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U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom Releases 2011 Annual Report

U.S. Counterterrorism Operation Targeting al Qaeda Leader Osama bin Laden Successful

U.S. Calls on Sudanese Armed Forces to End Violence Against Civilians in Southern Regions

Obama Annouces Drawdown of 33,000 Troops Over Coming Year

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EDITOR'S NOTE

This issue of Foreign Policy Bulletin certainly shows the direction that foreign policy is headed – it is an increasingly multi-polar world, with a host of issues in varied regions all competing for attention. The Arab Spring is flowering in Syria and Libya, despite harsh repression by the Assad and Gaddafi regimes; South Sudan is moving to full independence; war continues in Afghanistan; trade deals are pending with Panama and Colombia; and energy and cyberspace policy has become internationalized. At the same time, long-time foreign policy pre-occupations, such as the Israeli-Palestinian search for peace, are producing fierce debates, as shown in the speeches by President Obama and Israeli Prime Minister Netanyahu covered in this issue. In addition, we are pleased to present a report on an old but increasingly relevant dimension of human rights – religious freedom – with the release of the 2011 report by the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom. We hope you will continue following Foreign Policy Bulletin to remain up to date on these and other important issues in U.S. foreign policy.

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#### PHOTO CREDITS

Page 54, State Department Photo Page 104, White House Photo Page 117, White House Photo Page 145, White House Photo Page 196, State Department Photo

#### MISSION STATEMENT

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In addition to major addresses, statements, and other public reports and remarks of the President, Secretary of State, and Administration officials in other foreign affairs agencies, the *Foreign Policy Bulletin* includes excerpts from pivotal debates in the Congress; speeches and other statements by foreign and international officials; relevant texts and reports from international organizations; summaries and listings of treaties and other agreements to which the United States is a party; and other information of particular interest to the study of U.S. foreign relations.

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