

**ATTACK**

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building.  
At 9:50, tower two of the World Trade Center collapsed, sending debris and dust cascading to the ground. At 10:30, the other tower crumbled.

The television images were extraordinary — a plane slamming into the second tower as smoke poured from the first; the buildings tumbling down and vanishing in a gray cloud; bloodied survivors stumbling through the streets of Manhattan, covered with dust and ashes.

Glass doors shattered; police and firefighters ushered people into subway stations and buildings. The air was black from the pavement to the sky. The dust and ash were inches deep along the streets.

Mayor Rudolph Giuliani said it was believed the after effects of the plane crashes eventually brought the buildings down, not planted explosive devices. Hyman Brown, a University of Colorado civil engineering professor and the construction manager for the World Trade Center, speculated that flames fueled by thousands of gallons of aviation fuel melted steel supports.

"This building would have stood had a plane or a force caused by a plane smashed into it," he said. "But steel melts, and 24,000 gallons of aviation fuel melted the steel. Nothing is designed or will be designed to withstand that fire."

A half-hour after the Pentagon attack, United Airlines Flight 93, a Boeing 757 jetliner en route from Newark, N.J., to San Francisco, crashed about 80 miles southeast of Pittsburgh.

"There's a crater gouged in the earth,

the plane is pretty much disintegrated. There's nothing left but scorched trees," said Mark Stahl of Somerset, who went to the scene.

Airline officials said the other three planes that crashed were American Airlines Flight 11, a Boeing 767 en route from Boston to Los Angeles, apparently the first to hit the trade center; United Airlines Flight 175, also a Boeing 767 en route from Boston to Los Angeles, which an eyewitness said was the second to hit the skyscrapers; and American Airlines Flight 77, a Boeing 757 en route from Washington-Dulles to Los Angeles that a source said hit the Pentagon.

People aboard the hijacked planes who managed to make cell phone calls each described similar circumstances. They indicated the hijackers were armed with knives, in some cases stabbing flight attendants. The hijackers then took control of the planes.

At mid-afternoon, Giuliani said 1,500 "walking wounded" had been shipped to Liberty State Park in New Jersey by ferry and tugboat, and 750 others were taken to New York City hospitals, among them 150 in critical condition.

Well into the night, a steady stream of boats continued to arrive in the park. Bridges and tunnels were closed to all but pedestrians. Subways were shut down for much of the day; commuter trains were not running.

The military boosted security across the country to the highest levels, sending Navy ships to New York and Washington to assist with air defense and medical needs.

By evening, huge clouds of smoke still billowed from the ruins. A burning, 47-story part of the World Trade Center complex — already evacuated — collapsed in flames just before nightfall.

Shortly after 7 p.m., crews began

heading into ground zero of the attack to search for survivors and recover bodies. All that remained of the twin towers by then was a pile of rubble and twisted steel that stood barely two stories high, leaving a huge gap in the New York City skyline.

Emergency Medical Service worker Louis Garcia said initial reports indicated that bodies were buried beneath the two feet of soot on streets around the trade center.

"A lot of the vehicles are running over bodies because they are all over the place," he said.

Evacuations were ordered at the tallest skyscrapers in several cities, and high-profile tourist attractions closed — Walt Disney World, Mount Rushmore, Seattle's Space Needle, the Gateway Arch in St. Louis.

Felix Novelli, who lives in Southampton, N.Y., was in Nashville with his wife for a World War II reunion. He was trying to fly home to New York when the attacks occurred.

"I feel like going to war again. No mercy," he said.

"This is Dec. 7th happening all over again. We have to come together like '41, go after them."

Even as many Americans spoke angrily of retaliation, religious leaders counseled prayer.

"We have been reminded very powerfully of the existence of evil in our world and of the power that evil can seem to have," said Bishop George J. Lucas, bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Springfield, Ill.

"We are praying from our hearts for those who have been killed and injured and for the heroic people who are involved in the rescue efforts.

"May God bless us with courage and strength."

# Bush: 'Evil Acts' Will Not Destroy U.S. Foundation

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON, D.C. — A grim-faced President Bush condemned ghastly attacks in Washington and New York on Tuesday and vowed to "find those responsible and bring them to justice."

In the second Oval Office address of his presidency, Bush said the United States will retaliate against "those behind these evil acts," and any country that harbors them.



Intercepted phone conversations might link Arab terrorist Osama bin Laden to Tuesday's attacks.

Fighter jets and decoy helicopters accompanied his evening flight to Washington and the White House.

"Today, our nation saw evil," he said.

Bush said the government offices deserted after the bombings Tuesday will open today.

Seeking to comfort an anxious nation, he said, "These acts shattered steel, but they cannot dent the steel of American resolve." The address lasted less than five minutes.

The United States received no warning of the attacks on the Pentagon and New York's World Trade Center towers, said

White House press secretary Ari Fleischer.

In his address, Bush said thousands of lives were "suddenly ended by evil, despicable acts of terror."

Bush did not mention any possible suspects or comment on how the investigation was proceeding.

But U.S. officials are looking closely at Osama bin Laden, based on an intercept of communications between his supporters and harrowing cell phone calls from victims aboard the jetliners before they crashed Tuesday.

U.S. intelligence intercepted communications between bin Laden supporters discussing the attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon, according to Utah Sen. Orrin Hatch, the top Republican on the Senate Judiciary Committee.

"They have an intercept of some information that included people associated with bin Laden who acknowledged a couple of targets were hit," Hatch said in an interview with The Associated Press. He declined to be more specific.

Hatch also said law enforcement has data possibly linking one person on one of the four ill-fated flights to bin Laden's organization.

Bin Laden is a wealthy Arab believed to be living in Afghanistan who previously has been tied to terrorist attacks against Americans overseas.

Government and industry officials said at least one flight attendant and two passengers called from three of the

planes as they were being forced down in New York and Washington — each describing similar circumstances.

The callers indicated that hijackers armed with knives, in some cases stabbing flight attendants, took control of the plane and were forcing them down toward the ground, officials said.

One of the passengers was Barbara Olson, the wife of a top Justice Department official who called her husband as the hijacking was occurring.

Olson, the wife of Solicitor General Theodore Olson, was aboard American Airlines Flight 77 that left Dulles International Airport in Washington and was forced to crash into the Pentagon.

The officials said Olson told her husband the attackers had used knife-like instruments to take over the plane and forced passengers to the back of the jet. U.S. officials said there was early information tying the attacks to bin Laden. But they cautioned it was too early to definitively assign blame.

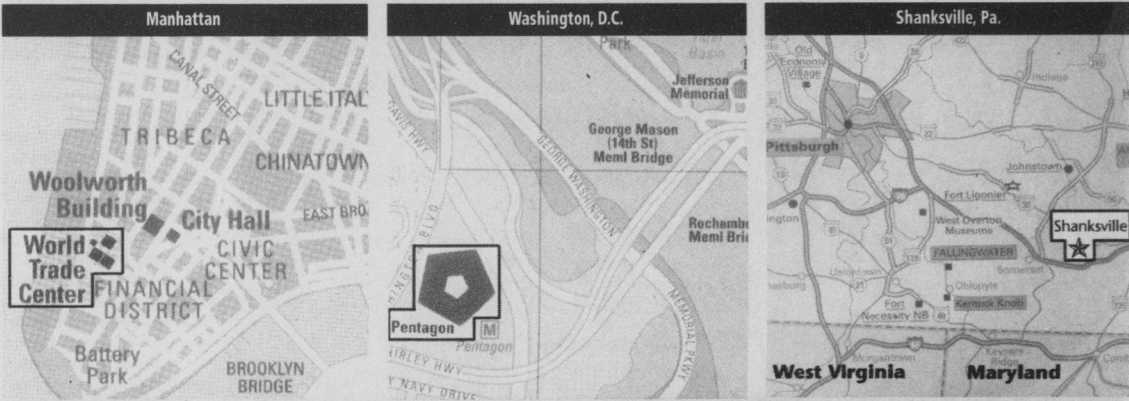
The Taliban, Afghanistan's ruling Islamic militia, said bin Laden lacks the resources for such a terrorist attack.

Federal law enforcement officials are studying manifests for passengers, crew or service personnel with possible links to bin Laden.

The government has also unleashed legions of intelligence and law enforcement experts to begin identifying those who planned and carried out the attacks.

## Under Siege

Countless Americans awoke Tuesday to learn terrorists had hijacked four airplanes. Three of the planes crashed into the World Trade Center and the Pentagon — symbols of American power. Media agencies covered America's nightmare throughout the day as images of smoke pouring from the ruins were ingrained in the nation's memory.



- 8:45 a.m.**  
A large plane, possibly a hijacked airliner, crashes into one of the World Trade Center towers, tearing a gaping hole in the building and setting it on fire. The plane was later identified as American Airlines Flight 11, a Boston to Los Angeles jet with 92 people aboard.
- 9:03 a.m.**  
A second plane, apparently a passenger jet, crashes into the second World Trade Center tower and explodes. Both buildings are burning. The planes was later identified as United Airlines Flight 175, a Boeing 767 bound from Boston to Los Angeles with 65 people on board.
- 9:30 a.m.**  
President Bush, speaking in Florida, says the country has suffered an "apparent terrorist attack."
- 9:40 a.m.**  
The FAA halts all flight operations at U.S. airports, the first time in U.S. history that air traffic nationwide has been halted.
- 9:43 a.m.**  
An aircraft crashes into the Pentagon, sending up a huge plume of smoke. Evacuation begins immediately. The plane is later identified as American Airlines Flight 77 from Washington, D.C., to Los Angeles, with 64 people on board.
- 10:05 a.m.**  
The south tower of the World Trade Center collapses, plummeting into the streets below. A massive cloud of dust and debris forms and slowly drifts away from the building.
- 10:10 a.m.**  
A portion of the Pentagon collapses.
- 10:10 a.m.**  
United Airlines Flight 93 crashes in Shanksville, Pa., southeast of Pittsburgh. The plane, traveling from Newark, N.J., to San Francisco, had 45 people on board.
- 10:28 a.m.**  
The World Trade Center's north tower collapses from the top down as if it were being peeled apart, releasing a tremendous cloud of debris and smoke.
- 1:04 p.m.**  
Bush, speaking from an undisclosed location, says all appropriate security measures are being taken, including putting the U.S. military on high alert worldwide. He asks for prayers for those killed or wounded in the attacks and says the guilty will be punished.
- 1:44 p.m.**  
The Pentagon says two aircraft carriers will move to positions along the East Coast. The carriers are to provide upgraded air defense for the New York and Washington areas.
- 2 p.m.**  
Senior FBI sources tell CNN they are working on the assumption that the four airplanes that crashed were hijacked as part of a terrorist attack.
- 5:25 p.m.**  
Another building in World Trade Center Plaza collapses.
- 8:30 p.m.**  
Bush, in his second address from the Oval Office, vows to "find those responsible and bring them to justice."

SOURCE: CNN

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