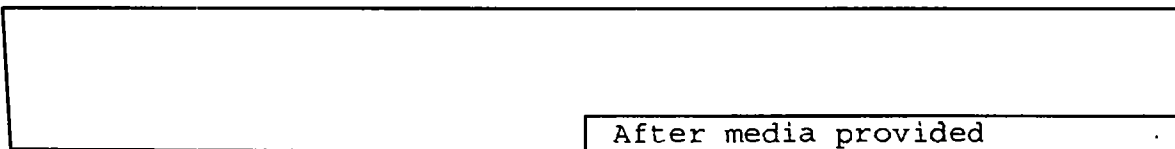


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PUBLIC DIPLOMACY STRATEGY AND ACTION PLAN FOR
ENEMY COMBATANTS ISSUE

Background: The detention of enemy combatants in the U.S. Naval Base at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, is causing persistent criticism of the United States in international media.

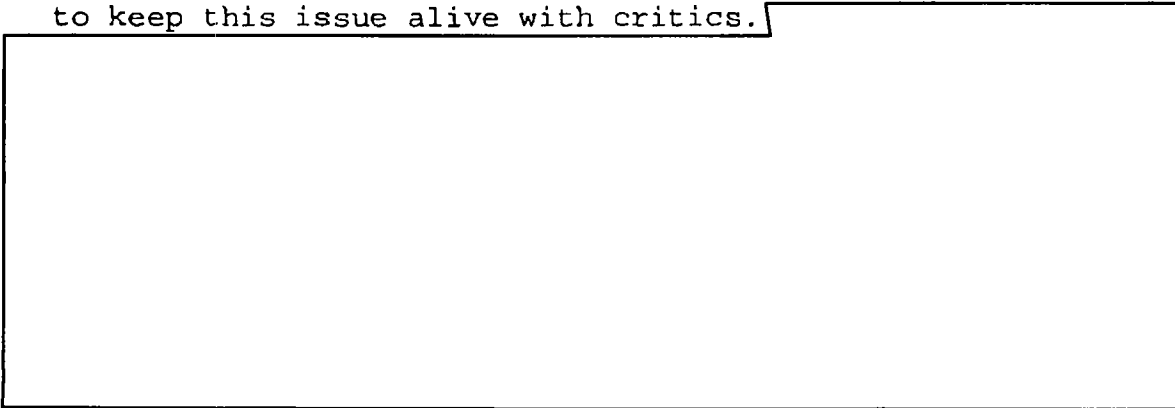
Criticism is particularly strong in Europe and the Middle East. Europeans have objected to the detention of nationals with no consular visits and no timetable for transfer, release, or the bringing of criminal charges. We also hear the assertion that some detainees are innocents caught in the crossfire and wrongly detained. A recent article from the Middle East claims that the detention is a form of revenge rather than of justice. The criticisms seem to demonstrate little understanding of our motives or legal justification.



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After media provided unbalanced coverage about the conditions of detention, a series of actions, including a White House fact sheet, limited press access, and interviews of military officials and Muslim chaplains by State's International Information Programs (IIP), were developed to counter the negative reports. Now, protest seems to be gathering over the open-ended nature of the detentions.

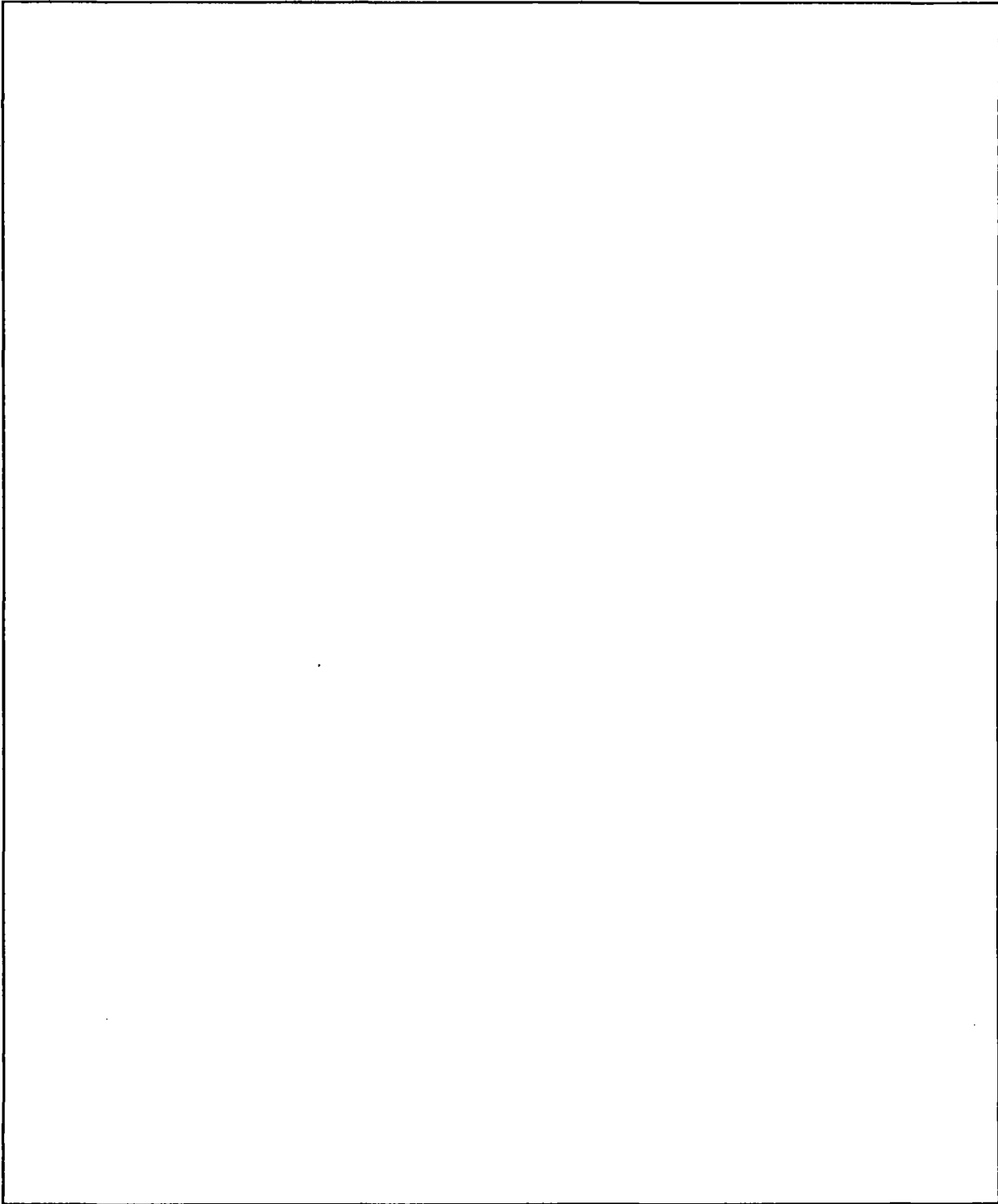
The first anniversary of September 11, continuing challenges in litigation (foreign and domestic), a visit to Guantanamo by the ICRC, the recent OSCE meeting, domestic and foreign litigation, and election campaigns in several Operation Enduring Freedom partner nations, all have served to keep this issue alive with critics.



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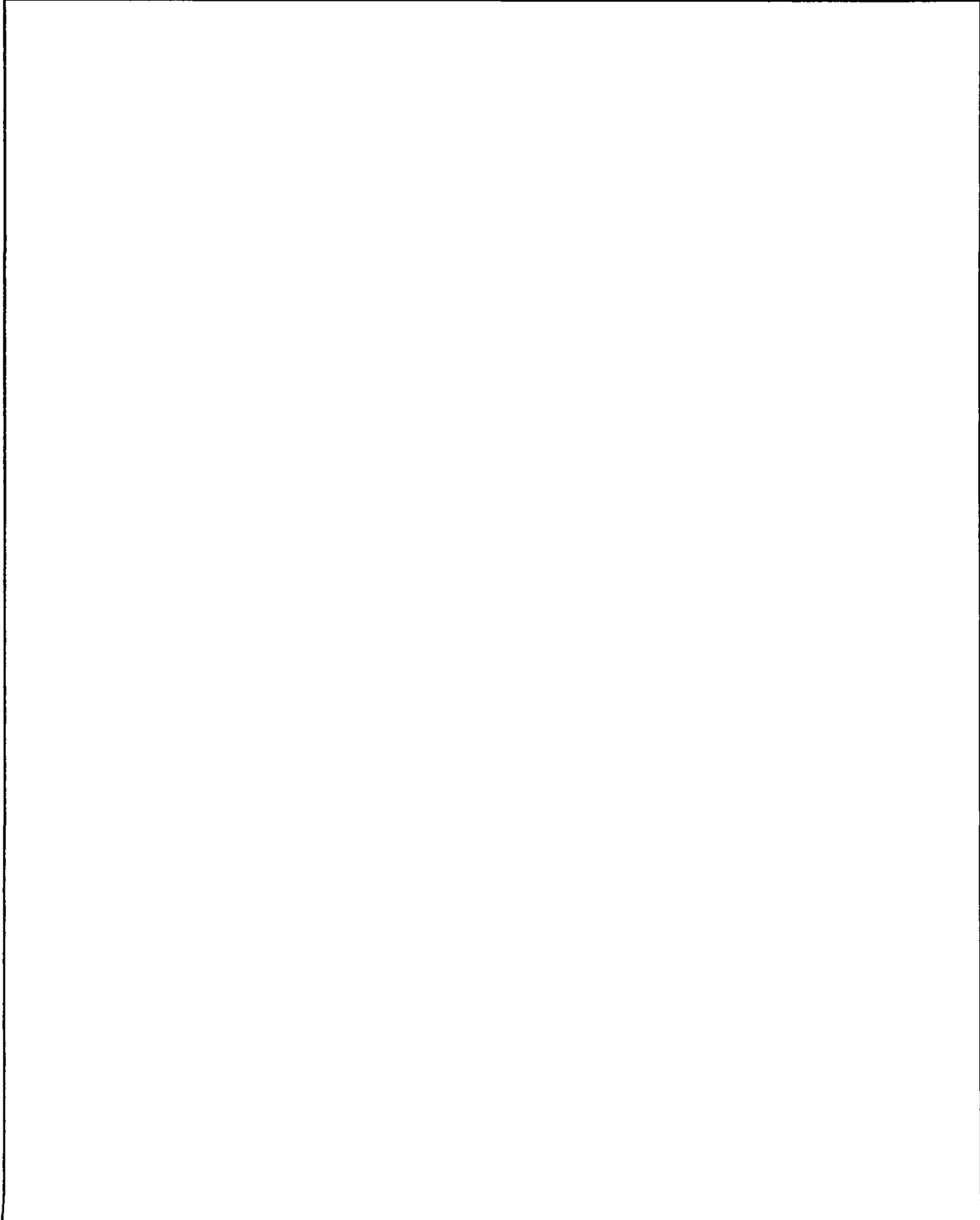
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INVENTORY OF RECOMMENDED ACTIONS



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