

US Foreign Policy Must Answer For Terrible Tragedy

THE attack on two American cities is a terrorist act of such magnitude that a few words of condolence hardly seem appropriate. Nevertheless, our hearts go out to the families who have lost loved ones, and the American people as a whole.

This terrible act of terror highlights a number of issues, which are disturbing for all of us living in the free world. Whilst we can never justify terror as a way of solving problems, the signs pointing to this tragedy have been around for some time, and this tragedy could have been avoided.

The premature fingers of suspicion are pointing at Osama Bin Laden as the perpetrating mastermind. There are many other groups around the world who have no love for the American administration, and these acts could have been committed by any of a number of organisations, and not all of them of Arabic origin.

It must not be forgotten that Osama Bin Laden

is a creation of American foreign policy, if there is such an animal. Bin Laden was aided and abetted by America when he was a member of the Mujehadin when they were fighting the Soviet forces in Afghanistan.

At the time he was acting in the interest of America, and being supplied with weaponry. Saddam Hussein is another American creation (read Schwarzkopf's autobiography) who was supplied with weapons and the very biological gases that they now want to confiscate. These were used by Iraq against Iran in the eight year war between these two countries. The same gases were used in Vietnam. It must be remembered that both Bin-Laden and Saddam Hussein are Arabs, and America has made it patently clear that it has no interest in the Arab world, its people, or its progress. America acts only in its own interest, hence the military base in Qatar. It is unashamedly pro-

Israel (read pro-Jewish).

No country, which postures as a world power, can broker peace in the Middle East if it displays the kind of bias that America does in the that region. There was a time when we merely suspected that there was this pro-Israeli bias, now everyone on the street knows it, and what does that do for the integrity of American diplomacy in the world?

The Middle East conflict could have been resolved many years ago if America had not been a biased peace broker, but the Jewish influence in Congress and American society generally, made that impossible. Also, American foreign policy is not something that is clearly defined. It is, in fact, an ad hoc arrangement, which flirts with the devil at the best of times. The results are now clear to see. Punitive strikes against the perpetrators will also achieve very little.

Everything that has

tragically come to pass over the last few days is symptomatic of the manner in which the American administration goes about its business.

It is sad and tragic that innocent Americans have had to pay so dearly for an administration, which has let them and the world down so badly. It is also indicative of the fact that world powers no longer stand on principle when dealing with issues. Instead compromise is the standard and ethics and morality is being so rapidly eroded that we no longer stand up for our rights as equal occupants of the planet. America would do well to look at why it was targeted in this terrible act of terrorism. It can ensure that this never happens again, and I hope that its energies will be used in the areas where they matter most. My condolences to all affected by this terrible tragedy.

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