

When Terrorism becomes Counter-terrorism: The State Sponsors of Terrorism are "Going After the Terrorists"

By Prof Michel Chossudovsky Global Research, May 15, 2022 Global Research 22 December 2015 Region: <u>Middle East & North Africa</u> Theme: <u>Intelligence</u>, <u>Terrorism</u>, <u>US NATO</u> <u>War Agenda</u> In-depth Report: <u>SYRIA</u>

Author's Note and Update

The FBI has recently released thousands of pages of material "relating to <u>its investigation of</u> <u>Saudi government links to the 9/11 attacks"</u>,

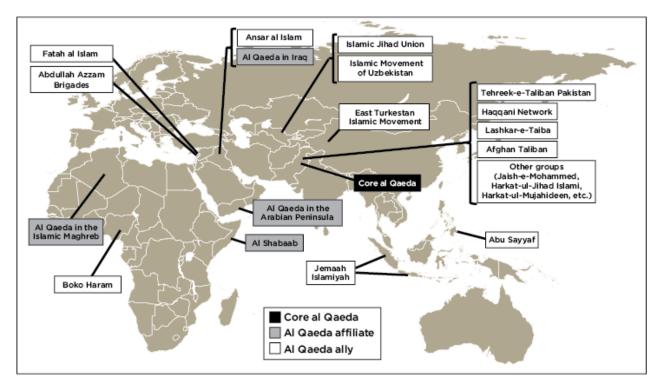
The thrust of this investigation is to accuse the so-called state sponsors of Al Qaeda which was allegedly responsible for the 9/11 attacks. Lest we forget, the justification of the invasion of Afghanistan in early October 2001 was because the Taliban government was allegedly supportive of Al Qaeda.

The following text was first published in December 2015

US foreign policy has nurtured Al Qaeda, a creation of the CIA for more than 35 years, with the support of Pakistan's Inter Services Intelligence (ISI) and Saudi Arabia's infamous General Intelligence Presidency (GIP).

Lest we forget Osama bin Laden was recruited in 1979 by the CIA at the outset of the Soviet- Afghan war.

A complex network of Al Qaeda affiliated terrorist organizations overseen by US and allied intelligence agencies has unfolded, extending across the Middle East, North Africa, sub-Saharan Africa, Central Asia, Western China, South and South East Asia.



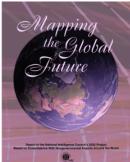
Rand Corporation Report 2012

While mainstream analysis regarding CIA covert support of "jihadist" terrorist entities is a taboo, the Western media (quoting expert opinion) will often place the blame on the intelligence agencies of America's closest allies including Pakistan's ISI and Saudi Arabia's GIP, i.e. for supporting terrorist entities (in defiance of the US). According to the Rand Corporation:

"Pakistan poses a particular challenge. As America's relationship with Pakistan deteriorates, how long will the United States be able to pressure a state whose intelligence service [i.e Pakistan's ISI which is in close liaison with the CIA] has ties with some of al Qaeda's allies, such as the Haqqani network and Lashkare-Taiba?" (Set Jones, Resurgence of Al Qaeda, <u>Rand Corporation Report</u> 2012)

The Islamic State Caliphate: A Project of US Intelligence

Today's Al Qaeda most recent "affiliate", the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) based in Raqqa, Northern Syria is not only protected by the US and its allies, it is trained and financed by US-NATO, with the support of Turkey, Israel and Washington's Persian Gulf allies.



has been on the drawing board of US intelligence for more than ten years. In December 2004, under the Bush Administration, the National Intelligence Council (NIC) predicted that

in the year 2020 a New Caliphate extending from the Mediterranean to Central Asia and South East Asia would emerge, threatening Western democracy and Western values.

The "findings" of the National Intelligence Council were published in a 123 page unclassified report entitled <u>"Mapping the Global Future"</u>.

"A New Caliphate provides an example of how a global movement fueled by radical religious identity politics could constitute a challenge to Western norms and values as the foundation of the global system" (emphasis added)

<u>The NIC 2004 report</u> borders on ridicule; it is devoid of intelligence, let alone historical and geopolitical analysis. It has the features of an internal propaganda construct intended to sensitize government officials. Its objective is to provide a justification to America's "Global War on Terrorism" (GWOT).

We expect that by 2020 al-Qa'ida will be superceded by similarly inspired Islamic extremist groups, and there is a substantial risk that broad Islamic movements akin to al-Qa'ida will merge with local separatist movements. Information technology, allowing for instant connectivity, communication, and learning, will enable the terrorist threat to become increasingly decentralized, evolving into an eclectic array of groups, cells, and individuals that do not need a stationary headquarters to plan and carry out operations. Training materials, targeting guidance, weapons know-how, and fund-raising will become virtual (i.e., online).

Source: "Mapping the Global Future". NIC 2020 Project

Nonetheless, it also confirms the contour of a diabolical military-intelligence agenda with new "jihadist" terror brigades (largely integrated by mercenaries) emerging in numerous geographical locations (Eurasia and Africa, See map above). This agenda of creating a new "jihad" was confirmed by a Debka File (Israeli intelligence and security news) report in August 2011:

NATO headquarters in Brussels and the Turkish high command are meanwhile drawing up plans for their first military step in Syria, which is to arm the rebels with weapons...

Also discussed in Brussels and Ankara, our sources report, is a campaign to enlist thousands of Muslim volunteers in Middle East countries and the Muslim world to fight alongside the Syrian rebels. The Turkish army would house these volunteers, train them and secure their passage into Syria. (<u>DEBKAfile</u>, NATO to give rebels anti-tank weapons, August 14, 2011, emphasis added)

This report (published 4 years ago) confirms what today has become glaringly obvious, namely the central role of the Turkish government and military in liaison with NATO as a "State sponsor of terrorism".

"U Turn": The State Sponsors of Terrorism Engage in Counterterrorism. The Role of Saudi Arabia, Turkey and Pakistan

And now in an unusual about turn, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) has configured a coalition of 34 mainly Muslim countries "to go after the Islamic state".

In a bitter irony, the key protagonists of this counterterrorism initiative endorsed by the "international community" are Saudi Arabia, Pakistan and Turkey, i.e. countries which have relentlessly supported "Islamic terrorism" from the very outset in close liaison with Washington. In the words of Hillary Clinton in her declassified Emails: "donors in Saudi Arabia constitute the most significant source of funding to Sunni terrorist groups worldwide."

Counter terrorism by the state sponsors of terrorism? A New Normal? The propaganda campaign appears to have reached an impasse. According to the official statement:

"The [34] countries here mentioned have decided on the formation of a military alliance led by Saudi Arabia to fight terrorism, with a joint operations centre based in Riyadh to co-ordinate and support military operations,"



Arab News December 2015

This "military alliance" will work in liaison with Obama's counter-terrorism bombing campaign involving a coalition of some 20 countries initiated against the Islamic State in August-September 2014. The evidence, however, confirms that the bombing raids have avoided targeting the ISIL, which is integrated by mercenaries including special forces, who are in permanent liaison with US-NATO.

'If you threaten America, you will find no safe haven': Obama vows to destroy ISIS with Syria airstrikes in televised address – but insists there will be 'no boots on the ground'

- Obama brands the 'Islamic State' as 'a terrorist organization, pure and simple'
- 'We will degrade, and ultimately destroy' ISIS 'through a comprehensive and sustained counter-terrorism strategy'
- Four-point plan includes airstrikes, support for Iraqi army units, counterterrorism activities to hamstring ISIS, and renewed humanitarian aid
- President wants \$500 million from Congress to arm Syrian rebels
- 'We have not yet detected specific plotting against our homeland,' he cautioned

Screen shot, Daily Mail

KSA Defense Minister Crown Prince Mohammed bin Salman, confirmed (December 14, 2015) that the campaign "would co-ordinate efforts to fight terrorism" specifically in Iraq and Syria in coordination "with major powers and international organisations", i.e NATO, the US, the EU.

In an unusual twist, the State sponsors of terrorism are now indulging in counterterrorism. The Islamic State in the Arabian peninsula, namely the House of Saud which is predicated on the tenets of Wahhabism is going after the Islamic State (ISIL) in Northern Syria.

Known and documented, Saudi Arabia has played a key strategic role in promoting and financing terrorism on behalf of Washington. Moreover, Saudi weapons purchases from the US and Canada are also being used to equip and arm various "opposition" rebel groups in Syria including the ISIL and Al Nusrah.

It is worth noting: recruited by America's ally, a large number of ISIS mercenaries are convicted criminals released <u>from Saudi prisons on condition they join the ISIL. Saudi death</u> row inmates were recruited to join the terror brigades. (January 23, 2013)

BUSINESS INSIDER

A leaked internal memo shows how Saudi officials commuted 1,200 death row inmates under the condition they go and fight against Assad in Syria, according to the Assyrian International News Agency.

From the memo:

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We have reached an agreement with them that they will be exempted from the death sentence and given a monthly salary to their families and loved ones, who will be prevented from traveling outside Saudi Arabia in return for rehabilitation of the accused and their training in order to send them to Jihad in Syria.

Saudi officials apparently gave them a choice: decapitation or jihad? In total, inmates from Yemen, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Syria, Jordan, Somalia, Afghanistan, Egypt, Pakistan, Iraq, and Kuwait chose to go and fight in Syria.

Screen Shot

Britain, France and the US have welcomed the Saudi initiative. John Kerry says it is constructive. UN Secretary General Ban Ki-moon unequivocally praised Saudi Arabia "for its constructive efforts and leadership".

It's a theater of the absurd. It's like asking Al Capone to lead a coalition of Chicago criminal syndicates to go after organized crime. In this case, the criminal syndicate based in Riyadh is acting on behalf of its Western sponsors.

And the media applauds in chorus without acknowledging several of their own reports which confirm that Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Pakistan, Qatar, Jordan, et al. have been involved in recruiting, training and financing Islamic terrorists. The practice of beheading civilians by ISIS operative in Syria emanates from Saudi Arabia. In the words of an earlier <u>Daily</u> <u>Telegraph report (April 2014):</u>

"We should not be blind to the fact that there is a project out there to destroy [Syria's] rich, pluralist, and unbelievably intricate culture and replace it with a monochrome version of Wahhabi Islam".

What the mainstream media invariably fails to mention is that Saudi Arabia is a "gobetween" and that Wahhabi Islam is being used and applied by Washington. In turn, the public is led to believe that this is a bona fide war of religion and that Muslims are waging war against Western civilization.

This "version of Wahhabism" has nothing to with Islam, it's "Made in America", its a diabolical tool of US foreign policy, which consists in applying and manipulating the ideology of Wahhabism as a means of recruiting and indoctrinating terrorists to wage a "jihad" on behalf of Uncle Sam. US-NATO's war without borders goes unnoticed; World public opinion is led to believe that Islam is waging a war against the West and that US-NATO are acting in "self-defense" against an elusive outside enemy based in the Middle East.

Politicians, journalists and intelligence analysts are lying to themselves. Everybody knows that Saudi Arabia and Turkey are behind the terrorists and we also know that the US is behind Saudi Arabia and Turkey.

The US is the main architect of this terrorist undertaking which consists in sponsoring terrorists with a view to destabilizing and destroying sovereign countries in defiance of international law.

In 2013, <u>the European Parliament published a detailed report</u> (excerpt below) confirming the role of Saudi Arabia in spreading Wahhabi-Salafist ideology to terror groups in a large number of countries. The report, however, failed to acknowledge that these actions were conducted as part of a US foreign policy and intelligence agenda. (Excerpt (screenshot), p. 7 below)

The United States is well aware about the financing network starting from Arab countries and reaching terrorists organisations through charitable institutions. In the US State Department's memo dated December 2009 it is written that "donors in Saudi Arabia constitute the most significant source of funding to Sunni terrorists groups worldwide" (The Guardian, 2010/b). It is said that countries like Saudi Arabia, Qatar, United Arab Emirates and Kuwait do too little to stop rich and conservative donors from financing terrorist organisations through charitable and religious institutions. The document urges the

Screenshot, p. 7 of European Parliament Report

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| Articles by: <u>Prof Michel</u> <u>Chossudovsky</u> | About the author: |
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| | Michel Chossudovsky is an award-winning author, Professor of Economics (emeritus) at the University of Ottawa, Founder and Director of the Centre for Research on Globalization (CRG), Montreal, Editor of Global Research. He has taught as visiting professor in |

Western Europe, Southeast Asia, the Pacific and Latin America. He has served as economic adviser to governments of developing countries and has acted as a consultant for several international organizations. He is the author of 13 books. He is a contributor to the Encyclopaedia Britannica. His writings have been published in more than twenty languages. In 2014, he was awarded the Gold Medal for Merit of the Republic of Serbia for his writings on NATO's war of aggression against Yugoslavia. He can be reached at crgeditor@yahoo.com

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