

**up to standards**

# Building New York and America

By Mike Weinberg  
Contributing Editor



Any regular subscriber to *Transmission Digest* usually reads this column to learn about the wherefores of standard-

transmission repair. This month we'll be different.

Because of the horrendous events of Sept. 11, I felt it necessary to speak about rebuilding New York and America instead of rebuilding transmissions. In the past two weeks I have been to seven funerals. All of those who died were under the age of 50, and their only fault was that, like any responsible adult, they went to work on Sept. 11. The lives of three

firefighters, one cop and three young men who were stock brokers were cut short by the acts of a collection of lowlives who have wrapped themselves in the flag of a noble religion. I know many people of the Moslem faith intimately, and they are as horrified by these events as any other sane person would be. *Nowhere* in the Moslem religion does it say that the slaughter of innocent people is justified. In fact, the Moslem religion refers



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Slip-Yoke Eliminator Kits • AWD Low-Range Lockups  
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\*Includes New Morse Chain

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- LIBERTY - KJ-NV231J, NV242J
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231J Command Trac  
w/ Slip-Yoke Eliminator



247J & 249J AWD  
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## up to standards

to Christians and Jews as "people of the book" with great respect, and to Jesus and Moses as prophets who were beloved by God.

I was born and raised in New York City, and my present home and business are 30 miles north of the Big Apple. I am just one of about 270 million Americans, and I have a message for terrorists everywhere:

You tore up my town pretty good. You killed about 7,000 of my brothers and sisters, including a lot of foreign tourists and business people. You put a hole in the Pentagon and killed and wounded another bunch of our citizens. WE ARE STILL HERE!

We Americans are a generally disorderly group. It comes from being brought up with a set of ideas called the Bill of Rights and the Constitution. This code of con-

duct created by the brilliant men who were our forefathers gives us something you know nothing about: freedom of speech and religion, the right to associate freely, the right to own property and weapons to defend that property. We always seem to be arguing among ourselves. Our political process seems to be one huge name-calling contest, and our citizens are not very involved with the business of government.

We have unlimited opportunity, and our country is a huge collection of immigrant peasants who came with nothing and built lives of plenty. We spend fortunes educating our young so that they don't accept anything on face value but question and discover the deeper meaning of issues.

The biggest mistake you made was waking the sleeping giant. We were fat and happy, and most of

our citizens and all of our politicians were ignorant of the dangers you presented. Not anymore. I lived through Pearl Harbor, and I watched my father and my uncles go off to the war effort. The women, whom you treat as beasts of burden, went off to the factories and built war machinery. Before the Japanese bombed us in 1941, we were building 1,000 tanks a year in this country. By 1945 we were building more than 1,000 tanks a week. We supplied all of our allies with weapons and money, and when the war was over we forgave them their debts and rebuilt Germany and Japan. Our industrial might won that war, and I have bad news for you. We have improved a hundredfold since then.

We have put men on the moon and brought them back safely. You drew first blood and woke us up.

*continues next page*

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### Jeep Transfer Cases



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- 242J Select Trac
- 247J Pump Coupler AWD
- 249 J AWD

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\*Includes New Morse Chain  
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You sealed your own doom by giving us the one thing we were lacking – a cause. Like any family, we can call each other names and fight among ourselves, but no outsider can hurt one family member without having to fight all family members. My disappointment is that you won't live long enough to see us attain even greater unity and through that even greater progress. In the words of the great Joe Louis, a poor black kid from Detroit who became the heavy-weight boxing champion of the world, "You can run, but you can't hide."

We also need to send a message to our government officials: It is time to make some real changes in our national priorities. I firmly believe it is time to escort that corrupt collection of useless bureaucrats who occupy the United Nations building to our borders and throw them out. They have no love or respect for this country, and all they want is our money and the lives of our military personnel for their own use. New York is now suffering from a shortage of office space, and I vote that we nationalize the U.N. building (which we have paid for many times over) and lease it to New York City as replacement space for some of the businesses that were destroyed in the trade towers. I have yet to hear a joint resolution of the United Nations condemning the attack on innocent civilians perpetrated on Sept. 11.

I think it is time for us to put a moratorium on immigration to this country. We have enough people here at present. Our cultural diversity is the greatest in the world, and for national security we should put a halt to all immigration to this country for at least three to five years. This will give us a chance to get our immigration system in order and prevent any other terrorists from learning useful things here, like flying jumbo jets. We need to rethink our visa

process and begin to screen immigrants to make sure they really are here in search of a better life, rather than to destroy our people or become a burden on our taxpayers. We need to get people back on airplanes, traveling again. In order to do this, though, that bailout we are giving the airlines has to be earmarked for security improvements.

You who run the airlines are going to have to lose a row of seats so that you can put a lavatory in the cockpit for the flight crew, and the cockpit needs to have a door that is bulletproof and substantial. You have to instruct your pilots NOT to comply with the demands of hijackers. All pilots know that they can put the passengers on the ceiling anytime they want to. It is very hard to hijack a plane if you are bouncing off the walls like a pinball. We, the passengers, will have to learn to keep our seatbelts fastened and be prepared for the unexpected. Better to bounce a few people around, bring the plane back to the airport safely and let the hijackers find out how much fun it is to deal with an FBI SWAT team than to surrender the ship to greater destruction.

We need for our politicians to deal with reality. Since the Ford administration, with the Church hearings and the subsequent dismantling of our intelligence capabilities on the ground, we have faced a steady barrage of politicians who were so naive as to believe we are dealing with Boy Scouts. Jimmy Carter was so asleep at the switch that his administration had no idea we were going to lose the embassy in Iran. Clinton did nothing when they blew up our embassies in Africa. Senator Toricelli passed an amendment that said our FBI and CIA could not deal with any informants who had violence or human-rights violations in their past. Face it; if you lie down with dogs you are going to get up with

fleas. This is a dirty business, but in order to protect that which we have, we have to be the best at it. If we are not proactive in this fight, we are going to be reacting to an endless harassment at the hands of a few determined people.

We are rebuilders. Every day of our lives we take that which is useless and give it new life. Now is the time for us to rebuild our nation. You won't do this with just your hands or money. You will do it with spirit, brotherhood, vigilance and the love of God. We must be united in our resolve and our conduct toward each other. Watch out for your neighbor; support your police, fire and military people. If you see wrongdoing, get involved to make it stop. Become active in your community, and if you already are, double your efforts. It is up to us to solve our problems at home and present the strongest united effort we can to preserve our safety and our way of life. No one will do it for us; we are the ones who can make a difference. If you have a few dollars you don't know what to do with, get online to the SEPTEMBER 11th WEB SITE and find out what you can do to help the families in New York and Virginia who are so badly hurt. We are a band of brothers, and we need to stand united to support our leaders and those whom we ask to go in harm's way. **TD**

### THE BOTTOM LINE:

Tell us your opinion of this article:

Circle the corresponding number on the free information card.

87 Useful information.

88 Not useful information.

89 We need more information.