

SPEAK UPI

WORLD
BY ALEX PHILLIPS

LANGUAGE LEVEL: B1 INTERMEDIATE

NEW YORK CITY TEN YEARS AFTER 9/11

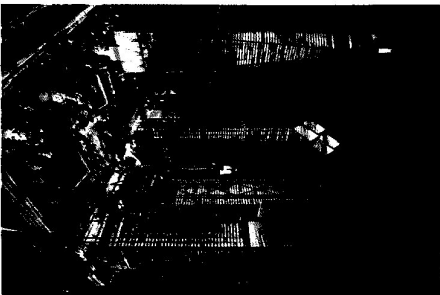
Una década después de los ataques a las Torres Gemelas de Nueva York se inaugura el memorial a las miles de víctimas. Steve Coleman nos detalla los planes para recuperar la llamada Zona Cero.

As counter-productive as the term may be, the end of the 'war on terror' came for the vast majority of North Americans on May 1st 2011. Soon after President Obama announced that American troops had killed Osama bin Laden, flag-draped crowds began to gather at New York's Ground Zero, the 16-acre site where the twin towers of the World Trade Center had been destroyed in the worst terrorist attack in US history.

This September 11th, on the tenth anniversary of the attacks, an 8-acre Memorial will be inaugurated. It consists of two square pools on which the names of the 2,982 victims are engraved in bronze. Yet with another four buildings and a Museum as yet incomplete, the Memorial opens amidst controversy and rumours of delay.

REACTIONS

Immediate responses to 9/11 were defiant. Then-mayor of New York City, the Republican Rudy Giuliani, was widely praised for



his leadership by his supporters, yet severely criticised by many family members of victims and the emergency services for incompetence during the cleaning process. As George W. Bush declared the "war on terror" and trained his guns on Iraq, Giuliani urged that New York, a city whose reputation is built on its towering skyline, be reconstructed in a more spectacular fashion than before. It was

a delicate matter. Many felt that an overt "show of capitalism and power" was inappropriate, even callous, and that the area should be dedicated to the victims and their families, and to cultural pursuits.

RISING UP

The Lower Manhattan Development Corp. (LMDC) was formed to plan redevelopment, and distribute \$10 billion in federal funds. In 2002, a competition was held for possible designs which would strike the balance "between culture and capitalism. Daniel Libeskind's master plan was chosen. It included the 1,776feet (541m) 'Freedom Tower', renamed 'One World Trade Center', which will be the tallest building in the US.

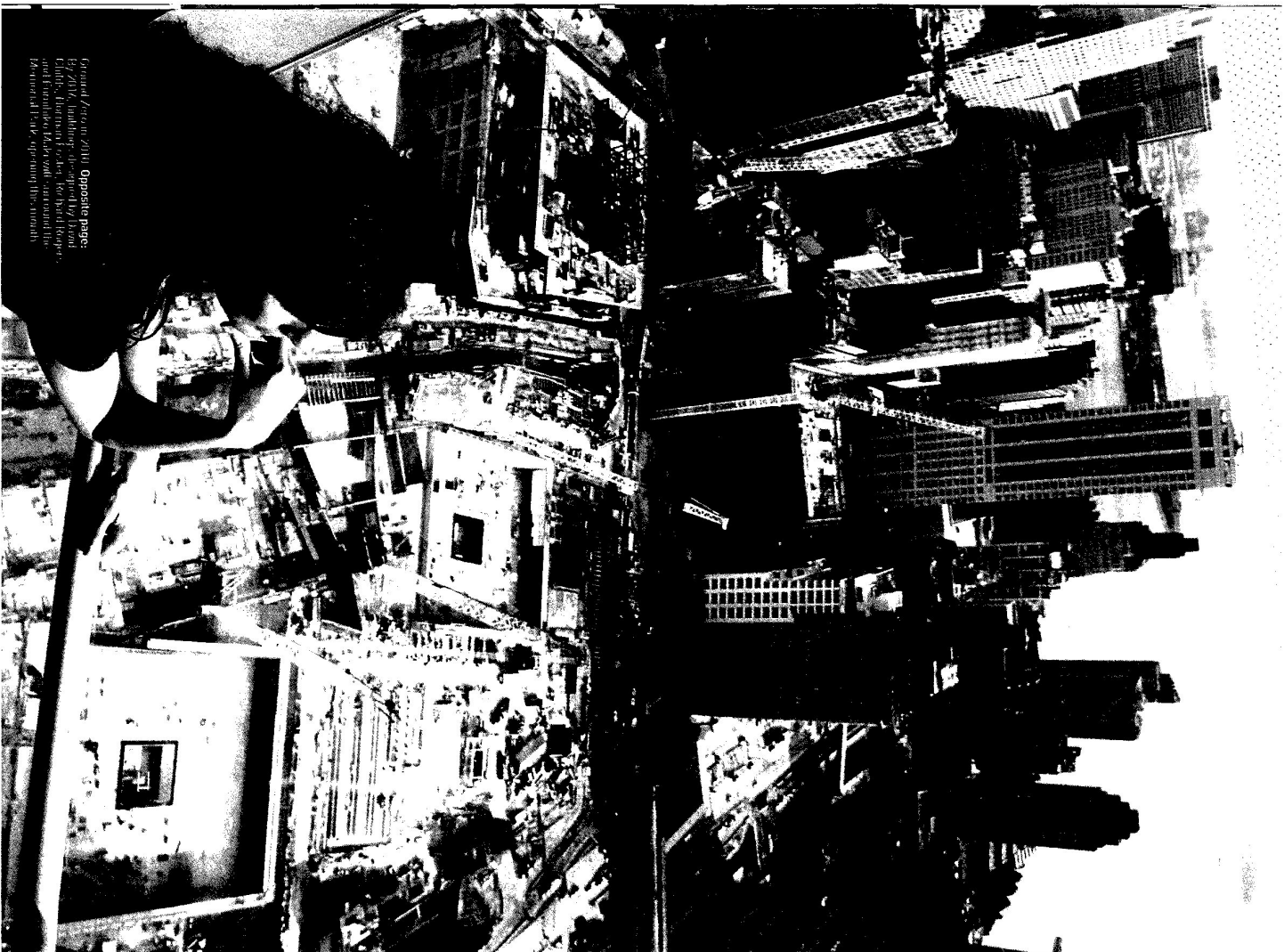
The Memorial was entrusted to Israeli-American architect Michael Arad and landscape architect Peter Walker. Five other office towers would be built and world stars of architecture were brought in to design them: Bixton Norman Foster and Richard Rogers, Japanese architect Rুমhiko Maki and New Jersey-born David Childs.

"HOLE IN THE GROUND"

By 2006, one building, 7 World Trade Center, was completed. Yet work had not yet started on any of

GLOSSARY

- 1 **THE VAST MAJORITY**: la gran mayoría
- 2 **FLAG-DRAPED**: envuelto en una bandera
- 3 **TO GATHER**: reunirse
- 4 **TO ENGRAVE**: grabar
- 5 **DELAY**: retraso
- 6 **TO PRAISE**: alabar
- 7 **CLEARING**: limpieza
- 8 **TRAINED HIS GUNS ON**: apuntó a
- 9 **TO URGE**: instar
- 10 **OVERT**: manifiesto
- 11 **CALLOUS**: insensible
- 12 **REPUTATION**: reputación
- 13 **TO HOLD**: celebrar, organizar
- 14 **TO STRIKE THE BALANCE**: encontrar el equilibrio
- 15 **TO ENTRUST**: encargarse



Ground Zero in 2011. Opposite page: By 2010, building designed by Daniel Libeskind, Richard Rogers, Ken Yeang, Foster and Norman Foster started the Memorial Park, opening the month