

OBAMA AT WAR

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FRONTLINE's *Obama at War*, written and produced by Martin Smith (*The Rise of ISIS*), takes viewers inside the Obama administration's struggle to deal with ISIS and the murderous regime of Bashar al Assad in Syria by carefully examining the hard choices facing President Obama as Syria's Arab Spring devolved into a genocidal war and how it eventually helped spawn ISIS.

Initially determined not to take America into another prolonged conflict in the Middle East, President Obama resisted arming an incoherent Syrian revolt for fear any weapons would end up in the wrong hands. But, as President Assad continued to test American resolve—eventually deploying chemical weapons against civilians—the President declared a red line had been crossed.

Still, Obama resisted deeper involvement only to find the product of four years of war in Syria and worsening sectarian violence in neighboring Iraq was the emergence of ISIS. As America wades into what has now morphed into a regional conflict, *Obama at War* assesses the future of U.S. engagement and a presidency that despite its intentions finds itself very much at war again.

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