

GREETINGS FROM THE EMPIRE
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465 words

I used to think things like "Hey, all these people in the world think America's the evil empire, trying to take over the world. Well, we're not in total control of the globe by a long shot, so you're wrong."

911 was a wake-up-call for a lot of us, but for some of us it worked differently than for others. Some people woke up and realized that terrorism was the new threat. Others woke up and realized that terrorism was the new trumped up threat to replace the old trumped up threat, the Soviet Union. For me, I woke up and realized a lot more than the above. I started reading about why terrorists hated America. I learned about more than you might think. I read Chomsky and other writers who document America's imperialistic tendencies abroad.

I began to realize that in a lot of ways those people who called America the evil empire were right. I'd say America already dominates the world. The entire "civilized" planet measures it's wealth next to the American Dollar (ironic) and every country knows that if they can entice American money into their country, it's nothing but good news for them. American culture, American cash, we're the rich uncle who always gets drunk and tries to molest your sister. But hey, he brings you cool presents and cash, so you don't think about anything else...

We're so powerful around the world that I'd expect it would take a literal miracle from on high to break America's "spell" over the rest of the world. Hell, when's the last time we've seen a divine miracle Earth-side? I'd say it would have to be at least as far back as Drew Barrymore in *Poison Ivy*.

All, well, most kidding aside, I would seriously welcome either a miracle or the wrath of God at this point. We could use the former and I can certainly think of a few people who deserve the latter...

However, I seriously don't think God has the cahones at this point. He's made this tremendous mess, right? I mean, this whole "free will" thing--what the hell was he thinking? When has free will EVER been a good idea? It only gets you in trouble. He should just ditch that all together and let us be like the cats, or the bears and wander around eating and mating. Hell, I think I know some people who live like that, right now.

So, God, yeah, hi, it's Pete. I bring you greetings from the Empire. If you're reading this (do you have DSL in heaven?) I'm extending an invitation/request to you. Come down and deal with us. You made us, we're your mess--come down clean this crap up!