

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

October 25, 2001

NATIONAL SECURITY PRESIDENTIAL DIRECTIVE-9

MEMORANDUM FOR THE VICE PRESIDENT
THE SECRETARY OF STATE
THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY
THE SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
THE SECRETARY OF COMMERCE
THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION
THE SECRETARY OF ENERGY
DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE
COUNSEL TO THE PRESIDENT
CHIEF OF STAFF TO THE PRESIDENT
DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE
CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF

SUBJECT: Defeating the Terrorist Threat to the
United States (U)

Goal

1. Eliminate terrorism as a threat to our way of life and to all nations that love freedom, including the elimination of all terrorist organizations, networks, finances, and their access to WMD. (S)

Objectives

1. As part of a broad and sustained campaign, respond forcefully to those who attacked the U.S. on September 11, 2001, and hold responsible those who harbor or support them. (S)

2. As a part of our overall strategy, defeat Al-Qaida and eliminate the threat from other terrorist groups that attack Americans or American interests (e.g., Hizbollah, Hamas, Egyptian Islamic Jihad, Gamat). (S)

3. Convince, and if necessary compel, states and non-state entities to cease harboring, sponsoring, and providing safe-havens to such terrorists. ~~(S)~~

Strategy

1. Adopt a comprehensive approach employing all instruments of national power and influence in a coordinated manner for a sustained national campaign against terrorism, including its organizations, networks, finances, and access to WMD. ~~(S)~~

2. Pursue these objectives in coalitions with countries genuinely committed to this goal if possible, but act alone if necessary. ~~(S)~~

3. Hold responsible any countries that harbor or support terrorists. ~~(S)~~

4. In the context of this strategy, as highest priority, shall deprive terrorists and the countries that support them of access to WMD. ~~(S)~~

Implementation

1. This policy shall be implemented by a series of annexes that I shall approve, as they are ready. (U)

2. A separate directive will be developed addressing the terrorist threat within the U.S. homeland. ~~(S)~~

