



# The Clarion-Ledger

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Mississippi's News Source

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# Bush vows terrorist acts to be avenged



Angel Franco/The New York Times

Firefighters assess the scene of the collapsed World Trade Center towers Tuesday. Both 110-story buildings collapsed after two jetliners crashed into them in an apparent terrorist

act. A short time later, another jet crashed into the Pentagon building in Washington. A fourth plane was hijacked and crashed outside Pittsburgh.

Establishing death toll could take weeks, officials say

From wire reports

NEW YORK — In the most devastating terrorist onslaught ever waged against the United States, knife-wielding hijackers crashed two airliners into the World Trade Center on Tuesday, toppling its twin 110-story towers. The deadly calamity was witnessed on televisions across the world as another plane slammed into the Pentagon, collapsing part of it, and a fourth crashed outside Pittsburgh.

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A grim-faced President Bush asked the nation to find comfort in Scripture as he mourned the deaths of thousands of Americans in Tuesday's atrocities and vowed to avenge their killings. "Today, our nation saw evil," he said.

In his first prime-time Oval Office address, Bush said the United States would find and punish "those behind these evil acts," and any country that harbors them.

Said Adm. Robert J. Nat- See **ATTACK, 13A**

## U.S. probe focuses on bin Laden

The Associated Press

WASHINGTON — U.S. officials began piecing together a case linking Osama bin Laden to the worst terrorist attack in U.S. history, aided by an intercept of communications between his supporters and harrowing cell phone calls from victims aboard the jetliners before they crashed on Tuesday.



bin Laden

Authorities were focusing some of their efforts on possible bin Laden supporters in Florida based on the identification of a suspected hijacker

on one of the manifests of the four jets that crashed, law enforcement officials said.

The FBI was preparing to search locations in Broward County in south Florida and the Daytona Beach area in central Florida, Florida Department of Law Enforcement spokesman Rick Morera said.

The locations had links to the suspected bin Laden supporter on the jet manifest, officials said.

U.S. intelligence intercepted communications between bin Laden supporters discussing the attacks on the World Trade Center in New York and the Pentagon, according to Utah Sen. Orrin



Alan Chin/The New York Times

A man and an injured woman walk down a street in downtown Manhattan shortly after the collapse of the World Trade Center towers on Tuesday.

Hatch, the top Republican on the Senate Judiciary Committee.

"They have an intercept of some information that included people associated with bin Laden who acknowledged a couple of targets were hit," Hatch said. He

declined to be more specific. Hatch also said law enforcement has data possibly linking one person on one of the four ill-fated flights to bin Laden's organization.

Government and industry officials said at least one

See **CASE, 13A**

## Sheltered life gone, Mississippians say

By Robert Schoenberger  
Clarion-Ledger Staff Writer

Confusion, anger, sorrow and shock.

Although Mississippi is thousands of miles away from New York and Washington, its residents are feeling the impact of the largest terrorist assault on the nation.

"People in this country have been protected from wars, they've never suffered war inside this country (in their lifetime), and to me, this is war," retired Lt. Gen. Mickey Walker of Jackson said.

Military installations in Mississippi have been placed on the highest alert status. Federal courthouses have been closed. In Jackson, as in cities across the nation, all flights were canceled. Planes already in the air were directed to land at the closest airport.

All outgoing flights after 8:30 a.m. Tuesday until noon

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— retired Lt. Gen. Mickey Walker of Jackson

today were canceled. Passengers scrambled to rent cars or board charter buses provided by airlines for Houston or Shreveport. Others called relatives for rides.

"We had a bomb-sniffing dog go over all the baggage we pulled off the planes and secure the airport as a precautionary measure," said airport spokesman Jerry Keever, who said 48 flights a day usually go through Jackson. "We are under (Federal Aviation Administration) directive to close until we are otherwise notified."

Such disruptions to American life shocked Mississippians.

"I could see the U.S. at war," said Louise McDonald, a downtown Jackson worker, who thought about war-torn countries in the world such as Israel.

"We've always seen it far away. Now it seems like it's near. Now we can feel what they feel. All we can do is pray."

The closed airways are having an impact on hospitals.

The University of Mississippi Medical Center is operating its AirCare helicopter service on a "case-by-case" basis, said Janis Quinn, associate director of public affairs

See **STATE, 13A**



**CORRECTIONS**  
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