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**WHAT EFFECT HAS THE TRAGEDY THAT OCCURRED ON
SEPTEMBER 11TH 2001 HAD ON INTERNATIONAL SECURITY
MEASURES AT THE UNITED NATIONS?**

Catherine M. Gilbert

October 2006

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MASTER OF AVIATION MANAGEMENT

At Massey University, Albany, Palmerston North, New
Zealand

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Supervisor: Professor Alan Williams

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Abstract

The tragedy of 11th September 2001 (9/11), took place on United States soil, and deeply affected the psyche of American people. Many other countries and organisations based within those countries, suddenly felt much more vulnerable from terrorist attacks. One such organisation was the United Nations (UN).

Furthermore, in August 2003, the UN suffered its own major security disaster, "*Some officials called it the UN's own version of 9/11*" (D. Pitt, 2004); with the bombing of its Baghdad office in Iraq and loss of twenty two UN staff members' lives.

For the UN, with offices all around the world, ensuring that its buildings are secure and its staff members are safe is a complicated business as it is usually reliant on the Host Government to assist with the security and safety of its staff, which can create complications in war torn and beleaguered countries.

The UN therefore has the difficult task of ensuring security needs are being achieved in its locations worldwide; whilst still achieving the following efforts in those locations:

"to prevent violent conflict, resolve conflicts that have erupted, protect civilians and deliver humanitarian assistance, keep the peace when combatants have reached a truce, and build lasting peace in the aftermath of war". (Kofi Annan, UN Secretary-General, 2004).

This thesis therefore seeks to explore the ongoing effects that the 9/11 tragedy has had on international security measures in the UN. It will explore internal (to the UN) and external documents, newspaper articles, books, web articles and other material to present a comprehensive document on these measures. This thesis will also discuss the issues that have hampered the UN's endeavors to counter terrorism through a number of UN conventions, which address specific factions and acts, but with no international agreed definition of terrorism.

Table of Contents

1. Abstract
2. Table of Contents
3. Background
4. Introduction – The UN as a Terrorist Target
5. How the 9/11 Tragedy Directly Affected the UN
6. Conventions to Support International Security Measures as a Result of 9/11
7. Safety and Security for UN Staff in The Field
8. Security Measures Implemented During 2002
9. Security Measures Implemented During 2003
10. The 2003 Attack on the UN Office in Baghdad
11. 12. The Creation of the Department of Safety and Security
13. 14. Security Infrastructure Upgrades Achieved in 2004
15. Safety and Security for UN Staff Members Around the World
16. Security Measures Implemented During 2005
17. The Current Status of Security Measures at The UN, 2006
18. Conclusion
19. List of References
20. Annexes
 - Annex A: A Basic Overview of the United Nations
 - Annex B: United Nations Treaty Collection
 - Annex C: Guidelines for UN/NGO/IGO security collaboration
 - Annex D: Survey on the Implementation of the Guidelines
 - Annex E: Marti Ahtisaari's Panel's Executive Summary
 - Annex F: Organizational Structure for DSS
21. Bibliography