IW and ISIS: Why Aren’t We Winning?

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NDIA–SO/LIC
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Future War?
Irregular War is War

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

ISIS: The Threat to the United States
ThreatKnowledgeGroup Special Report

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This isn’t just about Far Away AORs
ISIS Arrests in US as of June 2015

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.

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

So What?

1. ISIS has been far more successful than 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 DOES NOT understand IW
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RELEVANT SITES:

www.TheGorkaBriefing.com

www.ThreatKnowledge.org