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Middle Tennessee State University

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# SIDELINES

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## Terrorists attack freedom



Photo by Chao Soi Cheong | AP

A World Trade Center tower explodes as a second hijacked plane crashes into it yesterday, part of what officials say was a coordinated terrorist attack that also hit the Pentagon.

### World watches as terrorism claims lives at Twin Towers

By David Crary  
 and Jerry Schwartz  
 AP National Writers

NEW YORK (AP) — In the most devastating terrorist onslaught ever waged against the United States, knife-wielding hijackers crashed two airliners into the World Trade Center yesterday, toppling its twin 110-story towers. The deadly calamity was witnessed on televisions across the world as another plane slammed into the Pentagon, and a fourth crashed outside Pittsburgh.

"Today, our nation saw evil," President Bush said in an address to the nation last night. He said thousands of lives were "suddenly ended by evil, despicable acts of terror."

Said Adm. Robert J. Natter, commander of the U.S. Atlantic Fleet: "We have been attacked like we haven't since Pearl Harbor."

Establishing the U.S.



Permission granted by photographer Jon Ortner  
 New York City's landscape, including the now destroyed World Trade Center.

death toll could take weeks. The four airliners alone had 266 people aboard and there were no known survivors.

At the Pentagon, about 100 people were believed dead.

In addition, a firefighters union official said he feared an estimated 200 firefighters had died in rescue efforts at the trade center — where 50,000 people worked — and dozens of police officers

were believed missing.

No one took responsibility for the attacks that rocked the seats of finance and government. But federal authorities identified Osama bin Laden, given asylum by Afghanistan's Taliban rulers, as the prime suspect.

Aided by an intercept of communications between his supporters and harrowing cell phone calls from at least one flight

See **Terrorism**, 2

### Four flights hijacked in attack

Four domestic U.S. flights were hijacked and crashed:

- American Airlines  
 Flight 11  
 Boeing 767  
 Boston to LA  
 92 people
- American Airlines  
 Flight 77  
 Boeing 757  
 Washington Dulles to LA  
 64 people
- United Airlines  
 Flight 93  
 Boeing 757  
 Newark, NJ to San Francisco  
 45 people
- United Airlines  
 Flight 175  
 Boeing 767  
 Boston to LA  
 65 people
- Total: 266**

Source: AP

### MTSU students cope with tragedy

By Lindsey Turner  
 News Editor

The events in Washington D.C., New York City and suburban Pittsburgh kept students and faculty alike glued to TV screens and radio speakers, searching for some answers and explanations.

Class attendance was thin yesterday as students gathered in disbelief around television monitors across campus to watch as history and tragedy unfolded.

Counselors were on hand in the Keathley University Center and several dorms to console grieving students and provide comfort for students distressed by the events that continue to fascinate and horrify the country.

The catastrophes have prompted university officials to examine campus security and crisis preparation.

MTSU President Sidney McPhee said no master plan exists for the university in case of a major crisis, but that he has met with his cabinet and a plan is being formed.

Though many universities nationwide have closed indefinitely, MTSU classes will continue as scheduled until further notice, McPhee said.

"We felt that we needed to have some degree of normalcy," he said.

He hopes students will take advantage of the counseling being offered on campus.

Many professors discarded lesson plans to discuss the tragedies and implications of terrorism in America.

Melissa Schrif's cultural anthropology honors class focused on the calamities of the day.

See **Coping**, 2

# From dawn to dusk

## The New York/DC tragedy unfolds

8:45 a.m. (all times are EDT): A large plane crashes into one of the World Trade Center towers.

9:03 a.m.: A second plane, apparently a passenger jet, crashes into the second World Trade Center tower and explodes.

9:17 a.m.: The FAA shuts down all New York City area airports.

9:21 a.m.: New York City Port Authority orders all bridges and tunnels in the New York City area closed.

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.

9:45 a.m.: The White House evacuates.

10:05 a.m.: The south tower of the World Trade Center collapses. A massive cloud of dust and debris engulfs the streets below.

10:10 a.m.: A portion of the Pentagon collapses.

10:10 a.m.: United Airlines Flight 93 crashes in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, southeast of Pittsburgh.

10:24 a.m.: The FAA reports that all inbound transatlantic aircraft flying into the United States are being diverted to Canada.

10:28 a.m.: The World Trade Center's north tower collapses from the top down, releasing a tremendous cloud of debris and smoke.

11:18 a.m.: American Airlines reports it has lost two aircraft. American Flight 11, a Boeing 767 flying from Boston to Los Angeles, had 81 passengers and 11 crew aboard. Flight 77, a Boeing 757 en route from Washington's Dulles Airport to Los Angeles, had 58 passengers and six crew members aboard. Flight 11 slammed into the north tower of the World Trade Center.

11:26 a.m.: United Airlines reports that United Flight 93, en route from New Jersey, to San Francisco, has crashed in Pennsylvania, southeast of Pittsburgh. The airline also says that it is "deeply concerned" about United Flight 175.

11:59 a.m.: United Airlines confirms that Flight 175, from Boston to Los Angeles, has crashed with 56 passengers and nine crew members aboard. Emergency personnel at the scene say there are no survivors.

12:15 p.m.: The Immigration and Naturalization Service says U.S. borders with Canada and Mexico are on the highest state of alert, but no decision has been made about closing borders. Second tower falls.

12:30 p.m.: The FAA says 50 flights are in U.S. airspace, but none are reporting any problems.

1:27 p.m.: A state of emergency is declared by the city of Washington.

1:48 p.m.: President Bush leaves Barksdale Air Force Base in Louisiana aboard Air Force One and flies to an undisclosed location.

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.

2:30 p.m.: The FAA announces there will be no U.S. commercial air traffic until noon EDT today.

3:55 p.m.: Karen Hughes, a White House counselor, says the president is at an undisclosed location, later revealed to be an Air Force base in Nebraska, and is conducting a National Security Council meeting by phone. Vice President Dick Cheney and National Security Adviser Condoleezza Rice are in a security facility at the White House. Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld is at the Pentagon.

3:55 p.m.: New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani says the number of critically injured in New York City is up to 200 with 2,100 total injuries reported.

4 p.m.: CNN National Security Correspondent David Enos reports that U.S. officials say there are "good indications" that Saudi militant Osama bin Laden is involved in the attacks, based on "new and specific" information developed since the attacks.

4:10 p.m.: Building 7 of the World Trade Center complex is reported on fire.

4:25 p.m.: The American Stock Exchange, the Nasdaq and the New York Stock Exchange say they will remain closed today.

5:20 p.m.: The 47-story Building 7 of the World Trade Center complex collapses. The evacuated building is damaged when the twin towers across the street collapse earlier in the day. Other nearby buildings in the area remain ablaze.

5:30 p.m.: CNN Senior White House Correspondent John King reports that U.S. officials say the plane that crashed in Pennsylvania could have been headed for one of three possible targets: Camp David, the White House or the U.S. Capitol building.

6 p.m.: Explosions are heard in Kabul, Afghanistan, hours after terrorist attacks targeted financial and military centers in the United States. The attacks occurred at 2:30 a.m. local time. Afghanistan is believed to be the home of bin Laden, who U.S. officials say is possibly behind yesterday's deadly attacks. U.S. officials say later that the United States had no involvement in the incident whatsoever.

8:30 p.m.: President Bush addresses the nation, saying "thousands of lives were suddenly ended by evil" and asks for prayers for the families and friends of yesterday's victims. "These acts shatter steel, but they cannot dent the steel of American resolve," he says. The president says the U.S. government will make no distinction between the terrorists who committed the acts and those who harbor them. He adds that government offices in Washington are reopening for essential personnel last night and for all workers today.

Timeline courtesy of www.cnn.com



Photo by Kristy Dalrymple | Staff

Students watch coverage of yesterday's events in the Mass Comm lounge.

## Coping: Memorial service planned

Continued from I

"(There) was some degree of disbelief that this kind of thing could happen in America," she said.

"There was a lot of fear and anxiety."

Schrift said her morning class was "stunned into silence."

Though students are expected to attend class as normal, McPhee has encouraged professors to employ flexibility and sensitivity when taking attendance, and allow students to cope with such

national tragedy in reasonable time.

The university is looking to have some form of a memorial service for those killed in the various attacks, but as of last night, McPhee was not sure of the details. ♦

## Terrorism: Bodies covered beneath soot

Continued from I

attendant and two passengers aboard the jetliners before they crashed, U.S. officials began assembling a case linking bin Laden to the devastation.

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.

The people aboard 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 the World Trade Center, the dead and the doomed plummeted from the skyscrapers, among them a man and woman holding hands.

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.

"Freedom itself was attacked this morning and I assure you freedom will be defended," said Bush, who was in Florida at the time of the catastrophe. As a security measure, he was shuttled to a Strategic Air Command bunker in Nebraska before leaving for Washington.

"Make no mistake," he said. "The United States will hunt down and pursue those responsible for these cowardly actions."

"We're at war," said Gaillard Pinckney, an employee at the Housing and Urban Development office in Columbia, S.C. "We just don't know with who."

More than nine hours after the U.S. attacks began, explosions could be heard north of the Afghan capital of Kabul, but

American officials said the United States is not responsible.

"It isn't us. I don't believe who's doing it," Pentagon spokesman Craig Quigley said.

Officials across the world condemned the attacks but in the West Bank city of Nablus, thousands of Palestinians celebrated, chanting "God is Great" and handing out candy. The United States has become increasingly unpopular in the Mideast in the past year of Israeli-Palestinian fighting, with Washington widely seen as siding with Israel against the Arab world.

At the Pentagon, the symbol and command center for the nation's military force, one side of the building collapsed as smoke billowed over the Potomac River. Rep. Ike Skelton, briefed by Pentagon officials, said, "There appear to be about 100 casualties" in the building.

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.

The first airstrike occurred shortly before 8:45 a.m. EDT. By burning, 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.

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.

For the first time, the nation's aviation system was completely shut down as officials considered the frightening flaws that had been exposed in security procedures. Financial markets were closed, too.

Top leaders of Congress were led to an undisclosed location, as were key officials of the Bush administration. Guards armed with automatic weapons patrolled the White House grounds and military aircraft secured the skies above the capital city.

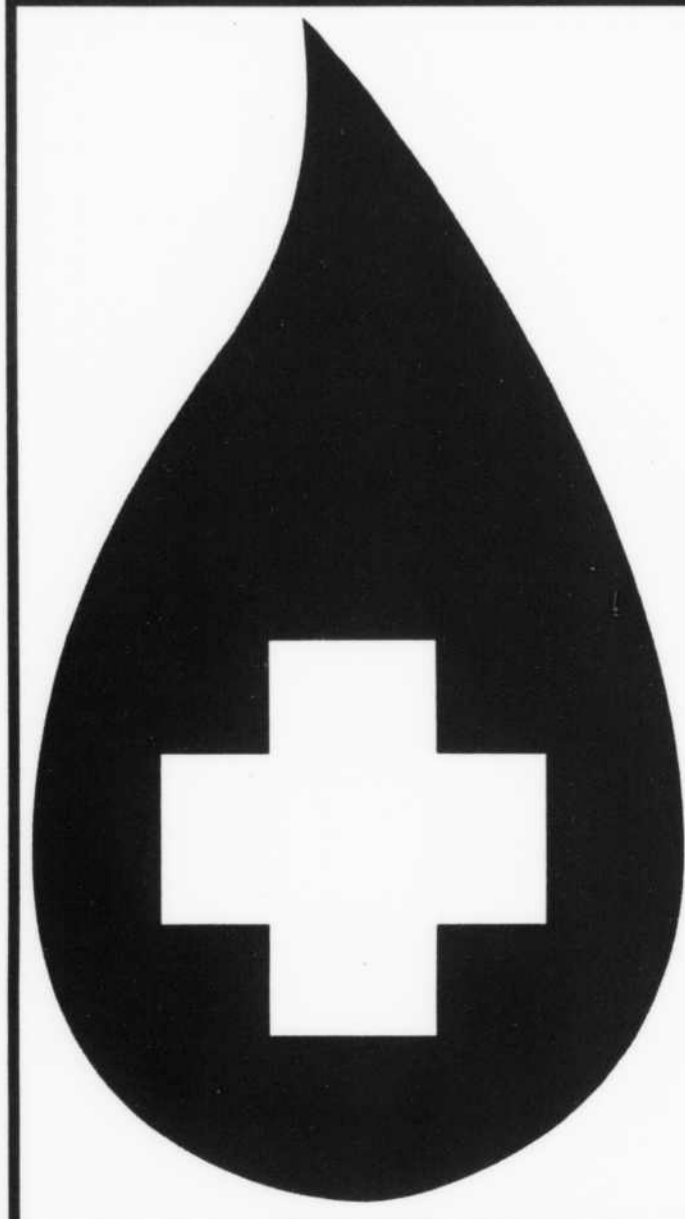
Evacuees were ordered at the tallest skyscrapers in several cities, and high-profile tourist attractions closed — Walt Disney World, Mount Rushmore, Seattle's Space Needle, the Gateway Arch in St. Louis.

The Federal Reserve, seeking to provide assurances that the nation's banking system would be protected, said it would provide additional money to banks if needed.

In Afghanistan, where bin Laden has been given asylum, the nation's hardline Taliban rulers rejected suggestions he was responsible. Bin Laden came to prominence fighting alongside the U.S.-backed Afghan mujahideen — holy warriors — in their war against Soviet troops in the 1980s. But former followers say he turned against the United States during the 1991 Gulf War, seething at the deployment of U.S. troops in Saudi Arabia during the Gulf War campaign to oust Iraq from Kuwait. He has reportedly called on Muslims worldwide to join in a jihad, or holy war, against the United States.

Abdel-Bari Atwan, editor of the Al-Quds al-Arabi newspaper, said he received a warning from Islamic fundamentalists close to bin Laden, but had not taken the threat seriously. "They said it would be a huge and unprecedented attack, but they did not specify," Atwan said in a telephone interview in London.

Eight years ago, the World Trade Center was a terrorist target when a truck bomb killed six people and wounded about 1,000 others. Just the death toll on the planes alone surpassed the 168 people killed in the 1995 bombing of the federal building in Oklahoma City. ♦



# DONATE BLOOD

The American Red Cross  
needs your help.

RED CROSS CENTER  
OF MURFREESBORO

(410 W. Lytle Street) or call 893-4272 for  
more information.

FRIDAY: 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
SATURDAY: 8 a.m. - Noon

Sunday, the Red Cross Center will be located at St. Mark's United Methodist Church on Main St. They will be taking blood donations there from 8 a.m.- 12:30 p.m.

Monday, you can give blood from 1:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m. at the Cason-Kennedy Nursing Building.

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

Wednesday, September 12, 2001

SIDELINES ♦ 3

## Officials work on crisis plan

### Counseling available for students

By Shawn Whitsell  
Flash! Editor

According to President Sidney McPhee, MTSU does not have an official emergency plan for crisis situations. However due to yesterday's event, a plan is in the process of development.

"I've met with my cabinet to look at a comprehensive crisis communication plan," he said.

Although the emergency plan is in its early stages, MTSU officials have provided services to help students cope with the disaster that has struck the United States.

Counseling and Testing set up a support center yesterday in Keathley University Center, Room 322 to offer information and emotional support to students who desired it.

According to Jane Tipps, director of the Counseling and Testing Center, the purpose of the support center and the other services that are being provided are to help students to cope with the event and move on with their lives.

Tipps said the goal is to move students from being victims to thriving again. The phrase "victim, survivor, thriver" is the mantra of the effort.

Joe Tucibat, assistant director of the Counseling and Testing Center, said the purpose is "helping people restore their coping responses."

"In this situation, people need information about what

they're going through," he added.

Tipps and Tucibat both stressed the importance of people continuing a regular routine in their daily lives. Tipps said she strongly discourages students from becoming isolated, which could cause them to become depressed.

Tipps also stated that the strategy for comforting students here at MTSU is handled differently because the trauma is "vicarious," meaning that it is not in our backyard but we're observing the experience of others.

Students did use the support center yesterday, however there wasn't an overwhelming amount of participation. The reason for this, according to Tipps, is because students are still in shock and glued to the television. Tipps is predicting that students will use the services more in the next few days.

University officials are able to effectively meet the needs of students because of training sessions held this summer through the Division of Student Affairs.

During these sessions, participants shared victim information, learned how to access community news centers and learned common reactions to various crisis situations.

The training was structured so that participants could easily teach those who work under them. This is done to help

See Counselors, 8

## International students divided

By Amy Eslami  
Contributor

MTSU's Middle Eastern students reacted both personally and politically to yesterday's national tragedy.

Most of the students responded with great remorse.

"I'm so devastated; I'm so depressed," said Nazih Musharrafeia, a graduate student in marketing from Lebanon. "I prayed and prayed and prayed for these people."

"For the first time I feel like an American," said Musharrafeia, a resident of the United States for 20 years and of Murfreesboro for 17. "No matter how Americans react, I will not blame them. America is a blessing for humankind."

Albert DePrince Jr., the director of MTSU's Business and Economic Research Center, said he expects there will be negative reactions toward the international community from some.

"People are going to be looking over their shoulder, looking at certain individuals with suspicion," DePrince said. "The fallout may have an unfortunately discriminatory overtone toward people that may have had no involvement with it."

"We need to be smart about it and pinpoint our enemy," Musharrafeia said. "We look at world policy differently than Middle Easterners."

"Syria is not a terrorist country," said Nadwa Al-Jundi, an English major, about her homeland. "Most Syrians love the Americans."

She does not believe Syria had anything to do with the terrorist attacks and said she fears for the safety of herself and her children if the terrorist acts persist.

Rana Jalloon, an art education major from Saudi Arabia, feels the Middle East is not to blame for what happened.

"This is a huge act, and this tragedy is bigger than what they can do," she said, referring to the restrictions on the people of the Middle East.

Iranian freshman Afsoon Hagh suggests the fault lies with the United States government.

"This is a tragedy that has happened to many innocent people," she said. "This tragedy was bound to happen because the United States government cannot mind their own business."

Hagh said the U.S. government needs to work on its internal problems rather than trying to rule the whole world.

"Things will get worse," she said. "Unfortunately, the United States government cannot learn and make peace from what has happened."

"They will go at war, which will make things a thousand times worse."

"I am at fear for not only myself, but for the whole world," Hagh said.

MTSU administrators took international students into consideration in formulating the university's response to yesterday's tragedy.

Tech Wubneh, International Programs and Services director, met yesterday with Robert Glenn, vice president for Student Affairs; Gene Fitch, dean of Student Life; Debra Sells, director of Housing; and Harold Smith, director of Student Programming.

The discussion, Wubneh said, concerned "trying to help international students feel comfortable so that as the news comes out and more people die, anger is not turned against them. Although anger is understandable, the students here are innocent people and need everybody's understanding and support."

He requested that international students contact his office if they feel threatened. ♦

## Terrorism stuns campus



Photo by Rebecca Pickering | Staff

Students watch a Keathley University Center television as news unfolds in New York City yesterday.

## Faculty encouraged to continue classes, show sensitivity

By Rebecca Pickering  
Managing Editor

Revenge, a sense of insecurity, compassion for the victims and families — the entire range of human emotions were wrapped up in one tragic morning.

"Surreal" was the word that came to radio-TV/photography professor Thomas Berg, "like a bad movie, except you can't leave the theater — tragedy beyond all I could ever comprehend in my lifetime."

MTSU students gathered

around community televisions to watch yesterday's dramatic and tragic terrorist attack unfold. Some professors spent class time discussing the historic day. Others dismissed class to allow students to formulate their own reactions.

To accommodate students between classes, television sets were set out in the John Bragg Mass Communication Building lobby for students to view. The big screen television in the Keathley University Center also attracted viewers in large

numbers throughout the day. Provost Barbara Haskew sent out an e-mail at 12:44 p.m. to faculty stating that classes should continue to meet. She did add, however, "We will have students affected by this tragedy in a number of ways and we ask you to be flexible in working with students who can not attend class because of special circumstances."

President Sidney McPhee also issued a statement through e-mail offering his condolences in light of the attacks.

"Along with the rest of America, we at Middle Tennessee State University are shocked and saddened by the apparent terrorist actions that occurred earlier this morning in New York and in the nation's capital," the statement read. "Our thoughts and prayers are with the victims and their families."

Deans and administrators were reportedly meeting late yesterday to discuss how the university would handle the situation. Local churches were organizing prayer groups. Blood drives have been set for the end of the week. Campus organizations are collecting relief funds for the victims and their families. Campus flags were flown at half-staff.

Students, faculty and staff had a variety of responses to the crisis.

"I think it's really terrible, and it makes everyone scared," junior biology major Barton Ginny said. "The President needs to find whoever did this — it's reason for war."

Freshman Sarah Sunday agrees. "It makes me feel

insecure to be an American. There was no warning. I don't think we should go to war, but it may happen."

Etsuko Nagasawa, a student visiting from Japan, said, "Terrorism appears to the world as a way to hurt America's government. I think from now on, it will be very difficult to attack America."

James Kersey, a senior aerospace major and resident assistant, said that his first reaction was "disbelief that a tragedy of this magnitude could happen to us so easily." He added that "we definitely need a tactful revenge suitable for the way we've been treated."

Professors allayed student fears by suggesting that students not jump to premature conclusions.

"It could be domestic. This brings us to the Oklahoma City bombing," said philosophy professor Clarence Johnson. "People are quick to judge and assume that it would be foreign. It very well could be our own boy."

Political science professor John Vile said that if the enemy is in the Middle East, that it doesn't mean that the entire region is bad. "There are many different cultures and some are feeling the same way we are."

However, he suggests, "If we aren't safe in New York City, we might not be safe in Nashville. This is a threat to life and freedom and our reaction is key." ♦

Brian Stewart, John-Paul Land, Patrick Chinnery and Shawn Whitsell also contributed to this story.



Photo by Amy Jones | Staff

The flag flies half-staff Tuesday on Greek Row.

## Community reaches out to victims

By Courtney Gundry  
Staff Writer

The Murfreesboro community is raising hands, hearts and help by sending out both national and local aid to any who need it in the wake of yesterday's national tragedy.

The MTSU Circle K club is setting up a table today from 11 a.m. until 2 p.m. in front of Phillip's Bookstore to collect money for disaster relief.

"As soon as we found out about the attacks, we knew we had to do something to help," said Josh Burlison, Circle K president. "We just hope that the MTSU community will open their hearts and their wallets to this more than worthwhile cause."

All donations will be given to the Red Cross and be directed to the D.C. and New York City relief funds. Checks can be made payable to the American Red Cross.

Donations will also be accepted in the Student Publications Office in the James Union Building, Room 306 all day today.

The American Red Cross will be hosting blood drives at the close of the week. They will be taking blood donations at the Red Cross Center of Murfreesboro Friday from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon. They will be located at the St. Marks United Methodist Church on Main Street Sunday from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. and at the Cason-

Kennedy Nursing Building Monday from 1:15 to 5:15.

"We don't have the resources and staff to take blood at our facility," said Rick Chapman, director of MTSU Health Services. "We are encouraging people to donate blood through the Red Cross."

While the Red Cross is handling things on the national level, churches in town are showing their concern for the local residents.

"It's a tragedy that affects all of us. We never thought we'd see someone attack the U.S. It's a sad, sad day," said Bertha Duvall of the First Baptist Church.

First Baptist Church, Advent Lutheran Church, East Main Street Church of Christ and the

Grace Lutheran Church are among some of the churches that will be hosting their normal Wednesday night services, during which they will be adding special prayers for those who passed away and for the families of those victims. All who wish to attend these services are welcome.

The Chapel at the Middle Tennessee Medical Center is holding a 24-hour prayer service for anyone wishing to attend. It began at noon yesterday and will end at noon today.

"The services will begin every hour on the hour, and people can stay for as long as they like," Chaplain Jeff Fryer said. "I'm shocked just like everyone else. My heart goes out to those families." ♦

## Professors to offer historical perspective

By Jason Cox  
Assistant News Editor

History professors Amy Staples and Pippa Holloway will be holding a discussion forum today at 3:30 p.m. in Peck Hall, Room 227 concerning yesterday's events.

Staples and Holloway will be speaking along with other professors about the plane crashes that occurred yesterday in New York City and Washington, D.C. They will be discussing the day's events, their ramifications and Middle Eastern politics. Holloway noted that Middle Eastern politics would be part of the discussion due to the fact that many people are already speculating on possible Arab involvement.

"Historically, that's not really a valid comparison," Staples said. "It was not an act of war by a nation, but an act of terrorism."

Holloway said the forum discussion would help educate those who may not be familiar with Middle Eastern leaders and politics.

"There's a lot of names that people don't know about," Holloway said.

The forum is free and open to the public. ♦

**Know of any services being offered by community groups concerning yesterday's attack? Tell us by 4 p.m. today, and we'll put it in the paper!**

**898-2336**

**slnews@mtsu.edu**

**www.mtsusidelines.com**

# FAA grounds all aircraft

By Victoria Cumbow  
Staff Writer

Yesterday's terrorist attack was the first of its kind and so were the repercussions. Every airport in the country was shut down, every plane was ordered to land immediately and every flight was canceled until further notice.

"It is unprecedented for the [Federal Aviation Administration] to ground every flight and cancel every other," said Paul Craig, an MTSU aerospace professor. "I've never seen anything like it."

Who was actually behind the controls of the hijacked planes is still in question.

"I can't believe that a pilot would endanger other people," Craig said. "If there were terrorists forcing a pilot to crash, I can't imagine that a pilot would voluntarily fly into a place as heavily populated as the World Trade Center."

"However, hijackers trained as pilots is slightly unheard of, but in this case, it seems likely."



Photo by Amy Jones | Staff

**A plane sits grounded at the Murfreesboro airport yesterday after the FAA ordered the country a no-fly zone.**

A government manual available on the Internet gives guidelines for aircraft pilots in case of a hijacking.

It makes no mention of cases where a hijacker has taken over the controls - indicating the unprecedented nature of yesterday's events.

Nashville and Murfreesboro airports also felt the unique

effect.

Craig said several MTSU student pilots were in the air when the FAA ordered all planes to land. There was no danger, he said, but all aircraft landed quickly.

The Murfreesboro airport appeared to be shut down yesterday. A couple of receptionists remained on duty in the

afternoon, but no planes were taking off and no flight personnel could be seen.

In Nashville, there were 55 planes grounded on the ramp. Out of those 55, 16 planes were redirected to Nashville rather than their original destinations. Until the FAA lifts the flight restrictions, the 400 daily flights in and out of Nashville will be canceled.

The problems don't end with flights.

"There will be no parking in front of any terminal," Metro Nashville Airport spokeswoman Emily Anderson said. "There will be no unattended vehicles. All DPS security is on duty, and this is all I can say on security at this time."

"From the operational standpoint, every plane in flight in the nearby region landed safely with no danger."

American, Continental, Delta, Northwest, Southwest and USAirways all fly directly from Nashville to New York.

All flights scheduled to leave after 9 a.m. yesterday were canceled. ♦

## Security policy class examines tragedy

By Amanda Maynard  
Staff Writer

The air was muggy on the second floor of Peck Hall, and the mood in room 211 was somber. Only a handful of the two dozen desks were occupied, but all eyes were on the television.

Images of fire, rubble and mass hysteria flashed across the screen as students watched in disbelief. The country they had believed to be invulnerable was under attack.

"Oh, my God!" one student exclaimed as the World Trade Center collapsed before his very eyes. He turned to the logical source for answers - his teacher. Political science professor Anne Sloan happens to teach

POLI SCI 4250 - U.S. National Security Policy. It was the perfect setting to discuss the morning's events.

Sloan was perched on her desk ready to lead a discussion on any questions that would arise from watching the destruction on television.

"Like everyone, I was shocked," she said. "Terrorism is extremely difficult to defend against because you never know what to expect. Even the best security setups are not fool-proof."

"With this type of terrorism, there is no way to ever restore the sense of security we had."

The possibility of war was on the students' minds. "If we discover that a state is responsible," she said, "we will attack. If we

find that it is a single group, we will 'hunt and destroy.'"

Sloan noted that some states actually fund and train their own terrorist groups but, she said, "Terrorism as a tool has not been terribly successful."

When asked by one of her students why such long-distance flights were hijacked, she pointed out that a plane intended to be flown across the continent would be full of fuel and potentially a more powerful weapon, producing a larger explosion.

The way the buildings were hit, she suggested, showed that someone had to review the buildings' architectural plans, finding which floors to hit to make the building collapse.

Another student wanted to

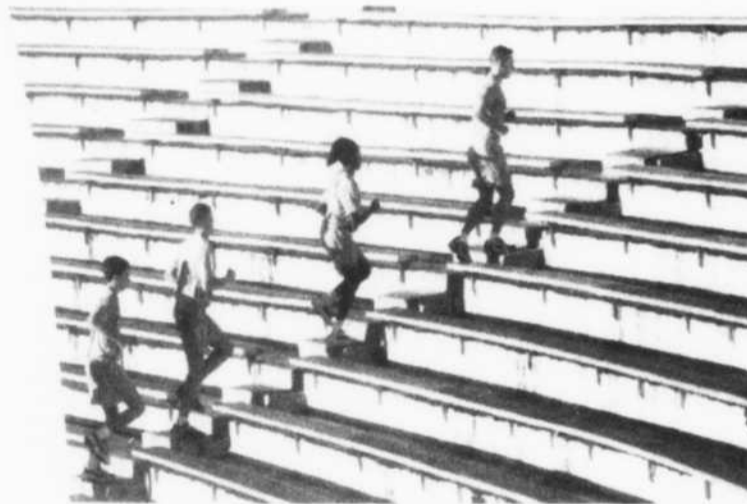
know if the U.S. was handling the situation appropriately.

Sloan commented, "The world has not only begun to turn. We not only have military on alert but also various intelligence agencies are at work on this, (and have been) from the moment the first plane hit."

For the future Sloan predicts huge changes in security for airlines.

"There will be a stronger liaison created between the U.S. military and the work of air traffic controllers," she said. "As a country we've been incredibly lucky for such a long time."

Sloan left students with one final thought. "The U.S. tends to be a sleeping giant," she said. "When called upon, we tend to be extremely resilient." ♦



sure, you can quit.  
or stick around and  
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# OPINIONS

Murfreesboro, Tenn.

Wednesday, September 12, 2001

SIDELINES ♦ 5

## WORLD TRADE CENTER/PENTAGON TRAGEDY

From the staff

### Change in NYC landscape will forever affect all of us

On Tuesday, the landscape of New York City was forever altered by the destruction of the World Trade Center's twin towers.

The north and south towers of the World Trade Center stood since the early 1970s as one of New York and America's most recognizable structures. Its proximity to the Statue of Liberty has made it one of the first sights for immigrants coming to America.

It was also a very popular tourist attraction, with thousands of people going to the top of the towers to take in a majestic view of New York. The staff of *Sidelines* takes a trip to New York every year, and the towers are a consistent priority on the to-do list.

As the dust begins to settle and we start to learn more about what happened, hopefully we as human beings, students and Americans can start to make sense of the terrible tragedy that has occurred.

The landscape of our lives and the way we think about our country and security has been permanently scarred as well. Every person that steps onto an airplane tomorrow and for days and weeks to come is going to have the unforgettable image of the jet slamming into the World Trade Center's south tower.

Our general sense of security has been shook to its foundation. The image ingrained in many minds of the mainland United States being impervious to major attack has been shattered.

The crash at the Pentagon is perhaps the sharpest blow in terms of crushing our sense of security. The terrorists proved America wrong when it struck the heart of the American military, which was thought by most to be untouchable.

In this time when we as a nation will be focusing on healing our wounds and seeking out the perpetrators of this heinous crime, we should stand unified behind our leaders and as a nation and put aside our usual partisan bickering. We as journalists are as opinionated as they come, but we recognize that there is only one side to pick in a case such as this.

Where were you on September 11, 2001? We will all be able to name where we were on this day, when a hole was blasted through the New York skyline and through the heart of our country.

### These cowards deserve no quarter

Canadian Bacon



Patrick Chinnery  
Opinions Editor

Tom Clancy's novel *Executive Orders* opens with a Boeing 747 crashing into the U.S. Capitol, causing a massive explosion that killed the President, the Speaker of the House, several cabinet members and the First Lady.

When the book was published, the idea seemed far-fetched. Who could possibly infiltrate our aviation system and hijack a major aircraft?

Yesterday, sadly, truth was stranger than fiction. Four, not one, Boeing jets were hijacked and flown into government buildings, causing thousands of innocent civilians' deaths and billions of dollars of damage to our nation. The destruction of the World Trade Center wreaked havoc with the world's

financial system. And the effect that the loss of a national landmark will have on every American's psyche can only be imagined.

However, like Clancy's character Jack Ryan, who became President after the attack, we must stress patience.

An attack on a nameless and faceless adversary will not serve any purpose except angering, even destroying, an innocent target, and upsetting the world community even further.

The United States currently has the world's sympathy. Condolences from all over the world have been pouring in via news channels and official declarations. Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon announced that yesterday will be an official day of mourning throughout his country, and British Prime Minister Tony Blair called for all democracies of the world to unite and eradicate the threat of terrorism from the world.

Patience doesn't mean abstinence. While we have the world's sympathies, it is time to strike against whomever orchestrated this attack. Never before in history has the United States been so much in the hearts of our fellow world citizens. It would be foolish to squander this empathy against several nations who may or may not be guilty.

In the Clancy novel, a counter-terrorist team was quickly assembled. It used a surgical strike to take out those responsible. Of course, this is the real world, not a work of fiction, but we must be sure before we carry out a strike. Civilian casualties must be kept to a minimum, not only because they are innocent but also, and perhaps more importantly, because it would be nearly impossible to keep public opinion on our side with irresponsible actions. A wayward missile can easily turn today's sympathy back into the anti-

American rhetoric that so often permeates international relations.

"Freedom was attacked this morning by a faceless coward, and freedom will be defended," President Bush said in a statement yesterday. That is exactly what Americans need to hear right now, and it is exactly what our country needs to do. Defense should not include warbling attacks on pockets of innocent civilians. We would be no better than our attackers by killing innocents. They did; we shouldn't.

America has defended the idea of individual freedom for years. Personal freedoms are the basis of our Constitution. Ensuring these freedoms has dictated every military action our nation has taken throughout its history.

A common cliché: Your right to swing a punch ends where my nose begins. The cowardly terrorists that carried out this attack violated Americans'

inalienable right to be safe and secure in our homeland, to carry on with our daily lives without fear. Now, they are not entitled to this right in their homelands.

There is no time for due process. No time to bring these extremists to justice peacefully. As soon as it is acknowledged who is responsible - but absolutely not before - they must be terminated with extreme prejudice.

Jack Ryan closed *Executive Orders* with a speech, saying that America would not tolerate terrorism, would give it no quarter within our borders. Hopefully, our history will mirror that small part of this ugly fiction. ♦

*May God bless the families and friends of all the victims of this attack, and may He look over the souls of those who died yesterday, today and in the coming days.*

### Terrorist attack exposes poor national security

Atypical Woman



Angela White  
Online Editor

Yesterday's tragedy will undoubtedly linger in the minds of Americans for years to come. Thousands are dead, national monuments are destroyed, and the United States as we knew it came to an end.

Everyone wants to know who was behind this destructive and calculated act. But another question lingers in the background: How did our national security let this tragedy slip by?

Four domestic U.S. flights were hijacked from our supposedly secure airports: American Airlines Flight 11 from Boston to Los Angeles, carrying 92 people; American Airlines Flight 77 from Washington Dulles to Los Angeles, carrying 64; United Airlines Flight 93 from Newark to San Francisco, carrying 45; and United Airlines Flight 175 from Boston to Los Angeles, carrying 65.

According to the Associated Press, Flight 11 crashed into the north tower of the World Trade Center at approximately 8:45 a.m. EDT, and Flight 175 into the south tower about 18 minutes later. Flight 77 crashed into the Pentagon at 9:03 a.m. later, and Flight 93 crashed about 80 miles southeast of Pittsburgh. It was reported-

edly heading for Camp David.

The planes were most likely seized one of two ways: Either the terrorists somehow sneaked deadly weapons past airport security (knives were used in at least one hijacking), or they had "back door" access, most likely through or as airport employees. The former would be a consequence of our ever-increasing laxity in airport security in this country. The latter would mean our nation's airlines employ less-than-adequate security background checks.

The latter would also suggest that this attack had been meticulously planned by elite terrorists.

Theories about the attack have already arisen. Some believe that it was meant to coincide with the anniversary of the signing of the Camp David Accords, which occurred September 17, 1978. Many Middle Eastern countries saw Egypt and Israel's participation in the accord as a traitorous act.

Some speculate the date September 11, or 9-11, stands for emergency number 911.

In addition, each plane hijacked was bound for a distant city, but was flown and crashed at a relatively close site to its departure. Therefore, each plane had a full tank of gas that provided an extremely large explosion. Also, the planes were relatively light on passengers compared to their sizes.

Also, while not neces-

sarily a motive, it is ironic that this tragedy occurred on the International Day of Peace.

If even just one of these theories is true, it would reinforce the belief that this attack was carefully planned by a knowledgeable group of terrorists for an extended period of time. If true, the Central Intelligence Agency certainly should have discovered this plot of destruction before yesterday.

The Senate Intelligence Committee, however, had no idea the attack was being planned.

In the CIA's defense, terrorist activity is extremely difficult to track. Terrorist organizations often act as independent cells, or groups, of people. Each cell acts separately from other cells, so if one is destroyed, the rest can operate undisturbed.

Nonetheless, this attack was so calculated and sophisticated that it could only have been accomplished by a select few.

In addition, FBI's primary suspect, Islamic militant Osama bin Laden (who is currently residing with the Taliban in Afghanistan), reportedly warned that he would carry out "an unprecedented attack on U.S. interests for its support of Israel" three weeks ago, according to an Arab journalist quoted in a story from Reuters.

This is a man who has a \$5 million bounty on his head by his own government. If it is established that he was behind this

attack, it would mean gross negligence in the operation of our national security.

"You can't predict these things," Ray Kelly, former New York police commissioner, told NBC news.

But the CIA has predicted and thwarted terrorist attacks in the past. Obviously, as the only standing superpower, the United States suffers from a constant threat of terrorism.

People hate us because of our civil liberties, our economic prowess, and our unusual combination of world policing and isolationist attitudes.

Whether or not it was intentional or related, this "is probably the largest attack we have ever seen against an open democracy," said Sweden Prime Minister Goran Persson.

This assault attacked everything despised by extremists about the United States.

Our capitalistic economic system was attacked with the destruction of the World Trade Center.

Our military was attacked with the assault on the Pentagon.

And our everyday lives were murdered.

All government buildings were evacuated. On a local note, Oak Ridge's Y-12 Plant was closed to all but "essential personnel" for the first time in history.

Both locally and nationally, the executive, legislative and judicial branches of our government were at a standstill.

The New York city pri-

mary election was called off.

The U.S. stock markets are still closed today.

Elementary schools, high schools and universities across the country closed their campuses (MTSU excluded).

Telephone companies buckled under the increased demand, partially fueled by the failure of cell phones in New York City (the antennas were on the top of the World Trade Center).

Major sports events, including last night's 15 Major League Baseball games, were canceled.

The Latin Grammy Awards were canceled.

Cape Canaveral shut down Kennedy Space Center.

Throughout the country, other tourist attractions followed suit.

Even Walt Disney World shut its doors.

Yesterday's attack not only shut down our government operations; it shut down our way of life.

Our lax, relatively innocent lifestyle will never fully recover. Security will be tightened to an almost unbearable rate, gas prices will most likely rise dramatically, and martial law could even be called in some areas.

"In my view, this has been an intelligence failure," Sen. Pat Roberts, R-Kan., told the Associated Press.

This attack slipped through the CIA's back door, and it cost us our quality of life. ♦

## SIDELINES

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### Another day that will live in infamy

By John R. Vile  
Dept. of Political Science

When the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, President Franklin D. Roosevelt addressed Congress and referred to the attack as "a day that will live in infamy."

We experienced a similar attack yesterday. It seems likely that the loss of life will exceed that of Pearl Harbor and the terrorist attack in Oklahoma.

We all know the line, "this is the time for all good men [and women] to come to the aid of their country." I think Americans (and many others from throughout the world) are already united in revulsion against this heinous crime against humanity. I know that America is capable of

responding to this threat, just as it has responded to threats from the time that the Pilgrims and Virginia settlers first faced starvation, through the American Revolution, the Civil War, two world wars and many other conflicts that have followed.

We remain the most powerful nation in the world, and we have the will and the duty to seek out those who have committed this series of atrocities. In an unstable world full of people obsessed with hate, no nation can provide complete security for its people, especially when faced with fanatics willing to kill themselves in the hope of killing others. Those who threaten our nation today may well threaten other nations tomorrow. Our cause is now the

cause of freedom-loving people everywhere.

If I have one concern, it is that we keep our powder dry until we know what a fair amount of certainty what individuals or groups committed this atrocity. I am especially concerned that we will not turn on the friends who have recently sought asylum here from other nations, particularly those from which we suspect these terrorist attacks may have originated.

There is always a temptation in times of crisis to lump the innocent with the guilty. During World War I, many schools forbid the teaching of the German language for fear that it would help our enemies. In World War II we rounded up Americans of

Japanese descent and put them in camps. We did this in the Cold War when we often lumped innocent domestic dissenters with communist foreign conspirators.

I recall that immediately after the attack on the Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma in April 1995, police were sure they had a culprit when they arrested an individual of mid-Eastern descent boarding an airplane to leave the city. We now know that this individual was innocent.

As I write, we do not know if the attack on our nation was orchestrated by a hostile nation like Iraq or North Korea, by the Palestinians, by drug cartels, or by some other group (perhaps even a

See *Infamy*, 6

# This is NOT like Pearl Harbor

By Amy L. S. Staples  
Assistant Professor of History

It was difficult to know what to think with the shock of witnessing on live television a plane smashing into the World Trade Center, seeing those towers crash to the ground and hearing of other attacks on the Pentagon and State Department. But I have been surprised and deeply concerned to hear commentators, including one of Nebraska's U.S. Senators and the "Washington Post," compare these incidents to the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor that brought the United States into World War II. I think that this comparison tends to confuse rather than elucidate the matter.

First of all, the attack on Pearl Harbor was an act of war committed by a state. If indeed the events of yesterday are connected to terrorists, they do not constitute a state and they are not waging a conventional war against the United States. That's why they did not attack strategic, military targets but symbolic targets.

The World Trade Center represents America's dominance in the world economy; the State Department symbolizes U.S. foreign policy; the Pentagon stands for the

American military presence throughout the world; Camp David represents the United States' participation in Middle East politics. Also, unlike the bombing of Japan that ended World War II, bombing Afghanistan will not end terrorist attacks on the United States. In fact, such acts are likely instead to give rise to more terrorists.

Secondly, I hope that Americans today don't react the way their parents and grandparents did to Pearl Harbor. In 1942, the United States put thousands of American citizens and legal resident aliens of Japanese descent into internment camps and took away their rights. We apologized for this during the first Bush administration; let's hope that George W. Bush and all of us remember that the Arabs living in the United States should not be persecuted for the actions of a few Arabs on the radical fringe.

However, I do hope that the United States will follow the World War II model in joining with its allies to combat terrorism, rather than acting alone. Partly as a result of the bombing of Pearl Harbor, Americans (and their allies) after World War II created the United Nations in an effort to promote global peace and the rule of law among all nations. Now that the U.S.

is under attack, it should turn to its allies and to the United Nations, seeking an international condemnation of this atrocious act and a global, multilateral plan to prevent its recurrence.

Finally, as someone who has studied American history and politics as a career, I think we need to stay true to our cherished values and not sink to the level of those whom we oppose. In times of crisis in the past, we have often been ready to chuck personal liberties and rights in the name of a national emergency: In World War I, the Sedition Act made it illegal to criticize the U.S. government; in World War II we interned Japanese-Americans; and in the Cold War, we allowed cherished American ideals to be trampled under the anti-Communist frenzy of McCarthyism. We must remember always, and especially in times of crisis, to hold fast to American values of freedom and tolerance for others; if instead we lapse into intolerance and a curtailment of freedoms, the terrorists will have won.

If you'd like more historical insights into these events, please join me and other colleagues from the History Department in Peck Hall, Room 227 at 3:30 p.m. today. ♦

## Infamy: Political participation makes our country strong

Continued from 5

home-grown group). If we do ascertain who is responsible for this attack against our nation, we need to respond with unequivocal force, but we also need to be careful not to lump the innocent with the guilty.

On Monday, Sept 17, we will celebrate the 214th anniversary of the signing of the U.S. Constitution.

That Constitution survives because of its commitment to due process and human rights, and our nation remains a beacon of freedom to oppressed people from throughout the world. I am convinced that this nation will continue to survive if it adheres to these high ideals.

We have long been told that dictatorships are more efficient than democracies, but I do not think this is true. The strongest

nations in the world are those like our own that allow their own people to participate in the political process. The strongest nations are those like our own that realize no individual or institution is the sole source of wisdom, and that freedom is so precious because it is both God-ordained and purchased and maintained with the blood of patriots.

The experience at Pearl Harbor demonstrated that planes and bombs can demolish buildings and scatter bodies, but they cannot defeat the indomitable spirit of a free people. This spirit remains alive and well.

My hopes and prayers are with those who are protecting our nation. We can best honor the victims of this tragedy by aiding their families and by standing by our own ideals. ♦

## Faculty letters

### McPhee calls for 'business as usual,' classes are in session

Along with the rest of America, we at Middle Tennessee State University are shocked and saddened by the apparent terrorist actions that occurred earlier this morning in New York and in the nation's capital. Our thoughts and prayers are with the victims and their families.

While "business as usual" is clearly difficult under these circumstances, classes and other academic activities will proceed as scheduled today and until further notice from the President's office. As far as co-curricular activities or events, individuals should check with the respective sponsoring departments.

The university is also providing counseling to any student, faculty, staff or anyone in the university community who needs assistance. For information or counseling assistance, please contact Jane Tipps, director of the Counseling and Testing Center at 898-2670. For additional information or questions, please contact the News and Public Affairs office at 898-2919.

Sidney A. McPhee  
President

### Glenn: Officials expect students to remain civil during crisis

The foreseeable future will be a difficult time for all Americans. There will be great pain and emotional suffering as we become increasingly aware of the exact magnitude of the human carnage that took place in the terrorist acts of Sept. 11, 2001. A natural reaction to that emotional pain will be anger. Because I am concerned about that possible reaction, I feel it is my duty to make sure that the position of the university is clear.

First and foremost it must be understood that we do not know who is responsible for these terrorist acts. It is natural that we look to place the blame somewhere, but we must wait for responsible action from the government. It is not acceptable for any student to take his/her anger out on any other person or another person's property.

Most students were not yet born when America last dealt with a situation similar to this. I am referring to the taking of American hostages by Iran in 1979. Most faculty and staff will recall that event as being very similar to this in one respect. At that time many innocent international students were harassed and threatened by angry Americans. In some cases it was not even necessary for the object of an attack to be Iranian, that person merely had to look the part.

Some of you may be tempted to act out your anger. You need to understand that the reaction of the university will be swift and sure. We expect all students to control themselves and conduct themselves as members of a civil community. You should remember that our international students are our students. They are not terrorists, and they are not connected with these acts in any way. The university is committed to protecting all members of our community.

I call on all of our students to restrain their passions and instead channel their energies in a more practical and constructive direction. If you want to do something about what has happened there are things you can do. One of the first would be to give blood. The Red Cross has put out an urgent call for blood.

For those students who are experiencing difficulty as a result of what has happened, let me assure you the university will use every resource at its disposal to assist you. I encourage you to come forward if you need assistance. Contact any member of the staff to be directed to the services you need. Any student who wishes can contact Guidance Services in KUC, Room 329 (898-2670) for direct personal assistance.

Robert Glenn  
Vice President for Student Affairs

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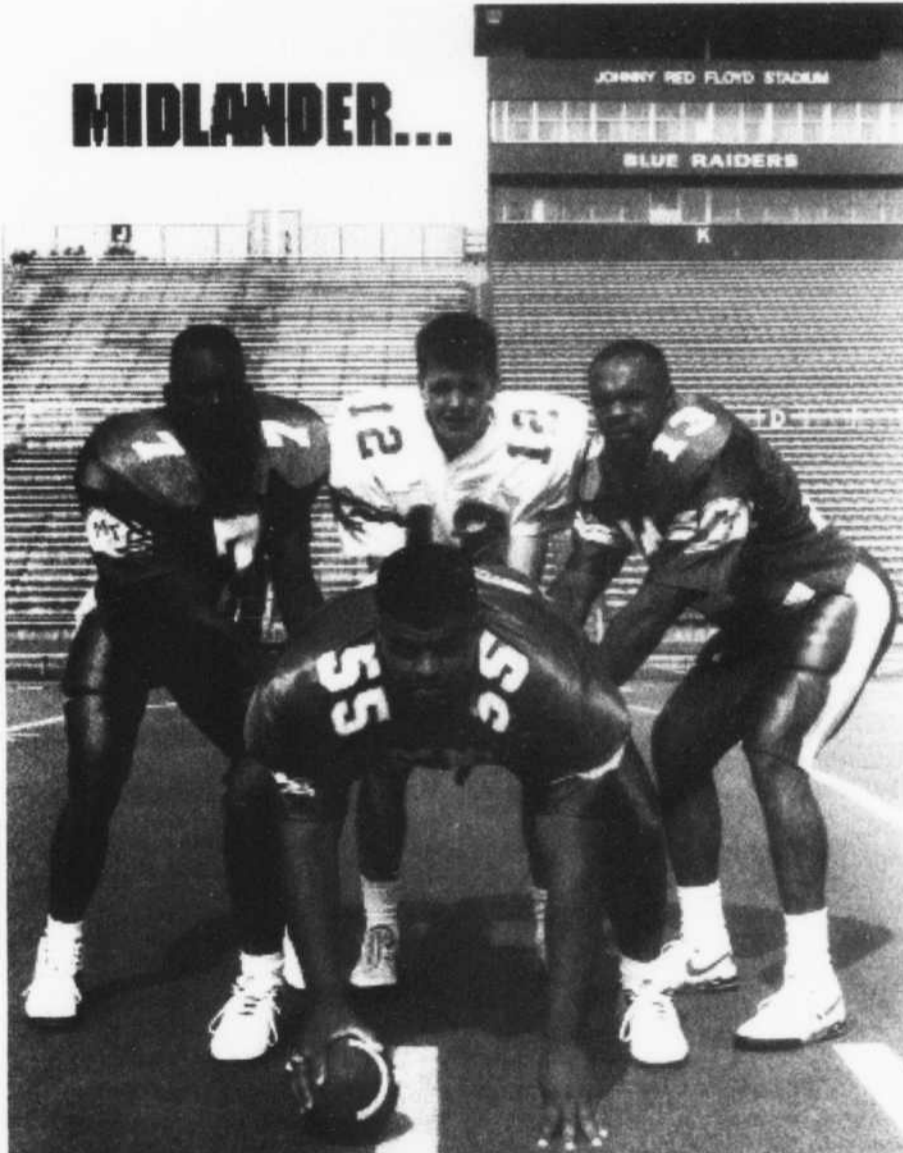
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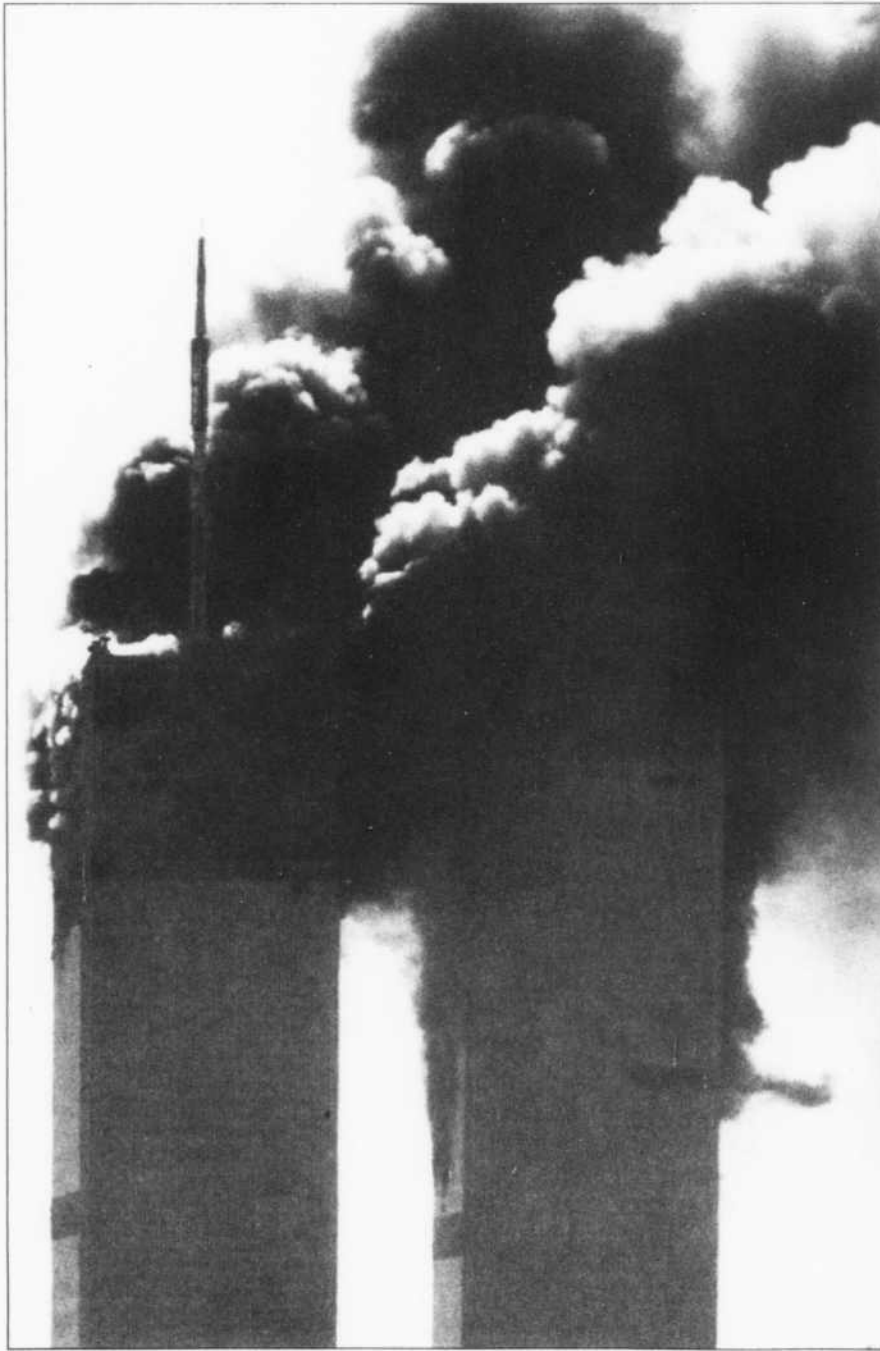
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# A day of terror in America



# Knoxville community 'saddened'

By **Jeremy Claytor**  
The Daily Beacon (U. of Tenn.)

The effects of the largest terrorist attack in U.S. history spilled out from the country's largest cities and throughout the rest of the nation yesterday.

The University of Tennessee is no different.

"The university community is deeply saddened by the devastating acts of terrorism that have occurred today in our nation's capital and other loca-

tions," acting University of Tennessee President Emerson Fly said. Although Fly said he plans to keep the university open, he is taking action to ensure no programs or functions at UT will be threatened. "Barring future developments, it is my intent to continue most university activities, including our classes as scheduled."

Last night's Torch Night and the Undergraduate Academic Council meeting, as well as the Student Activities Fair planned

for today, were postponed.

The tragedy also impacted local services, and the city has focused on addressing possible emergencies.

The U.S. Department of Energy shut down access to nuclear weapons in the Y-12 division of operations at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory. All nonessential employees were permitted to take administrative leave. This is the first time in history this plant has been closed down to only essential

personnel.

In accordance with the Federal Aviation Administration's shutdown of all U.S. flights, McGee-Tyson Airport suspended all flights until further notification.

The FAA notified all civilian flights early yesterday morning. It was the first national ground stop in U.S. history.

Simon Property Group, owner of West Town Mall and Knoxville Center, closed all national operations as a

result yesterday's acts.

Knoxville Mayor Victor Ashe said the Knoxville Police Department is working with other law enforcement agencies in coordinating response to the crisis at local federal installations and public institutions.

The Medic Regional Blood Center was forced to call in extra help because of a mass number of students willing to give blood. At any given point during the day, the wait to give blood was more than two

hours.

"These students really are the ones to be commended," said Jim Cundall, associate director at Medic. "We didn't even have to ask these students to come out, and you don't hear any grumbling about having to wait a couple of hours."

On a normal day, the Blood Center usually collects between 250 and 300 pints of blood. Yesterday, however, it estimates more than 700 pints were collected. ♦

## Attacks strike home for some on campus

By **Charlene Callier**  
Features Co-Editor

The terrorist attacks yesterday had everyone shaken up by the thought of insecurities in our nation and the thought of possible attacks even closer to home.

But for some faculty, staff and students here at MTSU who have loved ones in New York City and Washington D.C., the news couldn't come fast enough.

"My husband called me before it was announced on the news to tell me about the World Trade Center," said Mary Miller, a journalism professor.

Miller's husband is a technology consultant who works 10 blocks away from the World Trade Center.

"He's still ten blocks from the WTC, and there's no where for him to go," Miller said.

Miller said her husband told her he heard a thunder clap, but he didn't know what happened

until it was posted on the Internet.

Miller's husband said after his office building was evacuated to midtown Manhattan they told him to go back to his hotel until he was further notified.

Miller said she called her son's middle school in Franklin to tell the assistant principal to tell her son that "Daddy is OK."

"Anybody that has a loved one in New York and Washington feels that their loved ones are not out of danger until they are at home," Miller said.

The Student Affairs Office is sorting through the student database to find the names of students from the areas involved in the incident.

Robert Glenn, vice president for Student Affairs, said they will contact the students they know are from these areas and see if they need counseling because they will be impacted the most.

"The office will also remain

flexible to students that are not from the cities because they could still have loved ones involved in the accidents," Glenn said.

Patience Cohee, assistant ad manager for student publications, has a first cousin who is employed at the Pentagon and has not heard anything on her condition.

"I had a very bad feeling of terror when it hit me what had happen," Cohee said.

"I hate not knowing, so I'm just praying and trying not to think about it," she said. "I'm a little calmer than earlier."

"I feel like I'm watching the beginning of World War III on television," said Katie Warf, a public relations major.

Warf said her high school teacher is active in the armed forces and works at the Pentagon.

"I'm just going to call his family when I get home from school to see if they have heard anything," Warf said. ♦



Photo by Lindsey Turner | Staff

MTSU's ROTC students practice routine drills outside Forrest Hall yesterday.

## National Guard placed on standby

By **Matthew H. Starling**  
Photo Editor

U.S. military forces have been placed on a high state of alert, bases have been locked down and non-essential personnel have been sent home.

Travel has been restricted in and out of bases and the alert

level is at its highest worldwide.

A U.S. naval carrier has been sent to the shore off of New York to guard against further attacks, and local national guard forces have been alerted and placed on standby.

Major Charles Tilton, an MTSU ROTC officer, has been instructed to refer all questions

concerning MTSU ROTC status to the regional ROTC headquarters located at Fort Knox, Ky. No military personnel are allowed to comment at this point about the situation and what may or may not be done by the military.

More information for ROTC students can be obtained by calling ROTC at 898-2470. ♦

## College campuses across country react to devastation

Staff Reports

Reaction to yesterday's catastrophic attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon varied by campuses across the country.

Campus newspapers across the country are producing special sections or devoting entire issues to the event, as is *Sidelines*.

While many classes were canceled yesterday, and some may be canceled today, MTSU remained open for business. Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Barbara Haskew instructed faculty to "be flexible in working with students who cannot attend class because of special circumstances."

Other universities reacted similarly or canceled classes altogether.

Roosevelt University on the Loop in Chicago was closed this morning. The entire Loop area was evacuated, and downtown workers are being advised to call their offices before going in today.

Texas Christian University canceled classes at 9:45 a.m., but the university remained open for business.

Virginia Tech, with many students are from Northern Virginia and military/government families, canceled classes early in the afternoon. Both George Mason University in Fairfax, Va., and Virginia Commonwealth University canceled evening classes.

The decision was made at George Mason to "reduce student, staff and faculty travel throughout the region and in recognition of the needs of many in the university community to be with their families at this time." George Mason is not far from the Pentagon and serves many military and government families.

Georgia Southern University canceled classes at noon and lowered the university's flag to half staff "in respect for the victims and families," President Bruce Grube said. The university also suspended its fundraising campaign and called off the planned celebration for yesterday evening.

Washington University in St. Louis and Valencia Community College in Central Florida canceled afternoon classes. The university president at Valencia said the closure was to give "students and staff some time to

sort out the tide of feelings these tragedies are bound to unleash..."

Lorain County Community College in Elyria, Ohio, also closed "out of concern for individuals and their families in this dire situation..."

However, many, such as Southern Methodist University, continued classes because the president considered it "a way to keep to a feeling of community." SMU faculty were allowed to dismiss class if they wanted.

Loyola University in New Orleans remained open "because it is better to keep to a normal routine." Tulane University, Loyola's neighbor, closed.

University of Missouri-St. Louis and Indiana State University also remained open while some classes were dismissed.

Classes at the University of North Carolina-Wilmington were not canceled, but faculty were instructed to hold class, discuss the events briefly, try to assess if anyone needed counseling and then refer students to the counseling centers set up around campus. After that discussion, the students were free to go. ♦

## Counselors: Personnel trained to comfort

Continued from 3

ensure many MTSU staff members are equipped with the necessary knowledge and resources to help students in crisis situations.

MTSU faculty and staff also held meetings last night in various residence halls to address the concerns of students. These meetings received a much greater amount of participation than the support center had

earlier.

Students were encouraged to comment on the situation, ask questions, laugh, cry and do anything else in order to cope with the situation.

There were many faculty members present to share their thoughts, offer comfort and make students aware they are there to help them.

The meetings drew students and various MTSU officials such as Debra Sells and Sarah

Sudak, of the Department of Housing and Residential Life; Robert Glenn, the vice president for Student Affairs; and several professors. Students also were given information about blood drives, possible food and clothing drives, candlelight vigils and prayer services.

Various members of the housing staff said they would do whatever it took to ensure that the needs of the students are met. ♦

The *Sidelines* staff wishes to express our deepest sympathy for the victims and their families and loved ones in this time of despair.

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# Professors encourage patience, deliberation

By Ernie Gray  
Staff Writer

A coordinated terrorist attack on the United States yesterday destroyed the World Trade Center in New York City, damaged the Pentagon in Washington and has American cities on alert.

This tragedy, the only mainland attack on the country since the Civil War, has united America. The question is, against what?

"Freedom has been attacked," President Bush said in a press conference, and he promised that the full resources of the United States would be used to hunt down and punish those responsible for what he claims is clearly a terrorist act. The U.S. military is on high alert, both at home and internationally.

The Associated Press reports a London-based Arab newspaper report that international terrorist Osama bin Laden, the man who masterminded the earlier attacks against U.S. military installations in Africa, had warned three weeks ago that he was planning an attack "against American interests" and threatened that it would be a big one.

Palestinian Authority leader Yasser Arafat expressed his hor-

ror at what he'd seen on television. Meanwhile, thousands of Palestinians celebrated in the streets after hearing the news.

"It is too early to make any accusations," said John Vile, chair of MTSU's political science department. "There are numerous possibilities as to who might be responsible for this tragedy."

"The country needs to remain level-headed," Vile said, "and not react in a way that a terrorist group would want us to."

While no one knows for sure who is responsible for yesterday's attack, the militant Islamic fundamentalist bin Laden is a leading suspect.

MTSU's Moses Tesi, a specialist in African and Middle Eastern political science, said, "while any assertion of blame at this point would be pure speculation, the fact remains that this incident was so well-planned and orchestrated that an organization with significant funding and resources would have to be involved."

"Given the logistics of the attack," said Tesi, "it is hard to imagine that such an undertaking would be possible without the backing of a nation-state or an independently wealthy organization."

The U.S. intelligence department has reported that hundreds of millions of dollars have been transferred to bank accounts linked to bin Laden by business executives in Saudi Arabia in the past. Bin Laden's family owns the largest construction firm in Saudi Arabia.

Bin Laden has caused a series of numerous other terrorist attacks, including the 1993 World Trade Center bombing and bombings of U.S. installations in East Africa.

Tesi agrees with Vile that we must wait for more facts to unfold.

Sept. 11 marked the anniversary of the Camp David peace accords. Under the pact, which was denounced by other Arab states, Israel agreed to return the Sinai to Egypt, a transfer that was completed in 1982. In a joint letter, the two nations also agreed to negotiate Palestinian autonomy measures in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, but virtually no progress was made on this issue until the 1990s.

Last week, the United States boycotted the world conference on racism in Durban South Africa when Arab countries renounced Israel's Zionist movement, which the United Nations has declared racist. ♦

# LaGuardia student responds to terrorist attacks on city

By Rebecca Pickering  
Managing Editor

Jeffrey Pang, a sophomore at LaGuardia Community College in Queens, N.Y., responded to yesterday's events with mixed feelings.

Being five miles away from the epicenter of the New York City attacks, Pang experienced much more direct impact than most students at universities across the country.

"I am just so mad that something like this could happen," Pang said. "You never expect something like this to happen so close to home."

One of Pang's co-workers' sisters was a secretary in the World Trade Center and was in the building when the planes crashed into them. She was one of the lucky employees who was able to escape from the scene.

He said that the city is com-

pletely shut off and they aren't letting anyone travel into Manhattan by subway.

He added that in addition to the large-scale national security issues, on a more local level, gun shops are locked down and not selling any weapons at this time, in fear of retaliation.

LaGuardia Community College - like so many colleges across the country - is closed today and Pang could not say when it will reopen. ♦

# CLASSIFIEDS

## Announcements

The Campus Freethought Alliance is forming at MTSU. Help promote science literacy fight growing Anti-Intellectualism. Pro-Intersecularism. Anti-Separation of Church and State. Preliminary meeting September 12th@ 6:30 pm in BAS S337. For more info contact at (615) 364-5320 or email at MatDavid001@netscape.net or www.campus-freethought.org

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# Middle Tennessee increases security

## Nashville closes airport, government buildings; TVA on heightened alert

By Karin Miller  
Associated Press Writer

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Airplanes were grounded, federal courthouses were closed and a landmark Nashville high-rise was evacuated as Tennessee responded yesterday to the terrorist attacks in New York and Washington.

While security was increased at government and high-profile buildings across the state, churches and community centers opened their doors to those wanting to pray for a nation in crisis.

"The question on everyone's mind is 'are we OK?' I think people want to be reassured in times of crisis that God is still there," said Craig Strickland, pastor of Hope Presbyterian in Memphis where a noon service drew about 900 people.

Gov. Don Sundquist extended his condolences to those who lost loved ones in the attacks on the World Trade Center in New York and the Pentagon and State Department in Washington, D.C., calling it something "we take personally."

"The family of America has been brutalized," he said. Sundquist said all state agencies are on heightened alert. Security has been increased at the Capitol, but state offices will remain open.

Sundquist ordered all state flags lowered to half-staff and asked Tennessee residents to donate blood and join in prayers for the victims. At least one Tennessean was at the scene of an attack and survived.

Gus Hargett, Tennessee's assistant adjutant general for the Army National Guard, was at a meeting in the Pentagon one corridor away from where an aircraft crashed into it, said Dan Wood, Tennessee's adjutant general.

"Other than being slightly shaken, he was OK," Wood said. Hargett is the father of state

Rep. Tre Hargett, R-Bartlett.

A Memphis-based search and rescue team of about 70 people was en route to Washington last night to help search for victims in the rubble — one of 28 such teams throughout the country organized by the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Team members include firefighters, structural engineers, search dog handlers and medical personnel.

"They may be dispersed from there to New York or wherever they're needed," Sundquist said.

Vanderbilt University Medical Center was on alert for possible burn and trauma victims from Washington and New York, spokesman Clinton Colmenares said.

He said the American Burn Association asked the hospital how many patients it could accept. Vanderbilt said it could take up to 75 patients. Colmenares doesn't know if or when any victims will arrive, but they likely would come by military plane or helicopter.

Federal buildings, shopping malls, universities and other public buildings across Tennessee were closed as a precaution. Most public schools remained open but many locked down. Some allowed students to watch televised coverage of the carnage and led discussions of the day's events for students old enough to understand them.

The University of Tennessee's four campuses carried on as usual, but East Tennessee State University canceled classes at noon.

Derhonda Black, a veterans affairs office worker at the Nashville federal building, said people were visibly shaken by the unthinkable chain of events.

"I just want to go home. We can't get any work done. Nobody can concentrate," she said.

The L&C Tower, a 30-story landmark in downtown Nashville, and the Cordell Hull state office building were evacuated after bomb threats about midday. Police searched the buildings, but no explosives were found, and workers were eventually allowed to return, although many went home.

At the state's tallest skyscraper, the 33-story BellSouth Building in downtown Nashville, about 50 of the company's 400 employees there went home early after the company extended the offer to calm nerves.

The Department of Energy reduced staffing at its Y-12 nuclear weapons plant, its national laboratory and other buildings at Oak Ridge. Only essential personnel were allowed in buildings. Hundreds of contract workers were ordered to go home or not to report for evening shifts.

The Tennessee Valley Authority also increased security at its nuclear plants in Tennessee and Alabama, and other buildings operated by the Knoxville-based federal utility, but continued operations as usual.

All flights from Tennessee's major airports were grounded, leaving thousands of travelers stranded. Memphis-based Federal Express also canceled its flights.

"We have informed our customers that our services have been disrupted nationwide," Federal Express spokesman Jess Bunn said. He did not know how long service would be disrupted.

Larry Cox, director of Memphis International Airport, said about 8,000 travelers were stranded when the airport — a hub for Northwest Airlines — shut down.

Cox said the airlines found commercial buses to take passengers to destinations within 500 miles; those with more distant destinations were provided hotel rooms for the night.

In Nashville, 55 planes were stranded for hours on the tarmac and with them, an untold number of passengers and flight crews.

Delta pilot Val Marchione

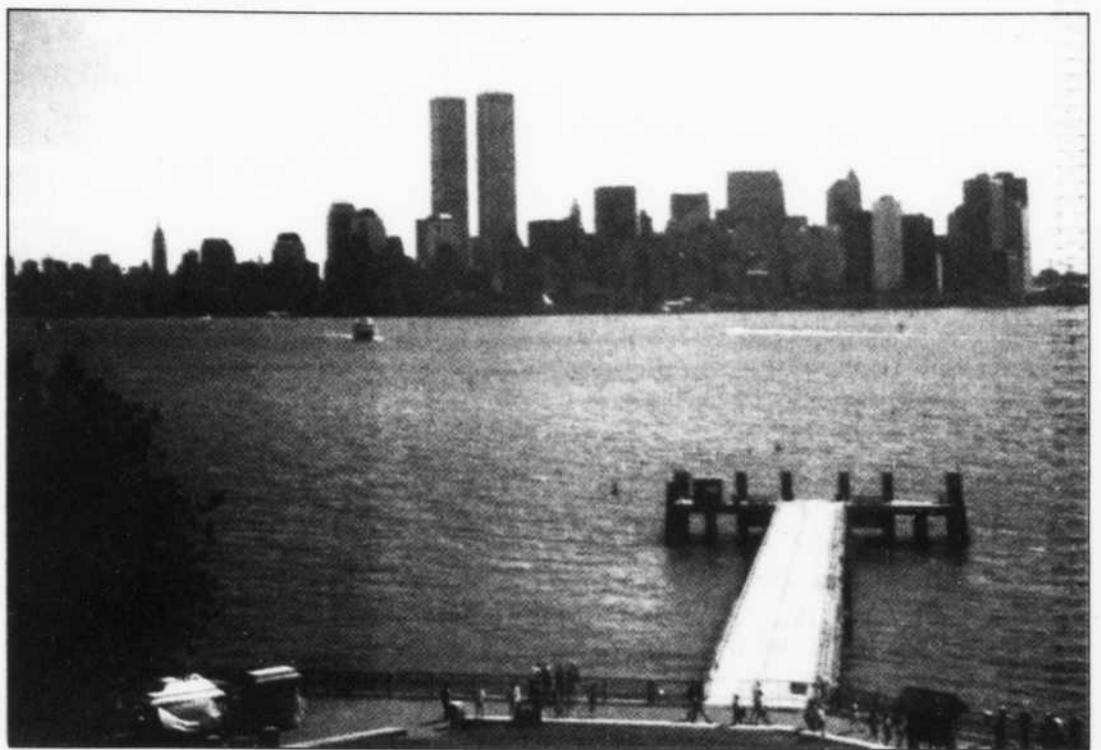


Photo by Pam Hudgens | Editor in Chief

A photograph of the New York City skyline taken from the base of the Statue of Liberty during the summer of 2000 shows the twin towers of the World Trade Center. Both towers collapsed yesterday morning as a result of alleged terrorist attacks.

had been scheduled to fly from Nashville to Atlanta and then New York, but the company canceled its flights through 5 a.m. today.

"This rivals Pearl Harbor," Marchione, a former Navy pilot. "I'm not so much scared, but angry. It's such a tragedy. We definitely need to take a stand immediately."

Akron, Ohio businessman Tim Fisher, who was waiting in line for a rental car after his flight from Nashville was canceled, said the United States has to respond "strongly and firmly."

"Target militarily the appropriate government or people involved. Hit them hard," he said.

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."

The attack on Pearl Harbor claimed the lives of 2,390 Americans, most of them servicemen. ♦

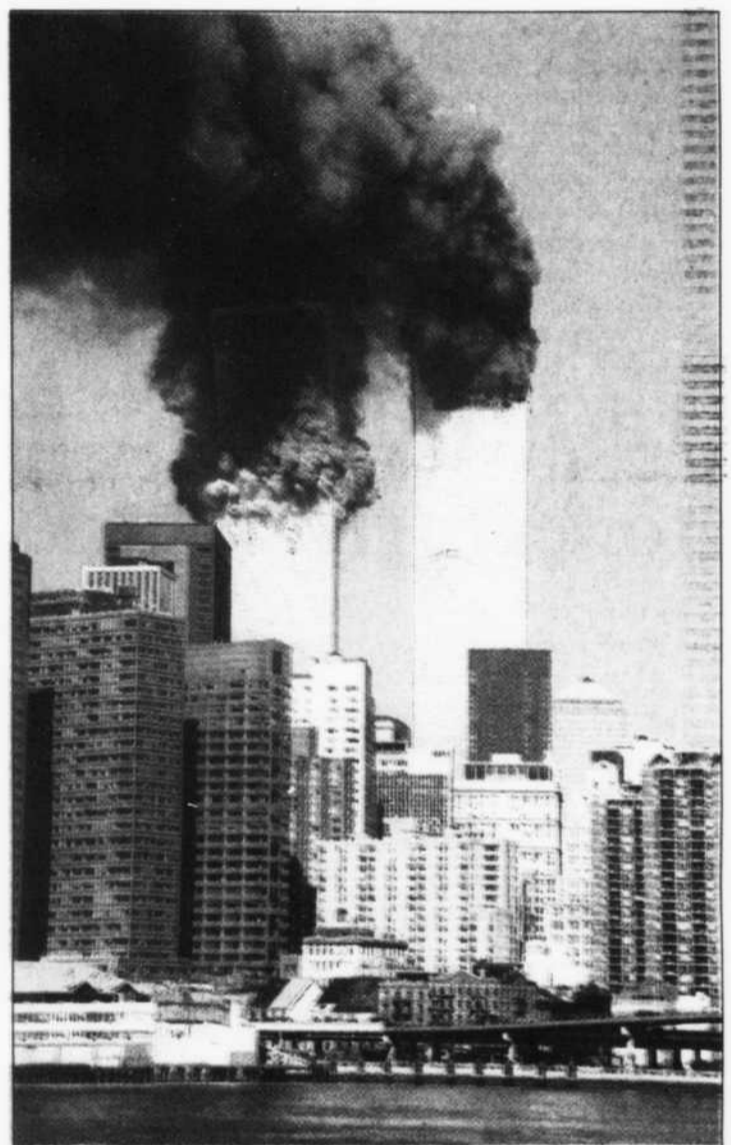
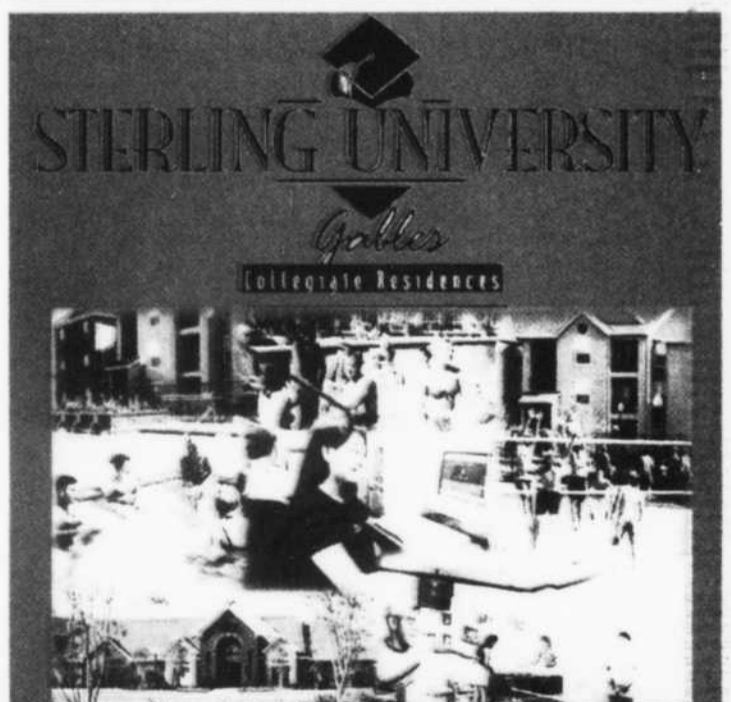


Photo by Jim Collins | AP

The south tower of the World Trade Center began to collapse at 10:05 a.m. EDT yesterday after a reportedly hijacked plane crashed into the building. The north tower collapsed at 10:28 a.m., approximately 13 minutes later, after being hit by another plane.

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