Navigating Chaos: Strategic Lessons Through a Systems Thinking Lens

Reflections from Afghanistan Using the OODA Loop

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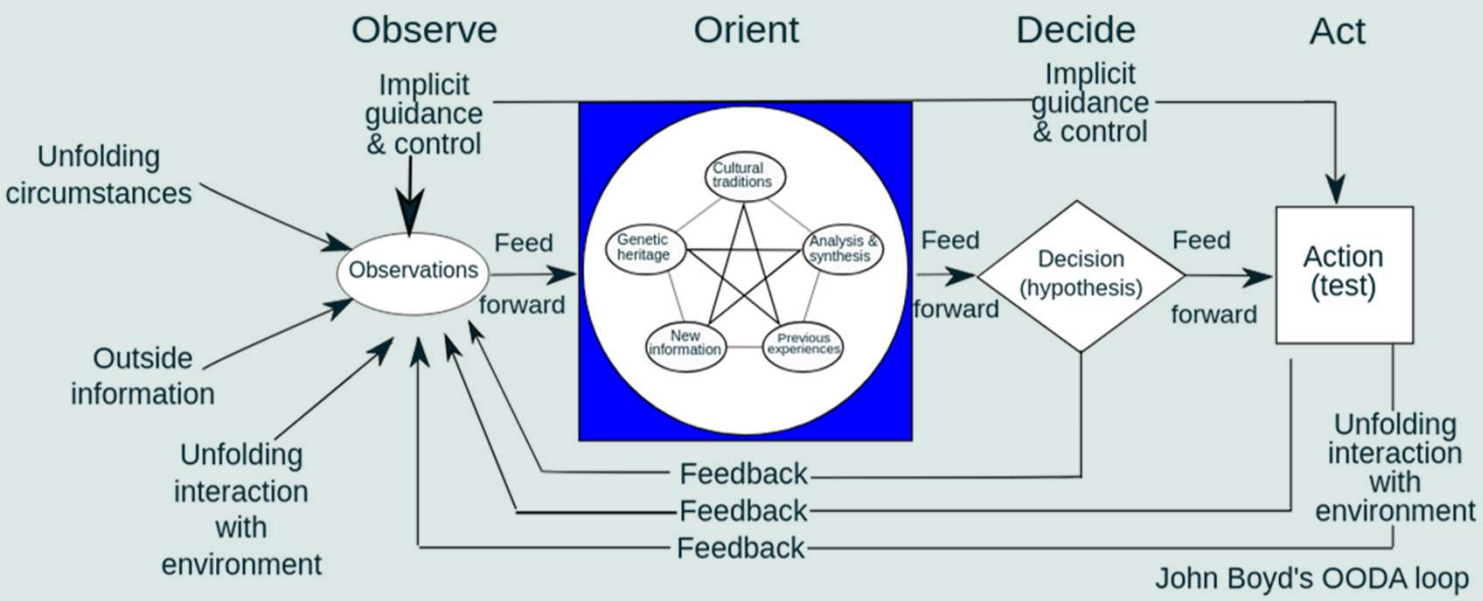
OODA Loop - Col John Boyd



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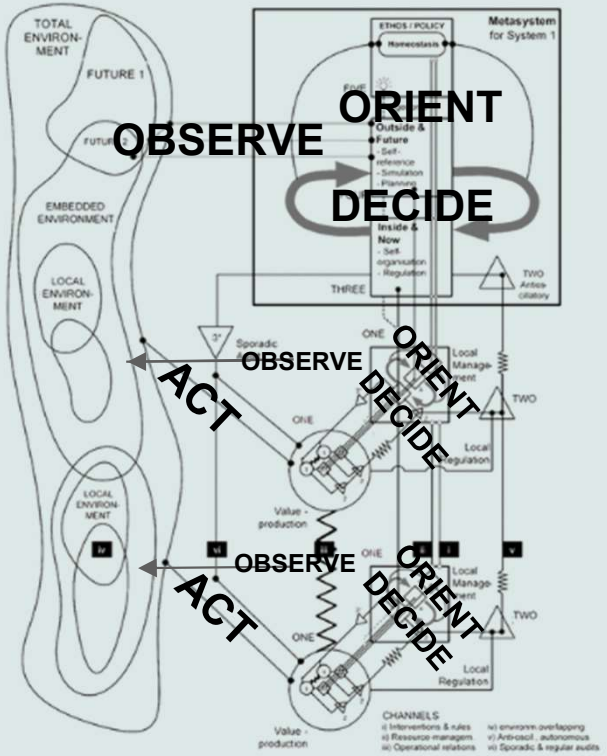
OODA and VSM are linked

How do OODA and VSM overlay

OODA works at an individual level or organisational, below identifies the systems role in the OODA Loop process.



Intelligence (S4) → Observe and holds the model for S4 to Orientate.

Governance(S5) holds Ethos for Orientate (Inputs for synthesis).

Intelligence (S4) and Delivery (S3) Decide

Operations (S1) Acts, but they also conduct OODA at a Fractal level.

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No plan of operations reaches with any certainty beyond the first encounter with the enemy's main force.

Helmuth von Moltke

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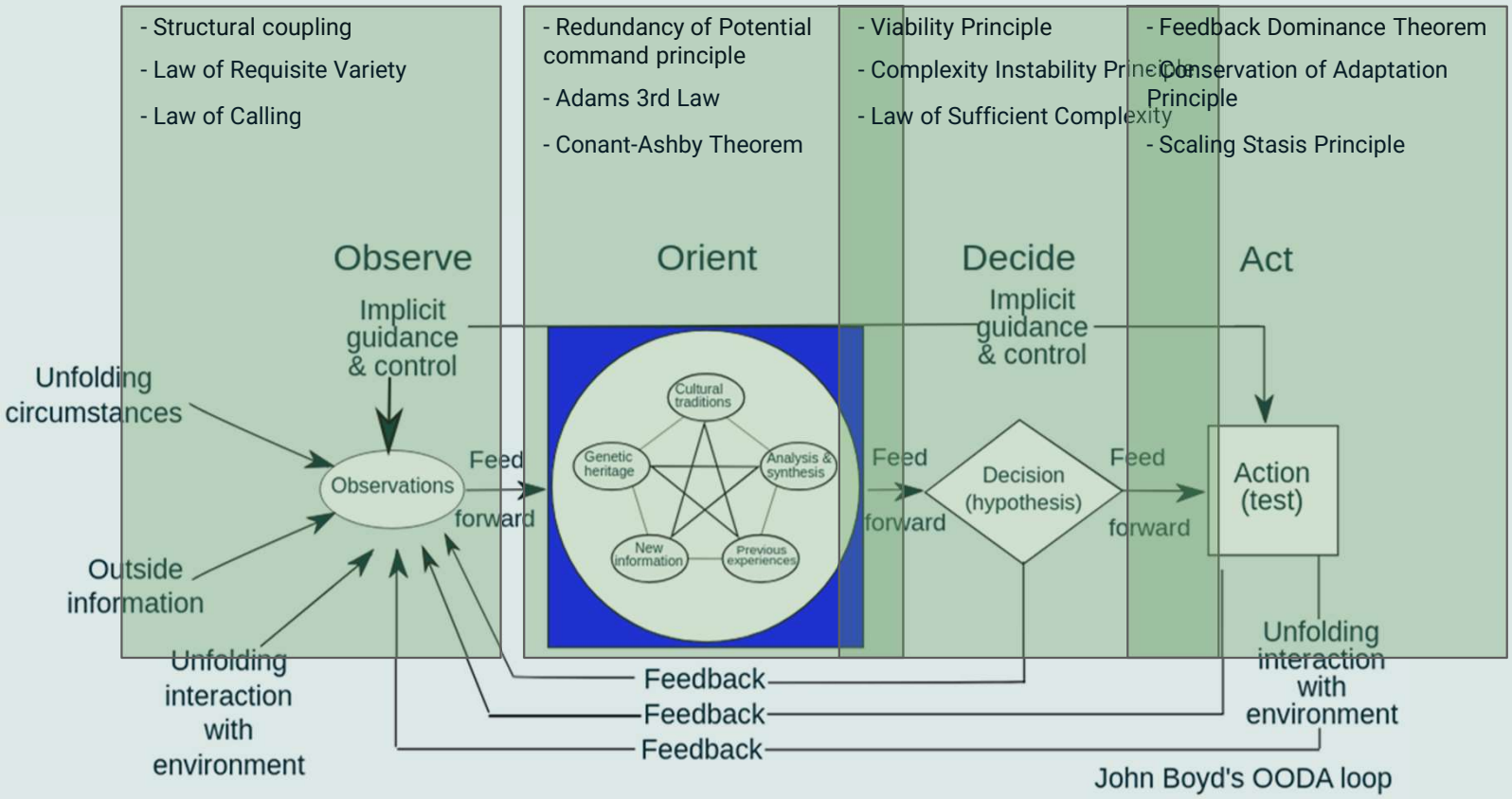
Situation in Afghanistan



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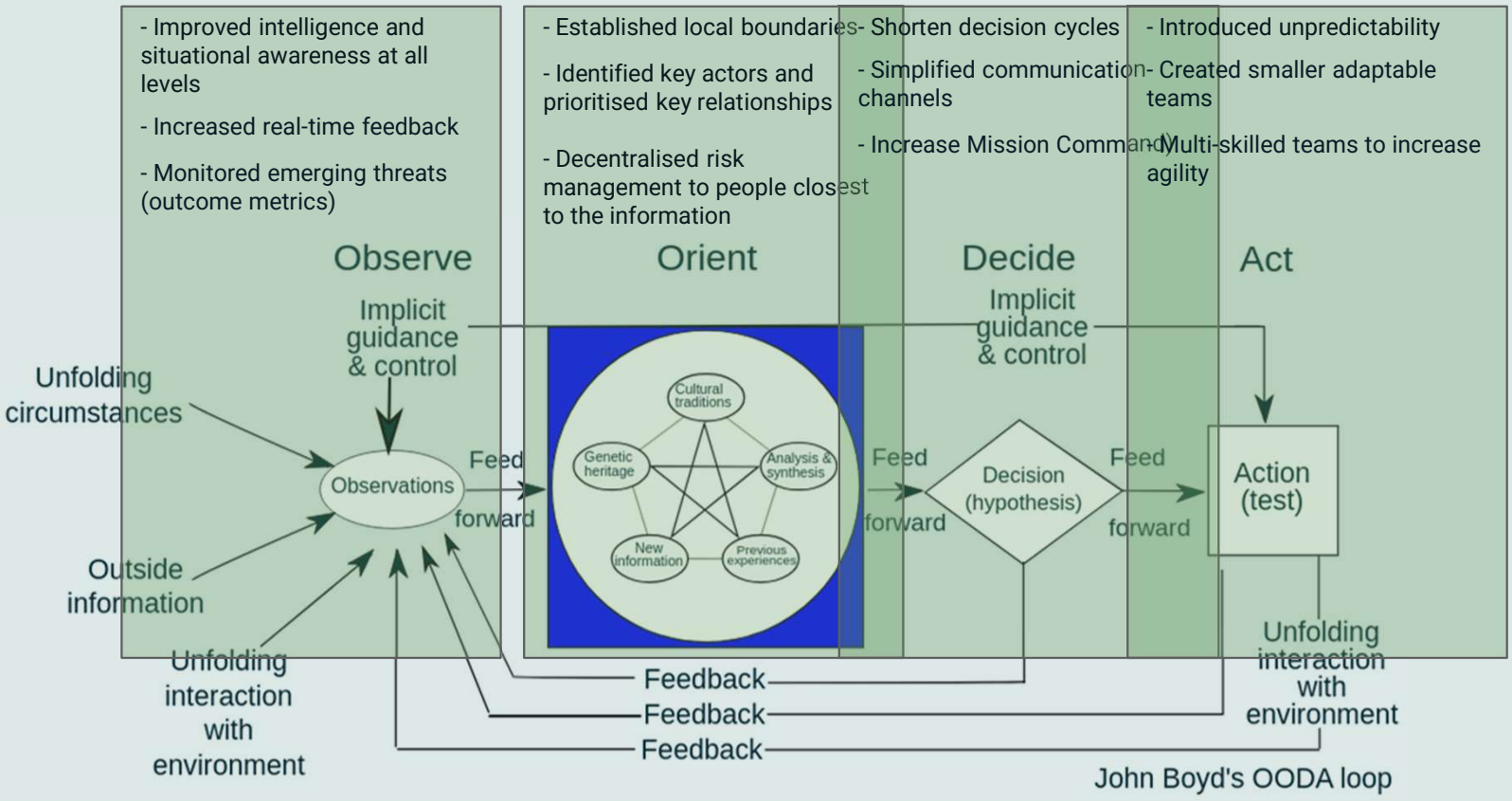
How we changed the dynamics of our situation



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The lessons of the battlefield are lessons for all leaders in complexity.

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