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**Sinopsis**

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This documentary guide brings together selected primary source materials on the legislative response to 9/11, domestic surveillance, congressional oversight, challenges to the Patriot Act, and more. Each primary source document is preceded by brief headnotes, giving the document's source, date, place, and significance, and is followed by a couple of pages of content analysis plus a short list of further reading. The 64 documents were chosen to "provide an authoritative and illuminating insight into the germination and development of the massive legislative package called the Uniting and Strengthening America by Providing Appropriate Tools Required to Intercept and Obstruct Terrorism Act (USA Patriot Act)." For example, readers will find the 1987 letter from Paula Kaufman to the American Library Association regarding a visit two FBI agents made to the Columbia Libraries and the 2003 speech by Attorney General John Ashcroft in which he characterized complaints from library administrators about library surveillance as ridiculous hysteria. In those quaint days before the World Wide Web, documentary collections like this were essential tools for serious researchers. Without them, only those scholars with lots of time and lots of money could dig deeply into primary source materials. Nowadays, the question to ask is whether documentary collections add value through careful selection of properly representative documents, coherent thematic grouping, and intelligent analysis. With this perspective in mind, and in view of its reasonable price, this title is recommended for libraries serving advanced high-school and undergraduate college researchers. --Art A. Lichtenstein