

ISIL

2016ER ATTACKS

RAND PAUL CLAIMED SECRETARY CLINTON SAID “ISIS IS NOT A THREAT...TO AMERICA”

Rand Paul: Hillary Clinton Said “ISIS Is Not A Threat – Not A Threat To America. Those I Think Were Her Exact Words.” RAND PAUL: “Well you know, I don’t think we really want a commander-in-chief who is battling climate change instead of terrorism. She also has been out there saying ISIS is not a threat – not a threat to America. Those I think were her exact words.” BILL HEMMER: “Did she say that?” RAND PAUL: “I believe a couple of months ago there was a quote from her saying ISIS is not a threat to America. But what I would say is that for her to be out there saying that the biggest threat to our safety and our wellbeing is climate change, I think is -- goes to the heart of the matter whether she has the wisdom to lead the country, which I think it’s obvious she doesn’t.” [America’s Newsroom, Fox News, 9/5/14]

BOBBY JINDAL BLAMED SECRETARY CLINTON FOR ALLOWING THE RISE OF ISIL AS PART OF THE OBAMA ADMINISTRATION

Bobby Jindal Blamed The Obama White House And Former Secretary Of State Hillary Clinton For Fumbling Foreign Policy, Including “The Rise Of ISIS.” “Otherwise, Jindal's remark were heavy on blaming the Obama White House, including former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, for fumbling foreign policy. ‘Today, we see a world in which the Obama administration has neglected or abandoned America's long-standing allies. Our “special relationship” with Britain is gone, NATO is drifting, Eastern Europe is disaffected, and Israel has been purposefully alienated from the United States,’ he said. He went on to say the last months has sparked the rise of ISIS, Russia's incursion into Crimea and Ukraine, and other flare-ups around the world.” [The Post And Courier, [10/7/14](#)]

CLINTON DEFENSE

SECRETARY CLINTON HAD RECOGNIZED THAT ISIS WAS A REGIONAL THREAT, BUT SAID SHE COULD NOT HAVE PREDICTED THE SUCCESS OF ISIS IN TAKING OVER PORTIONS OF IRAQ

Clinton Said She Thought ISIS Was A “Regional Problem” As Opposed To “Just A Syrian Problem,” But Never Could Not Have Predicted The Rise Of ISIS And Its Efficacy “In Seizing Cities In Iraq And Trying To Erase Boundaries To Create An Islamic State.” “‘So this is not just a Syrian problem anymore,’ Clinton said. ‘I never thought it was just a Syrian problem. I thought it was a regional problem. I could not have predicted, however, the extent to which ISIS could be effective in seizing cities in Iraq and trying to erase boundaries to create an Islamic state. That’s why it’s a wicked problem.’” [Daily Caller, [6/12/14](#)]

JUNE 2014: SECRETARY CLINTON JOINED OBAMA IN RULING OUT AIRSTRIKES AGAINST ISIL, CITING THE LEADERSHIP PROBLEMS OF IRAQI PRIME MINISTER MALIKI

CNN: June 2014: “Hillary Clinton Has Firmly Planted Herself With The White House And Those Who Say The United States Should Not Provide Military Assistance – Particularly Airstrikes – To The Iraqi Government” To Fight ISIL. “Hillary Clinton has firmly planted herself with the White House and those who say the United States should not provide military assistance – particularly airstrikes – to the Iraqi government in response to the rise of the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria and other militants.” [CNN, [6/13/14](#)]

CNN: In June 2014, Secretary Clinton Said About Airstrikes In Iraq: “That Is Not A Role For The United States,” Citing Insufficient Commitment To “An Inclusive Iraq” From Prime Minister Maliki. “Earlier on Friday, the BBC released a 20-minute interview with Clinton, where the former secretary of state said airstrikes in Iraq were not appropriate ‘at this time.’ ‘That is not a role for the United States,’

Clinton said. 'There needs to be a number of steps that Maliki and his government must take to demonstrate that he is committed to an inclusive Iraq – something he has not done up to date.'" [CNN, [6/13/14](#)]

CNN: Clinton Called Iraqi Prime Minister Maliki's Government "Dysfunctional, Unrepresentative, Authoritarian...There's No Reason On Earth That I Know Of That We Would Ever Sacrifice A Single American Life For That." "Clinton characterized the Maliki government as 'dysfunctional, unrepresentative, authoritarian' in front of an audience of 1,500 in Washington. For that reason, she added – to sustained applause – that 'there's no reason on earth that I know of that we would ever sacrifice a single American life for that.'" [CNN, [6/13/14](#)]

AUGUST 2014: SECRETARY CLINTON ASSERTED THAT FAILURE TO FOLLOW HER RECOMMENDATIONS AND MORE AGGRESSIVELY TRAIN AND EQUIP SYRIAN REBELS LEFT AN OPENING FOR ISIL'S RISE

Secretary Clinton: "The Failure To Help Build Up A Credible Fighting Force" Among The Syrian Opposition "Left A Big Vacuum, Which The Jihadists Have Now Filled." "I know that the failure to help build up a credible fighting force of the people who were the originators of the protests against Assad—there were Islamists, there were secularists, there was everything in the middle—the failure to do that left a big vacuum, which the jihadists have now filled. They were often armed in an indiscriminate way by other forces and we had no skin in the game that really enabled us to prevent this indiscriminate arming." [The Atlantic, [8/10/14](#)]

- **HEADLINE: "Hillary Clinton Joins Critics Of Obama's Response To ISIS In Iraq."** [Christian Science Monitor, [8/10/14](#)]

OCTOBER 2014: SECRETARY CLINTON "DESCRIBED THE SERIOUS THREAT POSED BY ISLAMIC STATE," SAYING MILITARY ACTION WAS ESSENTIAL BUT NOT SUFFICIENT IN DEFEATING ISIL

Wall Street Journal: "Former Secretary Of State Hillary Clinton Described The Serious Threat Posed By Islamic State." "Former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton described the serious threat posed by Islamic State in remarks here Wednesday, saying the group is far more advanced and well-funded than al Qaeda ever was. 'This is the best funded, most professional, expansionist Jihadist military force that we have seen ever,' she said." [Wall Street Journal, [10/8/14](#)]

Secretary Clinton: ISIL Is "The Best Funded, Most Professional, Expansionist Jihadist Military Force That We Have Seen Ever." "Former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton described the serious threat posed by Islamic State in remarks here Wednesday, saying the group is far more advanced and well-funded than al Qaeda ever was. 'This is the best funded, most professional, expansionist Jihadist military force that we have seen ever,' she said." [Wall Street Journal, [10/8/14](#)]

CBC News: Secretary Clinton Called Military Action Against ISIL "Critical...Essential To Try To Prevent Their Further Advance...[But] Military Action Alone Is Not Sufficient." "Hillary Clinton, the former U.S. secretary of state, says military action is 'critical' to the U.S.-led fight against Islamic State militants in Iraq and Syria, but is 'not sufficient' on its own. 'I think military action is critical. In fact, I would say essential to try to prevent their further advance and their holding of more territory,' Clinton told an audience at the Canada 2020 conference in Ottawa... 'Military action alone is not sufficient,' Clinton quickly added, describing the fight against Islamic jihadists as 'a long-term commitment.'" [CBC News, [10/6/14](#)]

FEBRUARY 2015: SECRETARY CLINTON BACKED PRESIDENT OBAMA'S STRATEGY OF USING AIR STRIKES AND REGIONAL SOLDIERS IN THE FIGHT AGAINST ISIL

Politico: Secretary Clinton "Essentially Backed The President's Strategy" Against ISIL, Saying "You Have To Use, Not Only Air Force But Also Army Soldiers From The Region...A Lot Of The

Right Moves Are Being Made.” “On the effort against ISIL, Clinton suggested during the Q&A with journalist Kara Swisher that there was little use in inserting U.S. combat troops into the fight and essentially backed the president’s strategy so far. ‘It’s a very hard challenge, because you can’t very well put American or Western troops in to fight this organism,’ she said, in her clearest statement yet on the topic. ‘You have to use, not only air force but also army soldiers from the region and particularly from Iraq. ... A lot of the right moves are being made, but this is a really complicated and long-term problem.’” [Politico, [2/24/15](#)]

2016ER VULNERABILITIES

RAND PAUL’S AIDE HAD TO WALK BACK FALSE COMMENTS HE MADE ABOUT SECRETARY CLINTON ASSERTING THAT ISIL WAS NOT A THREAT TO AMERICA

An Aide To Rand Paul Walked Back His Comments And Said Paul Meant To Criticize Hillary Clinton For Her Comments On The Prisoner Swap For U.S. Soldier Bowe Bergdahl, Not That She Underestimated The Threat Of ISIS. “An aide to Republican Senator Rand Paul said the lawmaker intended to criticize Hillary Clinton, a possible 2016 Democratic rival for the presidency, for comments on the prisoner swap for U.S. soldier Bowe Bergdahl, not that she underestimated the threat posed by Islamic State. ‘Hillary Clinton has said ISIS is not a threat to the United States,’ Paul said on Fox News Channel’s ‘Hannity’ on Sept. 3. The Kentucky lawmaker repeated that assertion to Fox’s Bill Hemmer two days later, noting his belief that those were Clinton’s ‘exact words.’...An aide to Paul who requested anonymity said the lawmaker meant to refer to Clinton’s remark in June that the five Taliban fighters exchanged for Bergdahl were ‘not a threat’ to the U.S.” [Bloomberg, [9/9/14](#)]