



Eagle Forum Report

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Peace Through Strength

MAKE AMERICA'S NATIONAL SECURITY GREAT AGAIN

By Frank J. Gaffney, Jr., Assistant Secretary of Defense under President Reagan and President of the Center for Security Policy in Washington, D.C.

While President Obama, thankfully, is no longer our Commander-in-Chief, the legacy of his malfeasance in that role may be an affliction on America's troops and people for years to come. Unless, that is, Obama's successor, Donald Trump, fully recognizes the dangers inherent in that legacy and swiftly sets about undoing it.

Fortunately, in the course of the 2016 campaign and in the weeks since he won it, Mr. Trump has signaled an appreciation both of the damage done to our military and our national interests by the outgoing president and his determination to change course.

Here are a few examples of what needs to be done:

- **Renewing the pursuit of "peace through strength."** President Obama promised to "fundamentally transform the United States of America." That transformation was particularly ominous with respect to our national security. Roughly a trillion dollars in budget cuts, ill-conceived policies and costly mistakes in places like Libya, Syria, Iraq and Afghanistan, prioritizing the "threat" of climate change and various social experiments imposing homosexuals, women in combat and transgender

"rights" on the uniformed services have hollowed out and demoralized our military.

Donald Trump has explicitly committed his presidency to a return to the proven national security practice my old boss, Ronald Reagan, called "peace through strength." Strong presidential and Pentagon leadership, a significant reinvestment in readiness, hardware and our defense industrial base and an end to the "politically correct" makeover of our armed forces will go a long way towards reestablishing the strength we need to dissuade others from believing they can act aggressively towards us, our interests or our allies.

- **Restoring our nuclear deterrent.** As Phyllis Schlafly understood so well, the ultimate guarantor of our national security is the certainty that the United States can and, if necessary *will*, devastate anyone who attacks us. True security requires not only powerful conventional capabilities, but a nuclear arsenal that is modern and, therefore, proven to be safe, reliable and effective.

Tragically, we have refrained from conducting even a single underground nuclear test in the last 25 years. We have not replaced our very old and obsolescent weapons. Nor have we made long-overdue upgrades to the critical human and technical complex that is needed to design, prove and produce a new generation of deterrent forces.

Matters were made considerably worse during the Obama years when



it was U.S. policy to "rid the world of nuclear weapons" — *starting with ours*. No other nuclear power has engaged in this kind of unilateral disarmament. And a number of nations, including Iran, Saudi Arabia and possibly other Middle Eastern states are getting into the nuclear weapons business.

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The American people have been kept in the dark about this dire state of affairs. But fortunately, Donald Trump has expressed his determination to “expand and strengthen” our arsenal. He even threw down the gauntlet of having America re-engage in an “arms race,” after years of allowing actual and potential adversaries to face no costs for their unilateral buildups. Mr. Trump will need our help with the considerable expense and controversy associated with rebuilding our military.

• **Defeating Sharia-supremacism.** Throughout his presidency, Barack Obama compounded a mistake made by a number of his pre-

decessors and especially George W. Bush after 9/11: ignoring the toxic, totalitarian political-military-legal doctrine that the authorities of Islam call Sharia — and its animating role in the global jihad movement that

seeks explicitly to destroy our country and civilization. Worse yet, the Obama administration actually *embraced* one of the most insidious and dangerous elements of that movement, the Muslim Brotherhood. Donald Trump has promised to designate the Brotherhood as what it is: a terrorist organization. He has also pledged to “expose the networks in our society that support radicalization.” Those would be the mosques, “Islamic societies,” front groups and influence operations established in this country by the Muslim Brotherhood over the past fifty years.

Ending the Muslim Brothers’ access to and ability to shape the U.S. policy-making process — notably, that fraudulently done under the pretense of “countering violent extremism” — will be an important first step towards winning what I think of as “the War for the Free World.” Every generation confronts what President Reagan called the “essential threat to freedom.” Mr. Trump needs to ensure a lasting victory, which will take sustained clarity, determination, and strong popular support.

• **Strengthening our Friends, Undermining our Enemies.** Un-

der Barack Obama, it was better to be an adversary of the United States than an ally. His treatment of Israel was particularly reprehensible and dangerous — especially in the waning days of his presidency. But it was just one manifestation of the Obama Doctrine: embolden our enemies; undermine our friends; and diminish our country.

Donald Trump has opposed Obama’s palpable hostility both to Israel and towards other important allies, including notably, Egypt and Taiwan. He has very explicitly warned not only Iran and the other jihadists but China, North Korea and even Russia that he will be a new, much more robust Commander-in-Chief and that there will be real costs associated with their threatening our security and vital interests. U.S. policy should return to the commonsense practice of rewarding friends and punishing enemies — a formula for having more of the former and fewer of the latter.

Now, it falls to those of us who love freedom and who know that as Mr. Reagan said — and as Phyllis practiced throughout her extraordinary life — it must be “fought for, protected and handed on [to our children] to do the same” to help Donald Trump make America’s national security great again.



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God bless you,
Anne Schlafly Cori
Acting Chair, Eagle Forum

Welcome to *Eagle Forum Report*, the monthly newsletter for members of Eagle Forum. For fifty years, the founder of Eagle Forum and my mother, Phyllis Schlafly, wrote *The Phyllis Schlafly Report*. She always bragged that her newsletter contained more facts in fewer words. Eagle Forum is proud to continue her great work with our new monthly newsletter that is full of facts and no fluff. My mother said many times to me that the new name of the monthly

newsletter should be *Eagle Forum Report*, the successor to *The Phyllis Schlafly Report*. Eagle Forum is the publisher of *Eagle Forum Report*.

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**200 W. Third St., Ste. 502
Alton, IL 62002 (618) 433-8990**

Eagle@EagleForum.org
EagleForum.org