A rather contentious news day:
-- Nadel examines the cost of terrorism at Ground Zero, how it got that way, and why the implications are "so critical to the safety and economy of thriving cities and nations."
-- Loeffler looks at what U.S. embassy designs say about America.
-- The critics are getting wrong about the new U.S. embassy in Berlin.
-- Berlusconi takes on Libeskind - and vice versa - in a war of words and innuendo (tsk tsk).
-- Is modern architecture still all stumps and carbuncles? Scruton says yes; de Botton says no.
-- Malaysia's architectural association strikes back at criticism.
-- Perhaps they should all head to Singapore this Wednesday for Principal Voices debate: Does good design mean design for good?
-- Berlusconi strikes: "Not manly enough": Berlusconi's verdict on Libeskind work: ...made an off-the-cuff remark about design for the tower, part of the Fiera Milano site...Some speculate that the Prime Minister might reconsider the planning permission. -- Hadid; Isozaki
-- Was Prince Charles right — is modern architecture still all stumps and carbuncles? Most buildings are the creation of talentless people just doing their jobs, says Roger Scruton; but Alain de Botton warns of succumbing to kitsch nostalgia
-- PAM doing a lot towards nation-building: We appreciate Prof Tajuddin's view on what true Malaysian architecture should be...we would appreciate if he could refrain from making unsubstantiated sweeping statements that are damaging to the profession.-- The Star (Malaysia)
-- Organising seminars is not enough: I stand by my statements based on my 20 years of experience watching what PAM (Pertubuhan Arkitek Malaysia) did, or more importantly did not do but should have done. By Mohamad Tajuddin Mohamad Rasdi-- The Star (Malaysia)
-- Does good design mean design for good? What plans and designs will come from the second Principal Voices debate in Singapore on July 9? -- Cameron Sinclair/Architecture for Humanity; Peter Head; Milton Tan/Design Singapore; Moses Wong/Temasek Design School; Aw Kah Peng/EDB Singapore; Sim Van der Ryn [links]; CNN International


To subscribe to the free daily newsletter click here
Government delays eco-town design competition...by at least a year amid mounting hostility to the 10 proposed developments. -- BD/Building Design (UK)

Branson plans world’s most eco-friendly resort: ...said his sun-soaked island properties in...the Caribbean - with its wealth of sun, wind and waves - can lead the globe in renewable alternatives to carbon fuels. -- Ken Kao/Kao Design Group- Sydney Morning Herald

Amid allegations of corruption...an eye-witness report from the Turks and Caicos Islands: James Pallister reports back from...key tourist development [Dellis Cay]...architectural all-stars will have to carry on with their project against a backdrop of allegations...Big egos may be the least of the project’s PR problems. -- Zaha Hadid; David Chipperfield; Chad Oppenheim; Kengo Kuma; Shigeru Ban; Carl Ettensperger; Piero Lissoni- The Architects’ Journal (UK)

Trump’s Adventures in the Land of Golf: ...project for a golf resort on the northeast coast of Scotland, near Aberdeen, hangs in balance as environmentalists say the rugged coastline should be left undisturbed. By Fred A. Bernstein - New York Times

UNESCO Grants Dresden One Year Reprieve: ...has made it clear that Dresden will lose its World Heritage listing if it goes ahead with construction of a bridge over the Elbe River. [slide show]- Der Spiegel (Germany)

Adding coffee to the culture: ...development sagas of Benjamin Franklin Parkway and Independence Mall are awfully similar...the appearance this summer of two gracious pavilions devoted to the gentle art of drinking coffee and wasting time suggests that the city is getting over its resistance to trade among the trees. By Inga Saffron -- Laurie C. Olin (1998); Erdy McHenry Architecture; Cope Linder Architects [images]- Philadelphia Inquirer

The big get bigger: Perkins+Will swallows The Environments Group, an interiors firm. By Blair Kamin - Chicago Tribune

Anna Liu wobbles her way to jelly architecture win: Tonkin Liu founder has beaten Foster + Partners, Will Alsop and Rogers Stirk Harbour + Partners to bag the prestigious ultimate jelly architect accolade...It cleared the field in the "wobble factor" category... [link to images]- The Architects’ Journal (UK)