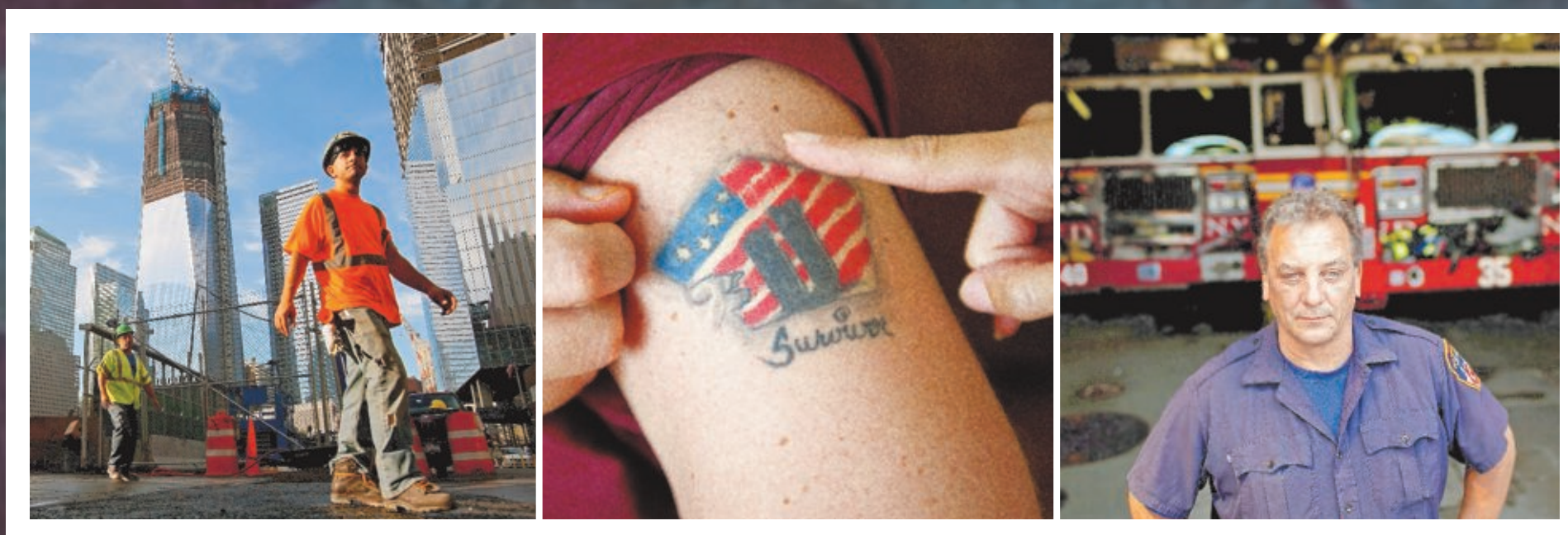


2001



SEPTEMBER 11  
10 YEARS LATER



2011

“IT IS MY HOPE THAT IN THE MONTHS AND YEARS AHEAD, LIFE WILL RETURN ALMOST TO NORMAL. WE’LL GO BACK TO OUR LIVES AND ROUTINES, AND THAT IS GOOD. EVEN GRIEF RECEDES WITH TIME AND GRACE. BUT OUR RESOLVE MUST NOT PASS. EACH OF US WILL REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED THAT DAY, AND TO WHOM IT HAPPENED. WE’LL REMEMBER THE MOMENT THE NEWS CAME – WHERE WE WERE AND WHAT WE WERE DOING. SOME WILL REMEMBER AN IMAGE OF A FIRE, OR A STORY OF RESCUE. SOME WILL CARRY MEMORIES OF A FACE AND A VOICE GONE FOREVER.”

PRESIDENT GEORGE W. BUSH  
IN ADDRESS TO CONGRESS ON SEPT. 20, 2001

On the cover:



THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Firefighters inspect the roof of the Pentagon on Sept. 12, 2001, the day after terrorists attacked the south side of the building.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

Chief of Staff Andrew Card whispers into the ear of President Bush to let him know that a plane crashed into the World Trade Center.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

People run for their lives from a cloud of debris from the collapse of a World Trade Center tower in New York City.



ANDREW HARNIK/THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Construction workers toil at 1 World Trade Center at the ground zero site in New York City on Sept. 1.



ANDREW HARNIK/THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Danny Pfielstucker shows off his tattoo at his home in Duncansville, Pa. He talked about his memories of the Sept. 11 attack on the Pentagon.



ANDREW HARNIK/THE WASHINGTON TIMES

New York Fire Department firefighter Mike Kotula recalls those lost in the terrorist attacks 10 years ago.

Inside

**Perpetual security:** Expanded response to attacks will not shrink despite al Qaeda's decline, budget pressures. E4

**Everyday reminder:** New York firefighters struggle to distance themselves from twin towers disaster. E6

**Change in war:** Attacks jolted armed forces into new era of combat eschewing heavy armor and big bombers. E8

**Obligation to serve:** Spike in patriotism after attacks did not lead to increase enlistments. E9

**Life-saving change:** Capitals' Boudreau originally scheduled to be on flight that crashed into tower. E10

**Opinion:** World stability depends on American might; Unshakable America E11

**Sharing faith:** Attacks created hate of U.S. Muslims, but forced many to communicate their faith. E12

**AWOL Hollywood:** Fear factor cited to unwillingness to emulate example of World War II in films. E12

"I just saw my two towers fall. I'm devastated beyond belief. In many respects this is significantly worse than Pearl Harbor, and we don't know who the enemy is."

— Lewis Eisenberg, chairman of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey



# HOLE IN HEART OF NEW YORK

At ground zero, the wounds of 9/11 have only recently started to heal



By Mike Harris

THE WASHINGTON TIMES

**NEW YORK** | From a corner office on the 43rd floor at 2 World Financial Center in Lower Manhattan, Matthew Rosenstein and his colleagues at Globe-Cast America have a view that is simply breathtaking.

On a clear day, you indeed can see forever.

Off to the right, the Statue of Liberty rises out of the Hudson River. To the left, you can see much of Manhattan. Straight ahead is the South Street Seaport, where Mr. Rosenstein lives.

Just below? Ground zero. Today, 10 years after the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center, ground zero is a jumble.

There are devastating reminders of what took place Sept. 11, 2001, the most prominent being the holes where the original towers once stood. There are signs of progress with construction and new towers starting to spring up. And there remains a stream of tourists, trying to get a glimpse of the place that changed forever on a similarly picturesque day a decade ago.

"I'm an optimist, and I do think this whole area is going to be a vibrant, exciting place to be in a few years," said Mr. Rosenstein, 32, a native New Yorker. "Already there are more residents here than there were a few years ago. When all these buildings go up and they have tenants and there's more commerce, it will be a good thing."

"All these things in the long term will be worth the wait. It is hard in the moment to appreciate what hasn't come to pass."

Mr. Rosenstein has no financial stake in anything that happens at the World Trade Center site. He's merely a resident of and employee in Lower Manhattan who, like many New Yorkers, was deeply affected by what happened Sept. 11. He's anxious to see the site come to life again while at the same time paying proper respect to the gravity of that day's events.

And while the project has taken a while to get going and won't be completed for another five years, according to the plans, it looks like the new structures will do just that.

The view Mr. Rosenstein and colleagues enjoy can be shared by anyone with an Internet connection. Go to [www.rebuildgroundzero.org](http://www.rebuildgroundzero.org) — there's a webcam in the corner office that Mr. Rosenstein helps maintain.

"We realized we had such a unique vantage point," Mr. Rosenstein said. "There were visitors coming here every day who just wanted to see the view. A



PHOTOGRAPHS BY ANDREW HARNIK/THE WASHINGTON TIMES

While some come to ground zero in Lower Manhattan to observe the progress on 1 World Trade Center from the nearby World Financial Center, tourists Eliza Grimond (center) and Liz Lyon (left), who traveled from England, look at the photos and dedications left to honor those who died Sept. 11, 2001.

“I’m going to die, aren’t I?  
Please God, it’s so hot, I’m burning up.”

— Melissa Doi on the telephone with a 911 operator from the 83rd floor of the south tower



From the nearby World Financial Center, one can see ground zero and the cavities left in Lower Manhattan by the towers destroyed Sept. 11, 2001. Construction workers are making progress on 1 World Trade Center, the largest of four towers planned as part of the \$18.7 billion ground zero project.

man who was working here thought it would be a good idea to share the view, not for any commercial purpose but just to share with the world the vantage point we have.”

The entire project, which is being handled by several different companies, will have an estimated \$18.7 billion cost for construction and development. It will include four towers, on the perimeter of the site. The interior will feature the National September 11 Memorial & Museum.

Cavities left from the original towers have been filled in and will serve as memorials. There will be 30-foot waterfalls flowing into the cavities, and the names of those killed at the site will be listed around the pools.

“It does seem like a complete plan,” Mr. Rosenstein said. “It seems that they have thought of an ambitious plan. If they are able to get the commercial and residential tenants down here, it will be a vibrant area of activity.”

Not that there haven’t been frustrations and delays along the way. Why the 10-year anniversary of the attacks is here without a finished project puzzles some. The largest tower (and one that is furthest along in construction) was going to be called Freedom Tower. That’s since been changed to 1 World Trade Center.

“All of Lower Manhattan feels like an enormous construction site, still,” Mr. Rosenstein said. “There are a lot of ambitious projects, but all of that takes time. Having to walk in and around and above construction sites all day long has quite an impact. Sometimes, I get tired of hearing jackhammers.”

“I can just speak as an individual that at times, it has been frustrating with the different slow-ups that have happened over the years. Even in the months after 9/11, no one thought it would take 10 years before we had a permanent memorial and museum, before this wound in Lower Manhattan would start to heal.”

Robert Ostrofsky, a New York firefighter, doesn’t disagree: “I hate to be a Monday morning quarterback, but I think the stat is they built the original Yankee Stadium in 210 days back in the day. It was a very short time, less than a year.”

“So 10 years later and what have we got? It’s a little bit of a disgrace, a little bit of a, I don’t know, sometimes our priorities in this country are really screwed up.”

Said Paul Hurley, who owns several restaurants in Manhattan: “Ten years is too long. It should have been rebuilt in two, three years. Stand up, rebuild. By the 20th anniversary, maybe it will all be rebuilt.”

## REMEMBERING THE VICTIMS

A decade after the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11, 2001, tributes to those who perished have taken the shape of impressive memorials at the former World Trade Center site, outside the Pentagon and at the crash site near Shanksville, Pa.

### 9/11 Memorial and Museum

WTC site, New York City

**8:46 a.m.** American Airlines Flight 11, from Boston, hits North Tower  
**10:28 a.m.** Tower collapses

**9:03 a.m.** United Airlines Flight 175, from Boston, hits South Tower  
**9:59 a.m.** Tower collapses

**1** **Pools**  
Waterfalls around inner sides are positioned in footprints of former towers; each pool holds 480,000 gallons of water

**2** **Tridents**  
Inside the pavilion atrium, two distinctive exterior columns from the old towers will serve as reminders of the huge scale of the fallen buildings

**Underground features**  
**Victims remembrance**  
“Wall of Faces” displays photos of victims from 1993 and 2001 attacks; interactive tables and wall displays  
**Last column, slurry wall**  
In the underground area are exposed sections of the site’s old containment wall and the last original steel column removed from the site by construction crews

**Victims’ names**  
• Names of victims killed in the 9/11 attacks and in the 1993 garage attack are inscribed in pediments around perimeter of both pools  
• Names in the first responders’ section, around the southwest corner of the South Tower pool, are arranged according to agency and unit

• Total budget **about \$530 million** • Dedication **Sept. 11, 2011**

### Pentagon Memorial

Arlington

**1.9 acre memorial site**  
Path of airliner that hit Pentagon’s southwest wedge

**Getting there**  
• Parking at Pentagon City Mall, 1/3 mile away  
• Pentagon Metro station

**Design**  
• Park with 184 benches, each standing over a small lighted pool of water, honors those who died; age of victims reflected in design

**Raised benches**  
125 face inward  
People who died in the Pentagon

59 face outward  
Victims who died on American Airlines Flight 77

**Water**  
**Lights under water**  
**Name inscribed on edge of each bench**

**9:37 a.m.** American Airlines Flight 77, from Washington Dulles International Airport crashes into Pentagon  
**10:10 a.m.** Section collapses

• Total cost **\$22 million** • Dedicated **Sept. 11, 2008**

### Flight 93 National Memorial

Somerset County, Pa.

**10:03 a.m.** United Airlines Flight 93, from Newark, N.J., crashes near Shanksville, Pa.

**1** **Tower of voices**  
Tower contains 40 wind chimes at main entrance, visible from highway  
• Cost **\$60 million**  
• Funds raised so far **\$52 million**  
• Dedication **Sept. 10-11, 2011**

**2** **Entry portal**  
Black slate walkway marks Flight 93’s path toward crash site in distance; defined by high concrete walls on each side

**3** **Memorial groves**  
Forty groves of trees planted around bowl each contain 40 red and sugar maple trees; pedestrian trails run through groves

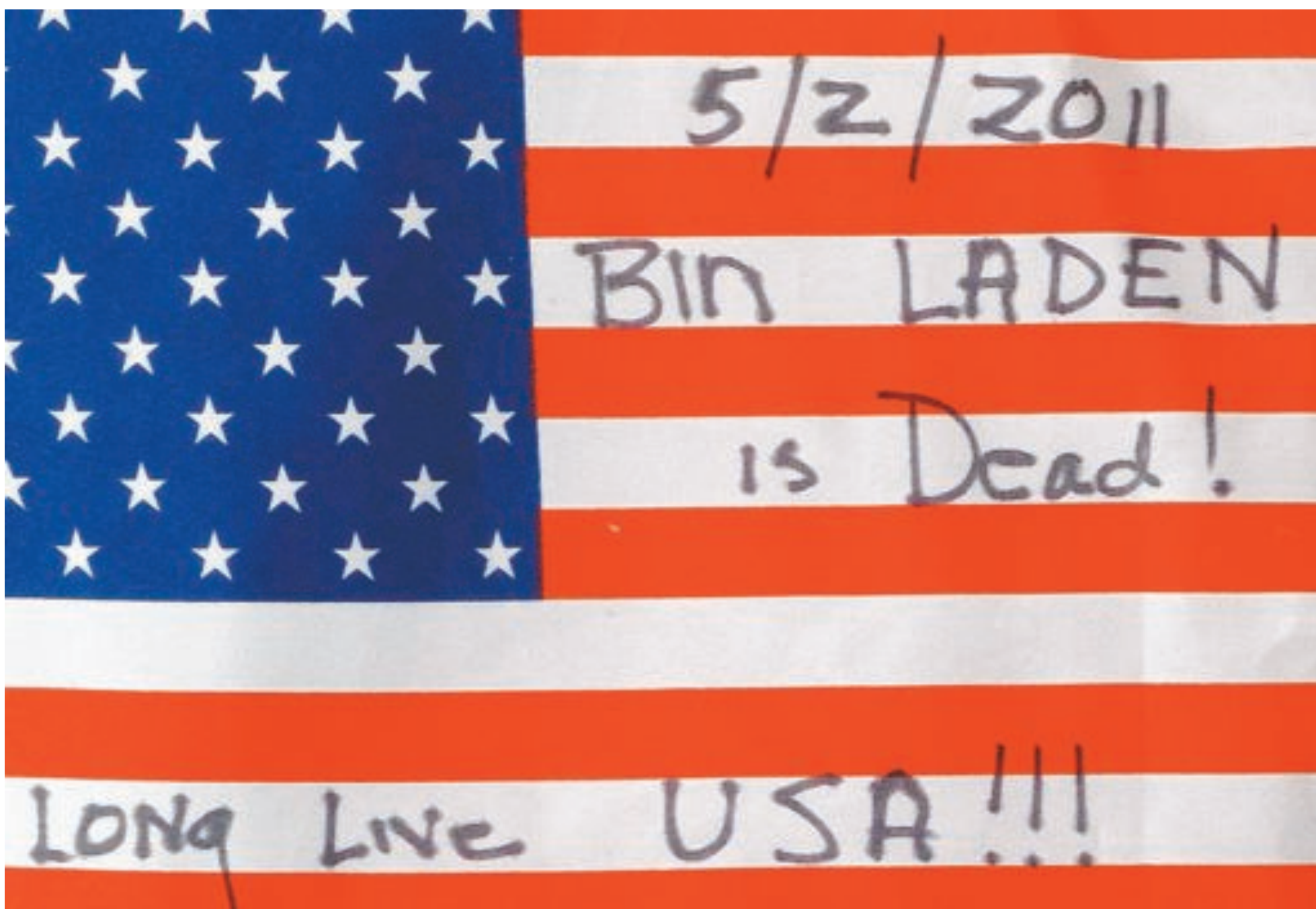
**4** **Western overlook**  
Site where FBI set up investigation command post and victims’ families first viewed crash site

**5** **Sacred ground**  
Crash site planted with wildflowers; white stone slab path enters to wall inscribed with names of those who died

Source: National September 11 Memorial & Museum Foundation, Squared Design Lab, Faithful & Gould, Lower Manhattan Development Corporation, Tishman Construction, Silverstein Properties, Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, Skidmore Owings & Merrill, Maki and Associates, Lower Manhattan Construction Command Center, U.S. Interior Department, Paul Murdoch Architects, Pentagon Memorial Project, Flight 93 Memorial Project, Digital Globe, AP, ESRI

“Tonight, I can report to the American people and to the world that the United States has conducted an operation that killed Osama bin Laden, the leader of al Qaeda, and a terrorist who’s responsible for the murder of thousands of innocent men, women and children.”

—President Obama on the night U.S. Navy SEALs killed Osama bin Laden



ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTOGRAPHS

A flag noting the killing of Osama bin Laden is placed at the temporary memorial in Shanksville, Pa., to the passengers who were killed while stopping terrorists aboard United Airlines Flight 93 on May 2.

# PERPETUAL SECURITY STATE

By ELI LAKE

THE WASHINGTON TIMES

The national security state that has expanded in response to the Sept. 11 attacks will not shrink in the near future, even though al Qaeda’s top leadership has been decimated and the U.S. government faces extreme budget pressures.

When asked last month if the U.S. government could relinquish some of the extraordinary powers or shrink some of the budgets and bureaucracies created to protect Americans since 9/11, Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano gave a one-word response: “No.”

Speaking at a homeland security seminar sponsored by the National Governors Association, Ms. Napolitano elicited nervous laughter with her response. She went on to say that her department defends against multiple threats beyond the ideology of al Qaeda.

“Realistically, we have to say environments change over time, and 9/11 was the signal of a change in the environment that we have to deal with, I think, throughout the foreseeable future,” Ms. Napolitano said.

“What is that change? That change is the threat against the United States motivated by various ideologies, terrorists, other ideologies as well, aimed at trying to commit a crime motivated by that ideology that will have an undue impact on our society, either economically and/or by the number of individuals affected.

“We at the department, we run this assuming that is the environment,” she said. “Then the question is, what are the best things we can do, consistent with American values and privacy.”

Since 9/11, the federal government has created a counterterrorism state unto itself:

- The FBI and the Justice Department have been given broad new authority to subpoena financial records from private companies without a search warrant.

- The National Security Agency (NSA) can wiretap electronic communications between U.S. citizens and foreign nationals without a warrant.

- The military has waged wars in Afghanistan and Iraq under the broader banner of the war on terror. But the U.S. has fought secretive wars all over the world in the past 10 years via drones, special operations forces and close cooperation with foreign intelligence services.

- The annual budget for the U.S. intelligence community has nearly tripled since 2001. Some analysts estimate that the federal, state and local governments have spent nearly \$1 trillion on homeland security since the 2001 attacks.

- Major cities have installed full-motion video cameras at traffic lights, and many departments of motor vehicles require facial and iris scans to get a driver’s license. Indeed, the face, iris and fingerprint scan has become the industry standard for government and

## Post-9/11 special powers, budgets, agencies seen needed far into future



Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano: Sept. 11 “was the signal of a change in the environment that we have to deal with, I think, throughout the foreseeable future.”



Richard A. Clarke, the country’s top bureaucrat on counterterrorism before the attacks, says arguments for more security spending aren’t necessarily tied to effectiveness.

corporate ID cards.

Though the Obama administration has said much of al Qaeda’s leadership has been killed or captured, no administration official has said when the war on terrorism might end.

Ms. Napolitano is not alone in thinking the national security state will not soon recede. “I would be hopeful, it would be aspirational where we could get to an environment where that could occur, but I think it’s unlikely,” Tom Ridge, the first homeland security secretary, said in an interview.

“I think there’s this whole notion that there is a belief system, a flawed belief system, an ideology of hate and intolerance that we’ve seen rear itself over the past 20 years, most horrifically on 9/11. So I think it’s un-

likely that we are going to see any changes,” he said.

Mr. Ridge helped build and consolidate the bureaucracy that today oversees everything from border security to immigration to coordination of local law enforcement responses to terrorism.

“I can recall the first year there were 180,000 people” in Homeland Security, he said. “I am told today there are 220,000.”

### Billions and billions

In his memoir, Richard A. Clarke, the top U.S. bureaucrat in charge of counterterrorism before 9/11, described the budget justifications for homeland security and counterterrorism as a “self-licking ice cream cone.”

The analogy meant that regardless of

whether the government’s measures are effective, there is an almost perpetual justification for spending more money for programs designed to fight terrorism.

A scholarly paper released last month noted that nearly \$690 billion has been spent on homeland security between 2001 and 2011 by the federal, state and local governments and the private sector.

The paper’s authors — John Mueller, a political scientist at Ohio State University, and Mark G. Stewart, a professor of civil engineering at the University of Newcastle in Australia — estimate another \$417 billion has been lost in opportunity costs because of homeland security precautions such as increases in terrorism risk premiums for insurance and delays in air travel.

Mr. Mueller said the chance of a U.S. citizen being killed in a terrorist attack is 1 in 3.5 million. Yet the U.S. government spends more to protect its citizens from those kinds of attacks than more likely risks, such as traffic accidents, he said.

“The threat they are trying to deal with, it’s so limited and the huge expenditures are not cost-effective,” he said in an interview.

In his calculations, Mr. Mueller did not account for foreign wars or the increases in foreign intelligence collection since 9/11.

Steve Aftergood, who is in charge of the U.S. government project on secrecy for the Federation of American Scientists, said the overall annual budgets for the U.S. intelligence community before 9/11 was about \$30 billion.

The first broad intelligence community budget number was disclosed in 1998 for the fiscal 1997 budget after Mr. Aftergood’s organization won a Freedom of Information Act lawsuit against the federal government.

For 1997, the overall U.S. intelligence community budget was \$26.7 billion. This year, Director of National Intelligence James R. Clapper Jr. disclosed the overall budget to be more than \$80 billion.

### Extraordinary powers

Many of the programs supported by the increase in intelligence funding remain secret.

But since the 9/11 attacks, the federal government has accumulated a host of new or extraordinary powers in the name of counterterrorism.

One example is the use of what the FBI calls “national security letters,” which are administrative subpoenas for records that do not require probable cause or a warrant signed by a judge.

These letters have been used to obtain phone records from telecommunications companies, websites visited by individuals from Internet service providers and financial records from businesses.


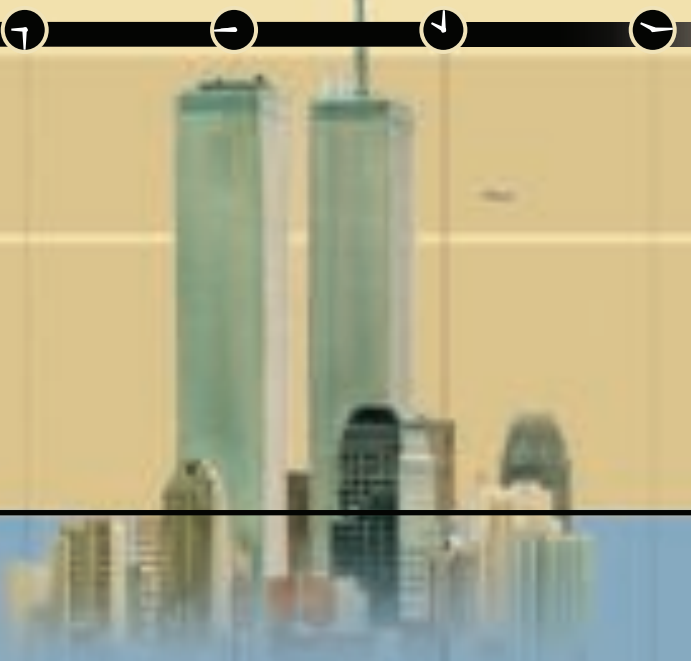



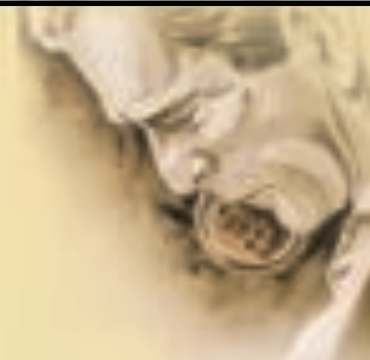
According to the Justice Department’s inspector general, the FBI issued 193,099 such letters from 2003 to 2006.

“We are flying low. We are flying very, very low.  
We are flying way too low. Oh, my God, we are way too low.”

— American Airlines Flight 11 flight attendant Madeline “Amy” Sweeney to American Flight Services Office manager Michael Woodward before jet crashed into north tower of the World Trade Center

## THE MORNING OF SEPT. 11

Key events surrounding the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, and the responses of U.S. government and military officials:

<b>American Airlines Flight 11</b>	<b>8:00 a.m.</b> Takes off from Boston's Logan International Airport en route to Los Angeles.	<b>8:14 a.m.</b> Last routine radio message.	<b>8:21 a.m.</b> Plane's transponder turned off; plane changes route. <b>8:25 a.m.</b> Controller overhears hijackers saying they control plane.	<b>8:46 a.m.</b> Plane hits World Trade Center north tower.			
<b>FAA and NORAD</b>		<b>8:28 a.m.</b> Boston FAA control center notifies FAA command center in Herndon, Va., of hijacking headed for New York.	<b>8:32 a.m.</b> Command center notifies FAA headquarters. <b>8:37 a.m.</b> Boston control center takes several minutes to reach NORAD air defense.	<b>8:46 a.m.</b> F-15 fighters alerted but given no destination. <b>8:48 a.m.</b> New York FAA says it is watching Flight 11 though plane has already crashed.	<b>8:53 a.m.</b> Fighters airborne; directed to air space off Long Island coast and in holding pattern shortly after 9 a.m.		
<b>United Airlines Flight 175</b>	<b>8:14 a.m.</b> Takes off from Boston's Logan Airport to Los Angeles.	<b>8:37 a.m.</b> Controller asks if United 175 has seen Flight 11. <b>8:41 a.m.</b> Flight 175 enters New York FAA controller's airspace.	<b>8:47 a.m.</b> Flight 175's transponder code changes.	<b>9:03 a.m.</b> Flight 175 hits World Trade Center south tower.			
<b>FAA and NORAD</b>			<b>8:51 a.m.</b> New York controller notices Flight 175 transponder change, asks plane to return to proper code. There is no response. <b>8:53 a.m.</b> N.Y. controller tells a second controller there may be a second hijacking. <b>8:55 a.m.</b> N.Y. control center manager told Flight 175 may be hijacked; he cannot reach regional managers who are discussing Flight 11.	<b>9:02 a.m.</b> N.Y. control center manager tells FAA command center in Herndon, Va. of "other aircraft." <b>9:05 a.m.</b> Boston FAA advises aircraft to heighten cockpit security; N.Y. FAA stops traffic in its airspace.	<b>9:08 a.m.</b> NORAD learns of second crash at World Trade Center.	<b>9:25 a.m.</b> Combat air patrol in place over New York City.	
<b>American Airlines Flight 77</b>	<b>8:21 a.m.</b> Takes off from Washington Dulles International Airport en route to Los Angeles.	<b>8:40 a.m.</b> Washington controller hands off Flight 77 to Indianapolis controller.	<b>8:54 a.m.</b> Plane turns south from flight plan, disappears from radar.			<b>9:37 a.m.</b> After flying undetected for 36 minutes, crashes into Pentagon.	
<b>FAA and NORAD</b>				<b>9:09 a.m.</b> Indianapolis controller tells FAA regional center of lost plane.	<b>9:20 a.m.</b> Indianapolis FAA center learns of other hijacked planes.	<b>9:30 a.m.</b> NORAD fighters at Langley Air Force Base told to fly toward Baltimore. <b>9:32 a.m.</b> Dulles controllers observe plane on radar tracking east at high speed. <b>9:34 a.m.</b> NORAD told of missing Flight 77. <b>9:36 a.m.</b> NORAD told of unidentified plane flying six miles from White House; Langley fighters ordered to Washington.	<b>9:42 a.m.</b> FAA command center learns from TV news that Flight 77 has hit Pentagon.
<b>United Airlines Flight 93</b>		<b>8:41 a.m.</b> Takes off from Newark International Airport en route to San Francisco.				<b>9:28 a.m.</b> Controllers hear radio transmission of possible screaming. <b>9:32 a.m.</b> Hijackers tell controllers they have a bomb onboard.	<b>10:03 a.m.</b> Flight 93 crashes in rural Pennsylvania.
<b>FAA and NORAD</b>					<b>9:34 a.m.</b> FAA headquarters told of Flight 93 hijacking.	<b>9:41 a.m.</b> Cleveland FAA controller loses Flight 93 transponder signal. <b>9:42 a.m.</b> FAA command center orders all airborne aircraft to land at nearest airport.	<b>10:01 a.m.</b> Flight 93 spotted by another aircraft. <b>10:07 a.m.</b> NORAD notified of Flight 93 hijacking but could not find plane because it had already crashed. <b>9:49 a.m.</b> FAA command center discusses scrambling military fighters to intercept Flight 93.
<b>President, vice president</b>			<b>8:55 a.m.</b> In Florida, President George W. Bush told plane hit World Trade Center north tower; at White House, Vice President Dick Cheney watches second plane hit World Trade Center on television.	<b>9:05 a.m.</b> Bush told of second plane hitting World Trade Center.	<b>9:15-9:30 a.m.</b> Bush staff plans return to Washington, unaware other planes were hijacked.	<b>9:37 a.m.</b> Cheney moves to White House underground tunnel, learns Pentagon has been hit, calls Bush urging him not to return to Washington. <b>About 9:45 a.m.</b> Bush learns of attack on Pentagon. <b>9:49 a.m.</b> NORAD commander directs all air sovereign aircraft to battle stations fully armed. <b>9:55 a.m.</b> Air Force One departs Florida with no destination. <b>9:59 a.m.</b> White House requests Air Force combat air patrol over Washington.	<b>10:07 a.m.</b> NORAD states it had no indication of plane heading to Washington; White House had learned of hijacking from Secret Service. <b>10:20 a.m.</b> Bush authorizes shoot-down order for hijacked plane thought to be heading for Washington.

© 2011 MCT  
Source: National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States

Restrictions on when the National Security Agency can wiretap or sort through telephone and Internet traffic have also been eased.

In 2005, the New York Times exposed a top-secret program authorized by President Bush aimed at monitoring electronic communications between terrorists abroad and people in the United States.

Though the story and the program elicited strong criticism from many Democrats and others including then-Sen. Barack Obama voted to enshrine those powers into law in 2008 in amendments to the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act.

Another example of expanded law enforcement authority is the USA Patriot Act, which was signed into law just six weeks after the 9/11 attacks.

The most significant portions of the law allow the FBI to renew surveillance of individuals even if they switch phones, creating a "roving wiretap" and eliminating an old requirement to ask a court to issue new warrants for new phone numbers.

The legislation also removed a legal wall that separated domestic law enforcement investigations from intelligence-related investigations.

In May, a Wired magazine interview with Sen. Ron Wyden, Oregon Democrat, first disclosed that the federal government has a "secret interpretation" of the Patriot Act.

"I draw a sharp line between the secret in-

terpretation of the law, which I believe is a growing problem, and protecting operations and methods in the intelligence area, which have to be protected," Mr. Wyden said.

Jameel Jaffer, a senior attorney at the American Civil Liberties Union who litigated the first successful court challenge on the Patriot Act, said he suspects the secret interpretation of the law lets the FBI track the locations of suspects through their cellphones.

"My educated guess is that the FBI is using the Patriot Act to engage in suspicionless location tracking, not just of suspected terrorists, but of innocent people as well," he said.

In some cases, the courts have shrunk the counterterrorism state. The Supreme Court ordered Congress to write new rules for the military commissions first developed under Mr. Bush.

In 2008, a federal appeals court ordered the FBI to seek court approval for the issuance of national security letters and barred the FBI from ordering the recipients of such letters to uphold a gag order on the request for information.

What's more, Mr. Obama signed an executive order that closed CIA-run prisons in Europe, but he allowed temporary facilities to remain for the rendition of suspected terrorists to foreign jails and U.S. locations.

Mr. Obama also signed an order to make all U.S.-led interrogations cohere with the U.S. Army Field Manual.

### The war on terrorism

In addition to new law enforcement powers at home, the U.S. military and CIA have expanded their missions overseas since 9/11 under legislation known as the Authorization for Use of Military Force enacted just three days after the attacks.

The authorization has been cited as a catchall by attorneys for both the Bush and Obama administrations as the authority for capturing terror suspects overseas, holding them without trial and killing them with remotely piloted aircraft in Somalia, Pakistan, Yemen and other places.

"It has been commonplace in American history that following a national trauma we have restricted rights and given too many powers to the executive," said Ben Wizner, an attorney with the American Civil Liberties Union.

Mr. Wizner noted that Franklin D. Roosevelt detained Japanese-Americans during World War II and Abraham Lincoln suspended the writ of habeas corpus in some cases during the Civil War.

"With the war on terror, there is a danger that the cyclical pattern of rights restriction and restoration has been broken, and we are moving in one direction only, toward the permanent enshrinement of emergency powers as a new normal," Mr. Wizner said.

Though Mr. Obama has continued a drawdown of troops in Iraq and announced

the end of the troop surge in Afghanistan, his administration has given no signal about amending the Authorization for Use of Military Force.

Meanwhile, Rep. Howard P. "Buck" McKeon, California Republican and chairman of the House Armed Services Committee, is seeking to amend the 2002 defense authorization bill to expand the target of the war on terror to include the Taliban and affiliated groups. The move reflects the broader definition of the war resolution upheld by federal courts under the Bush and Obama administrations.

Former New Jersey Gov. Tom Kean, co-chairman of the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States, said the national security state could recede when Americans feel more secure.

"I think we start to relinquish those powers when we are less afraid, when the threat becomes less than it may still be," Mr. Kean said in an interview last month. "It's a very difficult question because people want to be safe."

But he added that all of the measures taken by the federal government would not be as valuable in preventing attacks as a vigilant citizenry.

"My feeling is that it's not the federal government that is going to prevent the next attack," he said. "It's the citizen. Because if the citizens are still alert and they see something unusual and report it, that's when we can take action."

"I'm on the 35th floor. ... Numerous burn injuries are coming down. I'm trying to send them down. ... We're still heading up."

— New York Fire Capt. Patrick Brown, who was later killed in the trade center, on the telephone with a 911 operator



PHOTOGRAPHS BY ANDREW HARNIK/THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Firefighter Mike Kotula lost 12 friends and firefighters in his station and says he could count 100 of the firefighters killed in the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks with whom he has had some contact with over the years.

## EVERYDAY REMINDERS

New York firefighters struggle to distance themselves from disaster

By Mike Harris  
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

**NEW YORK** | Ten years removed from the worst day of his life, New York City firefighter Mike Kotula is about ready to say "enough."

Sunday, at a ceremony at the only firehouse where he has worked during his 29 years in the department, Mr. Kotula will read the names of the 12 men from his house who died in the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001. He swears he will do it sober this time, something he admits he didn't do eight of the previous nine times he has read the names.

He will mingle and visit with families of the victims, some of them as close as his own family. The 10th anniversary of the attacks, he knows, is a milestone, a bigger deal than the rest of the anniversaries so far. It's also just a day like every other since. It's a day to carry on and try to move forward and function, all the while knowing things can never really be normal again.

"I don't think it ever gets better," Mr. Kotula said. "I may not come back at all. I may leave town after this year. Yeah, I've had enough."

Mr. Kotula works at a firehouse on the corner of 66th and Amsterdam in Manhattan, just a block behind the Lincoln Center. It houses the No. 40 engine and No. 35 ladder, which means it is known as the 40-35 house. It sent 13 men — 12 from the house and one who was subbing from nearby engine 23 — on those two vehicles to what is now known as ground zero.

Only one survived. That survivor, Kevin Shea, was badly injured and is now retired.

The 40-35 house is not alone in the

devastation it has suffered. The department of 11,500 uniformed members lost 339 firefighters, two paramedics, a chaplain and a deputy commissioner that day. It has lost 17 in the line of duty since.

But the 40-35 house was thrust into the spotlight when author David Halberstam, who lived in the neighborhood it serves, published a book about it in 2002. "Firehouse," a short but powerful book, turned victims into more than names. It turned them into people, into colleagues, into loved ones, into friends.

It did the same for some of those left behind, like Mr. Kotula. Though he wasn't featured in the book, 40-35 colleague Robert Ostrofsky feels the same way as Mr. Kotula. He hasn't been at the house half as long as Mr. Kotula. He, too, thinks 10 years is enough.

"After 10 years, it's taken its toll," Mr.

Ostrofsky said. "I think I'm getting to the point — I love the 35 truck, I love it there — I think it is time for me to take a break. After the 10-year anniversary, I'm seriously thinking of moving on, moving to a firehouse closer to my house [on Long Island] to get away from all the hustle and bustle, even though I like it here.

"It's time to start thinking about myself. I can't be here and remove myself from this. I've tried. So I think I have to physically remove myself from the whole thing."

### Trying to be normal

From outside appearances, it is business as usual for men like Mr. Kotula and Mr. Ostrofsky and their colleagues. They try to maintain a sense of normalcy and do their jobs. As Mr. Ostrofsky noted, "We're still trying to get our feet on the ground. Along the

way, we've been doing a very good job. For what we were faced with, we did a really good job. To this day, all fires go out. We save a lot of people."

They try to be normal away from the job, too. Mr. Ostrofsky helps his sons with Boy Scout activities. He trains for marathons. Mr. Kotula talks about his son, also named Michael, who followed him into the department. They are jerseys of firefighters killed on Sept. 11, firefighters who played for the softball team that restaurant owner Paul Hurley sponsored. All of their numbers have been retired.

Some of the firefighters hang out there. Mr. Kotula and others work there during their time off from the department, and some aren't coming back.

There's a No. 35 with "Giberson" across the top, a No. 7 that says "Bracken," a No. 6 with the name "Boyle," a 0 for "Arce" and a No. 1 for "Mercado." Jimmy Giberson, Kevin Bracken, Steve Mercado, David Arce and Michael Boyle died on Sept. 11. Giberson, Bracken and Mercado worked out of 40-35. Arce and Boyle were from Engine 33.

"You still think those guys are going to walk through that door," Mr. Hurley said. "You're 10 years on and you still think they're coming in. It's a nightmare you weren't expecting. You think they'll be there, at the end of the bar ... and they're not here.

"I'm still saddened that we lost all those guys. Knowing they're not here is such a tough thing. And the guys left behind? It's definitely not the same. It's been a tough 10 years for these guys."

are unchanged. People have sent tokens of appreciation that are prominently displayed. Every day they report to work, the firefighters get multiple reminders.

It's there away from work, too. At P.D. Hurley's restaurant and bar on 72nd and Broadway, a selection of framed jerseys hang above the bar. They are not jerseys of any Yankee or Met. They are jerseys of firefighters killed on Sept. 11, firefighters who played for the softball team that restaurant owner Paul Hurley sponsored. All of their numbers have been retired.

Some of the firefighters hang out there. Mr. Kotula and others work there during their time off from the department, and some aren't coming back.

There's a No. 35 with "Giberson" across the top, a No. 7 that says "Bracken," a No. 6 with the name "Boyle," a 0 for "Arce" and a No. 1 for "Mercado." Jimmy Giberson, Kevin Bracken, Steve Mercado, David Arce and Michael Boyle died on Sept. 11. Giberson, Bracken and Mercado worked out of 40-35. Arce and Boyle were from Engine 33.

"You still think those guys are going to walk through that door," Mr. Hurley said. "You're 10 years on and you still think they're coming in. It's a nightmare you weren't expecting. You think they'll be there, at the end of the bar ... and they're not here.

"I'm still saddened that we lost all those guys. Knowing they're not here is such a tough thing. And the guys left behind? It's definitely not the same. It's been a tough 10 years for these guys."

### A voice of comfort

Mr. Kotula was on vacation Sept. 11, 2001. He was with some colleagues in Ocean City, Md., playing golf. His son, not yet with the department, reached him by phone and told him to turn on a television.

Once they saw what was happening, Mr. Kotula and friends jumped into a car and raced back. They went to the site but knew right away that they

were too late to help, too late to do much good there.

"I found a woman's arm with a ring on the hand," Mr. Kotula said. "I never went back. I didn't want to see any more of that."

When they returned to the firehouse, Jennifer Liang, wife of Kevin Bracken, was waiting outside, not yet knowing she was a widow. Mr. Kotula had a hard time looking at her, knowing what all the wives and families were starting to realize. The devastation he had just witnessed was something he couldn't begin to describe.

He went in, took off his gear and heard the house's three phones ringing. Mr. Kotula answered and knew there was a huge role he could fill. The families would be calling constantly, wanting whatever information was available. Mr. Kotula knew that the voice of a friend — someone who would be honest with them while understanding their state of mind — was important.

He stayed and answered the phones for five days.

"Nine of the 12, I knew their families personally," Mr. Kotula said. "Someone else answered once when one of the guys' daughters called. She was upset. She said, 'Where's Mike?' She wanted to talk to me. So I just never left."

One of the anecdotes in Halberstam's book best explains the bond among firefighters and why Mr. Kotula felt a friendly voice they knew was so important to the families.

When Mr. Kotula was about to go on a vacation, he mistakenly poured oil instead of gas into his car's carburetor to try to get the balky engine to start.

Giberson saw it and lent Mr. Kotula his car. When Mr. Kotula returned, Giberson returned Mr. Kotula's car. The engine had been taken apart and cleaned and was running perfectly.

"Even my brother probably wouldn't have done that for me," Mr. Kotula said.

Mr. Kotula, now 53, shares another story. Early in his career, he was on



PHOTOGRAPHS BY ANDREW HARNIK/THE WASHINGTON TIMES

The firehouse at 66th and Amsterdam has the original duty board displayed on Sept. 11, 2001. It is just one of the many daily reminders about that tragic day, even as those who work at the station try to carry on as normal. Outside the firehouse, a small flower bed (top) built by the firefighters displays plaques memorializing those lost.

the phone with his wife while at work. He had just started the job, money was tight and Christmas for their three children would have to be small.

Bruce Gary overheard the call. The next day, he handed Mr. Kotula an envelope with \$2,000 in cash.

"He said, 'Take care of your family at Christmas,'" Mr. Kotula said. "He hardly knew me, and he knew I'd get it back to him eventually, which I did."

Gary was killed on Sept. 11. "You don't replace that kind of thing," said Mr. Kotula, who also told of 15 firefighters coming to his son's house to help replace the roof. They did it in a day.

"That's what we do. You can have a fight, an argument, almost come to blows and then you're going down the hallway to fight a fire right next to the same guy and you're glad he's there. If something happens to you, he's going to help. If something happens to him, you're going to help. I guess it is like soldiers. When you're in a foxhole together, you have to rely on that person."

"Anybody tells you they're not scared at a fire, that's [nonsense]. But you rely on the guys you're with."

### Coping in the aftermath

Mr. Kotula tried to stay busy right after Sept. 11, doing what he could to help the victims' families. He would stay at the house rather than venturing to his home on Staten Island. His captain ultimately ordered him to take some time off. That was when his problems started.

"When I was home, that's when it hit me," Mr. Kotula said. "I bottomed out. I couldn't leave my house. I had the kids bringing me cigarettes and food. And alcohol. For weeks, I couldn't leave my house until finally they got me to go to the therapist. Then they

### IMPACT ON THE FDNY

New York City Fire Department personnel killed on 9/11:	343
Number who have died on duty since:	17
Retirements from January to July 2001:	274
Retirements from January to July 2002:	661
Vehicles destroyed:	98

Sources: New York Magazine and the Fire Department of New York office of public information

THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Though he didn't have Mr. Kotula's tenure, he knew the men who were killed and knew the house hierarchy would change. There is a definite pecking order beyond the traditional ranks. Men like Giberson and Gary, universally respected leaders with dominant personalities, were gone.

"A lot of the guys we lost were guys who enabled us to move in the right direction, and a lot of that was taken away that day," said Mr. Ostrofsky, 44. "The guys who were left were emotionally and physically devastated. To have to step into that role overnight is a very difficult thing. I thought there were things I could do to help.

"You can go to a fire academy all you want, but you don't learn this job until you actually get in a firehouse and live and breathe it and eat it and sleep it. This job is more than just getting on a truck. A firehouse is where you breed what you need to do on the fire scene. Not thinking about ourselves, doing what you need for others translates into what you do on the fire scene."

Mr. Ostrofsky has taken on the role of unofficial house spokesman and has been something of a liaison between the old and the new. Of the 45 men currently assigned to the 40-35, nine firefighters and one officer were assigned there on Sept. 11, 2001.

### Moving on

Many of the families who lost members are still in touch and will be at the house on Sunday for a bigger-than-usual memorial. Some are still struggling. Not everybody from the house was found. Figures from New York Magazine say that of the 2,819 victims of the Sept. 11 attacks, a total of 1,717 families haven't received any remains.

"We keep in touch with as many families as will allow us to keep in touch with them," Mr. Ostrofsky said. "We're always very accommodating with them, and I think we do a great job when it comes to the anniversary every year.

"I don't think this one means anything more to me personally beyond the fact that society has this whole 10-year anniversary thing and people are coming out of the woodwork and coming to the firehouse. It is a big undertaking to try to accommodate the families, the friends, the retirees who all come out.

"So in that aspect, typically from year to year, starting in late July to August, the stress level goes up. Can I put my finger on why? Not really, but Sept. 11 is coming."

Mr. Ostrofsky's daughter, Eliza, was born a month before the attacks.

"Unfortunately, I missed a lot of her first year on this planet because I was so wrapped up," he said. "I always look at her and I say she kept me hanging on. It was memorial services and then funerals and memorial services."

"The things I've experienced in the past 10 years, sometimes it takes a lifetime to experience all that."

Mr. Ostrofsky still feels a sense of obligation to the house, to his fallen colleagues and their families. He also doesn't think anyone will quibble with his decision to leave. He will never forget. He is just ready for the daily reminders to end.

"I do feel I have an obligation to the guys we lost," he said. "I think they would understand if I moved on. At this point in my life, I need to take care of myself."

Jerseys with the names of firefighters who were killed in the terrorist attacks 10 years ago hang above the bar at Paul Hurley's restaurant, P.D. O'Hurley's, at 72nd and Broadway in New York. "You still think those guys are going to walk through that door," Mr. Hurley said.



“We’ll have to deal with the networks. One of the ways to do that is to drain the swamp they live in. And that means dealing not only with the terrorists, but those who harbor terrorists. This will take a long, sustained effort. It will require the support of the American people as well as our friends and allies around the world.”

—Former Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld

# 9/11 CHANGED WAR-FIGHTING

‘Counterinsurgents operate best when they operate among the people ...’

By ROWAN SCARBOROUGH  
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

The Sept. 11 attacks jolted the U.S. armed forces into a new era of war-fighting in which commando strikes, intelligence collection and manhunts often overshadowed heavy armor and big bombers of yesteryear’s conflicts.

The attacks by Osama bin Laden’s al Qaeda on the World Trade Center and Pentagon prompted President Bush to launch ground wars in Afghanistan and Iraq and send troops to other hot spots to confront terrorism.

“It put us back into combat,” said retired Gen. James T. Conway, the former Marine Corps commandant who led troops in the 2003 Iraq invasion.

“There had been a fairly lengthy hiatus there where we had been a peacetime force, training people for an eventuality we hoped would never come,” Gen. Conway said. “But it put us back on a war footing. We realized it from Day One. Things changed dramatically on 9/11 because we knew that our country would not sit still and let that go unpunished.”

The attack on Pearl Harbor ultimately made the U.S. the world’s dominant military power. The Vietnam War took it down a notch, a defeat that led to a “hollow force.” The Cold War saw it re-emerge in the 1980s, able to intimidate the Soviets and execute 1991’s Desert Storm in high-tech fashion.

Likewise, the 9/11 attacks fundamentally changed the way the U.S. military thinks, plans and fights.

## New enemy, new tactics

The new enemy did not wear uniforms or march in formation or follow the rules of war. The U.S. military for the first time began a prolonged struggle against Muslim fundamentalists and Iraqi insurgents who used suicide bombers, roadside explosives, beheadings and ambushes to try to defeat Americans.

There was not much talk about such people before Sept. 11, 2001. But today at West Point or the Pentagon or any divisional headquarters around the world there is relatively less talk about big land wars across Europe or Asia. The brainstorming often focuses on “irregular warfare” — the counterterrorist and counterinsurgency missions that belatedly turned the tide of battle in Iraq in 2007 and promise to do the same in Afghanistan.

During the past 10 years, Mr. Bush’s declared “war on terror” ushered in huge Pentagon budget increases. The services got bigger, as did the tip of the sword — U.S. Special Operations Command.

In midwar, the military had to stop, reassess and change tactics. It produced a historic doctrinal shift in how to root out the enemy, village by village, city street by city street.

Ken Allard, a retired Army colonel and military analyst, said the Bush administration made one big mistake. Unlike in World War II and Vietnam, the U.S. decided not to conscript a wide number of Americans to do the fighting.

Instead, it relied on the active, volunteer force and the standing National Guard and Reserve. The same units, and often the same troops, went back and forth from the U.S. to the war zone while the vast majority of Americans watched.

“We ignored our whole tradition and history and instead drafted the Guard and Reserve and sent them to Iraq and Afghanistan multiple times,” Mr. Allard said. “In Vietnam, everybody went for one year. Now, people are going back three and four times. I never thought I would live to see a day in which we actually had more casualties from suicides than from the Taliban. We failed to mobilize. We sent other people’s kids to everybody’s war.”

Perhaps no service was jolted by 9/11 more than the Army. It reaped the benefits of developing a new way of fighting. But it also underwent the stress of fighting two wars at once and saw its suicide rate jump.

“The biggest change — the Army was really not an expeditionary force,” said retired Army Col. Peter Mansoor, who was a top aide to Gen. David H. Petraeus during the 2007 Iraq surge.

“It operated from bases in Germany,” he said. “It operated from bases in the United States. It did not deploy a lot.

“But ever since 9/11, the U.S. Army has been nothing but expeditionary. And soldiers who have grown up in the decade since the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon have gone through multiple deployments and have fought two wars,” he said. “So the Army has become an organization that is stressed, yes, but has also become comfortable deploying around the world and operating overseas. I think that’s one of the big changes.”

Along the way, the Army learned a new way to fight.

Events were going badly three years into the Iraq war. Retired Army Gen. Jack Keane went to Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld and told him the U.S. would lose Iraq unless it



ASSOCIATED PRESS PHOTOGRAPHS



President Bush embraces New York City firefighter Bob Beckwith while standing in front of the collapsed World Trade Center buildings in New York on Sept. 14, 2001. Mr. Bush famously used a bullhorn to reassure ground zero rescue workers, the American public and the world that the terrorists would soon be hearing from the U.S. In Kentucky on May 6, President Obama returns the salute of Adm. Eric T. Olson, commander of U.S. Special Operations Command, as the president arrives at Fort Campbell four days after the killing of 9/11 mastermind Osama bin Laden by Navy SEALs in Abbottabad, Pakistan.

were practicing in stride.”

The irony is both of the nation’s land forces, the Marines and Army, had to switch roles. The Army became expeditionary like the Marines and then had to learn a new style of counterinsurgency. The Marines became a second land army, setting up shop in a foreign country to fight for extended periods.

“We’ve been able to morph into a second land army because that is what the country needed,” Gen. Conway said.

Counterinsurgency involves not only combat. A major challenge has been for the military to learn how to defeat improvised explosive devices (IEDs), the chief cause of casualties in Afghanistan. The Pentagon set up a new agency just for that purpose, pumping billions of dollars into electronic jammers, surveillance equipment, aircraft, metal detectors and robots.

Often the enemy countered by building devices that lacked metal parts and were ignited by pressure, not an electronic signal.

In the standoff, the outgoing chief of the anti-IED agency said the best defense was something as simple as a soldier and his trained sniffing dog.

As the wars’ death tolls rose, the military had to change again. It had to stop sending troops on patrol in relatively thin-skinned, multipurpose vehicles called Humvees. They were get-

changed strategy. Republicans got thumped in the 2006 elections, and Mr. Rumsfeld was forced to resign.

## Counterinsurgency

Percolating at Fort Leavenworth, Kan., was a new plan for fighting insurgents. Gen. Petraeus guided the new doctrine through the Pentagon and then got a chance to exercise it as the top commander in Iraq.

The big change: The Army used to stay in operating bases, launch raids into neighborhoods to kill insurgents, then return to barracks. Under the Petraeus plan, soldiers would set up shop inside insurgent territory to conduct strikes and protect civilians.

Said Col. Mansoor: “Counterinsurgents operate best when they operate among the people; ... when you disperse your forces, getting them to live among the people, you generate a lot more intelligence and you insulate the peo-

ple to a certain extent from insurgent violence and intimidation.”

Before 9/11, “we weren’t really thinking insurgency warfare, guerrilla warfare, irregular warfare,” he said. “We thought that was something we could pawn off on the special-warfare community. Since 9/11, obviously the U.S. Army has had to deal with it in a very serious way. And there have been a lot of growing pains in that regard, but the capabilities have increased enormously.”

Gen. Conway said that while the Army needed a new doctrine, the Marine Corps all along had been following a “small-wars manual” that had been developed over decades.

“It was new for the Army. It wasn’t new for the Marine Corps,” Gen. Conway said. “To his credit, Petraeus was always the best Army general at incorporating the things that we believe very strongly in. But the things he sort of brought to the Army were the things that we

“On September 11, 2001, we thought we were going to be attacked many, many times between then and now. We haven’t been. I believe we had a president who made the right decision at the right time ... to put us on offense against terrorists.”

— Former New York Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani



ASSOCIATED PRESS

U.S. Navy SEAL trainees must endure rigorous physical and psychological training and learn precise teamwork at Naval Amphibious Base Coronado in Coronado, Calif., in order to become members of the elite force.

warfare was losing its luster,” Gen. Boykin said. “It was way down on the list of priorities. Afghanistan refocused attention on the [unconventional warfare] capabilities.”

### Intelligence

Today, the command stands at 61,000 personnel, up from 45,600 on Sept. 11, 2001. It has added three Ranger companies, five Green Beret battalions, a special operations aviation battalion and an unmanned aerial squadron.

The growth is even greater when it is factored in that in 2007 the Pentagon shifted 11,700 civil affairs and support personnel from SoCom to the Army Reserve.

While the Pentagon built up SoCom, it also knew the expansion would be meaningless without intelligence on where terrorists and their leaders were located.

Mr. Rumsfeld created a new post, under-secretary of defense for intelligence, to coordinate information from the Pentagon’s various collection agencies, including the Defense Intelligence Agency. Commanders in Iraq and Afghanistan now had a senior civilian to whom it could request intelligence assets for a particular mission.

In the field, it meant units such as the SEALs and Delta Force were fused into large task forces that included the Defense Intelligence Agency, the CIA, a special military intelligence unit known as Task Force Orange, and the electronic eavesdropping National Security Agency.

The 2006 hunt for al Qaeda terrorist Abu Musab Zarqawi illustrated the new alliance. The Delta task force intercepted communications that led it to a Zarqawi adviser, who in turn led it to his hide-out north of Baghdad. F-16s bombed the hut and killed one of the most ruthless al Qaeda operatives in the Middle East.

“They’ve really learned how to bring all the resources of the intelligence community into their operations to where the hard work is done really by the intelligence folks,” Gen. Boykin said.

The cost for all of this has been immense. The annual base defense budget since 2001 has nearly doubled to \$570 billion. In addition, the wars themselves have cost an additional \$1.3 trillion, according to the Congressional Research Service.

ting ripped apart by roadside bombs.

First, the military augmented the vehicles with more armor. But they remained susceptible. When Robert M. Gates succeeded Mr. Rumsfeld as defense secretary, he learned that the Marines and Army were building a new troop carrier that could repel explosions and save lives.

But why were they not out in the field? Mr. Gates demanded to know. He ordered the services to ramp up production of the vehicle known as MRAP (mine-resistant ambush protected) and sent them overseas.

### Special operations

Today, virtually every combat unit has MRAPs. The 9/11 attacks had led to a revolution in how troops move on the battlefield.

“We went across the border in Humvees that had canvas tops and sides,” Gen. Conway said. “We continued to get heavier as the enemy made heavier use of IEDs and mines that struck us from underneath. We certainly had to evolve our systems to try to stay ahead of what the enemy was doing.”

While 9/11 resulted in a gradual transforma-

tion for conventional forces, the al Qaeda strike brought immediate change for a back-water outfit in Tampa, Fla. — U.S. Special Operations Command (SoCom).

Created to correct flaws discovered in the disastrous 1980 Desert One rescue mission in Iran, SoCom was more bureaucrat than war fighter. It bought equipment and made sure that Rangers, Green Berets, SEALs and Delta Force were trained and ready.

All that would change — right away. As the Pentagon still burned, Mr. Rumsfeld was thinking of SoCom as the leader of the war on terror. Commando units were the perfect organizations to hunt down and kill an unconventional enemy who worked out of ungoverned territory, safe houses and mountain caves.

First, he awarded SoCom the prestige of being a “supported” command as opposed to its old role as a “supporting” one. This gave the SoCom commander authority to plan and execute what is called “direct action combat.”

“Donald Rumsfeld said it doesn’t make sense for us not to have a four-star command in charge of this war on terror, at least the co-

ordination of it,” said retired Army Lt. Gen. William G. Boykin, one of the first Delta Force members, who went on to become the Pentagon’s No. 2 intelligence director during the war.

Money started flowing to Tampa. The command brought in a whole new cadre of war planners and began enlarging all its special-operations components. And the Marine Corps for the first time joined SoCom and nurtured its own commandos.

“He gave them somewhere between \$1.2 [billion] and \$1.5 billion to take that headquarters and turn it into a war-fighting headquarters,” Gen. Boykin said of Mr. Rumsfeld.

The secretive Joint Special Operations Command (JSOC), home to Delta Force, had spent most of its time training for hostage rescues. Now, it and other commandos started preparing for how to find and hit an al Qaeda or Taliban hideout.

In less than two months, Army Green Berets were leading the invasion of Afghanistan, teaming up with anti-Taliban fighters in Pakistan and crossing the border via low-flying helicopters.

“It was a godsend because unconventional

## Suddenly feeling an obligation to serve

By NATHAN FENNO  
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

The day feels so distant to Mark Olson, almost like another life.

Before the nervous trip to the recruiting office, before the year in Iraq, before the nightmares, he arrived at the Palouse Mall in Moscow, Idaho, at 7 a.m. to train as a Starbucks barista. Barely 18 years old, he also worked at Rosauers Supermarket and a pizzeria to save money for college.

In the mall’s parking lot, Mr. Olson noticed his Starbucks manager sitting in her car. The radio blared.

“Good morning,” he said.

“Shut up,” said the manager, usually a friendly woman, “the second tower just got hit.”

Mr. Olson didn’t know what she was talking about. The television at an Orange Julius inside the empty mall provided answers as the twin towers collapsed.

And what became a familiar thought entered Mr. Olson’s mind: We need to do our part.

“A lot of my life was shaped by that day in September,” he recalled. “Nine-11 sparked a fire that was already there. ... But I’m sure there were other guys who thought, ‘Are you high?’”

But the spike in patriotism after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks didn’t lead to an increase in enlistments, according to the recruiting commands of the Army, Air Force, Marines and Navy.

“No actual enlistment impact,” the Army replied.

“No appreciable surge,” wrote the Marines.

“We had a goal set and we met our goal,” the Navy said. “We don’t ask what reasons they come in for.”

Each branch tracks accessions — recruits enlisted and shipped to boot camp — in a fiscal year from October through September. In the first fiscal year after the attacks, the Army, for instance, had 79,585 accessions against its active-force goal of 79,500. The same year, the Navy recorded 46,150 accessions with a target of 46,155. The recruiting goals are linked to each branch’s congressionally authorized end strength. They can’t exceed those goals.

In the two years before the attacks, there were more active Army accessions than in the two years following. The Navy actually needed 7,370 fewer recruits the year after the attacks.

While visits and calls to military recruiting offices increased, the legend of a wave of enlistments rolling in after Sept. 11 isn’t true.



ASSOCIATED PRESS

An Army sergeant talks to high school students in North Carolina about a career in the Army. While visits and calls to military recruiting offices increased after the terrorism attacks, the legend of a wave of enlistments rolling in after Sept. 11 isn’t true.

Mr. Olson was an anomaly.

“There’s a need,” one spokesman added, “to create a mythology around certain events.”

An Air Force survey revealed motivation to enlist shifted after the attacks. Among recruits who completed basic training from 2002 to 2005, patriotism was one of the top three reasons for enlisting. The reasons now usually revolve around educational benefits, job security and independence. Patriotism, the Air Force said, no longer is one of the top three reasons.

Eight days after the attacks, Mr. Olson visited an Army recruiting office in Lewiston, Idaho. He didn’t want someone telling him when to wake up each morning. But he felt obligated to serve, driven by friends already enlisted and the memory of his grandfather’s service in the Navy during World War II. Because he wanted a specialty other than the infantry, his entry was delayed until he started boot camp at Fort Jackson in South Carolina in 2004.

In late 2005, he arrived in Baghdad as a chaplain’s assistant — essentially a body-

guard for the noncombatant chaplain — with the 5th Engineer Battalion from Missouri’s Fort Leonard Wood. Multiple blasts from improvised explosive devices shook the Buffalo armored vehicle he rode in while accompanying troops on road-clearing patrols.

Finding and removing IEDs was the battalion’s job, an unceasing, nerve-shredding game of hide-and-seek with insurgents. Four men died during the yearlong tour. Twenty-five others were wounded.

“Everything was so different,” Mr. Olson said. “I’m still proud of what I did ... but I didn’t really want to talk about it.”

“It changed. The patriotism after 9/11 was more innocent. When you’re in a war zone, it’s different.”

Today, Mr. Olson, 28, attends the University of Idaho, studying for a career in public relations and working with Operation Education, a university program that assists disabled veterans. He picks up a shift each week at a grocery store, too. Reminders of his stint in the Army, which he left in 2008, start with the hearing aids he wears in class. Explosions in

Iraq permanently damaged his hearing.

Coming home from Iraq was harder than being there. Loud noises startled him. A close friend from the battalion killed himself a month after departing the Army. Mr. Olson received a diagnosis of post-traumatic stress disorder. Pictures or news accounts or books couldn’t compare to living through combat. How could he explain it? He wondered what would’ve happened if he had enrolled in college instead of enlisting. But regret never entered Mr. Olson’s mind.

“War is never pretty. I think it’s really pretty easy for people to see a lot of images and say, ‘I know where you’re coming from,’” he said. “But I’m glad I was able to do something.”

The day in September when Mr. Olson walked into Starbucks as a carefree 18-year-old tugs at his thoughts. He marvels over teenagers who have no memory of Sept. 11, when it shaped much of the past decade of his life.

One day. Ten years removed, but always there.



“You can be sure that the American spirit will prevail over this tragedy.”

— Former Secretary of State Colin L. Powell

# A LIFE-SAVING FLIGHT CHANGE

## Capitals coach was supposed to be on a plane that hit tower

By **STEPHEN WHYNO**

THE WASHINGTON TIMES

Bruce Boudreau seemed to be writing out his fate in an innocent message on his fridge: “September 11th, Flight L.A.”

It was 2001, and he was then the coach of the American Hockey League’s Manchester Monarchs and needed to get from Boston to Los Angeles for the Los Angeles Kings’ training camp. But Kings coach Andy Murray called with a change of plans; he wanted to have a coaches dinner on the night of the 10th, which required Mr. Boudreau and assistant coach Bobby Jay to get on a different flight.

“We did,” Mr. Boudreau said. “We got out there, we had a great dinner and didn’t think anything of it.”

Until the next morning, when Mr. Boudreau woke up to a phone call from his wife, Crystal — and soon after came to the realization that a simple scheduling switch represented a life-changing twist. United Flight 175 crashed into the World Trade Center’s south tower at 9:03 a.m. with Kings scouts Ace Bailey and Mark Bavis onboard.

“I was ... sobbing and didn’t know how to react — like ‘Holy smokes, I’m supposed to be on that flight,’” Mr. Boudreau said.

Recalling that morning on the West Coast, Mr. Boudreau and Mr. Murray described the confusion and then the pain when Dave Taylor and other team officials finally confirmed what was suspected: that Bailey and Bavis were victims of the terrorist attacks.

“If you looked in anybody’s eyes, it was just like a fog. It was surreal,” Mr. Murray said. “We were all just kind of stunned. I’m sure Bruce’s emotions were certainly different than anybody’s.”

Even now, Mr. Boudreau’s thoughts about 9/11 revolve around losing one of his great friends in Bailey. But one memory from 10 years ago affects the Washington Capitals’ coach. His children were living with their mother in St. Catharines, Ontario, and were in the dark about their father’s travel switch.

“My kids saw it on the TV monitors at school, and they just ran out of school and ran home and started calling Crystal, and they were crying,” he said. “When I talk about my kids running home is the emotional part for me because of the fear on their faces because as a parent you always worry about your kids. That’s when I get goosebumps more, and it becomes a reality of how scared they were for their father.”

Conversations that day with his family consisted mostly of “Whew. Thank God you’re OK,” Mr. Boudreau said. Then there was the reunion at the airport in Boston after training camp when Crystal picked him up.

“We couldn’t wait to get back just with our family and just hold each other and hug each other,” he said. “I just remember getting home and [saying] ‘Thank God’ and holding his wife and children.”

It would have cost Bailey \$750 out of his pocket to change his flight and travel a day



THE WASHINGTON TIMES

earlier. He and Mr. Boudreau spent the previous weekend together at a wedding and shared a room. Fond memories of that time are now mixed with pain. The death of his friend hit hard — “to that point in my life I hadn’t had many friends die,” Mr. Boudreau said, his voice becoming soft.

And yet there’s still the amazing turn of events that kept Mr. Boudreau from being on the doomed plane. Bailey’s sister-in-law, Barbara Pothier, didn’t know Mr. Boudreau was scheduled to be on the same flight. He never felt the need to tell the family — even though it became an incredible piece of the prequel to Mr. Boudreau’s time in Washington.

“I think that’s one of those moments where you either deal with it or it can keep you up at night,” Capitals right wing Mike Knuble said. “Maybe it changed your life and you think, ‘Hey, I get a second chance.’”

Sitting in his office the day after the earthquake last month, Mr. Boudreau said that event — like 9/11 — reminded him of how quickly things can change. But he insists he doesn’t dwell on how a pre-camp dinner saved his life.

“There’s always the what ifs, but I try not to. Once in a blue moon you might think about it, but if he didn’t change the meeting, I wouldn’t be thinking anything,” Mr. Boudreau said. “If anything I [think], ‘Well, the last 10 years have been tremendous.’”

Mr. Boudreau has taken countless flights since, and the events of that day changed how he views air travel as it has for many people. Unlike on Sept. 10, 2001, he didn’t sleep on the cross-country flight back and said he always peeks at fellow passengers’ computers if he can.

But as for life itself, it has gone on for Mr. Boudreau, even amid the sorrow of

Bruce Boudreau was not yet coach of the Washington Capitals when he was set to travel on one of the planes that was flown into the World Trade Center. A change in plans kept him off the flight. Ace Bailey, a hockey team scout and a good friend, died on the flight.

Bailey’s death. He pays more attention to it when anniversaries come around but avoids thinking or talking about it. According to Mr. Murray, who remains a good friend, the topic hasn’t come up in conversation since.

When it is brought up, Mr. Boudreau seems in awe of how small things can turn out to be major.

“God’s got a plan, I guess. It wasn’t my time,” he said. “It’s crazy. Believe me, I’m very grateful that I’m here.”

## Sticking to schedule fatal for Kings scouts

By **STEPHEN WHYNO**

THE WASHINGTON TIMES

A picture of Garnet “Ace” Bailey sits beside a television in Bruce Boudreau’s house, so it’s hard for the Washington Capitals coach to go long without thinking of his friend.

But Mr. Boudreau doesn’t need a photo to jog his memory. Mr. Boudreau and Bailey enjoyed laughs and thrills as the closest of friends until September 2001. Both were working for the Los Angeles Kings at the time — Mr. Boudreau as a minor-league coach in Manchester, N.H., and Bailey as a scout. Both needed to get to Los Angeles for training camp, and while the team changed Mr. Boudreau’s flight from Boston to Sept. 10 so he could attend a coaches dinner, Bailey wasn’t so fortunate.

It would have cost Bailey \$750 out of his own pocket to fly a day earlier. Not willing to spare the hefty expense, he and fellow scout Mark Bavis got on United Airlines Flight 175, which hijackers flew into the south tower of the World Trade Center.

“The big shock settles down after a year or so,” Bailey’s sister-in-law, Barbara Pothier, said. “The pain is with us all the time.”

Mr. Boudreau started sobbing when he learned the news.

“That’s when it sort of hit me that, ‘holy jeez,’” he said. “Still, to that point in my life, I hadn’t had many friends die.”

Mr. Boudreau’s story about how a change of plans saved his life is remarkable, but he and others around hockey remember Bailey — who played 202 of his 568 career NHL games with the Caps — and Bavis.

“Ace was such a great guy, and I loved having him around. Mark Bavis was young and energetic,” said Andy Murray, who was then coaching the Kings. “All of our thoughts that day were about the loss, our guys and what was happening in the world.”

Bailey was part of two Stanley Cup-winning teams with the Boston Bruins, but

Mr. Boudreau remembers him as the guy with whom he spent the weekend in Lake Placid, N.Y., days before 9/11. The two hockey men had similar personalities, though Mr. Boudreau was always Bailey’s comic foil.

Mr. Boudreau tells a story about that last weekend when he and Bailey shared a room while attending a wedding and enjoyed a nice meal of potpourri.

“We get in there, we don’t even turn the lights on and, ‘Oh, there’s a welcome basket,’” Mr. Boudreau recalled. “So we start eating them and these things are stale, so he takes a mouthful and then he takes another mouthful. And he says, ‘If you chew ‘em, they’re not bad.’ Once we left that room and we became with other people, he said, ‘You’re not gonna believe what Bruce did.’”

Bailey overslept Sept. 11 — the result of

his wife, Katherine, accidentally setting the alarm for p.m. instead of a.m. — but he made it to the gate on time.

What happened from there, Mr. Boudreau wishes he knew.

“I would like to have seen what was going on that plane because I know Ace wasn’t going to be sitting in his seat belt — he was going after somebody,” he said. “He was such a hero. In the end, I would venture to guess he was doing everything he could to save everybody on that flight.”

Ten years after Bailey’s death, his family and friends are left to reflect on a man who everyone says loved to laugh — and talk. Mr. Boudreau said Bailey knew every usher and maintenance person in every arena he walked into.

Mr. Boudreau lamented not seeing Ms. Pothier, Katherine Bailey and the rest of their family enough, but Ms. Pothier referred to the coach as a “big family favorite” nonetheless. Mr. Boudreau is looking forward to attending the Ace Bailey Memorial Golf Tournament again next year and hugging and sharing stories just like every time he sees his late buddy’s family.

Until then, all he has to do is glance next to his TV to think about Bailey.

“We often suffer, but we are never crushed.  
Even when we don't know what to do, we never give up.”

— 2 Corinthians 4:8.

## SEPT. 11 AFTERMATH

# World stability depends on American might

*Military adaptation at core of complex road to victory*

By Maj. Gen.  
William A. Chambers

### Commentary

Sept. 11, 2001, seems like yesterday. Millions of Americans likely feel the same way. The image of that day indelibly printed in my mind is the stark and sordid cloud of smoke I saw billowing against the pure, azure sky when I looked over my shoulder as I evacuated the Pentagon.

That image rushed into my mind ever so briefly when, once again, I felt the Pentagon shudder during the earthquake that recently struck the Eastern United States. On Sept. 11 10 years ago, however, I instantly knew that the cruel, deep-black-velvet cloud of burning petroleum meant that fellow service members and colleagues were not going home to their families that night.

Many things changed for America and its friends around the world on Sept. 11. Institutions including the Air Force also changed. During the decade that followed, I served in Washington, Afghanistan and Europe alongside thousands of American troops who have answered the call to defend our nation as part of the most capable force in the world. I've watched those airmen respond to post-Sept. 11 challenges, the scope and variety of which boggle the mind. The adaptability, resourceful-

ness, resiliency and flexibility of the Air Force and its sister services were distinctly suited for a decade of extraordinary complexity. Like a well-trained Olympic decathlete, your military has excelled at the short sprint while showing the world it also can run long and throw deep.

Smart athletes pick themselves up, dust off and finish stronger in each new race. Such multitasked excellence comes with hard lessons. We became more of an expeditionary, quick-reaction force to protect America abroad. Airmen learned quickly how to orchestrate fire from above and respond within minutes to the call from commanders on the ground in contact with the enemy. Pilots and aircrews saved lives on the toughest terrain in the world — in a landlocked country 7,000 miles away.

Beyond that daily air and ground choreography, your Air Force struck with punishing persistence, flying remotely piloted aircraft from halfway around the world to attack the network of those planning further attacks on America and its friends. While your military surged for the counterinsurgency and counterterrorism fight, this decade also saw it awake anew to the critical need for the long view, the need to keep

strong the ability to go deep, the need to remind all adversaries that America carries a big stick.

So, there are some things that have not changed, for it is America's passion to prevent wars that is at the core of why America has an Air Force. And preventing wars means altering adversaries' decision calculus so they never again attempt to harm our homeland or our friends, especially with weapons of mass destruction, which still pose an existential threat to our nation. Indeed, it is our deterrent force that has kept major-power conflict at bay for more than 65 years. As a steward of the most powerful weapons in history, the Air Force has restored its full commitment — in resources and airmen — to the no-fail mission of maintaining a safe, secure and effective nuclear deterrent.

The underlying stability of the world order rests on the strong arm and the global reach of the longest-enduring democratic republic in history. Such strength, such reach — offering succor while projecting power — requires our collective commitment of resources and sacrifice. That's a worthy price to pay so that our kids and grandkids will hear, loud and clear, the sound of freedom overhead.

.....  
Maj. Gen. William A. Chambers is the U.S. Air Force's assistant chief of staff for strategic deterrence and nuclear integration.

## ENDURING SUPPORT

# Unshakable America

With faith in God and help from each other, we healed

By Lamar Vest

On Sept. 11, 2001, many Americans felt as though the world ended. Sadly, for nearly 3,000 people, it did. Two symbols of American strength — the twin towers of the World Trade Center and the Pentagon — were either decimated or badly damaged.

When the seemingly unshakable shakes — and falls — those left behind find themselves asking, “What can I hold onto?”

In the days following the Sept. 11 terror attacks, countless Americans and American organizations also asked, “What can we do to help?” As an organization that has spent nearly two centuries working to make the Bible available across the nation and around the world, the American Bible Society had a pretty obvious answer to that question: Share the comfort and strength of God's Word. As we answered this question, thousands found an answer to the question, “What can I hold onto?” When we can't hold onto anything else, we can hold onto God. Thousands more also found the sustaining truth that, when we can't even reach out for God, God will hold onto us.

As a nation, we share a common wound from the events of Sept. 11. None of us who lived through that day will ever be the same. All of us can answer the question, “Where were you on Sept. 11” in exacting detail. This shared trauma has in many ways defined us as a post-Sept. 11 nation.

I know that people deal with trauma in different ways. The American Bible Society recently conducted a poll that highlighted this reality. Whether it was relying on friends, family, faith or professional counseling, 94 percent of those surveyed who had dealt with trauma turned to something or someone to help them cope. Sadly, 6 percent said they had nowhere to turn.

Looking back at the days and weeks following the terror attacks, we can be proud of the way the majority of Americans dealt with this tragedy. We reached out, we came together, we prayed for loved ones lost and we grieved both for those we didn't know and those we did.

In that recent poll, we asked Americans to select the source of the following words: “We often suffer, but we are never crushed. Even when we don't know what to do, we never give up.” And while the majority of respondents attributed the quote to everyone from President Bush to Captain America, the words actually come out of 2 Corinthians 4:8. Reading them again, it strikes me that they could have been written for a post-Sept. 11 America.

.....  
Lamar Vest is the president of American Bible Society. To coincide with the 10th anniversary of the Sept. 11 attacks, the American Bible Society has released “The Freedom Bible.”



THE WASHINGTON TIMES

## TEN YEARS LATER

By Suzanne Fields

When the twin towers tumbled from the skyline of New York 10 years ago, the terrorists figured they had won a great battle. They were right. The two enormous buildings fell, burying almost 3,000 men, women and even children. We wept over personal tragedies and collectively vowed not to be bowed. We're winning the war.

Recovery did not run smoothly. There were arguments, conflicts and delays. There has not always been a unity of purpose among the architects, government agencies, insurers, developers, families of victims and survivors about how what happened should be remembered.

Often it seems as if the twin towers were transformed into Towers of Babel, with a cacophony of voices demanding different memorials of remembrance and revival. Creative reconstruction was difficult.

But like the ancient phoenix rising from the ashes of destruction to celebrate rebirth, 1 World Trade Center emerges triumphantly from the rubble at ground zero. After a decade of mourning, we come together at the end of this week to acknowledge beauty, commerce and an assertive spirit, testimony to healing, survival and renewal

# Rising from the rubble

*Terror that wounded New York cannot hold back life's reawakening*

on the rubble.

The 10th anniversary celebrates a new skyscraper that will offer panoramic views of the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island, reminders of the first stop in the new land for many immigrants fleeing tyranny in search of freedom and opportunity. Two pools of water set in the footprints of the fallen towers are called “Reflecting Absence,” in haunting evocation of the memory of those who died there. Their names will be inscribed in bronze. A pear tree recovered from the debris was replanted and grows in fresh, fertile soil.

None who watched the horror unfolding on television can forget the fear and loathing we felt at that moment, and it's impossible not to marvel today at the recovery. For all of the griping and grumbling at the long security lines at airports, it's not unusual for a gentle internal voice to remind an angry traveler that any one of those who died on Sept. 11 would be happy to take off his shoes and jacket for examination in return for life.

At first it seemed callous for anyone

to suggest that shopping or dining nearby ground zero could celebrate the memory of those who had worked there, but the commercial renaissance on the streets nearby is amazing. (The terrorists should gag on their bile.) Some shops, stores and offices closed and their owners fled to places where they felt safer but the vacancy rate in the neighborhood today is among the lowest anywhere. Sales of apartments have increased more than 150 percent over pre-attack levels, Economist magazine reports, and six new schools testify to the wave of young families moving in, many with children too young to remember what happened there 10 years ago.

Sept. 11, 2001, is a date like Dec. 7, 1941, to “live in infamy,” in FDR's famous formulation; the date supplies a “teaching moment” for this generation's Pearl Harbor. Millions are angry over the government's overreaching, its overspending and overstimulating, but the government has done some things right since Sept. 11. It has kept us safe for 10 years from an enemy that is still out there waiting to strike again. Terrorists have

been foiled and intelligence links have been forged with foreign governments dealing, sometimes reluctantly, with threats against their own people. Osama bin Laden sleeps with the fishes and many who conspired with him are dead and gone. Only the other day, the Pakistani military, working on a tip from the CIA, arrested a terrorist leader believed to have been plotting against new targets in the West.

Good sense, some of it reluctantly employed, has prevailed against the naive notions of the weak and unwary. President Obama, despite a foolish campaign promise, did not close Guantanamo Bay after all. Under the pressure of reality, he finally decided against a civilian trial in Manhattan for captured al Qaeda terrorists. We should give thanks for education better late than never.

The social networks supply a wealth of up-to-date details of what's going on around us; the war behind the scenes goes mostly unreported. The absence, so far, of new dates to live in infamy suggests the war is being waged effectively, even if we're no longer supposed to call it a war. Those who died on Sept. 11 did not die in vain. The replanted pear tree was only 8 feet tall when it was found in the rubble of ground zero. Now it towers more than 35 feet above the site of tragedy, reaching with leafy arms for the sun.

.....  
Suzanne Fields is a syndicated columnist.

“Attacking innocent people is not courageous, it is stupid and will be punished on the day of judgment. . . . It’s not courageous to attack innocent children, women and civilians. It is courageous to protect freedom, it is courageous to defend oneself and not to attack.”

— Sheik Muhammed Sayyid al-Tantawi, former grand imam of Al-Azhar Mosque in Cairo

# MUSLIMS SHARE THEIR FAITH

By **ANDREA BILLUPS**  
THE WASHINGTON TIMES

## Take advantage of chance to reach out

A 25-year-old Yemeni-American, Petra Alsoofy, sees the aftermath of the Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks as a double-edged sword for Muslims in the U.S. The recent college graduate who lives in Grand Rapids, Mich., illustrates her point with two stories from her life that gave her both pause and great hope.

Not long ago, a work colleague of her sister invited the Alsoofy family over for dinner. When they arrived, Petra looked around the home and saw books by conservative pundit Glenn Beck as well as other Christian materials. Ms. Alsoofy feared being judged, but left feeling touched, their families’ mutual conversation lasting three to four hours.

“The father of this family did research about where we came from, about the Muslim diet,” she said. “They were very interested and very respectful, and their hospitality was refreshing. It kind of hit home for me that there are people working hard to understand and people who care about others. I came home that night and thought we are bombarded every day with negative news and here is someone — he didn’t have to do any of that. And I realized he wasn’t the only one, that there are plenty of people who are just as hungry as us to learn about each other and reach out.”

But all is not rosy in the world, Ms. Alsoofy allows with a tone of acceptance, noting that her family has not been immune to hatred. She offers candidly that one of her sisters, while driving, was called a “towel head” by another motorist, and told to “go back to your country.”

And most recently, when Petra traveled through an airport wearing her hijab — a traditional Muslim head scarf for women — the security agent singled her out, called her a “target,” and forced her to step aside for a private search.

The incident, while upsetting, she said, only made her “motivated.”

“At the end of the day, I’m not going to do things just because others are uncomfortable with me. It’s not a way to fix fear, by removing what is fearful,” she said of her head scarf and culture. “You have to address the source of this and educate. There is no point in being angry. The only person you are harming with anger is yourself.”

A recent survey by Gallup found that Muslim-Americans are optimistic about their future at the 10th anniversary of 9/11. But nearly half of those who responded to the survey said that they are still facing discrimination.

The survey, “Muslim Americans: Faith, Freedom and the Future,” released in July, showed that this minority group was hopeful about its economic future, more so than other religious groups, as well more civically engaged. But U.S. Muslims also reported feeling disrespected in the practice of their religion, with many youth, however, registering more positivity about their lives than their elders.

Yale professor Zareena Grewal, who runs the Center for the Study of American Muslims at the Institute for Social Policy and Understanding, describes this group as an understudied minority prior to the terrorist attacks. Now she said, millions of dollars have been spent trying to learn more about the Muslim community.

Ms. Grewal derides a reactionary climate in the U.S. today and says that some media stories have been spun post-9/11 that create more rhetoric than truth about the Muslim culture. A decade later, she adds, U.S. Muslims face a political and public climate that is far more hostile, suspicious and aggressive than ever before.

“What concerns me about 10 years after Sept. 11 is that before it, both the right and the left had abandoned racial profiling as an ineffective policy that went against American values. Since Sept. 11, you have seen

racial profiling as a new national consensus, as necessary even if it’s inefficient as a security strategy,” Ms. Grewal said.

“What is so troublesome now is it’s become about cultural domination,” she said. “What you have now is a much more virulent racial and political climate that is hostile to Muslims and to immigrants in general. It’s deteriorated from a national security conversation to a conversation about ‘Who do we hate? Who we are and who they are.’ A much stronger language.”

If U.S. Muslims are under increased suspicion, as some suggest, a study from the Pew Research Center found them not unhappy with their lives in the U.S. Fifty-six percent in a Pew poll released last month said they were satisfied with the state of the nation, compared with just 23 percent of the general public.

But Muslims in the survey also think that most in the U.S. do not understand their culture very well and are out of sync with their intentions. Fifty-six percent said they hope to adopt an American way of life and embrace its customs, while 33 percent of the general public said they think only 33 percent of Muslims hope to embrace U.S. ways. More than half of the public at large also thinks that Muslims hope to distance themselves as distinct in society.

Dr. Aly Mageed, a bone-marrow-transplant surgeon who moved to the U.S. from Egypt, said in response to the 9/11 attacks, many Muslims were forced out of their quiet shell and had to pull back the curtain on their culture and faith to create a better climate of understanding. In many ways, this has been good.

“Initially, Muslims here were shy, in the background,” said Dr. Mageed, 55. “I think post-9/11, the majority of Muslims took this as a challenge. We said we need to grow up and be more mature and go out into the community at large and open our

mosques, to say come see us where we pray, to let people know that we are not doing anything in our places of worship.”

He acknowledges “just plain bigotry” from some and a culture of Islamophobia post-9/11 that has led to hate crimes in communities that have large populations of Muslims.

“I think following the plight of the African-Americans or the Jews in this country, we have a history of targeting minorities at different points for different reasons. We harbor a lot of insecurities about these particular groups,” he said.

As Muslims, “We needed to learn how to be ‘mainstream’ by participating. We wanted to say we are Americans first and although we have different theological systems, we are American residents and we want to participate in everything — from resolving the economic crisis to the educational crisis.”

Looking back on 9/11, he sees significant changes — some for better and others for worse. While some Muslims have withdrawn, others have been forced out and are eagerly sharing their ideas, their history and their concerns. The Sept. 11 attacks hastened the need and energy for better understanding of Muslims in the U.S., Dr. Mageed added.

“There are some minority Muslims who became more isolationist who are never going to be understood here,” he said. “Even in response to a lot of anti-Muslim propaganda, they started losing some faith in our U.S. system and the foundation that our country was built upon — freedom of religion. But we are trying to get over that. When you have interfaith dialogue, we are trying to build that trust, that mutual understanding and respect for each others’ differences and start looking at them as a source of stimulating discussion.”

He adds with a sense of hope: “I think the good non-Muslims and the majority of Muslims here are tackling these issues. I grow in my faith and views by challenging my ideas with your ideas. I think we both grow that way.”

## Hollywood AWOL in war on terrorism

By **CHRISTIAN TOTO**  
SPECIAL TO THE WASHINGTON TIMES

When the United States went to war after the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, the film industry soon followed suit. Movies like “Flying Tigers” (1942), “Wake Island” (1942) and “Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo” (1944) rallied the nation to the Allied cause.

Jimmy Stewart, Henry Fonda and Clark Gable personally joined the battle, while famed director Frank Capra oversaw “Why We Fight,” a series of films meant to inspire the troops.

Even Bugs Bunny did his part, with shorts like the provocatively titled “Bugs Bunny Nips the Nips.”

Hollywood’s response to the 9/11 attacks and the subsequent war on terrorism couldn’t be more different.

Studios initially avoided direct mention of radical Islam’s assault on the home front. An image of the twin towers was removed from a teaser poster for the 2002 film “Spider-Man.”

Later, when the industry finally decided to tackle the subject head-on, it cast a critical eye on America’s response to those attacks via “Fahrenheit 9/11” (2004), “Lions for Lambs” (2007), “Rendition” (2007) and “Redacted” (2007), not the terrorists who perpetrated them.

What were you expecting? A “Rambo”-esque franchise chronicling a Taliban-killing hero?

Not a chance — not in a Hollywood that never fully recovered from post-Vietnam syndrome.

Yahoo! Movies executive producer Sean Phillips says filmmakers’ attitude toward U.S. military action began to change in the 1960s when soldiers started dying in the jungles of Vietnam.

Gary Cooper was out, and “layered, tortured heroes” were in, Mr. Phillips says.

Chalk it up to — take your pick — Hollywood’s politically correct mindset, its increasing reliance on the global market or plain old cowardice.

Conservative author and pundit Andrew Klavan says Hollywood’s blame-America-first reaction to 9/11 boils down to fear.

“[Moviemakers] just will not grasp this nettle for fear of looking like bigots,” Mr. Klavan says.

Not to mention fear of reprisals. “Doing something that annoys Muslims may get you killed,” he says.

Timothy Barnard, visiting assistant pro-

fessor of film studies at the College of William & Mary, recalls not only the imbroglio over the “Spider-Man” poster, but a tweak made to the film post-9/11. The filmmaker added a scene in which New Yorkers rally around their favorite wall-crawler.

“You mess with one of us, you mess with all of us,” a fiery New Yorker tells the Green Goblin, the film’s supervillain.

That epitomized the industry’s way of incorporating 9/11 into its content, what Mr. Barnard calls “stealth rah-rah.”

Films like “Master and Commander,” plus more recent films like the “Transformers” trilogy and “Battle: Los Angeles” integrated elements of good vs. evil without making the connections overt.

It’s not exactly what presidential adviser Karl Rove had in mind when he approached Jack Valenti, then head of the Motion Picture Association of America, in November 2001. Mr. Rove hoped to gin up a repeat of Hollywood’s response to World War II, but the effort never gained traction.

Steve Holzer, executive producer and show runner of original programs at Reelz Channel, says one reason for Hollywood’s uneasy reaction to 9/11 boils down to the new revenue paradigm.

“We are a completely global entertainment medium now,” Mr. Holzer says. “That made it very difficult for Hollywood to make movies that support any sort of war effort.”

During World War II, entertainment producers could get away with using derogatory words to define the enemy. That no longer is possible, he says.

“You have to be careful,” he says. “Don’t infuse or spark anger or riot against someone who is not responsible.”

Jason Apuzzo, conservative filmmaker and editor of Libertas Film Magazine, says politics clearly played a role in Hollywood’s initial reaction to 9/11.

“Their primary response [to 9/11] was to ignore it,” Mr. Apuzzo says. But that appears to be changing, witness the upcoming film on Osama bin Laden’s death at the hands of Navy SEALs due for release next year, as well as director Peter Berg’s adaptation of “Lone Survivor,” a film detailing the hunt for a Taliban leader.

“As the baby boomers start to retire off the scene in Hollywood, it’s becoming less of a factor,” Mr. Apuzzo says of the industry’s politically charged greenlighting process. “Younger people are not as hesitant about dealing with this issue.”

## REGISTER TODAY

**TRIBUTE TO SERVICE**  
HONORING THE VICTIMS,  
SURVIVORS & HEROES OF 9/11  
NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH

**9/11 Day of Service**

**SEPTEMBER 11, 2011**  
**FREEDOM PLAZA**  
**WASHINGTON, DC**

[www.911dc.eventbrite.com](http://www.911dc.eventbrite.com)

**Serve DC**  
THE NATION'S CENTER ON VOLUNTEERISM  
MAYOR VINCENT C. GRAY



**Greater DC CARES**