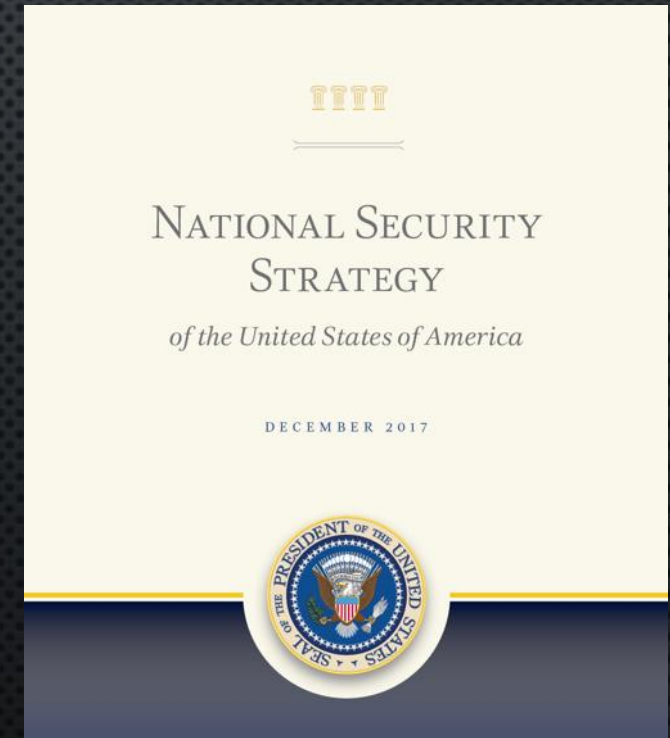
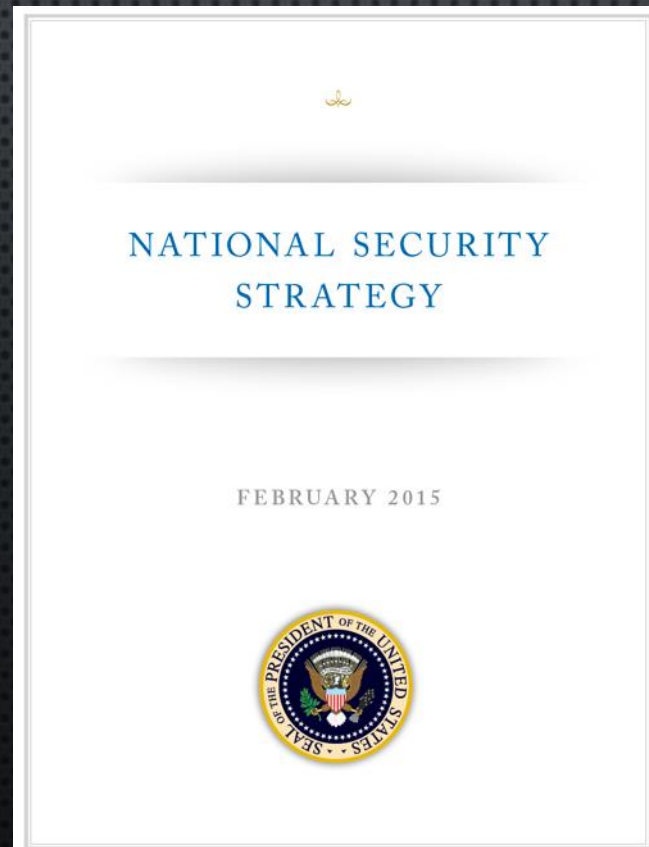
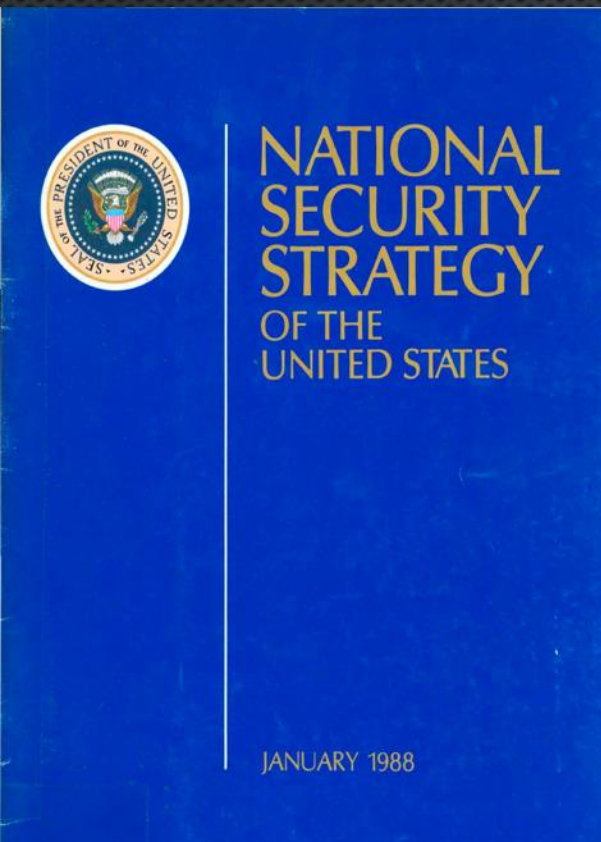


# THE PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE OF THE NATIONAL SECURITY STRATEGY

23 MARCH 2018

COL GABE BARTON



# OUTLINE

- AMERICAN GRAND STRATEGY AND THE NATIONAL SECURITY STRATEGY
- THE REAGAN 1988 NSS
- THE OBAMA 2015 NSS
- THE TRUMP 2017 NSS
- ANALYSIS
- CONCLUSION / TAKEAWAYS

## Methodology:

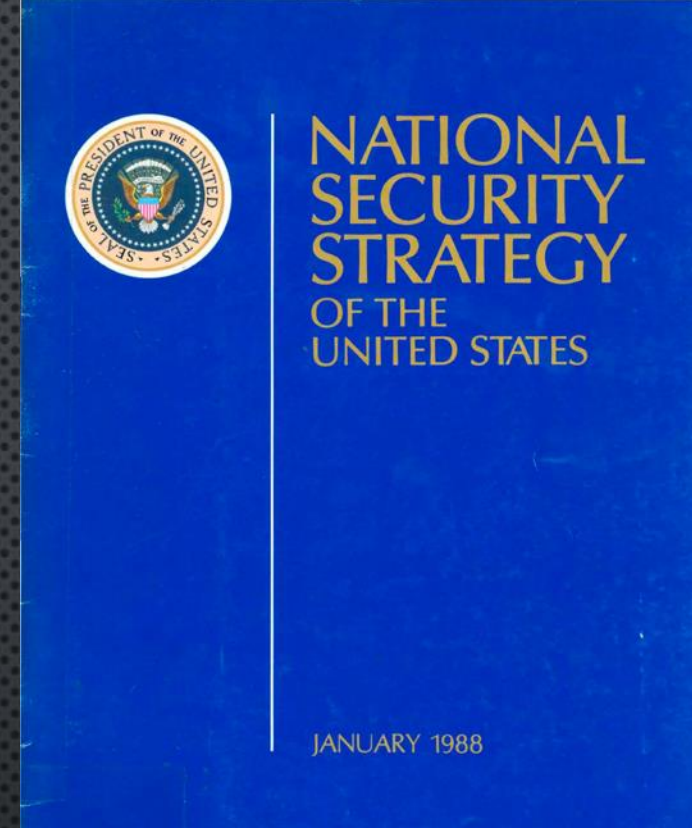
- AGS
- Goldwater-Nichols
- How did they do
- How did they write the NSS
- What needs to change?

# AMERICAN GRAND STRATEGY AND THE NSS

- AMERICAN GRAND STRATEGY GUIDES DAY TO DAY POLICY DEVELOPMENT
- NSS DIRECTED BY GOLDWATER-NICHOLS ACT OF 1986
- AS DIRECTED THE NSS WAS A PRETTY GOOD ARTICULATION OF AGS IN 1986
- AS DIRECTED TODAY – THE NSS IS MISSING THE IMPORTANCE OF THE DOMESTIC ECONOMY TO MAKE IT A COMPLETE ARTICULATION OF AGS
  - GLOBALIZATION
  - INTERCONNECTED NATURE OF THE GLOBAL ECONOMY
- CAUTION: HAVE TO FIND A BALANCE – CAN'T MAKE EVERYTHING A NATIONAL SECURITY ISSUE

# THE REAGAN 1988 NSS

- **IRAN – IRAQ WAR**
  - BACKED BOTH SIDES AT ONE TIME OR ANOTHER
  - SOWED THE SEEDS OF MISTRUST IN THE MIDDLE EAST THAT WE STILL DEAL WITH TODAY
- **NICARAGUA**
- **SOVIET UNION**



## Take Away:

- Pay attention to the things you aren't interested in too
- Good document for the time

# THE OBAMA 2015 NSS

- **TERRORISM IS THE BIGGEST THREAT WE FACE**
- **MILITARY ADVANTAGE**
- **JCPOA**
- **TPP**



## Take Away:

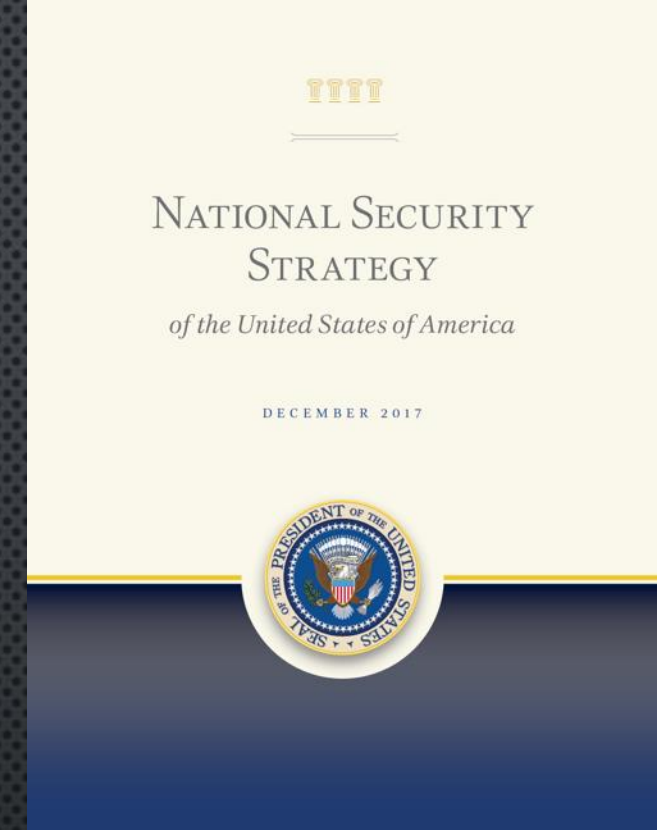
- Pretty good at telling us what he wanted to do
- Missed the impact of globalization

# THE TRUMP 2017 NSS

- **PILLARS OF NATIONAL SECURITY**
- **DO THE ENDS ALIGN WITH THE MEANS?**
- **WILL THE ADMINISTRATION FOLLOW IT?**

## Take Away:

- **Well written – good balance**
- **Time will tell – actions speak louder than words (or tweets)**



# ANALYSIS

- **HOW YOU WRITE THE DOCUMENT MATTERS**
  - **CENTRALIZED CONTROL OF THE “PEN” VICE COLLABORATION AND CONSENSUS**
- **GLOBALIZATION OF THE ECONOMY HAS AN IMPACT ON NATIONAL SECURITY**
- **NEED TO FIND A BALANCE SO THAT EVERYTHING IS NOT A NATIONAL SECURITY ISSUE**

# TAKEAWAYS

- ADMINISTRATIONS OWE A BETTER ARTICULATION OF AMERICAN GRAND STRATEGY
- THE NSS IS PRETTY GOOD BUT WITH A SLIGHT CHANGE IT COULD BE EVEN BETTER
- TIME TO CODIFY THOSE CHANGES IN LAW
- TROUBLE LOOMS WHEN ADMINISTRATIONS STRAY FROM ITS NSS



# DISCUSSION