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The US now has 13m citizens with permits to carry concealed firearms, which is more than 12 times the number of police officers.

As one lobbyist for the National Rifle Association tells [Evan] Osnos [author of a book being reviewed], the al-Qaeda attacks were a giant windfall for the US gun lobby.

The fall of the Twin Towers followed a decade of sharply declining crime rates and lower gun sales. Suddenly there was a new paranoia of terrorists to exploit.

**Edward Luce,
Financial Times, September 11, 2021**