

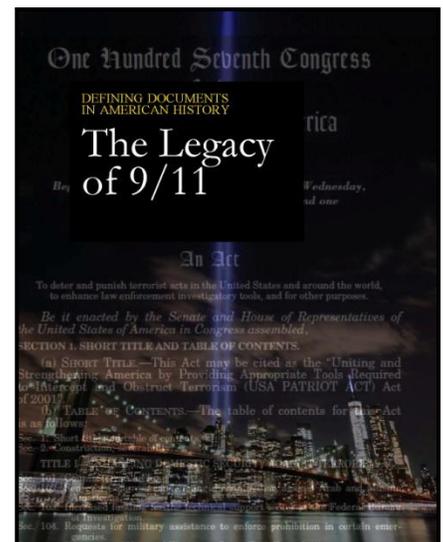
Defining Documents in American History: The Legacy of 9/11

“This title includes **44 documents** (speeches, letters, government reports, treaties, correspondence, essays, minutes, sermons, and transcripts) related to 9/11 and its aftermath. The book begins with an introduction by editor Michael Shally-Jensen, which outlines the 20th-century history of French, Russian, British, and American involvement in the Middle East, providing the book’s users with scaffolding on which to hang the information provided in the documents. Shally-Jensen arranges the documents in four parts: Historic Background (13 documents); Growing Conflict and 9/11 (14 documents); War—Its Justifications and Problems (9 documents); and The Post-9/11 World (9 documents). Each document analysis (either excerpted or printed in whole) includes a summary overview, a defining moment, a biography of the document’s author or authors, document themes and analysis, and a bibliography and additional readings list. Examples of documents presented in this volume include the Balfour Declaration, a speech by Gamal Abdel Nasser on the nationalization of the Suez Canal, Colin Powell’s 2003 speech to the UN on Iraqi Weapons of Mass Destruction, and a speech by an Islamic State spokesman Abu Muhammead Al-‘Adnani proclaiming the creation of the caliphate.

Particularly interesting are the documents relating to the 1979 Soviet invasion of Afghanistan, a topic that has recently been in the news. Each document analysis contains a glossary, and the book is enhanced overall by the use of black-and-white photographs and maps. Appendixes include a “Time Line of 9/11,” which starts in 1970 and runs through 2001; a list of web resources, a bibliography, and an index. **This document collection is recommended for school and public libraries.** Those who own a copy of *Defining Documents in World History: The Middle East*, however, will want to look carefully at the table of contents as some of the same documents appear in both titles.”

-ARBA, 2019

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2 University Plaza, Suite 310, Hackensack, NJ 07601
(800) 221-1592 FAX (201) 968-0511
www.salempress.com csr@salempress.com