Nation Building: Prototypes in History and Paradigms for the Future
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Nation Building: RAND Corporation’s Definition
“the use of armed force as part of the broader effort to promote political and economic reforms with the objective of transforming a society emerging from conflict into one at peace with itself and its neighbors”

Problems with the Literature
• Body of literature is extremely small
• No argument for ancient nation building exists
• Colonial/Post-Colonial cases lack treatment
• Need for a broader narrative
• Need of paradigms for future cases

The Cyrus Cylinder
Nation Building’s Cornerstone

Figure 1—Higher Force Levels for Longer Time Periods Promote Successful Nation-Building

Nation Building Prototypes
Pre-Modern: The Judean Restoration (536-431(? BC)
Modern Colonial: The British Empire, 1850-1960
Post-Colonial: Cameroun and Malaysia, 1948—1975
Interventionist: RAND Case Studies, 1945—Present

Thinking Towards the Future...
• Conceptual Justifications
  • Historic hegemonic duty
  • Cost-Effectiveness
• Helpful Tools and Guidelines
  • ‘Civ-pol’ constabulary forces
  • Higher troop levels
  • Longer timetables
  • Legitimize by involving donors and other actors

Nation Building Activities
• Civil Administration
• Security
• Economic Development

Nation Building: A New Definition
“political and economic development of an immature political entity towards the objective of nationhood that is reliant on foreign power for defense and support”

Project Inspiration: Nehemiah 6:9 “Now Strengthen My Hands”

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