

# “Paris 13 November 2015: A Morale Operation” By Gianfranco Sanguinetti<sup>1</sup>

“The French must be aware that we’re proceeding with major attacks. The political powers must tell the French people that we’re proceeding with mass attacks.” General Vincent Desportes, 29 October 2015.<sup>2</sup>

There must be a little conceptual order at this moment, when emotions, propaganda and hysteria risk upsetting any balanced consideration of the events of the day before yesterday.<sup>3</sup>

In Paris we are faced with a *Morale Operation*.<sup>4</sup> In the art of unorthodox warfare, *Morale Operations* are those whose goal is to introduce stupefaction, confusion and mystifications in order to sow distrust, terror and disarray in the ranks of the enemy or those of undecided or uncertain allies. This type of psychological warfare was elaborated and put into practice by Colonel William J. Donovan of the American OSS in 1943.<sup>5</sup>

The French High Command knows quite well who is behind Daesh, and so Division General Vincent Desportes could openly declare, on 17 December 2014, just [weeks] before the *Charlie Hebdo* operation,<sup>6</sup> in an open discussion before the Commission for Foreign Affairs, Defense and the Armed Forces: “What Dr. Frankenstein created this monster [called Daesh]? We can affirm it clearly, because it has consequences: the United States. Through short-term political interests, other actors – some of whom appear to be friends of the West – other actors, through complacency or deliberate desire, have contributed to its construction and reinforcement. But the most responsible is the United States.”<sup>7</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> Dated Geneva, Switzerland, 15 November 2015. Translated by NOT BORED! 26 December 2015. All notes by the translator except where noted.

<sup>2</sup> *Author’s note*: cf. <http://www.franceinter.fr/emission-le-79-vincent-desportes-un-jour-ou-lautre-il-y-aura-un-attentat-de-masse-en-france> (French only). [*Translator*: this news story is titled “One day or another, there will be a mass attack in France.” It would be in response to the French’s mass attacks against the “terrorists” in Iraq and Syria.]

<sup>3</sup> On Friday, 13 November 2015, simultaneous and coordinated terrorist attacks were carried out in Paris, France, allegedly by Daesh.

<sup>4</sup> English in original.

<sup>5</sup> *Author’s note*: cf. [en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Morale\\_Operations\\_Branch](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Morale_Operations_Branch).

<sup>6</sup> On 7 January 2015, commandos killed almost a dozen people working for *Charlie Hebdo*, allegedly in retaliation for its depictions of the Prophet Mohammed.

<sup>7</sup> *Author’s note*: presided over by Jean-Pierre Raffarin, the Commission heard from General Henri Bentégeat, a former Army Chief of Staff; Army Corps General Didier Castres, second-in-command of the Operations Staff; Mr. Hubert Védrine, a former Minister of Foreign Affairs; Division General Vincent Desportes, retired, now a professor associated with the Paris College of Political Science; and Mr. Jean-Yves Le Drian, the Minister of Defense.

The entry of anti-ISIL Russian forces into Syria has disordered all the plans made by the USA and Israel, for which ISIL is an expensive plaything. A few days before Putin did it, the French took the autonomous initiative to bomb ISIL, once in Iraq and twice in Syria. For ISIL's real bosses, this was [open] defiance, and so they needed to bring the French to task and reunite the Western front under their command.

Through a diversified action led by military commandos in the heart of Paris and against carefully chosen symbolic targets, the French political leaders were given a harsh warning on 13 November.

There is *no war against terrorism anywhere in the world*, because *all the States make use of it*. One knows that terrorism isn't an enemy, but simply *one of the means* by which war is conducted.

Back in 2008, Lieutenant Colonel Jean-Pierre Steinhofier wrote the following in the *Revue Défense Nationale*. "The notion of the 'global war against terrorism' is a semantic, strategic, military and juridical perversion that, conflating the enemy with the enemy's method of combat, has led the Western States into an intellectual impasse that scrambles their reflections in many domains and ends up in absurd situations."<sup>8</sup>

France's vague and independent [military] actions, as well as the dispersion of its forces across too many theaters of action, from Africa to the Middle East, the confused vacillations of its policies and poisoned information have all condemned the country's military actions to failure and have exposed France itself to all kinds of reprisals. As we have just seen in Paris.

France's political leaders now find themselves in the uncomfortable situation of making it seem that they don't know from whence the blow ultimately came. They prefer their customs of lying to the population and passing themselves off as unaware idiots, rather than risk further enraging their treacherous allies [*traîtres alliés*]. The Germans and other allies were warned by this same blow.

The spectacle of masks, the theater of shadows, the game of dupes, the staging, the dramaturgy and the *mainstream*<sup>9</sup> narration of things are all part of what the aforementioned Lieutenant Colonel calls the "intellectual impasse that scrambles reflection in many domains and ends in absurd situations."

Meanwhile, the populations [of these countries] are being accustomed to the massacres that are being prepared for them. They must learn in blood that the accomplice of terrorism isn't merely the one who organizes it and brings it about, but all those who believe the official versions of events, as well. Without

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Thus, we can conclude that not only the military, but also all the political leaders, were also up-to-date [on these matters]. Cf.: <http://www.senat.fr/compte-rendu-commissions/20141215/etr.html> (French only).

<sup>8</sup> *Author's note*: J. P. Steinhofier, *L'Ennemi innomé*, in *Revue Défense Nationale*, #712.

<sup>9</sup> English in original.

them, terrorism would be a less effective weapon and even a very dangerous one for those who make use of it.