

The San Diego

TUESDAY  
SEPTEMBER 11, 2001EXTRA EDITION  
35¢

## Union-Tribune.

## DEVASTATION

Thousands feared dead as terrorist attacks hit New York, Washington and spread fear across U.S.

TIME LINE  
OF TERROR

(all times are Eastern Standard Time this morning)

**8:42** A Boeing 767 en route to Los Angeles with 56 passengers crashes into the north tower of the World Trade Center in Manhattan, rattling the 110-story landmark.**9:03** A Boeing 757 flying from Washington, D.C., to Los Angeles with 58 passengers crashes into the World Trade Center's south tower, sending flames out the other side.**9:40** Federal authorities close all domestic airports.**9:45** An aircraft plane of undetermined size crashes into the Pentagon, sparking a fire that collapses part of the massive office building.**10:00** The 110-story World Trade Center's south tower crumbles to the street. The north tower collapses minutes later.**10:05** White House evacuated.**10:48** A third airliner, carrying 38 passengers from Newark, N.J. to San Francisco crashed southeast of Pittsburgh.

## VOICES

**"This is the second Pearl Harbor. I don't think that I overstated it."**

CHUCK HAGEL, Republican senator from Nebraska

**"Make no mistake, we will show the world we will pass this test."**

PRESIDENT BUSH

**"I have a sense it's a horrendous number of lives lost."**

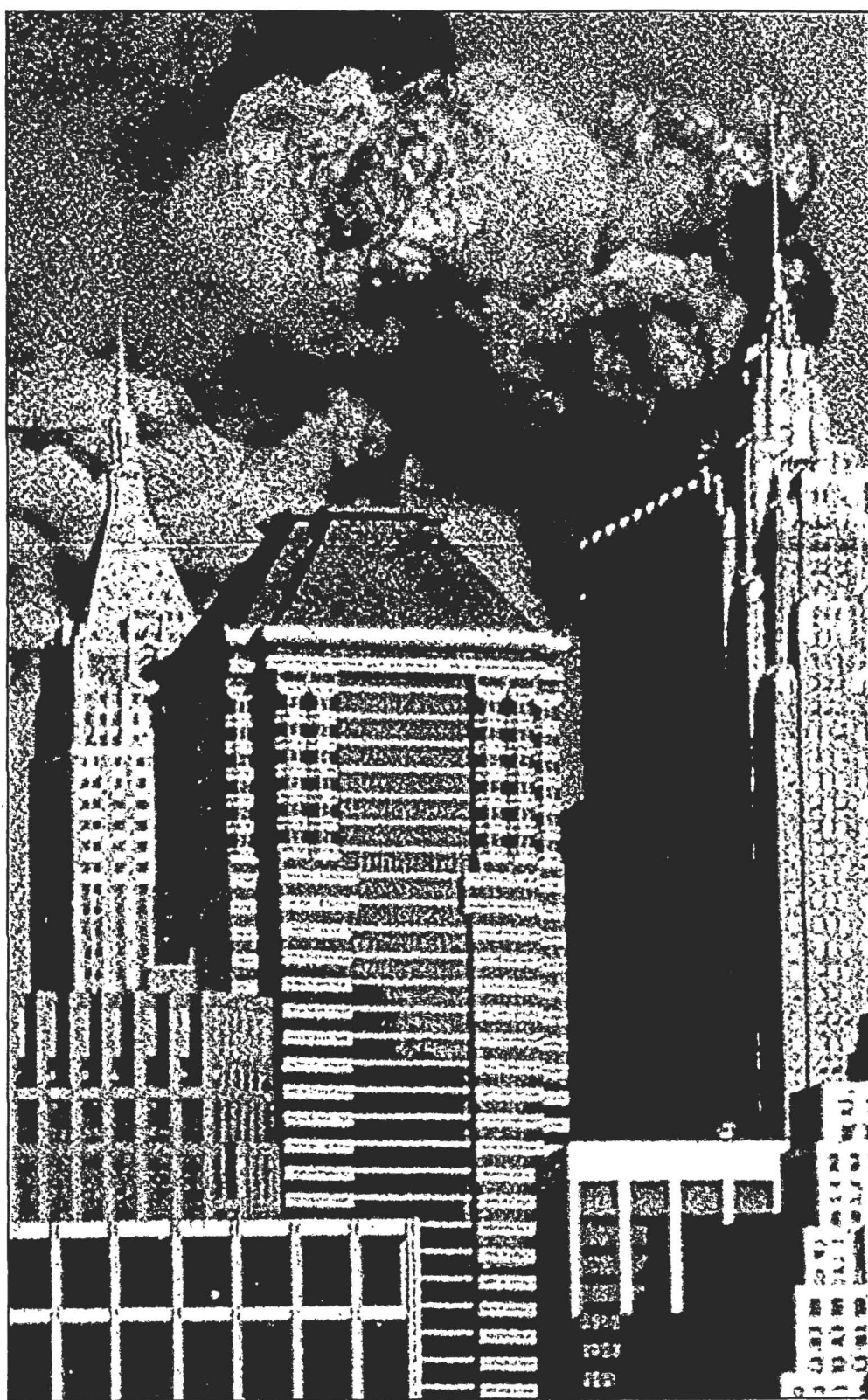
RUDOLPH GIULIANI, New York Mayor

**"They flew the planes themselves. No pilot, even with a gun to his head, is going to fly into the World Towers."**

GENE POTEAT, Association of Former Intelligence Officers

**"I just hoped and hoped for all these years that we would never have anything worse than what happened in Oklahoma City."**

ROB RODDY, survivor of 1995 Oklahoma City bombing

Smoke and flames poured from World Trade Center towers in Manhattan this morning after two airliners smashed into the 110-story landmarks. The airliners, carrying a total of 156 people, hit the towers 18 minutes apart. The buildings ultimately crashed to the street below. Authorities have not yet begun to estimate the casualties, which could run into the thousands. *Kelly Guenther / New York Times News Service*

## San Diego airport, office buildings closed; military bases on high alert

By James Steinberg  
STAFF WRITER

All flights were grounded at Lindbergh Field this morning as the nation's airline system was shut down in the wake of what appeared to be coordinated terrorist attacks in New York and Washington. Security was heightened at government and military facilities around the county, and some downtown office buildings were evacuated.

San Diego police activated the department's emergency operations cen-

ter and took a number of measures within minutes of the multiple tragedies in the East, which occurred starting around 6 a.m. local time. The department also activated a plan to secure all key buildings in the city, which it did not specify, Police Department spokesman Dave Cohen said.

Police dispatched units to Lindbergh Field to assist Harbor Police with gridlocked traffic and to local military installations to assist with traffic control.

Police Chief David Bejarano was scheduled to hold a closed-door briefing for the mayor, City Council and

other officials at 9:30 a.m.

San Diego's border crossings with Mexico remained open, but security was increased to Level 1, the highest, said U.S. Customs Service spokesman Kevin Bell.

Local military bases were under armed guard this morning, and all vehicles, including those with base privileges, were stopped and all occupants had their identification checked.

At most bases, long lines of cars and trucks formed on nearby streets because

Rescue workers removed an injured man from the World Trade Center this morning after the attack. Many of the still-unaccounted injured were badly burned. *Shannon Stapleton / Reuters*

## Coordinated air attacks on trade towers and Pentagon

Hijacked commercial airliners used as weapons

By Jerry Schwartz, ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — In a horrific sequence of destruction, terrorists hijacked two airliners and crashed them into the World Trade Center in a coordinated series of attacks this morning that brought down the twin 110-story towers. A plane also slammed into the Pentagon, raising fears that the seat of government itself was under attack.

"This is the second Pearl Harbor. I don't think that I overstate it," said Sen. Chuck Hagel, R-Neb. High-ranking New York City police officials said the number of people killed or injured could be in the thousands.

Authorities in New York had been trying to evacuate those who work in the twin towers, but many were thought to have been trapped. About 50,000 people work at the trade center. American Airlines said its two aircraft were carrying a total of 156 people.

"Today we've had a national tragedy," President Bush said in Sarasota, Fla., where he quickly cut short his visit. He added, "Terrorism against our nation will not stand."

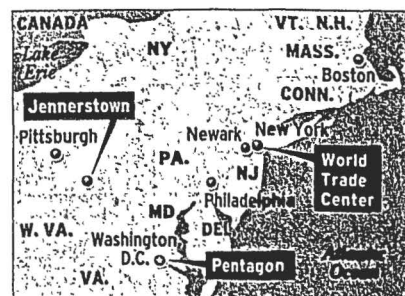
The White House, the Pentagon and the Capitol were evacuated along with other federal buildings in Washington and New York. Foreign embassies were shut down.

There was no word from federal officials on who was responsible for the attacks. Bush ordered a full-scale investigation to "hunt down the folks who committed this act."

Within the hour, the Pentagon took a direct, devastating hit from an aircraft. The fiery crash collapsed one side of the five-sided structure.

Pentagon spokesman Glenn Flood said all the Defense Department's leaders were safe, including Secretary Donald Rumsfeld. Senior officials staffed the agency's National Military Command

SEE Terror, Extra 4



SEE Local, Extra 6

UNION-TRIBUNE

A COWLEY NEWSPAPER

8 sections 94 pages

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## EXTRA: AMERICA UNDER ATTACK

## VOICES

"Today we've had a national tragedy."

**President Bush**  
from Sarasota, Fla.

"This is perhaps the most audacious terrorist attack that's ever taken place in the world. It takes a logistics operation from the terror group involved that is second to none. Only a very small handful of terror groups is on that list."

**Chris Yates**  
an aviation expert at Jane's Transport magazine

"My mother is going crazy. I just hope (my brother's) all right. He's my workout partner. He's my hangout partner. I'm just in shock now."

**Edwin Cruz, 34**  
whose brother, Richard, works in the World Trade Center

"I heard a 'boom.' People were jumping off the building everywhere. They were just jumping."

**Serena Mays**  
a construction worker on the Williamsburg Bridge, which leads into Manhattan from Brooklyn

"I just can't believe what's happened. God, my heart goes out to all of these people, believe me. I just hope there is justice."

**Martha Ridley**  
whose daughter was killed in the April 1995 Oklahoma City bombing

"I just saw my two towers fall. I'm devastated beyond belief. In many respects this is significantly worse than Pearl Harbor, and we don't know who the enemy is."

**Lewis Eisenberg**  
chairman of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, which operates the World Trade Center

"It's just sick. It just shows how vulnerable we really are."

**Keith Meyers, 39**  
of Westerville, Ohio

"Everyone was screaming, crying, running — cops, people, firefighters, everyone. It's like a war zone. There are many injured."

**Mike Smith**  
a New York City fire marshal

"All of a sudden there were people screaming. I saw people jumping out of the building. Their arms were flailing. I stopped taking pictures and started crying."

**Michael Walters**  
a free-lance photojournalist in Manhattan

## Air traffic halted, major high-rises evacuated

COMPILED FROM WIRE SERVICES

NEW YORK — Authorities went on alert from coast to coast today, halting all air traffic, evacuating high-profile buildings and tightening security at strategic facilities following the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

"I don't think there's any place in America right now that's not at risk," said Andrew Hudson, a city spokesman in Denver, where emergency preparedness officials gathered in the basement of City Hall.

"It's just sick. It just shows how vulnerable we really are," said Keith Meyers, a computer technician watching police cordon off headquarters in downtown Columbus, Ohio.

"I'm very afraid. I don't feel safe," said Charlin Sims, taking a cigarette break outside her office in downtown Columbus. "I want to hug my son."

Under orders from the Federal Aviation Adminis-

tration, airports nationwide halted all outbound flights, while keeping their runways open for incoming planes.

"We're like everyone else, in shock," said Carol Windham, spokesman at Birmingham International Airport in Alabama.

The U.S. financial markets came to a halt.

The Securities and Exchange Commission said all financial markets would be closed for the day. The announcement followed a suspension of trading on the New York Stock Exchange and Nasdaq Stock Market. The American Stock Exchange had already decided to close for the day.

"As a safety precaution while the tragic events of today are sorted out, the securities markets have decided not to open for trading today," SEC Chairman Harvey Pitt said in a statement. "We strongly support that decision."

Pitt said markets would reopen "as soon as it is

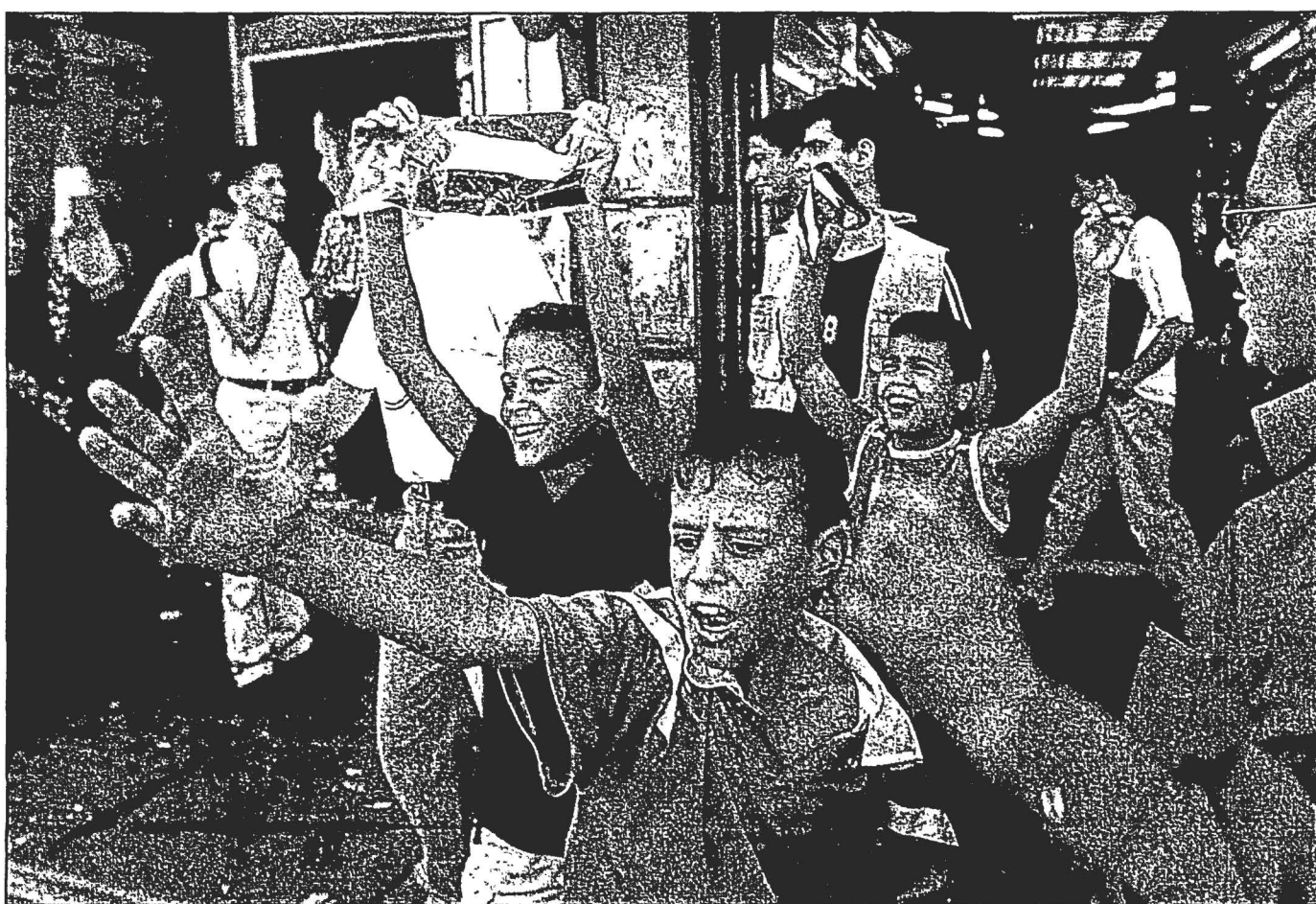
practicable to do so."

Many federal and state office buildings were closed, as well as prominent tourist attractions — Disney theme parks in Florida and California, Seattle's Space Needle, the Gateway Arch in St. Louis and Knott's Berry Farm in Southern California. Even the Museum of Tolerance in Los Angeles was shut down.

The newly restored Los Angeles City Hall was ordered shut and street barriers were erected to prevent parking in front of major buildings.

All terminals at Los Angeles International Airport were being evacuated this morning.

The video terminals that normally announce departures and arrivals instead carried an emergency message: "The entire nation is ground stopped until 1500 PST. All airborne flights ordered to land closest airport. Flights en route to LAX diverted. Los Angeles International airport closed."



Crowds in Palestine took to the streets to demonstrate their support for this morning's attacks on the United States, which were sharply condemned by Palestinian President Yasir Arafat and other leaders in the strife-torn region. *Leftis Pitarakis/Associated Press*

## World leaders react in horror as some Palestinians celebrate

By Beth Gardiner  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

LONDON — Astonishing terrorist strikes in the United States quickly reached a global audience yesterday, with many around the world watching live coverage as both World Trade Center towers collapsed.

Audiences were transfixed by the awful images from New York and Washington, D.C.

Key indexes sank on world stock markets and some European airlines canceled flights to the United States and recalled planes already in the air.

Russian President Vladimir Putin expressed his condolences to the American people over the terrorist attacks, calling them "terrible tragedies," the Kremlin press service said.

"This mass terrorism is the new evil in our world today," said Prime Minister Tony Blair, who canceled a speech at a trade union conference. "It is perpetrated by fanatics who are utterly indifferent to the sanctity of human life, and we the democracies of this world are going to have to come together and

fight it together."

President Jacques Chirac of France, in a nationally televised statement, called the attacks in the United States "monstrous" and expressed his solidarity with the American people.

"France has just learned of these monstrous attacks — there is no other word for it — that have hit America," Chirac said from Rennes, in the western region of Brittany.

Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat and his top aides followed the events on TV at his seaside office in Gaza City.

"I send my condolences to the president, the government and the people for this terrible incident," said Arafat said. "We are completely shocked. It's unbelievable."

However, on the West Bank, hundreds of Palestinians distributed sweets in the city of Nablus to celebrate the attacks on the United States.

Motorists in Nablus honked their horns and gunmen fired into the air from assault rifles to cheer on the attacks that unfolded in the space of a few hours and stunned people around

the globe.

And several dozen Palestinian youths gathered in Arab East Jerusalem to celebrate as well, honking out wedding tunes on their car horns.

"We are so happy that America was hit. America is against us in supporting Israel," Suleiman, one of the demonstrators, said.

Israel and the Palestinians have been locked in nearly a year of fighting since a Palestinian uprising against occupation erupted last September after peace talks stalled.

In Berlin, German Foreign Ministry officials huddled in a crisis meeting following the attacks.

Virtually all German TV channels switched to live coverage. "This is pure mass murder," one commentator said.

"My government condemns these terrorist attacks to the utmost," said German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder.

"Italy is at the side of the United States," Italian President Carlo Azeglio Ciampi told President Bush in a telegram. "The international community must respond together to this abhor-

rent act."

Airlines including British Airways, Scandinavia's SAS and Belgium's Sabena canceled flights across the Atlantic and recalled planes that were already in the air.

In Puerto Rico, people scrambled for news of relatives and friends in New York, where an estimated 2 million Puerto Ricans live.

Groups gathered on the corners of cobblestone streets in the colonial city of San Juan, clinging to strangers in search of more details.

"Dios mio, have mercy!" exclaimed a white-haired man, making the sign of the cross as he watched the second tower explode on TV.

A spokesman for Philippine President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo said: "The president has been monitoring the events since an hour ago and she condemns what is obviously the worst terrorist attack on a leader of civilized society."

In Tokyo, Japan ordered its military to tighten security for the huge U.S. bases scattered across the country and U.S. Marines went on maximum alert.

## State on high alert; government workers sent home

By Greg Risling  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Airports across California were closed and law enforcement agencies went on high alert after yesterday's series of disasters on the East Coast, which included four airplanes bound for California.

Government workers were sent home and landmarks were kept closed, including Knott's Berry Farm in Orange County, the Museum of Tolerance in Los Angeles and the city's 74-story Library Tower, at 1,700 feet the tallest building west of the Mississippi River.

"I was like, 'Get me out of here,'" said Angela Nalu, who had reported for her first day on the job at an office in the Library Tower. "There was so much tension in the room. Everybody was trying to do their work and get out."

The state's Emergency Council convened as Gov. Gray Davis ordered all state buildings to close and all non-essential state employees to go home.

Two airplanes crashed into the World Trade Center in New York, another crashed onto a landing pad

at the Pentagon and a fourth crashed in western Pennsylvania. Two of the aircraft, including one that struck one of the World Trade Center towers, were bound for Los Angeles, while a third was en route to San Francisco.

American Airlines officials said their jetliners involved were Flight 11 from Boston to Los Angeles with 81 passengers and 11 crew, and Flight 77 from Washington Dulles to Los Angeles with 58 passengers and six crew.

The San Francisco flight was United Airlines Flight 93, from Newark, N.J., which crashed about 80 miles southeast of Pittsburgh.

People gathered at United Airline's counter at Los Angeles International Airport seeking information. Many would-be passengers had their flights canceled as the FAA grounded all flights at airports across the nation. Police didn't allow people to unload baggage at the American Airlines terminal.

Police departments in San Francisco and Los Angeles were put on tactical alert. There were no immediate reports of threats in either city, but authorities weren't taking any chances.

"We don't want to create a panic," San Francisco Police Chief Fred Lau told KCBS radio. "We don't have anything now, but, again, we're not taking anything for granted."

Employees at the state Capitol in Sacramento were told to leave the building just before 9 a.m. California Highway Patrol officers earlier had been checking identification cards and searching bags of those entering the Capitol.

"I just want to go home because I don't feel safe here," Elaine Galicia, office assistant for State Sen. Martha Escutia, D-Commerce, said as officer workers filed out of the building.

CHP spokesman Tom Sullivan said the patrol had heightened security at all bridges, such as the Golden Gate Bridge and the Bay Bridge in the Bay Area.

Freeway entrances to airports were closed, which affected traffic, but the roadways remained open, he said.

In San Francisco, the federal building was closed and police cordoned off City Hall. Police in San Francisco were on "heightened alert," though Chief Fred Lau said there were no specific threats.



## EXTRA: AMERICA UNDER ATTACK

## EDITORIAL

## We will overcome this devastation

Never before in the 225-year history of the United States has its civilian population been subject to an enemy attack of the magnitude of today's terrorist strikes that reduced New York's World Trade Center to rubble and destroyed part of the Pentagon in Washington. Untold numbers of innocents were killed or injured.

An entire nation watched, in horror, as the attack was replayed on television: A commercial jet smashing into the north tower of the trade center, followed by another plane into the south tower 20 minutes later. The collapse of the first tower followed shortly by the collapse of its twin. Then we learned the Pentagon had also been hit.

This was no mere symbolic attack against the United States, akin to the terrorist bombing of the U.S. embassy in Kenya and Tanzania or the terrorist bombing of the guided missile destroyer Cole. This was nothing less than an act of war, perpetrated by enemies of

the United States too cowardly to make themselves known.

But Americans are a resilient people. Amid the most abominable terrorist attack imaginable, they will come together. And as a nation, we will strengthen our resolve not to give into terrorists. To use every means possible to root them out of hiding and make them pay for the carnage they caused.

Indeed, President Bush said no less this morning. "We have taken all appropriate security precautions to protect the American people," he declared. "Make no mistake, the United States will hunt down and punish those responsible for these cowardly acts."

Of course, this is no easy undertaking. For the fact that this nation's enemies were able to get away with today's coordinated terrorist attack — to hijack several commercial aircraft, to strike not only against the World Trade Center, but also the Pentagon, and possibly other sites — shows how adroit

our enemies have become.

This just illustrates how important it is that America devote more resources to intelligence gathering, to monitor the activities of terrorist organizations throughout the world. And how important it is that the U.S. military devise new counter-terrorist strategies to respond to the threats so devastatingly on display this morning.

Today's terrorists attacks usher in a disquieting new era for the United States. The American people now know, unequivocally, that they are no longer exempt from the violence and mayhem that the peoples of Western European and the Middle East have known for years.

The terrorists responsible for today's attacks have dealt a blow to the nation's psyche. But through its 225-year history, this great nation has been confronted by many foes. And we Americans have never shrunk from battle, have never given in. We will not now.

## Local religious leaders plan services to mourn tragedy

San Diego religious leaders today busily prepared for special services this evening to mourn the national tragedy.

Congregation Dor Hadash will hold a prayer vigil at 7:30 p.m. to pray for those who were killed and injured "and for peace, sanity and justice in the coming days," said Rabbi Alexis Roberts, spiritual leader of the Jewish synagogue at 4858 Ronson Court in San Diego.

St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral, 2728 Sixth Ave., will hold an interfaith service at 7 p.m. "It's essentially a calling together of the faith community, as a community, to pray," said Canon Joan Ford. The cathedral also will be open all day for prayer.

Meanwhile, local Muslim leaders joined a chorus of voices condemning the terrorist attacks.

"Absolutely cowardly, absolutely appalling," said Mohammad Nasser, local chapter president of the Muslim American Society. "There is nothing justifying what happened today. It is just unbelievable."

## Padres game, area concerts, Latin Grammy Awards postponed

By George Varga  
POP MUSIC CRITIC

Disneyland is closed, tonight's Latin Grammy Awards in Los Angeles have been postponed, and all Major League Baseball games across the nation have been called off in the wake of today's terrorist attacks.

Locally, tonight's Padres game at Qualcomm Stadium against the Los Angeles Dodgers has been postponed. The Padres were also scheduled to play the Dodgers tomorrow night and Thursday afternoon.

Also likely to be postponed

was tonight's Smokey Robinson concert at Humphrey's on Shelter Island. "Smokey's crew is here and Smokey is in L.A., and we're trying to reschedule it," said Humphrey's promoter Kenny Weissberg.

Meanwhile, former Allman Brothers guitarist Dickie Betts appeared unlikely to perform as scheduled tonight at 4th&B downtown.

"We'll find out around noon if it will be canceled," said a 4th&B spokeswoman. "But we didn't sell that many tickets, and the band is already in town. I don't think it will have any impact on any of our other shows this week."

## Financial institutions shut down for the day

ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — Some of the biggest names among U.S. and world financial institutions closed their downtown offices today, and the fate of many employees remained unknown after attacks destroyed the World Trade Center.

U.S. securities markets decided to close, U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission Chairman Harvey Pitt said.

Several top financial services firms have offices in the World Trade Center, including investment bank Morgan Stanley, which is the building's largest tenant with 50 floors. Morgan Stanley spokesmen, most of whom are based in midtown Manhattan, were unavailable for comment.

Switzerland's Credit Suisse Group and Germany's Commerzbank, Deutsche Bank AG, Cantor Fitzgerald and market data firm Thomson Financial, a unit of Thomson Corp., also have offices in the complex.

"We have two to three hundred people who work in that building and we have not been able to account for them due to communication failure," a senior Thomson executive in London told Reuters.

Cantor Fitzgerald occupied the top several floors in the World Trade Center, an employee who answered the phone at an office in Connecticut said before hanging up. A manager at the Connecticut office later said they haven't heard anything.

"Obviously we know they're in the World Trade Center," the manager said. "God willing, hopefully, they all got out. God willing some got out."

Telecommunications service providers have said their networks remain open but are clogged with calls.

Charles Schwab Corp., which

is based in San Francisco, has a branch in the World Trade Center, but its employees seemed to get out of the building after the first plane crash, spokesman Glen Mathison said.

Schwab is telling its Bay Area workers to go home or not come to work as a precaution, he said.

"We are hopeful all of our employees in our Wall Street and Tower offices are fine," Mathison said. Not all of the workers have been accounted for, he said, because it has been hard to get through on the phone.

Barclays Capital, the investment banking arm of Britain's Barclays Plc., has evacuated its downtown Manhattan offices located less than a mile from the World Trade Center, according to a company spokesman.

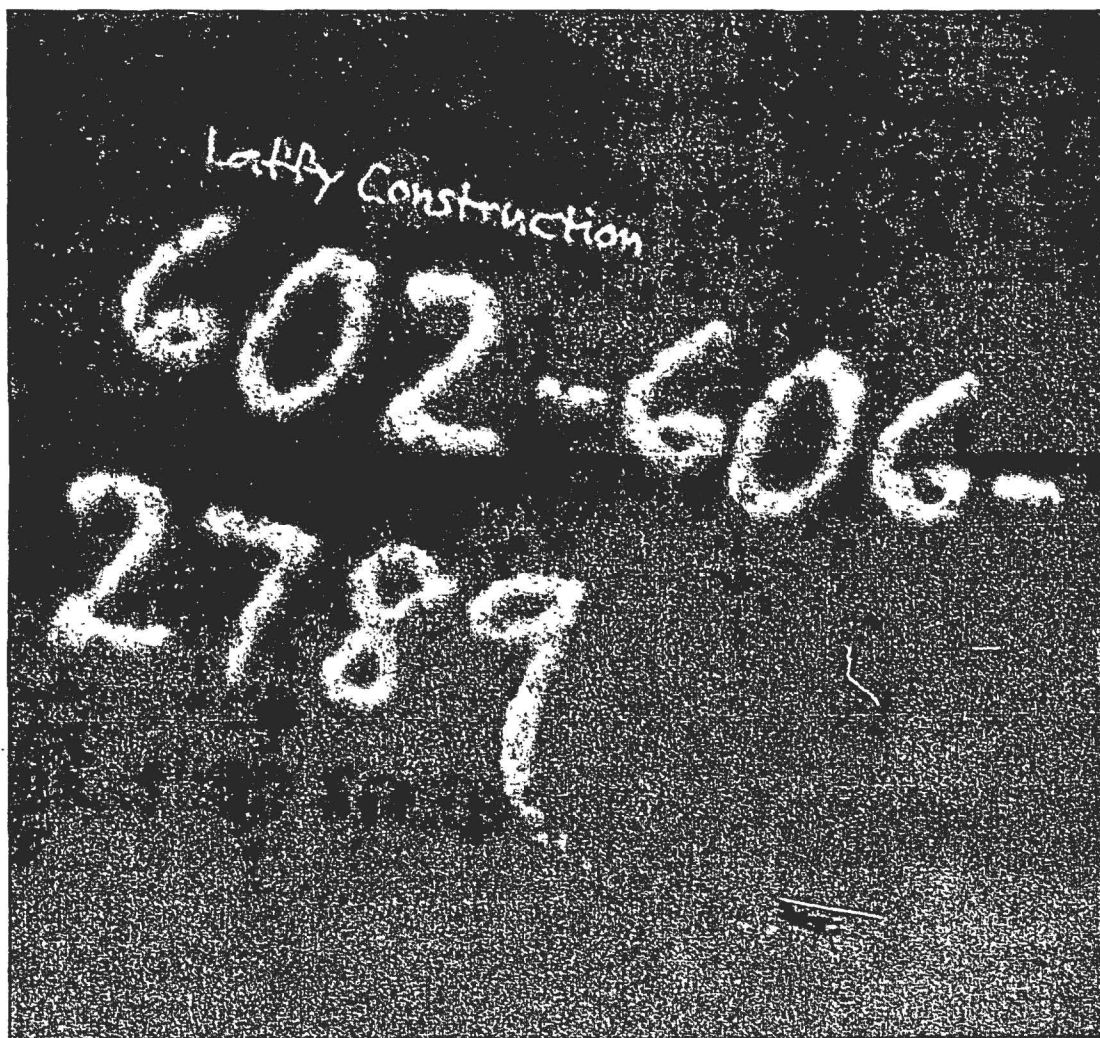
Employees at the World Financial Center, located just west of the World Trade Center and housing the offices of firms including Merrill Lynch & Co. Inc., Lehman Bros. Holdings Inc. and American Express Co., did not answer phone calls to their offices.

## Asia flights to U.S. impacted by attack

REUTERS

HONG KONG — Hong Kong airport officials said today all U.S.-bound flights had been canceled, while local television reported the regional financial hub didn't plan to suspend trading on Wednesday.

U.S. flights from one of Asia's busiest passenger and cargo hubs were canceled after several aircraft crashed into major buildings in New York and Washington in what U.S. President George W. Bush said appeared to be terrorist attacks.



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# EXTRA: AMERICA UNDER ATTACK

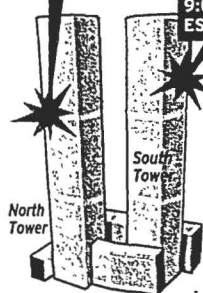
## Trade Center blasts

## TERROR

**World Trade Center:** Two twin towers of 1,350 feet (the highest in New York City), 110 floors, 43,600 windows and 250 elevators. Total space: 4,370,148 square feet

A Boeing 767 hit the north tower at 8:42 a.m. EST

A Boeing 757 hit the south tower at 9:03 a.m. EST



100,000 people work within in the two building. Inside the towers are a hotel, commercial galleries and parking spaces

KNIGHT RIDDER/TRIBUNE

## Palestinians celebrating attacks on U.S.

Center, a secure room at the Pentagon. Rumsfeld and other top officials left the building and are at an undisclosed location.

Vice President Dick Cheney, National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice and other top federal officials huddled this morning in the wake of the terrorist attacks. The Federal Emergency Management Agency opened its operation center to respond to the attacks.

FEMA officials did not disclose any details of their plan, other to say that they were working with the White House, FBI and other agencies.

"We have contingency plans,

and that's all I can say," Flood said.

Authorities in Washington immediately began deploying troops, including an infantry regiment. The Situation Room at the White House was in full operation. And authorities went on alert from coast to coast, halting all air traffic and tightening security at strategic installations.

In June, a U.S. judge had set tomorrow as the sentencing date for an Osama bin Laden associate for his role in the bombing of a U.S. embassy in Tanzania that killed 213 people. The sentencing had been set for the federal courthouse near the World Trade Center. No one from the U.S. Attorney's Office could be reached today to comment on whether the sentencing was still on.

In the West Bank city of Nablus, thousands of Palestinians celebrated today's attacks, chanting "God is great!" and distributing candy to passers-by.

American Airlines initially said the planes that crashed into the Trade Center were Flight 11,



Passersby covered their faces against the cloud of choking ash and dust that filled the streets of Manhattan around the World Trade Center this morning. Casualties from the attack could run into the tens of thousands. Suzanne Plunkett / Associated Press

a Los Angeles-bound jet. hijacked after takeoff from Boston with 92 people aboard, and Flight 77, which was seized while carrying 64 people from Washington to Los Angeles. But the airline later said that was un-

confirmed.

In Pennsylvania, United Airlines Flight 93, a Boeing 757 en route from Newark, N.J., to San Francisco, crashed about 80 miles southeast of Pittsburgh with 45 people aboard. The fate

of those aboard was not immediately known, and it was not clear if the crash was related to the disasters elsewhere.

In a statement, United said another of its planes, Flight 175, a Boeing 767 bound from Boston to Los Angeles with 65 people on board, also crashed, but it did not say where.

"This is perhaps the most audacious terrorist attack that's ever taken place in the world," said Chris Yates, an aviation expert at Jane's Transport magazine in London. "It takes a logistics operation from the terror group involved that is second to none. Only a very small handful of terror groups is on that list. ... I would name at the top of the list Osama bin Laden."

Evacuations were ordered at the United Nations in New York and at the Sears Tower in Chicago. Los Angeles mobilized its anti-terrorism division, and security was intensified around the naval installations in Hampton Roads, Va. All Disney parks in the United States have been shut down.

At the World Trade Center, "everyone was screaming, crying, running — cops, people, firefighters, everyone," said Mike Smith, a fire marshal. "It's like a war zone."

"I just saw the building I work in come down," said businessman Gabriel Ioan, shaking in shock outside City Hall, a cloud of smoke and ash from the World Trade Center behind him.

The planes blasted fiery, gaping holes in the upper floors of the twin towers. A witness said he saw bodies falling and people jumping out. About an hour later, the southern tower collapsed with a roar and a huge cloud of smoke; the other tower fell about a half-hour after that, covering lower Manhattan in heaps of gray rubble and broken glass. Firefighters trapped in the rubble radioed for help.

The crashes at the World Trade Center happened minutes apart, beginning just before 9 a.m.

Heavy black smoke billowed into the sky above one of New York City's most famous landmarks, and debris rained down on the street, one of the city's busiest work areas. When the second plane hit, a fireball of flame and smoke erupted, leaving a huge hole in the glass-and-steel tower.

John Axisa, who was getting off a commuter train to the World Trade Center, said he saw "bodies falling out" of the building. He said he ran outside and watched people jump out of the first building. Then there was a second explosion, and he felt heat on the back of his neck.

WCBS-TV, quoting an FBI agent, said five or six people jumped out of the windows. Witnesses on the street screamed every time another person leaped.

People ran down the stairs in panic and fled the building. Thousands of pieces of what appeared to be office paper drifted over Brooklyn, about three miles away.

Several subway lines were immediately shut down. Trading on Wall Street was suspended. New York's mayoral primary election today was postponed. All bridges and tunnels into Manhattan were closed.

David Reck was handing out literature for a candidate for public advocate a few blocks away when he saw a jet come in "very low, and then it made a slight twist and dove into the building."

Terrorist bombers struck the World Trade Center in February 1993, killing six people and injuring more than 1,000 others.

"It's just sick. It just shows how vulnerable we really are," Keith Meyers, 39, said in Columbus, Ohio. "It kind of makes you want to go home and spend time with your family. It puts everything in perspective."

Meyers said he called to check in with his wife. They have two young children.

In New York, "we heard a large 'boom' and then we saw all this debris just falling," said Harriet Grimm, who was inside a bookstore on the World Trade Center's first floor when the first explosion rocked the building.

"The plane was coming in low and ... it looked like it hit at a slight angle," said Sean Murtagh, a CNN vice president, the network reported.

In Florida, Bush was reading to children in a classroom at 9:05 a.m. EDT when his chief of staff, Andrew Card, whispered into his ear. The president briefly turned somber before he resumed reading. He addressed the tragedy about a half-hour later.

Advertisement

# Blue Cross Tells Doctors: Stress Care, Not Blue Cross to reward doctors for quality care

Health: In a major shift, the California provider will end HMO bonuses for economizing and them to patient satisfaction instead.

By DENISE GELLEN  
TIMES STAFF WRITER

Blue Cross of California's radical departure from its HMO program in its effort to reward doctors for quality care.

No more physician bonuses just for cutting medical costs.

# Putting patient care first

Blue Cross will downplay emphasis on cost cutting.

By Lisa Rapaport  
BEE STAFF WRITER

Blue Cross of California announced plans Tuesday to start paying bonuses to doctors based on the quality of care, breaking the long-standing

of rewarding physicians who hold down costs.

The move came just one day after Pacific Business Group on Health, a coalition of employers seeking better benefits for workers, unveiled a statewide initiative to improve patient care by reducing

Congress over a patients' bill of rights and Medicare reform.

Quality has become a rallying point for doctors, hospitals, insurers and consumers intent on fixing the nation's health system. But many are wary of the

"In this country we're constantly trying to tinker with the marketplace to deal with the problem that the last tinkering generated," said E. Richard Brown, professor at the UCLA School of Public Health.

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## EXTRA: AMERICA UNDER ATTACK

## LOCAL

CONTINUED FROM EXTRA 1

## S.D. schools remain open despite tragedy

of the ID checks. Harbor Drive near the 32nd Street Naval Station, Rosecrans Street near the submarine base and Miramar Way at Miramar Marine Corps Air Station were all gridlocked by 8 a.m.

At the Marine Corps Recruit Depot, armed Marine guards with attack dogs were posted at the entrances.

The management of several

downtown San Diego office buildings ordered the structures evacuated this morning out of security concerns. The downtown high-rise is just south of the approach pattern for planes landing at Lindbergh Field.

Tenants at Symphony Towers at 750 B St., the tallest office building in the downtown area, were evacuated about 7:45 a.m. Jill Vivanco, the building manager, said the towers will remain closed "until further notice."

Also evacuated was the Comerica Bank Building, one block west, which has about 35 tenants and 800 workers.

The 4th District Court of Appeals is housed at Symphony Towers, and justices were hearing oral arguments this week. Dan Lehner, an attorney who

works for the court, said he drove to work from Encinitas this morning after watching the horrible scenario in New York City.

"I guess we'll just go home and wait it out," he said.

There are about 75 businesses and 1,500 people working in the building.

San Diego City Hall also was expected to shut down this morning.

Campuses across the San Diego Unified School District remained open despite the unfolding tragedy.

District officials said they were drafting memos to each school principal, spokesman David Smollar said about 8:45 a.m.

"Schools are open," he said. "We are sending appropriate se-

curity and counseling memos to principals."

In Escondido, high school administrators invited teachers and students to forsake the routine curriculum and discuss the attacks. Teams of counselors were brought onto campuses, although not many students sought help, assistant superintendent Jayme Arner said.

Lindbergh Field was nearly deserted by 8:30 a.m. as passengers, some in tears and most in shock, were escorted off their airplanes and told that air service would not resume.

Schedule boards gave the same verdict for every flight: "Canceled."

"The FAA's instructions were, 'Get out of the sky,'" said Danette Lake, a Lindbergh Field spokeswoman.

Alenia Brooks of Milwaukee, her eyes rimmed in red, watched television coverage of the events unfolding in New York with her hand on her forehead. She voiced fear for a close friend employed in the commodities exchange of the World Trade Center, and for a sister who works a few blocks away.

"Just sick," Brooks said.

As footage of a plane crashing into the World Trade Center replayed on an airport television, Dan Jhay, who works for Smartecarte, the luggage-moving company, winced. "Oh, man, imagine the people inside," he said.

No one grumbled about the tight security. "It's not a good day to be in the air," said Phil Boston of Encinitas.

The order to close Lindbergh Field was received before the airport's 6:30 a.m. opening, a spokesman said. The airport normally handles 650 to 700 flight operations—takeoffs and landings—a day.

The only aircraft allowed to land this morning was a corpo-



Ray Sidon watched the live television news reports of the terrorist attacks along with other employees at IDEC Pharmaceuticals in San Diego. Nancee E. Lewis/Union-Tribune

rate jet cleared to touch down shortly before 8 a.m. at McClellan-Palomar Airport in Carlsbad, he said.

In Coronado, the Police Department's midnight shift was held over and staffing was doubled, police said. The adjacent North Island Naval Air Station was reported closed, but access to the area was not curtailed.

Oceanside police said they were in contact with the Camp

Pendleton Marine Corps base, but had not been asked for assistance. A unit was ready if needed, they said.

Staff writers Bruce Lieberman, Matthew T. Hall, James W. Crawley, Michael Stetz, Peter Rowe, Elizabeth Fitzsimons, Gregory Alan Gross, Jeff McDonald, Michael Burge, Susan Gembrowski, Anna Cearley and Sandra Dibble contributed to this report.

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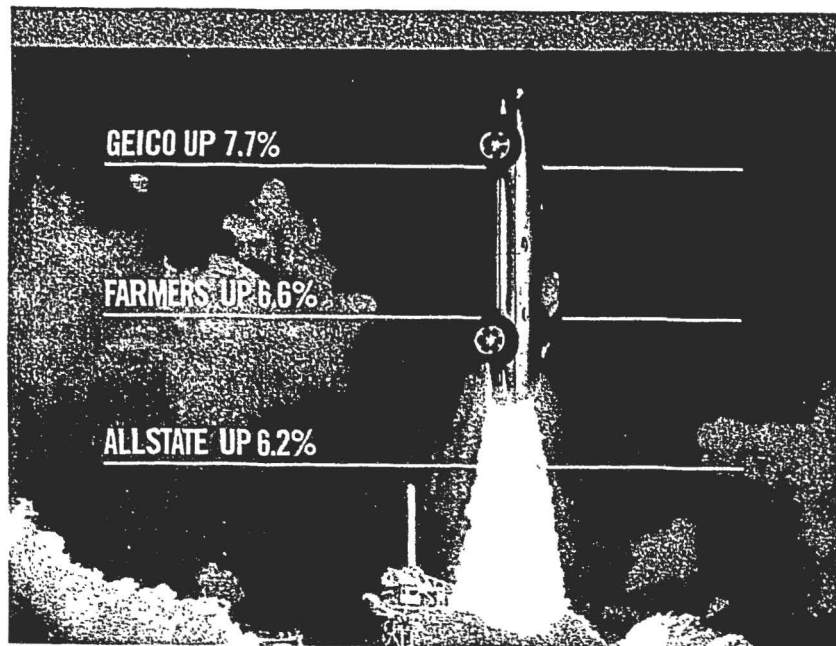
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## British prince turns back mid-air after U.S. attack

LONDON — A plane carrying Britain's Prince Andrew to the United States turned around in mid-air today after the attacks on the World Trade Center, Buckingham Palace said.

A palace spokeswoman told Reuters the prince, the second son of Queen Elizabeth, was due to fly to Atlanta and then to New York, but decided to return after learning that two planes had smashed into the center's twin towers in New York.

A third aircraft crashed at the Pentagon in Washington. A fourth aircraft crashed in rural Pennsylvania.

"The Duke of York was due to go to Atlanta and then New York, but he turned around after the news," the spokeswoman he did not say why the prince had been flying to the United States.

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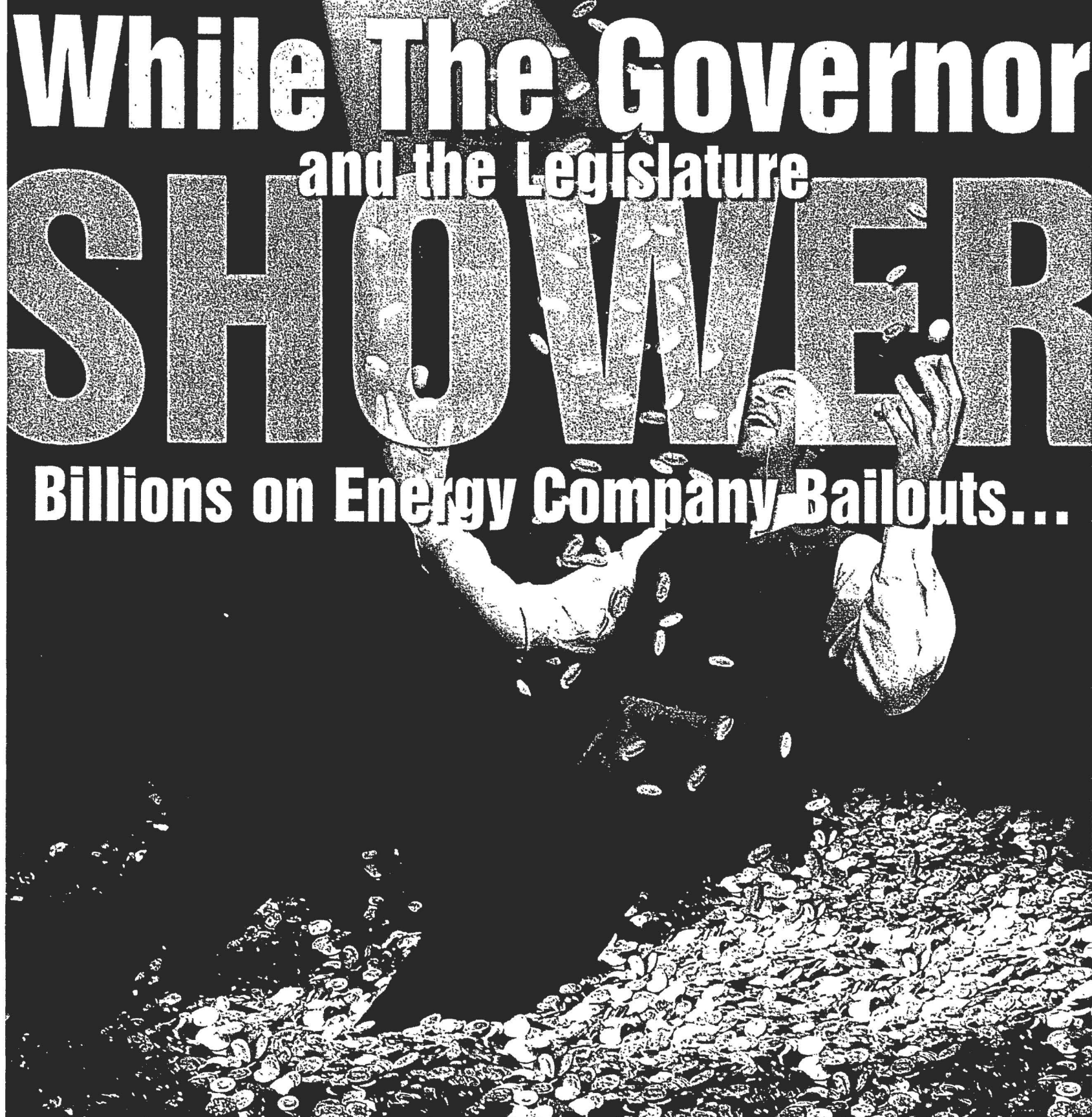
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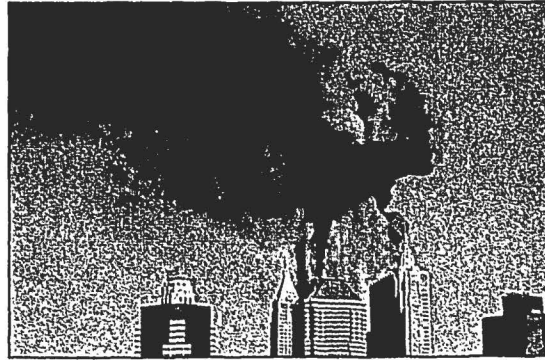
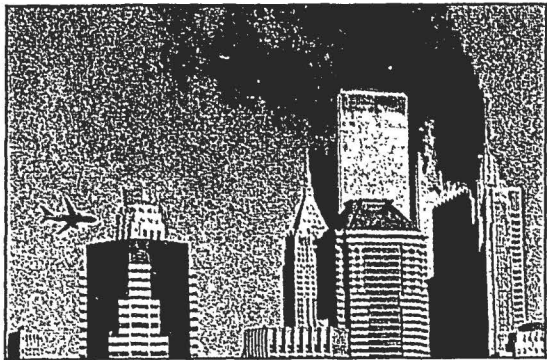
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## EXTRA: AMERICA UNDER ATTACK



A sequence of photos showed a second aircraft approach the World Trade Center and then the subsequent explosion today. Within a span of 18 minutes, two planes crashed into each of the twin towers of the World Trade Center in Manhattan in what President Bush said was "a national tragedy and an apparent act of terrorism against our country." *Kelly Guenther / The New York Times*

# 'EVERYONE WAS SCREAMING, CRYING, RUNNING'



People ran in panic as the World Trade Center collapsed in New York City today. *Suzanne Plunkett / Associated Press*

By Helen O'Neill  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

NEW YORK — It was the scene of a nightmare: people on fire jumping in terror from the Trade Towers just before the buildings collapsed.

"Everyone was screaming, crying, running — cops, people, firefighters, everyone," said Mike Smith, a fire marshal from Queens, as he sat by the fountain outside a state courthouse, shortly after the second tower collapsed. "A couple of marshals just picked me up and dragged me down the street."

"It's like a war zone." Others compared it to Pearl Harbor as hundreds of people poured off the bridge on the Brooklyn side, covered in gray dust and debris. Many wore respiratory masks, given out by the police and fire departments.

Shirley Bates, who worked on the 88th floor of One World Trade Center, said she saw a woman on her floor with burns on her arms and legs and singed hair. As Bates and others were evacuated, they heard a second explosion.

"Everything came like a tornado," she said. "People started

running."

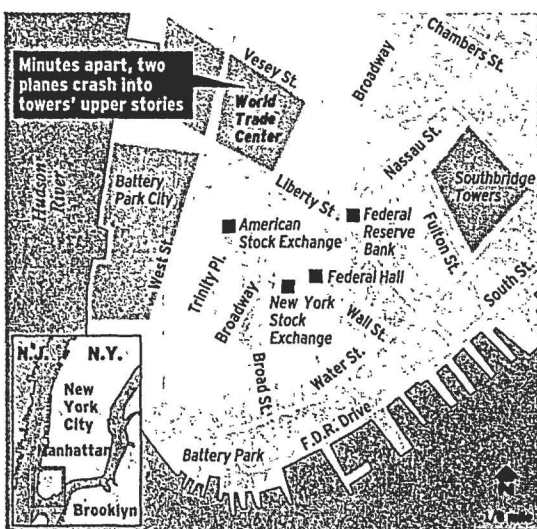
Workers from Trade Center offices wandered lower Manhattan in a daze, many barely able to believe they were alive.

Boris Ozersky, 47, a computer networks analyst, was on the 70th floor of one of the buildings when he felt something like an explosion rock it. He raced down 70 flights of stairs, and outside, into a mob in front of a nearby hotel. He was trying to calm a panicked woman when the building suddenly collapsed.

"I just got blown somewhere, and then it was total darkness. We tried to get away, but I was blown to the ground. And I was trying to help this woman, but I couldn't find her in the darkness," Ozersky said.

After the dust cleared, he found the hysterical woman and took her to a restaurant being used by rescue workers as a triage center.

Clyde Ebanks, vice president of an insurance company, was at a meeting on the 103rd floor of the 110-story South Tower of the World Trade Center when his boss said, "Look at that." He turned and through a window saw a plane go by and hit the



other building.

He and his co-workers raced down the stairs. When they reached the 70th floor, they felt the building shake as the second plane hit. Later, in tears, his hair covered with gray ash, he added: "I worry about some of my co-workers."

Jennifer Brickhouse, 34, from

Union, N.J., was on the escalator heading for her 76th-floor office in the World Trade Center when she "heard this big boom. Everyone was going crazy. We all got out. The minute I got out of the building, the second building blew up. All this stuff started falling and all this smoke was coming through.

"People were screaming, falling and jumping out of the windows," Brickhouse said.

"I just saw the building I work in come down," said businessman Gabriel Ioan, in shock outside City Hall, a cloud of smoke and ash from the World Trade Center behind him. "I just saw the top of Trade Two come down."

Nearby, a crowd mobbed a man on a pay-phone, screaming at him to hang up so that they could call relatives. Dust and dirt flew everywhere. Ash was 2 to 3 inches deep in places.

"People were jumping out of windows," said an unidentified crying woman. "I guess people were trying to save themselves. Oh my God!"

"I was in the World Financial Center looking out the window," said one woman. "I saw the first plane and then 15 minutes later saw the other plane just slam into the World Trade Center."

Another eyewitness, Associated Press' Dunstan Prial, described a strange sucking sound from the Trade Center buildings after the first building collapsed.

"Windows shattered. People were screaming and diving for

cover. People walked around like ghosts, covered in dirt, weeping and wandering, dazed."

"It sounded like a jet or rocket," said Eddie Gonzalez, a postal worker at an office on West Broadway. "I looked up and saw a huge explosion. I didn't see the impact. I just saw the explosion."

Morning commuters heading into Manhattan were stranded as the Lincoln Tunnel was shut down to incoming traffic. Many left their cars and stood on the ramp leading to the tunnel, staring in disbelief at the thick cloud of smoke pouring from the top of the two buildings.

Joan Goldstein, communications project leader for The Associated Press, was on a bus from New Jersey at about 8:50 a.m. when she saw "smoke pouring out of the World Trade Center building. We said, 'Oh, my God! The World Trade Center's on fire!'"

Perhaps 10 minutes later, "All of a sudden, there was an orange plume, a huge explosion. It shot out the back of the building. Everybody on the bus was just moaning and gasping," said Goldstein, who wept and trembled as she spoke.