

### **Airpower and Maneuver Warfare Theory**

The Maneuverist Approach, according to military strategic doctrine, is the basis for the Swedish Armed Forces' actions in all military operations.

Maneuver warfare theory is difficult to trace in air operations and airpower theory.

Is maneuver warfare theory not consistent with airpower theory?

In that case, there would be consequences for the Swedish Airpower Doctrine.

Are they consistent? If that is the case, in what way and what consequences would there be for the Swedish Airpower Doctrine?

This is the starting point for this essay, whose aim is to investigate how airpower theory relates to maneuver warfare theory.

The essay shows that the theories are consistent, but in a complex way. The strategic airpower theory shows so much resemblance that it could be an example of maneuver warfare theory in itself.

The tactical/operational airpower theory itself represents a contrast but it is essential for maneuver warfare of the ground forces.

The result of my survey concerning the relationship of the two theories, is that they affect Swedish Airpower Doctrine. Three facts should be stressed further; 1. Airpower strategic ability; 2. The need for cooperation between ground forces and air forces; 3. Advantage of an offensive appearance.

Three reasons are given as an explanation to why the theories could look separate from one another; 1. Terminology differs between the arenas and in military theory; 2. The physical dimension could be regarded as separate; 3. Optimising in each arena could lead to a competitive relationship in a negative way.

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