Biological Warfare as a Form of Terrorism

Name

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Course

Date

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Biological warfare is a form of a weapon of mass destruction that utilizes biological mechanisms that are harmful to human beings cause incapacitation such as killing and includes targeting of plants and other animals. Biological warfare may include microorganisms such as fungi, bacteria, and other viruses. These microorganisms have the power to penetrate the host and quickly multiply inside the host. Terrorism, on the other hand, is the means by which a small group of people uses violence indiscriminately in order to create terror among the masses (Fortna, 2015). Biological warfare can be used by terrorism to create unnecessary and indiscriminate fear among the populations.

Biological warfare is of particular importance because it can easily be used by nations to fight or threaten each other as well as other non-state groups that may be out to have their own selfish interests addressed by the mass population (Wheelis et al., 2006). Biological warfare is additionally very important because one does not require releasing a huge amount of the microorganisms. A small minute amount of the biological substance is more than enough to infect a huge population of thousands or even millions within a very short period of time (Beeching & Miller, 2002).

In my opinion, biological warfare means several things. To begin with, there is the possibility of starvation. If a biological warfare is declared on a country or group and targeted on the plant crops of the country, the country may lose huge crops that are meant to feed the nation and therefore lead to starvation. Secondly, there can be mass diseases that may last for several years and as such affect the future generations of the country adversely leading to disability and other irregular forms of abnormality. Finally, biological warfare can lead to the enmity of states that may lead to prolonged periods of war that may last for decades. This will generally reduce the progress that we all make as a world.

The topic of biological warfare is important because there it is an instrument that destroys populations because serious illness that can be irreversible. This is an unacceptable manner of combat. They cause suffering to the individuals that cannot only be defined as terrible as they affect the innocent people of the population. Additionally, modern technology is leading to the development of biological warfare substances that are more difficult to detect and as such can cause wider damage. One can only imagine the effects of having to release a substance that reaches the population and has no antibiotic cure. The effects are devastating.

The issue of biological ware fare as a form of terrorism carries significant societal impacts due to the various developments that are happening such as the continued rise of non-state actors that are instigating violence (Frinking, et al., 2016). The continued expressed intent by non-state actors to create hostile situations means that the chances of increased terrorist attacks may lead to the deployment of biological warfare tactics. Other groups such as Jihadists and other rights groups as well as disgruntled members may also cause or insight the use of biological warfare that may lead to attacks that may have irreversible effects (Frinking, et al., 2016). Additionally, the economic and societal impacts that are set to be witnessed coupled with the psychological impact is a great cause of significance to the society.

References

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