# Analysis of American Anti-terrorism Strategy in the New Global Anti-terrorism Era

## Li Xinyu

Baotou Prison, Baotou, Neimenggu, China, 014040

**Keywords:** anti-terrorism era; The United States; Counter-terrorism strategy; New world

Abstract: The outbreak of September 11 made the United States re-examine the relationship between the media and diplomacy. The American media began to serve the war on terrorism in various ways. International terrorism has entered a new active period after the September 11 incident. There is a basic consensus on terrorism in all circles of the United States. Influenced by the demonstration of Al-Qaida, international terrorism attacks are developing towards globalization and networking, showing a new feature of expanding scale and diversifying objectives. Point. It marks the end of the Post-Cold War transitional period or post-Cold War era, and also marks the comprehensive advancement of the new global strategy of the United States. U.S. anti-terrorism strategy has an extremely important impact on the international anti-terrorism situation. After the Obama administration came to power, it began to adjust the U.S. strategy, thus making the U.S. anti-terrorism strategy and the adjustment of the global strategy form a closer organic strategic whole. Based on this, this article deeply interprets the multiple impacts of the adjustment of US anti-terrorism strategy on the global anti-terrorism situation and international anti-terrorism cooperation.

### 1. Introduction

With the continuous deepening of the war on terror, the world has questioned the forms and practices of the US war on terror, coupled with changes in the domestic and international situation [1]. U.S. anti-terrorism strategy also began to need to make corresponding adjustments and changes. Such adjustments began to take shape in the second half of the Bush administration. After the great impact of September 11 and the gradual anti-terrorism strategy, the essence of the U.S. global strategy has undergone "staged changes" [2]. The introduction of the new anti-terrorism strategy has more symbolic significance than substantive significance. It will not fundamentally change the current anti-terrorism practice in the United States, and the war on terrorism in the United States is unlikely to end in the short term [3-4]. The U.S. global strategic goal is always closely related to the international strategic environment it faces, and its sharpness also dances to the rhythm of the historical changes of U.S. strength and position [5]. How the United States promotes its global strategy while fighting terrorism may become one of the most prominent factors that affect the changes in the world's political and military patterns [6].

With the expansion of the influence of terrorism on international policies and inter-state relations, some countries have elevated anti-terrorism to the top of their national security strategies [7]. The United States puts counter-terrorism at the top of its foreign policy. This is a major adjustment of its global strategy. The new anti-terrorism strategy adopted by the United States in response to these changes has, to a certain extent, curbed the spread of new terrorism in the international arena and played a positive role in safeguarding world security [8]. As the protagonist of the new era of anti-terrorism, the systematic efforts of the United States to dismantle terrorist organizations must continue. The United States has promoted Media Diplomacy to an unprecedented strategic level, declaring that it will win a "war of hearts and minds" on a global scale through advertising, the Internet, radio and television media [9]. The Media Diplomacy of the United States still faces many challenges, such as the difficulty to get rid of the enormous shackles brought by the flaws in the design of the anti-terrorism strategy and foreign policy of the United States, and the inability to exert influence on the media of allies in line with the strength of the United States, etc. [10].

DOI: 10.25236/mfssr.2019.183

### 2. The National Counter-terrorism Strategy of the United States in the New Period

# 2.1 The implementation of the anti-terrorism strategy faces resistance

The research on the anti-terrorism strategy of the Obama administration has always been the focus of attention of all countries, from the proposal of Afghanistan's anti-terrorism strategy to the introduction of a new national anti-terrorism strategy, to the subversion of Gaddafi's regime and the implementation of the ISIS strategy. There are inherent deficiencies in the new counter-terrorism strategy. The assessment of the threat of terrorism by the Obama administration is one of the important foundations for the US to adjust its counter-terrorism strategy. However, if the United States takes advantage of anti-terrorism to demonstrate hegemony blindly, it will inevitably aggravate the tension in international relations and will certainly trigger a rebound in the international community. The situation may develop to a point where people cannot predict. And after the US launched the Iraq war, Islamic countries and European countries generally expressed doubts about US anti-terrorism motives. The pre-emptive military strategy implemented by the United States has destroyed the stability of the existing international order and the effectiveness of multilateral mechanisms. It has also cast a shadow over the establishment and development of benign relations among countries in the new century. Its implementation has increased strategic pressure on many countries. It is difficult to truly get rid of the huge constraints brought by the design flaws of the US anti-terrorism strategy and foreign policy, and cannot exert influence on the media of allies commensurate with US strength. In order to win the support of all countries in the world in the war against terrorism, the United States began to gradually adjust its relations with the corresponding countries.



Figure 1 Pakistani people protest against the US UAV strike

The US national military plan for the war against terrorism has the characteristics of rational thinking about war practice, in-depth reflection on anti-terrorism strategies and systematic analysis of terrorist organizations. The dislocation between the new form of terrorist threat and the new anti-terrorism strategy of the United States will pose a greater security challenge to the United States. The United States combines the international anti-terrorism strategy with the global hegemony strategy. By taking advantage of the international anti-terrorism strategy, the United States has quickly completed the strategic plan of global hegemony, which poses new challenges and pressures to other world powers. A series of terrorist attacks in the United States have shown that terrorism is a very prominent problem and poses a serious threat to world peace and security. Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) play an irreplaceable role in US anti-terrorism. However, the U.S. UAVs' terrorist operations in Yemen, Pakistan and other countries have aroused strong dissatisfaction from the countries concerned and widespread criticism from international public opinion. Moreover, the regime change triggered by the "Arab Spring" has deprived the United States of its ally on which it has been relying, thus weakening its intelligence capabilities in many countries and making it

difficult to recover quickly in the short term. Secondly, partner countries are limited in their ability to provide anti-terrorism intelligence to the United States. Therefore, the implementation of the United States' anti-terrorism strategy faces great resistance.

## 2.2 Internationalization Trend Continuously Strengthens

The United States has placed anti-terrorism at the top of its foreign policy, which is a major adjustment in its global strategy. U.S. global strategic adjustment is bound to affect the policy changes of other countries in the world, thus affecting the changes in the world situation. The trend of globalization of international terrorism has involved the whole world in the front line of anti-terrorism, and all countries must face the reality of anti-terrorism struggle. China has always advocated the United Nations as the leading force in promoting international cooperation against terrorism. Some terrorist organizations have formed huge networks worldwide and are no longer confined to their own regions or countries. The United States has always been the primary target of international terrorist attacks, and how to deal with international terrorist attacks has always been the primary concern of the United States Government. Before September 11, the United States considered itself the "strongest, most vulnerable country in world history, and no one dared touch it in decades". But this huge tragedy of thousands of casualties will undoubtedly leave long-term psychological pain to the United States and the world.

"9.11" changed the priority of the global strategic agenda of the United States, and anti-terrorism and anti-proliferation became the top policy objectives. The United States promotes its anti-terrorism strategy, which can neither stop nor retreat. The United States Government believes that the use of weapons of mass destruction should be curbed through counter-proliferation, non-proliferation mechanisms should be strengthened to deal with the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, and consequence management should be adopted to deal with the use of weapons of mass destruction. The new strategy will establish and follow an effective legal framework, conduct a fair trial of terrorists, and adopt legal means to obtain valuable information from arrested terrorists as far as possible, thus further supporting anti-terrorism operations. Political support and public cohesion from both parties in the United States are bound to weaken and crack over time. Coupled with the continuous increase and blind expansion of anti-terrorism funds, the US fiscal expenditure situation has shown a worsening trend, which is bound to attract criticism from taxpayers and is very unfavorable to the Republican midterm election. The modern mass media system has stimulated international terrorism to a certain extent, and the news media has inadvertently become a link and tool for spreading terrorism, playing the role of spokesman for terrorism claims. China's unilateralism tendency in the field of anti-terrorism is often manifested in its emphasis on the dominance of the United States when seeking international cooperation and support, and its repeated statements that the international community cannot hinder the freedom of the United States to act alone. The United States wants to persuade them to shoulder anti-terrorism obligations. For countries unwilling to oppose terrorism, the United States will put pressure on them to finally stop supporting terrorism.

## 3. Prospects for the New US Counter-Terrorism Strategy

# 3.1 Adhere to the "preemptive" military strike strategy

The preemptive military strategy is the core component of the U.S. national defense strategy. It is a military strategy guiding U. Destroy what the United States considers "hostile countries" and terrorist forces before they pose a substantial threat to the United States. On the issue of counter-terrorism, the United States hopes to get the support of its allies when implementing the "pre-emptive" strategy, but the support of its allies is not the only factor for the United States to take action. Fundamentally speaking, the "pre-emptive" strategy adopted by the United States is to safeguard its strategic position and vested interests. The killing of Osama bin Laden fully demonstrates the close cooperation between an American intelligence service and the military, the use of special combat methods, targeted clearance of targets.

In anti-terrorism activities, the United Nations calls for economic sanctions against countries that

support terrorism. The United States Government also believes that the most effective way to combat terrorism is to impose economic sanctions on countries that support terrorism. Preventive measures should be taken. Emphasis is placed on strengthening threat analysis and assessment of terrorist acts, utilizing information gathered through multiple channels and relevant anti-terrorist information databases. The American media rationalize their motivation for anti-terrorism policies and actions, sometimes only under the pressure of the government. In order to give full play to the anti-terrorism effect of media diplomacy, the U.S. government should seriously reflect on and make up for the design defects of anti-terrorism strategy and national security strategy, and provide institutional support for media diplomacy. In practice, we should also clearly delineate the governance boundaries between counter-terrorism, immigration and ordinary violence, and avoid simple and brutal links with terrorism when assisting target countries in dealing with conflicts or civil war dilemmas.

Date	Country	Events
April 2013	U.S.A	Two explosions occurred near the Boston
		Marathon, killing 3 people and injuring 183.
September 2014	China	A terrorist attack occurred at the Kunming
		railway station in Yunnan, killing 29 people
		and injuring 143.
September 2013	Kenya	Gun battles broke out in a large shopping mall
		in Nairobi, killing 39 people and injuring
		more than 150.
January 2015	France	A group of armed men broke into a magazine
		headquarters in Paris and opened fire, killing
		12 people and seriously injuring 4.

Table 1 Terrorist Attacks in Countries in Recent Years

#### 3.2 Strengthen international cooperation against terrorism

Even if it is as powerful as the United States, its achievements alone are limited. Therefore, the United States has begun to pay attention to international cooperation in the field of anti-terrorism, using multilateral channels and collective actions to combat terrorism, prevent the proliferation of nuclear weapons and promote global democracy. Cooperate with or act through others as much as possible: improve their combat capability and establish mechanisms to share risks and responsibilities in the face of today's complex challenges. In order for terrorists to find no shelter in the world, to distinguish them from the local people who help them and to defeat them, the United States also needs to cooperate with new international partners. Faced with the increasingly complex counter-terrorism situation, China also urgently needs to learn successful experience and avoid mistakes from the US counter-terrorism media diplomatic practice. The military strategy of containment and deterrence will be adjusted to "preemptive strike" and "defensive intervention" strategies on this basis. We will continue to push forward the reform of military forces and accelerate the development of missile defense systems. The anti-terrorism struggle of the United States still depends on the support and cooperation of the international community, which objectively keeps the United States in the containment of all parties, especially China, Russia and other big countries.U.S. investment in anti-terrorism strategy will shrink, but it still attaches great importance to the threat of terrorism to U.S. national security and national interests. While continuing to fight terrorism, the U.S. will take targeted anti-terrorism actions to maximize the benefits with lower investment. From a practical point of view, there will be no gap in the promotion of the U.S. grand strategy due to the change of government. The ultimate goal is to create an international community of democratic countries in the world. Free dissemination should be a broad and lofty goal guiding U.S. foreign policy in the coming decades.

#### 4. Conclusion

Because the ultimate purpose of the US government's anti-terrorism is to maintain the hegemony of the United States, this means that no matter whether the Republican or the Democratic Party is in power, no matter how the anti-terrorism strategy is adjusted, it is only a change in form, and the essence of its anti-terrorism strategy will not change. In fact, international terrorism has not weakened while the international community continues to strengthen anti-terrorism cooperation, but has become increasingly rampant to a certain extent. The ultimate goal of US anti-terrorism strategy is to serve its global hegemony, but its anti-terrorism strategy has changed correspondingly in different periods and social environments. Terrorism is a serious global problem. Historical experience and lessons warn us that it is difficult to completely eliminate the environment in which terrorist forces can survive and develop by the efforts of only one or several countries. The dilemma faced by the U.S. government's anti-terrorism strategy is difficult to solve fundamentally. The United States must have a clear understanding of terrorism and strengthen the leading position of the United Nations, instead of blindly "pre-empting" and "controlling violence with violence". The international coalition against terrorism mobilized by the United States is not monolithic. Finally, the continued threat of terrorism makes it difficult for the United States to really end the war on terror. There is a long way to go in the global fight against terrorism. The international community cannot eliminate the root causes of every kind of hatred one by one, nor can it prevent every violent terrorist act.

#### References

- [1] Lehrke J P, Schomaker R. Kill, Capture, or Defend? The Effectiveness of Specific and General Counterterrorism Tactics Against the Global Threats of the Post-9/11 Era[J]. Security Studies, 2016, 25(4):729-762.
- [2] Ellenberg E, Taragin M I, Hoffman J R, et al. Lessons From Analyzing the Medical Costs of Civilian Terror Victims: Planning Resources Allocation for a New Era of Confrontations.[J]. Milbank Quarterly, 2017, 95(4):783.
- [3] Li Y, Wang T, Song X, et al. Optimal resource allocation for anti-terrorism in protecting overpass bridge based on AHP risk assessment model[J]. KSCE Journal of Civil Engineering, 2016, 20(1):309-322.
- [4] Xiaofei D. Enhance Cooperation on Anti-terrorism to Safeguard World Peace and Stability Interview with Cheng Guoping, State Commissioner for Counter-Terrorism and Security Matters of China[J]. China Today, 2017(5):33-35.
- [5] Gries T, Meierrieks D, Redlin M. Oppressive governments, dependence on the USA, and anti-American terrorism[J]. Oxford Economic Papers, 2015, 67(1):83-103.
- [6] Gonzalez A L, Freilich J D, Chermak S M. How Women Engage Homegrown Terrorism[J]. Feminist Criminology, 2014, 9(4):344-366.
- [7] Hurley T. Youth, action sports and political agency in the Middle East: Lessons from a grassroots parkour group in Gaza[J]. International Review for the Sociology of Sport, 2015, 41(6):198-200.
- [8] Rahman, Aspalella A. Anti-money laundering law: a new legal regime to combat financial crime in Malaysia?[J]. Journal of Financial Crime, 2016, 23(3):533-541.
- [9] Borgers, M.J, Sliedregt, et al. The meaning of the precautionary principle for the assessment of criminal measures in the fight against terrorism[J]. Social Science Electronic Publishing, 2014, 67(4):1081–1090.
- [10] Petersen N, Ward G. The Transmission of Historical Racial Violence: Lynching, Civil Rights-Era Terror, and Contemporary Interracial Homicide[J]. Race and Justice, 2015, 5(2):114-143.