



There is no way to be 100% certain that an individual is becoming radicalized to the point that they may be considering violent action. However, recent experiences show that there are certain warning signs, or early indicators, worth review. The information below is a general guide for military personnel and leaders at every level to give the user a basic understanding of when further action might be warranted. This guide requires the user to understand the fine line between the protection of one's rights to privacy and the need to protect others. It should be used in the same judicious manner one uses a chart with indicators of suicide. The graphic on the left shows possible indicators of radicalization from the inception of the thought increasing up to the level of violent action. The indicator decision chart on the right outlines a step-by-step process for identifying, evaluating, and responding to possible indicators at each level.

Radicalization into Violent Extremism

OBSERVE Personal Issues

Indicators that should be observed for the subject's predisposition to radicalization and violence

- Complains about bias
- Advocates violence beyond what is "normal"
- Exhibits abrupt behavioral shifts
- Needs empowerment
- Is socially withdrawn
- Believes in government conspiracies to the point of paranoia
- Is frustrated with mainstream ideologies
- Experiences personal crisis and does not properly recover
- Demonizes others freely
- Lacks positive identity with country, unit, family, or friends
- Exhibits sudden reclusiveness

FLAG Possible Radicalization

The subject's actions that should encourage leaders to investigate and bring to the attention of senior-ranking personnel

- Is sympathetic to radical groups
- Visits extremist websites/blogs
- Establishes website/blog to display extremist views
- Speaks about seeking revenge
- Attends rallies for extremist causes
- Associates with known radicals
- Exhibits extreme religious intolerance
- Is personally connected with a grievance
- Cuts ties with family and friends
- Isolates self from unit members
- Rhetoric is more intense and concentrated
- Attempts to recruit others to extremist causes

ACTION Prior to Violent Activity

Actions conducted by the subject that would indicate violent or terroristic planning activities that warrant investigation

- Suddenly acquires weapons
- Organizes protests inspired by extremist ideology
- Takes part in criminal activity or has trouble with law enforcement
- Advocates violence as a viable option for various situations
- Shows a sudden visual shift from radical to "normal" behavior to conceal radical behavior
- Takes suspicious or unreported travel (inside or outside of the continental United States)
- Stores or collects mass weapons or hazardous materials
- Verbally indicates hatred for the United States and/or the Constitution
- Exhibits new interests in public or government facilities
- Inquires about weapons of mass effects

OBSERVE

- Notify chain of command of ideologies that could threaten unit cohesion and morale
- Counsel soldier in an effort to help and assist with personal needs

FLAG

- Notify chain of command of possible radical or extremist activity
- Counsel soldier on dangers of activities

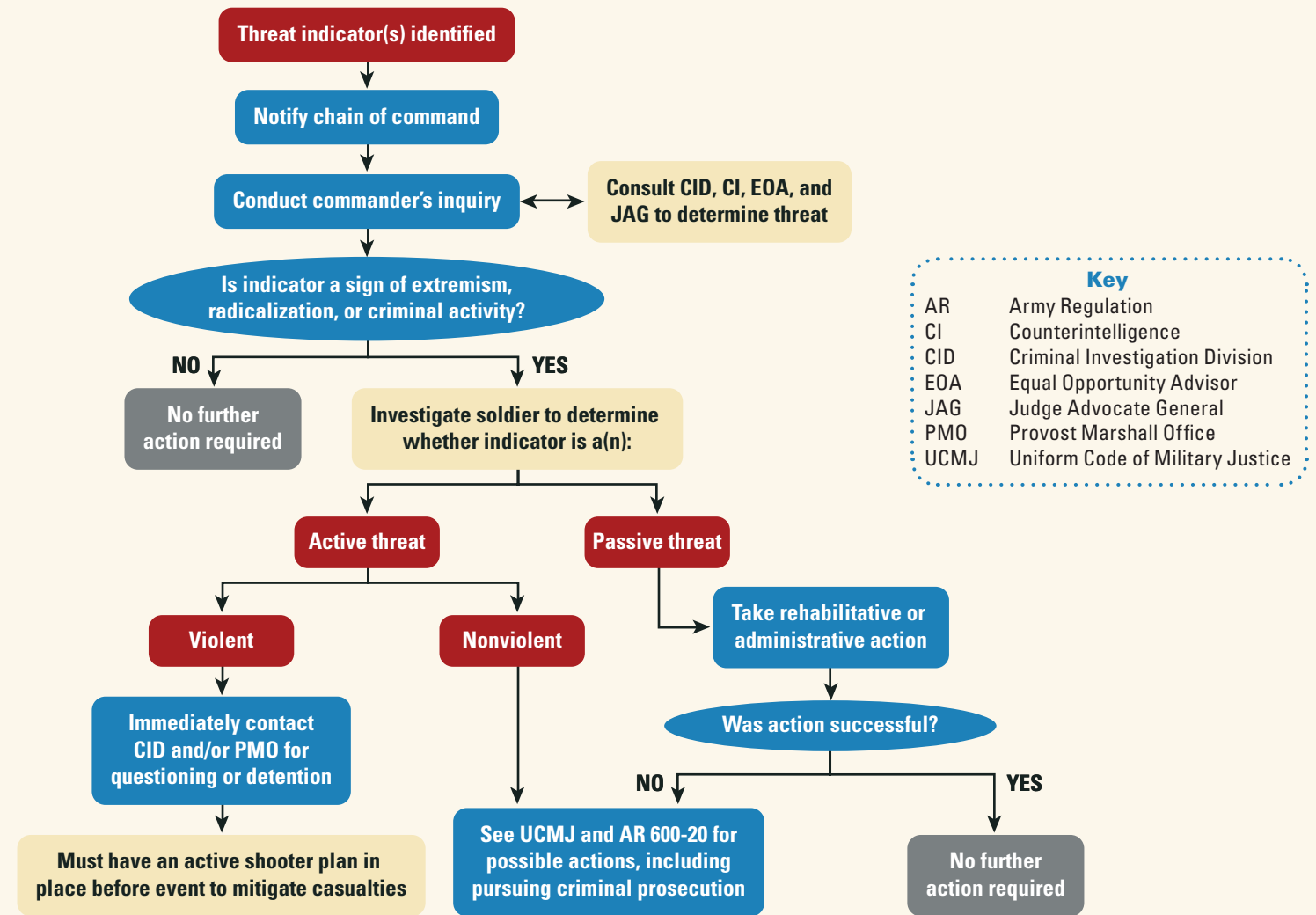
ACTION

- Immediately notify CID and/or federal law enforcement
- If the situation is critical, confine subject to barracks under guard and remove all items that could harm others or self

IDEATION

Indicator Decision Chart

The indicator decision chart is a guide for leaders to use if faced with an indicator of radicalization or extremist activity. This chart might not be applicable in all situations; consult the CID or CI if there are any questions. NOTE: Use this chart in conjunction with observation of actions suggesting possible radicalization, described at the bottom of the page.



Key

- AR Army Regulation
- CI Counterintelligence
- CID Criminal Investigation Division
- EOA Equal Opportunity Advisor
- JAG Judge Advocate General
- PMO Provost Marshall Office
- UCMJ Uniform Code of Military Justice

- Expresses support for foreign persons or organizations that promote or threaten the use of unlawful force or violence to achieve political, ideological, or religious objectives
- Participates in political demonstrations that promote or threaten the use of unlawful violence directed against the Army, DOD, or United States based on political, ideological, or religious tenets, principles, or beliefs
- Has surreptitious meetings
- Changes type of off-duty clothing
- Alters choices of reading materials in personal area
- Frequents suspicious discussion groups
- Uses extremist acronyms
- Visits extremist websites
- Alters choices in entertainment
- Displays extremist symbols in barracks or common areas
- Has peculiar discussions
- Develops strange habits
- Expresses a political, religious, or ideological obligation to engage in unlawful violence directed against U.S. military operations or foreign policy
- Solicits advice, encouragement, finances, training, or other resources from a person who advocates the use of unlawful violence to undermine or disrupt U.S. military operations or foreign policy

Additional Insider Threat Terms

- **Radicalization:** the process by which an individual, group, or mass of people undergoes a transformation from participating in the political process via legal means to the use or support of violence for political purposes
- **Violent Extremists:** individuals who openly express their religious, political, or ideological views through violence or a call for violence
- **Threat Indicator:** any observable action that suggests violent behavior, abnormal disgruntlement, radicalization, or an extreme religious or other ideological worldview
- **Passive Threat:** someone aware of extremist activity/threat but whose inactivity allows the action to continue
- **Active Threat:** someone willing to provide information or perform actions that may be violent or nonviolent
- **Violent:** active extremists or criminals who use force and may act rationally or irrationally
- **Rational:** well thought-out, violent course of action, possibly resulting in avoidance of capture
- **Irrational:** unplanned, emotional course of action, possibly involving collateral damage
- **Nonviolent:** active extremists or criminals who are willing to provide information (espionage) or conduct subversion or sabotage and conceal their actions
- **Grievance-Based Action:** activities conducted in response to a wrong (perceived or real); not necessarily associated with extremist ideology, but action could be used as extremist or political propaganda (these individuals are more susceptible to co-opting)
- **Co-Opt:** voluntary or involuntary radicalization/recruitment of existing member of an organization/unit to work for an extremist, terrorist, or criminal group to conduct intelligence collection, subversion, sabotage, or violence

Command Options

- Administrative or disciplinary action deemed appropriate by the Commander, to include counseling, based on the specific facts and circumstances of the particular case
- Bar to reenlistment actions, as appropriate
- Involuntary administrative separation for unsatisfactory performance or misconduct or for conduct deemed prejudicial to good order and discipline or morale
- UCMJ Action
 - Article 92: Failure to obey a lawful order
 - Article 116: Riot or breach of peace
 - Article 117: Provoking speeches or gestures
 - Article 134: Good order and discipline

Reporting Mechanisms

- iSalute: Located on the Army Knowledge Online (AKO) under "Selected Links"; iSalute allows users to report any incidents.
- A *single* reportable indicator is enough to report.
- Report through Security Manager or Commander, or by calling **1-800-CALL-SPY** (1-800-225-5779) or using AKO/AKO-S reporting links.
- Individuals outside of the continental United States should report through the Army CI office. If there is no CI office and the report is urgent, contact the Naval Criminal Investigative Service, Air Force Office of Special Investigations, or U.S. Embassy or Defense Attaché Office.

Proactive Measures and Preventive Actions

- Conduct random health and welfare inspections in living quarters both on and off base
- Develop workforce standards that mitigate risk, including additional security requirements, disciplinary procedures, and grievance resolution
- Educate soldiers on how to identify observable indicators and use their assistance in developing mechanisms to allow confidential internal reporting procedures
- Educate soldiers regarding the cultural and religious sensitivities and differences of others
- Increase Military Police patrols around work areas
- Identify and train specific individuals on concealed carry practices and work with PMO to have these individuals armed at all times
- Examine personal viewpoints in light of the Army's values and individual's loyalty to their military team
- Increase screening and vetting by military recruiters, including best practices from Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom (OEF/OIF) such as criminal background interviews and checks, letters of endorsement from local law enforcement or political leadership, and psychological testing and/or interview
- Reject affiliation with any extremist organizations
- Decline distribution or circulation of extremist literature or views
- Encourage others (peers) to avoid extremist affiliations and views
- Report specific indicators to the chain of command
- Seek clarification from chain of command on "hot" topics, current issues, and current policies
- Investigate meaning of suspicious symbols displayed

Commanders' Action

- Educate soldiers regarding the Army's equal opportunity policy. Commanders will advise soldiers that extremist organizations' goals are inconsistent with Army goals, beliefs, and values concerning equal opportunity.
- Advise soldiers that any participation in extremist organizations or activities
 - will be taken into consideration when evaluating their overall duty performance,
 - will result in removal of security clearances, and
 - will result in reclassification actions or bar to reenlistment actions as appropriate.
- Commander of a military installation under U.S. jurisdiction is required by AR 600-20 to prohibit any demonstration or activity on the installation/facility that could cause interference with or prevent orderly accomplishment of mission on the installation/facility, or present a clear danger to loyalty, discipline, or morale of the troops.
- Commanders should seek advice and counsel of their legal advisors when taking actions pursuant to this policy.

Resources

- **AR 190-24, Armed Forces Disciplinary Control Boards and Off-Installation Liaison and Operations**
 - Also known as Air Force Instruction (AFI) 31-213, Coast Guard Commandant Instruction (COMDTINST) 1620.1E, Marine Corps Orders (MCO) 1620.2D, and Office of the Chief of Naval Operations Instruction (OPNAVINST) 1620.2A
 - Holds Commanders responsible for recommending places to be prohibited (e.g., areas susceptible to terrorist activity and groups)
- **AR 381-12, Threat Awareness and Reporting Program (TARP); formerly known as Subversion and Espionage Directed Against the U.S. Army (SAEDA)**
 - Requires all Army personnel to be knowledgeable of behavioral indicators and reportable threat incidents and to know how to contact CI personnel
 - Mandates annual training
 - Failure to report is punitive under the UCMJ
 - Requires Commanders to know TARP
- **AR 600-8-2, Flag Policy**
- **AR 600-20, Army Command Policy**
 - Prohibits participation in extremist organizations and activities
- **AR 600-35, Active Duty Enlisted Separations (Chapter 14, "Misconduct")**
- **AR 635-120, Officer Resignations and Discharges**
- **AR 670-1, Wear and Appearance of Army Uniforms and Insignia**
- **Department of the Army Pamphlet (DA PAM) 600-15, Extremist Activities**
 - Explains guidance procedures and actions for dealing with extremists and extremist activities
- **UCMJ, Articles 92, 116, 117, and 134**
- **Other:** Relevant psychological/sociological concepts

Mechanisms of Radicalization

- **Mass radicalization** in conflict with an out-group
 - Jujitsu politics—garnering support by exploiting strength of out-group
 - Hate
 - Martyrdom
- **Group radicalization**
 - By like-minded groups
 - Under isolation and threat
 - In competition for the same base of support
 - In competition with state power—condensation
 - By within-group competition
- **Individual radicalization**
 - By personal grievance
 - By political grievance
 - By self-persuasion in action—the slippery slope
 - By joining a radical group—the power of love

Risk Factors for Radicalization

- Dissatisfaction with lack of accepted conflict resolution
- Placement, access, and capability
- Social alienation
- Quid pro quo (services or items wanted or needed by an individual given in exchange for information or action)
- Susceptible to blackmail because of outlying circumstances
- Highly emotional
- Perceived unfair treatment
- Conflict at work or at home
- Emotional vulnerability
- Dissatisfaction with the status quo of political activism
- Personal connection to a grievance
- Positive view of violence
- Perceived benefit of political violence
- Social networks
- In-group delegitimization of the out-group
- Views on (and history of) violence
- Resources
- External support
- Perceived threat
- Humiliation
- Competition
- Youth
- Resonant narrative