

**DRAFT – PRE-DECISIONAL – INTERNAL DOD USE ONLY**



# Report on Countering Extremist Activity within the Department of Defense

July 2021

**DRAFT – PRE-DECISIONAL – INTERNAL DOD USE ONLY**

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(b) (6)

CTR (USA)

**From:** Kirby, John F SES (USA)  
**Sent:** Sunday, July 25, 2021 3:29 PM  
**To:** (b) (6) CIV SD  
**Subject:** Fwd: Extremism report  
**Attachments:** TAB B\_20210706\_OXD\_Memo\_DoD Extremism Policy v2.docx; Countering Extremist Activity within DoD Report\_FO v4 CLEAN v2.docx; TAB C\_20210706\_OXD\_Extremism FAQs and Hypotheticals.docx

Can you print these for me? Thanks!

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**From:** "Plumb, Radha SES SD" (b) (6)  
**Date:** Friday, July 23, 2021 at 9:22:58 AM  
**To:** "Kirby, John F SES (USA)" (b) (6), "Magsamen, Kelly SES SD" (b) (6)  
**Cc:** "Garrison, Bishop SES SD" (b) (6), "Friend, Alice SES SD" (b) (6), "Norman, Mela Louise SES SD" (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Extremism report

Kirby:

DSD reviewed the extremism package. She was hoping for your feedback on 2 areas:

(b) (5)



Welcome any feedback or guidance from the SD team as well on preferences.

Best,

Radha

(b) (6)

CTR (USA)

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**From:** William Hennigan <william.hennigan@time.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, May 17, 2021 10:51 AM  
**To:** Kirby, John F SES (USA)  
**Subject:** [Non-DoD Source] TIME check-in

Good morning,

Hope you had a nice weekend... Following up on our conversation from a couple weeks ago, I was wondering if you had a good idea when the next opportunity to travel/link up with SECDEF might be. Is there a CONUS trip where there's a troop-touch or the like?

You also mentioned getting me together with SECDEF's inner circle on extremism and sexual assault issues... I spoke with Bishop and had a terrific conversation. I asked to sit-in one of his group's meetings, which he seemed amenable to, but the request was ultimately was denied.

Separately, I reached out to talk to Lynn Rosenthal. But I was told an interview wasn't possible due to the time-crunch related to the 90-day review, which makes sense.

Anyway, TL;DR: is there anyone else I can or should speak with inside the building about these efforts? And when is the next opportunity to link up with SECDEF?

All best,

Bill

--

W.J. Hennigan  
National Security Correspondent  
Washington Bureau  
TIME  
o: (202) 861-4096  
c: (b) (6)  
@wjhenn

(b) (6) CTR (USA)

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**From:** (b) (6) CIV OSD PA (USA)  
**Sent:** Saturday, June 26, 2021 11:24 PM  
**To:** Kirby, John F SES (USA); (b) (6) CIV (USA); (b) (6) CAPT USN OSD PA (USA)  
**Subject:** Re: Defense Morning Clips 25 June 2021

ODAM has cleared this version:

(b) (5)

[REDACTED]

I'll send to Hope Seck, attributable to Mr. Kirby, yes?

I'll be meeting with Joo Chung, the SES who's now leading this for Mr. Donley, this week to get an update on the ZBR.

Regards,

(b) (6)

Sent with my iPhone

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**From:** "Kirby, John F SES (USA)" (b) (6)  
**Date:** Friday, June 25, 2021 at 5:08:37 PM  
**To:** (b) (6) CIV (USA)" (b) (6) CAPT USN OSD PA (USA)" (b) (6)  
**Cc:** "(b) (6) CIV OSD PA (USA)" (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Re: Defense Morning Clips 25 June 2021

Ok. Let's staff it. And then issue it.

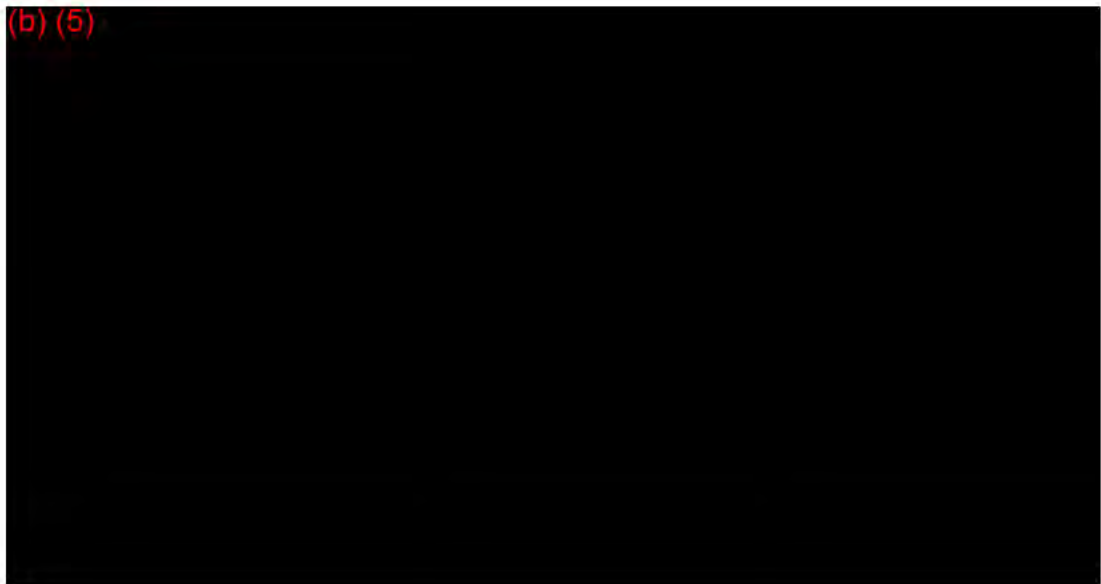
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**From:** (b) (6) CIV (USA)" (b) (6)  
**Date:** Friday, June 25, 2021 at 4:39:51 PM  
**To:** "Kirby, John F SES (USA)" (b) (6) CAPT USN OSD PA (USA)" (b) (6)  
**Cc:** (b) (6) CIV OSD PA (USA)" (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: Defense Morning Clips 25 June 2021

(b) (5)

[REDACTED]

(b) (5)



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From: Kirby, John F SES (USA) (b) (6)  
Sent: Friday, June 25, 2021 4:21 PM  
To: (b) (6) CIV (USA) (b) (6) CAPT USN  
OSD PA (USA) (b) (6)  
Cc: (b) (6) CIV OSD PA (USA) (b) (6)  
Subject: Re: Defense Morning Clips 25 June 2021

Ok. I agree.

I'd go back to Hope with ....

(b) (5)


Something like that.

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**From:** "(b) (6) [REDACTED] CIV (USA)"  
(b) (6) [REDACTED]  
**Date:** Friday, June 25, 2021 at 3:31:52 PM  
**To:** "Kirby, John F SES (USA)" (b) (6) [REDACTED]  
(b) (6) [REDACTED] CAPT USN OSD PA (USA)"  
(b) (6) [REDACTED]  
**Cc:** "(b) (6) [REDACTED] CIV OSD PA (USA)"  
(b) (6) [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** RE: Defense Morning Clips 25 June 2021

I know (b) (6) [REDACTED] is looking into this but based on emails from DSD office and a convo with Scott, WHLO, (b) (5) [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

(b) (6) [REDACTED] – correct me if I’m wrong.

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**From:** Kirby, John F SES (USA) (b) (6) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** Friday, June 25, 2021 1:39 PM  
**To:** (b) (6) [REDACTED] CIV (USA) (b) (6) [REDACTED]  
(b) (6) [REDACTED] CAPT USN OSD PA (USA) (b) (6) [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** Fwd: Defense Morning Clips 25 June 2021

What is the forensics on the DACOWITZ piece? I noticed this one too and meant to ask about it.

See below.

K

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**From:** "Plumb, Radha SES SD"  
(b) (6)  
**Date:** Friday, June 25, 2021 at 1:32:21 PM  
**To:** "Kirby, John F SES (USA)"  
(b) (6)  
**Cc:** "(b) (6) CIV (USA)"  
(b) (6)  
**Subject:** FW: Defense Morning Clips 25 June 2021

Hi guys – I think we had flagged this awhile ago but  
TLDR (b) (5)

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**From:** Friend, Alice SES SD (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Friday, June 25, 2021 1:24 PM  
**To:** Plumb, Radha SES SD  
(b) (6)  
**Subject:** FW: Defense Morning Clips 25 June 2021

Don't know if you talked to Kirby about this yet.

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**From:** Arceneaux, Scott SES SD  
(b) (6)  
**Sent:** Friday, June 25, 2021 1:09 PM  
**To:** Kirby, John F SES (USA)  
(b) (6) CIV (USA)  
(b) (6)  
**Cc:** Friend, Alice SES SD (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Defense Morning Clips 25 June 2021



John and. (b) (6)

I have real concerns with #4 below. (b) (5)

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Scott

Sent from Mobile Device

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**From:** "OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox  
Media Analysis"

(b) (6)

**Date:** Friday, June 25, 2021 at  
5:10:23 AM

**Subject:** Defense Morning Clips 25  
June 2021

DEFENSE MORNING CLIPS

As of 0430 Hours, June 25

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Overview

U.S. officials said the main  
withdrawal of American military  
forces was set to be "largely done"

in the next two weeks, with roughly 650 troops remaining to provide security for diplomats, though Pentagon spokesman John Kirby emphasized “nothing has changed” about the Biden administration’s withdrawal goal, according to the Associated Press. Separately, President Biden announced the U.S. would begin relocating thousands of Afghan interpreters, and others who assisted coalition forces, while their special immigrant visas are being processed, the New York Times wrote. Also of note, Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. John Hyten signed four new Strategic Directives that set top-level, joint requirements for All Domain Operations, marking a “key milestone” for how the U.S. will fight future wars with the new Joint Warfighting Concept, Breaking Defense reported.

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## TOP STORIES

1. U.S. to keep about 650 troops in Afghanistan after withdrawal

Associated Press, June 25 (0012) |  
Lolita C. Baldor and Robert Burns

Roughly 650 U.S. troops are expected to remain in Afghanistan to provide security for diplomats after the main American military force completes its withdrawal, which is set to be largely done in the next two weeks, U.S. officials told

The Associated Press. In addition, several hundred additional American forces will remain at the Kabul airport, potentially until September, to assist Turkish troops providing security, as a temporary move until a more formal Turkey-led security operation is in place, the officials said Thursday. Overall, officials said the U.S. expects to have American and coalition military command, its leadership and most troops out by July Fourth, or shortly after that, meeting an aspirational deadline that commanders developed months ago.

## 2. U.S. to Relocate Afghan Allies, Like Interpreters, While Special Visas Are Processed

New York Times, June 25 (0300), Pg. A4 | Helene Cooper and Eric Schmitt

President Biden said on Thursday that his administration would begin relocating thousands of Afghan interpreters, drivers and others who worked with American forces outside the country in an effort to keep them safe while they apply for entry to the United States.

## 3. Joint 'Strategic Directives' Set Requirements For All Domain Ops

BreakingDefense.com, June 24 (1701) | Theresa Hitchens

Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Gen. John Hyten has signed four new Strategic Directives' that set top-level, joint requirements for All Domain Operations. It's a first

step in implementing the new Joint Warfighting Concept (JWC) defining how the US will fight future wars. “Together, the Directives provide a roadmap of the capabilities and attributes the Joint Force will need to succeed in the 21st century,” a spokesperson for Hyten said in an email. “The JROC [Joint Requirements Oversight Council] Members — the Vice Chairman and the Vice Chiefs of each of the Services — worked together closely over a year to design these requirements. This is a key milestone in the implementation of the new Joint Warfighting Concept.”

#### DEFENSE DEPARTMENT

#### 4. DoD Quietly Calls for Shutdown of 70-Year-Old Committee on Women in the Military

Military.com, June 24 (1359) | Hope Hodge Seck

In January of this year, the Pentagon quietly demanded the resignations of the 21 volunteer members of the Defense Advisory Committee on Women in the Services, a roster that included eight retired generals and admirals. The ink was barely dry on the committee’s 70-year historical review, a 58-page document that described how DACOWITS had advocated on behalf of military women since 1951 on issues ranging from their right to fly fighter jets and serve in combat to the fit of body armor and online harassment. The committee’s hollowing out was part

of a sweeping move by Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin to dissolve all 42 DoD advisory committees pending a cost and efficiency review. The Defense Business Board, which had been populated with those loyal to Donald Trump in the final throes of his presidency, got the most attention in this move.

5. Military sexual assault debate broadens to tackle racial inequities

CQ Roll Call Online, June 24 (1017) | John M. Donnelly

The debate over the military's handling of sexual assault cases has broadened and now takes on questions about racial justice, according to lawmakers who are pushing to change the armed forces legal system.

6. U.S. Troops on Base Less Likely to Seek Extremist Content Than Americans in General, Study Finds

DefenseOne.com, June 24 (1541) | Jacqueline Feldscher

The Defense Department will soon know which bases and branches have the most troops looking for domestic violent extremist content. The next step is figuring out how to stop it. The data is expected to arrive in about three weeks in a report from the U.S. Military Academy and Moonshot, a startup founded in 2015 to spot people searching online for violent

extremist information and direct them to helpful resources instead.

7. U.S. government prepares to issue landmark report on UFOs

Reuters, June 24 (1818) | Steve Gorman, Pavithra George and Will Dunham

The U.S. government, once openly dismissive of UFO sightings that for decades sparked the popular imagination, is poised to issue an expansive account of what it calls “unidentified aerial phenomena,” based heavily on observations by American military pilots. The U.S. intelligence community, in conjunction with the Pentagon, is due in the coming days to submit a report to Congress on the subject. The Pentagon in recent years has released or confirmed the authenticity of video from naval aviators showing enigmatic aircraft exhibiting speed and maneuverability exceeding known aviation technologies.

COVID-19

8. White House Set To Deliver Doses Of J&J Vaccine

Wall Street Journal, June 25 (0200), Pg. A9 | Gordon Lubold and Yaroslav Trofimov

The Biden administration plans to deliver three million doses of the Johnson & Johnson coronavirus

vaccine next week to Afghanistan, which is battling its deadliest wave of the pandemic amid a rapidly deteriorating security situation.

## EXECUTIVE/LEGISLATIVE

### 9. Inhofe revives bill to target Ligado

C4ISRNET.com, June 24 (1614) | Joe Gould

Legislation has returned that would force Ligado Networks to cover the cost of any GPS user harmed by potential interference related to the company's use of the L-band spectrum, both in government and in the private sector.

### 10. A Senator Seeks To Reverse Trump-Era Policies For Deported Military Veterans

NPR News, June 24 (1353) | Claudia Grisales

Illinois Democratic Sen. Tammy Duckworth is unveiling a legislative package Thursday that would protect from deportation military servicemembers and veterans who don't have U.S. citizenship, as part of a new effort to reverse Trump-era policies.

### 11. House committee advances major bill for veterans with toxic exposure

Stars and Stripes Online, June 24  
(2025) | Nikki Wentling

The House Committee on Veterans Affairs advanced a bill Thursday that aims to create a fast-track to Department of Veterans Affairs benefits and health care for millions of veterans suffering the effects of military toxic exposure. The lawmakers voted 15-12 to advance the bill — a move the committee chairman, Rep. Mark Takano, D-Calif., said would kickstart in-depth negotiations with the Senate about legislation that Congress would approve.

12. A 'Saigon moment': Biden feels political heat as chaos looms in Afghanistan

Politico Online, June 24 (1229) |  
Nahal Toosi and Andrew Desiderio

President Joe Biden's self-imposed Sept. 11 deadline to unconditionally withdraw U.S. troops from Afghanistan is nearly three months away, but the political and humanitarian fallout from his decision is already rattling his administration.

#### AFGHANISTAN-PAKISTAN

13. Afghan government could fall months after U.S. leaves, report says

Washington Post, June 25 (0115),  
Pg. A26 | Dan Lamothe and Shane Harris



A new U.S. intelligence assessment says that the Afghan government could fall within six months of the American military departing, according to U.S. officials familiar with the information.

14. The Taliban's offensive is prompting Afghans to join the fight: 'We need to defend our lands'

Washington Post Online, June 25 (0400) | Pamela Constable and Ezzatullah Mehrdad

As Afghan President Ashraf Ghani meets with President Biden and members of Congress this week, his country faces a dramatic surge in Taliban attacks that began in the north but has rapidly spread to other regions. The defense forces have been unable to stem the offensive, and Afghan officials are concerned that the planned pullout of U.S. troops by September could leave the country dangerously vulnerable to a Taliban takeover. At the same time, the Kabul government's call for able-bodied Afghans to join in the fight — an extraordinary appeal to former armed rivals and local renegades that has so far met with surprising success — seems partly aimed at convincing American officials that despite its failures on the battlefield, Ghani's government and its anti-Taliban cause enjoy strong public support and deserve more help.

15. Taliban gains drive Afghan government to recruit militias

Associated Press, June 25 (0208) |  
Kathy Gannon

In recent days, the Taliban have made quick gains in Afghanistan's north, overrunning multiple districts, some of them reportedly with hardly a fight, even as the U.S. and NATO press forward with their final withdrawal from Afghanistan. By all accounts their departure will be complete long before the Sept. 11 deadline set by President Joe Biden when he announced in mid-April an end to America's "forever war." The Taliban gains are significant because of the transportation routes they provide the insurgents. But equally significant is that the north is the traditional stronghold of Afghanistan's minority ethnic groups, who aided the U.S.-led invasion that drove the Taliban from power nearly 20 years ago and have been part of the ruling leadership since.

16. Turkish, U.S. officials discuss  
Afghan airport security plans

Associated Press, June 24 (0626) |  
Not Attributed

Turkish and U.S. military officials met in Turkey's capital on Thursday to discuss plans for Turkish troops to continue securing Kabul's airport after the withdrawal of the U.S. and other NATO troops from Afghanistan. Turkey, NATO's only majority-Muslim member, has offered to protect and run the Hamid Karzai International airport — the main gateway into Afghanistan — after the alliance pulls out of the country. The country, which has

around 500 non-combat troops in Afghanistan, is however, seeking U.S. and other allies' support for the mission.

17. Turkey Gears Up for Risky Afghan Mission That No One Else Wants

Bloomberg News, June 25 (0000) | Selcan Hacaoglu

As the U.S. prepares to exit Afghanistan's sprawling Bagram base after 20 years of war, NATO partner Turkey is willing to take the lead securing another airstrip -- Kabul's Hamid Karzai International, 65 kilometers (40 miles) to the south. It's a dangerous proposition for Ankara, which has provided security at the airport's busy military section for six years as part of the NATO-led Resolute Support Mission.

MIDDLE EAST

18. Citing sticking points, U.S. official says Iran talks can't go on 'indefinitely'

Washington Post, June 25 (0115), Pg. A6 | Karen DeYoung

Indirect U.S. negotiations with Iran over reviving the 2015 nuclear deal cannot go on "indefinitely" without success, a senior State Department official said following the completion in Vienna of a sixth round of talks. "We've made progress" and "the Iranians have been serious," the

official said in a briefing for reporters Thursday. “But we do have differences, and if we can’t bridge them in the foreseeable future, we’re going to have to regroup.”

## INDO-PACIFIC

19. Korea-U.S. alliance remains linchpin of peace 71 years after start of Korean War – Pentagon

Yonhap News Agency (South Korea), June 24 (1557) | Byun Duk-kun

The United States remains committed to the South Korea-U.S. alliance, 71 years after the start of the Korean War, a Pentagon spokesman said Thursday, calling the alliance the “linchpin of peace” for the region and the world.

20. Japan Sees China-Taiwan Friction as Threat to Its Security

Bloomberg News, June 24 (2055) | Isabel Reynolds and Emi Nobuhiro

Japanese Defense Minister Nobuo Kishi said the security of Taiwan was directly linked with that of Japan, as tensions around the island build up and its defenses are increasingly overshadowed by China’s military might.

21. India, U.S. Navies Hold Complex Air and Sea Drills in the

## Indian Ocean, Kicking Off Several Summer Exercises

U.S. Naval Institute News, June 24 (1740) | Dzirhan Mahadzir

The U.S. Navy carried out a high-tempo exercise this week in the Indian Ocean involving the Ronald Reagan Carrier Strike Group along with the Indian Navy and Indian Air Force. The drills come at the start of the 27th annual Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (CARAT) exercise series with CARAT Sri Lanka on June 24, which will include USS Charleston (LCS-18) and the first official participation of the Japanese Maritime Self Defense Force (JMSDF) destroyer JS Yugiri (DD-153). USS Ronald Reagan (CVN-76), Carrier Air Wing 5 and its escorts carried out the two-day exercise with the Indian Navy and Indian Air Force on June 23 and 24. The drills went beyond the basic exercises at sea between the U.S. and Indian navies and included, “advanced air defense exercises, cross deck helicopter operations and anti-submarine exercises,” according to the Indian Ministry of Defence.

## CHINA

22. China says after massed drills that Taiwan’s future lies in ‘reunification’

Reuters, June 24 (0524) | Not Attributed

Taiwan needs to be clearly aware that its future lies in “reunification”

with China and that it cannot rely on the United States, China's military said on Thursday, responding to questions on a massed incursion by Chinese warplanes last week.

23. U.S. State Dept OKs possible sale of F-16s, missiles to Philippines

Reuters, June 24 (1752) | Not Attributed

The U.S. State Department has approved the potential sale of F-16 fighter jets, as well as Sidewinder and Harpoon missiles, to the Philippines in three separate deals with a combined value of more than \$2.5 billion, the Pentagon said on Thursday.

EUROPE

24. EU Rejects Putin Talks After Biden Summit

Wall Street Journal, June 25 (0200), Pg. A10 | James Marson and Thomas Grove

European leaders rebuffed a proposal from Germany and France to hold formal talks with Russian President Vladimir Putin, following President Biden's summit with him last week. The chilliness among allies -- along with Russia's confrontation with a British destroyer in the Black Sea on Wednesday -- show the difficulty that Mr. Biden and European leaders

will have in stabilizing relations with Moscow.

## RUSSIA

25. Russia says next time it may fire to hit intruding warships

Associated Press, June 24 (1358) | Vladimir Isachenkov

Russia is prepared to target intruding warships if they fail to heed warnings, a senior Russian diplomat declared Thursday after a Black Sea incident in which a British destroyer sailed near Crimea in an area that Russia claims as its territorial waters.

26. Russia and China Make War-Gaming Fashionable Again in the West

Bloomberg News, June 25 (0000) | Marc Champion and Daryna Krasnolutska

Even as Russia massed over 100,000 troops on Ukraine's borders in April, Andriy Zagorodnyuk felt sure President Vladimir Putin wouldn't go to war. The former defense minister in Kyiv, who'd also spent years on projects to modernize Ukraine's military, reasoned that Putin knew an invasion would be no walk in the park for Russia this time.

## MARINE CORPS

27. Infantry training more intense as Marines Corps makes major changes, commandant tells senators

Stars and Stripes Online, June 24 (1350) | Sarah Cammarata

Training for new Marines will become more rigorous as troops start to conduct more complex operations in smaller units, the commandant told senators Thursday.

#### NAVY

28. Harker: Navy Planning New Multi-Year Destroyer Buy

U.S. Naval Institute News, June 24 (1327) | Mallory Shelbourne

The Navy plans to enter into another multi-year contract for the Arleigh Burke-class Flight III destroyers, the acting secretary confirmed to Congress today.

#### NATIONAL GUARD

29. Nevada Air Guard activating air tankers early to fight fires

Associated Press, June 24 (1847) | Not Attributed

The Nevada Air National Guard is activating its airlift wing with air



tankers more than a month sooner than last fire season to help fight wildland blazes that already have burned more than 780 square miles (2,020 square kilometers) across 11 western states. The National Interagency Fire Center requested one C-130 aircraft and aircrew from the 152nd Airlift Wing in Reno, said Col. Jeremy Ford, the wing's commander.

## CYBER

### 30. App Users Unwittingly Collect Intelligence

Wall Street Journal, June 25 (0200),  
Pg. A1 | Byron Tau

A network of gig workers world-wide is unwittingly providing basic intelligence to the U.S. military using only a consumer app on their smartphones.

## NOTABLE COMMENTARY

### 31. Disaster Looms in Afghanistan

Wall Street Journal, June 25 (0200),  
Pg. A20 | Editorial

President Biden meets his Afghan counterpart Friday, and the White House says it is committed to providing Afghanistan "diplomatic, economic, and humanitarian assistance." That's cold comfort as

emboldened Taliban militants  
advance across the country.

32. Save Afghanistan's Sikhs and  
Hindus

Wall Street Journal, June 25 (0200),  
Pg. A19 | Henna Hundal and Sai  
Rajagopal

President Biden and Afghan  
President Ashraf Ghani will have  
plenty to talk about when they meet  
on Friday. With the withdrawal of  
U.S. and allied forces from  
Afghanistan only weeks away -- and  
the security situation deteriorating  
by the day -- Mr. Biden is expected  
to offer humanitarian and economic  
assistance. The country's tiny Sikh  
and Hindu populations might seem  
insignificant, but they deserve  
attention as well.

33. Biden's Afghanistan Pullout  
Could Make the China Problem  
Harder

ForeignPolicy.com (Argument), June  
24 (1841) | Michael J. Green and  
Gabriel Scheinmann

There are several strategic and  
political rationales for why U.S.  
President Joe Biden decided to  
withdraw all U.S. forces from  
Afghanistan and end the United  
States' role in the conflict. Shifting  
away from overemphasized  
counterinsurgency operations is  
logical, it's self-evident that nation-  
building as once conceived is  
unachievable, the costs of  
maintaining current operations

seem high to many, and, perhaps most notably, U.S. public opinion has soured on the war. If there is a single thing Biden and former U.S. President Donald Trump agree on, it is withdrawing from Afghanistan. Trump even put out a press release praising Biden for the decision. However, there is one argument for a complete withdrawal from Afghanistan that is just plain wrong: the idea that retreat will somehow enhance U.S. strategic competition with China. It won't. On the contrary, it will complicate that problem.

#### 34. An early test for Mr. Putin

Washington Post, June 25 (0115),  
Pg. A24 | Editorial

"We'll find out within the next six months to a year whether or not we actually have a strategic dialogue that matters," President Biden said last week following his first summit meeting with Vladimir Putin. In fact, the answer may be known much sooner than that. Among the issues Mr. Biden raised with the Russian ruler was Syria - and in particular, the reauthorization of a humanitarian aid corridor run by the United Nations that is crucial to providing food, medicine and coronavirus vaccinations to 2.8 million people, most of them women and children. Moscow is hinting it may block the U.N. Security Council resolution needed to keep the aid flowing after July 10, triggering a dire humanitarian crisis. If he is interested in cooperation with Mr. Biden, one of the simplest and easiest things Mr. Putin could

do is relax that position. So far, he hasn't.

35. Mark Milley, Anti-Racist

DefenseOne.com, June 24 (1635) |  
Kevin Baron

The Joint Chiefs chairman's response to questions in the House Armed Services Committee on Wednesday defending anti-racism and anti-white-extremism education in the military is rightfully going viral. His soliloquy on why he thinks it's important for cadets at the Army's university to learn about critical race theory and to understand "white rage" and the reasons why Americans felt compelled to attack the Capitol building and the Constitution he's sworn to defend is a landmark moment. Milley's speech should be held up and remembered as important as when his predecessor Adm. Mike Mullen sat at a similar witness table in the Senate and laid bare why he could no longer support the shameful, dishonest, and dishonorable "don't ask, don't tell" policy that banned openly gay Americans from serving their country. Milley's stance against the shameful, dishonest, and dishonorable march against the critical race theory boogeyman is no less important.

(b) (6)

CTR (USA)

**From:** (b) (6) CIV (USA)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 26, 2021 12:53 PM  
**To:** Garrison, Bishop M Jr SES (USA); Kirby, John F SES (USA); (b) (6) CIV (USA)  
**Cc:** Magsamen, Kelly E SES (USA)  
**Subject:** RE: Domestic Extremism and DoD Article

Copy and thank you. We worked with NSC on these as well so are tracking. Will keep you updated on if we receive any related questions at today's briefing as well.

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**From:** Garrison, Bishop SES SD (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 26, 2021 12:34 PM  
**To:** Kirby, John F SES (USA) (b) (6) CIV (USA) (b) (6)  
(b) (6) CIV (USA) (b) (6)  
**Cc:** Magsamen, Kelly E SES (USA) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** FW: Domestic Extremism and DoD Article

In anticipation of Jen Psaki getting asked about me, the WH press team focused on Countering Domestic Extremism and Terrorism have some draft TPs based on some brief inputs I've provided.

I wanted to flag these in particular because they point back to DoD should orgs have any additional comments.

V/R,

Bishop Garrison  
Senior Advisor to the Secretary of Defense, Human Capital and DEI  
N: (b) (6) | P: (b) (6)  
S: (b) (6)  
JWICS: (b) (6)

---

**From:** Brister, Paul D. EOP/NSC (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 26, 2021 12:23 PM  
**To:** Garrison, Bishop SES SD (b) (6)  
**Subject:** FW: Domestic Extremism and DoD Article

Hey Sir-  
NODIS please, but would love your thoughts below.  
We have a new press teammate that will be focused on domestic extremism and terrorism and is putting together some thoughts for today's brief (on your article ☺)

Before I message them, wanted your thoughts (they have to fit in that box)

Very Respectfully,  
PB

Paul D. Brister, PhD  
Director for Defense Policy and Strategy  
National Security Council  
Office: (b) (6)

Mobile: (b) (6)

SIPR: (b) (6)

---

**From:** Savett, Sean D. EOP/NSC (b) (6)

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 26, 2021 12:16 PM

**To:** Brister, Paul D. EOP/NSC (b) (6)

Evans, Patrick L. EOP/NSC (b) (6)

**Cc:** Print, Josh R. EOP/NSC (b) (6)

**Subject:** RE: Domestic Extremism and DoD Article

Thanks, Paul! What's your availability this afternoon? I'm free ahead of 2:30 pm and after 5 pm today or tomorrow anytime after 12 pm. I connected with Bridget yesterday and had a great conversation.

For your reference, here is what DOD is giving reporters (Fox News and Daily Caller) who ask about the tweets:

**Q: Will the Defense Department define any level of support for Trump to be an indicator of extremism?**

- No.
- The Countering Extremism Working Group is not concerning itself with political beliefs. Indeed, the Department actively encourages troops to participate in the electoral process.
- The Department is focused on addressing the corrosive and potentially dangerous behavior that can be inspired by extremist ideology – behavior that harms good order and discipline and our readiness."


Would something like this work for Jen/Karine at the briefing?

(b) (5)



(b) (5)



I'd love to add your point about (b) (5)  
, but is that something we'd have to wait to say until it's finalized? Thanks for your review.

Sean

(b) (6) CTR (USA)

---

**From:** Magsamen, Kelly E SES (USA)  
**Sent:** Friday, July 23, 2021 6:06 PM  
**To:** Kirby, John F SES (USA); Plumb, Radha I SES (USA)  
**Cc:** Garrison, Bishop M Jr SES (USA); Friend, Alice SES SD; Norman, Mela T (Mela Louise) SES (USA)  
**Subject:** RE: Extremism report  
**Signed By:** (b) (6)

Agree that we should hold during SD trip.

---

**From:** Kirby, John F SES (USA) (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Friday, July 23, 2021 5:08 PM  
**To:** Plumb, Radha SES SD (b) (6); Magsamen, Kelly SES SD (b) (6)  
**Cc:** Garrison, Bishop SES SD (b) (6); Friend, Alice SES SD (b) (6); Norman, Mela Louise SES SD (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Re: Extremism report

Thanks Radha.

In answer to your first question, (b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

But that doesn't have to be firm.

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

(b) (5)

So I'd want to factor that planning in as well.

(b) (5)

(b) (5)



(b) (5)

Finally, I noticed in the attachments that in several places we refer to the definition as that of "extremism." (b) (5)

Hope this helps.

K

---

**From:** "Plumb, Radha SES SD" (b) (6)  
**Date:** Friday, July 23, 2021 at 1:22:58 PM  
**To:** "Kirby, John F SES (USA)" (b) (6) "Magsamen, Kelly SES SD" (b) (6)  
**Cc:** "Garrison, Bishop SES SD" (b) (6) "Friend, Alice SES SD" (b) (6), "Norman, Mela Louise SES SD" (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Extremism report

Kirby:

DSD reviewed the extremism package. She was hoping for your feedback on 2 areas:

(b) (5)

Welcome any feedback or guidance from the SD team as well on preferences.

Best,

Radha

(b) (6) CTR (USA)

**From:** Kirby, John F SES (USA)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, August 3, 2021 7:16 PM  
**To:** Garrison, Bishop M Jr SES (USA)  
**Cc:** (b) (6) CIV (USA); (b) (6) CIV (USA); MILLER, Stephanie P SES OSD  
OUSD P-R (USA); (b) (6) CIV SD  
**Subject:** Re: Extremist Activity report review

Ok. Sure.

---

**From:** "Garrison, Bishop SES SD" (b) (6)  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 3, 2021 at 7:00:31 PM  
**To:** "Kirby, John F SES (USA)" (b) (6)  
**Cc:** (b) (6) CIV (USA)" (b) (6), (b) (6) CIV  
(USA)" (b) (6) "MILLER, Stephanie P SES OSD OUSD P-R (USA)"  
(b) (6), (b) (6) CIV SD" (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Re: Extremist Activity report review

Sounds good. Can we chat tomorrow? We're behind the power curve on this so I want to make sure we can quickly address whatever concerns you have.

Thanks

Sent from Mobile Device

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**From:** "Kirby, John F SES (USA)" (b) (6)  
**Date:** Tuesday, August 3, 2021 at 4:57:22 PM  
**To:** "Garrison, Bishop SES SD" (b) (6)  
**Cc:** (b) (6) CIV (USA)" (b) (6), (b) (6)  
(b) (6) CIV (USA)" (b) (6) "MILLER, Stephanie P  
SES OSD OUSD P-R (USA)" (b) (6), (b) (6)  
(b) (6) CIV SD" (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: Extremist Activity report review

Hey Bishop, I've looked at it, yes. A few concerns related to public side, which I can discuss.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Garrison, Bishop SES SD (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Monday, August 2, 2021 9:53 AM  
**To:** Kirby, John F SES (USA) (b) (6)  
**Cc:** (b) (6) CIV (USA) (b) (6); (b) (6)  
(b) (6) CIV (USA) (b) (6) MILLER, Stephanie P SES OSD  
OUSD  
P-R (USA) (b) (6); (b) (6) CIV SD

(b) (6)

Subject: Extremist Activity report review

Hi John,

Welcome back. I wanted to check in and see if you've had the opportunity to complete your review of the report. We'd like to let Radha know today (if possible) that we're ready to move forward in the process. Thanks.

V/R,

Bishop Garrison

Senior Advisor to the Secretary of Defense, Human Capital and DEI

N: (b) (6)

P: (b) (6)

S: (b) (6)

JWICS: (b) (6)

(b) (6)

CTR (USA)

**From:** Garrison, Bishop M Jr SES (USA)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 18, 2021 5:55 AM  
**To:** Kirby, John F SES (USA); Jones, Tara L SES OSD OUSD INTEL & SEC (USA); (b) (6)  
CIV (USA); (b) (6) CIV (USA); (b) (6) CIV OSD PA (USA); (b) (6)  
MAJ USARMY OSD PA (USA)  
**Cc:** MILLER, Stephanie P SES OSD OUSD P-R (USA); Reid, Garry P SES OSD OUSD INTEL & SEC (USA)  
**Subject:** Re: FYSA: "Pentagon Plans to Monitor Social Media of Military Personnel for Extremist Content" (The Intercept)

That was my intent in terms of creating TPs on the issue.

Sent from Mobile Device

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**From:** "Kirby, John F SES (USA)" (b) (6)  
**Date:** Monday, May 17, 2021 at 9:57:49 PM  
**To:** "Garrison, Bishop SES SD" (b) (6), "Jones, Tara L SES OSD OUSD INTEL & SEC (USA)" (b) (6), (b) (6) CIV (USA)"  
(b) (6) (b) (6) S CIV (USA)" (b) (6)  
(b) (6) CIV OSD PA (USA)" (b) (6), (b) (6)  
(b) (6) MAJ USARMY OSD PA (USA)" (b) (6)  
**Cc:** "MILLER, Stephanie P SES OSD OUSD P-R (USA)" (b) (6)  
"Reid, Garry P SES OSD OUSD INTEL & SEC (USA)" (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Re: FYSA: "Pentagon Plans to Monitor Social Media of Military Personnel for Extremist Content" (The Intercept)

I'd like to get a better sense overall of what we are doing ... and not doing, before we start drafting talking points.

---

**From:** "Garrison, Bishop SES SD" (b) (6)  
**Date:** Monday, May 17, 2021 at 9:24:26 PM  
**To:** "Jones, Tara L SES OSD OUSD INTEL & SEC (USA)"  
(b) (6) (b) (6) CIV (USA)"  
(b) (6) (b) (6) CIV (USA)"  
(b) (6) "Kirby, John F SES (USA)"  
(b) (6) (b) (6) CIV OSD PA (USA)"  
(b) (6) (b) (6) MAJ USARMY  
OSD PA (USA)" (b) (6)  
**Cc:** "MILLER, Stephanie P SES OSD OUSD P-R (USA)"  
(b) (6) "Reid, Garry P SES OSD OUSD INTEL & SEC (USA)" (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Re: FYSA: "Pentagon Plans to Monitor Social Media of Military Personnel for Extremist Content" (The Intercept)



(b) (5)

I'll leave it to the PA team here how much we want to engage the Intercept specifically on this.

Sent from Mobile Device

---

**From:** "Jones, Tara L SES OSD OUSD INTEL & SEC (USA)"

(b) (6)

**Date:** Monday, May 17, 2021 at 8:48:48 PM

**To:** "(b) (6) CIV (USA)"

(b) (6)

, "Garrison, Bishop SES SD"

(b) (6)

, "(b) (6) CIV (USA)"

(b) (6)

, "Kirby, John F SES (USA)"

(b) (6)

, "(b) (6) CIV OSD PA

(USA)" (b) (6), (b) (6)

MAJ USARMY OSD PA (USA)"

(b) (6)

**Cc:** "MILLER, Stephanie P SES OSD OUSD P-R (USA)"

(b) (6)

"Reid, Garry P SES OSD

OSD INTEL & SEC (USA)" (b) (6)

**Subject:** RE: FYSA: "Pentagon Plans to Monitor Social Media of Military Personnel for Extremist Content" (The Intercept)

Bishop,

We're happy to help -- if you would like us to engage, give background, TPs, etc. just let us know. We deal with this kind of misperception a lot when it comes to social media screening, which we have been pursuing for years -- quite transparently. Although we do believe those capabilities could be helpful in countering DVE, it is not something we dreamed up in the CEWG. And there is no intent to "get around" First Amendment protections. . .

Let me know what you need from us. I'm not familiar enough with the Intercept to discern whether this is a publication we would normally take seriously enough to engage. But painting our use of publicly available electronic information as a cudgel is not accurate or helpful (not to mention the other inaccuracies).

Thanks,  
TJ

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**From:** (b) (6) CIV (USA) (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Monday, May 17, 2021 6:08 PM  
**To:** Garrison, Bishop M Jr SES (USA) (b) (6); (b) (6)  
(b) (6) CIV (USA) (b) (6); Kirby, John F SES (USA)  
(b) (6); (b) (6) CIV OSD PA (USA)  
(b) (6); (b) (6) MAJ USARMY  
OSD PA (USA) (b) (6)  
**Cc:** MILLER, Stephanie P SES OSD OUSD P-R (USA)  
(b) (6) Jones, Tara L SES OSD OUSD INTEL &  
SEC (USA) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Re: FYSA: "Pentagon Plans to Monitor Social Media of Military Personnel for Extremist Content" (The Intercept)

Thanks, Bishop. Adding (b) (6) — have either of you engaged this reporter on this story and have an existing channel to go back to him on this? Do we know who this senior Pentagon official is?

If not, I will reach out to him now.

---

**From:** "Garrison, Bishop SES SD"  
(b) (6)  
**Date:** Monday, May 17, 2021 at 5:54:07 PM  
**To:** "(b) (6) CIV (USA)"  
(b) (6) "Kirby, John F

SES (USA)"(b) (6)

(b) (6) CIV (USA)"

(b) (6)

Cc: "MILLER, Stephanie P SES OSD OUSD P-R  
(USA)" (b) (6) "Jones,  
Tara L SES OSD OUSD INTEL & SEC (USA)"

(b) (6)

**Subject:** RE: FYSA: "Pentagon Plans to Monitor  
Social Media of Military Personnel for Extremist  
Content" (The Intercept)

Hey folks,

This is not accurate: "An extremism steering committee led by Bishop Garrison, a senior adviser to the secretary of defense, is currently designing the social media screening pilot program, which will "continuously" monitor military personnel for "concerning behaviors," according to a Pentagon briefing in late March. Although in the past the military has balked at surveilling service members for extremist political views due to First Amendment protections, the pilot program will rely on a private surveillance firm in order to circumvent First Amendment restrictions on government monitoring, according to a senior Pentagon official. Though the firm has not yet been selected, the current front runner is Babel Street, a company that sells powerful surveillance tools including social media monitoring software."

He's purposefully conflating the efforts here. CEWG is reviewing policies, not leading directly or coordinating details on any effort like this.

V/R,

Bishop Garrison

Senior Advisor to the Secretary of Defense, Human  
Capital and DEI

N: (b) (6) |P: (b) (6)



S: (b) (6)

JWICS: (b) (6)

---

**From:** (b) (6) CIV (USA)  
(b) (6)  
**Sent:** Monday, May 17, 2021 5:50 PM  
**To:** Kirby, John F SES (USA)  
(b) (6); Garrison, Bishop  
SES SD (b) (6)  
(b) (6) CIV (USA) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** FW: FYSA: "Pentagon Plans to Monitor Social Media of Military Personnel for Extremist Content" (The Intercept)

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**From:** OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis  
(b) (6)  
**Sent:** Monday, May 17, 2021 5:38 PM  
**To:** OSD Pentagon PA List Press Officers  
(b) (6)  
**Cc:** (b) (6) CAPT USN OSD PA (USA)  
(b) (6)  
(b) (6) CIV OSD PA (USA)  
(b) (6)  
(b) (6) COL USARMY JS OCJCS (USA)  
(b) (6)  
(b) (6) CIV OSD PA (USA)  
(b) (6)  
(b) (6) ol USAF OSD PA (USA)  
(b) (6)  
(b) (6) CIV (USA)  
(b) (6)  
(b) (6) CIV OSD PA (USA)  
(b) (6)  
(b) (6) CIV (USA) (b) (6); OSD  
Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis  
(b) (6)  
**Subject:** FYSA: "Pentagon Plans to Monitor Social Media of Military Personnel for Extremist Content" (The Intercept)

## Pentagon Plans to Monitor Social Media of Military Personnel for Extremist Content

The military has previously balked at surveilling service members for extremist political views due to First Amendment protections.

The Intercept | Ken Klippenstein

As part of the Biden administration's crackdown on domestic extremism, the Pentagon plans to launch a pilot program for screening social media content for extremist material, according to internal Defense Department documents reviewed by The Intercept, as well as a source with direct knowledge of the program.

An extremism steering committee led by Bishop Garrison, a senior adviser to the secretary of defense, is currently designing the social media screening pilot program, which will "continuously" monitor military personnel for "concerning behaviors," according to a Pentagon briefing in late March. Although in the past the military has balked at surveilling service members for extremist political views due to First Amendment protections, the pilot program will rely on a private surveillance firm in order to circumvent First Amendment restrictions on government monitoring, according to a senior Pentagon official. Though the firm has not yet been selected, the current front runner is Babel Street, a company that sells powerful surveillance tools including social media monitoring software.

Babel Street has drawn criticism for its practice of buying bulk cellular location data and selling it to federal national security agencies like the Secret Service, who rely on the private company to bypass warrant requirements normally imposed on government bodies seeking to collect data. In November, Vice reported that the U.S. military's Special Operations Command used one of Babel Street's products, Locate X, to track the location of individuals for special forces operations. One method Babel controversially used was to purchase

location data associated with the users of a popular Muslim prayer app.

Garrison and Babel Street did not immediately respond to requests for comment.

It is unclear to what extent Congress is aware of the program, if it all. When asked about the program, a spokesperson for Rep. Don Bacon, a member of the House Armed Services Committee, said they were not aware of it.

“I have discussed this with our defense team and as of right now, we have not heard anything from DoD that would confirm this story,” Bacon’s press secretary Abbey Schieffer said. The Senate Armed Services Committee did not immediately respond to a request for comment.

In an email received after this article was originally published, a spokesperson for the House Armed Services Committee provided the following statement:

The Committee understands that the Department of Defense is exploring a means of implementing social media screening in conjunction with background investigations. We anticipate that any social media screening would be intended only as an additional means of vetting cleared individuals or those seeking to obtain a security clearance, not as a tool for ongoing surveillance of all men and women in uniform. That said, Secretary Austin has been clear about his intentions to understand to what extent extremism exists in the force and its effect on good order and discipline. We look forward to hearing the results of the stand down and the Department’s plan to move forward.

The Defense Department hinted at the program in an April 9 press release about its Countering Extremism Working Group, which it says will make recommendations on “incorporating machine learning and natural language processing into social media screening platforms,” as well as “ensure training addresses issues raised by commanders and supervisors on ‘gray areas’ such as reading, following, and liking extremist material and content in social media forums and platforms.”

The pilot program will use keywords to identify potential extremists, though coming up with a list of terms without running afoul of speech protections has proven to be challenging, the senior Pentagon official said. To this end, the military plans to consult with experts from across the political spectrum to help develop the pilot program. As The Intercept previously reported, the military’s Countering Extremism Working Group drafted a list of potential consultants that included anti-Muslim and Christian conservative groups.

“Using key words to monitor social media isn’t just an unnecessary privacy invasion, it is a flawed strategy that will ensure it is short-lived,” said Mike German, a retired FBI agent who did undercover work in neo-Nazi groups and is now a fellow at the Brennan Center for Justice’s Liberty and National Security Program. “It will undoubtedly produce a flood of false positives that will waste security resources and undermine morale, without identifying the real problem, which is the tolerance for those that openly engage in racist behavior and discrimination.”

Last month, the White House rejected a 2019 proposal from the Department of Homeland Security to collect social media data from immigration applicants. After the White House’s decision, Harsha Panduranga, counsel for the Brennan Center’s Liberty & National Security Program, argued that social media screening not only lacks efficacy but also may even hamper freedom of expression.

“As OIRA’s [White House Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs] decision signals, there is little evidence that social media screening is an effective screening tool,” Panduranga said. “But we do know that facilitating dragnet surveillance of the modern public square harms free speech and privacy, imposing a disparate impact on people who have traditionally borne the brunt of government profiling in the name of national security.”

Rather than relying on artificial intelligence or algorithms, German says, it would be more constructive to simply improve the whistleblower system so that reports of racist misconduct are taken seriously.

“Trying to suss out ‘extremists’ with an algorithm isn’t likely to identify problem employees within the department nearly as effectively as simply making clear that racist misbehavior and discrimination won’t be tolerated, requiring the troops and officers to report this misconduct when they see it, and then protecting them from reprisal when they do,” German said. “But, today, because the Defense Department doesn’t adequately protect whistleblowers, reporting such misconduct is often more risky to a person’s military career than actually engaging in racist misbehavior.”

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(b) (6)

Office of the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense  
for Public Affairs

Media Analysis (Gryphon Technologies)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

CTR (USA)

**From:** Brown, Charles W RDML USN CHINFO WASHINGTON DC (USA) (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 23, 2021 3:01 PM  
**To:** Kirby, John F SES (USA)  
**Cc:** (b) (6) CAPT USN OSD PA (USA)  
**Subject:** RE: FYSA: "U.S. Military Training Document Says Socialists Represent "Terrorist" Ideology" (The Intercept)  
**Signed By:** (b) (6)

We have sir.  
V/r,  
Charlie

---

**From:** Kirby, John F SES (USA) (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 23, 2021 1:52 PM  
**To:** Brown, Charles W RDML USN CHINFO WASHINGTON DC (USA) (b) (6)  
**Cc:** (b) (6) CAPT USN OSD PA (USA) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: FYSA: "U.S. Military Training Document Says Socialists Represent "Terrorist" Ideology" (The Intercept)

Thanks. Have you provided this to Klippstein?

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**From:** Brown, Charles W RDML USN CHINFO WASHINGTON DC (USA) (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 23, 2021 1:39 PM  
**To:** Kirby, John F SES (USA) (b) (6)  
**Cc:** (b) (6) CAPT USN OSD PA (USA) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: FYSA: "U.S. Military Training Document Says Socialists Represent "Terrorist" Ideology" (The Intercept)

Sir,  
Yes, we're tracking it. Holding statement below. We're working to clean up the proposed briefing card and will get it to your team ASAP. Short answer is (b) (5). We've only received one follow-up query, from Business Insider.

MTF.

V/r,  
cb

HOLDING STATEMENT:

(b) (5)

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**From:** Kirby, John F SES (USA) (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, June 23, 2021 1:08 PM

**To:** Brown, Charles W RDML USN CHINFO WASHINGTON DC (USA) (b) (6)  
**Cc:** (b) (6) CAPT USN OSD PA (USA) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** FW: FYSA: "U.S. Military Training Document Says Socialists Represent "Terrorist" Ideology" (The Intercept)

Charlie – have you seen this? Any context?

John

---

**From:** OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 22, 2021 3:34 PM  
**To:** Kirby, John F SES (USA) (b) (6) CAPT USN OSD PA (USA)  
(b) (6) CIV OSD PA (USA) (b) (6)  
Col USAF OSD PA (USA) (b) (6) CIV OSD PA (USA)  
(b) (6) Col USMC OSD PA (USA) (b) (6)  
COL USARMY JS OCJCS (USA) (b) (6) CDR USN JS DOM (USA)  
(b) (6) CIV (USA) (b) (6) CIV  
OSD PA (USA) (b) (6) CIV (USA) (b) (6)  
(b) (6) CIV SD (b) (6) COL USARMY OSD PA (USA)  
(b) (6)  
**Cc:** OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis (b) (6)  
**Subject:** FYSA: "U.S. Military Training Document Says Socialists Represent "Terrorist" Ideology" (The Intercept)

U.S. Military Training Document Says Socialists Represent "Terrorist" Ideology  
A Navy training document asks, "Anarchists, socialists and neo-nazis represent which terrorist ideological category?"  
The Intercept | Ken Klippenstein

A Navy counterterrorism training document obtained exclusively by The Intercept appears to conflate socialists with terrorists and lists the left-wing ideology alongside "neo-nazis."

A section of the training document subtitled "Study Questions" includes the following: "Anarchists, socialists and neo-nazis represent which terrorist ideological category?"

The correct answer is "political terrorists," a military source briefed on the training told me. The document, titled "Introduction to Terrorism/Terrorist Operations," is part of a longer training manual recently disseminated by the Naval Education Training and Command's Navy Tactical Training Center in conjunction with the Center for Security Forces. The training is designed for masters-at-arms, the Navy's internal police, the military source said.

"It's just ineffective training because whoever is directing the Navy anti-terror curriculum would rather vilify the left than actually protect anything," said the military official, who is not authorized to speak publicly. "Despite the fact that the most prominent threat is domestic, right-wing terror."

Both the FBI and the Department of Homeland Security have identified white supremacists as the deadliest terror threat to the United States. In October 2020, the Department of Homeland Security issued its first annual "Homeland Threat Assessment" report, stating that white supremacists were "exceptionally lethal" and "will remain the most persistent and lethal threat in the homeland." In September, FBI Director Christopher Wray, in testimony before the Senate Judiciary Committee, said that white supremacists "have been responsible for the most lethal attacks over the last decade" and that they comprise "the biggest chunk of our domestic terrorism portfolio."

Asked about the debate over how to respond to the domestic terror threat, Kevin Kline, a former FBI assistant special agent-in-charge at the bureau's New Haven field office, agreed that the white supremacist threat was serious but warned that any response must respect constitutionally protected activity like speech. "No matter what we do in responding to the domestic terrorism problem, the constitution cannot be a casualty," Kline said.



While the right has been vocal with its concerns about being unfairly targeted for political opinions, media coverage of the Biden administration's focus on domestic extremism has paid considerably less attention to what it might mean for movements on the left, including Black Lives Matter, antifa (short for anti-fascists), and the environmental movement. In fact, internal FBI documents I reported on in 2019 specifically list anarchists and environmental extremists among its counterterrorism priorities.

Wray testified last year to Congress that antifa is an ideology rather than an organized group — a widely reported rebuttal of claims by President Donald Trump that antifa was a terrorist organization. In the same testimony, Wray also stressed that the bureau was pursuing “any number of properly predicated investigations into what we would describe as violent anarchist extremists.” And while he rebutted baseless claims that antifa had instigated the January 6 assault on the Capitol, Wray also said, “That doesn’t mean we’re not looking and we’ll continue to look.”

As The Intercept reported in a recent series, the Justice Department's handling of domestic extremism can often be arbitrary and disproportionate to any threat its targets may pose. One example of this is Black activist groups, which, as former FBI agent Mike German has pointed out, the FBI has been targeting for many years.

In 2019, I obtained internal documents revealing the FBI's counterterrorism priorities in the fiscal years 2018-2020. While the bureau's 2018 priorities included right-wing groups like “Militia Extremists,” “Sovereign Citizen Extremists,” and “White Supremacy Extremists,” it also included “Black Identity Extremists” and “Anarchist Extremists.” The FBI documents suggest without evidence that the term “Black Identity Extremist” grew out of the Black Lives Matter movement, which is not typically associated with violence.

“The FBI judges BIE [Black Identity Extremist] perceptions of police brutality against African Americans have likely motivated acts of pre-meditated, retaliatory lethal violence against law enforcement,” the documents stated. “The FBI first observed this activity following the August 2014 shooting of Michael Brown in Ferguson, Missouri, and the subsequent acquittal of police officers involved in that incident.”

The document went on to describe a cryptic program code-named “Iron Fist,” in which the FBI would use undercover employees and recruit confidential informants among “Black Identity Extremist” groups. The documents even suggested that attempts to penetrate the groups had already been undertaken, describing the task as “challenging.” The FBI documents state: “It is challenging to get sources into BIE groups, due to security measures these groups employ. The vetting process and time investment to gain access to leadership in BIE groups is very lengthy. The use of undercover employees and online covert employees in BIE investigations would provide valuable intelligence to assist in mitigating the threat.”

The FBI's Iron Fist program was concerning enough that then-Rep. Cedric Richmond, now a senior adviser to President Joe Biden, grilled the FBI director about it in 2019. It was far from the only time during the Trump administration that Democrats expressed concerns that the national security state was targeting groups on the political left. But those concerns have waned under the Biden administration, despite an intensified focus on domestic extremists that could include groups on the left, as the Navy document suggests.

According to the military source, the training materials also include a “black panthers fist symbol on a slide of terror orgs with al Qaeda.”

Echoing Kline's concerns about constitutional rights, a senior Defense Department official familiar with the development of the military's domestic extremism program said that defining “extremism” in a way that respects First Amendment rights was proving exceptionally difficult. An internal Pentagon draft document proposing language to define extremism, reviewed by The Intercept, is three pages long, the tortured language reflecting attempts not to violate First Amendment rights, according to the senior Defense Department official.

The Pentagon appears to be aware of the constitutional risks. A separate internal Pentagon document about the definition of extremism states: “As appealing as the concept of a one sentence definition may be, this would carry both practical and legal risks. A single sentence definition, crafted too narrowly, might fail to prohibit actions that threaten the Department’s ability to carry out its mission. A less specific definition, on the other hand, risks being so vague as to prohibit or chill Constitutionally protected conduct by servicemembers.”

The Defense Department did not respond to a request for comment.

-----  
(b) (6)

Office of the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs  
Media Analysis (Gryphon Technologies)

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

CTR (USA)

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**From:** Kirby, John F SES (USA)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 18, 2021 7:00 PM  
**To:** Magsamen, Kelly E SES (USA)  
**Subject:** RE: Hot topics

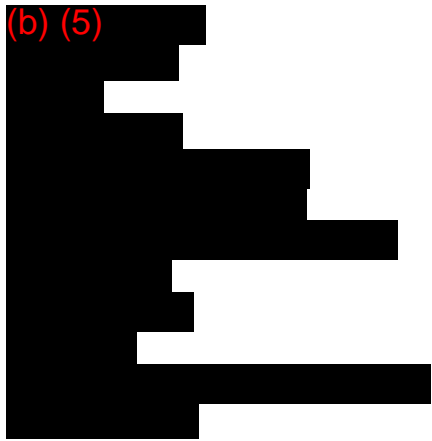
Good list. Will start to work it.

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Magsamen, Kelly SES SD (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, May 18, 2021 3:36 PM  
**To:** Kirby, John F SES (USA) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Hot topics

John: Here are the topics I think we should really make sure he nails his 4 corners on and can deal with some challenging Q/A.

(b) (5)



Kelly E. Magsamen  
Chief of Staff  
to the Secretary of Defense

O: (b) (6)  
C: (b) (6)

(b) (6) CTR (USA)

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**From:** Garrison, Bishop M Jr SES (USA)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 26, 2021 2:00 PM  
**To:** Kirby, John F SES (USA); Magsamen, Kelly E SES (USA); Lauter, Louis I SES OSD OASD LA (USA)  
**Subject:** RE: Letter to SecDef by GOP Reps on Left Wing Extremism  
**Signed By:** (b) (6)

Good here. Nothing to add to that.

V/R,

Bishop Garrison  
Senior Advisor to the Secretary of Defense, Human Capital and DEI  
N: (b) (6) | P: (b) (6)  
S: (b) (6)  
JWICS: (b) (6)

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**From:** Kirby, John F SES (USA) (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 26, 2021 1:34 PM  
**To:** Magsamen, Kelly SES SD (b) (6); Lauter, Louis I SES OSD OASD LA (USA)  
(b) (6); Garrison, Bishop SES SD (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: Letter to SecDef by GOP Reps on Left Wing Extremism

thanks

---

**From:** Magsamen, Kelly SES SD (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 26, 2021 1:30 PM  
**To:** Kirby, John F SES (USA) (b) (6); Lauter, Louis I SES OSD OASD LA (USA)  
(b) (6); Garrison, Bishop M Jr SES (USA) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: Letter to SecDef by GOP Reps on Left Wing Extremism

I think your approach make sense.

Kelly E. Magsamen  
Chief of Staff  
to the Secretary of Defense

O: (b) (6)  
C: (b) (6)

---

**From:** Kirby, John F SES (USA) (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Wednesday, May 26, 2021 1:02 PM  
**To:** Lauter, Louis I SES OSD OASD LA (USA) (b) (6); Garrison, Bishop SES SD (b) (6)  
**Cc:** Magsamen, Kelly SES SD (b) (6)  
**Subject:** FW: Letter to SecDef by GOP Reps on Left Wing Extremism

How do you want me to play this?

(b) (5)

How about ...

(b) (5)

Something like that.

(b) (5)

K

---

**From:** (b) (6) CIV OSD PA (USA) (b) (6)

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 26, 2021 12:42 PM

**To:** Kirby, John F SES (USA) (b) (6)

CIV (USA) (b) (6)

(b) (6) CIV (USA) (b) (6)

CIV (USA) (b) (6)

(b) (6) CIV OSD PA (USA) (b) (6)

**Subject:** Letter to SecDef by GOP Reps on Left Wing Extremism

Mr Kirby,

Looks like this just came out a bit ago. Would not be surprised if you get asked for SecDef's response.

<https://twitter.com/RepRosendale/status/1397573627017580544>

(b) (5)

--

(b) (6)

(b) (6)

Office of the Secretary of Defense, Public Affairs

W: (b) (6)

(b) (6)

CTR (USA)

**From:** Brown, Jamal T CIV (USA)  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 13, 2021 12:24 PM  
**To:** Starr, Barbara; Kirby, John F SES (USA)  
**Cc:** Liebermann, Oren  
**Subject:** RE: [Non-DoD Source] Is the enclosed pentagon chart accurate and authentic?

We won't have anything further outside of the statement on this.

**From:** Starr, Barbara <barbara.starr@warnermedia.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 13, 2021 12:05 PM  
**To:** Brown, Jamal T CIV (USA) (b) (6); Kirby, John F SES (USA) (b) (6)  
**Cc:** Liebermann, Oren <oren.liebermann@warnermedia.com>  
**Subject:** RE: [Non-DoD Source] Is the enclosed pentagon chart accurate and authentic?

All active links contained in this email were disabled. Please verify the identity of the sender, and confirm the authenticity of all links contained within the message prior to copying and pasting the address to a Web browser.

Thank you..  
The question I think remains. Are you consulting this list of people and groups?  
thanks

**From:** Brown, Jamal T CIV (USA) (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 13, 2021 10:45 AM  
**To:** Starr, Barbara <[barbara.starr@warnermedia.com](mailto:barbara.starr@warnermedia.com)>; Kirby, John F SES (USA) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: [Non-DoD Source] Is the enclosed pentagon chart accurate and authentic?

Barbara,

Thanks for reaching out on this. Here is guidance below -- attributable to me, deputy Pentagon spokesman, if you need an on-record statement.

The Department is seeking insight from a diverse group of subject matter experts to better understand and address the problem of extremism in the military. These experts can include advocacy organizations, academics, thought leaders, and other key professionals in the space. The working document reflects a very early and incomplete draft that doesn't accurately represent the ultimate conversations or broad range of stakeholder participants and views helping to inform the Countering Extremism Working Group.

Best,  
Jamal

-----Original Message-----

**From:** Starr, Barbara <[barbara.starr@warnermedia.com](mailto:barbara.starr@warnermedia.com) <Caution-mailto:barbara.starr@warnermedia.com>>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 13, 2021 6:18 AM  
**To:** Kirby, John F SES (USA) (b) (6); (b) (6)  
CIV (USA) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** [Non-DoD Source] Is the enclosed pentagon chart accurate and authentic?

All active links contained in this email were disabled. Please verify the identity of the sender, and confirm the authenticity of all links contained within the message prior to copying and pasting the address to a Web browser.

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Pentagon chart embedded in story. Thanks

Caution-Caution-<https://theintercept.com/2021/05/12/pentagon-extremism-experts-domestic-terrorism/>

Sent from my iPhone

(b) (6)

CTR (USA)

**From:** Kirby, John F SES (USA)  
**Sent:** Saturday, August 7, 2021 1:05 PM  
**To:** Plumb, Radha I SES (USA); (b) (6) CDR USN OSD OSD (USA); Magsamen, Kelly E SES (USA); Wortman, Christian BGen SD; George, Randy LTG SD  
**Cc:** Walsh, Daniel P SES PFPA HQS (USA); (b) (6) CIV OSD ODAM (USA); (b) (6) LTC USARMY OSD ODAM (USA); Donley, Michael B SES (USA); (b) (6) CIV SD  
**Subject:** Re: PFPA Update

Thanks

---

**From:** "Plumb, Radha SES SD" (b) (6)  
**Date:** Saturday, August 7, 2021 at 12:26:58 PM  
**To:** "(b) (6) CDR SD" (b) (6), "Magsamen, Kelly SES SD" (b) (6), "Wortman, Christian BGen SD" (b) (6), "George, Randy LTG SD" (b) (6), "Kirby, John F SES (USA)" (b) (6)  
**Cc:** "Walsh, Daniel P SES PFPA HQS (USA)" (b) (6), (b) (6) CIV OSD ODAM (USA)" (b) (6), LTC USARMY OSD ODAM (USA)" (b) (6), "Donley, Michael B SES (USA)" (b) (6), CIV SD" (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Re: PFPA Update

Thanks for the SA

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**From:** "(b) (6) CDR SD" (b) (6)  
**Date:** Saturday, August 7, 2021 at 12:21:01 PM  
**To:** "Magsamen, Kelly SES SD" (b) (6), "Plumb, Radha SES SD" (b) (6), "Wortman, Christian BGen SD" (b) (6), ">, "George, Randy LTG SD" (b) (6), "Kirby, John F SES (USA)" (b) (6)  
**Cc:** "Walsh, Daniel P SES PFPA HQS (USA)" (b) (6), CIV OSD ODAM (USA)" (b) (6), LTC USARMY OSD ODAM (USA)" (b) (6), "Donley, Michael B SES (USA)" (b) (6), CIV SD" (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: PFPA Update

Good morning,



Forwarding the below message from PFPA at their request since (b) (6) is currently on leave.

V/R

CDR (b) (6) USN

(b) (6)

Office of the Secretary of Defense

Office: (b) (6)

Work Cell: (b) (6)

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From: Donley, Michael B SES (USA) (b) (6)  
Sent: Saturday, August 7, 2021 10:41 AM  
To: (b) (6) CIV SD (b) (6)  
Cc: Walsh, Daniel P SES PFPA HQS (USA) (b) (6)  
(b) (6) CIV OSD ODAM (USA) (b) (6) LTC  
USARMY OSD ODAM (USA) (b) (6)  
Subject: PFPA Update

(b) (6) Would appreciate ExecSec assistance in passing the message below to CoS Magsamen, CoS Plumb, SMAs for the top four, and Mr Kirby.

LE Sensitive

FYSA, concerning FBI's investigation into the 3Aug Pentagon incident resulting in the death of Officer Gonzalez, based on (b) (7)(E)

(b) (7)(E)  
Acting-Director PFPA, Dan Walsh, reports (b) (7)(E)  
The investigation continues.

For information only.

Many thanks,

MD

(b) (6) CTR (USA)

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**From:** (b) (6) CIV (USA)  
**Sent:** Friday, June 25, 2021 11:17 AM  
**To:** (b) (6) SES (USA); (b) (6) CIV OSD PA (USA)  
**Subject:** RE: Press Conference  
**Signed By:** (b) (6)

Yes, will check in with him today.

---

**From:** Kirby, John F SES (USA) (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Friday, June 25, 2021 11:14 AM  
**To:** (b) (6) CIV OSD PA (USA) (b) (6) CIV (USA)  
(b) (6)  
**Subject:** Re: Press Conference

These are great inputs. Looks like 21 July is the cleanest opportunity.

Can we check with (b) (6) and see if he concurs?

---

**From:** (b) (6) CIV OSD PA (USA) (b) (6)  
**Date:** Friday, June 25, 2021 at 11:10:03 AM  
**To:** "Kirby, John F SES (USA)" (b) (6) CIV (USA)"  
(b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: Press Conference

I agree. Added a couple additional thoughts in italics within (b) (6) below. Additional thoughts to (b) (6)

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**From:** (b) (6) CIV (USA) (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Friday, June 25, 2021 9:46 AM  
**To:** Kirby, John F SES (USA) (b) (6) CIV OSD PA (USA)  
(b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: Press Conference

Quick thoughts –

(b) (5)

(b) (5)



Lastly, he's doing the AI speech on July 13 and sounds like a CONUS trip could land July 22-24 too.

---

**From:** Kirby, John F SES (USA) (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Friday, June 25, 2021 8:57 AM  
**To:** (b) (6) CIV (USA) (b) (6) CIV OSD PA (USA)  
(b) (6)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Press Conference

From what we know the sked looks like next month, do any of these days make the most sense for a joint presser?

It doesn't necessarily need to be tied to an event or rollout. But if that makes the best sense, that's fine.

---

**From:** "(b) (6) CIV SD" (b) (6)  
**Date:** Friday, June 25, 2021 at 8:14:14 AM  
**To:** "Kirby, John F SES (USA)" (b) (6), "Norman, Mela Louise SES SD" (b) (6) "Magsamen, Kelly SES SD" (b) (6)  
**Cc:** "George, Randy LTG SD" (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: Press Conference

Good Morning,

Just to flag, here are the only days in July that SD and CJCS are here on the same day:

- July 6 (day after the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday)
- July 9
- July 12 (UK bilat w/ TBD answer on press conference)
- July 13
- July 14
- July 20 (There will be a Cabinet Meeting this day)
- July 21

Best,

(b) (6)

---

**From:** Kirby, John F SES (USA) (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Thursday, June 24, 2021 8:26 PM  
**To:** Norman, Mela Louise SES SD (b) (6) Magsamen, Kelly SES SD (b) (6)  
**Cc:** (b) (6) CIV SD (b) (6) George, Randy LTG SD (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Re: Press Conference

Rgr that

---

**From:** "Norman, Mela Louise SES SD" (b) (6)  
**Date:** Thursday, June 24, 2021 at 7:56:23 PM  
**To:** "Magsamen, Kelly SES SD" (b) (6) "Kirby, John F SES (USA)" (b) (6)  
**Cc:** "(b) (6) CIV SD" (b) (6) "George, Randy LTG SD" (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Re: Press Conference

John,

To clarify here, after talking to Kelly — this presser can be after our big IRC presser. (b) (5)

Best,

Mela

---

**From:** "Magsamen, Kelly SES SD" (b) (6)  
**Date:** Thursday, June 24, 2021 at 5:27:11 PM  
**To:** "Kirby, John F SES (USA)" (b) (6)  
**Cc:** "Norman, Mela Louise SES SD" (b) (6) (b) (6) CIV SD" (b) (6) "George, Randy LTG SD" (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Press Conference

John -- We need to land a joint SD-CJCS press conference soon. Welcome recommendations on timing. Thanks!

Kelly E. Magsamen  
Chief of Staff  
to the Secretary of Defense

O: (b) (6)

C: (b) (6)

**From:** Garrison, Bishop SES SD  
**Sent:** Thursday, April 1, 2021 3:44 PM  
**To:** Magsamen, Kelly SES SD  
**Cc:** Friend, Alice SES SD; Plumb, Radha SES SD  
**Subject:** RE: Notification of Possible Negative Media Attention

Hi Kelly,

Per your request below, from P&R this is the general process for how the department hires Diversity and Inclusion Officers. This info addresses recruitment and background checks (i.e. suitability/fitness and security). These actions make up the overall process. Welcome your questions.

- Recruitment
  - The Department is committed to a recruitment process that upholds not only merit systems principles, but our distinct values and missions to best support Service members, their families, and our civilian workforce.
  - At the Departmental level, we equip Components and their hiring managers with a recruitment toolkit grounded in these principles to recruit the highest caliber candidate. This includes recommendations for types of interviews and questions to hone in not only to a candidate's technical credibility, but behaviors.
  - Each DoD Component is afforded the flexibility to establish additional recruiting policies to facilitate processes unique to their workforce and mission needs.
  - With regards to the Diversity and Inclusion function, Section 913 of the FY 2021 NDAA outlined expectations for the Chief Diversity Officer (CDO) to report to the Secretary and Diversity and Inclusion (D&I) Senior Advisors aligned under the Service Secretaries; DoDI 1020.05, "Diversity and Inclusion Management Program," primarily outlines operational expectations, not skills for executing the program.
    - The Department does not have a standardized approach or published D&I skills outlined in policy for hiring CDOs. Each organization has inherent flexibility to determine the skills for the CDO/D&I Director or Officers positions.
    - The Department historically has hired D&I Highly Qualified Experts who were former CDOs from industry. Internal selections in other positions are mostly matrixed/reassigned/detailed from the EEO or human resources positions.
    - The Diversity Management Operations Center (DMOC) developed initial D&I competencies for civilian positions and is currently creating competencies for military positions with a projected completion of a total force framework by October 2021.
    - DMOC is the lead on Recommendation 10 from the DoD Diversity and Inclusion Board, "Develop a Diversity and Inclusion Organizational Structure." The outcome is to ensure standardized skills/competencies/training/credentials throughout the D&I field.
    - Specific competencies that DMOC is identifying for D&I practitioners involve the following:
      - Building Coalitions
      - Strategic Communications
      - Global Culture
      - Visionary and Strategic Leadership
      - Human Resources Proficiency
      - Research Assessment and Measurement
      - Business Acumen



- Suitability and Fitness
  - DoD's suitability and fitness adjudication process aligns to government-wide federal investigation standards set by OPM and ODNI.
    - Fitness determinations are made based on a person's character and conduct when applying for or occupying excepted service positions, and are conducted based on guidelines determined by the agencies making the decision.
  - DoD Component HR offices are responsible for establishing suitability and fitness programs, and making determinations for all selectees.
    - A favorable suitability or fitness determination does not equate to automatic eligibility for a security clearance.
  - Determinations are based on analysis of available information (via OF-306; SF-85, SF-85P, or SF-86; and automated systems) of a candidate's conduct and character, both favorable and unfavorable, and based on relevancy; nature and seriousness of conduct; circumstances of conduct; recency of conduct; age at the time of conduct; contributing societal conditions; the absence or presence of rehabilitation; and the nature of the position to which the person is being considered or employed.
  - Unfavorable determinations can result in debarment, cancellation of eligibility/reinstatement eligibility, or removal (current employees).
- Security
  - In conjunction with suitability and fitness determinations, the Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency oversees the security investigation process.
  - Upon tentative selection each candidate is vetted against the background investigation requirements commensurate to their level of security clearance. Fundamentally, investigations determine eligibility, suitability, credentialing, and fitness for federal employment and, depending upon the level of clearance, includes interviews and searches of law enforcement entities, courts, employers, family members, coworkers, educational institutions, creditors, and other record repositories.
  - At this time, the vetting process does not include a social media review of security clearance applicants. While the authorities to conduct online and social media monitoring and review exist (Security Executive Agent Directive 5), DCSA does not currently have a streamlined approach and ability to scale (one of the many issues being brainstormed is identity verification).
  - However, while DCSA defines its approach for formal personnel vetting, hiring managers are encouraged to utilize their own flexibilities to inform selection decisions including behavioral-based interview questions, reference and supervisory checks, as well as online candidate review.

V/R,

Bishop Garrison

Senior Advisor to the Secretary of Defense, Human Capital and DEI

N: (b) (6) | P: (b) (6)

S: (b) (6)

JWICS: (b) (6)

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**From:** Magsamen, Kelly SES SD (b) (6)

**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 2:23 PM

**To:** Garrison, Bishop SES SD (b) (6)

**Cc:** Friend, Alice SES SD (b) (6); Plumb, Radha SES SD (b) (6)

**Subject:** RE: Notification of Possible Negative Media Attention

Ok, thanks. This is less specific to this position, but these DEI positions more broadly.

Kelly E. Magsamen

Chief of Staff  
to the Secretary of Defense

O: (b) (6)  
C: (b) (6)

---

**From:** Garrison, Bishop SES SD (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 2:01 PM  
**To:** Magsamen, Kelly SES SD (b) (6)  
**Cc:** Friend, Alice SES SD (b) (6); Plumb, Radha SES SD (b) (6)  
**Subject:** FW: Notification of Possible Negative Media Attention

Hi Kelly,

Per your request, please see the info below. This is the process USSOCOM stated they used in the hiring of (b) (6). They are conducting an investigation on the process as directed by the Commander.

I asked Chris to follow up to confirm there are no additional steps or information from the hiring process that we missed, particularly, why he was chosen over other candidates. We don't know what type of rubric or metrics were used to review or rate candidates. When we have more information, I'll follow up.

V/R,

Bishop Garrison  
Senior Advisor to the Secretary of Defense, Human Capital and DEI

N: (b) (6) | P: (b) (6)  
S: (b) (6)  
JWICS: (b) (6)

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**From:** Urrutia, Christian SES (USA) (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 1:10 PM  
**To:** Garrison, Bishop SES SD (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: Notification of Possible Negative Media Attention

Bishop:

As per our conversation of a few minutes ago, below are the notes of the key points following my discussion with USSOCOM's Staff Judge Advocate.

(b) (5), (b) (6)

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Once I get more information on the job criterion used to select (b) (6), I will revert back to you.

Sincerely,

Christian

Christian Urrutia  
Counsel to the General Counsel  
Office of the General Counsel of the Department of Defense  
(b) (6) (office)  
(b) (6) (work cell)  
(b) (6) (personal cell)

---

From: Magsamen, Kelly SES SD (b) (6)  
Sent: Monday, March 29, 2021 9:02 AM  
To: George, Elizabeth L SES (USA) (b) (6); Garrison, Bishop M Jr SES (USA)  
(b) (6)  
Subject: RE: Notification of Possible Negative Media Attention

We should look into how we vet these positions.

Kelly E. Magsamen  
Chief of Staff  
to the Secretary of Defense

O: (b) (6)  
C: (b) (6)

---

From: George, Elizabeth L SES (USA) (b) (6)  
Sent: Sunday, March 28, 2021 11:02 AM  
To: Garrison, Bishop SES SD (b) (6)  
Cc: Magsamen, Kelly SES SD (b) (6)  
Subject: Re: Notification of Possible Negative Media Attention

Tracking. Thanks.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 28, 2021, at 7:31 AM, Garrison, Bishop SES SD (b) (6) wrote:

Understood. Will monitor.

V/R,

Bishop

Sent from Mobile Device

---

**From:** "Magsamen, Kelly SES SD" (b) (6)  
**Date:** Sunday, March 28, 2021 at 10:17:20 AM  
**To:** "Garrison, Bishop SES SD" (b) (6) "George, Elizabeth L SES (USA)"  
(b) (6)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Notification of Possible Negative Media Attention

See chain below

Sent from Mobile Device

---

**From:** "Clarke, Richard D GEN USARMY USSOCOM SOCOM (USA)"  
(b) (6)  
**Date:** Friday, March 26, 2021 at 9:41:10 PM  
**To:** "Fenton, Bryan LTG SD" (b) (6) "Milley, Mark A GEN USARMY JS  
OCJCS (USA)" (b) (6)  
**Cc:** "Maier, Christopher P SES (USA)" (b) (6), "Hyten, John E  
Gen USAF JS OCJCS (USA)" (b) (6), "Kirby, John F SES (USA)"  
(b) (6), "Szymanski, Timothy G VADM USN USSOCOM SOCOM  
(USA)" (b) (6), "Green, Collin P RADM USN USSOCOM  
SOCOM (USA)" (b) (6), (b) (6) CMSGT USAF USSOCOM  
SOCOM (USA)" (b) (6), "Bauernfeind, Tony D Lt Gen USAF  
USSOCOM SOCOM (USA)" (b) (6), "French, Christopher C RDML  
USN JS OCJCS (USA)" (b) (6), Col SD"  
(b) (6) COL USARMY JS OCJCS (USA)"  
(b) (6) CAPT USN USSOCOM SOCC XO  
(USA)" (b) (6) COL USARMY USSOCOM SOCOM  
(USA)" (b) (6) "Boisselle, James C SES USSOCOM SOCOM (USA)"  
(b) (6) COL USARMY JS OCJCS (USA)"  
(b) (6), "Magsamen, Kelly SES SD" (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: Notification of Possible Negative Media Attention

**Bryan –**

**As a follow-up; this has gained legs w/ Tucker Carlson leading off with it this evening on Fox. We are monitoring media closely.**

**MTF.**

**v/r – Rich**

**RICHARD D. CLARKE**



**General, U.S. Army  
Commander  
US Special Operations Command**

**SIPR:** (b) (6)

**NIPR:** (b) (6)

**COMM:** (b) (6)

**DRSN:** (b) (6)

**TANDBERG:** (b) (6)

---

**From:** Fenton, Bryan LTG SD (b) (6)

**Sent:** Friday, March 26, 2021 7:56 PM

**To:** Clarke, Richard D GEN USARMY USSOCOM SOCOM (USA) (b) (6) Milley, Mark

A GEN USARMY JS OCJCS (USA) (b) (6)

**Cc:** Maier, Christopher P SES (USA) (b) (6); Hyten, John E Gen USAF JS

OCJCS (USA) (b) (6); Kirby, John F SES (USA) (b) (6)

Szymanski, Timothy G VADM USN USSOCOM SOCOM (USA) (b) (6) Green,

Collin P RADM USN USSOCOM SOCOM (USA) (b) (6) CMSGT USAF

USSOCOM SOCOM (USA) (b) (6) Bauernfeind, Tony D Lt Gen USAF

USSOCOM SOCOM (USA) (b) (6) French, Christopher C RDML USN JS OCJCS

(USA) (b) (6) Col SD (b) (6)

(b) (6) COL USARMY JS OCJCS (USA) (b) (6) CAPT

USN USSOCOM SOCC XO (USA) (b) (6) COL USARMY USSOCOM

SOCOM (USA) (b) (6); Boisselle, James C SES USSOCOM SOCOM (USA)

(b) (6) (b) (6) COL USARMY JS OCJCS (USA)

(b) (6) Magsamen, Kelly E SES (USA) (b) (6)

**Subject:** RE: Notification of Possible Negative Media Attention

**Thanks for the SA on this sir...**

**will push to the SD soonest and pass any RFIs/comments he has.**

**V/r,**

**Bryan**

**LTG Bryan P. Fenton, USA**

**Senior Military Assistant to the Secretary of Defense**

UNCLASS email: (b) (6)

SIPR email: (b) (6)

JWICS email: (b) (6)

UNCLASS phone#: (b) (6)

DRSN phone #: (b) (6)

CMS phone #: (b) (6)

SVTC ALIAS: (b) (6)

SVTC IP: (b) (6)

---

**From:** Clarke, Richard D GEN USARMY USSOCOM SOCOM (USA) (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Friday, March 26, 2021 5:56 PM  
**To:** Fenton, Bryan LTG SD (b) (6); Milley, Mark A GEN USARMY JS OCJCS (USA) (b) (6)  
**Cc:** Maier, Christopher P SES (USA) (b) (6); Hyten, John E Gen USAF JS OCJCS (USA) (b) (6); Kirby, John F SES (USA) (b) (6); Szymanski, Timothy G VADM USN USSOCOM SOCOM (USA) (b) (6); Green, Collin P RADM USN USSOCOM SOCOM (USA) (b) (6); (b) (6) CMSGT USAF USSOCOM SOCOM (USA) (b) (6); Bauernfeind, Tony D Lt Gen USAF USSOCOM SOCOM (USA) (b) (6); French, Christopher C RDML USN JS OCJCS (USA) (b) (6); Col SD (b) (6); COL USARMY JS OCJCS (USA) (b) (6); CAPT USN USSOCOM SOCC XO (USA) (b) (6); COL USARMY USSOCOM SOCOM (USA) (b) (6); Boisselle, James C SES USSOCOM SOCOM (USA) (b) (6); COL USARMY JS OCJCS (USA) (b) (6); Magsamen, Kelly SES SD (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Notification of Possible Negative Media Attention

**Bryan for the Secretary -**

---

**Mr. Secretary, Chairman,**

**I write to inform you of possible negative media attention regarding our new Diversity and Inclusion Officer we hired on 1 March this year. He is a GS-14 who previously worked at the Washington Metro Area Transit Authority.**

**We became aware this afternoon of several social media posts he allegedly made last summer that were critical of former President Trump, comparing him to Hitler in one post.**

**We received one media query from Breitbart on this topic. It is now trending on social media that SOCOM's newly hired D&I Officer made these derogatory posts.**

**The supervisor is reaching out to the individual to discuss this matter, and will ensure the employee understands the professional standards we expect of our people. We will take the appropriate personnel measures in consultation with our labor attorneys. Measures include an investigation as a first step.**

**I will continue to keep you informed, as necessary. Pending any questions or guidance.**

v/r – Rich

**RICHARD D. CLARKE**  
General, U.S. Army  
Commander  
US Special Operations Command

SIPR: (b) (6)

NIPR: (b) (6)

COMM: (b) (6)

DRSN: (b) (6)

TANDBERG: (b) (6)

(b) (6)

CTR (USA)

**From:** Garrison, Bishop SES SD  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 2:31 PM  
**To:** Magsamen, Kelly SES SD  
**Cc:** Friend, Alice SES SD; Plumb, Radha SES SD  
**Subject:** RE: Notification of Possible Negative Media Attention

Understood. My understanding (and perhaps the problem) is that these hires differ from Command/Organization to Command/Org greatly and may/will likely have similar levels of opaqueness in their processes.

I will work to identify what uniform processes exist and follow up with more information.

V/R,

Bishop Garrison  
Senior Advisor to the Secretary of Defense, Human Capital and DEI

N: (b) (6) | P: (b) (6)  
S: (b) (6)  
JWICS: (b) (6)

---

**From:** Magsamen, Kelly SES SD (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 2:23 PM  
**To:** Garrison, Bishop SES SD (b) (6)  
**Cc:** Friend, Alice SES SD (b) (6); Plumb, Radha SES SD (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: Notification of Possible Negative Media Attention

Ok, thanks. This is less specific to this position, but these DEI positions more broadly.

Kelly E. Magsamen  
Chief of Staff  
to the Secretary of Defense

O: (b) (6)  
C: (b) (6)

---

**From:** Garrison, Bishop SES SD (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 30, 2021 2:01 PM  
**To:** Magsamen, Kelly SES SD (b) (6)  
**Cc:** Friend, Alice SES SD (b) (6); Plumb, Radha SES SD (b) (6)  
**Subject:** FW: Notification of Possible Negative Media Attention

Hi Kelly,

Per your request, please see the info below. This is the process USSOCOM stated they used in the hiring of (b) (6). They are conducting an investigation on the process as directed by the Commander.

I asked Chris to follow up to confirm there are no additional steps or information from the hiring process that we missed, particularly, why he was chosen over other candidates. We don't know what type of rubric or metrics were used to review or rate candidates. When we have more information, I'll follow up.



V/R,

Bishop Garrison

Senior Advisor to the Secretary of Defense, Human Capital and DEI

N: (b) (6) | P: (b) (6)

S: (b) (6)

JWICS: (b) (6)

---

From: Urrutia, Christian SES (USA) (b) (6)

Sent: Tuesday, March 30, 2021 1:10 PM

To: Garrison, Bishop SES SD (b) (6)

Subject: RE: Notification of Possible Negative Media Attention

Bishop:

As per our conversation of a few minutes ago, below are the notes of the key points following my discussion with USSOCOM's Staff Judge Advocate.

(b) (5), (b) (6)

Once I get more information on the job criterion used to select (b) (6), I will revert back to you.

Sincerely,

Christian

Christian Urrutia

Counsel to the General Counsel

Office of the General Counsel of the Department of Defense

(b) (6) (office)

(b) (6) (work cell)

(b) (6) (personal cell)

---

**From:** Magsamen, Kelly SES SD (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2021 9:02 AM  
**To:** George, Elizabeth L SES (USA) (b) (6) Garrison, Bishop M Jr SES (USA) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: Notification of Possible Negative Media Attention

We should look into how we vet these positions.

Kelly E. Magsamen  
Chief of Staff  
to the Secretary of Defense

O: (b) (6)  
C: (b) (6)

---

**From:** George, Elizabeth L SES (USA) (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Sunday, March 28, 2021 11:02 AM  
**To:** Garrison, Bishop SES SD (b) (6)  
**Cc:** Magsamen, Kelly SES SD (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Re: Notification of Possible Negative Media Attention

Tracking. Thanks.

Sent from my iPhone

On Mar 28, 2021, at 7:31 AM, Garrison, Bishop SES SD (b) (6) wrote:

Understood. Will monitor.

V/R,

Bishop

Sent from Mobile Device

---

**From:** "Magsamen, Kelly SES SD" (b) (6)  
**Date:** Sunday, March 28, 2021 at 10:17:20 AM  
**To:** "Garrison, Bishop SES SD" (b) (6), "George, Elizabeth L SES (USA)" (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Fwd: Notification of Possible Negative Media Attention

See chain below

Sent from Mobile Device

---

**From:** "Clarke, Richard D GEN USARMY USSOCOM SOCOM (USA)" (b) (6)  
**Date:** Friday, March 26, 2021 at 9:41:10 PM

To: "Fenton, Bryan LTG SD" (b) (6) "Milley, Mark A GEN USARMY JS OCJCS (USA)" (b) (6)  
Cc: "Maier, Christopher P SES (USA)" (b) (6), "Hyten, John E Gen USAF JS OCJCS (USA)" (b) (6) "Kirby, John F SES (USA)" (b) (6)  
"Szymanski, Timothy G VADM USN USSOCOM SOCOM (USA)" (b) (6) "Green, Collin P RADM USN USSOCOM SOCOM (USA)" (b) (6) "CMSGT USAF USSOCOM SOCOM (USA)" (b) (6)  
"Bauernfeind, Tony D Lt Gen USAF USSOCOM SOCOM (USA)" (b) (6) "French, Christopher C RDML USN JS OCJCS (USA)" (b) (6) Col SD" (b) (6)  
COL USARMY JS OCJCS (USA)" (b) (6)  
CAPT USN USSOCOM SOCC XO (USA)" (b) (6)  
COL USARMY USSOCOM SOCOM (USA)" (b) (6)  
"Boisselle, James C SES USSOCOM SOCOM (USA)" (b) (6)  
COL USARMY JS OCJCS (USA)" (b) (6)  
"Magsamen, Kelly SES SD" (b) (6)  
Subject: RE: Notification of Possible Negative Media Attention

Bryan –

As a follow-up; this has gained legs w/ Tucker Carlson leading off with it this evening on Fox. We are monitoring media closely.

MTF.

v/r – Rich

RICHARD D. CLARKE  
General, U.S. Army  
Commander  
US Special Operations Command  
SIPR: (b) (6)  
NIPR: (b) (6)  
COMM: (b) (6)  
DRSN: (b) (6)  
TANDBERG: (b) (6)

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From: Fenton, Bryan LTG SD (b) (6)  
Sent: Friday, March 26, 2021 7:56 PM  
To: Clarke, Richard D GEN USARMY USSOCOM SOCOM (USA) (b) (6) Milley, Mark A GEN USARMY JS OCJCS (USA) (b) (6)  
Cc: Maier, Christopher P SES (USA) (b) (6) Hyten, John E Gen USAF JS OCJCS (USA) (b) (6) Kirby, John F SES (USA) (b) (6)  
Szymanski, Timothy G VADM USN USSOCOM SOCOM (USA) (b) (6) Green, Collin P RADM USN USSOCOM SOCOM (USA) (b) (6) CMSGT USAF USSOCOM SOCOM (USA) (b) (6)  
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(b) (6) COL USARMY JS OCJCS (USA) (b) (6) CAPT  
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SOCOM (USA) (b) (6) Boisselle, James C SES USSOCOM SOCOM (USA)  
(b) (6) COL USARMY JS OCJCS (USA)  
(b) (6) Magsamen, Kelly E SES (USA) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: Notification of Possible Negative Media Attention

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**V/r,**

**Bryan**

**LTG Bryan P. Fenton, USA**

**Senior Military Assistant to the Secretary of Defense**

UNCLASS email: (b) (6)

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UNCLASS phone#: (b) (6)

DRSN phone #: (b) (6)

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SVTC ALIAS: (b) (6)

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**From:** Clarke, Richard D GEN USARMY USSOCOM SOCOM (USA) (b) (6)

**Sent:** Friday, March 26, 2021 5:56 PM

**To:** Fenton, Bryan LTG SD (b) (6); Milley, Mark A GEN USARMY JS OCJCS (USA)  
(b) (6)

**Cc:** Maier, Christopher P SES (USA) (b) (6) Hyten, John E Gen USAF JS  
OCJCS (USA) (b) (6) Kirby, John F SES (USA) (b) (6)  
Szymanski, Timothy G VADM USN USSOCOM SOCOM (USA) (b) (6) Green,  
Collin P RADM USN USSOCOM SOCOM (USA) (b) (6); (b) (6) CMSGT USAF  
USSOCOM SOCOM (USA) (b) (6); Bauernfeind, Tony D Lt Gen USAF  
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(USA) (b) (6) Col SD (b) (6)

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(b) (6) COL USARMY JS OCJCS (USA)

(b) (6) Magsamen, Kelly SES SD (b) (6)

**Subject:** Notification of Possible Negative Media Attention

**Bryan for the Secretary -**



---

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I will continue to keep you informed, as necessary. Pending any questions or guidance.

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**RICHARD D. CLARKE**  
General, U.S. Army  
Commander  
US Special Operations Command

SIPR: (b) (6)

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DRSN: (b) (6)

TANDBERG: (b) (6)

(b) (6)

CTR (USA)

---

**From:** Garrison, Bishop SES SD  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2021 2:24 PM  
**To:** George, Elizabeth L SES (USA); Magsamen, Kelly SES SD  
**Cc:** Urrutia, Christian SES (USA)  
**Subject:** RE: Notification of Possible Negative Media Attention

Just for a quick update, Chris and I spoke and he's working to track the specifics of the process down to include any potential vetting that takes place. We'll circle back with this group soon when we have that laid out.

V/R,

Bishop Garrison

Senior Advisor to the Secretary of Defense, Human Capital and DEI

N: (b) (6) | P: (b) (6)

S: (b) (6)

JWICS: (b) (6)

---

**From:** George, Elizabeth L SES (USA) (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2021 9:04 AM  
**To:** Magsamen, Kelly SES SD (b) (6) Garrison, Bishop SES SD (b) (6)  
**Cc:** Urrutia, Christian SES (USA) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: Notification of Possible Negative Media Attention

Bishop,

Christian, cc'd, can help you work through this.

Beth

---

**From:** Magsamen, Kelly SES SD (b) (6)  
**Sent:** Monday, March 29, 2021 9:02 AM  
**To:** George, Elizabeth L SES (USA) (b) (6) Garrison, Bishop M Jr SES (USA) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: Notification of Possible Negative Media Attention

We should look into how we vet these positions.

Kelly E. Magsamen  
Chief of Staff  
to the Secretary of Defense

O: (b) (6)

C: (b) (6)

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Cc: Magsamen, Kelly SES SD (b) (6)  
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See chain below

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**Subject:** RE: Notification of Possible Negative Media Attention

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**MTF.**

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**RICHARD D. CLARKE  
General, U.S. Army  
Commander  
US Special Operations Command**

**SIPR: (b) (6)**

**NIPR: (b) (6)**

**COMM: (b) (6)**

**DRSN: (b) (6)**

**TANDBERG: (b) (6)**

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**To:** Clarke, Richard D GEN USARMY USSOCOM SOCOM (USA) (b) (6) Milley, Mark  
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**Cc:** Maier, Christopher P SES (USA) (b) (6) Hyten, John E Gen USAF JS  
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Szymanski, Timothy G VADM USN USSOCOM SOCOM (USA) (b) (6) Green,  
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(b) (6) COL USARMY JS OCJCS (USA)  
(b) (6) ; Magsamen, Kelly E SES (USA) (b) (6)  
**Subject:** RE: Notification of Possible Negative Media Attention

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**Bryan**

**LTG Bryan P. Fenton, USA**



## Senior Military Assistant to the Secretary of Defense

UNCLASS email: (b) (6)

SIPR email: (b) (6)

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USN USSOCOM SOCC XO (USA) (b) (6) COL USARMY USSOCOM

SOCOM (USA) (b) (6) ; Boisselle, James C SES USSOCOM SOCOM (USA)

(b) (6) COL USARMY JS OCJCS (USA)

(b) (6) Magsamen, Kelly SES SD (b) (6)

**Subject:** Notification of Possible Negative Media Attention

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Commander  
US Special Operations Command

SIPR: (b) (6)

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DRSN: (b) (6)

TANDBERG: (b) (6)

(b) (6) CTR (USA)

**From:** (b) (6) CIV (USA)  
**Sent:** Saturday, March 27, 2021 1:28 PM  
**To:** OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis; Kirby, John F SES (USA); (b) (6) CAPT USN OSD PA (USA); (b) (6) CIV OSD PA (USA); (b) (6) Lt Col USAF OSD PA (USA); (b) (6) CIV OSD PA (USA); (b) (6) Col USMC OSD PA (USA); (b) (6) COL USARMY JS OCJCS (USA); (b) (6) CDR USN JS DOM (USA); (b) (6) CIV (USA); (b) (6) CIV (USA); (b) (6) (USA); Magsamen, Kelly SES SD  
**Subject:** Re: FYSA: "'Be aware': The Pentagon's target list for extremist infiltrators — right and left" (Politico)

This should be updated soon and removal of reference since we were speaking off record.

"Pentagon spokesman Jamal Brown noted that military units and individual components have been given broad authority to tailor their own approaches to addressing the extremist threat with their employees. He could not say how many personnel have received this specific briefing and deferred questions about it to DARPA."

---

**From:** "OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis" (b) (6)  
**Date:** Saturday, March 27, 2021 at 12:55:44 PM  
**To:** "Kirby, John F SES (USA)" (b) (6) CAPT USN OSD PA (USA)"  
(b) (6) CIV OSD PA (USA)"  
(b) (6) Lt Col USAF OSD PA (USA)"  
(b) (6) CIV OSD PA (USA)"  
(b) (6) Col USMC OSD PA (USA)"  
(b) (6) COL USARMY JS OCJCS (USA)"  
(b) (6) CDR USN JS DOM (USA)"  
(b) (6) CIV (USA)" (b) (6)  
(b) (6) CIV (USA)" (b) (6) CIV (USA)"  
(b) (6) CIV (USA)" (b) (6) , "Magsamen, Kelly E SES (USA)" (b) (6)  
**Cc:** "OSD Pentagon PA Mailbox Media Analysis" (b) (6)  
**Subject:** FYSA: "'Be aware': The Pentagon's target list for extremist infiltrators — right and left" (Politico)

'Be aware': The Pentagon's target list for extremist infiltrators — right and left

An internal "training module" singles out a range of groups, ideologies and symbols seen as primary insider threats

Politico | Betsy Woodruff Swan and Bryan Bender

Flags from the left-wing Antifa movement. Depictions of Pepe the Frog, the cartoon character that's been misappropriated by racist groups. Iconography from the far-right Proud Boys, including the phrase "stand back and stand by" from former President Donald Trump.

They are all signs that extremists could be infiltrating the military, according to internal training materials that offer a more detailed view into the array of radical groups and ideologies the Pentagon is trying to keep out of the ranks.

“There are members of the [Department of Defense] who belong to extremist groups or actively participate in efforts to further extremist ideologies,” states a 17-page briefing obtained by POLITICO that was compiled by the DoD Insider Threat Management and Analysis Center, which is part of the Defense Counterintelligence and Security Agency.

"Be aware of symbols of far right, far left, Islamist or single issue ideologies," it warns, stressing that members of the military and civilian personnel have “a duty and responsibility” to report extremist behavior or activity.

The materials were prepared as part of a broader Pentagon effort to crack down on extremists who may be lurking inside the military after dozens of ex-service members were arrested for their roles in the Jan. 6 attack on the U.S. Capitol to stop the certification of the presidential election.

The prevalence of extremists in the Defense Department appears to be small. For example, the 222,000-strong Marine Corps recently reported that it kicked out four members last year for extremist activity.

But the Pentagon says one is too many and the true numbers are not known because adherents who have been recruited by extremist groups or encouraged to enlist often organize and communicate in secret.

“No one truly knows,” Audrey Kurth Cronin, the director of American University’s Center for Security, Innovation and New Technology, told a House panel this week. “No serious plan can be built without defining the scope of the problem.”

The internal training materials focus on extremist behavior and symbolism — of all different stripes — and point out the risk of making false assumptions about people who do not pose any threat. This includes pointing out that religious conservatives are often mistakenly lumped together with white supremacists or other extremists.

The Department of Homeland Security has said white supremacist extremists are the most lethal terror threat facing the U.S. And while Republicans accused far-left groups such as Antifa of taking part in the

insurrection, FBI Director Christopher Wray told lawmakers this month there's "no evidence" those groups played a role.

Last month, Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin ordered a force-wide stand down requiring all units to discuss the threat of extremism within 60 days.

He called it the first step in "a concerted effort to better educate ourselves and our people about the scope of this problem and to develop sustainable ways to eliminate the corrosive effects that extremist ideology and conduct have on the workforce."

The stand downs also include "listening sessions" to hear from Pentagon personnel about their experiences with activity, such as one held on Friday by a unit of the Army's 101st Airborne Division.

The department published broad guidance for commanders to address address extremism, which focuses on reinforcing the military's core principles enshrined in the oath they take to the Constitution and several case studies of military members who were prosecuted for engaging in extremist activity or plotting with radical groups.

But those materials did not identify specific threat groups, and Austin has provided wide leeway for individual units and commands to address the challenge as they see fit.

The internal briefing shared with POLITICO was compiled by the human resources office at the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, a small Pentagon agency of several hundred military personnel, civilian employees and contractors that manages research into breakthrough technologies.

Pentagon spokesman Jamal Brown noted that military units and individual components have been given broad authority to tailor their own approaches to addressing the extremist threat with their employees. He could not say how many personnel have received this specific briefing and deferred questions about it to DARPA.

Jared Adams, a spokesperson for DARPA, explained in an email that "our training module was copied verbatim from the material provided by the DOD Insider Threat Management & Analysis Center of the Defense Counter Intelligence and Security Agency.

"We did not add any symbols and used all the imagery provided," Adams said.

The briefing was sent to civilian employees as part of required training across the department for "Extremism and Insider Threat in the DoD." Adams said it is required training to be completed by this month. Employees have to digest the material and then answer some questions.

The more detailed materials break down extremist movements into three main categories, including "Patriot" extremism, anarchist extremism, and ethnic/racial supremacy.

"Patriot" extremism, according to the document, holds that the U.S. government "has become corrupt, has overstepped its constitutional boundaries or is no longer capable of protecting the people against foreign threats." Adherents reject the government's authority to tax and govern, believe they don't have to follow the law, and, in some cases, form militias and call for the government to be violently overthrown.

It cites as examples the symbols of the Oath Keepers and Boogaloo Boys, both of which took part in the Capitol attack. It also lists groups such as the Sovereign Citizens and Proud Boys.

Anarchist extremism, meanwhile, opposes all forms of government, the document says, along with capitalism and corporations. It cites as examples the left-wing Antifa and Occupy movements, as well as the Workers' Solidarity Alliance,

The third main category of extremists is organized around "Ethnic/Racial Supremacy," which blames the U.S. government for "forcing race mixing."

"While the vast majority of these groups hold white supremacist views," the document states, "a wide array of ethnic and racial groups hold similar beliefs about the supremacy of their ethnicity or race." Its examples include Aryan Nations and the Ku Klux Klan, Evropa and Atomwaffen Division.

The document also singles out violent Islamic terrorist groups such as ISIS and the conspiracy movement QAnon.

The slides list other radical ideologies that don't specifically target the military, including religious extremism, environmental extremism, and "Anti-feminism."

It says religious extremists espouse purity through subjugation or elimination of other religions. But it also warns that "Christian extremism is often conflated with white supremacy for a joint ideology focused on racial and religious purity which they believe to be God's intention."

Anti-feminists "openly call for the attack, raping and killing of women," it reads.

"Primary target: Women, especially women they perceive as attractive (referred to as 'Stacys') who sexually reject or would likely reject unattractive men; attractive men (referred to as 'Chads') who are not sexually rejected by women; feminists; men who don't stand against feminism."

But how to spot extremists is proving to be exceedingly difficult because the language, symbols, tattoos and other identifiers they use are regularly replaced with new ones.

"The landscape of home grown extremist ideologies is constantly evolving," the briefing slide explains.

The slides reflect the challenge of cracking down on extremists without singling out political views. Just this week, Republicans in Congress raised fresh concerns that the Pentagon effort could be overreaching and singling out conservatives.

"I'm very concerned that we're seeing people through all walks of society lose their jobs and other things simply because of a Facebook post or some other post that was made when somebody was mad," Rep. Austin Scott (R-Ga.) said during a hearing before the House Armed Services Committee on the issue.

Marine Corps veteran Michael Berry, general counsel for the First Liberty Institute, a nonprofit organization that defends religious liberty, told the panel that he has seen Defense Department publications "indicating that people who identify as evangelical Christian or Catholic or of other faith groups are at least considered possibly extremist."

"You're essentially telling those who are, according to data, most likely to join our military, that they're unwelcome that they should look somewhere else," he said.

Some Democrats also expressed concern over the military inadvertently punishing troops for their political opinions or religious views. "It is not the case that extremism is simply anyone who disagrees with your political views and I think increasingly I've seen some who sort of take it to that level," said the panel's chair, Rep. Adam Smith (D-Wash.). "People who serve in the military are entitled to have political views. Those views will undoubtedly be different from each other."

Other Republicans on the panel also downplayed the warnings that the ranks have been infiltrated because the Pentagon lacks hard data and has been relying mostly on anecdotal information.

"We lack any concrete evidence that violent extremism is as ripe in the military as some commentators claim," said Rep. Mike Rogers (R-Ala.), the committee's top Republican. "While I agree with my colleagues that these numbers should be zero, this is far from the largest military justice issue facing our armed services."

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Office of the Assistant to the Secretary of Defense for Public Affairs

Media Analysis (Gryphon Technologies)

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**To:** Kirby, John F SES (USA) (b) (6) LTG SD (b) (6) Garrison, Bishop SES SD (b) (6)  
**From:** Magsamen, Kelly SES SD  
**Sent:** Fri 5/14/2021 10:16:42 PM  
**Subject:** Re: UPDATE: Media Query on USSF Lt Col & Self-Published Book  
**Received:** Fri 5/14/2021 10:16:45 PM  
[smime.p7s](#)

Thanks  
Sent from Mobile Device

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**From:** "Kirby, John F SES (USA)" (b) (6)  
**Date:** Friday, May 14, 2021 at 10:13:26 PM  
**To:** "Magsamen, Kelly SES SD" (b) (6) LTG SD"  
(b) (6) "Garrison, Bishop SES SD" (b) (6)  
**Subject:** Fwd: UPDATE: Media Query on USSF Lt Col & Self-Published Book

FYI. Space Command just relieved the officer who wrote the self-published book on Marxism. Email below explains.

We'll refer media to AF PA.

K

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**From:** "RYDER, PATRICK S Brig Gen USAF HAF SAF/SAF/PA" (b) (6)  
**Date:** Friday, May 14, 2021 at 7:03:55 PM  
**To:** "Kirby, John F SES (USA)" (b) (6)  
**Cc:** (b) (6) CIV (USA)" (b) (6) "Renne, Jerry SES USAF SAF-PA (USA)"  
(b) (6) COL USARMY JS OCJCS (USA)"  
(b) (6) Col USAF SAF-PA (USA)"  
(b) (6) CIV USAF SAF-PA (USA)" (b) (6)  
(b) (6) CAPT USN OSD PA (USA)" (b) (6)  
CIV OSD PA (USA)" (b) (6) Col USSF SPOC  
SPOC/HQ SpOC/PA" (b) (6) Lt Col USAF SAF-  
PA (USA)" (b) (6) Maj USAF SAF-PA  
(USA)" (b) (6)  
**Subject:** UPDATE: Media Query on USSF Lt Col & Self-Published Book

Mr Kirby -- FYSA, as follow up to my earlier note, the Space Operations Command commander relieved Lt Col Lohmeier of command this evening. Pasted below is the statement we plan to provide to Military.com tonight in response to their earlier query following appropriate congressional notifications. I wanted to ensure you were tracking in advance, sir. OSD/PA can refer queries from any chasers once the story is out to SAF/PA or SpOC/PA. Please don't hesitate to let me know if you have any questions.

V/R

Pat

Brig Gen Patrick S. Ryder, USAF  
Director, Public Affairs



Department of the Air Force

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<https://twitter.com/SpaceForceDoD>

[www.af.mil](http://www.af.mil) | [www.spaceforce.mil](http://www.spaceforce.mil)

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USSF STATEMENT:

"Lt. Gen. Stephen Whiting, Space Operations Command commander, relieved Lt. Col. Matthew Lohmeier of command of the 11th Space Warning Squadron, Buckley AFB, Colo., May 14 due to loss of trust and confidence in his ability to lead. This decision was based on public comments made by Lt. Col. Lohmeier in a recent podcast. Lt. Gen. Whiting has initiated a Command Directed Investigation (CDI) on whether these comments constituted prohibited partisan political activity. Due to the ongoing investigation, it would be inappropriate to comment further."

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**From:** RYDER, PATRICK S Brig Gen USAF HAF SAF/SAF/PA

**Sent:** Wednesday, May 12, 2021 6:51 PM

**To:** 'Kirby, John F SES (USA)' (b) (6) COL USARMY (US)

(b) (6)  
**Cc:** JERRY SES USAF HAF AF/PA RENNE (b) (6) Col USAF  
HAF AF/USSF (b) (6) GS-15 USAF HAF U S AIR FORCE HQ/PA  
(b) (6) CAPT USN OSD PA (USA) (b) (6)  
(b) (6) CIV OSD PA (USA) (b) (6) Col USSF SPOC SPOC/HQ  
SpOC/PA (b) (6) Lt Col USAF HAF SAF/SAF/PAO  
(b) (6) Maj USAF HAF SAF/SAF/PAO  
(b) (6)

**Subject:** INFO: Media Query on USSF Lt Col & Self-Published Book

Mr Kirby/Dave,

FYSA, Military.com reporter Oriana Pawlyk queried us this evening to ask about a book posted to Amazon.com this week written by Space Force Lt Col Matthew Lohmeier titled "Irresistible Revolution: Marxism's Goal of Conquest & the Unmaking of the American Military." The online book description states, in part: "Irresistible Revolution is a timely and bold contribution from an active-duty Space Force lieutenant colonel who sees the impact of a neo-Marxist agenda at the ground level within our armed forces." Oriana's questions and the full book description are pasted below for reference.

Lt Col Lohmeier currently serves as the 11<sup>th</sup> Space Warning Squadron commander at Buckley AFB. According to Space Operations Command PA, the book did not go through a DAF or DOD security and policy review and was self-published by Lt Col Lohmeier. He has also begun promotion of the book in a recently posted video podcast.



SpOC/PA is drafting proposed RTQ in response to Military.com and will share with SAF/PA soonest. In the meantime, we are holding fire on any public comment.

According to the online book jacket, Lt Col Lohmeier is a 2006 graduate of the US Air Force Academy who flew as an instructor pilot and F-15C pilot before cross-training into Space Ops and then transferring to Space Force in Oct 20. Of note, Lt Col Lohmeier made brief news in November when he was highlighted by media as the Space Force officer who took then President Trump's Thanksgiving Call to military representatives (<https://spacenews.com/in-call-with-troops-trump-basks-in-space-force-achievement/>).

In light of the book focus, once Military.com publishes its article, we anticipate this will draw additional media attention – particularly from conservative commentators like Fox's Tucker Carlson, who as you know has criticized the military's alleged 'woke' culture in past reports.

I wanted to ensure you were tracking the media interest as soon as possible, gentlemen. SAF/PA will continue to work closely with SpOC/PA to develop an appropriate response to the media query and will keep you updated.

V/R

Pat

Brig Gen Patrick S. Ryder, USAF

Director, Public Affairs

Department of the Air Force

(O) (b) (6)

<https://twitter.com/USairforce>

<https://twitter.com/SpaceForceDoD>

[www.af.mil](http://www.af.mil) | [www.spaceforce.mil](http://www.spaceforce.mil)

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**MEDIA QUERY (MILITARY.COM):**

Q. I've been made aware of this published work, which was written by a Space Force lieutenant colonel:

[https://www.amazon.com/dp/1737067323/ref=cm\\_sw\\_r\\_cp\\_api\\_glt\\_fabc\\_D0BTKQH2ADN4Z82EEZMD](https://www.amazon.com/dp/1737067323/ref=cm_sw_r_cp_api_glt_fabc_D0BTKQH2ADN4Z82EEZMD)

Is the service aware of this? Can you provide Matthew Lohmeier's current role in the Space Force (duty title, etc)? Is he a leader/command a unit by chance? Is he allowed to make a profit on a political work while serving in uniform? Does this violate DoD Directive 1344.10? or Article 88 and/or 134 in the UCMJ? Has the Space Force taken any action regarding the book, initiated an investigation into Lohmeier for taking such a public and political stance, or proceeded with an administrative punishment of any kind? Please advise.

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#### **AMAZON BOOK DESCRIPTION:**

Irresistible Revolution is a timely and bold contribution from an active-duty Space Force lieutenant colonel who sees the impact of a neo-Marxist agenda at the ground level within our armed forces. In it, author Matthew Lohmeier provides answers to many important questions that Americans are currently asking: Is systemic racism a reality, or is much of our talk about race merely a rhetorical tool used to divide Americans? Why has the Defense Department suddenly shifted to a focus on extremism within the ranks? Is there really a white supremacy or white nationalist problem within our armed forces? Are the many Diversity and Inclusion trainings that are being conducted in our federal agencies helping solve these problems, or are they creating conflict where none previously existed? What is Marxism, and what does it have to do with all of this?

Though pundits often appear perplexed by current policy decisions being made in our country, our apparent missteps are part of a longstanding plot against America, patiently and methodically pursued by those with a mind intent on the overthrow of the US Government and its replacement with a communist dictatorship. Unfortunately, many of those now furthering that agenda do so unwittingly.

After becoming aware of the Marxist conquest of American society, you will never again look at things in the same way. Mainstream media, social media, the public education system (including universities), as well as federal agencies have all become vessels of various schools of thought that are rooted in Marxist ideology - an ideology bent on the destruction of America's history, of Western tradition, specifically Judeo-Christian values, and of patriotism and conservatism. Marxism's sinister and dark agenda has led the country into what some have called a cold civil war. The problem has become systemic, a tragedy considering that the defeat of Marxist-communist ideology was the very cause against which our nation spent great treasures of blood and iron during much of the twentieth century.

The book's three-part framework begins with a discussion of the greatness of the American ideal (including the importance of the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, the Bill of Rights, and the notions of individual and civil liberties), transitions to an examination of the history and overarching narrative of Marxist ideology (specifically Marx's and Engels' Communist Manifesto wherein the oppressor vs. oppressed narrative is developed), and concludes by looking into the ongoing transformation of America's military culture and military policy, while also providing a warning about where the country is headed if we choose to not make an immediate course correction.

Irresistible Revolution also covers a breadth of hot topics everyone is hearing and talking about - topics that actually have implications for our national security: woke ideology, cancel culture, identity politics, the Black Lives Matter movement, anti-racism, postmodernism, political correctness, and critical and cynical theories, to include critical race theory. Lohmeier's penetrating and common sense look at current events within our military and across American society is a sublimely unique contribution that is certain to be shared, referenced, and



discussed for years to come. Every American, including every US military servicemember, needs to read and understand the Irresistible Revolution.

(SOURCE: [https://www.amazon.com/dp/1737067323/ref=cm\\_sw\\_r\\_cp\\_api\\_glt\\_fabc\\_D0BTKQH2ADN4Z82EEZMD](https://www.amazon.com/dp/1737067323/ref=cm_sw_r_cp_api_glt_fabc_D0BTKQH2ADN4Z82EEZMD))