

Silence, grief and pride fill ceremony at ground zero

New York (AP)— At ground zero, the names took precedence, 2,801 of them read aloud, from Gordon Aamoth Jr. to Igor Zukelman. Patriotic resolve held sway at the Pentagon. And in a field near Shanksville, Pa., grief was partially offset by pride.

At each of the three sites, and in communities across the nation and world Wednesday, Americans and their allies relived the staggering events of one year ago and remembered those who died.

"They were our neighbors, our husbands, our children, our sisters, our brothers and our wives. They were our countrymen and our friends. They were us," New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg told grieving families at the site of the World Trade Center.

New York's roll call of the dead and missing began after a moment of silence at 8:46 a.m. EDT, the time when the first terrorist-piloted plane struck the trade center. It took 2 1/2 hours — 50 minutes longer than planned — for 197 readers to complete the list of names.

While wistful cello music accompanied the ground zero ceremony, a booming rendition of the national anthem set the tone for commemorations at the Pentagon, where 184 people died when American Flight 77 smashed into the building.

"Though they died in tragedy, they did not die in vain," declared President Bush, a fist clenched for emphasis. "As long as terrorists and dictators plot against our lives and our liberty, they will be opposed by the United States Army, Navy, Coast Guard, Air Force and Marines!"

After the Pentagon ceremony, Bush flew to southwest Pennsylvania to join commemorations for the 40 people killed when United Flight 93 crashed in a field near Shanksville. The passengers and crew were hailed by Homeland Security Director Tom Ridge as heroic "citizen-soldiers" for struggling to take back their hijacked plane and avert a possible attack on the Capitol or White House.

"If we learn nothing else from this tragedy, we learn that life is short and there is no time for hate," said Sandy Dahl, the wife of Flight 93 pilot Jason Dahl.

Bush laid a wreath in Shanksville, then another at ground zero after an afternoon flight to New York. Carrying the badge of a fallen Port Authority police officer, the president and First Lady Laura Bush lingered at the site, greeting and comforting relatives of Sept. 11 victims.

Their losses were at the core of the speech to the nation Bush was to give later Wednesday from Ellis Island, with the Statue of Liberty as a backdrop.

"For those who lost loved ones, it has been a year of sorrow, of empty places, of newborn children who will never know their fathers here on earth," Bush said in his prepared remarks.

"For all Americans, it has been a year of adjustment — of coming to terms with the difficult knowledge that our nation has determined enemies, and that we are not invulnerable to their attacks."

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—Michael Bloomberg
New York Mayor

Far from the sites where the hijacked planes crashed, Americans and well-wishers from other nations found myriad ways to observe the anniversary. In addition to repeated moments of silence, church bells tolled, sirens sounded, musicians performed, and religious leaders groped to find words suitable to the occasion.

"No situation of hurt, no philosophy or religion can ever justify such a grave offense on human life and dignity," Pope John Paul II said at the Vatican. He exhorted the world

to heal injustices that cause explosive hatreds.

Among the many places to accommodate memorial services were U.S. military bases in Afghanistan.

"There isn't a place I'd rather be or a job I'd rather be doing," said Lt. Col. Tim Strasburger, an Air Force pilot on duty in Kandahar.

At London's St. Paul's Cathedral, 3,000 white rose petals fluttered down from the dome — one for each victim who died in the attacks. In Paris, two powerful beams of light were projected into the sky. In Pisa, Italy, a white banner placed by the Leaning Tower read: "From the tower to the towers. Sept. 11, 2002. Memory, solidarity and peace."

At the United Nations, Secretary-General Kofi Annan presided over an international memorial service.

"More than 90 nations lost sons and daughters of their own — murdered that day, for no other reason than they had chosen to live in this country," he said. "Today, we come together as a world community because we were attacked as a world community."

Many Americans went to work or to school, but it was far from business as usual. Telemarketers cut back on their phone calls, politicians kept their campaign ads off the air, some dealers at a casino in Reno, Nev., even held their cards for a moment in a gesture of respect.

In New Hampshire, trees were planted outside the post offices in the seven towns where Sept. 11 victims had lived. And at E.D. Nixon Elementary School in Montgomery, Ala., sixth-graders baked cookies for local firefighters.

Though the government had raised the terror alert to its second highest level, based on new information of possible strikes, no serious incidents were reported.

Though federal officials told Americans to go ahead with their plans for the day, many Americans were apprehensive about boarding airplanes. A spokeswoman at Atlanta's Hartsfield International Airport, one of the country's busiest, estimated that passenger traffic was down by more than 50 percent.

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Texas A&M Hillel Services for Rosh Ha'Shannah and Yom Kippur

Sunday, Sept. 15th
Kol Nidre Services at 8:00 p.m.

Monday, Sept. 16th
Yom Kippur Services start at 10:00 a.m.
Yizkor about 5:30

Break-the-Fast after sundown at the conclusion of the Neilah and Havdalah

All holiday events are free of charge and occur at Hillel, located across from campus at 800 George Bush, C.S. Please contact Hillel for more information at telephone # 696-7243 or e-mail us at: <Hillel@startel.net>
Names for Yizkor must be received in the office by Sept. 12, 2002

NEWS IN BRIEF

Building evacuated after man says he is installing a bomb

COLUMBUS, Ohio (AP) — A 41-story state office tower that houses the Ohio Supreme Court was evacuated for about two hours Wednesday after dogs detected a scent of explosives and a man told a state worker, "I'm here to install a bomb," the State Highway Patrol said.

No explosives were found at the James A. Rhodes State Office Tower.

Patrol Lt. Col. Paul McClellan said the scent of material that can be used to make a bomb was detected in a van parked at a loading dock in the rear of the building, which is across the street from the Statehouse. Authorities had not identified the material.

The van driver was taken into custody and charged with inducing panic.

McClellan said a state employee saw a man who looked out of place on the 28th floor, which houses personnel offices, and asked him what he was doing. The man said he was there to "install a bomb," McClellan said.

Fisherman infects 22 with tuberculosis

BAYOU LA BATRE, Ala. (AP) — A shrimp fisherman whose tuberculosis went untreated for months infected at least 22 other people, officials said.

The 31-year-old man, whose name was not released, had laryngeal tuberculosis, one of the most infectious forms because it can be transmitted during normal speech, not just sneezing or coughing, said Joseph Jablecki, program manager for TB control in Mobile County.

The man had the disease for nearly eight months and his weight had fallen from 145 to 95 pounds when he was flown to a New Orleans hospital at the end of July.

Of 86 people tested, 22 have tested positive so far and were being given medication. While they had the infection, they had not developed the full-blown disease. Test results of some other people were pending.

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