After the tragic events of September 11, 2001, U.S. citizens can no longer afford to be ignorant of the details of U.S. foreign policy. Our lives are at stake.

The C.I.A. themselves have admitted that Osama Bin Laden was paid, armed, and trained through them. This is not an isolated incident—indeed, it is typical of U.S. foreign policy. Our government supplied the Iraqi government with military aid throughout the 1980’s, only to kill over one million Iraqi citizens with bombs and sanctions a few years later; we still support dictatorships across the globe, and disregard the human rights of any who are perceived to endanger the profits of our corporations. Our government and the business interests it serves have created an atmosphere of international terror, which has finally reached our own shores. Hatred and violence like this do not just appear out of the air, as Bush’s statement on the day of the horror suggested; they are encouraged by the arrogant and avaricious policies of our politicians and executives, whose wheelings and dealings abroad are now very much our business.

Bombings won’t kill terrorists any more than they served to put Saddam Hussein out of a job; but they do kill people, whether or not you see them die on your television. Every innocent person affected by the bombs we drop, the aid we provide to oppressive governments, the injustices we condone, becomes another potential terrorist. Save lives, overseas and at home—take your power out of the hands of the politicians and the terrorists they raise. Let them know they can’t count on your silence.

"It is the duty of the patriot to protect his country from its government." -Thomas Paine