas, feelings, opinions and behaviors of way to support the policy and objectives of the nation or group of nations it serves this psychological warfare ".

Probably for this reason, one of the leaders of the "Cold War", legal representative of the known "United Fruit Company", John Foster Dulles, Secretary of State of that country in the fifties, express a little later:

"We have spent millions of dollars preparing for war weapons, but we have spent little to the war of ideas and now suffer failures that can not be compensated with our military power."

At the same time, the director of the Information Agency US USIA enriched the concept with the following idea:

"The simple introduction of the doubt, in the brains of people, and it means a great success" The psychological warfare is therefore a set of enemy actions, using the mass media and information, seek to influence groups of people or companies, and to vary their feelings, opinions and behavior. Its purpose is to undermine and destabilize the country, organization or person covered by the project. In other words, the "psychological warfare" is the art of manipulation of social consciousness. It is necessary to unmask and denounce systematically, by all means at our disposal.

An example of what these ways the enemy has done was the law of the "custody" of 1961, an act of psychological warfare in which the CIA and its allies then achieved through various means (propaganda, rumors, falsification of official documents, radio programs, etc.) confuse and terrorize a sector of the Cuban population in order to send their children to the United States and out of the country and more than 15,000 children as their parents, terrified by the slanders circulated, they believed that the revolutionary government would "re-educate" their children in the USSR and take away parental authority over them.

Cuba in all these years has been a laboratory for these "cold warriors". Among the acts preparatory to the mercenary Bay of Pigs Invasion CIA created a radio, located in a fall of Honduras was called Radio Swan, whose mission was to transmit 24 hours a day manipulated news, rumors, smear campaigns and all what contributed to confuse the Cubans, so to disarm them on the eve of aggression. More recently the misnamed Radio and TV Marti replaced it on purpose.

Millions of leaflets have arrived on our shores or have been scattered from the air in terms of these goals, while abroad, experts, political scientists, lecturers, filmmakers and documentarians have worked for the same purposes. It was a war in every sense of the word, but without firing a shot.

In the eighties, during the fierce and merciless war unleashed by the United States against Nicaragua, the Central Intelligence Agency, invented for the counterrevolutionary forces a "Manual of Operations for psychological warfare" to train their "guerrilla" that among many other concepts, including political assassination, he punctuated:

"Guerrilla warfare is essentially a political war. So their areas of operations exceed the territorial limits of conventional wars, to enter into the consciousness of man (...) Human being must be considered the priority of political warfare, and conceived as a military target of the war guerrilla

human being has its most critical point in mind. After reaching his mind, he has been defeated political animal, without necessarily receiving bullets. Guerrilla warfare is born and grows in a political environment; in the constant battle to dominate that area of political mentality that is inherent in every human being, and that collectively constitute the "environment" in which guerrilla warfare moves, and that is where, precisely, its success or failure is defined. This conception of guerrilla warfare as political warfare, psychological operations makes the determining factor in the results. White is then the minds of the population, of all people, our own forces, the enemy and the civilian population. "

This definition thirty years after the first operations, explained the experience of services and specialized agencies United States in its actions against our people. Many "non-governmental" institutions (NGOs) have emerged in the public arena, for such purposes. Including the National Endowment for Democracy (National Endowment for Democracy - NED), the International Republican Institute (IRI International Institute- Republic), next to the arch-reactionary "Heritage Foundation" occupy a privileged place. Manufactured articles, campaigns, images of people and all you can imagine to achieve its aims: to confuse, deceive, divert. Moreover, in each US embassy, depending on the CIA, the USIA or other specialized agency, a job section deals with the mass media and media campaigns.

Every day appear in the capitalist press, or other innovative means, (including the network of networks), news, discussions or opinion concerning political conflicts, social, labor or otherwise, with critical tones, apparent neutrality prosecute this or that situation or action of certain political personality or any social sphere, with the secret intentions to form or create a certain state of mind. So, day after day, they accumulate information on our psyches, which later become in trials, moods, adverse opinions, contradictions, which are intended to act on a given scenario, modify or even change it. It's just that what specialists have called "psychological warfare" whose political and ideological, are obvious.

As of this writing, I come the images of that great American film "tail wagging the dog" in acting Robert de Niro and Dustin Hoffman, in which an American president, troubled by the scandal of an affair, the eve of his re-hires a Hollywood producer to fabricate a nonexistent war, produce heroes, thus diverting attention from the public. That this is the purpose, make believe, winning the minds and sympathies, which just does not exist. So, campaigns of "psychological warfare", which aim is to break down a society, discredit their leaders, institutions and organizations vanguard, introduce doubt, distrust, politically subverting the area where it is projected, soften, break it down, to then grab it.

Today we have created new forms and from the collapse of the European socialist bloc emerged called "soft coups", "popular rebellion" stimulated by external ideological centers to overthrow an existing government, with support from international media agencies information. To this they have been added the use of the powers, as the cases of Honduras, Paraguay and Brazil or campaigns shortages and disrepute in Venezuela, all with the prospect of eroding local and international public opinion for the persecuted governmental change.

That is, the psychological warfare is essentially a premeditated, external action with an ideological purpose, by matching clandestine and conventional methods, which can turn even the

political crime as is the case of the indigenous leader Berta Caceres recently murdered in Honduras for their struggles in defense of the land of their ancestors. The ideological struggle is the battle of ideas to which Fidel called us, one that we must fight against all forms of "psychological warfare" ideological penetration, or whatever you call it. It is a concept that extends to all forms of thought, existing political, cultural, philosophical, economic and social currents. She is the mapping patterns of a certain socioeconomic status and derive from it the actions in all these areas are developed. The spread of socialist ideas, the study of Marxism-Leninism, and in our case the deepening of Marti and Fidel thought, lets expose ideas, contrasting examples, persuade, discuss, propose and achieve a more just and equitable society. The revolutionary ideological activity can not be schematic or dogmatic and must know what the axes of psychological war are to therefore take them into account in their actions, of course, it pursues more comprehensive, while exposing the most advanced social ideas our era. This will need to be supported in our media, political and mass organizations, essential to dialogue with the people channels; persuade and convince about our truths and reasons. In short we must discuss, think and analyze more, use all possible spaces, which also include the study and research centers of Marti's thought, Che Guevara, military, cultural, political and economic. And especially deepen the political and social thinking of Fidel Castro, where we can find the most noble and charitable causes undertaken by our people in more than half a century.

The press and audiovisual media, like all political and social organizations in the country, must play a fundamental role in this struggle through criticism, exposure of our realities, mistakes that have incurred and also reflect the profound changes that the revolution has done in our society, which transited an example of consumerism, one deep solidarity and internationalism. Those are our best values, which convince and persuade, we need to face new battles, which are present in the daily lives of all Cubans.