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War On Islamic Terrorism Is Not A TV Mini-Series

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ABC's recent mini-series "The Path To 9/11" teaches us many lessons about 9/11/2001. First, we are at war, and it shows us that we are facing a ruthless enemy who uses unconventional warfare to relentlessly pursue its goal of bringing the whole world under the domination of an Islamic tyranny.

Second, this TV movie made it clear to me that slow-moving government bureaucracies are inadequate to the task of dealing with fast-moving terror threats around the globe. In addition, "The Path To 9/11" demonstrated how entrenched bureaucrats were more concerned over protecting their own fiefdoms than they were in protecting our nation's security interests. Indecision and self-interest at the highest levels of government led to the Islamic terrorist attack on 9/11.

What concerns me more than the events of 9/11 is the question of where we go from here to deal with this threat to our civilization and to freedom. President Bush stated it well in his address to the nation on Monday night: "The war against this enemy is more than a military conflict. It is the decisive ideological struggle of the 21st century, and the calling of our generation."

President Bush is correct when he says that this is a struggle that will set the course of the world for the next century and impact millions of lives.

But, do we really believe that we're in a war to defend our civilization? I wonder. Liberals in the media and in Congress portray this war as a political ploy designed by Republicans to win elections. How many naïve Americans have bought this lie?

We're fat and happy in the United States. I fear we may have grown soft from prosperity and many of our young people are more concerned about downloading the latest songs from iTunes to their MP-3 players, than they are about the threat of Islamic barbarians invading our land.

Are we really paying attention to what Islamic fascists are doing here—within the United States—to plan terror attacks on our soil? According to FBI statistics published in 2004, there are Al Qaeda sleeper cells in at least 40 states. They're funded by phony charities and foundations. What are they planning?

Do we really believe we're in a war—or should we be lulled to sleep by liberals who seem to view terrorism as a political sideshow invented by Republicans?

Just last Wednesday, I was invited to the White House by the President to listen to one of his messages on 9/11 and the dangers facing us. His bottom line to his messages is that we are facing an enemy as evil and determined as Nazism and Communism to achieve world domination—but too many Americans don't even think we're in the beginning stages of World War III.

We will lose WWII if we don't even believe we're in it. The terrorist attack on our nation five years ago was our generation's Pearl Harbor. Can't we understand this? Are we so dulled by MTV videos and extravagant living that we can't figure this out?

What do we need for victory over Islamic fascist terrorism? First, we need to realize we're in a long war—a war that may last a decade or longer. Second, we need to streamline our national security bureaucracies to react quickly and decisively against internal and external threats. Third, we need to free our intelligence agencies to monitor communications between Islamic fascists and their operatives in the United States. Fourth, we need to establish clear objectives for victory—and clearly define what we consider to be victory. Fifth, we must secure our nation's borders from terrorist invaders. Sixth, we must encourage moderate Muslims in the U.S. and in other nations, to help us in our battle against militant Islamists. Moderates should be willing to help law enforcement officials monitor extremists within U.S. mosques.

In February 1998, Osama Bin Laden issued a Fatwa that included the following statement: "To kill the Americans and their allies--civilians and military--is an individual duty for every Muslim who can do it in any country in which it is possible to do it ..." He is serious. Are we?

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