

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PRESS RELEASE

THE BLACK BANNERS DECLASSIFIED

A new, fully uncensored edition of Ali Soufan's definitive insider's account of the War on Terror is released in the United Kingdom

LINK TO BOOK

(New York, NY – March 25, 2021) The ultimate insider's account of the battle against terrorism, Ali Soufan's revelatory account of his history-making decade as the FBI's lead investigator into al-Qaeda shaped our understanding of counter-terror operations.

When *The Black Banners* was first published in 2011, significant portions of the text were redacted. After a CIA review those restrictions have been lifted, and the result is this explosive new edition, [***The Black Banners \(Declassified\)***](#). Alongside a new foreword by Soufan, the declassified documents uncover shocking details on the use of torture on terror suspects, how these 'enhanced interrogation techniques' failed to secure reliable intelligence, and in fact actively derailed the fight against al-Qaeda. By contrast we see Soufan at work using empathy and intelligent questioning – not force or violence – to extract some of the most important confessions in the war.

Taking us from the interrogation rooms where Soufan would share food and books with the suspects so he could bond with them, to the hideouts of bin Laden, Ali Soufan reveals with intimate, first-hand knowledge the unbelievable truth about America's security agencies, 9/11, and the global 'War on Terror.'

"Twenty years after the tragic events of September 11, 2001, and I still worry that we have not fully learned the lessons set out in *The Black Banners* about the threat and missed opportunities to respond in the lead up to that fateful day," says Ali Soufan upon the release of his declassified memoir. "The threat never went away and, worse still, I see many similarities between the rise of global Salafi-jihadist ideology in the 80s and 90s and the rise of another threat today: transnational white supremacist ideology. I see the same warning signs and the same sense of urgency to recognize and respond before it's too late, again."

The Black Banners Declassified [Penguin; March 25, 2021] by Ali Soufan with Daniel Freedman is available now.

ABOUT ALI SOUFAN

[Ali Soufan](#), a former FBI special agent and the lead investigator on some of the world's most complex international terrorism cases, gained an international reputation as a top counterterrorism operative. He is the Chairman and CEO of [The Soufan Group](#), Founder of [The Soufan Center](#) and has been featured in books, films, television series, newspaper articles, and documentaries across the globe.

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