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IW and ISIS: Why Aren't We Winning?

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Future War?



Irregular War is War



Gorka and Kilcullen: "An Actor-Centric Theory of War," Joint Forces Quarterly, No. 60, 2011





The Islamic State and Information Warfare:

Defeating ISIS and the Broader Global Jihadist Movement

ThreatKnowledgeGroup Special Report



Why ISIS is much worse than Al Qaeda ever was

- It is a fully-fledged TRANSCONTINENTAL insurgency not just a terrorist group like AQ
- It is the richest non-state threat group in modern history
- It has recruited 25,000+ foreign fighters in just months
- It has declared Caliphate after 90 years absence



Al Shaam: The Power of a Name



IW the Right Way: Al Qaeda versus the Islamic State



Focoist Insurgency

(Che Guevara, Top-down)



versus



Maoist Insurgency

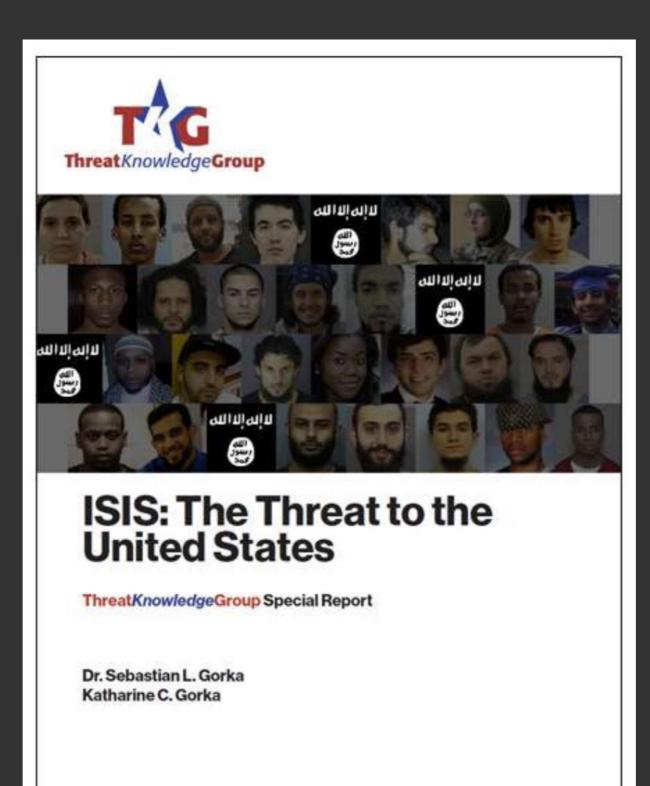
(Ground up, "People's War"



IS & Religious Genocide



The Domestic ISIS Threat





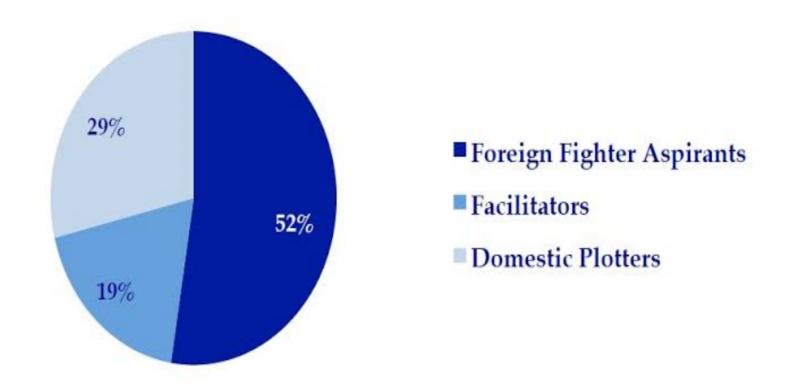
This isn't just about Far Away AORs

U.S. CITIZENS & LEGAL NON-CITIZENS CHARGED WITH CRIMES IN CONNECTION WITH THE ISLAMIC STATE IN 2015





ISIS Arrests in US as of June 2015



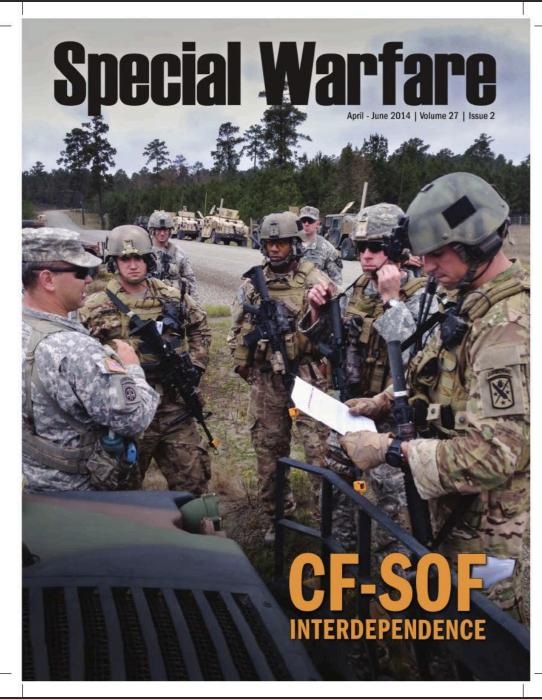
FOREIGN FIGHTER ASPIRANTS: EFFORTS TO JOIN ISIS

Credit: The Center of National Security at Fordham Law, "By the Numbers: ISIS Cases in the United States

30% of arrests so far have been ISIS supporters who believed they **could best serve the cause by carrying out attacks within the United States**



GOING DEEPER



Fighting the Ideological War

Winning Strategies from Communism to Islamism

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<u>http://www.scribd.com/doc/226130324/Understanding-</u> <u>the-Enemy-by-Dr-Sebastian-L-Gorka</u>



So What?



1. ISIS has been far more successful that AQSL for identifiable reasons:

- its correct understanding of Irregular Warfare

- the effective exploitation of its highly resonant ideology (ETD)

2. The Enemy is motivated by a religious narrative

3. Self-Censoring the above truths endangers our warfighters and will prolong the war.

4. Your dilemma: i) SOF is the world's best at DA.
ii) DA will not win this war
iii) Washington <u>DOES NOT</u> understand

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RELEVANT SITES:

www.TheGorkaBriefing.com



www.ThreatKnowledge.org



www.CouncilOnGlobalSecurity.org