

29 PAGES
OF TERROR
COVERAGE
INSIDE

The Detroit News

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Metro Edition

"These acts shattered steel, but they cannot dent the steel of American resolve."
President George W. Bush



Terror Sweeps U.S.

"It's shocking to think human life is so cheap to these people."
Andrew Gray, rescue worker in New York City



Stuart Ramson / Associated Press
The Statue of Liberty is backshadowed by smoke billowing from the World Trade Center.



Ernesto Mora / Associated Press
Shock and grief swept New York after the attack.



Tom Horan / Associated Press
The Pentagon in Washington, D.C., burns after another hijacked jetliner plowed into it.

AMERICA SAVAGED, FOREVER CHANGED

Hijacked airliners devastate World Trade Center, Pentagon

Bush praises America's resolve, vows retaliation against 'evil acts'

Americans face uncertainty as terrorism changes landscape

Essay

Nation reels in new face of war

By Ron French
The Detroit News

More than the New York skyline changed Tuesday. When hijacked airliners crashed into our national psyche, the American landscape changed forever.

In one cruel morning, any notion of America being invincible was buried in the rubble. And the morning after, we awoke to an America with a shattered sense of security, a people bound together by grief, anger and resolve.

In the smoke and the flames, we saw a future less certain, less safe, than any this generation has known.

It was made-for-TV terror, death brought live into the kitchens and offices of a stunned nation. Thousands may have lost their lives, and millions may have lost their way.

"I don't know how to cope with this," said Vincent Sciarino, manager of Westborn Market in Berkley.

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Shawn Baldwin / Associated Press

New York firefighters wade through the rubble of the World Trade Center after two airliners crashed into the twin towers Tuesday morning, bringing down the landmark buildings and killing yet-unreported numbers of people.

Detroit News wire services

NEW YORK

The most devastating terrorist attack ever waged against the United States struck at the heart of government and financial capitals Tuesday as hijacked commercial jets plowed into the twin World Trade Center towers in New York and the Pentagon outside Washington.

"We have been attacked like we haven't since Pearl Harbor," said Adm. Robert J. Natter, commander of the U.S. Atlantic Fleet. Establishing the death toll could take weeks, but it is expected that casualties will be in the thousands. There were reports that six people had been rescued overnight.

President Bush condemned the attacks in an Oval Office address to the nation Tuesday night, vowing to "find those responsible and bring them to justice." Bush said the United States would retaliate against "those behind these evil acts," and any country that harbors them.

Seeking to comfort an anxious nation, he said, "These acts shattered steel, but they cannot dent the steel of American resolve."

U.S. officials began piecing together a case linking Islamic fundamentalist Osama bin Laden to the attack. They were helped by an intercept of communications between his supporters and harrowing cell phone calls from victims aboard the jetliners before they crashed. Today, bin Laden congratulated

the people who carried out the attacks, but denied any involvement. Utah Sen. Orrin Hatch, the top Republican on the Senate Judiciary Committee, said U.S. intelligence has intercepted communications between bin Laden supporters discussing the attacks on the World Trade Center and Pentagon.

And at least one flight attendant and two passengers called from three of the planes as they were being forced down in New York and Washington — each describing similar circumstances.

The callers, including Barbara Olson, the wife of U.S. Solicitor General Theodore Olson, indicated hijackers armed with knife-like weapons, in some cases stabbing flight attendants, took control of the planes and were forcing them down toward the ground.

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 was not responsible. Bin Laden has been granted asylum in Afghanistan.

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Gulnara Samiolava / Associated Press
A woman gets help after the attack on New York.

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