

TACTICAL SYSTEMS: THE DIRECT AND INDIRECT APPROACHES			
The Direct Approach: 385 Proposals 5 Nexus 40 Clusters	The Indirect Approach: 7 Pressure Points 7 Tactical Components	The Cultural Revolution: Roles of Both Direct and Indirect	
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1. What follows is an introductory context to enable people in their study of the documents that were produced during Summer '72 on the Tactical Systems.

2. First of all, let me say a word about the history of how we got to the present point. As all of you know, Document E was the primary result of the work of Summer '71. Taking this document, the whole of the global Order set to work sorting through the data it held, expanding its wisdom, and searching for its potential applications. Some of this was done by the religious houses, and some of it was done by the Research Post at Order Base. These efforts resulted in a document spelling out the practical vision that was both implicit and explicit in the Summer '71 work. It lays out the five pillars of analyses: the dynamical processes, the imbalance tendencies, the social ideologies, the contradiction matrices, and the futuristic proposals.

3. The document is in three parts: 1) the booklet titled Toward A Practical Vision of the New Social Vehicle, 2) a supplement describing the social process model, and 3) another supplement describing the 77 proposals for dealing with the needs found in the social process.

4. In the first week of Summer '72 a committee was appointed, drawing from both Temples A and B. Their task was to work with all of this Summer '71 wisdom and to begin work on the 5 Nexus, spelling them out in great technical detail. At the same time, another committee was appointed to write the Practical Vision of the New Social Vehicle booklet. This is very interesting reading and promises to be of use in working with people who did not experience the Summer, or who are altogether unfamiliar with the Movement.

5. Another part of the legacy of Summer '71 which had also been worked on during the year, was the variety of analytical methods and tools that were necessary to extract the data from the summer. We began by taking the social process triangles and the proposals which in their original form were 77 times 5, or 385 specific proposals.

We dealt not only with the processes, but with the blocks, the contradictions that were keeping each process from doing what it was supposed to be doing. The imbalances dramatized the effects of the collapse of one part of the social process on the other parts.

6. We saw then that blocks relative to one process could be relieved by action from other processes. So, we began to talk about "claims" that could be made by one process on another. These claims, these requests for help in unblocking contradictions, were plotted, that is, marked on the social process triangles themselves. Clusters, or concentrations of plotted claims on the triangles began to develop. In this way, it became apparent that groups of the social process dynamics were key to unblocking all the contradictions. Hence, the 385 claims could be clustered into 96 groups. Then, we could identify the action that could be taken by the processes, and just what those actions could do.

7. Then, after we saw how the 96 clusters were inter-related analytically, we found that 40 groups in an internal circuit energized each other in such a way that they could be arranged into 40 cluster complexes. Having done that, we produced a new document. The culmination of what was logically present in Summer '71's work was the discovery of the series of tactics underneath all of the 40 cluster complexes.

8. When we had finished with those, so to speak, we had done everything we could do in relation to direct tactical action. We had brainstormed ourselves out. We had used all the data of Summer '71. We had broken the material down into a thousand pieces. We had arranged them in what we were sure was every possible relationship in order to come up with those 40 clusters. We had produced a book with 5000 direct tactical actions.

9. The next major step was locating the 7 nodal catalytic clusters. We found there were 7 social processes which were the major keys to unblocking the social process. These were the ones which were most catalytic in the sense that impacting them covered nearly all of the 77 social proposal arenas through either primary or secondary relationships.

10. We had to do something beyond that, however, to break ourselves free from the model. As we talked, we came up with the image of "boring through the wall." The model itself had become a kind of wall that had to be broken through by creating a whirlwind of tactics, though heaven knows we had no idea what we would discover on the other side. The 7 pressure points and the 7 tactical components are what we found. The five pillars of analysis remain untouched, of course, for these are our basic presuppositions.

	DIRECT		INDIRECT
STRATEGIES	5 Nexus		7 Pressure Points
TACTICS	5 Groupings of 40 Catalytic Cluster Complexes	through the wall	7 Tactical Components

11. Note the diagram which shows the direct and the indirect strategies and tactics. The direct strategies are the 5 Nexus, and the direct tactics are the 5 groupings by social process triangles of the 40 cluster complexes. Under the indirect, the strategies are the 7 pressure points, and the tactics are the 7 tactical components. Separating them is the wall. If you can bore through the wall, you can move from direct tactical actions to the indirect. The direct strategies and tactics are in the social process triangle model so the key was to break loose of that model. If you draw a line from the tactics of the cluster complexes to the strategies of the 7 pressure points, you can see how we went "through the wall." We took the 7 nodal cluster complexes and swirled them.

12. In using the analytical data in this way, you finally come to the point where art and science meet. The analysis pushes up against the limits of reflective knowledge. And there you discover that you are also against the edge of artistic creation. Unless you see that, you simply continue analyzing forever without producing anything. After a point, the data cannot help anymore. What gets you through the artistic, the creative gap, is intuition. You can suddenly get caught up in the wildness, the beauty of whirling that data into the dimension of the artistic. Hence, the 7 pressure points and the 7 tactical components are things that were perceived through rational data, but not disclosed by analyzing it. Intuition had to make the disclosure. You experience it as though it were something created out of nothing.

13. But what does it mean to move from the direct to the indirect tactical actions? You are moving from a theoretical, rational way of holding data into a revolutionary way of holding it. While the 5 groupings of the 40 cluster complexes are all closely interwoven and interrelated, each of the 7 pressure points stands on its own bottom. The cluster complexes have to do with socio-anthropological social dynamics, but the pressure points have to do with socio-historical social change. The cluster complexes have more applicability in economic or political change or revolution, while the 7 pressure points are more applicable in the midst of cultural revolution.

14. In a cultural revolution, knowing what to do is not enough to shift people's consciousness. It is the whole cultural revolution itself that changes consciousness, so to speak. The major factor of culture is the arena of the symbolic, while the style aspect is secondary. So the cultural has to be dealt with in a way that will create a new mindset through new symbols and a new style. That, then, is what is used to communicate a concrete mode of consciousness to others. But the revolutionary must always go out and re-create it in himself first.

15. The direct strategies and tactics can be used when you are about reconstructing the social process, particularly when you are seeking political or economic revolution. In our model we have three major visions: the reconstruction of the social process, the metamorphosis of the people of God, and the resurgence of the human spirit. This last particularly can only come about through an indirect thrust.

16. In a direct thrust, participation is limited. Only a restricted number can participate in it, whereas in indirect action, everything that happens is immediately available to everyone. The "last fat lady" as well as the head of some community organization are equally able to get into the act.

17. How would you use direct action? One thing about it is that it allows you to push your own thinking. When you are looking at the reality of social change out there in the totality of society, it is highly practical and concrete. This is the special legacy and gift of those 40 clusters. Then, direct action enables you to evaluate whether or not your goals for social change were accomplished.

18. Also, the direct action complex is, in a way, the embodiment of the new social vehicle. When these types of actions have taken place in history, the new social vehicle has arisen on the other side of them. Then, too, the cluster complexes can be used to provide tools for action further down the road. They can provide data and tools for consults, for the development of service guilds and for other types of direct action groups. They can be used as tools for business, or for whatever else you like.

19. But it is crucial to remember that direct action can happen only far down the line. When you start using direct action, you have to begin with extreme judiciousness. Anybody that runs out with those 40 cluster complexes under their arm and tries to use them next week is a fool. The indirect methods within the revolution give the clues as to when the 40 cluster complexes will be appropriate. At the present the direct methods illuminate and give us vision.

20. Now let me elaborate a bit more on the indirect methods. We have said that they enable every man to participate in the activation of social change in the future, and that every man can therefore participate in radical revolution. But you see, at the same time they do that, they become themselves the signal embodiment of the new social vehicle. In other words, the new social vehicle has already arrived when men embody the shift in consciousness and begin to live out of tactical action.

--Joseph Slicker