

# EDITORIAL



Up until 9/11 America viewed itself as a confident nation basking in the freedoms of the world. It is now a frightened nation where its people are restricting their international travel and thinking twice before leaving the shores of their homeland. Western values of freedom and democracy are facing the greatest threat since 1939. Yet the people who engage in such activity are determined

that their cause is justified and such people are willing to pay the price with their lives.

However, rigid control is not only confined to the terrorist. America at last has achieved its ultimate aim. With the break up of the former Soviet Union, the US now has complete supremacy and will never compromise its military and technological strength. Just as Chechens want to be free from the Russian Federation, so does America want to be free from its reliance on the Saudis for Oil. Saudi Arabia has closer links with Al Quaida than Iraq. Most of the hijackers were Saudi nationals and it is reported that the Saudi Government was paying protection money to Bin Laden. However, the U.S. needs Saudi Arabia for the moment. With a regime change in Iraq, America would be able to take control of the oilfields. Even now, in the American press, there is talk about a U.S. military government based on what happened in Japan from 1945-51.

It is not only an individual who can be labelled a terrorist; a nation can do the same through military oppression to further its aims.

# Brazil

I have returned from Brazil where I visited projects working with drug users. In the summer I hope to launch an international arm of THOMAS to help support drug projects in the developing world.



# No to War

I am pleased to be working with Edges Magazine. I have come to the UK from Indonesia. I am here on a UK/Indonesia exchange. I'm with THOMAS for three months. War destroys our human family. Let us use words and dialogue to solve the problems. The Iraqi regime needs to be replaced but it is innocent people who will pay the price.



# PEACE

Let all people from all faiths and traditions pray for Peace.

Indonesian visitors to the U.K.



# THOMAS Staff Sleep Out

Some of our staff raised money for THOMAS by staging a sleep-out. They raised over £500.



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