

WEDNESDAY



Inside Special Report

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How many dead?



Terrorist acts stun America

ARKANSAS DEMOCRAT-GAZETTE STAFF AND WIRE REPORTS

In parallel attacks on the symbols of American financial and military power, terrorists crashed passenger jets into the World Trade Center in New York and the Pentagon outside Washington on Tuesday.

Two planes hit the Trade Center, the first at 8:45 a.m. EDT, the other 18 minutes later, leaving huge holes in the twin, 110-story glass and steel towers. An hour later, with ominous rumbles and colossal showers of debris, the towers collapsed. Witnesses described people on fire jumping in terror, including a man and a woman holding hands.

The plane that hit the Pentagon struck with tremendous force, driving through the huge outer rings of the five-sided building and into the parklike central courtyard at 9:40 a.m.

Barbara Olson, the wife of U.S. Solicitor General Theodore Olson, was among the passengers on that plane. She used a cell phone to tell her husband that the plane had been hijacked by attackers using knives and sharp instruments.

Another passenger jet crashed 80 miles southeast of Pittsburgh at 10 a.m. A Virginia congressman, Rep. James Moran, said the intended target of that plane was apparently Camp David, the presidential retreat in Maryland, 85 miles away.

Casualties are sure to be in the thousands, but no one had a count Tuesday. The airliners carried 266 people, and there were no known survivors. That alone would surpass the death toll of the April 19, 1995, Oklahoma City bombing, which claimed 168 lives in what was the deadliest act of terrorism on U.S. soil.

Fifty thousand people work at the Trade Center, 20,000 at the Pentagon.

Federal authorities identified Saudi exile Osama bin Laden as the prime suspect.

President Bush was in Florida when the attacks occurred. With the White House under threat of attack, he was taken
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On the inside

ARKANSAN KILLED in crash; nation's flights grounded. Page 6A.

FEAR OF GASOLINE shortage sends prices soaring. Page 7A.

FALL OF TOWERS brings U.S. markets to halt. Page 10A.

SCENE IN NEW YORK carnage, crying, screaming. Page 15A.

AUTHORITIES scramble in LR, shut down, clear buildings. Page 1B.

SATURDAY'S Arkansas-North Texas game on hold. Page 1C.

Because the stock markets were closed Tuesday after the World Trade Center attacks in New York, there is no business section in today's edition. Business news is on pages 10-11A.



The New York Times