Military Stabilisation Support Group
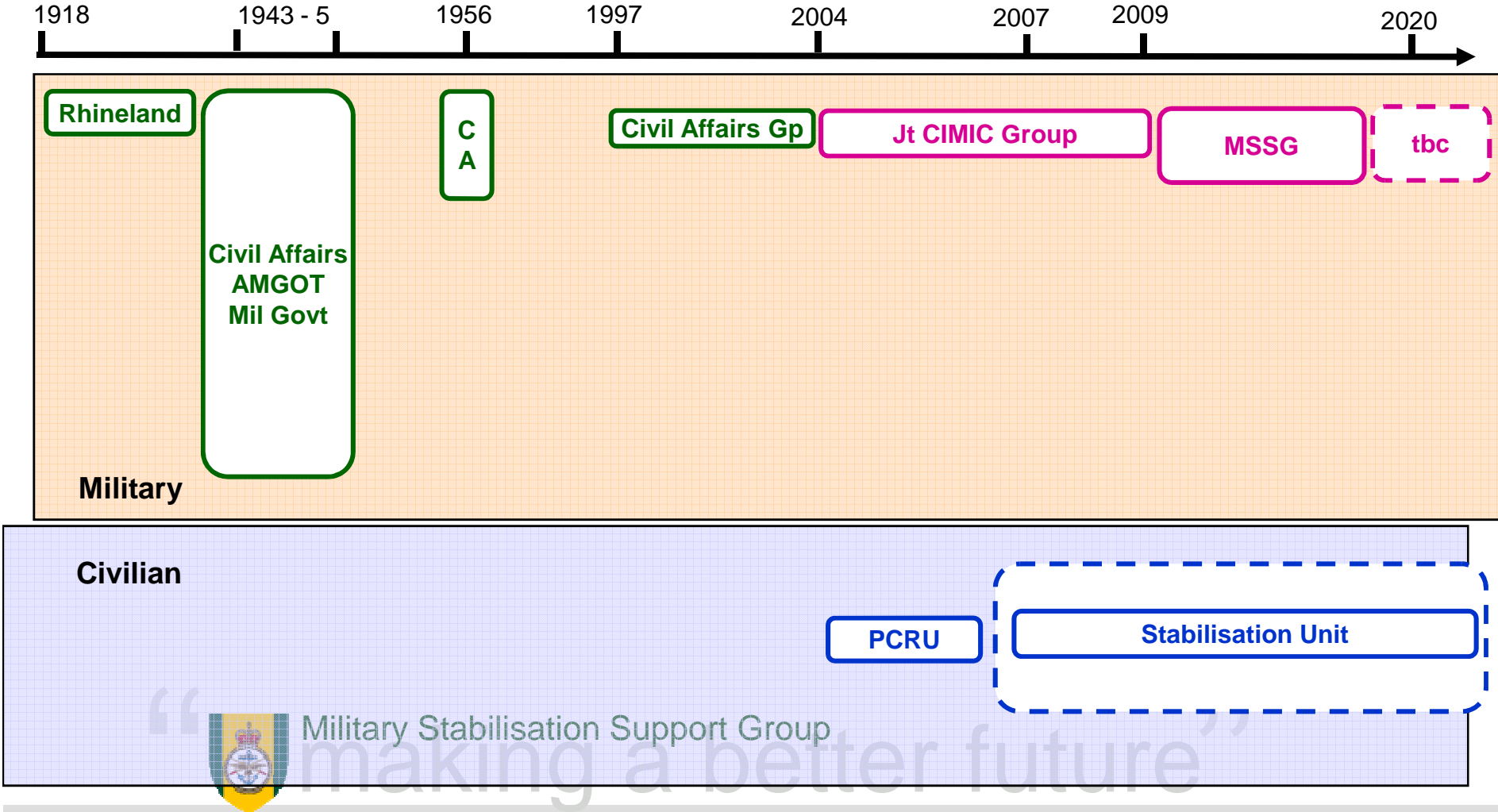
Civil Military Coordination
in
Emergency Situations

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UK Civil Effects Capability

1918   1943 - 5   1956   1997   2004   2007   2009   2020

Military

Rhineland

Civil Affairs AMGOT Mil Govt

C A

Civil Affairs Gp

Jt CIMIC Group

MSSG

tbc

Civilian

PCRU

Stabilisation Unit

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Terminology

- Disaster Relief Operations:
  - A primary military task with **specific** assistance to affected population – Pakistan earthquake 2005

- Humanitarian Assistance:
  - A secondary military task, aid provided by forces conducting other operations – Afghanistan earthquake 2002

Military Capabilities:

- Organised disciplined structure

- Communication networks

- Security – where applicable

- Logistics support (bridging, air head, port logistics)

- Information; general or specific security situation, logistics issues/routes/capacities.

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Capabilities ..

It makes a difference whether troops conducting activities relating to the humanitarian sphere are:

Part of the host government military

Are a properly mandated UN Peace-Keeping force

Represent the military might of an occupying power

Operational Environment

- Unpredictable, wider impact and effects

- Permissive or uncertain security
  - 1992 Op VIGOUR Somalia

- Humanitarian Space

- Legal and practical constraints

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Military Awareness .....

- Understand Humanitarian Action and Core Humanitarian Principles

- Humanitarian Actors and their donors are bound by International and National Law, Policies, Standards, and Guidelines

- Aware of the diversity of Humanitarian Actors

- How Humanitarian Actors seek to coordinate their activities

- **How the Military can interact with Humanitarian Actors**

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Potential Civilian-Military coordination facilities

CMOC (Civil Military Operations Centre), CMCC (Civil military Coordination Centre)

HAC (Humanitarian Assets Centre , HOC Humanitarian Operations Centre): HIC (Humanitarian Information Centre) Run by Humanitarian Actors

OSOCC (On-Site Operations Coordination Centre) Run By UNDAC (Rapid onset only)

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DFID CHASE Operations Team

- A very useful PoC for the UK Military
- CHASE OT humanitarian experts engage with all humanitarian actors and concerned authorities
- Operate under the DFID/MoD MoU
- Frequently train together (CivEX07, JV08, JF10, Advanced Staff and Command Course etc.)
- Deploy together (Kosovo, Mozambique, Iraq, Tsunami, Hurricanes, Pakistan, Nargis etc)
- UKSAR flights
- Logistics experts

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Red Cross investigation – 2009

- Relations usually non problematic when national military are primary (rather than last resort) responder, working alongside Red Cross/Crescent National Societies (Mozambique, China, US, UK)

- Understanding of civil military relations relies on a few experienced individuals > no institutional back up

- Guidelines used as safeguard rather than as tools to help in decision-making > is there a need for more practical guidance?

- Importance of investing in training

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Building Skills
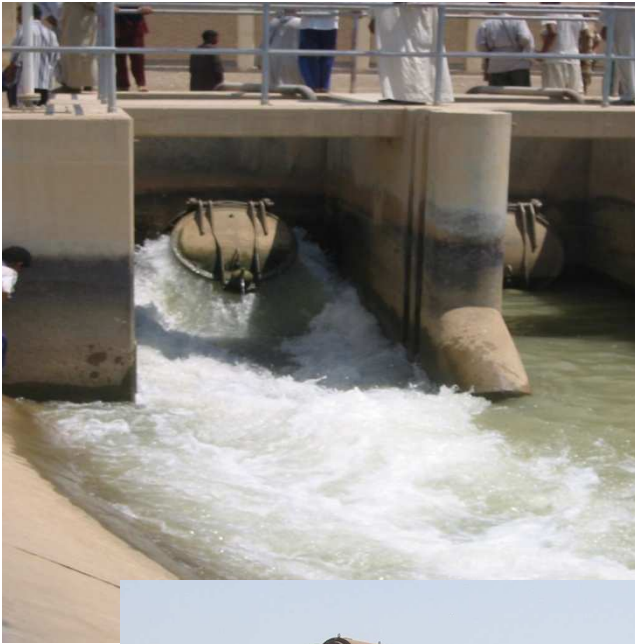
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Tsunami 2004/5 Op GARRON deployment Currently pers in the Philippines

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Ex CIVIL BRIDGE 2002 - Nepal

UN SPECIFIC

- Finalise UN Nepal's Inter-Agency Disaster Response and Preparedness Plan

WITH GOVERNMENT (& OTHER STAKEHOLDERS)

- Finalise Sector Emergency Management Plans
- Develop standard procedures on early warning
- Develop standardised disaster damage and needs assessment procedures

LOCAL LEVEL CAPACITY BUILDING (UNDP)

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Ex CIVIL BRIDGE 2005 and 2006 – Belize

• Review of Hurricane mitigation
plans
• National Emergency Management
Organisation (NEMO)
• National & International, UNICEF,
Bz Red Cross
• Facilitated assessments
• Communications

Hurricane Hattie 1961

Ex CIVIL BRIDGE 2007 – Ghana
2009 Uganda

Assessment of earthquake emergency response plans in the Accra area and flood threat from Weija dam failure

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Haiti 2012 MSSG Engagement

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Issues

- Rate of change in the situation

- Understanding of environment, dynamics and unintended consequences

- Impact analysis (do no harm)

- Funding

- Key assets placed under NGO control

"

Issues – continued

- Info sharing – trust, technology and process

- Understanding of interests

- **Assessments** and data availability

- Use of commercial resources – impact/inflation

- Coordination mechanisms

- Ways of working – culture, motivators, time horizons

Key Themes

- Last resort or most appropriate ?

- People – relationships; ethos, cultures, objectives – links and connections

- Understanding organisational capabilities, technology and connectivity

- Assessment, measures of activity, performance and effect

- Lessons – identified/implemented

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Questions?

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