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CARMEN TAYLOR/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A jet airliner on Tuesday flies toward the south tower of the World Trade Center in New York moments before impact.

# Terror strike

THOUSANDS FEARED DEAD AS  
 WORLD TRADE CENTER DESTROYED

PLANE HITS PENTAGON, KILLS HUNDREDS

*Whole nation  
 was witness  
 to devastation*

By DAVID CRARY  
 and JERRY SCHWARTZ

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

**NEW YORK** — In the most devastating terrorist onslaught ever waged against the United States, knife-wielding hijackers crashed two airliners into the World Trade Center on Tuesday, 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 Tuesday night. He said thousands of lives were "suddenly ended by evil, despicable acts of terror."

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

Establishing the U.S. death toll could take weeks. The four airliners alone had 266 people aboard and there were no known survivors. Officials put the number of dead and wounded at the Pentagon at about 100 or more, with some news reports suggesting it could rise to 800.

In addition, a union official said he feared 300 firefighters who first reached the scene had died in rescue efforts at the trade center — where

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CARMEN TAYLOR/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A fireball explodes from the south tower of the World Trade Center after a jet airliner crashed into the building Tuesday in New York.

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

PRESIDENT BUSH

*Scope of horror  
 stuns tourists,  
 Las Vegans*

By PETER O'CONNELL

REVIEW-JOURNAL

Harrowing footage of terrorists toppling the World Trade Center delivered a psychic jolt reminiscent of the nation's greatest calamities.

"The last time I felt this was when John F. Kennedy was shot in Dallas," tourist Arlene Dubay of New York said of the nausea that stole over her as she watched the nation's deadliest terrorist act on television from her room at Terrible's Hotel and Casino.

Las Vegas Clifton Dohrmann, who survived the December 1941 Japanese sneak attack on Pearl Harbor, said the number of casualties, and the decision to target civilians, made this the most vile act in living memory. "It's the ugliest thing I've ever witnessed, including Pearl Harbor," the 79-year-old Dohrmann said.

And Las Vegas resident Peggy Broxterman, whose son Paul was among the 168 people who perished in the April 1995 bombing of the Alfred P. Murrah Federal Building in Oklahoma City, said the assault dwarfed the atrocities of Timothy McVeigh.

"Oklahoma is nothing compared to this, really," she said.

Law enforcement authorities said no evidence existed that Southern Nevada ever played a role in the terrorists' plans. But the effect of the

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**MORE COVERAGE ON PAGES 2A-6A, SPECIAL NEWSLINE SECTION, NEVADA, SPORTS, BUSINESS**

**NEW YORK:** Flaming rubble turns Manhattan into a war zone  
**WASHINGTON:** Government grinds to halt; U.S. forces put on highest alert  
**SHANKSVILLE, Pa.:** Hijacked airliner crashes with 45 aboard  
**AT HOME:** McCarran shut down; Hoover Dam closes



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