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\*\*\*NEG – SEABEES\*\*\*

1NC 1/2

US Seabees are stabilizing the region through reconstruction now

Park 9 (Aaron W, http://edocs.nps.edu/npspubs/scholarly/theses/2009/Sep/09Sep\_Park.pdf, AD: 6/27/10) jl

The Seabees have a relatively short, sixty-six year history, given the fact that the U.S. Navy and Marine Corps date from 1775. But, the Seabees are unique in that no other military unit of the five services (including the Coast Guard) can provide the full complement of construction and combat capabilities.5 The Seabees are more than a combat support force, however. Their capabilities are utilized in peace-time missions such as disaster relief, construction apprenticeship programs for indigenous populations, reconstruction of core infrastructure, a modest medical outreach component, well drilling, and other dimensions of stability operations that are being conducted in Iraq and Afghanistan. The Seabees’ unique complement of capabilities puts them in a position, with some organizational readjustments, to fulfill the DoD Directive 3000.05, Military Support for Stability, Security, Transition, and Reconstruction (SSTR) Operations.6 If the Seabees are to play a core role in SSTR missions, what reorganization and additional capabilities will be required? This thesis will argue that the majority of the more difficult elements, such as the training of the construction trades, are already inherent to the Seabee mission. It will demonstrate how, with some joint modifications based on the Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) model already operating in Iraq and Afghanistan, the Seabees can launch a Seabee Stability Team within 48 hours of mission notification.

Failure to reconstruct causes spikes in terrorism that destabilize the middle east and the world

Bond and Klinger 7 (Margaret S - Colonel in US Army Reserve, Janeen - Project Adviser, http://www.comw.org/qdr/fulltext/0703bond.pdf, AD: 6/27/10) jl

Based on this Strategy, the 2006 National Strategy for Combating Terrorism15 calls for denying terrorists control of any nation they would use as a base and launching pad for terrorist activities. Ungoverned or undergoverned space in key failing states, threatened by takeover by Islamic fundamentalist groups with global reach, must be transformed, by direct U.S. or coalition action as needed: Our terrorist enemies are striving to claim a strategic country as a haven for terror. From this base, they could destabilize the Middle East and strike America and other free nations with ever-increasing violence. This we can never allow… We will continue to prevent terrorists from exploiting ungoverned or undergoverned areas as safehavens – secure spaces that allow our enemies to plan, organize, train, and prepare for operations. Ultimately, we will eliminate these havens altogether….16

1NC 2/2

Terrorism causes extinction

Alexander 3 (Yonah, Inter-University for Terrorism Studies Director, http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2003/aug/27/20030827-084256-8999r/, AD: 6/27/10) jl

Last week's brutal suicide bombings in Baghdad and Jerusalem have once again illustrated dramatically that the international community failed, thus far at least, to understand the magnitude and implications of the terrorist threats to the very survival of civilization itself. Even the United States and Israel have for decades tended to regard terrorism as a mere tactical nuisance or irritant rather than a critical strategic challenge to their national security concerns. It is not surprising, therefore, that on September 11, 2001, Americans were stunned by the unprecedented tragedy of 19 al Qaeda terrorists striking a devastating blow at the center of the nation's commercial and military powers. Likewise, Israel and its citizens, despite the collapse of the Oslo Agreements of 1993 and numerous acts of terrorism triggered by the second intifada that began almost three years ago, are still "shocked" by each suicide attack at a time of intensive diplomatic efforts to revive the moribund peace process through the now revoked cease-fire arrangements [hudna]. Why are the United States and Israel, as well as scores of other countries affected by the universal nightmare of modern terrorism surprised by new terrorist "surprises"? There are many reasons, including misunderstanding of the manifold specific factors that contribute to terrorism's expansion, such as lack of a universal definition of terrorism, the religionization of politics, double standards of morality, weak punishment of terrorists, and the exploitation of the media by terrorist propaganda and psychological warfare. Unlike their historical counterparts, contemporary terrorists have introduced a new scale of violence in terms of conventional and unconventional threats and impact. The internationalization and brutalization of current and future terrorism make it clear we have entered an Age of Super Terrorism [e.g. biological, chemical, radiological, nuclear and cyber] with its serious implications concerning national, regional and global security concerns.

Destabilization in the middle east goes nuclear and causes extinction

Steinbach 2 (John, Researcher for the Centre for Research on Globalisation, http://www.globalresearch.ca/articles/STE203A.html, AD: 6/26/10) jl

Meanwhile, the existence of an arsenal of mass destruction in such an unstable region in turn has serious implications for future arms control and disarmament negotiations, and even the threat of nuclear war. Seymour Hersh warns, "Should war break out in the Middle East again,... or should any Arab nation fire missiles against Israel, as the Iraqis did, a nuclear escalation, once unthinkable except as a last resort, would now be a strong probability."(41) and Ezar Weissman, Israel's current President said "The nuclear issue is gaining momentum(and the) next war will not be conventional."(42) Russia and before it the Soviet Union has long been a major(if not the major) target of Israeli nukes. It is widely reported that the principal purpose of Jonathan Pollard's spying for Israel was to furnish satellite images of Soviet targets and other super sensitive data relating to U.S. nuclear targeting strategy. (43) (Since launching its own satellite in 1988, Israel no longer needs U.S. spy secrets.) Israeli nukes aimed at the Russian heartland seriously complicate disarmament and arms control negotiations and, at the very least, the unilateral possession of nuclear weapons by Israel is enormously destabilizing, and dramatically lowers the threshold for their actual use, if not for all out nuclear war. In the words of Mark Gaffney, "... if the familar pattern(Israel refining its weapons of mass destruction with U.S. complicity) is not reversed soon- for whatever reason- the deepening Middle East conflict could trigger a world conflagration." (44)

Links – Seabees 🡪 Reconstruction

Seabees are critical to infrastructure construction

Bacon 9 (Lance M, Staff Writer for the Navy Time, http://www.navytimes.com/news/2009/12/navy\_seabee\_deploy\_122209w/, AD: 6/27/10) jl

The Seabees are a vital enabler for the surge of soldiers and Marines already underway. Additional troops require additional infrastructure such as berthing facilities, roads and airfields.

There already are 3,700 sailors on the ground in Afghanistan. Portions of two Seabee battalions have been there since January. The rest are mainly explosive ordnance disposal and medical personnel. Another 208 sailors are building schools and roads.

“Our Seabee battalions receive extensive training in both construction and defensive skills, so this mission is exactly what we have traditionally trained for. Seabees have a vital role to play as they work to provide the infrastructure necessary to complete our country’s objectives in Afghanistan,” said Rear Adm. Mark Handley, Commander, 1st Naval Construction Division.

Seabees have a central role in stabilization and reconstruction

Park 9 (Aaron W, http://edocs.nps.edu/npspubs/scholarly/theses/2009/Sep/09Sep\_Park.pdf, AD: 6/27/10) jl

If, as this thesis contends, irregular warfare is our future, what force posture should the United States adopt to deal with it? Based on recent experience in Iraq and Afghanistan, we must definitely evolve a capability to carry out stabilization and reconstruction operations, which USN Seabee Stability Teams will play a central role. A Seabee Stability Team can play an important role in shoring up the four pillars of stabilization and reconstruction: the security environment, governance and participation, justice and the rule of law, and social and economic well being.

Seabees are a vital component to reconstruction

Bond and Klinger 7 (Margaret S - Colonel in US Army Reserve, Janeen - Project Adviser, http://www.comw.org/qdr/fulltext/0703bond.pdf, AD: 6/27/10) jl

If the environment turns more hostile from any overt source, these same teams are readily capable of shifting ways and means to a more tactically focused use of direct force. Relying on their inherent legal right to use deadly force for self-protection, these same teams are capable of moving up the Clausewitzian continuum to use that amount of force necessary to continue meeting their objectives. In this phase, understanding the limits of just how much pressure can or cannot be applied to the hostile force is essential. The team’s combat skills of preparing and synchronizing all elements of power for tactical, air, artillery, and mortars can come into focus in case direct force becomes necessary. This activity communicates a more direct and ominous message to hostile forces, whether they are regular armed forces or irregular members of an insurgency, terrorist organization, or non-state actor, i.e.: The US military is planning on staying and is serious about and extremely capable of using deadly force. 36 Upon achieving sufficient security to return to reconstruction and stability operations, the team will shift its position along the continuum of operations to resume the therapeutic forms of this warfare. The teams will commence immediate assessments and secure intelligence updates on the condition of the local and regional resources and infrastructure, risk factors, sector overviews and financial and commercial structure. They can then translate this information into necessary tactical and operational missions designed to continue the original or modified strategic goals of stabilization and promotion of interests favorable to our own. To develop military units that are best suited for hybrid war will require new combinations of capabilities from forces optimized for major combat operations. Stability and reconstruction no longer can be viewed as a lesser included set of capabilities already found in a Brigade Combat Team or Marine Expeditionary Brigade. Rather, combinations of Army and Marine Corps Civil Affairs Brigades and Naval Mobile Construction Battalions (SeaBees) can be built upon and modified to develop the needed capabilities. These will evolve as the needs of the region and countries served require. Force structure, both active duty and reserve component, will need to be added so that rotational forward deployments can be made on a predictable long term basis without undue stress on the troops. Navy SeaBees and USMC Marine Expeditionary Battalions have proven this feasible over decades before the stress and surge of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Internals – Rebuilding Solves Terrorism

Infrastructure construction is the main deterrent against terrorism

Bond and Klinger 7 (Margaret S - Colonel in US Army Reserve, Janeen - Project Adviser, http://www.comw.org/qdr/fulltext/0703bond.pdf, AD: 6/27/10) jl

The terrorist threat of today’s global war on terrorism (GWOT) is peculiarly transnational, seeking to expand its ideological influence across geographic boundaries into regions where the central governments are weak and their internal security forces insufficient to resist infiltration. The opponents seek to expand their ideological influence across geographic boundaries into regions where host nation central governments are weak and their internal security forces insufficient to resist infiltration. US National Security Strategy correctly identifies so-called failed and failing states as particularly vulnerable to these threats. The current strategy advocates preventing conflict and state failure by building foreign capacity for peace operations, reconstruction and stabilization, and looks to the US Department of State (DOS) to take the lead in resourcing and implementing it. However, in practice this strategy is failing to accomplish its stated objectives for several reasons.

Reconstruction is the vital internal link to solving terrorism

Bond and Klinger 7 (Margaret S - Colonel in US Army Reserve, Janeen - Project Adviser, http://www.comw.org/qdr/fulltext/0703bond.pdf, AD: 6/27/10) jl

The United States military has had much recent experience in conducting stabilization and reconstruction operations in failed and failing states, from the Balkans and Haiti in the early 1990s, through Afghanistan and Iraq today. What has emerged from over five years of the Global War on Terrorism and four years of war in Iraq is the realization that stability operations, to succeed, are long-term US commitments requiring large amounts of human and financial capital. Developing comprehensive plans to project all the elements of US national power into successful stabilization of a region requires a robust variety of skills and experience. Recent administrations have attempted to craft a process to develop such plans, combining the strengths and experience of civilian and military resources. In 1997 President Clinton issued Presidential Decision Directive 56 (PDD 56) “Managing Complex Contingency Operations”. This Directive called for the National Security Council to establish of interagency working groups to assist in policy development, planning, and execution of complex contingency operations, bringing together representatives of all agencies that might participate in such operations, including those not normally part of the National Security Council structure.12 This Directive was later rescinded by President Bush who, In December 2005, issued National Security Directive 44, Management of Interagency Efforts Concerning Reconstruction and Stabilization. The Directive aims to promote the security of the United States through improved coordination, planning, and implementation of reconstruction and stabilization assistance for foreign states at risk from conflict or civil strife.13 The current 2006 National Security Strategy specifically cites failing and ungoverned spaces with weak governments as requiring outside assistance to regain control of its borders and develop the capacity to resist infiltration of terrorist elements into ill-governed areas in an otherwise functioning state. To further (sic) counter terrorist exploitation of under-governed lands, we will promote effective economic development to help ensure long-term stability and prosperity. In failing states or states emerging from conflict, the risks are significant. Spoilers can take advantage of instability to create conditions terrorists can exploit. We will continue to work with foreign partners and international organizations to help prevent conflict and respond to state failure by building foreign capacity for peace operations, reconstruction, and stabilization so that countries in transition can reach a sustainable path to peace, democracy, and prosperity. 14

Internals – Rebuilding Solves Terrorism

Specifically rebuilding before conflict erupts solves terrorism

Bond and Klinger 7 (Margaret S - Colonel in US Army Reserve, Janeen - Project Adviser, http://www.comw.org/qdr/fulltext/0703bond.pdf, AD: 6/27/10) jl

Underscoring these positions, in July 2004, with bipartisan support in Congress and with the agreement of the National Security Council, the Secretary of State established the Office of the Coordinator for Reconstruction and Stabilization (S/CRS) to lead U.S. efforts at assisting other countries in transition from conflict and helping them reach a sustainable path towards peaceful, democratic, and market-oriented societies.17 The emphasis of the new S/CRS is to strengthen the U.S. government’s institutional capacity to deal with crises in failing states and to reconstruct and stabilize societies recovering from conflict and civil strife.18 The S/CRS’ stated goal is to provide an operational field response to post-conflict situations that emphasizes facilitation of peace implementation processes, coordination with international and local institutions and individuals that are developing transition strategies. In addition S/CRS will help implement transitional governance arrangements; encourage conflicting factions to work together; develop strategies to promote transitional security; coordinate with other US government agencies and the US military; foreign agencies and armed forces; and, if necessary, prepare a diplomatic base on the ground.19 Clearly, the goals and objectives of our national strategy and the S/CRS and the US government agencies and organizations supporting it, are focused in the right direction to address the requirements peculiar to post conflict stability and reconstruction operations. However, the focus of this strategy is primarily on assisting governments in transition, rebuilding stability and national infrastructure and other stabilizing operations after conflict has occurred. Building stability and security in pre-conflict situations and preventing conflict through prophylactic use of elements of national power is not considered. Yet this application of stability and security operations clearly is vital in failed and failing states, where prevention of the establishment of opportunistic terrorist movements is key to maintaining the initiative in the GWOT and protecting US national security interests.

The key mission behind military presence is rebuilding

Bond and Klinger 7 (Margaret S - Colonel in US Army Reserve, Janeen - Project Adviser, http://www.comw.org/qdr/fulltext/0703bond.pdf, AD: 6/27/10) jl

SSTR: A New Core Military Mission Indeed, the Defense Appropriation Act which established the S/CRS25 identified US land forces as a critical component of stability and security operations by naming the Army as the executive agent for these operations. In 2005 the Department of Defense (DoD) went a step further in developing the role of the US military in stability and security operations. Specifically, Defense Directive 3000.05 (DD 3000.05) laid direct claim to stability, security, transition and reconstruction (SSTR) operations, denoting them as a core military mission comparable in scope and importance to combat operations.26 Further solidifying its claim to SSTR operations, Department of Defense Directive 3000.05 defines a comprehensive scope of this policy’s goals. In the short term these goals are to provide the local populace with security, restore essential services, and meet humanitarian needs, while the long-term goals include helping indigenous capacity for securing essential services, a viable market economy, rule of law, democratic institutions, and robust civil society. 27 DoD 3000.05 also provides guidance on stability operations that evolve over time as joint operating concepts, mission sets, and lessons develop. This Directive establishes DoD policy on these operations and assigns responsibilities within the DoD for planning, training, and preparing to conduct and support stability operations. Additionally, this Directive provides for future DoD policy to address these areas and provide guidance on the components SSTR and the senior military and civilian roles in each.28 Finally, and most significantly, in addition to establishing a clear purpose and guidelines for military leaders in stability operations, this Directive establishes clear policy that: Stability operations are a core U.S. military mission and that the Department of Defense shall be prepared to conduct and support. They shall be given priority to combat operations and shall be explicitly addressed and integrated across all DOD activities including doctrine, organizations, training, education, exercises, material leadership, personnel, facilities and planning.

Impacts – Terrorism

Terrorist attacks cause US nuclear retaliation – the impact is extinction

Corr 4

(Anders, Ph.D. Candidate at the Department of Government @ Harvard University http://www.foreignpolicysociety.org/workingpapers/WP7--Corr.pdf, AD: 6/27/10) jl

If a smuggled nuclear explosive detonates in a major American city, how would the United States respond? The most likely targets are New York City and Washington, D.C. In either case, hundreds of thousands would die and hundreds of billions of dollars of damage would be suffered. A severe economic depression would occur. If the blast were in DC, nearly the entire political and/or military leadership would need to be replaced, depending on the kilotonnage. If in New York, the long-term economic impact would be massive. In either case, the international relations of the United States would drastically change course. When the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor and killed 2,403 Americans, the US was roused from its largely isolationist and pacifist mood overnight. America became the most formidable war machine on earth, beating Japan in the Pacific and Germany in Western Europe.2 When the September 11 attacks cost approximately 3000 lives and over $100 billion in property damage, the nation responded by invading and overthrowing regimes in Afghanistan and Iraq.3 In both cases, US public opinion was inflamed and fully supported offensive military retaliation. How much greater would be the response of public mood and offensive military action to an unexpected incident of nuclear terror that caused, at a minimum, 50 times the casualties and property damage of Pearl Harbor and September 11 combined? The response would be unprecedented and very likely nuclear, even if the United States had no ex ante doctrine that ensured retaliation. In this case, the United States would bear all the expected costs of military retaliation, without deriving the expected benefits of deterrence that flow from ex ante threats of retaliation.

AT: Other Actors Rebuild

The US is the only effective actor in reconstruction efforts – these solve terrorism

Bond and Klinger 7 (Margaret S - Colonel in US Army Reserve, Janeen - Project Adviser, http://www.comw.org/qdr/fulltext/0703bond.pdf, AD: 6/27/10) jl

Finally, US stability and security operations to date have been primarily reactive, rather than pro-active, in seeking resources and strategies to inhibit establishment of terrorist strongholds in failing states. Indeed, billions of US dollars have been devoted to reconstruction operations in countries such as Afghanistan where the US has first resorted to military force to drive out terrorism and now seeks to prevent its return by building that nation’s capacity to transition to democracy and sustainable peace. Again, the resulting ground conditions are typically too hostile and unsafe for civilian agencies to operate effectively. In light of these conditions, at present the US military is the sole effective agency to implement current national strategy for security, stabilization, and reconstruction in failed and failing states, wrestling with the threat of terrorist ideologies for political, economic and social control. Given that the opponent’s center of gravity is ideological rather than kinetic, to achieve GWOT objectives, the US military needs to refine its implementation of the strategy in order to counter this threat before it has a chance to take root. In particular, the military needs to develop a prophylactic capability to combine security and stability operations along with infrastructure reconstruction to prevent and eject terrorist infiltration into vulnerable regions, while simultaneously being prepared to respond with deadly force if the security environment suddenly turns hostile. Today more than ever, the US military needs a new strategic concept to respond globally to a startling array of volatile, uncertain, complex, and ambiguous security environments and to counter regional terrorist threats conducting unconventional and irregular warfare across geographic boundaries in failed and failing states.

AT: Civilians Fill In

Military force is key – Terrorism thrives best in instable regions

Bond and Klinger 7 (Margaret S - Colonel in US Army Reserve, Janeen - Project Adviser, http://www.comw.org/qdr/fulltext/0703bond.pdf, AD: 6/27/10) jl

The environments in which terrorism and its resultant threats to US national security, thrives best are the ones most dangerous and least amenable to these non-military projections of national power by unarmed, civilian operators. However, it is these environments which are best suited to use of US military capabilities whose missions can range from humanitarian involvement to direct combat power. For example, one humanitarian mission for which the US military is superbly prepared is responding to natural disasters. Two recent successful efforts at winning good will both involved the military. One was the dispatch of soldiers to help Indonesia after the 2004 tsunami, and the other was the use of US forces to help Pakistan after the Kashmir earthquake.22

\*\*\*AFF – SEABEES\*\*\*

Aff – No Rebuilding

Afghani government cooperation is failing which is the key internal link

Gebauer 8 (Matthias, Staff Writer for Spiegel Online, http://www.spiegel.de/international/world/0,1518,559410,00.html, AD: 6/27/10) jl

Once again, a perfidious, behind-the-scenes diplomatic drama was being staged in Paris. While the dignitaries in the conference room spoke of friendship and eternal alliances, the comments they made outside, in front of the cameras, were decidedly more direct. "Reconstruction in Afghanistan is not failing because of the money," said one European diplomat, "the trouble lies with the Karzai government itself." The Kabul government, the diplomat continued, will have to make many improvements within the next two years, or it will lose the West's confidence once and for all.

Aff – Int. Link Turn – Presence = Terrorism

Empirics go aff – military presence only increases instability and terrorism

Bowman 8 (Bradley - Council on Foreign Relations international affairs fellow, assistant professor at the United States Military Academy at West Point, http://www.twq.com/08spring/docs/08spring\_bowman.pdf, AD: 6/27/10) jl

Not only is a large U.S. military presence in the Middle East unnecessary, but it is also frequently counterproductive. A look at the rise of al Qaeda as a threat to the United States in the 1990s illustrates the radicalizing effect that often accompanies a U.S. military presence. The U.S. military presence in Saudi Arabia represents the primary reason Osama bin Laden and al Qaeda began to target the United States in the 1990s. As early as 1994, bin Laden publicly decried the U.S. military presence in Saudi Arabia.27 He followed these initial public condemnations with a message in 1996 entitled “Declaration of Jihad,” stating that “the greatest disaster to befall the Muslims since the death of the Prophet Muhammad—is the occupation of Saudi Arabia, which is the cornerstone of the Islamic world, place of revelation, source of the Prophetic mission, and home of the Noble Ka’ba where Muslims direct their prayers. Despite this, it was occupied by the armies of the Christians, the Americans, and their allies.”28 Two years later, in February 1998, bin Laden joined Ayman al Zawahiri and three other Islamist leaders from Bangladesh, Egypt, and Pakistan in issuing a formal declaration regarding the religious duty of Muslims to wage jihad against U.S. military personnel and civilians. After a paragraph of the requisite salutations and religious formalities, the authors immediately cite the preeminent reason for the jihad against the Americans: “Firstly, for over seven years America has occupied the holiest part of the Islamic lands, the Arabian peninsula, plundering its wealth, dictating to its leaders, humiliating its people, terrorizing its neighbors, and turning its bases there into a spearhead with which to fight the neighboring Muslim peoples.”29

The U.S. military presence in Saudi Arabia certainly did not justify al Qaeda’s tragic and immoral slaughter of nearly 3,000 innocent Americans, but it did largely explain it. From the perspective of bin Laden and a large segment of the Arab world, the United States was an occupying power in Saudi Arabia, and the only way to compel it to leave was for al Qaeda to use the only effective tool at its disposal: terrorism. Not only did bin Laden consistently cite the U.S. presence in Saudi Arabia as the paramount justification for jihad in the years leading up to the September 11 attacks, but 15 of 19 hijackers were from Saudi Arabia, two from the UAE, one from Egypt, and one from Lebanon. In a poll of Saudis taken after the September 11 attacks, 95 percent of Saudis agreed with bin Laden’s objection to U.S. forces in the region.30 The centrality of the Hejaz, the area encompassing Mecca, Medina, and its surrounding areas, in the Muslim faith makes the presence of foreign troops in Saudi Arabia significantly more offensive compared to a troop presence in countries on Saudi Arabia’s periphery.31 Consequently, the 2003 reduction of U.S. troops in Saudi Arabia represented a step in the right direction for the United States to address this source of radicalization.

US military presence causes instability and terrorism

Bowman 8 (Bradley - Council on Foreign Relations international affairs fellow, assistant professor at the United States Military Academy at West Point, http://www.twq.com/08spring/docs/08spring\_bowman.pdf, AD: 6/27/10) jl

The U.S. military presence in the Middle East has represented one of the leading sources of radicalization and terrorism directed against the United States. Yet, protecting U.S. interests in the region does not require an obtrusive U.S. military footprint characterized by sprawling bases occupied by large numbers of permanently stationed ground troops. In fact, a large U.S. military presence in the region is unnecessary and often counterproductive. If policymakers ignore the role of the U.S. military presence in the radicalization process and fail to assess the actual necessity of a large U.S. military presence, the United States will find itself in a needless predicament not unlike the Herculean struggle against the mythological hydra. For every Abu Musab al- Zarqawi that the United States kills, the continuing sources of radicalization will generate a virtually limitless pool of replacements

Aff – No Impact

No impact to terrorism

Milholin 2 (Gary, Director of the Wisconsin Project on Nuclear Arms Control, http://www.wisconsinproject.org/pubs/articles/2002/terror-bomb.htm, AD: 6/27/10) jl

Despite the reports, and despite the attendant warnings, the risk that a terrorist group like al Qaeda could get the bomb (or a "dirty" substitute) is much lower than most people think. That is the good news. There is also bad news: the risk is not zero. THERE ARE essentially two ways for a terrorist group to lay its hands on a nuclear weapon: either build one from scratch or somehow procure an already manufactured one or its key components. Neither of these is likely. Building a bomb from scratch would confer the most power: a group that could build one bomb could build several, and a nuclear arsenal would put it front and center on the world stage. But of all the possibilities, this is the unlikeliest--"so remote," in the words of a senior nuclear scientist at the Los Alamos National Laboratory, "that it can be essentially ruled out." The chief obstacle lies in producing the nuclear fuel--either bomb-grade uranium or plutonium--that actually explodes in a chain reaction. More than 80 percent of the effort that went into making America's first bombs was devoted to producing this fuel, and it is no easy task. To make bomb-grade uranium, a terrorist group would need thousands of high-speed gas centrifuges, machined to exact dimensions, arranged in series, and capable of operating under the most demanding conditions. If they wanted to produce the uranium by a diffusion process, they would need an even greater number of other machines, equally difficult to manufacture and operate. If they followed Saddam Hussein's example, they could try building a series of giant electromagnets, capable of bending a stream of electrically charged particles--a no less daunting challenge. For any of these, they would also need a steady supply of natural uranium and a specialized plant to convert it to a gaseous form for processing. Who would sell these things to would-be nuclear terrorists? The answer is: nobody. The world's nuclear-equipment makers are organized into a cooperative group that exists precisely to stop items like these from getting into unauthorized hands. Nor could a buyer disguise the destination and send materials through obliging places like Dubai (as Iran does with its hot cargoes) or Malta (favored by Libya's smugglers). The equipment is so specialized, and the suppliers so few, that a forest of red flags would go up. And even if the equipment could be bought, it would have to be operated in a place that the United States could not find. If manufacturing bomb-grade uranium is out of the picture, what about making plutonium, a much smaller quantity of which is required to form a critical mass (less than fourteen pounds was needed to destroy Nagasaki in 1945)? There is, however, an inconvenient fact about plutonium, which is that you need a reactor to make enough of it for a workable bomb. Could terrorists buy one? The Russians are selling a reactor to Iran, but Moscow tends to put terrorist groups in the same category as Chechens. The Chinese are selling reactors to Pakistan, but Beijing, too, is not fond of terrorists. India and Pakistan can both build reactors on their own, but, for now, these countries are lined up with the U.S. Finally, smuggling a reactor would be no easier than buying one. Reactor parts are unique, so manufacturers would not be fooled by phony purchase orders. Even if terrorists somehow got hold of a reactor, they would need a special, shielded chemical plant to chop up its radioactive fuel, dissolve it in acid, and then extract the plutonium from the acid. No one would sell them a plutonium extraction plant, either. It is worth remembering that Saddam Hussein tried the reactor road in the 1970's. He bought one from France--Jacques Chirac, in his younger days, was a key facilitator of the deal--hoping it would propel Iraq into the nuclear club. But the reactor's fuel was sabotaged in a French warehouse, the person who was supposed to certify its quality was murdered in a Paris hotel, and when the reactor was finally ready to operate, a squadron of Israeli fighter-bombers blew it apart. A similar fate would undoubtedly await any group that tried to follow Saddam's method today. IF MAKING nuclear-bomb fuel is a no-go, why not just steal it, or buy it on the black market? Consider plutonium. There are hundreds of reactors in the world, and they crank out tons of the stuff every year. Surely a dedicated band of terrorists could get their hands on some. This too is not so simple. Plutonium is only created inside reactor fuel rods, and the rods, after being irradiated, become so hot that they melt unless kept under water. They are also radioactive, which is why they have to travel submerged from the reactor to storage ponds, with the water acting as both coolant and radiation shield. And in most power reactors, the rods are welded together into long assemblies that can be lifted only by crane. True, after the rods cool down they can be stored dry, but their radioactivity is still lethal. To prevent spent fuel rods from killing the people who come near them, they are transported in giant radiation-shielding casks that are not supposed to break open even in head-on collisions. The casks are also guarded. If terrorists managed to hijack one from a country that had reactors they would still have to take it to a plant in another country that could extract the plutonium from the rods. They would be hunted at every step of the way. Instead of fuel rods, they would be better advised to go after pure plutonium, already removed from the reactor fuel and infinitely easier to handle. This kind of plutonium is a threat only if you ingest or inhale it. Human skin blocks its radiation: a terrorist could walk around with a lump of it in his front trouser pocket and still have children. But where to get hold of it? Russia is the best bet: it has tons of plutonium in weapon-ready form, and the Russian nuclear-accounting system is weak. Russia also has underpaid scientists, and there is unquestionably some truth behind all the stories one hears about the smuggling that goes on in that country. But very little Russian plutonium has been in circulation, with not a single reported case of anything more than gram quantities showing up on the black market. This makes sense. Pure plutonium is used primarily for making nuclear warheads, it is in military hands, and military forces are not exactly keen to see it come back at them in somebody else's bombs. One source of pure plutonium that is not military is a new kind of reactor fuel called "mixed oxide." It is very different from the present generation of fuel because it contains weapon-ready material. But precisely because it is weapon-ready, it is guarded and accounted for, and a terrorist group would have to win a gun battle to get close to it. Then they would probably need a crane to move it, and would have to elude or fight off their pursuers. If terrorists did procure some weapon-ready plutonium, would their problems be over? Far from it: plutonium works only in an "implosion"-type bomb,

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Aff – No Impact

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which is about ten times more difficult to build than the simple uranium bomb used at Hiroshima. In such a device, a spherical shock wave "implodes" inward and squeezes a ball of plutonium at the bomb's center so that it explodes in a chain reaction. To accomplish all this, one needs precision machine tools to build the parts, special furnaces to melt and cast the plutonium in a vacuum (liquid plutonium oxidizes rapidly in air), and high-precision switches and capacitors for the firing circuit. Also required are a qualified designer, a number of other specialists, and a testing program. Considering who the participating scientists are likely to be, the chances of getting an implosion bomb to work are rather small. THE ALTERNATIVE to plutonium is bomb-grade uranium--and here things would be easier. This is the fuel used in the Hiroshima bomb. Unlike the implosion bomb dropped on Nagasaki, this one did not have to be tested: the U.S. knew it would work. The South Africans built six uranium bombs without testing; they knew their bombs would work, too. All these devices used a simple "gun" design in which one slug of uranium was shot down a barrel into another. The problem with buying bomb-grade uranium is that one would need a great deal of it--around 120 pounds for a gun-type bomb--and nothing near that amount has turned up in the black market.

The odds of terrorists constructing and detonating a nuclear weapon is one in over three billion

Choong 9 (William, Senior Writer at The Straits Times, Lexis) jl

This leaves the second route: terrorists building a nuclear device themselves. And arguably, nuclear terrorists can find do-it-yourself instructions for a nuclear weapon, albeit crude ones, on the Internet.

Having the blueprint for a weapon, however, does not guarantee the production of that weapon. In the estimation of Professor John Mueller, a political scientist at Ohio University, terrorists will have to successfully navigate about 20 steps to build an improvised nuclear device - and all the steps must be achieved. These include processes centred on producing, transporting and detonating the device.

If the terrorist group has a 50 per cent chance of success for each step, the odds of the group pulling off all the steps would be one in a million. If each step involves a 33 per cent chance of success, the odds of pulling off all of them would drop to one in over three billion, Prof Mueller says in an e-mail in reply to questions by this newspaper.

\*\*\*NEG – WOMENS RIGHTS\*\*\*

1NC Shell

Women’s rights down now – engagement key to solve

Mojumdar 10 (Aunohita WeNews correspondent March 7, http://www.womensenews.org/story/peace/100305/afghan-women-fear-violence-in-national-peace?page=0,0 TBC 6/28/10)

U.N. Security Council Resolution 1325 calls for the inclusion of women in any peace negotiation, but Afghan women fear little, or hollow, enforcement. More international attention is being paid to whether insurgent leaders will be present at the peace jirga than whether women will find a place. Women, after all, pose no threat to security. Only one Afghan woman, for instance--Arzo Qanih, a member of the Afghan Women's Network--was invited to attend the London peace-planning conference in January. "Women's engagement is not an optional extra component of stabilization and recovery," Qanih told the gathering. "It is a critical precursor to success." In any negotiations, she said, women's rights must be protected. Increasingly Insecure Environment Afghan women face an increasingly insecure environment with a growing trend of violence against women in public life, according to a July 2009 report by the U.N.'s human rights office in Afghanistan. Violence against women, the report found, was being perpetrated not just by anti-government forces, but also by "local traditional and religious power-holders, women's own families and communities and in some instances government authorities." In a December report, Human Rights Watch also flagged the weakening of women's rights. "The insecurity Afghans face comes not only from the insurgency, but also from abuses by so-far untouchable government officials and warlords," the report said.

The army’s female engagement teams are key to address the needs of local women and connect to them

BUMILLER 10 (ELISABETH March 6http://www.nytimes.com/2010/03/07/world/asia/07women.html?adxnnl=1&adxnnlx=1277712078-U9sJSqDUDZzEmKPVTZQIZw TBC 6/28/10)

Next month they will begin work as members of the first full-time “female engagement teams,” the military’s name for four- and five-member units that will accompany men on patrols in Helmand Province to try to win over the rural Afghan women who are culturally off limits to outside men. The teams, which are to meet with the Afghan women in their homes, assess their need for aid and gather intelligence, are part of Gen. Stanley A. McChrystal’s campaign for Afghan hearts and minds. His officers say that you cannot gain the trust of the Afghan population if you only talk to half of it. “We know we can make a difference,” said Capt. Emily Naslund, 26, the team’s executive officer and second in command. Like the other 39 women, Captain Naslund volunteered for the program and radiates exuberance, but she is not naïve about the frustrations and dangers ahead. Half of the women have been deployed before, most to Iraq. “We all know that what you expect is not usually what it’s going to end up being,” said Sgt. Melissa Hernandez, 35, who signed on because she wanted something different from her office job at Camp Victory, the American military headquarters in Baghdad. As envisioned, the teams will work like American politicians who campaign door to door and learn what voters care about. A team is to arrive in a village, get permission from the male elder to speak with the women, settle into a compound, hand out school supplies and medicine, drink tea, make conversation and, ideally, get information about the village, local grievances and the Taliban. Whatever the outcome, the teams reflect how much the military has adapted over nine years of war, not only in the way it fights but to the shifting gender roles within its ranks. Women make up only 6 percent of the Marine Corps, which cultivates an image as the most testosterone-fueled service, and they are still officially barred from combat branches like the infantry.

1NC Shell

The input of muslim women key to human rights and effective anti-terror policy – FETs are a model of engagement

Dharmapuri 10 (Sahana gender adviser and lecturer on conflict and security March 25 .http://www.theopedproject.org/index.php?option=com\_content&view=article&id=293:christian-science-monitor-qmuslim-women-could-be-the-key-to-ending-extremismq-by-sahana-dharmapuri-march-25-2010&catid=38:successes&Itemid=86 TBC 6/28/10)

To be sure, they are among the victims. But as the United States works with Afghan locals to develop policy, it must consider this: In order to responsibly promote democracy and support human rights within countries working toward reform, women must be included in making policy decisions. Women are some of the greatest advocates for progressive, antiextremist agendas and to ignore their solutions would be an unfortunate mistake. If policymakers were able to identify and address the barriers to women’s participation in matters of public discourse, they would soon be able to open a new space for moderate voices. It’s not as though women haven’t been trying to participate in such dialogue: The Afghan Women’s Network called on NATO to include Afghan women’s perspectives in provincial reconstruction team activities in Afghanistan back in 2007. They pointed out that women’s right to physical security and participation was being undermined, if not all together violated, because the reconstruction teams were not specifically taking women into account. International policymakers were missing out on reconstruction opportunity by not providing women the additional protection and resources they needed to travel safely to the provincial-level government meetings. Because their right to physical security was not addressed, they were unable to participate in important decisionmaking bodies and the ideas that they could have brought to the table – thoughtful suggestions on how to fight extremism based on their own experiences – was lost. A hallmark of women’s groups, like the Afghan Women’s Network, is that their thinking on the fight against extremism is strategic and long-term. Their recommendations put forward solutions that would strengthen the US and NATO forces on the ground. They have emphasized the inclusion of gender advisers, and strengthened institutional memory in reconstruction teams to create a record of what works and what fails in conflict situation like Afghanistan. Critics will argue that culture and human rights are two different values in conflict – they will say that a liberated woman is a Western value. Others will say that we need to win the war against extremists first, and then we will address women’s issues. But if the women themselves are working hard to be heard, then that argument falls apart. More than 200 Muslim women leaders met at the Women’s Islamic Initiative for Spirituality and Equality (WIISE) conference in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, last summer to discuss the underrepresentation of women. WIISE launched the Global Muslim Women’s Shura Council, an all-women’s council that will promote women’s rights within an Islamic framework. If such work was supported internationally, women could put their effort into solving unrest in the region. For example, WIISE has begun training Muslim women as jurists who can offer valid legal opinions and interpret religious texts on issues such as women’s equality. By training women who have the authority to provide religious interpretation they are creating a new pool of thought leaders. When women can offer new interpretations of religious texts such as the Koran, it allows for the emergence of moderate voices and views within Muslim society. In most cases, giving a public voice to Muslim women’s opinions is giving voice to antiextremist perspectives on Islam. Educating women to be jurists, or supporting their participation in political decisionmaking, would not only act as leaven in societies where their ideas have traditionally been repressed, it would provide the space to help others actively challenge extremism. If the US really wants to support Afghanistan, it should start by acting as the Afghan Women’s Network suggests and implement the policies and human rights agreements which the US has already signed, such as United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325, throughout US security operations by making women equal players at all levels. Another way to support that would be to increase the use of US female troops in the already existing Female Engagement Teams (whose mission is to engage with local Afghan women) in Afghanistan and to mobilize them consistently. That type of modeling of respect for women and show of empowerment, would dramatically improve the US ability to build positive relations with both male and female community members, and through that improve US chances at creating a more stable environment in general.

[Terror Impact]

Womens Rights Uniqueness

Women’s rights down now – engagement key to solve

Mojumdar 10 (Aunohita WeNews correspondent March 7, http://www.womensenews.org/story/peace/100305/afghan-women-fear-violence-in-national-peace?page=0,0 TBC 6/28/10)

U.N. Security Council Resolution 1325 calls for the inclusion of women in any peace negotiation, but Afghan women fear little, or hollow, enforcement. More international attention is being paid to whether insurgent leaders will be present at the peace jirga than whether women will find a place. Women, after all, pose no threat to security. Only one Afghan woman, for instance--Arzo Qanih, a member of the Afghan Women's Network--was invited to attend the London peace-planning conference in January. "Women's engagement is not an optional extra component of stabilization and recovery," Qanih told the gathering. "It is a critical precursor to success." In any negotiations, she said, women's rights must be protected. Increasingly Insecure Environment Afghan women face an increasingly insecure environment with a growing trend of violence against women in public life, according to a July 2009 report by the U.N.'s human rights office in Afghanistan. Violence against women, the report found, was being perpetrated not just by anti-government forces, but also by "local traditional and religious power-holders, women's own families and communities and in some instances government authorities." In a December report, Human Rights Watch also flagged the weakening of women's rights. "The insecurity Afghans face comes not only from the insurgency, but also from abuses by so-far untouchable government officials and warlords," the report said.

Links – US Presence

US presence in Afghanistan is good benefits women

Tate 9 (Deborah, VOA News, Dec 23, <http://www1.voanews.com/english/news/human-rights/23dec09-afghan-women-80002802.html>

A group of prominent female human-rights activists is urging the United States to consider a long-term commitment to Afghanistan as the Obama administration begins deploying 30,000 more troops to the country to counter the Taliban insurgency. The women made their appeal at a recent gathering in Washington, following President Barack Obama's announcement of the troop surge. The American women activists are advocating a U.S. long-term commitment to Afghanistan in hopes of instilling security and basic human rights for Afghan women. President Obama is hoping increased U.S. troop strength in Afghanistan will allow U.S. and Afghan forces to make significant progress toward dismantling al-Qaida and weakening the Taliban so U.S. forces will be able to begin withdrawing in about 18 months. But the female human-rights activists do not feel that this is enough time to alleviate the dire situation for Afghan women. The founder of Women for Afghan Women, Sunita Viswanath, says if the United States walks away from Afghanistan too soon, the progress her organization has made for Afghan women will be lost. "If the direction of the U.S. involvement reverses and we in any way diminish our commitment to Afghanistan, that progress in Afghanistan will be obliterated overnight. And we will be back in the dark ages, before 9/11, where women did not have freedom of movement, they were flogged in the street for small infractions, and as we all remember the images that we saw of women who were publicly executed. This is what will happen. We are certain of this if the U.S. withdraws from the Afghanistan," said Sunita Viswanath. Human Rights Watch Senior Afghanistan Researcher Rachel Reed, a member of Women for Afghan Women, agreed long-term commitment in Afghanistan will help the organization grow and expand into more cities. "I would hope that we would see a long-term, sustainable commitment, including lots of development assistance and development assistance that is not just done through the U.S. aid contractors, but actually goes to organizations like this who work on the ground and have much more chance of success in doing the really difficult work in shifting the attitudes. It is really going to take a long time to substantially change the lives of Afghan women and girls. And that needs long-term investment," said Reed. In an interview with Voice of America, Nasreen Gross, the head of the Roquia Center for Women's Rights Studies and Education in Afghanistan, says that she strongly supports President Obama's decision to send an additional 30,000 troops into Afghanistan, but she hopes the Afghan government will be willing to focus and address the needs of Afghan women.

FET k to Women in the Military

Female engagement teams are a foot in the door for women in the military

KOVACH 10 (GRETEL C., UNION-TRIBUNE STAFF WRITER WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 24 http://www.signonsandiego.com/news/2010/feb/24/reaching-out-to-afghan-women/ TBC 6/28/10)

Female engagement teams have been a success on the battlefield despite the ad hoc nature of their early use, said Paula Broadwell, a major in the Army reserves and a research associate at the Center for Public Leadership at Harvard University. In an opinion piece in The New York Times, Broadwell quoted from an internal Marine Corps After Action Review that concluded the teams had made some breakthroughs operating as a “third gender” — respected by Afghan men and allowed access to the local women in many cases. One old man who allowed a female team into his home said, “Your men come to fight, but we know the women are here to help,” the Marines’ review said. But the teams were stymied by their limited training, which caused mistakes such as removing their headscarves along with their helmets, Broadwell said in an interview. “When you institutionalize it, you create standards” that will make the female teams safer and more effective, she said. “These women are not just out there drinking tea, they also have to go on convoys and there is a possibility of attack. They have to be able to protect themselves.” Although isolated Army units, including the 10th Mountain Division, have formed female engagement teams inspired by the Marines, the Corps is leading the initiative. Loren Thompson, a defense analyst with the Lexington Institute in Arlington, Va., describes the effort as a radical battlefield development that’s “emblematic of how the nature of warfare and the nature of women’s roles is changing. Gradually, the barriers to a female presence in war zones are falling.” Thompson said his mother was dismissed from the Army during the Korean War when she became pregnant with him. Back then, he said, “no one would have suggested putting women near the front because it was all about firepower. Now it is about a lot of things, including … civilian reconstruction and linguistic skills that the women may be just as good at if not better than the men.” It’s difficult to measure the success of the engagement teams in Afghanistan, where many U.S. operations are misinterpreted by villagers, Thompson added. “But the fact that the Marines would even try it suggests an openness that is seldom associated with the Marines or the military in general,” he said.

FETs change military gender roles

Pieklo 10 (Jessica 6/2 professor of law and political science in Minneapolis http://www.care2.com/causes/womens-rights/blog/women-a-crucial-part-of-the-mission-in-afghanistan/ TBC 6/28/10)

Women are still barred from combat branches like the infantry, but all branches of the armed services are beginning to understand the crucial role women play in executing a mission of nation-building. Regardless of your opinion as to whether or not the United States should be in the business of nation-building, the fact remains that in Afghanistan, that's the mission. And it's a mission that at times requires a softer touch to help bridge the cultural divide that separates Afghani and American men. Female engagement teams, or fets as they are known, are helping redefine gender roles in combat as their once reluctant male peers come to rely more and more on them. One fet has been sent to accompany all-male foot patrols in Hemland Province, in southern Afghanistan, to win over the Afghan women. Officers, over multiple cups of tea, made small talk with the Afghan women. After a few connections were made, the officers were encouraging the Afghan women to sew items that could be sold at a local bazaar as a means of empowering the Afghan women and creating some stability of economy that does not rely on a drug trade. The all-female teams are also desperately needed in medical clinics to help treat the local population. When that happens trust gets built between the communities and the tricky business of enacting a counterinsurgency campaign takes hold.

FET k to Women in the Military

FETs key to build the groundwork for stability in Afghanistan and change military attitudes about women

Pieklo 10 (Jessica 6/2 professor of law and political science in Minneapolis http://www.care2.com/causes/womens-rights/blog/women-a-crucial-part-of-the-mission-in-afghanistan/ TBC 6/28/10)

The skepticism does not end with the Afghan women. Female officers have had to prove their worth to their male counterparts. They carry the same weapons as the men, receive the same combat training as the men, yet they cannot leave the bases unless the men escort them. That fact alone can often keep gender prejudices entrenched on the base, but like the Afghan population, the men in the military are slowly coming around. Once those cultural divides break down, a process the officers admit does not happen over night, the payoff is almost immediate. The women get access to parts of Afghanistan that were simply off limits to American forces before. They also serve as a powerful visual for a female population with zero opportunity. They've been able to encourage Afghan women to go to school, and in turn, teach their daughters to read. These may seem like small tasks, but they are exactly the kind of tasks that will turn a nation.

FET Empowerment/Engagement

FETs can be used for empowering aid

Pottinger et. al. 10 (Captain Matt Pottinger co-founded and trained the first Female Engagement Team, Hali Jilani is a Pashtun-American who has worked at the grassroots level in war and conflict zones for two decades. Claire Russo is a civilian advisor to the U.S. Army in eastern Afghanistan. http://smallwarsjournal.com/blog/journal/docs-temp/370-pottinger.pdf TBC 6/28/10)

The remaining sections of this paper offer some tactical lessons learned by FETs in the field to help their sister FETs avoid repeating mistakes. When time permits, it is better to deliver sacks of grain or other humanitarian assistance directly to each household rather than toss it off the back of a truck into a crowd of clamoring residents. Although the latter approach is common with relief efforts all over the world, as news reports reveal, its unruliness and inequity robs us of an opportunity to connect with the very individuals and groups we are trying to influence. We recommend using the FETs to distribute humanitarian supplies directly to the women of each household. This approach ensures equal distribution, openly and conspicuously empowers local women in their communities, and constitutes an effective way to start valuable conversations. Gifts welcomed by women include rice, grain, beans, sugar, tea, cooking oil, and over-the-counter painkillers. These opportunities to bolster our mission have no downside cost and should not be missed.

Female engagement teams address the needs of local women and connect to them

BUMILLER 10 (ELISABETH March 6http://www.nytimes.com/2010/03/07/world/asia/07women.html?adxnnl=1&adxnnlx=1277712078-U9sJSqDUDZzEmKPVTZQIZw TBC 6/28/10)

Next month they will begin work as members of the first full-time “female engagement teams,” the military’s name for four- and five-member units that will accompany men on patrols in Helmand Province to try to win over the rural Afghan women who are culturally off limits to outside men. The teams, which are to meet with the Afghan women in their homes, assess their need for aid and gather intelligence, are part of Gen. Stanley A. McChrystal’s campaign for Afghan hearts and minds. His officers say that you cannot gain the trust of the Afghan population if you only talk to half of it. “We know we can make a difference,” said Capt. Emily Naslund, 26, the team’s executive officer and second in command. Like the other 39 women, Captain Naslund volunteered for the program and radiates exuberance, but she is not naïve about the frustrations and dangers ahead. Half of the women have been deployed before, most to Iraq. “We all know that what you expect is not usually what it’s going to end up being,” said Sgt. Melissa Hernandez, 35, who signed on because she wanted something different from her office job at Camp Victory, the American military headquarters in Baghdad. As envisioned, the teams will work like American politicians who campaign door to door and learn what voters care about. A team is to arrive in a village, get permission from the male elder to speak with the women, settle into a compound, hand out school supplies and medicine, drink tea, make conversation and, ideally, get information about the village, local grievances and the Taliban. Whatever the outcome, the teams reflect how much the military has adapted over nine years of war, not only in the way it fights but to the shifting gender roles within its ranks. Women make up only 6 percent of the Marine Corps, which cultivates an image as the most testosterone-fueled service, and they are still officially barred from combat branches like the infantry.

FET Empowerment/Engagement

FETs are crucial engagement with local women

Talton 10 (Trista Jan 10 http://www.marinecorpstimes.com/news/2010/01/marine\_fet\_010910w/ TBC 6/28/10)

Cpl. Sara Bryant is training like an infantry Marine about to hit the front lines.She’s learned to clear houses and patrol, and she’s refreshed her land navigation, martial arts and machine gun firing skills.But Bryant isn’t a grunt. She’s a radio operator with 9th Communications Battalion out of Camp Pendleton, Calif., and one of more than 20 female Marines who will train future members of Female Engagement Teams to go into Afghanistan.The FETs, initiated in February by the 2nd Marine Expeditionary Brigade as a way to reach out to Afghan women, may serve a crucial role in the counterinsurgency efforts in Afghanistan. Simply interacting with local women, offering them aspirin and vitamins, can make an impact, Marine officials say.It’s a job that takes women outside of the wire and closer to combat, blurring the rules set by a federal law that prohibits women from being in the infantry. But Bryant and others say they want the opportunity to participate in infantry missions as well.“We need to stay with the infantry units to get to know the area and the population and for the people to get used to seeing the same faces,” Bryant said.FETs in 2nd MEB are cobbled together for specific missions, pulled from subordinate commands, then sent back to fulfill their primary jobs. They range in size depending on the mission. They’re manned by volunteers — ranging in rank from junior Marines to officers, and with military occupational specialties ranging from intelligence to logistics.A typical FET numbers between two and four Marines, though they can be larger depending on the mission. Current key areas for the teams include the more stable areas in Helmand province, such as the Nawa and Now Zad districts.Team members of 2nd MEB go through an initial five-day course and, when they can, attend one-day-a-week refresher training the MEB offers.The MEB is not alone. In November, Marine Corps Forces Special Operations Command deployed its first special operations task force to oversee all spec-ops forces within a region in western Afghanistan, and the task force includes a FET with four female Marines.It is unclear whether the additional 8,500 Marine forces heading to Afghanistan this year will include more FETs.MarSOC and 2nd MEB officials agree they must make an effort to reach out to Afghan women. The MEB’s female teams are making headway, said Maj. Tadd Turczyn, officer in charge of 2nd MEB’s FETs.Before 2nd MEB’s units started rotating out with other units this fall, it had nearly 100 women trained to serve on teams.“We’re getting little bits of feedback here and there that the women are making just a tiny difference, but it’s measurable,” Turczyn said.One example, he said, was earlier this year when Marines on patrol were approached by Afghan men asking about the teams. According to Turczyn, the Afghan men said the local women had heard about the female Marines and were “praying they would come and talk to them and see what they were like.”“I can see the huge potential that this program has for reaching the women in this society,” Turczyn said. “It’s wrong for another man to even look at them. It’s very important that we reach them. They’re the biggest influence on the children’s lives up until about age 16. If we’re able to have our females interact with them and just let them see who we are and what we are, we can make a difference.”Unlike “Lioness,” a program the military established in Iraq more than five years ago that embeds female Marines and soldiers with infantry units to search Iraqi women, there is no guidance from top Corps leadership on how to train and establish FETs.“We’re just kind of taking baby steps with the program,” Turczyn said.The MEB and 9th Communications Battalion have had no problems finding female Marines wanting to join a FET. The battalion has set up a four-month-long training package for Marines who will eventually train others to be part of future teams.“We get calls literally every other day from Marines who are interested in being a part of it,” said Lt. Col. Julie Nethercot, 9th Communications Battalion’s commander. “It is a very interesting role and mission for them. They’re really interested in making a difference. They just want to be a part of something like this.”Volunteers are motivated and eager to get outside of the wire, despite the danger.“We try and manage to mitigate the risks,” Turczyn said. “They could be out for a day or two or even more, and they’re going to be taking the same full battle gear that the male Marines have. They won’t go out with the maneuver elements, but they do go out as a support element. Once the major combat operations in that area [have] ceased, the FETs will move into an area where they’re needed.”The dangers only push female Marines to train harder, said Bryant, who in 2008 served a short stint as a Lioness in Fallujah. But she admits the job isn’t for everyone.“They realize that with this counterinsurgency fight, females are having to step up to the plate, and they’re doing it, and they’re doing it well,” she said. “Fifty-one percent of the population in Afghanistan is women. These teams are just another foot in the door to prove to them that we’re not there to be an occupying force, but that we’re there to rid that country of the Taliban.”She has helped create the training FETs need to “easily integrate into an infantry unit.”In February, she and other female team trainers will begin teaching volunteers slated to deploy this year to Afghanistan with thousands of other Marines.“This is what I joined the Marine Corps to do,” she said. “This is what it’s all about. This is the closest a woman will get to doing the infantry … side of the house. I can’t wait to get over there.”

FET Empowerment/Engagement

FET engagement is crucial to build bridges with the community

Hill-Mann 10 (Brendann June 3 http://www.womensenews.org/story/peace/100305/afghan-women-fear-violence-in-national-peace?page=0,0 TBC 6/28/10)

While many people still object to women in war zones and argue that women aren't as fit as men to be in the military, this New York Times article confirms what many of us know to be true. Not only are women as capable as their counterparts, there are simply some things in Afghanistan, at least, that women can do that men cannot. Interacting with and earning the trust of Afghan women and children, who are prohibited from interacting with men outside of their families, is one of them. Specially trained women Marine "female engagement teams" (affectionately called "FETs") are following the success of teams like the Lionesses, who were used to search women at checkpoints in Iraq (among other duties), and other ad hoc groups pulled from jobs like cook and bomb disposal to talk with local women who would rather die than let strange men into their compounds. When you are trying to convince people that you want to help them (admittedly after fighting war in their country for nigh on a decade) you can't do so by ignoring half of their population. The shortage of female interpreters (thanks in part are due to DADT) and medics/corpsman makes these female engagement teams vital. These women Marines are able to get in to get information on who needs food and humanitarian aid, establish contact with people who view our troops as walking human rockets, and have even encouraged some of Afghan women to interact with the male medical staff or interpreters from the other side of a mud wall while maintaining the modesty that is important to their culture. The program is working. It is doing what it was intended to do, building bridges with the community. And this engagement can reap serious tactical rewards, since some of the women and children are related to men with information on the Taliban.

FET Solves Aid

FET solves aid

Lubin 10 (Andrew June 25 http://www.mca-marines.org/leatherneck/blog/10/6/fets-marine-female-engagement-teams-making-difference TBC 6/28/10)

By talking with the women, the FETs are able to gain a far more accurate understanding of the overall health, employment and schooling situations in villages, and help direct the Civil Affairs and non-government organizations’ programs far more effectively. The FETs are a fairly new concept, an extension of Iraq’s Lioness Program. The women Marines are all volunteers, from a multiple of military occupational specialties (MOS). Corporal Nora Mund said, “My command was enthusiastic in suggesting the FET program to us; this seems to be an important part of the Marine Corps program in Afghanistan.” Preparatory class work is more commonsense than academic. Mannion explained, “We read “Kite Runner” and “Seven Cups of Tea” in order to get familiar with the culture, plus we took some language courses. But we also continued our weapons training.”

FET k to Muslim Women

The input of muslim women key to human rights and effective anti-terror policy – FETs are a model of engagement

Dharmapuri 10 (Sahana gender adviser and lecturer on conflict and security March 25 .http://www.theopedproject.org/index.php?option=com\_content&view=article&id=293:christian-science-monitor-qmuslim-women-could-be-the-key-to-ending-extremismq-by-sahana-dharmapuri-march-25-2010&catid=38:successes&Itemid=86 TBC 6/28/10)

To be sure, they are among the victims. But as the United States works with Afghan locals to develop policy, it must consider this: In order to responsibly promote democracy and support human rights within countries working toward reform, women must be included in making policy decisions. Women are some of the greatest advocates for progressive, antiextremist agendas and to ignore their solutions would be an unfortunate mistake. If policymakers were able to identify and address the barriers to women’s participation in matters of public discourse, they would soon be able to open a new space for moderate voices. It’s not as though women haven’t been trying to participate in such dialogue: The Afghan Women’s Network called on NATO to include Afghan women’s perspectives in provincial reconstruction team activities in Afghanistan back in 2007. They pointed out that women’s right to physical security and participation was being undermined, if not all together violated, because the reconstruction teams were not specifically taking women into account. International policymakers were missing out on reconstruction opportunity by not providing women the additional protection and resources they needed to travel safely to the provincial-level government meetings. Because their right to physical security was not addressed, they were unable to participate in important decisionmaking bodies and the ideas that they could have brought to the table – thoughtful suggestions on how to fight extremism based on their own experiences – was lost. A hallmark of women’s groups, like the Afghan Women’s Network, is that their thinking on the fight against extremism is strategic and long-term. Their recommendations put forward solutions that would strengthen the US and NATO forces on the ground. They have emphasized the inclusion of gender advisers, and strengthened institutional memory in reconstruction teams to create a record of what works and what fails in conflict situation like Afghanistan. Critics will argue that culture and human rights are two different values in conflict – they will say that a liberated woman is a Western value. Others will say that we need to win the war against extremists first, and then we will address women’s issues. But if the women themselves are working hard to be heard, then that argument falls apart. More than 200 Muslim women leaders met at the Women’s Islamic Initiative for Spirituality and Equality (WIISE) conference in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, last summer to discuss the underrepresentation of women. WIISE launched the Global Muslim Women’s Shura Council, an all-women’s council that will promote women’s rights within an Islamic framework. If such work was supported internationally, women could put their effort into solving unrest in the region. For example, WIISE has begun training Muslim women as jurists who can offer valid legal opinions and interpret religious texts on issues such as women’s equality. By training women who have the authority to provide religious interpretation they are creating a new pool of thought leaders. When women can offer new interpretations of religious texts such as the Koran, it allows for the emergence of moderate voices and views within Muslim society. In most cases, giving a public voice to Muslim women’s opinions is giving voice to antiextremist perspectives on Islam. Educating women to be jurists, or supporting their participation in political decisionmaking, would not only act as leaven in societies where their ideas have traditionally been repressed, it would provide the space to help others actively challenge extremism. If the US really wants to support Afghanistan, it should start by acting as the Afghan Women’s Network suggests and implement the policies and human rights agreements which the US has already signed, such as United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325, throughout US security operations by making women equal players at all levels. Another way to support that would be to increase the use of US female troops in the already existing Female Engagement Teams (whose mission is to engage with local Afghan women) in Afghanistan and to mobilize them consistently. That type of modeling of respect for women and show of empowerment, would dramatically improve the US ability to build positive relations with both male and female community members, and through that improve US chances at creating a more stable environment in general.

A2: FET bad

Criticism of FETs is unsubstantiated sexism – they work

Pottinger et. al. 10 (Captain Matt Pottinger co-founded and trained the first Female Engagement Team, Hali Jilani is a Pashtun-American who has worked at the grassroots level in war and conflict zones for two decades. Claire Russo is a civilian advisor to the U.S. Army in eastern Afghanistan. http://smallwarsjournal.com/blog/journal/docs-temp/370-pottinger.pdf TBC 6/28/10)

Perversely, our reluctance to employ all but a few allied servicewomen in tactical counterinsurgency operations mirror-images the Taliban. Last year, so few U.S. servicewomen had meaningful contact with Afghan women that, statistically speaking, they literally had a higher chance of getting pregnant than of meeting an Afghan woman outside the wire. The excuses for not altering this reality are disappearing fast. ”But engaging women will offend the locals...” Not true. Experience shows that many local men actually prefer talking to U.S. women than to U.S. men. ”But Pashtun women will be punished by their husbands for speaking with Americans...” If that were so, why would FETs usually receive warmer receptions upon returning to the same households later? ”But U.S. law doesn’t permit female soldiers to conduct these sorts of missions...” Incorrect. An explanation of why this is wrong can be found in the 14 September 2009 “Memorandum of Law Concerning Women in Combat Support Operations” by the U.S. Central Command’s Office of the Staff Judge Advocate. Conducting female engagement is no longer a fanciful suggestion, but an official directive. In November 2009, the commanding general of the International Security Assistance Force Joint Command signed an order calling on units to “create female teams to build relations with Afghan women.” This order was not issued to be honored in the breach, but reflects the considered judgment of command that FETs are an important part of our evolving counterinsurgency strategy. This is not to suggest that having poorly trained or badly employed FETs are better than no FETs. They are not. FETs must be enduring teams with soldiers dedicated solely to their mission and officers empowered to promote, shape, approve, and deny mission requests. The work that FETs do is difficult and dangerous, underscoring the imperative of superb training and of involving FETs in mission planning before they leave the wire. The inherent dangers have not, however, detered female soldiers and Marines from volunteering for FETs or from accomplishing their missions.4 In fact, several FET members told us they were willing to extend their deployments or quickly return to Afghanistan if given the chance to be on a FET fulltime. This begs another question: Who is shielding their women from Afghan society more: Pashtun men or U.S. commanders?

FET k to Hearts and Minds

FETs key to hearts and minds – female doctors

Lubin 10 (Andrew June 25 http://www.mca-marines.org/leatherneck/blog/10/6/fets-marine-female-engagement-teams-making-difference TBC 6/28/10)

Possibly their most effective use is in conjunction with the female physicians the Marine Corps is sending to Afghanistan. In multiple “shuras” (town meetings), throughout the province, the one constant request besides security is for “female doctors for our wives and children.” But as the overworked female doctors put on yet another medical civic action program, Mannion, Mund, and linguists Mina and Flourence are bringing many wives and children to their first doctor visit in years—it seems there are many ways to reach “hearts and minds.”

Women’s Rights k to Afghanistan

The plan leaves women out in withdrawal plans – women’s rights key to Afghanistan

Reid 10 (Testimony of Rachel Reid to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee FEBRUARY 24, http://www.hrw.org/en/news/2010/02/24/testimony-rachel-reid-senate-foreign-relations-committee TC 6/28/10)

As the United States increases its troop commitments and political engagement in Afghanistan, it is important to recognize that the threat to women's rights comes from the Afghan government as well as former warlords, the Taliban, and other armed groups. Too often, politics trumps justice when women's rights are at stake. President Karzai's efforts to reach out to Taliban leaders cannot be an excuse to appease fundamentalist demands to oppress women. Afghan women were deeply disappointed that President Obama's December 2009 speech outlining a new US strategy for Afghanistan did not mention women. Similarly, women and girls were largely missing from the Afghanistan and Pakistan Stabilization Strategy released by the Office of the Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan in January 2010. Women were also an afterthought at January's London conference, though thanks to the tenacity of Afghan women and the support of Secretary of State Clinton they were able to have their voices heard. Despite the talk of Afghan leadership in the reintegration and reconciliation process, the reality is that the US will play a serious and potentially decisive role in its outcome. Consequently, Afghan women and girls, who have not forgotten the promises made by the US government when it ousted the Taliban in 2001, will look to the US to ensure that their rights and freedoms are not traded away as the US seeks to reduce its troop commitments in Afghanistan. The US should not only help to create space for women to raise their concerns, but also articulate where the red lines must be drawn: serious human rights violators should not be put into positions of power, and the fundamental freedoms enshrined in the Afghan constitution should not be sacrificed. Without pressure on President Karzai and a commitment from the US and international community to respect the basic rights of women and girls, the hard-won freedoms of the last few years can be quickly unraveled. The trend is already negative. Afghan women will continue to fight to defend their freedoms, but President Obama and the US can do much more to let them know through words and deeds that the United States will support them rather than abandon them in a scramble for deal-making. Women's rights must at all times be central to US policies and goals in Afghanistan.

Input key to Afghan Stability

The input of women solves Afghan instability

Berry 9 (Patrick December 10 http://www.democracyarsenal.org/2009/12/why-afghan-women-matter.html TBC 6/28/10)

Another argument for maintaining focus on the conditions of Afghan women is that their security acts as a barometer for overall security in the country. Human Rights Watch makes this case in their new report, which observes that violence done to women in Afghanistan has a multiplier effect where one act against a single woman can intimidate dozens, contributing to a climate of fear. In a similar way, though an Afghan schoolgirl's gender informs the vulnerability she experiences on the three-hour trip to class each morning, her vulnerability is also tied to the systemic insecurity that all Afghans encounter. If U.S. interests do in fact rest on protecting the Afghan people, then focusing on women's safety would seem central to that pursuit. Finally, understanding the obstacles faced by women in Afghanistan provides insights into the factors that could potentially drive instability in the county in the long-term. Corruption and warlordism. An inefficient judiciary. Incompetent community policing. These challenges often weigh heaviest on Afghan women. If Afghanistan does slide further into instability following an American withdrawal, in part, it will be because those corrosive dynamics were never sufficiently understood, because deficiencies were never corrected. If what the President says is true - that the choice between interests and principles is a false one - in the case of Afghan women, it's time our policy reflected that.

\*\*\*AFF – WOMENS RIGHTS\*\*\*

Aff – Non-Unique – Womens Rights

No Solvency for Women – entrenched violence and cultural taboos

IRIN 7 (humanitarian news and analysis a project of the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs March 8 http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=70569 TBCX 6/28/10)

Fahima is far from alone in her experience. Hopes among Afghan women for a better future are waning as the violence against them continues. Women’s rights have fallen down the agenda behind countering a growing insurgency, tackling opium production and confronting endemic corruption. “Day by day the government’s support for women’s development fades,” said Hangama Anwari, a member of Afghanistan’s Independent Human Rights Commission (AIHRC). In 2006, more than 1,650 cases of violence against women were registered with AIHRC. And more than 550 women reported severe beatings and about 120 are documented as having committed suicide either by burning themselves to death or overdosing on painkillers. While the Taliban are condemned for their treatment of women, the AIHRC recorded more cases of violence against women in the capital, Kabul, and in the western province of Herat than in Kandahar – once a Taliban stronghold. In highly conservative Afghanistan, only a fraction of women dare to breach social taboos and publicly speak out against violence. They face social stigma if they appear at police stations and courts to claim their rights, Subhrang added.

Aff – War Bad – Morality

Don’t fool yourself - the war in Afghanistan isn’t moral

Jacobs 10 (Ron Feb 11 Counterpunch http://www.rawa.org/temp/runews/2010/02/11/ending-the-war-in-afghanistan.html TBC 6/28/10)

Perhaps, there was once a time when most westerners could pretend that the US-led onslaught against the Afghan people was a good thing. Perhaps they convinced themselves that because the government of that country had allowed Osama Bin Laden to live in the mountains there that there was reason enough to attack his neighbors and destroy what remained of their nation. Perhaps, too, westerners (especially US citizens) believed that the true purpose of the US-led military mission in Afghanistan was to capture Bin Laden and destroy his terror network. Yes, perhaps there was a time when the facade of justice and righteous revenge provided enough of a moral veneer to the US war in Afghanistan that even intelligent westerners could live with the death and destruction occurring in their name. However, that time is long past. The war has gone on for more than eight years without any sign of cessation. Indeed, since Barack Obama took up residence in the White House, the casualties in that war have spiked. There are at least 40,000 more US troops in the country since that date last January and another thirty or forty thousand more getting ready to go there. In addition, the number of mercenaries has similarly increased. The reasons provided for this escalation range from going after terrorists to creating a civil society. As I write, another offensive against Afghans is being prepared. It primary purpose is to install a governor appointed by the US-created government in Kabul. No matter what the reason, it is painfully clear that those of us expecting a truthful explanation for Washington's presence in Afghanistan will not receive it from those who continue to send troops and weaponry over there. Nor will they receive it from those in Congress that continue to fund this lethal endeavor.

Aff – Link Turn – US Bad for Women

Occupation is bad for women

Cross 9 (Allison December 12 http://news.globaltv.com/world/Women+rights+advocates+square+over+status+Afghan+women/2334855/story.html TBC 6/28/10)

But Judy Rebick, a Ryerson University professor and social justice advocate, said life couldn’t get much worse for women in Afghanistan and it’s time for the troops to leave. “Even though women have more access to school and there are women in parliament, the level of violence against women is much higher and the unpredictability of it is much worse,” Rebick said. “Women are just as oppressed now by the warlords in some places. My view is that you don’t liberate people by occupation.”

Afghan War supports misogynism

Cross 9 (Allison December 12 http://news.globaltv.com/world/Women+rights+advocates+square+over+status+Afghan+women/2334855/story.html TBC 6/28/10)

“The war was always waged under false pretences,” O’Keefe said. “It’s never been about women’s rights. The longer we stay in Afghanistan, the worse the eventual situation is going to be for women and people . . . in general.” The NATO-backed government led by Afghan President Hamid Karzai is misogynist, he said. “Karzai himself signed a law legalizing marital rape and denying rights to Shia women in Afghanistan,” he said.

Troops prop up sexist power structure

Freedom Socialist 9 (June http://www.socialism.com/drupal-6.8/?q=node/86 TBC 6/28/10)

On International Women’s Day the U.S./NATO-installed regime in the capital, Kabul, inaugurated a women’s prison in Jawzjan province as a gift to the women of Afghanistan. Afghan president Karzai and his imperialist supporters shamelessly talk about improving women’s situation, but the United Nations and Afghan Independent Human Rights Commission express deep concern over human rights — and especially women’s rights — in Afghanistan. In order to look like a defender of democratic and women’s rights, the puppet regime set up a symbolic ministry of women and positioned some token women in parliament and government positions. But this administration has never genuinely represented Afghan women. Over the last seven years, millions of women’s lives have deteriorated, on many fronts even more than during the Taliban rule. No amount of government-sponsored “celebrations” on March 8 can reverse this truth. The Karzai regime is composed mainly of Northern Alliance collaborators — Islamic fundamentalists such as Sayaf, Rabani, Khalili, Mohaqiq, Qanoni, Fahim, Abdullah. … During the Taliban repression from 1992 to 1996, they performed as enforcers, implementing strict Sharia law and committing heinous crimes against women. The people of Afghanistan, especially women, expected the “international community” and the “peace angels” to put all these anti-women, criminal gangs on trial after the invasion in 2001. Instead, the occupation-approved government rewarded them with key positions in the new government. These high-ranking elements in Kabul never believed in women’s rights or in womenfolk as human beings. The so-called “civil society” organizations and NGOs that claim to need money for the restoration of women’s rights are, in fact, deceiving the Afghan people and the world. They are not helping Afghan women.

Aff – Link Turn – US Bad for Women

Troops rape women, pretenses of women’s rights are lies

Freedom Socialist 9 (June http://www.socialism.com/drupal-6.8/?q=node/86 TBC 6/28/10)

Afghan girls are raped by NATO troops during their operations and home searches, especially in the Southern provinces. A 12 year- old girl was attacked by these troops in Jan. 2009, as her parents threatened to commit suicide if they were not given justice. In Afghanistan many families, because of their culture and place in society, never disclose or publicly condemn sexual abuse of their family members. At the end of 2008, U.S. troops invaded a home in Khost province. In addition to killing the male members of the family, the troops madly let loose wild dogs on the children and women to bite and kill them. Yes, these are just some examples of the real conditions for Afghan women. They are the product of backward, medieval women-hating practices, re-enforced by modern imperialism. The military occupation’s pretense of bringing “women’s rights, peace, democracy, and civil society” to Afghanistan is an insult and a gigantic lie! The Afghanistan Socialist Association believes that to expect imperialists to respect and restore women’s rights in our country is a pipe dream. The United States and NATO countries have sought their own strategic and economic benefits in the region from the beginning. They can simply ignore and suppress any law, moral value and human rights standard or commitment for the sake of their own dirty interests. The atrocities against women by the reactionary Northern Alliance in Karzai’s regime during the last seven years prove it. So does the government’s inclination to negotiate with the Taliban.