

The Global War on Terrorism The Long War

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This Briefing is **UNCLASSIFIED**



- The current environment
- Understanding the enemy
- Understanding our strategy
- 4th Generation Warfare Implications
- The Future

- To the average American, the threat to the U.S. is difficult to comprehend
- Sustained war is alien to the peaceful nature and desires of our nation



We Are A Nation At War!

- 1979 Iranian Hostage Crisis
- 1983 Embassy & Marine Barracks Bombing, Lebanon
- 1984 Embassy Official kidnapped and murdered, Lebanon
- 1985 TWA Hijacking, U.S. sailor murdered
 - Achille Lauro Hijacking, American murdered
- 1988 U.S. Marine kidnapped and murdered, Lebanon
 - USO Attacked, Italy
- 1993 World Trade Center bombing
- 1995 Saudi Military Installation Attack
- 1995-1997 Palestinian terrorist attacks murdered Americans
- 1996 Khobar Towers Bombing, Saudi Arabia
- 1997 Empire State Building Sniper Attack
- 1998 Embassy Bombings, Kenya & Tanzania
- 2000 U.S.S. Cole Bombing, Yemen
- **2001 Philippines Hostage Incident**
 - World Trade Center, Pentagon, Shanksville, PA



Nature of the Conflict

Muslim Society

Extremist Influence

Leverage Grievances:

- "Islam is Under Attack"
- All Muslims must rise to the defense of Islam
- Re-establish Islamic states under strict Sharia Law
- Restore the preeminence of the Muslim world







Values

- Religious
- Hospitable, gracious
- Family, tribal loyalty
- Education

GRIEVANCES—both perceived and real:

- Local: Corrupt and ineffective political, economic, and social systems
- Regional: Bias in US policies, (Palestine, Kashmir, Iraq, etc);

heavy handed US operations, occupation of Islamic lands

• <u>Global</u>: Infusion of Western culture corrupting society

RESULT: anger, humiliation, and disenfranchisement

Does political activism or violent militancy result?



- "a transnational movement of extremist organizations, networks, and individuals – and their state and non-state sponsors – which have in common that they exploit Islam and use terrorism for ideological ends."
- Al-Qa'ida Associated Movement is most dangerous
- Other violent extremist groups also pose a serious and continuing threat

Nature of the Enemy

- Represent no nation

- Do not mass armies or warships

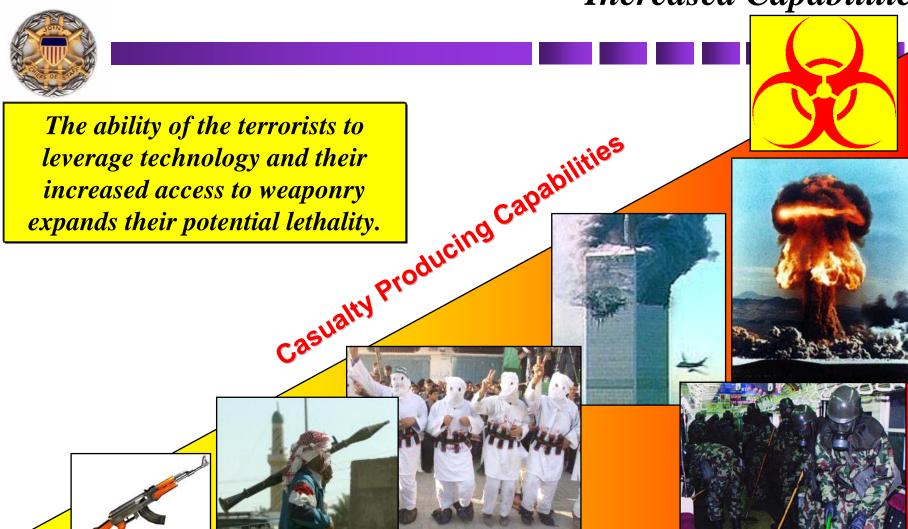
- Defend no territory

- Wear no uniform

- Operate in shadows, conspire in secret, attack without warning

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Increased Capabilities



A terrorist nuclear bomb in Manhattan or Washington isn't a thriller writer's fantasy; it's a probability, unless America and its allies establish new rules for nuclear accountability that are clear and credible."

- David Ignatius

Thousands —

Dozens

Increased Communications

Communications technology extends their reach from a local audience to the world stage - Communications enables them to incite a global movement in real time

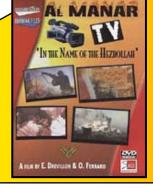
Information Sharing Capabilities















Individual

National

Regional

Global

"In the absence of popular support, the Islamic mujahed movement would be crushed in the shadows, far from the masses who are distracted or fearful." - Aymen al-Zawahiri



Increased Ambitions

The terrorists leverage a frustrated population, effective communications and improved weaponry to target the overthrow of existing governments establishing an extreme, repressive and violent social order

Desire & Capability to Influence World Events









Local

National

Regional

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"We are seeking to incite the Islamic Nation to rise up to liberate its land and to conduct Jihad for the sake of God." - Usama bin Laden

"If our intended goal in this age is the establishment of a caliphate ... [then] the jihad in Iraq requires several incremental goals:"

- "Expel the Americans from Iraq."
- "Establish an Islamic authority or emirate, then develop it and support it until it achieves the level of a caliphate – over as much territory as you can to spread its power in Iraq...."
- "Extend the jihad wave to the secular countries neighboring Iraq."
- "Clash with Israel, because Israel was established only to challenge any new Islamic entity."

Source: Letter from al-Zawahiri to al-Zarqawi, 9 July 2005



Violent Extremist's Long View

Iraq has become the focus of the enemy's effort.

If they win in Iraq, they have a base from which to expand their terror.







Seven Stages

- 1. "The Awakening," began in 2001
- 2. "Eye-Opening," 2003
- 3. "Arising and Standing Up," 2007
- 4. Demise of Arab governments, 2010
- 5. Islamic Caliphate, 2013
- 6. "Total Confrontation," 2016
- 7. "Definitive Victory," ends in 2020

What are the Enemy's Weaknesses?



- Violence and intimidation are their primary tactics
- Oppressive, backward vision for the future
- Multiple cultural, religious and language dimensions
- Growing effective and legitimate governance erodes support and provides an alternative

So what do we need to do? What is our strategy?



National Strategic Framework for the GWOT

"We must take the battle to the enemy, disrupt his plans and confront the worst threats before they emerge. In the world we have entered, the only path to safety is the path of action."

President George W. Bush

Strategic Aims:

Ends

- Defeat violent extremism as a threat to our way of life as a free and open society, and
- Create a global environment inhospitable to violent extremists and all who support them

Protect and defend Attack terrorists and Support mainstream the Homeland and Muslim efforts to reject their capacity to operate effectively at U.S. interests violent extremism home and abroad abroad **Expand foreign partnerships and partnership capacity** Ways Strengthen our capacity to prevent terrorist acquisition and use of WMD Institutionalize domestically and internationally the War on Terror Instruments of National Power Means

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National Military Strategic Plan for the WOT

Ends

<u>Strategic Goal</u>: Preserve and promote the way of life of free and open societies based on the rule of law, defeat terrorist extremism as a threat to our way of life, and create a global environment inhospitable to terrorist extremists.

	and create a global environment innospitable to terrorist extremists.					
		Leadership Movement	Safe Havens Intelligence	Enemy Weapons	Finance Personnel	Communication Ideology
Ways		Protect the Homeland		upt and Attack orist Networks		inter Ideological port for Terrorism
	Military Strategic Objectives	Deny terrorists the resources they need to operate and survive.				
		Enable partner nations to counter terrorism.				
		Deny WMD/E proliferation, recover and eliminate uncontrolled materials, and maintain capacity for consequence management.				
		Defeat terrorists and their organizations.				
		Counter state and non-state support for terrorism in coordination with other U.S. Government agencies and partner nations.				
		Contribute to the establishment of conditions that counter ideological support for terrorism.				
Means	Combatant Commands, Services, and Combat Support Agencies					
4.4						LINIOLAC

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Defeating an Extremist Ideology: Takes Time

"The Islamic Radical threat of this century greatly resembles the bankrupt ideology of the last.... In many ways, this fight resembles the struggle against communism in the last century."

-President Bush, 6 October 2005

Communism

- The repressive and militaristic manifestation was countered by the United States throughout the Cold War with the concerted effort of all instruments of national power
- Ideology was replaced by a democratic ideology with independent states

Similarities with the Global War on Terrorism

- Long, sustained struggle, punctuated by periods of military conflict
- Use of all elements of national power to win
- Transition of past arrangements to arrangements better suited for a new era
- Required perseverance by the American people and their leaders

Cold War Institution/Program Development

 Marshall Plan, Truman Doctrine, Radio Free Europe, World Bank, NATO, United Nations, International Monetary Fund

"Some of you may ask: when and how will the Cold War end? I think I can answer that simply; the Communist world has great resources and it looks strong, but there is a fatal flaw in their society. Theirs is ... a system of slavery. There is no freedom in it, no consent ...I have a deep and abiding faith in the destiny of free men. With patience and courage, we shall some day move on into a new era."

President Harry S. Truman, 1953



- The Muslim population is key; perceived grievances provide inroads for violent extremists
- Our enemy is <u>not</u> 10 feet tall; we know his strategy and his weaknesses
- The United States strategy addresses the essential elements for success
- Success requires perseverance; not necessarily combat
 - Reverse grievances in the Muslim World
 - Discredit violent extremist ideology
 - Build partner nation capacity



- Weapons of Mass Destruction in the hands of terrorists
- Maintaining the will of the American people
- Stopping radicalization and recruitment



4th Generation Warfare

- Warfare evolves as society evolves
- Industrial War vs War of Ideas
- Networks and Human Ingenuity
- Soft Targets



- Tactical Operations—Strategic Effects
 - -- Global Economic Tools as Weapons
 - -- Defeating the Will
 - -- The Battle: To Win or Not To Lose
- Critical Infrastructure Protection
 - -- Systems Approach
 - -- Risk Assessment
 - -- Mission Assurance



- 5th Generation Warfare
- The Power of One
- The Virtual Battlefield

"The strength of a democratic republic is the educated citizen."

Thomas Jefferson



Reminiscent of the Cold War...

"The ultimate determinant in the struggle now going on for the world will not be bombs and rockets but a test of wills and ideas - a trial of spiritual resolve: the values we hold, the beliefs we cherish and the ideals to which we are dedicated."

- President Ronald Reagan, 1982