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Dolna 17, Warsaw,
Poland 00-773
+48 226 0 227 03
editorial_office@rsglobal.pl

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UNDERSTANDING CERTAIN ASPECTS OF MILITARY STRATEGY

Oyuntsetseg Densmaa

Chief of Department, National Defense University, Mongolia

Baasankhuu Suren

Ph.D., Professor, National Defense University, Mongolia

ABSTRACT

Strategy is the most sophisticated form of military art, encompassing the theory and practice of organizing a nation's armed forces for war and managing large-scale military operations (known as strategic operations). Strategy is derived from and follows political policy, serving as a unified plan for all branches of the military.

Military strategy involves diminishing an adversary's physical capacity and willingness to fight, continuing this effort until one's objectives are met. It occurs in both wartime and peacetime and may involve the use of force, either directly or indirectly, as a threat. Military strategy is typically divided into four components: ends (objectives), ways (courses of action), means (resources), and risk.

The practice of military strategy is described alongside military power, which is enhanced by nine "principles of war": objective, maneuver, surprise, mass, economy of force, offensive, security, simplicity, and unity of command. A general will likely employ combinations of military strategies, integrating them into a series of operations or campaigns.

The term "strategy" originates from the ancient Greek "Strategos," meaning military leader. It is derived from the words "Stratos" (soldier, army) and "Ago" (management, leadership).

The practice of military strategy involves the planning and execution of operations aimed at achieving specific objectives in warfare. Military power is bolstered by nine key principles of war: First of all, focus efforts on a clearly defined goal and position forces effectively to gain a tactical advantage. Also, strike the enemy unexpectedly to disrupt their plans and concentrate combat power at the decisive point to overwhelm the enemy. Furthermore, allocate resources efficiently to maximize effectiveness and take the initiative to seize and maintain the advantage. Next principles are the protection one's own forces and information from enemy actions and ensure plans and orders are straightforward and clear. Finally, maintain a centralized command structure for coherent strategy execution.

These principles guide military leaders in crafting strategies that effectively utilize available resources and achieve desired outcomes in conflict scenarios.

KEYWORDS

Strategy, Army Strategy, Military Strategy, Sun Tzu Strategy, Genghis Khan Strategy, Modern Military Strategy, Warfare, Future Trends, Weapons and Technology Development

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Background of The Research Study.

The theoretical development of military security is vital for a country's governance capacity and unified political policy. Economic stability relies on the military's capabilities and their ability to protect national security rights and interests. In response to emerging threats and challenges, nations are actively investigating new war theories to bolster their military security operations. The introduction of advanced weaponry and technology is propelling the evolution of military science and enhancing security measures. The theory of military security continually adapts to shifts in both external and internal environments and various influencing factors. It is a multidisciplinary field that includes philosophy, sociology, politics, international relations, and

economics, reflecting a scientific approach to national security. Some nations prioritize military security as a fundamental component of their national defense strategy. The relationships between countries are becoming increasingly extensive, characterized by interdependence in the economy, information, and technology, alongside the emergence of new threats and challenges. It is crucial to analyze and study these dynamics within the framework of security science, taking into account their interconnectedness with government, international relations, and economic issues.

The issue of ensuring military security is inherently complex, and its resolution relies on numerous factors, which limits its scope. While military security studies share similarities with other sciences, military science possesses its own distinct categories and concepts. Concepts such as military threats, warfare, armed conflict, military operations, and both conventional and non-conventional threats are central to understanding a country's military security. Accurately defining and comprehending these concepts is vital for enhancing defense and military policy, as it significantly influences operational effectiveness. Consequently, the importance of conducting research in this area is widely acknowledged today.

Introduction.

Strategy, derived from the Greek word στρατηγία *stratēgia*, refers to the art of military leadership and generalship. It involves crafting a comprehensive plan to achieve long-term goals in uncertain circumstances. Strategy encompasses various military skills, including tactics, siege craft, and logistics. The term "strategy" was first used in the Eastern Roman Empire during the 6th century AD and later translated into Western languages. Throughout history, strategy has been employed in military conflicts to outmaneuver opponents through the use of force, threats, and actions in pursuit of political objectives.

Strategy is crucial because there are often constraints on the resources available to achieve objectives. It typically involves setting goals and priorities, identifying actions to reach those goals, and utilizing resources to execute those actions. Strategy outlines the approach to achieving objectives using available resources. It can be intentional or develop organically as an organization responds to or competes in its environment.

This includes tasks like strategic planning and strategic analysis. Henry Mintzberg from McGill University described strategy as a decision-making pattern, distinguishing it from mere planning. Henrik von Scheel defined strategy as the act of doing things differently or creating a unique value combination to stand out from competitors. Max McKeown (2011) views strategy as a means to shape the future and achieve goals using available resources. Vladimir Quint defined strategy as a system for creating, formulating, and developing doctrines that, if followed consistently, lead to long-term success.

When writing this article, it is beneficial to begin by examining early military strategies alongside modern military and war strategies. Understanding the evolution of warfare can provide valuable insights into contemporary tactics and planning. Historical strategies reveal foundational principles and concepts that have shaped military thought, while modern strategies incorporate technological advancements, geopolitical dynamics, and new forms of warfare. This comparative analysis can enhance the depth and relevance of this article.

The Sun Tzu Military Strategy.

Sun Tzu's "The Art of War" presents military strategy as a complex interplay of various factors, emphasizing the importance of adaptability, understanding human nature, and the environment. He advocates for thorough preparation, knowledge of both oneself and the enemy, and the significance of deception in gaining an advantage. Key principles include the importance of strategy over brute force, the value of flexibility in tactics, and the necessity of careful planning and timing. Sun Tzu also stresses the moral and psychological dimensions of warfare, suggesting that winning without conflict is the ultimate goal. Overall, his teachings emphasize the integration of wisdom, skill, and resources to achieve victory in a strategic manner.

The Art of War by Sun Tzu is a timeless ancient Chinese text that remains relevant in today's modern world. The book addresses various aspects of warfare and strategy, and it is extensively studied in military academies, business schools, and leadership courses. Understanding the historical context behind The Art of War is essential to grasping its significance and impact. Sun Tzu is thought to have lived during the Spring and Autumn Periods of Chinese history, which spanned from 770 to 476 BC. This era was marked by significant political turmoil and military conflict in China, with various states and kingdoms constantly competing for power and dominance. It was within this context that Sun Tzu composed The Art of War, and his insights and teachings were influenced by the realities of war and conflict in ancient China.

The Art of War by Sun Tzu is an ancient Chinese military treatise that has gained significant popularity and relevance in contemporary strategic thinking. One of the key points of the book is its strategic principles

and their modern interpretations, which have been applied not only to warfare but also to business, politics, and everyday life.

One of the main strategic principles outlined in *The Art of War* is the concept of "knowing your enemy and knowing yourself." Sun Tzu emphasizes the importance of understanding both your strengths and weaknesses as well as those of your opponent to achieve victory. This principle has been widely embraced in the business world, where companies strive to conduct thorough market analysis and competitor research to gain a competitive edge.

Another key principle of *The Art of War* is the idea of "winning without fighting." Sun Tzu advises that ultimate victory is achieved by outmaneuvering the enemy and gaining the upper hand without engaging in direct conflict. This concept has been applied in modern warfare strategies as well as in business negotiations, where the goal is to secure a favorable outcome without resorting to confrontation.

Furthermore, *The Art of War* emphasizes the importance of adaptability and flexibility in one's strategy. Sun Tzu advises that successful leaders and commanders can adjust their tactics to the ever-changing circumstances of the battlefield. This principle has been translated into the business world as the ability to be agile and responsive to market shifts, technological advancements, and consumer preferences.

Additionally, *The Art of War* highlights the importance of deception and misinformation as strategic tools. Sun Tzu advocates for the use of psychological warfare and the manipulation of the enemy's perceptions to create confusion and disarray. This tactic has been adapted in the modern world through propaganda, public relations, and misinformation campaigns in politics, media, and marketing. Overall, the strategic principles outlined in *The Art of War* remain highly relevant in contemporary society. The book's teachings on understanding one's strengths and weaknesses, achieving victory without confrontation, being adaptable and flexible, and employing deception as a strategic tool continue to inform military, business, and political strategies worldwide. The timeless wisdom of Sun Tzu's treatise resonates with readers and remains a valuable resource for those seeking to grasp the art of strategic thinking. "The Art of War" offers profound insights into the nature of conflict and tactics. Its concepts are applicable in various settings, including business, politics, and sports, extending beyond the battlefield. Leaders across the globe are still inspired by Sun Tzu's timeless advice, which underscores the importance of adaptation, strategic thinking, and the pursuit of success through intellect and foresight. We can comprehend the essence of Sun Tzu's teachings through this comprehensive explanation and apply its guidelines to navigate the challenges of strategy and decision-making in our own endeavors.

The Genghis Khan Military Strategy.

In this article, we have also discussed the military tactics employed by the historical Mongolian ruler Genghis Khan. Genghis Khan, born as Temujin in 1162, is renowned for his innovative military strategies and organizational skills that transformed the Mongolian tribes into a formidable empire that stretched across much of Asia and Europe. His art of war can be characterized by several key strategies and principles:

- **Mobility and Speed:** Genghis Khan placed a strong emphasis on the mobility of his forces. Mongolian cavalry, composed largely of horse archers, utilized their speed to outmaneuver and strike at enemy forces before they could mount a coordinated response. This allowed them to execute rapid raids and retreats effectively.

- **Adaptation and Learning:** Genghis Khan was not only a master of martial tactics but also a keen observer of his enemies. He adapted techniques and strategies from conquered peoples, incorporating diverse military technologies, such as siege weapons from the Chinese, into his own forces.

- **Decentralized Command:** This military approach involved assigning leaders to smaller units known as "hundreds" or "thousands." These commanders had the autonomy to make tactical decisions on the battlefield, which led to flexibility and speed in combat scenarios. This decentralization fostered initiative among leaders and their troops, allowing for quick responses to battlefield dynamics.

- **Psychological Warfare:** Genghis Khan used fear as a tool of psychological warfare. By employing brutal tactics against those who resisted his conquests, he created a reputation that led many cities to surrender without a fight, further expanding his empire with minimal bloodshed.

- **Intelligence and Strategy:** The Mongol military placed great importance on reconnaissance and intelligence-gathering. Scouts would provide crucial information about enemy positions, movements, and fortifications, enabling the Mongols to devise effective strategies for attack or evasion.

- **Unification and Loyalty:** Genghis Khan unified the fragmented Mongolian tribes under a single banner, fostering a sense of loyalty and camaraderie among his troops. His emphasis on meritocracy and the distribution of spoils of war based on performance created strong bonds and commitment to the military cause.

- **Logistics and Supply Lines:** Understanding the importance of supply lines, Genghis Khan organized his campaigns to ensure adequate provisions for his troops. He established a network of relay stations to facilitate rapid movement of supplies and reinforcements.

- **Siege Warfare:** While the Mongols were primarily known for their cavalry, they also developed effective siege tactics. They employed earthen ramps, catapults, and other siege technologies to capture fortified cities.

Genghis Khan's innovative military strategies not only laid the foundation for the Mongol Empire but also influenced military thought and practices in subsequent centuries. His legacy continues to resonate in discussions of warfare and strategy today.

Genghis Khan, renowned for his strategic brilliance, significantly shaped the evolution of global military tactics. He reorganized the army into the "Myangat Organization" using a decimal system, introduced the "Unified Administrative Method" based on an advanced form of military democracy, and implemented extensive military-administrative reforms. In a remarkably short time, he established unmatched discipline and organization within the army, elevating Mongolian military prowess to a world-leading level. Genghis Khan's military strategy and tactics represent a highly developed form of military science that was refined over generations by the Mongolian people. When combined with the leadership of military generals under Genghis Khan, this led to the extraordinary victories of the medieval Mongolian army.

The foundation of the military strategy of the Great Mongol Empire was the "Maneuver War" strategy, which focused on strategic-level maneuvers in warfare. Genghis Khan was a pioneer in implementing various aspects of this strategy, such as establishing a sophisticated intelligence network. By effectively utilizing intelligence networks, the Mongolian army could swiftly and decisively attack enemy territories with the same ease as operating within their own borders. In the 20th century, the United States Armed Forces established the "Rapid Deployment Force" with a purpose similar to that of the Mongolian "Tama" soldiers of the 13th century. Additionally, many countries adopted the practice of thoroughly analyzing the theater of operations and preparing it in advance by constructing roads and bridges for large troop movements. Also,

- To isolate the enemy nation through a blend of military and diplomatic strategies;
- When executing strategic operations, troops must be deployed across three branches to ensure mutual support;
- To diminish the enemy nation's power by advancing simultaneously from multiple points within its territory;
- Choose the appropriate direction for the primary attack and catch the enemy off guard with a strategic operation;
- Disrupt the enemy's unified command by targeting key figures such as monarchs and princes;
- Various strategic initiatives, including robust psychological warfare, have been implemented at the strategic level.

These principles remain vital in modern warfare, underscoring the importance of seizing the initiative and actively engaging in combat operations to secure victory.

Military Warfare Strategy and Attributes.

Military warfare strategy involves the planning and execution of operations aimed at achieving specific objectives in armed conflict. Key components of military strategy include:

1. **Objectives:** Clearly defined goals determine the focus of military operations. Objectives can be tactical (short-term) or strategic (long-term).
2. **Threat Assessment:** Understanding the capabilities, intentions, and weaknesses of adversaries is crucial for formulating an effective strategy.
3. **Forces and Resources:** The availability and allocation of military assets, personnel, equipment, and logistics directly impact strategic choices.
4. **Doctrine:** Military doctrine provides a framework for how forces operate, including principles, tactics, and procedures.
5. **Terrain and Environment:** The geographical context influences strategy, as terrain can provide advantages or disadvantages in combat situations.
6. **Coalition and Alliances:** Partnering with other nations can enhance capabilities, share resources, and create strategic advantages.

7. Intelligence: Accurate and timely information is essential for decision-making and operational success.

8. Adaptability: The ability to modify strategies in response to changing conditions on the battlefield and evolving enemy tactics is critical.

9. Psychological Warfare: Strategies often include elements aimed at undermining the enemy's morale and will to fight.

10. Technological Edge: Incorporating advanced technologies for communication, weaponry, and surveillance can dramatically influence the outcome of conflicts.

Overall, effective military strategy requires a combination of careful planning, analysis, and flexibility to respond to dynamic situations. The attributes of successful military operations often include leadership, discipline, coordination, and resilience.

The post-Cold War era has brought significant changes to international relations, marked by the rise of globalization and advancements in information technology. Countries now face new security risks and challenges as social dynamics evolve across all sectors. Geopolitics has played a crucial role in shaping the policies of powerful nations, as they strive to maintain influence and protect their interests through unconventional means, including the use of soft power and non-traditional methods of warfare. The military and armed forces are essential for safeguarding a country's independence and security.

A nation without a military may become reliant on or influenced by others. Mongolia, as an independent and sovereign country, maintains its military and armed forces. As soldiers tasked with defending our nation, we must be prepared for any eventuality, necessitating the army's readiness to act. Scientific advancements have significantly impacted the armed forces, surpassing progress in other fields.

For instance, in the past, surgical procedures were the only treatment for tumors, but today, surgery remains a crucial aspect of tumor management. Similarly, vehicles were traditionally driven on four wheels, a practice that continues today. The evolution of military science has been remarkable, with advancements in weaponry and technology enabling rockets to travel vast distances, far beyond what was possible 50-60 years ago.

Today, international military-strategic relations have become increasingly aggressive. This is evident in the mutual accusations and intimidation based on military force that characterize global interactions. The focus is on establishing favorable political and economic conditions for themselves rather than conquering through weapons and technology. The goal is to gain control over a nation's natural resources, politics, and economy. In modern warfare, the primary objective is to cripple the opponent's social and economic systems. This poses a greater threat than traditional warfare, targeting essential social and economic sectors. Nuclear weapons, long-range strategic aircraft, and submarines capable of carrying nuclear bombs across continents are key components of military power. Only countries possessing such weapons can exert dominance through military force.

Currently, nations like the United States, Russia, China, Germany, and Korea are seeking to assert dominance through military means. Additionally, powerful countries are looking to control airspace, with over 4,500 devices operating in space, around 30% of which serve military and strategic purposes.

There is a practice of gathering intelligence on one another and using it to gain an advantage. In the past, countries focused on development, and the situation was peaceful. However, there is now a return to competition for powerful weapons. Former socialist countries like Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia have become members of NATO, with Ukraine and Georgia expressing interest in joining. This expansion of NATO poses a threat to Moscow. The United States now possesses missiles with a range of 1,000 km that can reach their target in just five minutes. Russia is concerned about the possibility of surprise attacks.

A variety of weapons are being developed and showcased in military parades around the globe. The US has unveiled an ultrasonic missile capable of reaching a target 1,000 km away in just 5 minutes, utilizing conventional non-nuclear charges. Furthermore, the US is testing an intercontinental ballistic missile with a range of 16,000 km, set to be included in its arsenal by 2025. The US also possesses a long-range strategic bomber equipped with a nuclear bomb, which is heavily protected by more than 10 aircraft during its missions. This bomber can be refueled in mid-air and features automatic defense systems in the event of an attack, showcasing significant advancements in military technology. The US is upgrading its B2 long-range bomber to the B3 model, which poses a potential threat to global security. Other nations are also enhancing their military capabilities in the name of peace and security. Russia is actively developing the intercontinental ballistic missile "Satan 2" for atmospheric deployment, potentially targeting adversaries from space. The testing of weapons necessitates extensive experience and expertise, as evidenced by the development and testing of the Kalashnikov assault rifle.

Modern Military Warfare Strategy.

The Gulf War, also referred to as "Desert Storm," in 1991, represented a pivotal shift in modern warfare and armed conflict. Led by the United States and NATO, multinational military forces were deployed to liberate Kuwait from Iraqi aggression. "Operation Desert Storm" began on January 17, 1991, with a coordinated multinational air strike. Notably, the operation featured air force and high-altitude missile strikes executed in phases and on an unprecedented scale. This military campaign introduced a new form of independent combat operation known as "Air Assault Operation." This operation involved extensive participation from various aerospace forces, naval aircraft carriers, air defense systems, space and air reconnaissance units, and electronic warfare units of the enemy state. The primary objectives were to disrupt leadership, weaken military-economic capabilities, and secure strategic advantages. During "Desert Storm," advanced technologies such as satellite navigation systems, unmanned aerial vehicles, the ADEN "Patriot" system, "intelligent" fire equipment, "Tomahawk" cruise missiles, and the F-117 stealth aircraft were employed to redefine the nature of warfare and armed conflict in the early 21st century. The Yugoslav War, also known as NATO's 1999 "Allied" air offensive, witnessed 78 days of intense air-to-ground missile attacks. A total of 35,219 sorties were conducted during the air raid operation, with the naval and air forces of the United States, Great Britain, France, and Germany launching a combined 22 air-to-surface missile strikes. NATO's airstrikes on Yugoslavia marked the beginning of the era of "non-contact warfare" or remote warfare, where military engagements are conducted without the direct involvement of ground troops.

The primary objective of "Operation Iraqi Freedom," or Iraq War II, was more centered on military-political goals than on military-strategic objectives. This included the overthrow of Saddam Hussein's regime, the establishment of democracy and freedom in Iraq, the locating and elimination of the NCO, and the dismantling of terrorist organizations. The conflict in Iraq involved the deployment of special forces from various countries alongside the United States and NATO, while the opposing forces employed asymmetric tactics such as guerrilla warfare and terrorist attacks (including suicide bombings and remote-controlled explosives) to counter larger military forces. During the initial phase of the war, an information war was waged through global mass media, with over 40 countries uniting in the "battle against international terrorism."

Additionally, new weapons were tested, potentially including prohibited arms containing radioactive materials like depleted uranium (U-238) and satellite-guided high-altitude weaponry. The conflict resulted in a prolonged humanitarian crisis and ongoing instability in Iraq, paving the way for the emergence of the Islamic State group in the Middle East. The war in Afghanistan, which lasted from 2001 to 2021, shares similarities with the war in Iraq regarding initial political objectives, the types of weapons used, and the combat strategies employed by both sides.

The conflict in Syria encompasses a blend of conventional and unconventional warfare, integrating both military and non-military tactics. Initially, the United States and Western nations intensified the internal strife in Syria by arming opposition forces, engaging in information warfare, and ultimately aligning foreign-funded terrorist groups against the Bashar al-Assad government. Russia and Syria have collaborated on military operations to strengthen President Bashar al-Assad's regime, including the execution of airstrikes. The Libyan conflict parallels the Syrian war in its development and execution, starting with a color revolution. Throughout the conflict, actions included establishing a no-fly zone and coordinating maritime blockades with the support of private military companies from NATO member states and opposition armed groups.

The "Second Karabakh War" between Azerbaijan and Armenia commenced in September 2020 and lasted for 44 days, with Azerbaijan effectively employing attack and suicide drones. The Russo-Ukrainian War, the largest ground military operation in 30 years, underscores the importance of ground operations despite the focus on high-altitude weapons in modern warfare. The war's political objective was to change the regime in Kiev, secure a neutral status for Ukraine, and ultimately render it a Russian-dependent state, while the military-strategic goal was to gain control over the Crimean Peninsula and Ukraine. The United States and NATO aim to diminish Russia's military power to provoke a political crisis, while also pursuing control over Crimea and Ukraine.

In the ongoing conflict between Russia and Ukraine, jet artillery systems and unmanned aerial vehicles are playing vital roles. A new ultrasonic weapon, the "Kinzhalt" missile, was deployed for the first time on March 18, 2022, when Russian forces targeted a weapons depot in Ivano-Frankivsk, western Ukraine. The introduction of hypersonic missiles has created a significant disparity between missile attack and defense systems, rendering advanced anti-missile defense systems like the Russian S-400 and the US Patriot ineffective. This has conferred a military-strategic advantage to the attacking side. Furthermore, the information war surrounding the conflict has intensified, further dividing the world.

Modern Military Warfare Attributes, Future Trends.

Modern military warfare is characterized by several key attributes and is influenced by emerging trends that shape its future. Here are the main attributes and anticipated trends:

- **Technological Integration:** The use of advanced technologies such as drones, artificial intelligence, cyber capabilities, and satellite systems has transformed traditional warfare. These technologies enable precision targeting, real-time surveillance, and enhanced decision-making.
- **Asymmetrical Warfare:** Conflicts often involve non-state actors and irregular forces that employ unconventional tactics, making traditional military strategies less effective. This includes guerrilla warfare, urban combat, and cyber warfare.
- **Joint Operations:** Modern military forces frequently conduct joint operations that integrate land, air, and sea assets. This collaboration enhances operational effectiveness and allows for more flexible responses to threats.
- **Information Warfare:** Control over information and narratives has become crucial. Operations now include psychological operations, disinformation campaigns, and leveraging social media to influence public perception and morale.
- **Network-Centric Warfare:** Military operations rely on networked technologies that enhance communication and coordination. This interconnectedness allows for the rapid sharing of intelligence and more synchronized actions across units.
- **Hybrid Warfare:** The blending of conventional and unconventional tactics, along with cyber and information warfare, characterizes hybrid threats. Entities can employ a mix of regular military force and irregular tactics to achieve strategic goals.

Future Trends.

Increased Automation and Autonomy: The development of autonomous systems, including robots and drones, is expected to change the battlefield, allowing for reduced human risk and enhanced operational efficiency.

- **Cyber Warfare Escalation:** As reliance on digital infrastructure grows, cyber warfare is likely to become a primary battlefield. Nations will invest more in defensive and offensive cyber capabilities to protect critical infrastructure.
- **Artificial Intelligence:** The integration of AI into military operations will enhance surveillance, threat detection, logistics, and battlefield decision-making, creating a faster-paced and more complex combat environment.
- **Space Militarization:** As space becomes a strategic domain, military powers will expand their capabilities in satellite operations, missile defense systems, and surveillance, leading to new forms of warfare.
- **Focus on Sustainability:** Future military operations are likely to emphasize sustainability, integrating eco-friendly technologies and considering the environmental impact of warfare, including logistics and resource management.
- **Global Security Partnerships:** Non-traditional alliances and coalitions will grow as nations recognize the need for collaborative approaches to address transnational threats, including terrorism, climate change, and pandemics.
- **Ethical and Legal Challenges:** The evolution of warfare technologies raises complex ethical and legal questions regarding the conduct of war, rules of engagement, and accountability, prompting discussions about international law and military ethics.

These attributes and trends illustrate how modern military warfare continues to evolve, posing new challenges and opportunities for nations and military organizations worldwide.

In summary, the military strategy of wars and armed conflicts in the late 20th and early 21st centuries, characterized by the following key features:

In a military-political context:

- Previous wars and armed conflicts reflected the geopolitical struggle between socialist and capitalist systems, while the political and military-strategic objectives of contemporary wars are tied to geo-strategy, competition for natural resources, and energy reserves.
- Major powers have pursued their objectives through color revolutions or direct military aggression to alter the political systems of countries within their geostrategic interests (such as Afghanistan, Iraq, Yugoslavia, Libya, Syria, Egypt, and Ukraine).

- A mechanism for implementing shared strategic objectives has been established in the military-political and military spheres.
- Territories and certain entities of small independent states are being separated through a combination of political coercion and military action.
- Information warfare has become an integral component of military operations.
- The goal of information superiority has been achieved through extensive use of mass media and social platforms.
- Artificial intelligence has been employed to disseminate false information on social networks as a means of influencing the populace.
- By conducting non-war military operations in sectors such as energy, banking, economy, and information infrastructure, the traditional distinctions between war and peace have blurred. An example of this is the impact of a cyber-attack on Iran's energy infrastructure in 2015.
- In a military-strategic context:
 - The Air Force and high-altitude missiles were employed continuously and intensively for several days, targeting strategically significant objects and infrastructure until they were considerably weakened, at which point ground military operations commenced.
 - Despite the deployment of advanced weaponry, civilian infrastructure and non-combatants were affected during the course of the conflict. "Dirty" technologies that damage the country's economy and create crises were utilized.
 - The conflict evolved into hybrid warfare.
 - Robotic weapons with artificial intelligence, such as unmanned aerial vehicles, were deployed in "contactless warfare" or remote combat scenarios.
 - Cyber-attacks were executed to disrupt state and military management systems, causing extensive damage across military defense, energy, and economic sectors.
 - The conflicting parties exhibited varying levels of armed forces development, weaponry, and technical capabilities, resulting in an asymmetric nature of the conflict. Terrorism, espionage, sabotage, and guerrilla warfare by small groups became prevalent.
 - While the armed conflict primarily unfolded within one country, the direct and indirect involvement of military forces from other regional nations rendered the wars and conflicts increasingly global in scope.
 - Seizing strategic initiatives early in the conflict significantly influenced the final outcome.
 - The Air Force and long-range high-altitude missile systems were pivotal in the initial phase of the conflict, but the ultimate result hinged on the actions of ground forces.
 - The effectiveness of ground forces in supporting military operations in air, space, oceans, and seas determined the achievement of military-political and military-strategic objectives in the conflict.
 - The significance of radio-electronic warfare continued to escalate throughout the conflict.

Future Trends in Military Weapons, Technology and Development.

The ongoing Russian-Ukrainian war highlights a variety of military equipment from different generations. For example, the Russian T-72 tank and "Uragan-1M" jet artillery system are categorized as 2nd generation, while the Su-27 fighter jet is classified as 4th generation weaponry. In this conflict, advanced weapons such as the Russian hypersonic "Kinzhal" missile, representing the sixth generation, have been deployed. It is clear that future warfare will heavily depend on high-tech capabilities. Technologies like big data, artificial intelligence, autonomous systems, space technology, hypersonic missiles, and drones are playing vital roles in modern warfare, with their development and use expected to grow significantly in the future.

A report from the US Center for International and Strategic Studies emphasizes the necessity of mastering key technologies such as secure resource networks, quantum technology, bioengineering, space-based technology, artificial intelligence, high-performance computing, and robotics to ensure success in future conflicts. Major powers have been investing heavily in hypersonic missile technology. Russia has deployed systems like the Sarmat missile, underwater drones, and hypersonic missiles including Kinzhal, Zircon, and Avangard. The US has developed hypersonic systems like the X-51A Wave-rider and LRHW, with plans to incorporate them into their arsenal. China has also made significant advancements in hypersonic missile programs, conducting tests for systems like the DF-17.

Additionally, the UK and France have collaborated on the Perseus missile project to enhance their naval capabilities. The rise of artificial intelligence has introduced new challenges, with social networks being

utilized as instruments for public unrest. This trend is anticipated to persist, posing risks to national security, societal stability, and individual safety. While technological innovation has historically yielded positive outcomes, the misuse of AI-based technologies presents new threats that must be addressed.

With the advancement of science and technology in warfare, the intensity, speed, and impact of conflicts will escalate, potentially altering the duration of wars.

It is clear that warfare will extend beyond physical and geographical boundaries to include cyber and space domains. Success in modern warfare is expected to depend on:

1. technological superiority,
2. strategic tactics, and
3. appropriate military capabilities.

Technology leaders like Elon Musk and Bill Gates have warned about the risks posed by artificial intelligence, while Russian President Vladimir Putin has highlighted the significance of technological dominance in global affairs. China has set a goal to achieve supremacy in artificial intelligence by 2030, integrating it into military strategies.

The distinction between war and peace has become increasingly blurred, with non-military operations being conducted during peacetime and the rise of hybrid warfare and gray zone conflicts utilizing a range of national resources, not just military force.

Future trends in military weapons, technology, and development are influenced by advancements in several key areas, including artificial intelligence, automation, cyber capabilities, and biotechnology. Here are some of the most significant trends expected to shape the future of military systems:

Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning: AI will play a crucial role in enhancing decision-making processes, optimizing logistics, and improving situational awareness. Autonomous systems, including drones and robotic ground vehicles, will become more sophisticated, capable of conducting missions without direct human intervention.

Hypersonic Weapons: The development of hypersonic missiles, which can travel at speeds exceeding Mach 5, is expected to revolutionize warfare. These weapons can evade current missile defense systems, making them a significant strategic advantage.

Cyber Warfare and Cyber Defense: As military operations increasingly rely on digital infrastructure, cyber capabilities will become central to national defense strategies. This includes not only offensive operations against enemy networks but also robust defense mechanisms to protect critical systems.

Directed Energy Weapons: Technologies like lasers and microwave weapons are being developed for various applications, including missile defense, disabling enemy sensors, and engaging targets at the speed of light. These systems offer potentially unlimited ammunition and reduced operational costs.

Unmanned Systems: The use of drones and unmanned ground vehicles is expected to expand, enabling remote surveillance and combat capabilities. Swarming technology, where multiple unmanned systems operate cooperatively, will be explored for tactical advantages.

Biotechnology and Genetic Engineering: Advances in biotechnology may lead to enhanced soldier performance through medical innovations, genetic modifications, and improvements in physical endurance or cognitive abilities. This raises ethical considerations as well as practical implications for military readiness.

Advanced Materials and Manufacturing: The integration of nanotechnology, 3D printing, and smart materials into military supply chains will enhance the durability and functionality of equipment. This can lead to lighter armor, customizable weapons, and rapid prototyping of new designs.

Space Warfare Capabilities: As nations increasingly focus on space as a strategic domain, military capabilities in space will see significant investment. This includes satellite defense systems, anti-satellite weapons, and space-based surveillance technologies.

Network-Centric Warfare: Future forces will be highly interconnected, with advanced communication systems enabling real-time data sharing and coordination across units. This will lead to more effective joint operations and strategies based on collective situational awareness.

Ethics and Autonomous Weapons: The development and deployment of fully autonomous weapons raise critical ethical questions about accountability, decision-making in life-and-death scenarios, and the potential for unintended consequences in warfare.

These trends indicate a shift towards more integrated, automated, and high-tech military capabilities, reflecting the changing nature of conflict and the need for modernization in defense strategies.

Conclusions.

As long as conflicts arise from the rapid growth of the world population, climate change, scarcity of natural resources, geopolitical tensions, and power distribution, war will continue, hindering human development. The methods and nature of conflict have evolved, extending beyond Earth into outer space. The escalating geopolitical competition among major powers and the trend of employing military force to protect geostrategic interests in smaller nations amplify security threats for developing countries, as the United Nations struggles to effectively manage conflicts.

The distinction between war and peace has blurred, leading to prolonged periods of "gray zone conflict" characterized by non-military tactics that leverage technological advancements. Information warfare, driven by artificial intelligence, plays a vital role in shaping public opinion and influencing conflicts. Advancements in science and technology are transforming the landscape of warfare, with future conflicts expected to feature a combination of high-speed missiles, drones, robotics, artificial intelligence, lasers, energy weapons, and cyber capabilities. In the current security environment, nations must adapt to new military strategies, technologies, and weaponry to remain competitive. Failure to keep pace with technological advancements may leave countries vulnerable to more technologically advanced adversaries.

Future trends in military weapons, technology, and development are influenced by advancements in several key areas, including artificial intelligence, automation, cyber capabilities, and biotechnology.

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