

Commentary:

FBI takes rap for Boston bombing

Michael Costello/Lewiston Tribune

It's still early, but it appears that the FBI has reservations for under the bus. The mainstream news media have already started cultivating a narrative that blames the FBI for failing to see the warning signs that have since come into such sharp focus since the Boston Marathon bombing.

The Russians warned the FBI about the older brother's activities while he was on a trip to terrorist hot spot Chechnya. And, if you can't trust the Russians, who can you trust? The CIA asked to have Tamerlan Tsarnaev placed on a terrorist watch list. The alleged bombers' mother was already on the watch list. The FBI had even interviewed Tamerlan upon his return from Chechnya. Tamerlan's website venerated Islamic extremism and Chechen separatism.

They should have known!

Except that, they weren't allowed to know. They really weren't allowed to even look. It's official administration policy that there is no such thing as Islamic terrorism. The words "Islam" and "terrorism" never appear together. The word jihad is forbidden.

At a memorial service for the MIT policeman killed in a shootout with the alleged terrorists, Vice President Joe Biden denounced the bombers as "two twisted, perverted, cowardly, knock-off jihadis."

The White House immediately jumped into damage control mode. Press Secretary Jay Carney quickly convened a press conference where he mostly sanitized Biden's comments from that day's reporting.

Rarely does a week pass when Biden does not say something that makes Americans cringe with embarrassment. This administration only cringes when Biden tells the truth.

The fact remains that President Obama is almost incapable of admitting that Islam or jihad has any connection to terrorism. Even saying terrorism gives him difficulty. After the Boston bombing, he needed 20 hours to muster the courage required to utter the words "bombing" and "terrorism." Until then, he could only make reference to the "incidents in Boston."

Secretary of State John Kerry even went so far as to claim that terrorism is the work of people who "have no belief system."

Really! At least some of them believe that Allah has 72 virgins waiting for them in paradise. A great many suicide terrorists have left video testimonials explaining that their crimes against humanity were motivated by their commitment to Islam.

In the last couple of years, the FBI has been scolded for daring to link Islam to terrorism. Two years ago, after complaints from Islamic groups, Eric Holder ordered the FBI to cleanse its training materials of all mention of Islam. The FBI's Counterterrorism Analytical Lexicon was purged of all words that might indicate Islam. This leaves the FBI without even the language to describe Islamic terrorism.

This political correctness already has a body count. Maj. Nidal Hassan's terrorist attack in 2009 occurred after he had told his fellow Army doctors that non-Muslims deserved beheading. He openly celebrated each time U.S. servicemen were killed by bombs in either Iraq or Afghanistan. In spite of his obvious hostility toward the United States and his fellow soldiers, Capt. Hassan was promoted to major. A few months later, 13 soldiers were dead.

Denial of Hassan's motivation not only kept him off the radar, it seems to have contributed to his promotion in spite of obvious signs of instability. Can you imagine promoting an officer who openly celebrated enemy victories? Fear of having their own careers derailed by accusations of "Islamophobia" undoubtedly contributed to his mishandling by superior officers.

Even though, during his rampage, Hassan shouted "Allahu Akbar," this administration persists in classifying his crimes as "workplace violence" rather than terrorism.

All of this nonsense is supposed to make us more popular in the Muslim world. Polls indicate that support for terrorism has declined. Only 19 percent of Egyptians admit to a favorable opinion of Al Qaida, along with 13 percent of Pakistanis. If so, these two countries still hold nearly 40 million prospective jihadis. If only 10 percent of the world's 1.5 billion Muslims feel the same way, then that means that jihad is equivalent to half the U.S. population are eager to meet virgins. Meanwhile, Department of Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano sees no reason to cast a wary eye on young, Muslim men.

Meanwhile, Homeland Security is keeping its eye on American conservatives. Official training documents compare the Tea Party with the terrorist Weather Underground. A military manual lists Catholics and evangelical Christians as "extremists."

In fact, it seems that Islam is the only faith not considered inherently violent.

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