

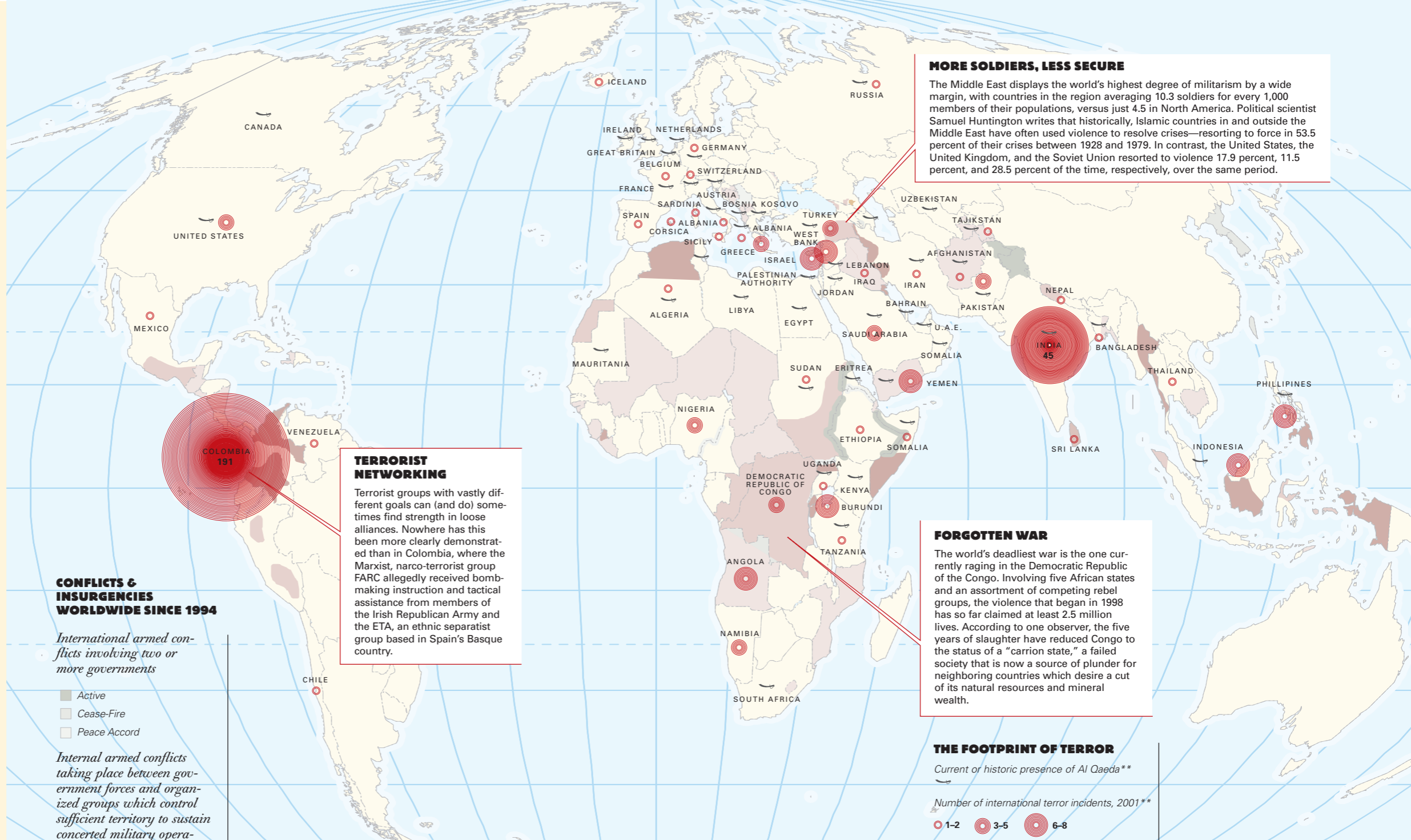
## GLOBAL MAYHEM & THE THREAT TO AMERICA

The greatest challenges to the U.S. today come not from strong states, but from weak ones—not from superpowers, but from superempowered individuals. The map to the right shows armed conflict and incidence of terrorism throughout the world. It may provide a rough guide to current and future problem areas for the United States, highlighting regions where violence is widespread, and where lawlessness could encourage the growth of extremism and offer safe haven for terrorist organizations.

It is easy to overstate international instability—conflicts are fewer in number than a decade ago, military spending is down worldwide, and terrorist attacks have declined in number (though not in lethality). Yet it is clear that serious challenges to international security remain, most of them centered along a belt of unstable, developing nations that stretches from Latin America across Africa, the Middle East and South Asia. These nations share several characteristics: low economic productivity, surging populations, and high amounts of militarism relative to the developed world, particularly in the Middle East.

This map should present a sobering picture for anyone hoping that America can effectively police the world. The U.S. military is built on speed, reach and precision—ideal for winning battles, but not for holding territory or building and overseeing foreign states. The United States can dampen the most dangerous brushfires as they flare, but it cannot by military means alone eliminate those dark, anarchic recesses where terrorism flourishes.

Elimination of these recesses likely depends more on economic progress and democratic reform. Here, the news is discouraging. Economically, the world's poorest nations have gone backward across the last five years. Over the same period, the world has added just three nations to its roster of democracies, and according to a recent study by Freedom House, an independent think tank, six out of every ten people on Earth continue to live in societies where respect for political rights and civil liberties is either limited or nonexistent.



### FEW INSURGENT GROUPS ARE OVERTLY DEMOCRATIC IN THEIR AIMS

States facing largest number of known, active, organized insurgents, as of August 2002

RANK	COUNTRY	NUMBER OF INSURGENTS	TYPE OF INSURGENTS	RANK	COUNTRY	NUMBER OF INSURGENTS	TYPE OF INSURGENTS	RANK	COUNTRY	NUMBER OF INSURGENTS	TYPE OF INSURGENTS
#1	Colombia	33,100	●●●●●	#10	Somalia	8,000	●●●●●	#18	Algeria	2,000	●●●●●
#2	Iraq	30,500	●●●●●	#11	Nepal	5,000	●●●●●	#19	Lebanon	2,000	●●●●●
#3	Democratic Rep. of Congo	22,000-23,000	●●●●●	#12	Eritrea	3,000	●●●●●	#20	Uzbekistan	2,000	●●●●●
#4	Burundi	18,000-19,000	●●●●●	#13	Sudan	3,000	●●●●●	#21	Uganda	1,700	●●●●●
#5	Rwanda	18,000	●●●●●	#14	Russia	2,000-3000	●●●●●	#22	Afghanistan	1,500	●●●●●
#6	Bangladesh	15,000	●●●●●	#15	Senegal	2,000-3000	●●●●●	#23	Egypt	1,000	●●●●●
#7	Philippines	11,600	●●●●●	#16	Indonesia	2,700	●●●●●	#24	Peru	600	●●●●●
#8	India	8,500	●●●●●	#17	Palestinian Authority	2,400	●●●●●	#25	Angola	600	●●●●●
#9	Myanmar	8,000	●●●●●								

- Ethnic separatists/nationalists
- Islamic separatists/nationalists
- Christian separatists/nationalists
- Democratic revolutionary
- Left-wing revolutionary (Marxist, Communist, Socialist, etc.)
- Other (Narco, right-wing, etc.)