

## **Strategy for Defeating Radical Islam**

Lt. General Thomas McInerney, USAF (Ret.)

I would like to thank Professor Dick Thornton and the ISSP for hosting this important symposium and these important subjects that are being discussed today.

Now I have challenged myself to lay out a strategy for defeating radical Islam in a very short time frame, but at least it is a start from an administration that has only enabled radical Islam to spread and destabilize the Middle East like no other time in history to include the Crusades.

If we look at the Mideast in 2009 when Obama came into office, we had neutralized AQ in Iraq; Syria was quite stable under Bashir Al Assad; Egypt under President Mubarak was a firm ally of 40 years; Libya under Col. Ghadafi had switched to our side and turned in all his nuclear materials, plus he was killing radical Islamists in Benghazi; and Yemen was just festering with AQAP. Our relationship with Saudi and the Gulf States was excellent.

Then the Obama Administration came in, and his famous speech in June 2009 at Cairo University that welcomed the Muslim Brotherhood and ignored President Mubarak laid the conditions for the Arab Spring, which has become an Arab Winter. He opened the way for the creation of ISIS when he pulled out U.S. forces in Iraq in December 2011, which made Iraq an Iranian proxy.

Not only was Iraq destabilized, but Syria was as well, and Egypt was turned over to the Muslim Brotherhood. In fact, President Obama and Secretary of State Clinton covertly switched sides to radical Islam by supporting Morsi's election until overthrown by Gen. Al Sisi. The Western mainstream media did not ever pick that up!

Then in March 2011, against the will of DOD leadership, Obama supported a NATO attack against Col. Ghadafi in Libya, and took his regime down, leaving a destabilized country ripe for ISIS penetration later on.

On 9/11/12 an attack by radical Islamists on our Benghazi mission killed Ambassador Stevens and three others.

To this day we do not know where President Obama was during that fateful night, when no U.S. support was provided to those beleaguered forces.

Now I have set the stage for how do we defeat radical Islam, because we are losing that fight now.

As a start, we must understand Islam means submission. It is not a religion of peace and we must hold the Islamic leadership accountable for their actions.

First, we must define the threat: It is not violent extremism as Obama and his administration call it, but it is radical Islam. I know not the ideology of violent extremism nor does Obama or his administration when asked, but I do know the ideology of radical Islam. It is the Koran, Hadith (sayings of the Prophet) and Sharia law.

These are their ROE!

Political correctness (PC) is killing people who are worried what will Muslims say when we call it radical Islam but it is Muslims who must defeat this evil ideology, which is as evil as Nazism, Fascism and Communism. Again Islam is not a religion of peace. We must desist with this political correctness.

It is important that we convince the Islamic states to destroy this evil ideology and be responsible for it. They must take ownership.

The western world must hold them accountable starting with Saudi Arabia which is the protector of the two holy cities, Mecca and Medina where this evil ideology is coming from. This is a Muslim religious civil war and more Muslims are being killed than infidels so let's insist they be involved in defeating and reforming this evil ideology.

85% of Islam ideology is not religious, i.e. Sharia law, economic aspects, etc.

For example, what does stoning women to death for adultery and no penalty to the male have to do with religion or a woman who is raped must have four male witnesses defending her. This is not religion, but ideology!

Please!

The most important action the next administration can take is to have the National Security Council issue a presidential directive (NSCPD) on defining the strategy for defeating radical Islam just as President Truman did on containing communism in NSC 68 in 1950. It must contain military, covert, economic and psychological guidance incorporating our Muslim allies' actions like reforming the ideological pronouncements from Mecca and Medina, i.e. *fatwas* against radical Islamic actions and in favor of reform.

It must include the reinstatement of educating U.S. war fighters and police forces on radical Islam as well as identifying subversive groups such as the Council on American Islamic Relations (CAIR) and the Muslim Public Affairs Council, which the Obama Administration has incorrectly legitimized.

Yes, this will be very difficult but if not done the very dangerous course of action we face is not acceptable.

Militarily, we should conduct an air campaign led by U.S. and allied forces against ISIS in both Syria and Iraq that will defeat them within 30 days. We must take off the

handcuffs on the ROE and accept collateral damage in accordance with the laws of war, but be very decisive. If we can kill Jihad Johnny at a traffic circle in Raqqa we can defeat them quickly. Our humanity to ISIS has created gross inhumanity to Christians, Yazidis and Shia, as genocide is being committed against them!

By the way, airpower was decisively demonstrated when ISIS forces tried to break out from Fallujah at night on 29/30 June where 175 vehicles were destroyed and 300 KIA by airpower using precision weapons.

We must do the same at Mosul and Raqqa.

It is imperative that the Caliphate capital Raqqa be taken by Muslim forces and the symbol of ISIS no longer is a symbol and inspiration to more fighters joining them. We must destroy any symbol of this evil ideology quickly and decisively.

The difficult question is what happens in Syria with Russian and Iranian forces backing the Assad regime and western forces backing some of the free Syrian army elements that are not radical Islamic like Al Nusra. Too complicated to solve in this presentation but I will say under Bashir al Assad Christians and Yazidis lived in peace for these many years and it was the Arab Spring that encouraged Syrian Sunnis to revolt against Assad.

The greater issue is with Iran, which is by far the greatest danger to stability in the Middle East and the Arabian Peninsula and must be dealt with.

The next administration must form a coalition of the willing and negate the nuclear agreement called the joint comprehensive plan of action (JCPOA). The JCPOA is supposed to stop Iran from developing nuclear weapons but in fact is enabling them to do just that in a time frame of their choosing, which I suspect will be within one year of a new administration.

We provided them upwards of \$150 billion of embargoed funds to replenish their economy, plus foreign trade with Germany, UK, France, China, Russia and the U.S. Fortunately, the Congress stepped up and stopped the \$100 billion sale of Boeing airliners. However, the economic greed of the P5 Plus 1 and a pathetic role by a Republican-led Congress enabled this travesty to happen.

Today, Iranian nuclear warhead testing is being done in North Korea and Iran is doing their own ICBM testing, all against JCPOA and UN Security Council resolutions.

We must understand that when Iran goes nuclear that Saudi Arabia will follow almost immediately since they already have Chinese-made DF-3/21S missiles, which can be mated with nuclear warheads from Pakistan.

So, the next administration must review all these issues that the Obama administration has left them and come up with a national strategy that fully understands the threat that

radical Islam presents the United States and the West both externally and internally with groups like CAIR.

The threat of a nuclear attack by radical Islam on the U.S. and Western European cities becomes a nightmare scenario as General Paul Vallely and I described in our book *Endgame-The Blueprint For Victory in the War on Terror*.

This is the greatest threat that the Obama administration has left the next administration and must be dealt with.

We can no longer be in denial, as Obama has been on this threat.

It is imperative that it is dealt with realistically and Islamic leaders play a crucial role in its demise.

Time is not on our side!

Thank you very much and God bless this great country that is facing some very dangerous threats internally and externally.

\*\*\*