

SPRING 2014 | 1435 | ISSUE 12

INSPIRE

...AND INSPIRE THE BELIEVERS *



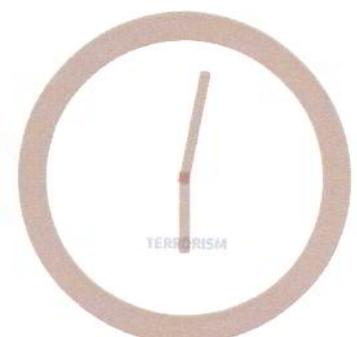
SHATTERED A STORY ABOUT CHANGE

Q&A WITH SHEIKH ANWAR | OS: CAR BOMBS | THE CRUSADE AND THE SWAP OF STANCES



"We have an enemy that is 24/7 trying to find ways to kill us in many forms."

- Rep. Peter T. King



24/7 TERRORISM

■ Muhanad J. S.

A couple of months ago, I had a conversation with AQAP's military commander, Sheikh Qassim Ar-Reimy, on the ongoing conflict between the Mujahideen and America. I asked him: Why do you think the Americans fear Jihad and Mujahideen that much? "Because the Mujahideen follow the *manhaj* of the Prophet Muhammad ﷺ who said, "Allah made me victorious by terror (by His frightening my enemies) for a distance of one month's journey." Therefore, any Muslim following the way of the Prophet ﷺ, will be feared by the enemies of Islam."

"We have an enemy that is 24/7 trying to find ways to kill us in many forms." This is the way Rep. Peter King⁷ put the threat he feels posed by Al-Qa'eda in the Arabian Peninsula (AQAP) to his country's homeland security. This statement was declared in a Subcommittee on Counterterrorism and Intelligence's (SoCI) hearing "Understanding the Threat to the Homeland from AQAP." It was held on September 18, 2013 in the House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

The significance of this hearing lies in both of its objectives and timing. It took place a week after the 12th anniversary of the September 11 attacks and a month after the closure of 22 American embassies and consulates in the Middle East and North Africa due to what America referred to as "AQAP's imminent threat to US interests in the region."

The hearing – according to King – had three purposes:

- Evaluating AQAP's intent and capability to attack the U.S.
- Reviewing the US counterterrorism policy towards the group.
- Reviewing the lessons learned from the August embassies closure.

Apart from King, four other participants took part in the session: (D) Brian Higgins, NY, member of the House Committee on Homeland Security, and three expert witnesses in the field of counterterrorism, Frank J. Cilluffo⁸, Katherine Zimmerman⁹ and Brian Katulis¹⁰.

The outline of the hearing was explicit about:

1. The effectiveness of the strategy of the Mujahideen in the war against the U.S.
2. The failure of the strategy adopted by the American regime in countering Jihād.

AQAP between Capability and Threat

All the speakers expressed a common perspective on AQAP's intent and capability to attack America. They summarized their viewpoints in the following factors:

- "AQAP focused its efforts on the far war against the U.S., and during the last 4 years, AQAP has come to form the most direct terrorist threat to the U.S."
- "The group is also not afraid to attack the United States where it can, be it on the United States' soil, or our interests throughout the world."
- "AQAP poses the greatest threat to the U.S. homeland because it has directly targeted the U.S. homeland as well as U.S. interests abroad on multiple occasions."
- "AQAP has demonstrated and continues to demonstrate significant ability and intent to do harm to the U.S. and its interests."
- "The organization has invested significantly in encouraging radicalization and "lone wolf" homegrown attacks, including "Inspire" magazine. AQAP's efforts in this regard propagate the ideology that underpins Al-Qāeda as a movement, and provide the "how to" do-it-yourself in terrorist tactics, techniques, and procedures."
- "AQAP has sought to foment "lone wolf" attacks in the west via propaganda such as the English-language Inspire online magazine. And these kinds of attacks are hard to prevent."
- "The linkages between AQAP and other Al-Qāeda affiliates and terrorist groups are another source of

significant concern."

- "AQAP has improved its operational security and changed its practices; think tradecraft, communications, and planning."

All these points form an accurate indication that proves the Mujahideen's strategy of targeting the snake's head, 'America', has proved to be the best way to repel the enemy. This proof can be summarized by the following:

1. Achieving the 'balance of horror' in the ongoing conflict between Islam and kufr.
2. Putting the enemy under continuous pressure as a result of expecting sudden attacks, be it lone Jihād attacks in his backyard, or attacks on his interests out of the U.S. soil.
3. Placing the enemy in a defensive position and keeping him away from spreading hostilities on Muslims.
4. Forcing the enemy to spend more money on beefing up security measures inside and outside his borders; hence economic hemorrhage.
5. Prolonging the war, America's backbone cannot bear a long war (due to point 4)
6. Tightening the screws on the American people, as a result of excess security, will make them feel weary. Therefore, they will pressure their government to end its war against Islam and Muslims.

US Counter-Jihād Policy towards AQAP

All the participants agreed that the U.S. strategy in countering Jihād is failing and fruitless. The following points presented by the contributors demonstrate how so:

- "It is astonishing that even though the United States has eliminated much of their senior leadership and one of its most effective recruiters, the group can still have the capability to conduct attacks against the United States.

It also recognizes the economic devastation terrorist acts can bring."

- "Despite the elimination of Anwar Al-Awlaki and Inspire editor-in-chief Samir Khan in a U.S. airstrike in September 2011, AQAP's desire to spread violence to the west by encouraging attacks by individuals heretofore unaffiliated with terrorist organizations remains."
- "Aside from Awlaki, more than 35 senior leaders of AQAP have been killed by drone strikes, yet the organization still continues to be a threat to the United States. AQAP moves fast and recognizes targets and opportunities for recruitment and exposure."
- "The strategy to disrupting the Al-Qāeda network by killing senior leadership has been ineffective in dismantling the network overall."
- "More than a decade after the September 11 attacks transformed the way we as a nation view these threats, the U.S. still lacks the overall ability to assess strategically whether the government is properly matching resources to meet the threats posed by these various terrorist networks."
- "The department of Homeland Security does not recognize the Buffalo-Niagara region as a high-risk area. Hence, local law enforcement in the Buffalo-Niagara region is left without the resources that could possibly be needed if an attack from this dangerous organization where to occur."
- "The U.S. counterterrorism efforts to respond to the threats posed by AQAP in Yemen is a prime example of a series of tactical efforts producing some successes and some failures, but all of these efforts are nested in a weak overarching strategy lacking sufficient focus on the long-term investments necessary to help produce sustainable security."

- "The strategy to counter AQAP relies on American direct action operations targeting AQAP leadership and on Yemeni counterterrorism operations to combat the group on the ground. It is not clear that this strategy will be effective against AQAP."

Therefore, after more than a decade of waging a vicious global war on Islam, wasting billions of dollars, and giving away tens of thousands of killed and injured, the American counter Jihād experts have found out, surprisingly, that their ruling regime has been playing wrongly and losing the war on the ground through 'faulty understanding, failures and ineffectiveness.'

From a Jihādi point of view, these failures of the American strategy add more dimensions to the current warfare:

- The policies of the American direct and indirect occupation have not guaranteed victory or security to Washington so far, nor do they seem they will in the future.
- As a result of the unexpected reversed outcome of the 12 years crusade, the American regime has taken a defensive position and adopted 'damage control' policy. This attitude make all the counter Jihād plans of the regime weak and inoperative.
- The targeted killing strategy executed by drones has not repressed the Mujahideen from achieving additional expansion and adherence within the Muslim Ummah. On the contrary, it grants them more support and strength on the ground.
- The killing of the Jihādi leaders by American drones has not changed the Mujahideen's strategy of targeting the empire of tyranny in its heart or halted their projects to inspire the Ummah to do the same.

"AQAP has demonstrated and continues to demonstrate significant ability and intent to do harm to the U.S. and its interests."

words, number of times mentioned in the hearing:

Lone Wolf = 5	Inspire = 7
Inspire Magazine = 12	Homegrown = 7

- Despite of an increase in America's reliance on local agent armies to face the Mujahideen in frontlines, as an attempt to take the battle's heat off its soldiers, the recent attacks on these armies – particularly in Pakistan and Yemen – revealed that this strategy is unproductive.
- The US domestic security system has many obvious gaps that need to be put on the priority of the Mujahideen's attack list.
- The war between Islam and kufr is about patience. The Muslim Ummah and its Jihādi front have no problem to keep fighting America for centuries, but America is not ready to do the same.

Dead End

The witnesses of the hearing suggested some solutions to save the U.S. regime from its dilemma, especially in the light of the complications it faces in Syria and the approaching American retreat from Afghanistan.

The solutions mainly focused on two options:

1. The U.S. needs to conduct a broader more coherent policy to promote Yemen's transition to democracy under President Abdo Rabu Mansour Hadi in order to have a more effective long-term policy that can eliminate AQAP.

OR...

2. Instead of waiting till the Mujahideen's threat emanates and is in front of the U.S., it is better to use 'suppressive fire' to keep AQAP looking a little bit over its shoulder, so that it has less time to plot, train, and execute attacks.

If these two options come from the extract of America's elite minds in the field of counter Jihād, I have to say the American people should be ashamed, because those 'experts' know nothing about reality and history. Why so?

1. Sahih Al-Bukhari. The Book of Tayammum, Hadith no. 335.
2. Rep. Peter T. King (R-NY), Chairman of Subcommittee on Counterterrorism and Intelligence (SoCI) in the U.S House of Representatives.
3. Associate Vice President Director, Homeland Security Policy Institute, The George Washington University.
4. Senior Analyst, Critical Threats Project, The American Enterprise Institute.
5. Senior Fellow, Center for American Progress.
6. For further details, refer to the complete session on the web.

Reality tells us that the democratic solution is the worst idea ever to be implemented on a Muslim environment, essentially for two reasons:

- Democracy is a contrary idea of Tawheed (Monotheism), because it calls to shirk of masses' ruling instead of worshipping Allah (swt) Alone in legislation and ruling by Sharia law.
- Democracy proved its failure as a theory and a system in the Muslim communities. And what the whole world witnessed in the recent months in Egypt, Libya, and Tunisia is a concrete evidence.

History shows that the usage of military force in any war - not battle - between Muslims and kuffar, failed to finish the war in favor of the kuffar. The nine historical crusades, the Soviet's invasion of Afghānistan and the American invasion of Irāq all ended with humiliating defeats on the infidels' side, by the Grace of Allāh. Therefore, using 'suppressive fire' is not a brilliant idea either.

The SoCI's hearing on AQAP's threat to the U.S. homeland security presented plenty of important facts about the deep nature of the combat between Islam and kufr. The war in its real essence and meaning is not about Al-Qāeda and America; it is between Tawheed and shirk, belief and disbelief. This is what it is about all the time, and this what it will be until the very end of this universe.

As for America, it has definitely lost the war on Islam, and it is only a matter of time, *insha' Allah*, until it pulls all its troops from all the Muslim countries and vanishes behind the Atlantic licking its wounds and recalling its bitter memories in the Muslim lands.

The Good, the Lamb and the Ugly

■ Abu Nūh

Not so long ago, in the mysterious land of survival of the fittest, there lived an ugly wolf hybrid known as Wolfdog. Among his peers, he was distinguished by his big head, a long tongue and a loud howl. Hence, he became the alpha male in his pack.

One day, as Wolfdog was on a hilltop searching for a refill for his rumbling stomach, he saw a young lamb with fluffy wool playing in a grassy glade. Wolfdog climbed down the hill to 'meet' the charming little lamb, resolved not to lay violent hands on him, but to find some plea to justify to the Lamb his right to eat him. He thus addressed him: "Kid, last year you grossly insulted me." "Indeed," bleated the Lamb in a mournful tone of voice, "I was not then born." Then said Wolfdog, "You feed in my pasture." "No, good sir," replied the Lamb, "I have not yet tasted grass." Again said the Wolf, "You drink of my well." "No!" Exclaimed the Lamb, "I never yet drank water, for as yet my mother's milk is both food and drink to me."

"Well! I won't remain supperless," thought he. He seized him and ate him up, saying, "So it must have been your mother!"

The Mother powerlessly followed the dialogue. What could this poor mother do when she saw her beloved son being torn into pieces between the teeth of the wolf? She knew she could not reclaim her right, but in the passion of motherhood, this good mother butted Wolfdog. Of course the wolf was not affected at all. But he became very furious, his pupils dilated. He raised the base of his tail. "How dare this ewe touch me!" Thought he.

He howled with a long, smooth sound, "This is a terrorist! This is a terrorist!" All other wolves howled, repeating Wolfdog's words, creating an illusion that there were many condemning the act of the ewe. It is not strange that these howls were heard from 10 miles away, but the strange thing is how these howls echoed throughout the forest. Whereby the parrots joined in and repeated what Wolfdog said, saying, "We condemn the ewe's butt against the wolf, all the animals are against this barbaric act!"