

How We Will Win This New War

Recent events have riveted our Nation's attention on the stark reality that we, living here at home, the civilian populace, are THE front in this new war. Apart from the one-time attack on Pearl Harbor and the civil war, which was fought between Americans, never since our War for Independence over 200 years ago, have we felt the sting of enemy attacks here at home and faced the stark reality that that at least in part this war will be fought on American soil. We have not before endured a war with a foreign enemy attacking us at home. Thus, to Americans, the concept that we can be attacked here at home, where our civilian population is not only at risk as collateral to a military target, but has instead now become the primary target, is new and very troubling. The Western mindset views civilians as "innocent" during times of warfare, thus it is difficult for Americans to conceive of an enemy that does not embrace our view of there being "rules" (i.e., Geneva Convention, etc.) of civility, mercy and honor even amidst the horrors of war.

President Bush has outlined the weapons of war we will use, a traditional air campaign to first deny the enemy Command, Control, Communication and Intelligence (C3I), much of which has already been accomplished in Afghanistan, followed by a continuing air war to destroy their assets: troops, weapons, logistics, bases, infrastructure, etc. Simultaneously, we must greatly increase our intelligence gathering capabilities, both directly and through the aid of our allies and our opponent's internal enemies. This intelligence, coupled with keeping the enemy continuously on the run, opens the door for us to effectively use our own and Britain's Special Operations Forces (SOF) to effectively ambush the enemy at predetermined locations. A little like hunting big game by placing many "drivers" in the field to drive the game into the deadly crossfire of waiting hunters. To this we coincide the very important attack on the flow of tens if not hundreds of millions of dollars annually that move around the world electronically from bank to bank in support of the terrorists organizations, activities and education (indoctrination) programs. This can be accomplished through both the assistance of friendly nations, as well as by the electronic warfare components of the Department of Defense with help from the CIA. In addition, we will encourage our enemy's host populations to turn on the terrorists and either kill them or turn them over to us. Afghanistan needs to become a warning to the other nations who harbor and support terrorists. There must be no refuge left where the perpetrators of terror can crawl under a rock for even momentary refuge.

A few have questioned the effect this new type of warfare is likely to have upon our lives and the civil liberties we hold dear. The actual, impact upon our lives and civil liberties will be minimal. We do not live in a totalitarian state. Fears that electronic surveillance will expose everyday Americans to federal scrutiny are unfounded. Federal law enforcement officials were under manned before September 11. Now, in light of the massive number of leads and the continuing investigations that will be needed to counter new threats, the last priority of law enforcement will be spying on the general population. Furthermore, the use of wire taps, security video and biometrics does not pose a threat to law abiding citizens. The vast majority of the steps law enforcement, especially on the federal level, needs to take will pass unnoticed by the population at large. Greater security at airports, including troops, combat over-flights of large public gatherings such as sporting and holiday events and the deployment of AWACS aircraft over America, will likely command the highest public visibility. Short of additional major terrorist attacks occurring within the United States, life will continue as normal on most days.

The final question is how shall we win this new kind of war. We shall win by having, as the President has repeated so many times in the last few weeks, the will to fight and win. There will likely be more large scale attacks on our soil against our civilians indiscriminately as well as smaller scale targeted attacks against Americans traveling and living abroad. Some will be discovered beforehand and prevented, unfortunately others will not. We cannot absolutely guarantee freedom from attack and still maintain an open and free society. The latter, our continued liberty, is fundamentally the far more important goal. We should call frequently to mind WWII Britain and draw courage from its enduring example to us. Despite years of relentless daily bombing and rocket attacks that left large parts of London and other cities burning on a nightly basis, our courageous friends did not relent in their fight. Each morning they arose anew, surveyed the damage, mourned their dead and went back to work and war more determined than ever to fight on until they won. At the battle of Britain, they sent the last tattered remainder of their battle scarred Royal Air Force against the overwhelming odds of the vastly superior Luftwaffe. Britain did not succumb despite the Nazi terror nor will the United States bow to these modern day terrorists and their demands. We will win through having the will to win and the commitment in our firm belief that with God's help, our right cause of ridding the world of terror will prevail. We will also win by going back to living our lives as free people, who though living under the shadow of danger, will not allow fear to steal away our

liberty. We will win by demonstrating once again that external attacks upon America will only serve to bring us closer together in a true spirit of love, compassion, brotherhood and a firm resolve to triumph. We will win by supporting our President and Leadership, thereby demonstrating to the entire world that a truly free people, though they endure great hardship, will stand and prevail just as that great beacon of Liberty has stood in NY harbor to welcome those from all nations and races offering freedom and hope!



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