

# a nation in terror

Rhode Island College's Student-Run Newspaper • Special Edition

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## the anchor

### Thousands Feared Dead in New York and Washington

By James Barron  
N.Y. Times

In what appeared to be parallel attacks on quintessential symbols of American financial and military power, airplanes slammed into both towers of the World Trade Center in Manhattan and, less than an hour later, into the Pentagon, outside Washington.

The 110-story towers at the World Trade Center soon collapsed in a horrific storm of flying glass and rubble.

There was an immediate fear of a large loss of life, with Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani saying the death toll would probably not be known for at least a day but would be "more than any of us can bear."

President Bush, who was in Sarasota, Fla., when the two

planes flew into the World Trade Center around 9 a.m. Eastern time, called the destruction in New York "an apparent terrorist attack on our country" and ordered a full-scale investigation to "hunt down the folks who committed this act."

The president was taken to Barksdale Air Force Base in Louisiana, where he said that the government had taken "all appropriate steps to protect the American people." He was later flown to an air base in Omaha and plans to return to Washington soon.

Vice President Dick Cheney and the first lady, Laura Bush, were in Washington and were taken to a secure location after the West Wing of the White House was evacuated.

"Make no mistake," the president said in Louisiana, "the

United States will hunt down and punish those responsible for these cowardly acts."

The plane that crashed at the Pentagon, across the Potomac River from Washington, smashed into the huge outer ring of the building and burrowed into the park-like central courtyard.

"We have been attacked like we haven't since Pearl Harbor," said Adm. Robert J. Natter, the commander of the Atlantic fleet, who ordered aircraft carriers and guided missile destroyers to New York and Washington. He also dispatched amphibious ships carrying Marines and sailors who could assist with security and surgical teams that could help treat injured people.

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Plane impacting The World Trade Center.

### Campus Professors Address the Attack On America

By: Andrea J. Stewart  
Anchor Editor

"If you were to ask people in New York or Washington D.C. whether they feel safe today, of course they will answer 'no,'" remarks Dr. Mark Motte, director of the Study Abroad program and professor of Geography at R.I.C. Dr. Motte is one of countless people affected by the recent tragedy. On the afternoon of September 11<sup>th</sup>, there is a troubled tone to his voice and an obvious heaviness that enfolds his words. Dr. Motte addresses vulnerability as a subject that is familiar to everyone now, on a frightening national scale. He admits that even after such tragedies as the Oklahoma bombing and the shootings at Columbine, most Americans still feel secure in their country. Dr. Motte rationalizes that: "We think of ourselves as insulated from the terror that plagues too many countries. Today's horrifying acts clearly illustrate that this is not the case any longer".

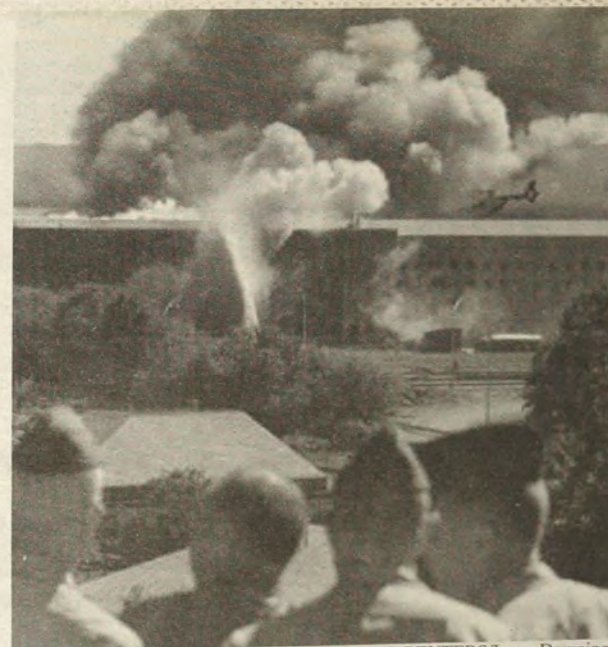
The American public is used to hearing about violence overseas; places like Northern Ireland and Israel usually serve as the stage for explosions and disaster. Not since Pearl Harbor has America received such a cruel blow from an opponent. However, unlike Pearl Harbor, that opponent is painfully unclear. Richard Weiner, Dean of Arts and Sciences at R.I.C., declares that this is, "... a very unprecedented act in terms of traditional foreign pol-

icy". Dean Weiner is certain that President Bush is going to react, but at the present, his reaction is undirected. The buildings were not attacked by a specific country; at the present time, only rumors predict who is actually behind the attack.

Rumors, of course, are the offspring of modern media. Here we find another variation from Pearl Harbor: the media of 1941 was ridiculously simple compared to the saturating coverage of today. The public was aware of the attack only minutes after the first tower was struck; the second attack was actually caught on film! News of the attack is bombarding all possible mediums; and, similarly, all plugged-in viewers hungry for information. Dean Weiner believes that the media is purposefully controlling the anger and hysteria that is brewing throughout the country. He states that: "We didn't see any [victims'] bodies until after one o'clock this afternoon. The ground [surrounding the World Trade Center] was just not shown... the media seems to be controlling the reaction of the public".

An emotional outpouring is guaranteed to trail the attack on the famous U.S. buildings. The World Trade Center, at the heart of New York City, and the Pentagon, located in the nation's capital, are more than just steel and concrete; they serve as tow-

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© REUTERS/Larry Downing

U.S. Marines watch as a rescue helicopter surveys damage to the Pentagon Building as fire fighters battle flames after an apparent terrorist airplane crashed into the U.S. military Headquarters outside of Washington, September 11, 2001.

### A Message from the President

Our thoughts and prayers are with all Americans who have been affected by the tragic events of this day. For many, this is another "Pearl Harbor Day;" however, this is the first time that the American people have suffered such attacks on their own soil. We will never forget these attacks and the many people who have suffered as a result of these tragic events.

Vice President John Salesses sent the following message to the Academic Deans and Directors and I share it with the entire College Family.

*Let's not forget at a time like this that Rhode Island College is a source of light and education. At a time when the picture is bleak and there is great upset and questioning, the College through its faculty and staff can provide students and the community an opportunity for introspection and enlightened discussion about the world in which we live and the issues and problems that surround us. These are dark days and who knows what is to come. Let us encourage objective and analytical discussion in classes and small groups that may help us to understand these tragic and difficult times.*

America is the land of freedom. Let us all work together to ensure its survival.

John Nazarian  
09/11/01





## Thousands . . . from pg 1

Officials involved in piecing together the sequence of destruction said four jetliners were hijacked and used in the attacks. American Airlines flight 11, a Boeing 767 that had left Boston, hit one tower of the World Trade Center first.

It was followed about 20 minutes later by United Airlines flight 75, also a Boeing 767 diverted from a Boston-to-Los Angeles flight.

American flight 77, a Boeing 757 that had taken off from Dulles International Airport near Washington, went down at the Pentagon, while a United flight from Newark to San Francisco crashed 80 miles southeast of Pittsburgh.

Rep. James Moran of Virginia said after attending a briefing in Washington that the intended target of the plane that crashed in Pennsylvania appeared to be Camp David, the presidential retreat in Maryland. The crash site was 85 miles northwest of there.

In New York, emergency workers were reported to be ferrying bodies across the Hudson River to Jersey City this afternoon.

The Associated Press reported that one Jersey City police officer directing traffic shouted: "Get out of here! We have to bring dead bodies through here!"

Acting Gov. Donald T. DiFrancesco of New Jersey declared a state of emergency, which gave him the power to mobilize the state police, the National Guard and other emergency units.

On the streets around the World Trade Center, witnesses described watching in disbelief as first one tower and then the other appeared to explode, floor by floor, before an avalanche of soot descended. Rescue workers were searching for survivors.

Governor George E. Pataki of New York called the destruction of the World Trade Center "an

attack upon New York, an attack upon America, an attack upon our way of life."

New York City officials called off voting in the primary elections for Democratic and Republican candidates for mayor, City Council and other offices.

For much of the work day, people found it virtually impossible to enter or leave Manhattan.

City officials closed most bridges and tunnels to and from Manhattan.

Pennsylvania Station, a hub for Amtrak's trains in the northeast as well as for commuter trains to Long Island and New Jersey, was closed briefly. It was reopened at 2 p.m., with limited service to Long Island. Grand Central Terminal also shut down briefly. It, too, reopened with limited service on Metro-North commuter trains to Connecticut and to Metro-North.

Some subway lines rolled to a stop because of power problems, officials said, though many were operating again by this afternoon.

Governor Pataki ordered that no fares be collected on the subways or on the Long Island Rail Road or on Metro-North.

Telephone company officials said their systems were jammed with callers, many from frantic people trying to reach relatives and friends who work in or near the World Trade Center after the planes that smashed into the twin towers punched huge, fiery holes in their upper floors.

The crash of the second plane this morning, 18 minutes after the first, was broadcast live by television stations whose helicopters — which usually follow early-morning traffic jams on New York-area roads — had converged in the sky over lower Manhattan after the first crash.

Several witnesses said they saw bodies falling from the twin towers and people jumping out before the first of the buildings collapsed in a roar of rubble and smoke. The other tower fell about half an hour after that.

The number of casualties

could not immediately be determined at the World Trade Center, which was caught up in the usual morning rhythms of office workers taking the long elevator rides to offices hundreds of feet above the ground.

In the hour between when the planes crashed into the two quarter-century-old skyscrapers and when they gave way, the authorities had begun trying to evacuate survivors.

Wall Street shut down soon after the crashes at the World Trade Center, and Mr. Giuliani — whose citywide command center is in one of the smaller buildings adjacent to the twin towers — ordered lower Manhattan evacuated.

Workers were also sent home in Washington, where a two-block area around the White House was closed off. Several Air Force fighter jets were seen flying over the capital as people streamed out of office buildings.

Witnesses described the scene this morning in lower Manhattan as an American Airlines plane gliding past their office buildings. "All of a sudden, it seemed to rev up its engines and accelerate," said Vincent Gardino, an executive at radio station WNYC, whose office is on the 25th floor of the Municipal Building, four blocks from the World Trade Center.

Marc Siegel, another official at WNYC, went to his office in the 24th floor to make a telephone call. While on the phone, he saw the second plane heading for the second tower. "It came in like a missile," he said, "and there was a boom."

American said its flight 11 from Boston was carrying 81 passengers, 9 flight attendants and 2 pilots.

United said its flight 75 from Boston was carrying 56 passengers, 7 flight attendants and 2 pilots.

"We are horrified by these tragic events," said Donald J. Carty, chairman and chief executive of the AMR Corporation, the parent of American Airlines. "Our

thoughts and prayers go out to the families of all involved."

United also said that it was sending a team to Johnstown, Pa., where a United Airlines 757 crashed on the way from Newark to San Francisco. It was carrying 38 passengers, 5 flight attendants and 2 pilots.

In the minutes before the World Trade Center disappeared behind thick clouds of dark smoke, Barbara Geanne Mensch, a photographer who lives next to the Brooklyn Bridge in lower Manhattan, said she heard a rumble like a truck going over the bridge, but louder than usual.

"I ran to the windows and saw the tower on fire," she said. Then she went to the roof of her building. "I saw flames. I knew inside, my visceral reaction was, I am watching people die."

Then the second plane came into view. "It veered to the right and toward the tower, and then there was a ball of flames."

Nicholas Gasper, a city transit employee who was standing on the Brooklyn side of the Brooklyn Bridge, said he watched the second plane "doing a tilt into the building. From what I saw it looked like the plane sliced into the tower." He said the building shook. "I am still shaking," he added minutes later.

Terrance Phillips, who was three or four blocks away, said he was looking at the fire from the first crash when he saw the second plane approaching. "It crashed in and exploded. People were watching and then they started stampeding away."

On the streets of lower Manhattan, people screamed at the sight of the second plane, said Mark N. Vámos, who was just emerging from the subway at Broadway and Wall Street on his way to work. "We all just stood there for a second and realized that tons of debris were about to fall on us." He went back into the subway.

James Wang, a 21-year-old Northwestern University student who was in Manhattan for the Democratic primary, was taking pic-

tures in a park near the World Trade Center when the first tower burst into flames.

When the second tower was hit, "metal and debris and glass started falling," he said. "It was from so high, you could see it slowly falling on you."

Closer to the World Trade Center, Ross Milanytch described seeing "small explosions on each floor."

"And after it all cleared, all that was left of the buildings, you could just see the steel girders in like a triangular sail shape," said Mr. Milanytch, who was in his office on the 22nd floor of a building a couple of blocks away. "The structure was just completely gone."

In the next hour, ambulances and fire trucks raced to lower Manhattan from throughout the city and began carrying injured people to hospitals. At New York University-Downtown Hospital, Kathleen Zichy, the senior vice president for development, said "a great number of patients" came in during the 90 minutes after the first crash. But she said that because of the cloud of rubble from the collapse of the towers, "You can't see six feet ahead of you in the street."

St. Vincent's Hospital set up a treatment unit in the street outside its building in Greenwich Village, and at Bellevue Hospital, 20 patients had been admitted by 11 a.m., including a woman who was pregnant, a hospital official said. The official also said one man had been dead on arrival.

The attacks caused significant disruptions in telephone service in the Northeast. Major telecommunications carriers said that most of the interruptions were caused not by damage but by overloads, as extraordinary numbers of people tried to place calls at once.

In New York, while some local calls went through, many calls to the Wall Street area did not.

Many long-distance calls to points around the nation also failed, as did some calls to wireless phones and pagers.

## Timeline Of Events Surrounding Today's Attacks

- Plane crashes into tower of World Trade Center in lower Manhattan, shortly before 9 a-m Eastern.
- Second plane crashes into the second tower of the World Trade Center, shortly after 9 a-m Eastern.
- President Bush, in Sarasota, Florida, calls the crashes "an apparent terrorist attack" and a "national tragedy."
- An aircraft crashes near Pentagon, just outside of Washington D-C, in Northern Virginia, about 40 minutes after the attacks in New York.
- Government buildings in Washington, including the Capitol and the White House, are evacuated with officials citing a credible threat of a terrorist attack.
- The Federal Aviation Administration shuts down all aircraft takeoffs nationwide.
- Shortly after 10 a-m Eastern, one World Trade Center tower in New York collapses, about an hour after being hit by plane.
- American Airlines says one of the planes that crashed into the Trade Center was American Airlines Flight 11, hijacked after takeoff from Boston en route to Los Angeles.
- Senior law enforcement officials say car bomb explodes outside of State Department in Washington, D-C. Federal protective services later denies car bomb attack occurred.
- Financial markets suspend trading in the wake of the attacks.
- Officials at Somerset County Airport say a large plane crashes in western Pennsylvania, about 80 miles southeast of Pittsburgh, at about 10:00 a-m. United Airlines later confirms the plane was United Flight 93, on its way from Newark, New Jersey, to San Francisco. United also confirms a second plane, Flight 175 crashed in an unknown location on its way from Boston to Los Angeles. The planes had a total of 110 people aboard.
- The second tower of the World Trade Center collapses at 10:28 a-m Eastern.
- Fourth explosion rocks the collapsed remains of the World Trade Center, at about 10:38 a-m.
- Authorities across the country go on alert, tightening security at strategic facilities and evacuating high-profile buildings. U-S monuments and museums in Washington D-C are closed.
- Securities and Exchange Commission says all U-S financial markets are closed for the day.
- American Airlines confirms two planes, carrying a total of 156 people, are "lost".
- A high-ranking New York City police official says the number of people killed or injured could be in the thousands.
- Afghanistan's hard-line Taliban rulers condemn the attacks in New York and Washington, rejecting suggestions that Saudi dissident Osama bin Laden was behind them.
- Shortly after 1 p-m Eastern, President Bush vows to do "whatever is necessary" to keep Americans safe, blaming "a faceless coward" for this morning's attacks.

## Professors . . . from pg 1

ering symbols of America. "The great edifices that represent American economic power (the World Trade Center) and military power (the Pentagon) have been shown as vulnerable to devastating attack. If unnamed opponents of the American way of life can penetrate these symbols of American power, clearly we are vulnerable in other ways as well," declares Dr. Motte. Once again, susceptibility is a dominant issue in the minds of most people... for

everyone, not restricted to Americans.

As a professor of geography, Dr. Motte can't help but think globally. "After the anger has subsided we must ultimately remember that we are members of a global community. All nations must condemn these kind of acts and we must all find ways to move forward," he notes positively. Of course, moving forward will take a large amount of time and effort. For the time being, people will continue to be blanketed with coverage of the attacks; the current news will dominate both classrooms and conversations across the country and the world.



© Shannon Stapleton/Reuters  
People walk away from the World Trade Center tower in New York City early September 11, 2001. Both towers were hit by planes crashing into the building. Three hijacked planes crashed into U.S. landmarks on Tuesday, destroying both of New York's mighty twin towers and plunging the Pentagon in Washington into flames in an unprecedented assault on key symbols of U.S.



Images from the disaster on Tuesday, Sept. 11, 2001



# DEBRIEFING SESSIONS

FOR

ANYONE IN THE RIC COMMUNITY  
WHO WANTS TO TALK ABOUT THEIR  
REACTIONS TO TUESDAY'S TRAGIC  
EVENTS WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE

COUNSELING CENTER,  
CRAIG-LEE 130, AND  
THE CHAPLAIN'S OFFICE,  
SUB 300,

ON Wednesday AND Thursday  
BETWEEN 2 AND 4 PM.





# roving reporter

By J.D. Salisbury

## How do you feel about the terrorist attack and what do you think America should do about it?

Jennifer Lena  
Elementary Ed  
Freshman

"Um, I think it's scary, because now everyone has this nuclear technology and if there is a war, everybody could just destroy everybody... You don't know what's going to happen and what kind of action America's going to take... I think we can't let this go unnoticed or anything. We have to do something, but I hope we don't have to... I know this is going to war or something, but I hope it doesn't get to the point that everybody destroys everybody."



Latrishia Plante  
Elementary Ed/ Special Ed  
Fourth Year

"I think it's devastating. It seems unreal and American should definitely retaliate."



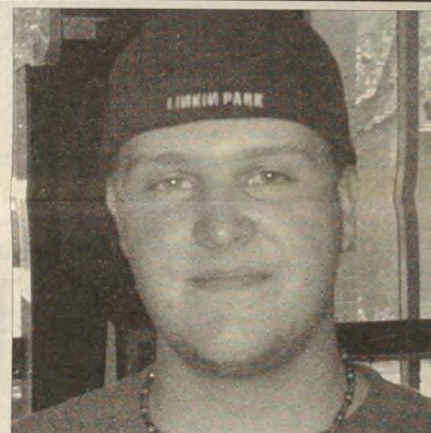
Val Sidla  
French Secondary Ed  
Junior

"I'm kind of sickened by the whole situation. I have no idea what we should do, because I'm not quite up on what's going on and everything, but I just like... it makes me mad, like... I don't know. It makes me so sad..."



Michelle Wilkicki  
Elementary Ed  
Sophomore

"I was actually surprised. I thought it was a scene out of something like a... geez... some kind of movie you know. I didn't believe it when I first saw it... I really think that America should retaliate, find out who it is. This isn't right. I don't want to bomb them, but you know..."



Jeff Cabral, Geography, Senior

"It's really, just like, a disgrace almost... It's kinda sad that it's come to this in the world where there's just violence like that... A lot of innocent people were involved in this and you kinda feel for the families themselves. Sadly, there isn't much that could probable be done right now until we find out who's involved... You just can't go blaming somebody and bombing something because it's gonna cause even more trouble..."



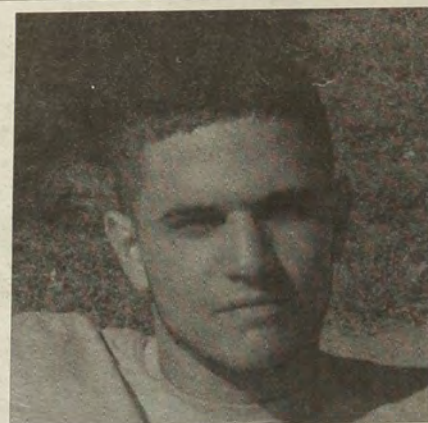
Suzanne Studley, Psychology, Freshman

"First of all, you don't even know it's a terrorist attack, so don't go making assumptions... Okay, until it's proven terrorists, I'm not going to believe it's terrorists. You want to know why? Because there's a shitload of other organizations out there that are not terrorists that are just as much motivated... I think that everyone should just get along, that's what I think... if they don't like what's going on, voice their opinion. There are so many different, creative ways of expressing yourself, rather than killing 50,000 people in one building, 50,000 people in another building, and God knows how many other people on the planes."



Rose Paola, Undecided, Sophomore

"It actually came as a shock to me. How do I feel about it? Hummmm... I really don't know. It's kind of undecided... it's vague and distant. It hasn't hit home yet. The only thing I'm really worried about is four friends of mine and family that are in the service right now. I think America should... I wouldn't say war, but maybe something. First of all, find out who it is and then finding a way of neutralizing it, but I think war's a little serious now and it's kind of scary."



Jeffrey Fogarty, Undecided, Freshman

"I think they should send in all their planes and just attack whoever... I'm pretty upset about it. We should attack whoever did this... Mess them up... Just get in there and do their job. Let the President do what he has to do."