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Introduction

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REFLECTIONS ON TERROR AND LIBERTY



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“A date that will live in infamy.”

Franklin D. Roosevelt said that about Dec. 7, 1941. Now the 21st century has its own date of infamy, and as the events of Sept. 11, 2001, continue to resonate on the U.S. and world stages, Americans are trying to put into perspective the most deadly terrorist attack ever in the United States.

As history goes, a year is scant opportunity to make a serious reflection on the attacks in New York City, Washington and Pennsylvania that killed 3,056 people. Yet the enormity of the attacks demands reflection, demands an attempt to understand the motives, the loss, the evil. Only then can we begin to assimilate the shock of that terrible day and its aftermath. Only then can we, as a nation, move forward.