



# COLBY FREE PRESS

## In New York, Washington

# Attacks shake nation, world

NEW YORK (AP) - In a horrific sequence of destruction, terrorists hijacked two airliners and crashed them into the World Trade Center in a coordinated series of attacks Tuesday morning that brought down the twin 110-story towers. An aircraft also crashed at the Pentagon, raising fears that the seat of government itself was under attack.

The mid-morning attacks left the United States, and the rest of the world, in stunned disbelief.

"I have a sense it's a horrendous number of lives lost," Mayor Rudolph Giuliani said, as America pondered its death toll.

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

"This is perhaps the most audacious terrorist attack that's ever taken place in the world," said Chris Yates, an aviation expert at Jane's Transport in London.

"It takes a logistics operation from the terror group involved that is second to none. Only a very small handful of terror groups is on that list. ... I would name at the top of the list Osama bin Laden."

President Bush ordered a full-scale investigation.

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, the airline said. American Airlines issued a statement saying it had "lost" two aircraft — Flight 11, with 92 people aboard, and Flight 77 from Washington to Los Angeles, carrying 64 people.

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

The fate of those aboard was not immediately known and it was not clear if the crash was related to the disasters elsewhere. In a statement, the airline also said it was deeply concerned about another plane, Flight 175, a Boeing 767 bound from Boston to Los Angeles.

Authorities went on alert from coast to coast, halting all air traffic, evacuating high-profile buildings and tightening security at strategic installations. The Situation Room at the White House was in full operation.

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

"I just saw the building I work in

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

Sen. Chuck Hagel  
R-Nebraska

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

Nearby a crowd mobbed a man on a pay phone, screaming at him to get off the phone so that they could call relatives.

Dust and dirt flew everywhere. Ash was 2 to 3 inches deep in places. People wandered dazed and terrified.

The Pentagon took a direct, devastating hit from an aircraft and the enduring symbols of American power were evacuated today as an apparent terrorist attack quickly spread fear and chaos in the nation's capital.

The nerve center of the nation's military burst into flames and a portion of one side of the five-sided structure collapsed when the plane struck in midmorning.

Secondary explosions were reported in the aftermath of the attack and great billows of smoke drifted skyward toward the Potomac River and the city beyond.

Authorities immediately began deploying troops, including a regiment of light infantry.

"Terrorism against our nation will not stand," vowed President Bush, in Florida on a morning when not only Washington was struck, but the twin towers of the World Trade Center in New York were hit by planes and later collapsed.

There was no attempt to minimize the impact.

"This is the second Pearl Harbor. I don't think that I overstate it," said Sen. Chuck Hagel, R-Neb., referring to the attack 60 years ago that surprised the nation and propelled it into World War II.

With Bush in Florida, his advisers were preparing a list of options, including closing the nation's borders, according to a senior U.S. official.

The source, who spoke on condition of anonymity, said it was premature to discuss military options because investigators were still trying to determine who was responsible for the attacks.

Away from the Pentagon, unexplained explosions were reported in the vicinity of the State Department and the Capitol. Agents with automatic weapons patrolled the White House



Courtesy of Associated Press

**TOP LEFT:** Workers fleeing collapse of one of the World Trade Center buildings early this morning. **AT LEFT:** The map shows the World Trade Center in relation to other areas of New York. **ABOVE:** At 8:48 a.m. (EDT) the first of two of the World Trade Center buildings was hit when hijacked airplanes smashed into the buildings. The second hit was about 18 minutes later. Earlier today, one terrorist group, Osama bin Laden, was among the top suspects in the attack.

grounds.

The departments of Justice, State, Treasury and Defense and the Central Intelligence Agency were evacuated — an estimated 20,000 at the Pentagon alone.

One lawmaker said the congressional leadership had been hustled away to safety.

And the FAA ordered the entire nationwide air traffic system shut down.

A torrent of people rushed from their office buildings throughout the na-

tion's capital, eager to leave a city under siege.

The cell phone networks were overloaded, clusters of people sprayed on the sidewalks and at least one suburban school district announced plans to close early.

The Pentagon was hit a short while after the World Trade Center was struck.

Paul Begala, a Democratic consultant, said he witnessed an explosion near the Pentagon, saying it sent a

huge, orange fireball skyward.

AP reporter Dave Winslow also saw the crash. He said, "I saw the tail of a large airliner. ... It plowed right into the Pentagon."

Gen. Richard Myers, vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said that prior to the crash into the Pentagon, military officials had been notified that another hijacked plane had been heading from the New York area to Washington. He said he assumed that hijacked plane was the one that hit the

Pentagon, though he couldn't be sure.

One of two planes that crashed into the World Trade Center was hijacked after takeoff from Boston, a U.S. official said, citing a transmission from the plane.

The second plane may have flown out of Newark, N.J., the official said, speaking on condition of anonymity.

Asked if there was any possibility the crashes were anything other than deliberate, the official said it appeared not to be an accident, the official said.

## State government reacts to terrorist attacks by tightening security

TOPEKA (AP) - State officials were moving quickly today to increase security around the Statehouse and Gov. Bill Graves after the deadly attacks the World Trade Center.

The state limited access to the Capitol and its office buildings in Topeka, requiring visitors to enter through only one entrance.

Joyce Glasscock, secretary of administration, said the Statehouse security detail, normally one Kansas Highway Patrol officer, had been increased to four officers. She ordered security increased despite a lack of threats to

the building. "I'd rather be safe," she said.

Graves was in Wichita, attending the Midwest U.S.-Japan Trade Conference, but he was grounded after all air traffic in the nation was halted.

Glasscock said she was in contact with the Kansas Highway Patrol to put additional security near the governor.

Graves was expected to travel later in the day to Hutchinson for the Kansas State Fair. However, spokesman Don Brown said the governor and his staff would discuss whether he would

cancel. Glasscock said: "My concern is the governor first and the state employees."

She said she asked to be notified of any security threats to the Statehouse and whether additional measures need to be taken. There have been no threats, she said.

Joy Moser, spokeswoman for the state adjutant general's office, said the state had moved its threat condition to "bravo" and additional security people were called in.

One commercial aircraft had landed in Salina, Moser said, and officials were looking

for places to house the passengers.

The adjutant general's office oversees the state's emergency management and the National Guard. "We're wearing both hats right now," Moser said.

Additional guards were placed at the two public entrances at the Finney State Office Building in Wichita. Employees at state buildings leased from private owners were told to contact their landlords about increasing security measures, Glasscock's agency said.

Despite the heightened security, two legis-

lative committees met in the Statehouse, while the State Board of Education met two blocks east. Morning classes were canceled at Washburn University in Topeka. The status of classes at other state universities was not immediately known.

A spokesman for the U.S. Marshals Service in Topeka declined to comment on what security measures have been taken at federal buildings in the state. The spokesman also would not comment if any threats have been made to federal buildings in the state.

## Briefly

### Weather: Heat to linger

Warm weather is expected to continue through at least Thursday in the Colby region, with little, if any precipitation anticipated. Tonight look for clear skies, lows in the middle 50s and light and variable winds. Wednesday, mostly sunny, highs up to 90 and southeast winds 10-20 mph. Wednesday night, partly cloudy with lows 55-60 and Thursday, partly sunny with highs up to 90. Monday's high in Colby was 86 and the overnight low this morning was a comfortable 48, climbing to 55 by 8 a.m. Precipitation remains at 0.72 inches for the month to date. The soil temperature at the four-inch depth is averaging 66 degrees. The records for Sept. 11: 106 in 1911 and 36 in 1894. (The daily temperatures, precipitation and records are provided by the Northwest Kansas Research-Extension Center, Colby.)

### College pool reopens

The Colby Community College swimming pool has reopened. The schedule: lap swimming, Monday-Friday, 5 a.m.-7 a.m., 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.; open swim, Monday-Thursday, 4-8 p.m., Friday: 4-6 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday, 1-5 p.m.

### Chamber tourney scheduled

The 8th annual Colby/Thomas County Chamber of Commerce golf tournament is scheduled for Thursday, Sept. 27. Registration begins at 11:30 a.m. with a shotgun tee off at 12:30 at the Colby Country Club. The format is a four-person scramble and is open to all interested golfers. The registration fee is \$50 and includes dinner and door prizes. Cash prizes will be awarded to top teams in each flight. For more

information or to register contact the chamber at 462-3401.

### Homecoming parade set

REXFORD — Golden Plains High School will hold its homecoming parade at 3 p.m., Friday, Sept. 14, in downtown Rexford. Any businesses, groups or individuals wanting to join the festivities can do so by either watching or participating, said Kathi Hapke, co-organizer. To enter in the parade, call her at (785) 687-3340.

### Coorections board to meet

HILL CITY — The Governing Board of Northwest Kansas Community Corrections will meet on Thursday, Sept. 13, at 4 p.m. in the basement of the First State Bank Building, corner of North Pomeroy & East Cherry, Hill City. This

meeting is open to the public, according to Karen Schenkel, administrative assistant.

### Conference planned in Colby

"Value Added Communities" is the theme of the Tri-State Initiative Conference for Economic Development planned on Wednesday and Thursday, Sept. 12-13 in Colby. The primary conference will be held Thursday at Colby Community College Student Union beginning with registration at 8 a.m. Anyone interested in economic development is invited and need not be a member of the initiative to attend, said Leilani Thomas, Colby Convention and Visitors Bureau. For information or a conference brochure, stop by the Colby Convention and Visitors Bureau, 350 S Range #10, Colby, Kan., or call 785-462-7643.

