



The Age Of Terror: America And The World After September 11

By Strobe Talbott, Nayan Chanda

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September 11 marked the beginning of a new era--an age of terror in which counter-terrorism will be one of the highest priorities of national governments and international institutions. How we proceed in this new war depends in large measure on the answer to a prior question: what exactly happened here and why? In *The Age of Terror*, eight leading historians and policymakers address this question and examine the considerations and objectives of policy decisions in post-September 11 America. Co-published with the Yale Center for the Study of Globalization

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

This latest entry into the post-September 11 publishing frenzy (edited by former *Time* contributor and deputy secretary of state Talbott and Chanda, his colleague at the Yale Center for the Study of Globalization) relies on top-notch academics to probe behind the headlines. While all of the essays taken together provide a primer on some of the most pressing issues that have emerged in the past few months, the strongest pieces provocatively explore new ground. Scientist Maxine Singer underscores the necessity to extend ties and funding between government and researchers, in part to support "off-the-wall" ideas that might help in U.S. domestic defense. Oxford historian Niall Ferguson explores the non-Muslim antecedents of the attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon; individual elements of the attacks were not new, he argues, only their combination was. Yale professor Paul Kennedy compares the situation currently faced by the United States with Britain's in the 19th century, concluding that the United States is in a more difficult predicament mainly because of the openness of today's world. These essays often explore ground already covered by journalists: the difficulties of maintaining good relations with a Muslim world, in which the United States is unpopular; the diffuseness of the enemy; the need to protect civil liberties while simultaneously protecting American security. But even where the scholars go over familiar turf, they do so in a comprehensive and thoughtful way that is sure to feed some readers' newly whetted appetites for information on the post-post-Cold War world.

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From Library Journal

The events of September 11 have raised many new and disturbing questions for everyone. These eight essays, written in the first six weeks (up to November 1) after the events, deal with the perceived failure of America's post-Cold War foreign policy, radical Islam, maintaining this country's place in the new hybrid strategic landscape, Arab terrorism, the behavior of earlier empires that faced threats, maintaining the values of America's legal system, new national security questions, and the relationship between science and defense. The contributors, who include former Deputy Secretary of State Talbot, are all academicians (six at Yale) with collectively many years of thought and writing on their respective topics. They have succeeded in expressing that collective wisdom in an accessible style. No reader should expect definitive answers from such an instant book, but this one earns its keep by suggesting possibly relevant comparisons from the past and by contributing to the definition of the right question. For public and academic libraries. Marcia L. Sprules, Council on Foreign Relations Lib., New York

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About the Author

Nayan Chanda is the director of publications at the Yale Center for the Study of Globalization and the former editor of *Far East Economic Review*.

Strobe Talbott is the Director of the Yale Center for the Study of Globalization and a former foreign-affairs columnist for *Time* magazine. He was Deputy Secretary of State under Bill Clinton.

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