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Long War or the Wrong War?

John Arquilla, a professor of defense analysis, tells Insight Editor Jim Finefrock that the Bush administration's commitment to fighting a protracted war against terrorism is a huge mistake.

Time is not on our side, Arquilla says, because the longer the war lasts, the more probable it is that the terrorists will obtain, and use, weapons of mass destruction.

The "Long War" is also eroding America's standing around the world, even among its allies, and it is inhibiting the transformation of the U.S. military from a lumbering, Cold War juggernaut to a streamlined, mobile force capable of fighting terrorists wherever and whenever they pop up around the world.

It's imperative, says Arquilla, for the United States to focus on defeating the terrorists and quickly as possible.

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Aquilla's story appears in the Insight section of Sunday's Chronicle and online at [SFGate.com](#).

Posted By: [Chronicle Podcasts \(Email\)](#) | July 15 2006 at 08:00 PM

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