Applying Environmental Security Concepts to Enhance Peace and Stability

> W. Chris King, Ph.D. Dean of Academics U.S. Army Command and General Staff College

Theme of this Talk

- Introduce Environmental Security as a component of defense/security policy consideration – A significant component of National Interest of Every Nation
 - Science is frustrated with politics
 - The public policy makers are frustrated with scientists
 - We don't speak the same language

Environmental Security is the common ground to understand our mutual interests

Outline

- A strategic view of Environmental Security
- Define strategic Environmental Security analysis
- Offer one approach to Environmental Security analysis
- Propose a Future for Environmental Security



Environmental Security Defined

Environmental security is a process that effectively responds to changing environmental conditions that have the potential to reduce peace and stability in the world. Accomplishing our environmental security goals mandates planning and execution of programs to prevent and mitigate anthropogenically induced adverse changes in the environment. Environmental security – The Human Dimension

From the -- The American Declaration of Independence -1776

..... that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights, among these are, life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

Hierarchy of Human Values

- Life
 - Food Arable lands that
 - Water
 - Absence of disease
 - Energy
- Liberty Freedom to choose
 - Religion
 - Government
 - Cultural norms
 - Movement
- Pursuit of Happiness





Providing life sustaining conditions is a basic human pursuit and this defines environmental security

Norman Myers, The Environmentalist, 1986

" ...national security is not just about fighting forces and weaponry. It relates to watersheds, croplands, forests, genetic resources, climate and other factors that rarely figure in the minds of military experts and political leaders,"

National Defense Strategic Analysis

- Define Outcome or endstate → Sustainable environmental ecosystem
- Measurable facts \longrightarrow Rate of change in H₂O, air, arable land
- Assumptions
 Linkages between environment and security
- Courses of Action _____
 - Environmental sustainment along with other instruments of national power
- Risk Analysis or cost/benefit → We win Environmental protection is cheaper and less risky

What in the world is worth fighting for?

Science of Environmental Security

- Water as a Scarce Resource
 - Fresh Water
 - Oceans
- Global Climate Change
 - Carbon dioxide and greenhouse gases
 - Global warming
 - El Nino / La Nina
 - Ozone depletion in the stratosphere
- Land Use
 - Deforestation-- Biodiversity and the rainforests
 - Desertification
 - Waste disposal hazardous and solid wastes
- Energy Resources
 - Food
 - Heating and cooking
- Health Protection



Environmental Security Strategic Analytical Model

- Select the critical environmental variables
 - Population growth rates
 - Loss of arable land rates
 - Water resources variable
 - Deforestation rates
 - Pollution index
 - ?????
- Select environmental measures of regional stability
- Correlate environmental variables to social security/stability with paired tests of independence
- Maximize correlations (R values) for minimum variables

Population Growth



Source: UN Population Division, 1994 revision



Human-induced soil degradation





Water erosion

Wind erosion

Chemical deterioration



Physical deterioration Severe degradation





Stable terrain Non-used wasteland



Water bodies



Distribution of Forests Worldwide



Estimated Annual Deforestation Rates, 1980-1990



Analysis





Source: Rand McNally, Goode's World Atlas, 1995, pg 27.

FIGURE 4 - 4 Correlation of Water Scarcity with Population Growth Rates



Less than 50 Liters Water/person /day Population Growth >2% and < 3% Greater than > 3% Population Growth Rate









Environmental security is the process of responding to environmental issues that could potentially affect U.S. national security, and it is a part of the U.S. National Security Strategy. This project is tasked and designed to correlate environmental security issues with the overall stability of the Pacific Command area of responsibility. To do this we have analyzed various environmental indicators, such as population, water, health, nutrition, pollution and urbanization. Correlating this data with current destabilizing regions according to social, economic and historical data, our group will show the correlation between current risk areas and environmental factors.

environment 15 4 -Cher Average Daily ntake per Persor In order to determine the overall stability, not the environmental stability, of the areas within the In code to doctomine the sound statuth, not the environment statute, of the alread with the methods of the sound statuth of the environment statute, of the sound statuth, next environment of the sound statuth, next the sound statuth of the sound statuth, next environment of the sound statuth of the sound statuth of the environment of the environ Treacen common emiliates: crief wars, regional cominos, and mensiaté wars between 1991 and 2001. - Pluratity of Population includes: refugee flow, percent minorities, and Inguistic diversity. - Social Stability includes: the Index of Human Development, Literacy Rates, Caloric intake, and an emiliary stability includes: the Index of Human Development, Literacy Rates, Caloric intake, and an emiliary stability includes: the Index of Human Development, Literacy Rates, Caloric intake, and an emiliary stability includes: the Index of Human Development, Literacy Rates, Caloric intake, and an emiliary stability includes: the Index of Human Development, Literacy Rates, Caloric intake, and an emiliary stability includes: the Index of Human Development, Literacy Rates, Caloric intake, and an emiliary stability of the Index of Human Development, Literacy Rates, Caloric intake, and an emiliary stability includes: the Index of Human Development, Literacy Rates, Caloric intake, and an emiliary stability includes: the Index of Human Development, Literacy Rates, Caloric intake, and an emiliary stability includes: the Index of Human Development, Literacy Rates, Caloric intake, and an emiliary stability includes: the Index of Human Development, Literacy Rates, Caloric intake, and an emiliary stability includes: the Index of Human Development, Literacy Rates, Caloric intake, and an emiliary stability includes: the Index of Human Development, Literacy Rates, Caloric intake, and an emiliary stability includes: the Index of Human Development, Literacy Rates, An emiliary stability includes and an emiliary stability includes and an emiliary stability includes and an emiliary stability stability includes and an emiliary stability Water Scarcity Cubic Meter/Person/Year 1 For each of these four factors each area was given either a red, amber, or green rating based on research and a number of different sources including: Goode's World Atlas, the CIA Fact book, a Regional Conflict and Stablitiy Analysis POPULATION SROWTH RATE Legend **Regional Stability Rating** Slightly Ur Highly Unstable 1 ankakiheri nyr 9506 filli Environmental Indicator Concluding Analysis PACIFIC COMMAND ENVIRONMENTAL SECURITY CORRELATION ANALYSIS <u>ONGLUGI</u> Our analysis concludes that there is indeed a strong correlation between the environmental indicators that our group analyzed (Water, Population, Urbanization, Agriculture, Land Use, Poliution, Meath and Autrition) and the Socieoconomic factors that are currently used to analyze stability (Economy, Culture, Historial Conflicts and Government). This correlation supports our Legend ellent Environmer urity Comparison thesis that nations suffering from several environmental problems tend to have societies in conflict. Regional Stability Rating Stable Using this conclusion, our project team has assessed that regions indicated on the map in red with cross- hatches are At-Risk countries that may cause Highly Unstable



conflict or destabilizing affects for the PACOM region in the future.



Environmental Security Analysis



Summary

- Security is a much larger issue than wielding military power
- Peace is not the absence of war, but the existence of stable communities of people who have the basic human needs satisfied
- Environmental degradation is a major threat to peace and stability in the world
- Solutions must work toward curing the basic problems not treating symptoms -- POPULATION +
 - Global Climate Change
 - Loss of arable lands
 - Water Issues
 - And more
- Protecting peace means assuring regional stability
 - Military power can actually support environmental security
 - Manpower
 - Logistics
 - Monitoring
 - Protection of critical resources
 - Engineering

Environmental security provides a scientific tool to correlate to the political/social dimension of stability and security