

PSCI 3510
Terrorism and Political
Violence
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Cambodian War Crimes Tribunal 2012

Waves (Rapoport)*

- 1880s-1920s: Anarchist wave
- 1920s-1960s: Anti-colonial wave
- 1960s-1990s: New Left wave
- 1979+: Religious wave

* Non-state "rebel"/grass-roots terrorism

"Old" vs "New" Terrorism (Crenshaw)

"Old"

- Ideological or anti-colonialism/separatism
- Bargainable goals
- Terrorist acts are tactical
- Selective in choice of targets
- Centralized organization

"New"

- Based in religion
- Illiberal and anti-Western
- Goal: mass casualties
- Fanatical
- Non-negotiable
- Scale of violence greater
- Organized as networks

State Terrorism

- Examples:
 - Robespierre and the Jacobins: 1793-1794
 - Stalinist purges: 1928-1953
 - German genocide: 1938-1945
 - Khmer Rouge, Kampuchea/Cambodia: 1975-1979

Totalitarianism and Terror

- Totalitarianism:
 1. Overarching ideology
 2. Mass party with dictatorial leader
 3. Terror
 4. Monopoly on weapons
 5. Monopoly on communications
 6. Control and planning of economy

-Friedrich and Brzezinski, 1956

Solzhenitsyn's *Gulag Archipelago*

- Aleksandr Solzhenitsyn, 1918-2008
- Post-WWII: eight years in labor camps
 - *One Day in the Life of Ivan Denisovich*, 1962
- *Gulag Archipelago*, 1973
- Exiled, lived in Vermont 1974-2004



Fascism

- Ideology from 1920s
- Giovanni Gentile (Italy) and Carl Schmitt (Germany)
- Extreme nationalism and ethnic superiority
- All-powerful state



Communism

- Karl Marx (19th C), Vladimir Lenin (early 20th C) and Josef Stalin (mid-20th C)
- Marx: evolutionary development of communism from below
- Lenin (design) and Stalin (in fact): revolutionary transformation from above
- Goal: eliminate social injustices associated with capitalism
- All-powerful state



Khmer Rouge

- Influenced by Mao Zedong (China)
- Re-education and re-enculturation
- Destroy and rebuild
- All-powerful state

Pol Pot
1925-1998



Ieng Sary
1925-2013



The Logic of Totalitarianism

- Terror is necessary for total control.
- Total control is necessary to transform society.
- Transformation of society is necessary to achieve vision.



Not all state terror is rooted in ideology.

Example: Idi Amin, Uganda 1971-1979.

100,000-500,000 killed.

