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Tuesday, Aug. 16, 2016

## Reform deal in sight to break Spain's political deadlock

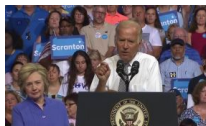
Shared by Mike Walker



**reuters.com** - MADRID Spain's interim prime minister will move within touching distance of ending an eight-month legislative stalemate on Wednesday when his party considers an offer of support for a new government...

## Biden slams Trump qualifications, especially on foreign policy

Shared by Mike Walker



**msnbc.com** - The Rachel Maddow Show 08/15/16 Biden slams Trump qualifications, especially on foreign policy Rachel Maddow reports on Vice President Joe Biden offering vehement criticism of Donald Trump's qualific...

## At least 10 people kidnapped by gang in Mexican resort town of Puerto Vallarta

Shared by Mike Walker



**upi.com** - PUERTO VALLARTA, Mexico, Aug. 16 (UPI) -- At least 10 people were kidnapped at gunpoint by a group of heavily armed men while the victims were dining at a popular restaurant in the Mexican resort t...

## Philippine Army captures 'last stronghold' of Abu Sayyaf terrorists in Basilan

Shared by Mike Walker



**upi.com** - ZAMBOANGA CITY, Philippines, Aug. 16 (UPI) -- The Philippine army special forces seized the "last stronghold" of the Abu Sayyaf militant group in Tipo-Tipo, Basilan, after one month of fighting, mi...

## 'El Chapo' prison director freed, but authorities maintain she had role in escape

Shared by Mike Walker



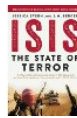
**upi.com** - MEXICO CITY, Aug. 15 (UPI) - A Mexican court has released Leonor García, the former director of the Alti...

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Jihad Joe: Americans...  
\$22.17 Prime

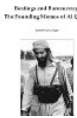
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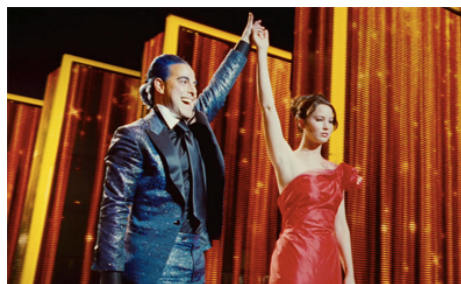
## LATEST UPDATES

### Analysis: Jabhat al Nusra Splits From Al Qaeda



After years of rumours, Syrian jihadist group Jabhat al Nusra is expected to sever its longstanding affiliation with al Qaeda at any moment. As news of the impending split broke, many questions arose: Was it simply a smokescreen? Would al Qaeda still be pulling al Nusra's strings? Won't al Nusra still represent an extremist, violent ideology? Healthy skepticism is definitely called for, but this extraordinary development is far from inconsequential. Even if the ideology remains the same, even if al Qaeda leader Ayman al Zawahiri continues to influence al Nusra's ranks and its leaders, the shift in allegiance will reverberate around the globe.

### Foreign Policy: ISIS and the Dystopian Spectacle

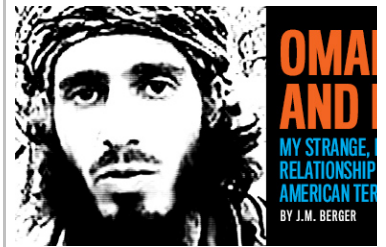


One of the most popular tropes in dystopian fiction is the "violent spectacle." Immortalized in recent years by The Hunger Games series, the concept is simple: A corrupt society uses some public display or broadcast of violence to manipulate the masses. But it's never been purely fiction.

## INTELWIRE EXCLUSIVE DOCUMENTS

- [Al Qaeda's Founding Documents](#)
- [FBI Investigative Files on 9/11](#)
- [CIA records on Al Qaeda and bin Laden](#)
- [State Dept. Meetings With Followers Sheikh](#)
- [Oklahoma City Bombing Documents](#)
- [The Assassination of Benazir Bhutto](#)

## TOP STORIES AND RESEARCH



## THE ISIS TWITTER CENSUS

In a groundbreaking study for the Brookings Institution's Project on U.S. Relations with the Islamic World, J.M. Berger and Jonathon Morgan identified 20,000 ISIS-supporting Twitter accounts and analyzed their characteristics, profiles, locations and tweeting activity. The study estimates a minimum of 46,000 ISIS-supporting accounts were active in October 2014, and provides data and analysis on how the suspension of thousands of accounts have impacted the performance of the network. For more reporting on ISIS and its use of social media, read [ISIS: The State of Terror](#), the new book by J.M. Berger and Jessica Stern, on sale ev...

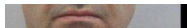
[Full report](#) | [News story](#) | [ISIS: State of Terror](#)

# INTELWIRE

[Click for information on custom social media analysis](#)

## WHO MATTERS ONLINE: METRICS FOR ANALYZING EXTREMIST SOCIAL NETWORKS

Through the analysis of thousands of Twitter accounts following prominent white nationalists and anarchists, "Who Matters Online: Metrics for Analyzing Extremist Social Networks" offers new quantitative tools to identify and evaluate tactics for combating violent extremism.



plano Federal Prison from which drug lord Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman escaped. Mexico's Third ...

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### J.M. Berger

Fellow, George Washington University's Program on Extremism. Analyst researching extremism, special focus on U.S. homeland, social media. Co-author, *ISIS: The State of Terror* <http://amzn.to/1GJyMP> and author of *Jihad Joe* <http://amzn.to/1cnXH3D>



### Editor's note

-- **ISIS: The State of Terror**, new book by Stern and Berger  
-- **Intelwire Weekly Brief**

### VIDEOS



16 AUG: Officials in the US state of Louisiana are

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BBC News ...



WAR DOGS Movie TRAILER #2 (Jonah Hill, Miles Teller,

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Blogs of War

All Videos →

## Discussion corner

7 Comments

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**Vic Vreeland**

I thought the "government" was going to cut utilities to the Malheur Center. So why are they able to operate the PC's at the Center? Why would OUR government aid and abet these terrorists? CUT THE UTILITIES AND THEY WILL SURRENDER AND BE TAKEN INTO CUSTODY. THOSE WHO RESIST, SHOOT. END OF STORY.

Like · Reply · 13 January 2016 11:13



**Liam Lab**

Bendigo Institute of Technology

IS, an evil that will be with us for a long time. I have just finished reading J. Stern and J.M.Berger's book *ISIS* for the second time. Their analysis of Daesh, its precursors and affiliates is highly valued as there is not a great deal of in depth analysis available. I also appreciated M.K. McBride's Appendix - A (very) brief history of Islam. This book is now a fixture on my library shelf. I thank the authors and others who have made such a book available

### New blog: [World Gone Wrong](#)

### New ICCT Paper Tackles Major CVE Challenges

One of the biggest barriers to designing a comprehensive Countering Violent Extremism (CVE) program is defining its scope. This paper argues for a narrow approach, focusing on disengagement and the disruption of recruitment, a simplified model of radicalization, and concrete themes for disruptive intervention and messaging. After analyzing case studies of disengagement, a specific program of action is recommended. | [Read the full paper \(PDF\)](#)

### Orlando Attack Coverage

J.M. Berger appeared on NPR's On Point to discuss the latest developments in the Orlando shooting investigation and the possible role of ISIS. | [Listen now](#)

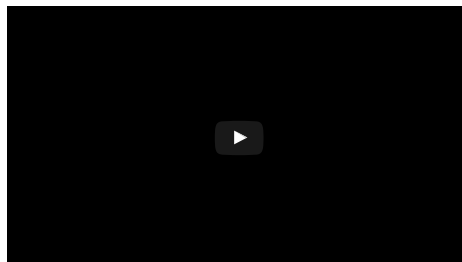
### New GWU Paper: What Sovereign Citizens Believe

Members of the sovereign citizen movement are increasingly in the news for their violent confrontations with law enforcement, but their confusing ideology can be difficult to understand. This paper explains in simple language what sovereigns believe, and where those beliefs originated. | [Read the full paper \(PDF\)](#)

### The Islamic State's Diminishing Returns on Twitter

Since late 2014, Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) social networks on Twitter have been subjected to periodic account suspensions. In a study of metrics for a network of English language ISIS supporters active from June to October 2015, suspensions held the size and reach of the overall network flat, while devastating the reach of specific users who have been repeatedly targeted. | [Read the full paper \(PDF\)](#)

### RECENT VIDEO



### BOOKS BY J.M. BERGER

"...smart, granular analysis..."

**ISIS: The State of Terror**  
"Jessica Stern and J.M. Berger's new book, "ISIS," should be required reading for every



extremism (CVE) online. Authored by I Associate Fellow J.M. Berger and Bill St Who Matters Online: Measuring influence Evaluating Content and Countering Violent Extremism in Online Social Networks demonstrates how quantitative analysis identifies highly engaged extremists in large networks.

### Full report



### WASHINGTON AND THE WORLD Barack Obama Still Misunderestimates ISIL

By J.M. BERGER

- [Al Qaeda's American Dream Ends](#)
- [The Islamic State's Irregulars](#)
- [War on Error: The New Shape of Al Qaeda](#)
- [What Intelligence Agencies Do With ISIS](#)
- [Monsters and Children: Politicians and Muslims](#)

### ABOUT J.M. BERGER

J.M. Berger is a fellow with [George Washington University's Program on Extremism](#). He is researcher, analyst and consultant, with a special focus on extremist activities in the U.S. and use of social media. Berger is co-author of the critically acclaimed [The State of Terror](#) with Jessica Stern and author of [Jihad Joe: Americans Who War in the Name of Islam](#), the only definitive history of the U.S. jihadist movement.



Berger publishes the web site [Intelwire](#) and has written for [Politico](#), [The Atlantic](#) and [Policy](#), among many others. He was previously a non-resident fellow with the Brookings Institution, [Project on U.S. Relations with the Islamic World](#) and an associate fellow with the [International Centre for the Study of Radicalisation](#).

In addition to writing for the media, Berger consults for and trains private companies and government agencies on issues related to homegrown terrorism, online extremist fighters and advanced social media analysis. He has lectured at Harvard University, American University and the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University. He was a speaker and a panelist at the 2015 conference of the Society for Terrorism Study, hosted