The six issues of Foreign Affairs published this past year were unusually dominated by a single topic: terrorism. Never before had anything occurred like the September 11 terrorist attacks on America’s centers of economic and military power. They generated anger, fear, and a shocked feeling of “Why us?” They also brought a military retaliation against the terrorists’ havens in Afghanistan and a global hunt for terrorist cells and their financial networks.

Terrorism also scarred the Middle East. Palestinian suicide bombers in unprecedented numbers wreaked havoc in Israel. In return, Israeli military forces demolished Palestinian government facilities, alleged terrorist hideouts, and substantial infrastructure in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. Faced with the risk of a wider war, the United States once again became deeply engaged in the search for peace.

In the wake of the September 11 attacks, Foreign Affairs remade its November/December 2001 issue to incorporate four articles on pressing aspects of the war on terrorism. Scholar Fouad Ajami illuminated the complicated history of America’s relations with the Arab world and the causes of festering anti-Americanism. Milton Bearden, a former Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) station chief in Pakistan, traced the constant warfare that had left neighboring Afghanistan controlled by Taliban fundamentalists who welcomed Osama bin Laden and his al Qaeda terrorist training camps. Former Defense Secretary William J. Perry proposed new strategies to prevent, deter, and defend against the threats of a terrorist age. Michael A. McFaul and Timothy Colton drew on their expert knowledge of Russia to suggest that the September attacks opened up possibilities for striking new cooperation between Russia and the United States.

Following up in the January/February 2002 issue, Columbia University professor and Council Fellow Richard K. Betts assessed the intelligence challenges presented by sophisticated, technology-savvy terrorist operations. Council Fellow and Coast Guard officer Stephen E. Flynn gave a similar assessment of the challenges of homeland defense. Princeton professor Michael Scott Doran provided a penetrating analysis of the conditions and ideas that drive radical Islamists. And journalist Anatol Lieven reported on the Islamic pressures that confronted Pakistan’s leader, Pervez Musharraf, as he sought to assist the U.S. campaign against al Qaeda in neighboring Afghanistan.

In the same issue, former U.S. ambassador to Israel Martin Indyk called for a new American approach to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, while Palestinian sociologist Khalil Shikaki illuminated the emerging division between the Palestinians’ old and new guard.

In the March/April 2002 issue, the burgeoning crisis in the Middle East received extensive analysis in a number of articles. The case for forcing a regime change in Iraq was laid out by Council Fellow and former National Security Council staffer Kenneth M. Pollack. Graham Fuller, former vice chairman of the National Intelligence Council at the CIA, counseled the Bush administration to support and work with moderate elements that exist in the Muslim world. Other related essays dealt with the refugee
problem in Afghanistan, the unsettled states of Central Asia, and needed course corrections in America’s public diplomacy.

In the May/June 2002 issue, Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld presented his vision of how the U.S. military should be transformed to meet challenges that are decidedly different from those of the Cold War. Noted security analyst Eliot A. Cohen offered a companion analysis, noting the political and conceptual obstacles to transformation. Two additional articles summarized lessons from the Afghanistan and Kosovo campaigns.

Also in the May/June 2002 issue was a tough assessment of Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon and Israel’s military incursions into the West Bank, and an urgent call for outside forces to put forward a comprehensive plan for a final settlement. Interim solutions will no longer work, according to Robert A. Malley, President Clinton’s special assistant for Arab-Israeli affairs, and Hussein Agha, an Oxford University scholar. Still further aspects of the phenomenon of terrorism and the conflict in the Middle East were addressed in the July/August 2002 issue.

Throughout the challenging past year, Foreign Affairs also dealt with other important topics, including deteriorating conditions in Latin America, the rising tensions between India and Pakistan, the stresses of globalization, and controversies surrounding global warming and the biotechnology revolution in agriculture.

**Benchmarks**

Following September 11, readers turned to Foreign Affairs in record numbers. The fall subscription campaign generated twice the usual response. Newsstand sales also set records. In all, the November/December 2001 issue sold almost 120,000 copies, an increase of 10,000 from the September/October 2001 issue. Traffic on the Foreign Affairs website soared to 200,000 visitors a month, compared with 70,000 in August.

Other initiatives continue to thrive. The Japanese version of the magazine reaches 20,000 readers, and the Spanish edition, launched in December 2000, reaches another 6,000. For the academic community, which makes extensive use of Foreign Affairs articles, a new series of anthologies is being offered for classroom use.

**Special Effort**

Given the extraordinary and shocking nature of the terrorist attacks on America, the editor and managing editor of Foreign Affairs produced an “instant” book to enhance public understanding. *How Did This Happen? Terrorism and the New War* consisted of 23 specially commissioned essays on all aspects of the causes and consequences of the attacks. Copies were distributed to key members of the news media, the Bush administration, and all members of Congress. The book’s publisher, PublicAffairs, reported 55,000 copies delivered to bookstores.