

## 1. Strengthen the force of law, not the law of force.

The terrorists who committed the September 11 attacks should be brought to justice in a court of law. In the past, perpetrators of actions similar to these have been successfully convicted. International tribunals have prosecuted those guilty of crimes against humanity such as Serbian general Krstic (who was partially responsible for the massacre at Srebrenica in 1995), and those responsible for destroying Pan Am flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland.

**Legal prosecution holds criminals accountable, and punishes the responsible parties, without killing more innocent civilians.**

The US must do its part to strengthen international legal systems in order for them to be as effective as possible. The US should pay its back dues to the United Nations (UN) and work to strengthen international laws on terrorism and the means to enforce them. The US should also support the International Criminal Court which will try individuals accused of committing genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity.

Relying on international jurisprudence would have helped to prevent the high levels of anti-American sentiment created by the bombing of Afghanistan. This approach fosters international cooperation and makes the prosecution of these crimes an international effort, rather than a unilateral one.

## 2. Abolish nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction.

In order to limit the threat of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction, the US must ratify the Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty, halt its Star Wars plans, and re-affirm rather than withdraw from the Anti-ballistic Missile Treaty to prevent a new arms race.

The United States should work with Russia and other nuclear nations to ensure the control of nuclear materials. The US must increase funding for the Nunn-Lugar program which is a joint US-Russian program to reduce the threat posed by the legacy of the Soviet nuclear arsenal and which also addresses biological and chemical weapons.

Of great concern is the possibility that the US may use nuclear weapons in a military action. The Defense Department recommended to President Bush the use of tactical nuclear weapons as a military option on September 19, 2001.

The United States must take immediate responsibility for drastically reducing its own arsenal and halt research and development of new nuclear weapons. The only way for the world to move past the Cold War relic of Mutually Assured Destruction is for the country with the largest nuclear arsenal to take the lead.

# Justice Not War

*On September 11, the deaths of thousands of civilians in the United States created feelings of sadness, anger, injustice and helplessness across our nation and the world. The victims of this horrible attack must never be forgotten, and those who are responsible for their deaths must be brought to justice.*

*War, however, is not the best response to the attacks on the Pentagon and the World Trade Center. When political leaders turned the people's feelings of anger, injustice and helplessness into a call for revenge and retribution, the cycle of violence was accelerated rather than stopped. The war on terrorism is not an effective way to make the world, or America, safer.*

*For over 40 years the Peace Action Education Fund has worked for an environment where all are free from violence and war.*

*"Real Solutions for a Safer World" are concrete steps we can take to make the world a more secure place.*

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3. End the arms trade and military training programs.

The number of small arms currently in use around the globe is near 500 million. According to Human Rights Watch, small arms have killed three million civilians since 1990.

In many cases, the availability of small arms is fueling local conflicts. The arms trade makes weapons more available to terrorists, drug traffickers and other violent factions around the planet.

The US is the planet's number one arms dealer. Lax restrictions in US arms sales have created what is called the boomerang effect — American soldiers find themselves facing enemies armed with weapons made in the USA.

An important way of restricting the availability of conventional weapons is through an arms transfers Code of Conduct. A Code of Conduct would prevent states from exporting weapons, or providing military aid, to countries that are undemocratic, that don't respect human rights and that are engaged in armed aggression towards their own citizens or other countries. The European Union has already adopted its own code of conduct, and Nobel laureates have launched a campaign for an international code.

US military training has also become a concern for global and regional security. The US maintains a number of military training programs for foreign nationals. The most famous of these, the U.S. Army's Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation (WHISC) - formerly called the School of the Americas - has produced infamous human rights abusers who were instructed in torture and other abusive techniques at the school.

In addition, the US is responsible for training and arming the likes of Saddam Hussein, Manuel Noreiga, and Osama bin Laden. This kind of military training must be stopped if we are to prevent situations in which we find ourselves fighting against the very people we helped to create.

4. Build goodwill by increasing foreign aid.

The U.S. must work toward eliminating the conditions that sustain terrorism. It is in our best interest to provide substantial aid to developing nations and to enact policies that promote human rights.

Widespread starvation and political powerlessness add to global insecurity — terrorist organizations flourish in areas of severe human desperation. The months of bombing in Afghanistan, now estimated to have killed over 4,000 civilians, only fueled further anti-Americanism.

The US is the wealthiest nation in the world, but contributes less foreign aid per capita than any other developed nation. The Marshall Plan, in which we rebuilt the economies of our former foes, is universally recognized as one of our greatest foreign policy successes.

Strong humanitarian efforts, including food and medical assistance as well as other aid, will demonstrate America's commitment to peace and prosperity for all nations. This approach undermines terrorists' power by facilitating real stability.

Local Contact:

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