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original video podcast covers it allnow ondemand. Watch NowOn September 11, 2001, people in New York City woke up to a beautiful late summer day. It was a Tuesday, and people were preparing for another day at work and school. Thousands of people headed for the World Trade Center, a complex of seven buildings that included a pair of
skyscrapers known as the twin towers. Each tower had 110 stories and stood about 1,360 feet high. The tallest buildings in New York City at the time, the twin towers rose above the citys downtown skyline. Nobody there knew that in just a few hours, both buildings would fall. A shocking eventPeople who live in New York are used to seeing and
hearing airplanes flying overhead. But on the morning of September 11, people stopped on the streets and looked up. The sound of an approaching airplane was too loud, and the plane seemed to be flying too low. To the horror of people watching below, the airplane flew straight into one of the twin towers of the World Trade Center. American Airlines
Flight 11 hit the north tower at 8:46 a.m. The impact of the crash tore a hole that stretched from the 93rd to 99th floors of the building. Smoke and flames poured out of the tower. Many people thought they had just seen a terrible accident. But 17 minutes later, a second plane flew into another one of the World Trade Center buildingsthis time into
the south tower. United Airlines Flight 175 crashed into the 77th through 85th floors of the south tower at 9:03 a.m. Some cell phone and TV station cameras caught the second attack on film. The footage was played over and over again on television.
over the planes. A group of men had taken control of the cockpit of each airplane and flown them into the buildings on purpose. The attack continues a third airplane. American Airlines Flight 77 hit the west side of the
Pentagon, a five-sided concrete building that serves as headquarters for the U.S. Department of Defense, in Arlington, Virginia, just outside Washington, D.C. The planes flying over the country to land as soon as possible. But it was too late for
United Airlines Flight 93. Hijackers had already taken control of this fourth aircraft. They were flying the plane toward Washington, D.C.Passengers and crew members on the plane called loved ones, who told them about the other attacks in New York and Virginia. People on Flight 93 thought their aircraft would be used as a weapon, too. So they
fought the hijackers to try to get control of the plane. In a phone call recorded as passengers and crew began to fight back, passenger Todd Beamer was heard saying, Are you ready? OK, lets roll. Flight 93 eventually crashed into a field near Shanksville, Pennsylvania. The crash site was close to the hijackers likely target, a government building in
Washington, D.C.The rescue beginsBack in New York City, dark smoke poured from the twin towers. People rushed to escape the area, which later became known as ground zero. First responders including police officers, firefighters, and paramedicsarrived within minutes of the first attack on the World Trade Center. They rushed into both towers to
help people trapped inside, even though it would be an extremely difficult rescue operation. Almost all the elevators in the twin towers had stopped working. So rescuers started climbing up the stairs, but many were blocked by rubble or fire. Still, firefighters forged ahead, ignoring the danger. (Read more about the heroes of 9/11.) The towers
fallWhen the airplanes hit the twin towers, they caused massive damage. Concrete floors were destroyed. Steel support beams were cut in two. Floors above the crash sites started to sag downward. Meanwhile, the sprinklers in both buildings were damaged. There was nothing to stop the raging fires, which became hot enough to weaken steel. The
buildings grew unstable. Then they collapsed. The south tower fell first. Once it began to crumble, it took only 10 seconds for it to collapse. The impact caused the north tower to shake, and it, too, crumbled to the ground 29 minutes later. First responders helped many people before the twin towers collapsed. More than 25,000 made it out of the
buildings before they fell. But nearly 3,000 people from the twin towers, the Pentagon, and the four airplanesdied in the attacks that day. The official response The events of September 11, 2001, shook the nation. The U.S. government had to respond. President George W. Bush led the country in a day of prayer and remembrance. Then he led the
nations effort to find and punish the people who had caused the attacks. Their leader was Osama bin Laden considered the United States to be their enemy, which is why the hijackers used the
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Laden to plan and carry out the 9/11 attacks. It would take nearly 10 years for these forces to locate and kill bin Laden himself, who was eventually discovered hiding in nearby Pakistan in May 2011. Banding together attack on such a
powerful nation was a threat to peace around the world. They brought flowers to U.S. embassies and lit candles to honor the victims. They gathered to sing The Star-Spangled Banner. One French newspaper showed its support with the front-page headline Nous sommes tous Amricains, meaning: We are all Americans. After the attacks, many people in
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warnings if they think the country and its people are in danger. That way, the government can protect them. Air travel became stricter after 9/11. Before the attacks, private security Administration (TSA) was created to give the federal government direct
responsibility for all airport screenings. In 2002, the TSA began using explosive detection systems nationwide to screen all bags for explosives. They also installed more advanced technologies, such as the full-body scanner, to ensure travelers werent trying to bring anything harmful on an airplane. (The hijackers used weapons they had carried
onboard to gain control of the aircrafts.) Other ruleslike using small containers for liquids like shampoo or removing shoes during security checkswere put in place to make sure people didnt sneak dangerous things onboard. The United States also entered a long war on terror abroad. In addition to sending troops to Afghanistan, Bush also sent troops
to Iraq in 2003 because of rumors that the country was hiding dangerous weapons. By the time Barack Obama was elected president in 2008, some 4,500 American soldiers had died in Afghanistan and Iraq, with many thousands more wounded. Many Americans felt the loss of life wasnt worth itbin Laden was still missing, and no weapons were ever
found. But in 2011, bin Laden was finally located and killed. His death was a blow to al Qaeda and gave some U.S. citizens hope that progress was being made in the fight against terrorism. By the end of his second term in 2017.
And another terrorist group, the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS), threatened the removal of all troops from Afghanistan by May 1, 2021. Trumps successor, Joe Biden, delayed the removal, announcing that
the United States would be removing all troops from Afghanistan by August 31 instead, just before the 20-year anniversary of the 9/11 attacks. Honoring the victims Memorials now stand to pay tribute to those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001. The 9/11 Memorial and Museum in New York City contains pools set within each area where the
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members. The attacks on September 11, 2001, shook the world and made people realize that even a powerful country like the United States could be a victim of terrorism. But the horrific event also brought out the best in all
of us. Text partially adapted from the Nat Geo Kids book September 11by Libby Romero. On September the 11th, 2001, the world stood stilland watched as a terrible event unfolded. In a coordinated attack, four passenger planes were hijacked by a terrorist group called al-Qaeda, who planned to attack important landmarks in the United States. The
hijackers deliberately flew one of the Pentagon, a huge government building in Washington, DC.Two more planes were flown into the famous twin towers of the World Trade Center - causing New York Citys two tallest skyscrapers to collapse. It was a terrible criminal act that caused the deaths of nearly 3,000 people - including many
brave first responders, who heroically gave their lives trying to rescue those trapped in the buildings. The events that took place on September 11 has to be profound on me. It was the worst experience of my life. It was
the most devastating experience for my city, that I was responsible for. This is unlike anything that we had contemplated. The impact of 9/11 was huge. The families and loved ones of the people who lost
their lives suffered enormous grief. And it took nearly nine months and the work of many thousands of people to clean up the wreckage from the fallen towers. But 9/11 didnt just change the lives of those directly affected. It impacted everybody. And even though it happened a long time ago, it still affects our lives today. After the attacks, George W
Bush - the President of the US at the time - declared a War on terror, targeting the extremist groups that arranged the attacks. And US allies, including the UK, became involved in conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan - two countries whose governments were assumed to be sympathetic to the terrorists cause. To prevent a similar attack from happening,
airport security everywhere became a lot more strict. And even though 9/11 was carried out by an Islamist terrorist group, whose victims included people from all backgrounds, including Muslim people from all backgrounds are set to be a set 
Islamophobia - which continues to impact the lives of Muslim people all around the world. Today, New Yorks skyline looks very different. After the attacks, a taller, single tower was built in memory of the fallen twin towers at the site of the event - called One, World Trade Center. And a beautiful memorial and a museum has been built too, where
people can pay respects and learn about the event. Every year on the anniversary of 9/11, special memorials take place at the sites of the attacks. And on the night of September 11th, two beautiful beams of light - representing the twin towers - are projected into the sky above New York City. They can be seen from more than 100km away. Its important
to remember events like 9/11, not just to commemorate the people who lost their lives. But to remember the compassion and bravery that brought people from all over the world together, to support and help each other in the face of great tragedy. By understanding the importance of tolerance and respect, we can all build a more peaceful world and
make sure that events like 9/11 never happen again. (New Yorker, speaking on anniversary of the attacks) It's a sad day still. And, you know, just wishing love and peace and hoping nothing like this ever has to happen again. And it's sad, sad that it continues to happen again. (New Yorker, speaking on anniversary of the attacks) It's a sad day still. And, you know, just wishing love and peace and hoping nothing like this ever has to happen again.
September 11, 2001, people in New York City woke up to a beautiful late summer day. It was a Tuesday, and people were preparing for another day at work and school. Thousands of people headed for the World Trade Center, a complex of seven buildings that included a pair of skyscrapers known as the twin towers. Each tower had 110 stories and
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85th floors of the south tower at 9:03 a.m. Some cell phone and TV station cameras caught the second attack on film. The footage was played over and over the planes. A group of men had taken control of the cockpit of each
Department of Defense, in Arlington, Virginia, just outside Washington, D.C. The planes flying over the country to land as soon as possible. But it was too late for United Airlines Flight 93. Hijackers had already taken control of this fourth aircraft
They were flying the plane toward Washington, D.C. Passengers and crew members on the plane called loved ones, who told them about the other attacks in New York and Virginia. People on Flight 93 thought their aircraft would be used as a weapon, too. So they fought the hijackers to try to get control of the plane. In a phone call recorded as
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four airplanesdied in the attacks that day. The official response the events of September 11, 2001, shook the nation. The U.S. government had to respond. President George W. Bush led the country in a day of prayer and remembrance. Then he led the nations effort to find and punish the people who had caused the attacks. A terrorist group based in
Afghanistan (a country in the Middle East) called al Qaeda claimed responsibility for the 9/11 attacks. Their leader was Osama bin Laden considered the United States to be their enemy, which is why the hijackers used the airplanes to attack important U.S. buildings. In total, 19 hijackers took over the four planes that crashed
on 9/11. World leaders promised to help the United States punish al Qaeda and locate their leader. In October 2001, the United States and its allies started military actions in Afghanistan, searching for members of al Qaeda who worked with bin Laden to plan and carry out the 9/11 attacks. It would take nearly 10 years for these forces to locate and
kill bin Laden himself, who was eventually discovered hiding in nearby Pakistan in May 2011. Banding together attack on such a powerful nation was a threat to peace around the world. They brought flowers to U.S. embassies and lit candles
to honor the victims. They gathered to sing The Star-Spangled Banner. One French newspaper showed its support with the front-page headline Nous sommes tous Amricains, meaning: We are all Americans. After the attacks, many people in the United States wanted to show support for their country, too. They gave flowers, candles, food, and thank-
you notes to first responders. U.S. residents and organizations also donated a record-breaking $2.8 billion to help the families of victims of the attacks. By the end of 2001, more than 300 U.S. charities were raising money for the cause. Most Americans tried to help others after the 9/11 attacks. But some people took their anger and fear out on people
who looked like they came from the same Middle Eastern countries as the hijackers. Innocent people who had not treated fairly, 20 years laterA lot has changed since September 11, 2001. To prevent similar terrorist attacks from happening in the country, the United States government created
the Department of Homeland Security in 2002. The organization is responsible for border security, immigrations and customs, and disaster relief and prevention. But they also keep a close watch over suspected terrorist groups and send warnings if they think the country and its people are in danger. That way, the government can protect them. Air
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elected president in 2008, some 4,500 American soldiers had died in Afghanistan and Iraq, with many thousands more wounded. Many Americans felt the loss of life wasnt worth itbin Laden was finally located and killed. His death was a blow to al Qaeda and gave some U.S.
citizens hope that progress was being made in the fight against terrorism. By the end of 2011, Obama had withdrawn all combat troops from Iraq. But U.S. troops were still fighting in Afghanistan by the end of his second term in 2017. And another terrorist group, the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS), threatened the region throughout Obamas
presidency and into Donald Trumps single term as president, too. During Trumps successor, Joe Biden, delayed the removal of all troops from Afghanistan by May 1, 2021. Trumps successor, Joe Biden, delayed the removal, announcing that the United States would be removing all troops from Afghanistan by August 31 instead, just before the 20-year
anniversary of the 9/11 attacks. Honoring the victims Memorials now stand to pay tribute to those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001. The 9/11 Memorial and Museum in New York City contains pools set within each area where the twin towers stood; the names of all the 9/11 victims from each tower are inscribed on bronze panels. At the
National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial, each of the 184 benches is dedicated to a victim of the Virginia attack. And the Tower of Voices at the Flight 93 National Memorial in Pennsylvania has 40 wind chimes to honor the planes passengers and crew members. The attacks on September 11, 2001, shook the world and made people realize that even a
powerful country like the United States could be a victim of terrorism. But the horrific event also brought Americans closer together. As U.S. senator John Kerry said at the time, It was the worst day we have ever seen, but it brought out the best in all of us. Text partially adapted from the Nat Geo Kids book September 11 by Libby Romero. 2001
 Islamist terror attacks in the U.S.Several terms redirect here. For other uses, see 911 (disambiguation) and 11/9 (disambiguation). This article is about the 2001 attacks. For other uses, see September 11 attacks (disambiguation).
ofthe Pentagon; Flight 175 crashes into 2 WTC3rd row, left to right: A firefighter requests assistance at World Trade Center site; An engine from Flight 93 is recovered Bottom row: Flight 77's collision with the Pentagon as captured by threeconsecutive CCTV frames Location Lower Manhattan, New York Arlington County, Virginia Stonycreek Township,
Pennsylvania[a]DateSeptember11, 2001; 23 years ago(2001-09-11) c. 08:13a.m.[b] 10:03a.m.[c] (EDT)TargetWorld Trade Center (AA 11 and UA 175)The Pentagon (AA 77)U.S. Capitol Building or the White House (UA 93; unsuccessful due to passenger revolt)Attack typeIslamic terrorism, aircraft hijacking, suicide attack, mass murderDeaths2,996[d]
September 11 attacks) September 11 attacks) September 11 attacks Timeline Flight 175American Airlines Flight 175Am
085Delta Air Lines Flight 1989Crash sitesWorld Trade CentersiteThe PentagonStonycreek/ Shanksville, PennsylvaniaAftermathImmediate repercussionsartwork destroyedbuildings destroyedclosings and cancellationsdetentionsCommunicationPost-9/11economylocal healthairport securityReactionsconspiracy theoriesRudy GiulianiUnsuccessful
Attack on the Pentagon MemorialWorld Trade Center Health ProgramKilling of Osama bin LadenKilling of Ayman al-ZawahiriPerpetratorsResponsibilityAl-QaedaOsama bin LadenKilling of Ayman al-ZawahiriPerpetratorsResponsibilityAl-QaedaOsama bin LadenKilling of Osama bin LadenKilling of Osama bin LadenKilling of Ayman al-ZawahiriPerpetratorsResponsibilityAl-QaedaOsama bin LadenAlleged Saudi roleMotivesHijackers20th hijackerHamburg cellTrialsInquiriesU.S. congressional inquirythe 28 pagesSeptember 11 intelligence before the attacksAugust
PhilipDisappearance of Michele Anne HarrisMurder of Balbir Singh SodhiKilling of Henryk SiwiakMark Anthony StromanLarme PriceRudi DekkersAlicia Esteve HeadJersey GirlsEmma E. Booker Elementary SchoolvteThe September 11 attacks, [f] also known as 9/11, [g] were four coordinated Islamist terrorist suicide attacks by al-Qaeda against the
United States in 2001. Nineteen terrorists hijacked four commercial airliners, crashing the first two into the Twin Towers of the U.S. Department of Defense) in Arlington County, Virginia. The fourth plane crashed in a rural Pennsylvania field during a
flew American Airlines Flight 11 into the North Tower of the World Trade Center complex at 8:46 a.m.[h] Seventeen minutes later at 9:03 a.m.,[i] United Airlines Flight 175 hit the South Tower. American Airlines Flight 77 crashed into the
Pentagon at 9:37 a.m., causing a partial collapse. The fourth and final flight, United Airlines Flight 93, was believed by investigators to target either the United States Capitol or the White House. Alerted to the previous attacks, the passengers revolted against the hijackers who crashed the aircraft into a field near Shanksville, Pennsylvania, at 10:03
a.m. The Federal Aviation Administration ordered an indefinite ground stop for all air traffic in U.S. airspace, preventing any further aircraft to return to their point of origin or divert to Canada. The actions undertaken in Canada to support incoming aircraft and their occupants were
collectively titled Operation Yellow Ribbon. That evening, the Central Intelligence Agency informed President George W. Bush that its Counterterrorism Center had identified the attacks as having been the work of al-Qaeda under Osama bin Laden. The United States responded by launching the war on terror and invading Afghanistan to depose the
Taliban, which rejected U.S. terms to expel al-Qaeda from Afghanistan and extradite its leaders. NATO's invocation of Article 5 of the North Atlantic Treatyits only usage to datecalled upon allies to fight al-Qaeda from Afghanistan, bin Laden eluded them. He denied any involvement until 2004, when
excerpts of a taped statement in which he accepted responsibility for the attacks were released. Al-Qaeda's cited motivations included U.S. support of Israel, the presence of U.S. military bases in Saudi Arabia and sanctions against Iraq. The nearly decade-long manhunt for bin Laden concluded in May 2011, when he was killed during a U.S. military
raid on his compound in Abbottabad, Pakistan. The War in Afghanistan continued for another eight years until the agreement was made in February 2020 for American and NATO troops to withdraw from the country. The attacks killed 2,977 people, injured thousands more[k] and gave rise to substantial long-term health consequences while also
causing at least $10billion in infrastructure and property damage. It remains the deadliest incident for firefighters and law enforcement personnel in American history, killing 343 and 72 members, respectively. The loss of life stemming from the impact of Flight 11 made it the most lethal multi-plane
crash in aviation history followed by the death toll incurred by Flight 175. The destruction of the World Trade Center and its environs seriously harmed the U.S. economy and induced global market shocks. Many other countries strengthened anti-terrorism legislation and expanded their powers of law enforcement and intelligence agencies. The total
number of deaths caused by the attacks, combined with the death tolls from the conflicts they directly incited, has been estimated by the Costs of War Project to be over 4.5 million. [18] Cleanup of the World Trade Center site (colloquially "Ground Zero") was completed in May 2002, while the Pentagon was repaired within a year. After delays in the
Memorial & Museum in New York City, the Pentagon Memorial in Arlington County, Virginia, and the Flight 93 National Memorial at the Pennsylvania crash site. Further information: Fatwas of Osama bin Laden, Political views of Osama bin Laden, Polit
al-Qaeda issued his first fatw, which declared war against the United States and demanded the expulsion of all American foreign policy with respect to Israel, as well as the continued presence of American troops in Saudi Arabia after the
and Said Bahaji were all members of al-Qaeda's Hamburg cell.[23] Bin Laden asserted that military strikes against the United States and combat American aggression. He further argued that military strikes against the United States and combat American aggression. He further argued that military strikes against the United States and combat American aggression.
support to Israel, and other aggressive policies. [24] In a 1998 interview with American journalist John Miller, bin Laden stated: We do not differentiate between those dressed in military uniforms and civilians; they are all targets in this fatwa. American history does not distinguish between civilians and military, not even women and children. They are
the ones who used bombs against Nagasaki. Can these bombs distinguish between infants and military? American sa people and we tell the mothers of soldiers and American mothers in general that if they value their lives and the lives of their children, to
find a nationalistic government that will look after their interests and not the Jews. The continuation of tyranny will bring the fight to America, as [the 1993 World Trade Center bomber] Ramzi [Yousef] yourself and others did. This is my message to the America, as [the 1993 World Trade Center bomber] Ramzi [Yousef] yourself and others did. This is my message to the America, as [the 1993 World Trade Center bomber] Ramzi [Yousef] yourself and others did. This is my message to the America, as [the 1993 World Trade Center bomber] Ramzi [Yousef] yourself and others did. This is my message to the America, as [the 1993 World Trade Center bomber] Ramzi [Yousef] yourself and others did. This is my message to the America, as [the 1993 World Trade Center bomber] Ramzi [Yousef] yourself and others did. This is my message to the America, as [the 1993 World Trade Center bomber] Ramzi [Yousef] yourself and others did. This is my message to the America, as [the 1993 World Trade Center bomber] Ramzi [Yousef] yourself and others did. This is my message to the America, as [the 1993 World Trade Center bomber] Ramzi [Yousef] yourself and others did. This is my message to the America, as [the 1993 World Trade Center bomber] Ramzi [Yousef] yourself and others did. This is my message to the America [Yousef] yourself and other [Yousef] yourself and other [Yousef] yourself and other [Yousef] yourself and [Yousef] yourself yourself yourself yourself yourself yourself yourself yourself yourself you
and does not attack others, their lands, or their honor. My word to American journalists is not to ask why we did that but to ask what their government has done that forced us to defend ourselves. Osama bin Laden, in his interview with John Miller, May 1998, [25]Osama bin Laden in 1997 or 1998Main article: Osama bin Laden further information:
Militant career of Osama bin LadenBin Laden orchestrated the September 11 attacks. He initially denied involvement, but later recanted his denial. [26][27][28] Al Jazeera broadcast a statement by him on September 16, 2001: "I stress that I have not carried out this act, which appears to have been carried out by individuals with their own motivation
[29] In November 2001, U.S. forces recovered a videotape in which bin Laden, talking to Khaled al-Harbi, admitted foreknowledge of the attacks, said:[31]It has become clear that the West in general and America in
particular have an unspeakable hatred for Islam.... It is the hatred of crusaders. Terrorism against America deserves to be praised because it was a response to injustice, aimed at forcing America deserves to be praised because it was a response to injustice, aimed at forcing America deserves to be praised because it was a response to injustice, aimed at forcing America deserves to be praised because it was a response to injustice, aimed at forcing America deserves to be praised because it was a response to injustice, aimed at forcing America deserves to be praised because it was a response to injustice, aimed at forcing America deserves to be praised because it was a response to injustice, aimed at forcing America deserves are alive or
dead, for the awakening of the Muslim ummah [nation] has occurred.... It is important to hit the economy (of the United States), which is the base of its military power... If the economy is hit they will become reoccupied. Osama bin Laden Shortly before the 2004 U.S. presidential election, bin Laden used a taped statement to publicly acknowledge al-
Qaeda's involvement in the attacks. [26] He admitted his direct way started in 1982 when America permitted the Israelis to invade Lebanon and the American Sixth Fleet helped them in that. This bombardment began and many were killed and
injured and others were terrorised and displaced. I couldn't forget those moving scenes, blood and severed limbs, women and children sprawled everywhere. Houses were destroyed along with their occupants, high rises demolished towers in
Lebanon, it entered my mind that we should punish the oppressor in kind and that we should destroy towers in America so that they be deterred from killing our women and children. And that day, it was confirmed to me that oppression and the intentional killing of innocent women and children is a
deliberate American policy. Destruction is freedom and democracy, while resistance is terrorism and intolerance. [32] Bin Laden personally directed his followers to attack the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. [33] Another video obtained by Al Jazeera in September 2006 showed bin Laden with one of the attacks' chief planners, Ramzi bin al-
Shibh, as well as hijackers, Hamza al-Ghamdi and Wail al-Shehri, amidst making preparations for the attacks.[35]Main article: Khalid Sheikh MohammedKhalid Sheikh Mohammed after his 2003 capture in Rawalpindi, PakistanJournalist Yosri Fouda of the Arabic television channel Al Jazeera reported that in April 2002, al-Qaeda member Khalid
Sheikh Mohammed admitted his involvement in the attacks, along with Ramzi bin al-Shibh.[36][37][38] The 2004 9/11 Commission Report determined that the animosity which Mohammed, the principal architect of the 9/11 attacks, felt towards the United States had stemmed from his "violent disagreement with U.S. foreign policy favoring Israel".[39]
Mohammed was also an adviser and financier of the 1993 World Trade Center bombing and the uncle of Ramzi Yousef, the lead bomber in that attack. [40][41] In late 1994, Mohammed and Yousef's capture by U.S. forces the following
month, the Bojinka plot would influence the later 9/11 attacks.[42]In "Substitution for Testimony of Khalid Sheikh Mohammed" from the trial of Zacarias Moussaoui, five people are identified as having been completely aware of the operation's details. They are bin Laden, Khalid Sheikh Mohammed, Ramzi bin al-Shibh, Abu Turab al-Urduni and
Mohammed Atef.[43]Main article: Motives for the September 11 attacksFurther information: Fatwas of Osama bin LadenOsama bin LadenOsama bin Laden and others that called for the killing of Americans, [20][44] are seen by investigators as evidence of his motivation.[45] In
November 2001, bin Laden defended the attacks as retaliatory strikes against American atrocities against Muslims across the world. He also maintained that the attacks were symbols of America's "economic and military power". [46][47] In bin Laden's November
2002 Letter to the American People, he identified al-Qaeda's motives for the attacks: U.S. support of Israel[48][49]Bin Laden's strategy to support of the government of Philippines against Muslims in the Moro conflictU.S.
support for the Israeli occupation of Southern LebanonU.S. support of Russian atrocities against Muslims in ChechnyaPro-American governments in the Middle East (who "act as your agents") being against Muslims in ChechnyaPro-American governments in the Middle East (who "act as your agents") being against Muslims in ChechnyaPro-American governments in the Middle East (who "act as your agents") being against Muslims in ChechnyaPro-American governments in the Middle East (who "act as your agents") being against Muslims in ChechnyaPro-American governments in the Middle East (who "act as your agents") being against Muslims in ChechnyaPro-American governments in the Middle East (who "act as your agents") being against Muslims in ChechnyaPro-American governments in the Middle East (who "act as your agents") being against Muslims in ChechnyaPro-American governments in the Middle East (who "act as your agents") being against Muslims in ChechnyaPro-American governments in the Middle East (who "act as your agents") being against Muslims in ChechnyaPro-American governments in the Middle East (who "act as your agents") being against Muslims in ChechnyaPro-American governments in the Middle East (who "act as your agents") being against Muslims in ChechnyaPro-American governments in the Middle East (who "act as your agents") being against Muslims in ChechnyaPro-American governments in the Middle East (who "act as your agents") being against Muslims in ChechnyaPro-American governments in the Middle East (who "act as your agents") being against Muslims in ChechnyaPro-American governments in the Middle East (who "act as your agents") being against Muslims in ChechnyaPro-American governments in the Middle East (who "act as your agents") being against Muslims in ChechnyaPro-American governments in the Middle East (who "act as your agents") being against Muslims in ChechnyaPro-American governments in the Middle East (who "act as your agents") being against Muslims in ChechnyaPro-American governments in the Middle East (who "act as y
against Iraq[48]Environmental destruction[55][56][57]After the attacks, bin Laden and Ayman al-Zawahiri released additional recordings, some of which repeated the above reasons. Two relevant publications were bin Laden and Ayman al-Zawahiri released additional recordings, some of which repeated the above reasons. Two relevant publications were bin Laden and Ayman al-Zawahiri released additional recordings, some of which repeated the above reasons. Two relevant publications were bin Laden and Ayman al-Zawahiri released additional recordings, some of which repeated the above reasons.
power. It wasn't a children's school! Neither was it a residence. The consensus is that most of the people who were in the towers were men who backed the biggest financial force in the world, which spreads mischief throughout the world. Osama Bin Laden's interview with Tayseer Allouni, October 21, 2001[60]As an adherent of Islam, bin Laden
 believed that non-Muslims are forbidden from having a permanent presence in the Arabian Peninsula.[61] In 1996, bin Laden issued a fatw calling for American troops to leave Saudi Arabia. One analysis of suicide terrorism suggested that without U.S. troops in Saudi Arabia.
missions.[62] In the 1998 fatwa, al-Qaeda identified the Iraq sanctions as a reason to kill Americans, condemning the "protracted blockade" among other actions that constitute a declaration of war against "Allah, his messenger, and Muslims".[63]In 2004, bin Laden claimed that the idea of destroying the towers had first occurred to him in 1982 when
he witnessed Israel's bombardment of high-rise apartment buildings during the 1982 Lebanon War.[64][65] Some analysts, including political scientists John Mearsheimer and Stephen Walt, also claimed that U.S. support of Israel was a motive for the attacks.[49][66] In 2004 and 2010, bin Laden again connected the September 11 attacks with U.S.
support of Israel, although most of the letters expressed bin Laden's disdain for President Bush and bin Laden's hope to "destroy and bankrupt" the U.S.[67][68]Other motives have been suggested in addition to those stated by bin Laden and al-Qaeda. Some authors suggested the "humiliation" that resulted from the Islamic world falling behind the
Western worldthis discrepancy was rendered especially visible by globalization[69][70] and a desire to provoke the U.S. into a broader war against the Islamic world in the hope of motivating more allies to support al-Qaeda. Similarly, others have argued the 9/11 attacks were a strategic move to provoke America into a war that would incite a pan-
Islamic revolution.[71][72]Main article: Planning of the September 11 attacksMap of the attacks on the World Trade Center Diagram of the World
 11". He describes how he was inspired by the crash of EgyptAir Flight 990 in October 1999, which was deliberately crashed by co-pilot Gameel Al-Batouti, killing over 200 passengers. "This is how the idea of 9/11 was conceived and developed in my head, and that is when we began the planning
and Abu al-Khair knew about it at the time. The 9/11 Commission Report identified Khalid Sheikh Mohammed as the architect of 9/11, but he is not mentioned in bin Laden in 1996.[74] At that time, bin Laden and al-Qaeda were in a period
of transition, having just relocated back to Afghanistan from Sudan.[75] The 1998 African embassy bombings and bin Laden became intent on attacking the United States. In late 1998 or early 1999, bin Laden approved Mohammed to go forward with
organizing the plot.[77] Atef provided operational support, including target selections and helping arrange travel for the hijackers.[75] Bin Laden overruled Mohammed, rejecting potential targets such as the U.S. Bank Tower in Los Angeles for lack of time.[78][79]Bin Laden provided leadership and financial support and was involved in selecting
participants.[80] He initially selected Nawaf al-Hazmi and Khalid al-Mihdhar, both experienced jihadists who had fought in the Bosnian war. Hazmi and Mihdhar took flying lessons in San Diego, California. Both spoke little English, performed poorly in flying lessons,
and eventually served as secondary "muscle" hijackers.[81][82]In late 1999, a group of men from Hamburg, Germany, arrived in Afghanistan. The group included Mohamed Atta, Marwan al-Shehhi, Ziad Jarrah, and Ramzi bin al-Shibh.[83] Bin Laden selected these men because they were educated, could speak English, and had experience living in the
West.[84] New recruits were routinely screened for special skills and al-Qaeda leaders consequently discovered that Hani Hanjour arrived in San Diego on December 8, 2000, joining Hazmi.[86]:67 They soon left for Arizona, where Hanjour took refresher training.[86]:7 Marwan al-Shehhi arrived at
the end of May 2000, while Atta arrived on June 3, 2000, and Jarrah arrived on June 27, 2000.[86]:6 Bin al-Shibh applied several times for a visa to the United States, but as a Yemeni, he was rejected out of concerns he would overstay his visa.[86]:4,14 Bin al-Shibh stayed in Hamburg, providing coordination between Atta and Mohammed.[86]:16 The
three Hamburg cell members all took pilot training in South Florida at Huffman Aviation. [86]:6In the spring of 2001, the secondary hijackers began arriving in the United States. [87] In July 2001, Atta met with bin al-Shibh in Tarragona, Catalonia, Spain, where they coordinated details of the plot, including final target selection. Bin al-Shibh passed
along bin Laden's wish for the attacks to be carried out as soon as possible.[88] Some of the hijackers received passports from corrupt Saudi officials who were family members or used fraudulent passports to gain entry.[89]Main article: September 11 intelligence before the attacksIn late 1999, al-Qaeda associate Walid bin Attash ("Khallad")
contacted Mihdhar and told him to meet in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; Hazmi and Abu Bara al Yemeni would also be in attendance. The NSA intercepted a telephone call mentioning the meeting, Mihdhar, and the name "Nawaf" (Hazmi); while the agency feared "Something nefarious might be afoot", it took no further action. The CIA had already been
alerted by Saudi intelligence about Mihdhar and Hazmi being al-Oaeda members, A CIA team broke into Mihdhar's Dubai hotel room and discovered that Mihdhar had a U.S. visa. While Alec Station alerted intelligence agencies worldwide, it did not share this information with the FBI. The Malaysian Special Branch observed the January 5, 2000,
meeting of the two al-Qaeda members and informed the CIA that Mihdhar, Hazmi, and Khallad were flying to Bangkok, but the CIA never notified other agencies of this, nor did it ask the State Department to put Mihdhar on its watchlist. An FBI liaison asked permission to inform the FBI of the meeting but was told: "This is not a matter for the FBI"
[90]By late June, senior counter-terrorism official Richard Clarke and CIA director George Tenet were "convinced that a major series of attacks would likely occur in Saudi Arabia or Israel. [91] In early July, Clarke put domestic agencies on "full alert", telling them, "Something spectacular is
going to happen here, and it's going to happen soon". He asked the FBI and the State Department to go to "Threat Condition Delta".[92][93] Clarke later wrote: Somewhere in CIA there was information that two known al Oaeda terrorists had come into the United States.
Somewhere in the FBI, there was information that strange things had been going on at flight schools in the United States.[...] They had specific information got to me or the White House.[94][...] by July [2001], with word spreading of a
coming attack, a schism emerged among the senior leadership of al Qaeda. Several senior members reportedly agreed with Mullah Omar. Those who reportedly sided with bin Ladin included Atef, Sulayman Abu Ghayth, and KSM. But those said to have opposed him were weighty figures in the organization-including Abu Hafs the Mauritanian, Sheikh
Saeed al Masri, and Sayf al Adl. One senior al Qaeda operative claims to recall Bin Ladin arguing that attacks against the United States needed to be carried out immediately to support insurgency in the Israeli-occupied territories and protest the presence of U.S. forces in Saudi Arabia.9/11 Commission Report, p.251[95]On July 13, Tom Wilshire, a
CIA agent assigned to the FBI's international terrorism division, emailed his superiors at the CIA's Counterterrorism Center (CTC) requesting permission to inform the FBI that Hazmi was in the country and that Mihdhar had a U.S. visa. The CIA never responded. [96] The same day, Margarette Gillespie, an FBI analyst working in the CTC, was told to
review material about the Malaysia meeting. She was not told of the participant's presence in the U.S. The CIA gave Gillespie surveillance photos of Mihdhar and Hazmi from the meeting to show to FBI counterterrorism but did not tell her their significance. The Intelink database informed her not to share intelligence material with criminal
investigators. When shown the photos, the FBI refused more details on their significance, and they were not given Mihdhar's date of birth or passport number. [97] In late August 2001, Gillespie told the FBI was prohibited from using
criminal agents in searching for the duo, hindering their efforts. [98] Also in July, a Phoenix-based FBI agent sent a message to FBI headquarters, Alec Station, and FBI agents to the United States to attend civil aviation universities and colleges"
The agent, Kenneth Williams, suggested the need to interview flight school managers and identify all Arab students seeking flight training. [99] In July, Jordan notified the U.S. that al-Qaeda was planning an attack on the U.S.; "months later", Jordan notified the U.S. that al-Qaeda was planning an attack on the U.S. that al-Qaeda was planning an attack on the U.S.; "months later", Jordan notified the U.S. that al-Qaeda was planning an attack on the U.S.; "months later", Jordan notified the U.S. that al-Qaeda was planning an attack on the U.S.; "months later", Jordan notified the U.S. that al-Qaeda was planning an attack on the U.S.; "months later", Jordan notified the U.S. that al-Qaeda was planning an attack on the U.S.; "months later", Jordan notified the U.S. that al-Qaeda was planning an attack on the U.S.; "months later", Jordan notified the U.S. that al-Qaeda was planning an attack on the U.S.; "months later", Jordan notified the U.S. that al-Qaeda was planning an attack on the U.S.; "months later", Jordan notified the U.S. that al-Qaeda was planning an attack on the U.S.; "months later", Jordan notified the U.S. that al-Qaeda was planning an attack on the U.S.; "months later", Jordan notified the U.S. that al-Qaeda was planning an attack on the U.S.; "months later", Jordan notified the U.S. that al-Qaeda was planning an attack on the U.S. that al-Qaeda was planning attack
[100]On August 6, 2001, the CIA's Presidential Daily Brief, designated "For the President Only", was entitled Bin Ladin Determined To Strike in US. The memo noted that FBI information "indicates patterns of suspicious activity in this country consistent with preparations for hijackings or other types of attacks".[101]In mid-August, one Minnesota
flight school alerted the FBI about Zacarias Moussaoui, who had asked "suspicious questions". The FBI found that Moussaoui was a radical who had traveled to Pakistan, and the INS arrested him for overstaying his French visa. Their request to search his laptop was denied by FBI headquarters due to the lack of probable cause.[102]The failures in
intelligence-sharing were attributed to 1995 Justice Department policies limiting intelligence-sharing, combined with CIA and NSA reluctance to reveal "sensitive sources and methods" such as tapped phones.[103] Testifying before the 9/11 Commission in April 2004, then Attorney General John Ashcroft recalled that the "single greatest structural struct
cause for the September 11th problem was the wall that segregated or separated criminal investigators and intelligence agents".[104] Clarke also wrote: "[T]here were... failures to get information to the right place at the right time".[105]For a chronological guide, see Timeline for the day of the September 11 attacks. Early on the morning of Tuesday
September 11, 2001, nineteen hijackers took control of four commercial airliners (two Boeing 767s).[106] Large planes with long flights OperatorFlight numberAircraft typeTime of departure*Time of crash*Departed fromEn
route toCrash siteFatalitiesCrewPassengersGroundHijackersTotalAmerican Airlines11Boeing 767-223(ER)[1]7:59a.m.8:46a.m.Logan International AirportLos Angeles Internat
International AirportField in Stonycreek Township near Shanksville7330444Totals332132,731192,996* Eastern Daylight Time (UTC04:00) Excluding hijackers Including hijac
first attack)United Airlines Flight 175 crashes into 2 World Trade Center (the second attack)Security camera footage of American Airlines Flight 93, near
Stonycreek TownshipAt 7:59a.m., American Airlines Flight 11 took off from Logan International Airport in Boston.[109] Fifteen minutes into the flight, five hijackers armed with boxcutters took over the plane, injuring at least three people (and possibly killing one)[110][111][112] before forcing their way into the cockpit. The terrorists also displayed
an apparent explosive and sprayed mace into the cabin, to frighten the hostages into submission and further hinder resistance. [113] Back at Logan, United Airlines Flight 77 left the runway at 8:20a.m. [114] Flight 175's journey
proceeded normally for 28 minutes until 8:42am, when a group of five hijackers also used bomb threats to instill fear into the passengers and crew,[115] also spraying "tear gas, pepper spray or another irritant" in the cabin to
force passengers and flight attendants to the rear of the cabin.[116] Concurrently, United Airlines Flight 93 departed from Newark International Airport in New Jersey;[114] originally scheduled to pull away from the gate at 8:00a.m., the plane was running 42 minutes late. At 8:46 a.m., Flight 11 was deliberately crashed into the north face of the
World Trade Center's North Tower between the 93rd and 99th floors.[117] The initial presumption by many was that it was an accident.[118] At 8:51a.m., American Airlines Flight 77 was also taken over by five hijackers who forcibly entered the cockpit 31 minutes after take-off.[119] Although they were equipped with knives,[120] there were no
reports of anyone on board being stabbed, nor did the two people who made phone calls mention the use of mace or a bomb threat. United Airlines Flight 175 hitting the South TowerFlight 175 was flown into the South TowerFlight 175 was flown in
deliberate act of terrorism.[122][123]Four men aboard Flight 93 struck suddenly, killing at least one passenger, after having waited 46 minutes holdup that proved disastrous for the terrorists when combined with the delayed takeoff.[124] They stormed the cockpit and seized control of the plane at 9:28a.m., turning the plane eastbound towards
Washington, D.C.[125] Much like their counterparts on the first two flights, the fourth team used bomb threats and filled the cabin with mace.[126]Nine minutes after Flight 93's hijacking, Flight 77 crashed into the west side of the Pentagon at 9:37 a.m.[127] Because of the two delays, [128] the passengers and crew of Flight 93 had time to learn of
the previous attacks through phone calls to the ground, and, as a result, an uprising was hastily organized to take control of the aircraft at 9:57a.m.[129] Within minutes, passengers had fought their way to the front of the cabin and began breaking down the cockpit door. Fearing their captives would gain the upper hand, the hijackers rolled the plane
and pitched it into a nosedive, [130][131] crashing into a field near Shanksville, Pennsylvania, southeast of Pittsburgh, at 10:03:11 a.m. The plane was about twenty minutes away from reaching D.C. at the time of the crash, and its target is believed to have been either the Capitol Building or the White House. [107][129]Some passengers and crew who
called from the aircraft using the cabin air phone service and mobile phones provided details: several hijackers were aboard had been stabbed. [132] Reports indicated hijackers stabbed and killed pilots, flight attendants, and one or more
passengers.[106][133] According to the 9/11 Commission's final report, the hijackers had recently purchased multi-function hand tools and assorted Leatherman-type utility knives with locking blades (which were not forbidden to passengers at the time), but these were not found among the possessions left behind by the hijackers.[134][135] A flight
attendant on Flight 11, a passenger on Flight 175, and passengers on Flight 93 said the hijackers had bombs, but one of the passengers said he thought the bombs were fake. The FBI found no traces of explosives at the crash sites, and the 9/11 Commission concluded that the bombs were probably fake. [106] On at least two of the hijacked
respectively) mistakenly transmitted their messages to ATC instead of the people on the plane as intended, tipping off the flight controllers that the planes had been hijacked. Three buildings in the World Trade Center collapsed due to fire-induced structural failure. Although the South Tower was struck around seventeen minutes after the North
Tower, the plane's impact zone was far lower, at a much faster speed, and into a corner, with the unevenly-balanced additional structural weight causing it to collapse first at 9:59 a.m.,[138]:80[139]:322 having burned for exactly 56 minutes[p] in the fire caused by the crash of United Airlines Flight 175 and the explosion of its fuel. The North Tower
lasted another 29 minutes and 24 seconds before collapsing at 10:28: a.m.,[q] one hour, forty-one minutes, and fifty-three seconds[j] after being struck by American Airlines Flight 11. When the North Tower collapsed, debris fell on the nearby 7World Trade Center building (7WTC), damaging the building and starting fires. These fires burned for
nearly seven hours, compromising the building's structural integrity, and 7WTC collapsed at 5:21p.m.[142][143] The west side of the Pentagon sustained significant damage. At 9:42a.m., the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) grounded all civilian aircraft within the continental U.S., and civilian aircraft already in flight were told to land
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immediately.[144] All international civilian aircraft were either turned back or redirected to airports in Canada or Mexico, and were banned from landing on United States territory for three days.[145] The attacks created widespread confusion among news organizations and air traffic controllers. Among unconfirmed and often contradictory news reports aired throughout the day, one of the most prevalent claimed a car bomb had been detonated at the U.S. State Department's headquarters in Washington, D.C.[146] Another jet (Delta Air Lines Flight 1989) was suspected of having been hijacked, but the aircraft responded to controllers and landed safely in Cleveland, Ohio.[147]In an April

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2002 interview, Khalid Sheikh Mohammed and Ramzi bin al-Shibh, who are believed to have organized the attacks, Said Flight 93's intended target was the United States Capitol, not the White House might be too tough a target and
 sought an assessment from Hani Hanjour (who hijacked and piloted Flight 77).[149] Mohammed said al-Qaeda initially planned to target nuclear installations rather than the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, but decided against it, fearing things could "get out of control".[150] Final decisions on targets, according to Mohammed, were left in the
hands of the pilots.[149] If any pilot could not reach his intended target, he was to crash the plane.[107]Main articles: Casualties of the September 11 attacks and Lists of victims of the September 11 attacks and Lists of victims of the September 11 attacks.
wide acclamationThe attack on the World Trade Center's North Tower alone[r] made 9/11 the deadliest act of terrorism in history.[153] Taken together, the four crashes killed 2,996 people (including the hijackers) and injured thousands more.[154] The death toll included 265 on the four planes (from which there were no survivors); 2,606 in the
World Trade Center and the surrounding area; and 125 at the Pentagon.[155][156] Most who died were civilians, as well as 343 firefighters, 72 law enforcement officers, 55 military personnel, and the 19 terrorists.[157][158] More than 90% of those who died in the towers had
been at or above the points of impact. In the North Tower, between 1,344[160] and 1,402 people were at, above or one floor below the point of impact were trapped and died in the fires or from smoke inhalation; fell or
jumped from the tower to escape the smoke and flames; or were killed in the building's collapse. The destruction of all three staircases in the North Tower when Flight 11 hit made it impossible for anyone from the impact zone upward to escape. 107 people not trapped by the impact died. [163] When Flight 11 struck between floors 93 and 99, the
92nd floor was rendered inescapable: the crash severed all elevator shafts while falling debris blocked the stairwells, ensuring the deaths of all 69 workers on the floor. In the South Tower, around 600 people were on or above the 77th floor when Flight 175 struck; few survived. As with the North Tower, hundreds were killed at the moment of impact.
Unlike those in the North Tower, the estimated 300 survivors[162] of the crash were either unaware that a means of escape still existed or were unable to use it. One stairway, Stairwell A, narrowly avoided being destroyed, allowing 14 people located on the floors of impact (including Stanley Praimnath, a man
who saw the plane coming at him) and four more from the floors above to escape. New York City 9-1-1 operators who received calls from people inside the tower on their own.[164] In total, 630 people died in the South Tower, fewer than
half the number killed in the North Tower.[163] Of the 100200 people witnessed jumping or falling to their deaths, [165] only three recorded sightings were from the South Tower.[138]:86 Casualties in the South Tower.[163] or their deaths, [165] only three recorded sightings were from the South Tower.[163] or their deaths, [165] only three recorded sightings were from the South Tower.[163] or their deaths, [165] only three recorded sightings were from the South Tower.[163] or their deaths, [165] only three recorded sightings were from the South Tower.[163] or their deaths, [165] only three recorded sightings were from the South Tower.[165] only three recorded sightings were from the South Tower.[165] only three recorded sightings were from the South Tower.[165] only three recorded sightings were from the South Tower.[165] only three recorded sightings were from the South Tower.[165] only three recorded sightings were from the South Tower.[165] only three recorded sightings were from the South Tower.[165] only three recorded sightings were from the South Tower.[165] only three recorded sightings were from the South Tower.[165] only three recorded sightings were from the South Tower.[165] only three recorded sightings were from the South Tower.[165] only three recorded sightings were from the South Tower.[165] only three recorded sightings were from the South Tower.[165] only three recorded sightings were from the South Tower.[165] only three recorded sightings were from the South Tower.[165] only three recorded sightings were from the South Tower.[165] only three recorded sightings were from the South Tower.[165] only three recorded sightings were from the South Tower.[165] only three recorded sightings were from the South Tower.[165] only three recorded sightings were from the South Tower.[165] only three recorded sightings were from the South Tower.[165] only three recorded sightings were from the South Tower.[165] only three recorded sightings were from the South Tower.[165] only three recorded sightings were 
Eric Eisenberg, an executive at AON Insurance, decided to evacuate the floors occupied by AON (92 and 98105) following the impact of Flight 11. The 17-minute gap allowed over 900 of the 1,100 AON employees present to evacuate from above the 77th floor before the South Tower was struck; Eisenberg was among the nearly 200 who did not
escape. Similar pre-impact evacuations were carried out by Fiduciary Trust, CSC, and Euro Brokers, all of whom had offices on floors above the point of impact. The failure to order a full evacuation of the South Tower was described by USA Today as "one of the day's great tragedies".[166]As exemplified
in the photograph The Falling Man, more than 200 people fell to their deaths from the burning towers, most of whom were forced to jump to escape the extreme heat, fire and smoke. [167] Some occupants of each tower above the point of impact made their way toward the roof in the hope of helicopter rescue, but the roof access doors were locked.
[168] No plan existed for helicopter rescues, and the combination of roof equipment, thick smoke and intense heat prevented helicopters from approaching. [169] At the World Trade Center complex, 414 emergency workers died as they tried to rescue people and fight fires, while another law enforcement officer was killed when United 93 crashed. The
New York City Fire Department (FDNY) lost 343 firefighters, including a chaplain and two paramedics.[170][171][172] The New York City Police Department (PAPD) lost 37 officers.[174] Eight emergency medical technicians and paramedics from private emergency medical services
units were killed.[175] Almost all of the emergency personnel who died at the scene were killed as a result of the towers collapsing, with the exception of one who was struck by a civilian falling from the South Tower.[176]Cantor Fitzgerald L.P., an investment bank on the North Tower's 101st105th floors, lost 658 employees, considerably more than
any other employer.[177] Marsh Inc., located immediately below Cantor Fitzgerald on floors 93100, lost 358 employees.[180] The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) estimated that about 17,400 civilians were in the World Trade Center complex at the time of the attacks.
[181]:xxxiii Turnstile counts from the Port Authority suggest 14,154 people were typically in the Twin Towers by 8:45a.m.[182] Most people below the impact zone safely evacuated.[183]In Arlington County, Virginia, 125 Pentagon workers died when Flight 77 crashed into the building's western side. Seventy were civilians and 55 were military
personnel, many of whom worked for the United States Army or the United States Navy. The Army lost 47 civilian employees, six civilian contractors, and 22 soldiers, while the Navy lost six civilian employees and one Office of the Secretary of the Secretary of the Secretary of the United States Army or the United States Army or the United States Navy. The Army lost 47 civilian employees, six civilian employees, six civilian employees, six civilian contractors, and 22 soldiers.
Defense contractor died. [184] [185] [186] Timothy Maude, a Lieutenant General and Army Deputy Chief of Staff, was the highest-ranking military official killed at the Pentagon. [187] Weeks after the attack, the death toll was estimated to be over 6,000, more than twice the number of deaths eventually confirmed. [188] The city was only able to identify
remains for about 1,600 of the World Trade Center victims. The medical examiner's office collected "about 10,000 unidentified bone and tissue fragments were still being found in 2006 by workers who were preparing to demolish the damaged Deutsche Bank Building.[190]In 2010,
a team of anthropologists and archaeologists searched for human remains and personal items at the Fresh Kills Landfill, where 72 more human remains were recovered, bringing the total found to 1,845. As of 2011, DNA profiling was ongoing in an attempt to identify additional victims.[191][192][193] In 2014, three coffin-size cases carrying 7,930
unidentified remains were transferred to a medical examiner's repository located at the same site as the National September 11 Memorial & Museum.[194] Victims' families are permitted to visit a private "reflection room" which is closed to the public. The choice to place the remains in an underground area attached to a museum has been
controversial; families of some victims have attempted to have the remains instead interred in a separate, above-ground monument. [195] In August 2017, the 1,641st victim was identified in October 2019, [198] two in
September 2021[199] and an additional two in September 2023.[200] As of 2025, 1,103 victims remain unidentified, amounting to 40% of the deaths in the World Trade Center attacks.[201] On September 2023.[200] As of 2025, 1,103 victims remain unidentified, amounting to 40% of the deaths in the World Trade Center attacks.[201] On September 2023.[200] As of 2025, 1,103 victims remain unidentified, amounting to 40% of the deaths in the World Trade Center attacks.[201] On September 2023.[200] As of 2025, 1,103 victims remain unidentified, amounting to 40% of the deaths in the World Trade Center attacks.[201] On September 2023.[200] As of 2025, 1,103 victims remain unidentified, amounting to 40% of the deaths in the World Trade Center attacks.[201] On September 2023.[200] As of 2025, 1,103 victims remain unidentified, amounting to 40% of the deaths in the World Trade Center attacks.[201] On September 2023.[200] As of 2025, 1,103 victims remain unidentified, amounting to 40% of the deaths in the World Trade Center attacks.[201] On September 2023.[200] As of 2025, 1,103 victims remain unidentified, amounting to 40% of the deaths in the World Trade Center attacks.[201] On September 2023.[200] As of 2025, 1,103 victims remain unidentified, amounting to 40% of the deaths in the World Trade Center attacks.[201] On September 2023.[200] On Sep
attacks.[202][203]Further information: Collapse of the World Trade Center and List of buildings damaged or destroyed in the September 11 attacksThe World Trade Center (3WTC), 7WTC, and St. Nicholas Greek
Orthodox Church were destroyed.[204] The U.S. Customs House (6 World Trade Center), 4World Trade Center, 5 World Trade Center, and both pedestrian bridges connecting buildings were extinguished on December 20.[206]The
Deutsche Bank Building was damaged and was later condemned as uninhabitable because of toxic conditions; it was deconstructed starting in 2007.[207][208][209][210] Buildings of the World Financial Center were damaged. [207] The Borough of Manhattan Community College's Fiterman Hall was condemned due to extensive damage, and then
reopened in 2012.[211]Other neighboring buildings (including 90 West Street and the Verizon Buildings (including 90 West Street and the Verizon Buildings, One Liberty Plaza, the Millenium Hilton, and 90 Church Street had moderate damage and have been restored.[212] World Financial Center buildings (including 90 West Street and the Verizon Buildings, One Liberty Plaza, the Millenium Hilton, and 90 Church Street had moderate damage and have been restored.[213] Communications equipment on top of the
North Tower was also destroyed, with only WCBS-TV maintaining a backup transmitter on the Empire State Building, but media stations were quickly able to reroute the signals and resume their broadcasts. [204][214] A September 14 aerial view of the Pentagon during cleanup operations The PATH train system's World Trade Center station was
located under the complex and was demolished when the towers collapsed. The tunnels leading to Exchange Place station in Jersey City were flooded with water. [215] The station was rebuilt as the $4billion World Trade Center Transportation Hub, which reopened in March 2015. [216] [217] The Cortlandt Street station on the New York City Subway's
IRT BroadwaySeventh Avenue Line was also in close proximity to the World Trade Center complex, and the entire station, along with the surrounding track, was reduced to rubble. [218] The station was rebuilt and reopened to the public on September 8, 2018. [219] The Pentagon was extensively damaged, causing one section of the building to
collapse.[220] As the plane approached the Pentagon, its wings knocked down light poles and its right engine hit the Pentagon at the first-floor level. The front part of the building.[221][222] The plane hit the Pentagon at the first-floor level. The front part of the building.[221][222] The plane hit the Pentagon at the first-floor level.
furthest into the building, breaking through 310 feet (94m) of the building's five rings.[223][224]Main article: Rescue and recovery effort after the September 11 attacks on the World Trade CenterSee also: List of emergency and first responded to the September 11 attacks on the World Trade CenterSee also: List of emergency and first responded to the September 11 attacks on the World Trade CenterSee also: List of emergency and first responded to the September 11 attacks on the World Trade CenterSee also: List of emergency and first responded to the September 11 attacks on the World Trade CenterSee also: List of emergency and first responded to the September 11 attacks on the World Trade CenterSee also: List of emergency and first responded to the September 11 attacks on the World Trade CenterSee also: List of emergency and first responded to the September 11 attacks on the World Trade CenterSee also: List of emergency and first responded to the September 11 attacks on the World Trade CenterSee also: List of emergency and first responded to the September 11 attacks on the World Trade CenterSee also: List of emergency and first responded to the September 11 attacks on the World Trade CenterSee also: List of emergency and first responded to the September 11 attacks on the World Trade CenterSee also: List of emergency and first responded to the September 11 attacks on the World Trade CenterSee also: List of emergency and first responded to the September 11 attacks on the World Trade CenterSee also: List of emergency and first responded to the September 11 attacks on the World Trade CenterSee also: List of emergency and first responded to the September 11 attacks on the World Trade CenterSee also: List of emergency and first responded to the September 11 attacks on the World Trade CenterSee also: List of emergency and first responded to the September 11 attacks on the World Trade CenterSee also: List of emergency and first responded to the September 11 attacks on the World Trade CenterSee also: List of emergency and 
Army Corps of Engineers on its way to assist the site on September 11The New York City Fire Department (FDNY) deployed more than 200 units (approximately half of the department) to the World Trade Center.[225] Their efforts were supplemented by off-duty firefighters and emergency medical technicians.[226][227] The New York City
Police Department (NYPD) sent its Emergency Service Units and other police personnel and deployed its aviation unit,[228] which determined that helicopter rescues from the towers were not feasible.[229] Numerous police officers of the PDNY
the NYPD, and the PAPD did not coordinate efforts and performed redundant searches for civilians. [226] [231] As conditions deteriorated, the NYPD aviation unit relayed information to police commanders, who issued orders for personnel to evacuate the towers; most NYPD officers were able to evacuate before the buildings collapsed. [231] [232] With
 separate command posts set up and incompatible radio communications between the agencies, warnings were not passed along to FDNY commanders. [233] After the first tower collapsed, FDNY commanders issued evacuation warnings. Due to malfunctioning radio repeater systems, many firefighters never heard the evacuation orders. 9-1-1
dispatchers also received information from callers that was not passed along to commanders on the September 11 attacks resulted in immediate responses, including domestic reactions; closings and cancellations; hate
crimes; international responses; and military responses. Shortly after the attacks, the September 11th Victim Compensate the victims of the attacks and their families with their agreement not to file lawsuits against the airlines involved. [236] Legislation
authorizes the fund to disburse a maximum of $7.375billion, including operational and administrative costs, of U.S. government funds.[237] The fund was set to expire by 2020 but was in 2019 prolonged to allow claims to be filed until October 2090.[238][239]Further information: U.S. military response during the September 11 attacksSee also:
Communication during the September 11 attacks President George W. Bush is briefed in Sarasota, Florida, where he learned of the attacks unfolding while visiting Emma E. Booker Elementary SchoolEight hours after the attacks unfolding while visiting Emma E. Booker Elementary SchoolEight hours after the attacks, U.S. Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld declares "The Pentagon is functioning" At 8:32a.m., FAA officials were notified
Flight11 had been hijacked and they, in turn, notified the North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD). NORAD scrambled two F-15s from Otis Air National Guard Base in Massachusetts; they were airborne by 8:53a.m. Because of slow and confused communication from FAA officials, NORAD had nine minutes' notice, and no notice about
any of the other flights before they crashed. After both of the Twin Towers had been hit, more fighters were scrambled from Langley Air Force Base in Virginia at 9:30a.m. [240] At 10:20am, Vice President Dick Cheney issued orders to shoot down any commercial aircraft that could be positively identified as being hijacked. These instructions were not
relayed in time for the fighters to take action. [240][241][242] Some fighters took to the air without live ammunition, knowing that to prevent the hijackers from striking their intended targets, the pilots might have to intercept and crash their fighters into the hijacked planes, possibly ejecting at the last moment. [243] For the first time in U.S. history,
the emergency preparedness plan Security Control of Air Traffic and Air Navigation Aids (SCATANA) was invoked, [244] stranding tens of thousands of passengers across the world. [245] Ben Sliney, in his first day as the National Operations Manager of the FAA, [246] ordered that American airspace be closed to all international flights, causing about
500 flights to be turned back or redirected to other countries. Canada received 226 of the diverted flights and launched Operation Yellow Ribbon to deal with the large numbers of grounded planes and rescue workers from around the country
traveled to New York City to help recover bodies from the remnants of the Twin Towers. [249] Over 3,000 children lost a parent in the attacks. [250] Blood donations across the U.S. surged in the weeks after 9/11. [251] [252] Further information: U.S. government response to the September 11 attacks.
House at 8:30pm ETBush speaking to rescue workers at Ground Zero on September 14 next to firefighter Bob BeckwithDuring a speech to a joint session of Congress, President George W. Bush pledges "to defend freedom against terrorism". September 20, 2001 (audio only). Following the attacks, Bush's approval rating increased to 90%. [253] On
September 20, he addressed the nation and a joint session of Congress regarding the events, the rescue and recovery efforts, and his intended response to the attacks. New York and nationally. [254] Many relief funds were immediately set up to provide financial assistance to
the survivors of the attacks and the victims' families. By the deadline for victims' families of those killed.[255]Contingency plans for the continuity of government and the evacuation of leaders were implemented soon after the attacks.[245] Congress was not told that
the United States had been under a continuity of government in contemporary history, the U.S. government of Homeland Security. Congress also passed the USA PATRIOT Act, saying it would
help detect and prosecute terrorism and other crimes.[257] Civil liberties groups have criticized the PATRIOT Act, saying it allows law enforcement to invade citizens' privacy and that it eliminates judicial oversight of law enforcement to invade citizens' privacy and that it eliminates judicial oversight of law enforcement to invade citizens' privacy and that it eliminates judicial oversight of law enforcement and domestic intelligence.[258][259][260]To effectively combat future acts of terrorism, the National Security and that it eliminates judicial oversight of law enforcement and domestic intelligence.[258][259][260]To effectively combat future acts of terrorism.
Agency (NSA) was given broad powers. The NSA commenced warrantless surveillance of telecommunications, which was sometimes criticized as permitting the agency "to eavesdrop on telephone and e-mail communications, which was sometimes criticized as permitting the agency "to eavesdrop on telephone and e-mail communications, which was sometimes criticized as permitting the agency "to eavesdrop on telephone and e-mail communications, which was sometimes criticized as permitting the agency "to eavesdrop on telephone and e-mail communications between the United States and people overseas without a warrant".[261] In response to requests by intelligence agencies, the
United States Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court permitted an expansion of powers by the U.S. government in seeking, obtaining, and sharing information on U.S. citizens as well as non-Americans around the world. [262] See also: Persecution of MuslimsSix days after the attacks, President Bush made a public appearance at Washington, D.C.'s
largest Islamic Center where he acknowledged the "incredibly valuable contribution" of American Muslims and South Asians were reported in the days following the attacks. [264][265][266]Sikhs were also targeted due to their
use of turbans, which are stereotypically associated with Muslims. There were reports of attacks on mosques and other religious buildings (including one murder: Balbir Singh Sodhi, a Sikh mistaken for a Muslim, who was fatally shot on September 15, 2001, in Mesa, Arizona.
[266] Two dozen members of Osama bin Laden's family were urgently evacuated out of the country on a private charter plane under FBI supervision three days after the attacks. [267] According to an academic study, people perceived to be Middle Eastern were as likely to be victims of hate crimes as followers of Islam during this time. The study also
found a similar increase in hate crimes against people who may have been perceived as Muslims, Arabs, and others thought to be of Middle Eastern origin. [268] A report by the South Asian Americans Leading Together documented media coverage of 645 bias incidents against Americans of South Asian or Middle
Eastern descent between September 11 and 17, 2001. Crimes such as vandalism, arson, assault, shootings, harassment, and threats in numerous places were documented. [271] Further information: Detentions following the September 11 attacks, Islamophobia in the United States, and Flying while
MuslimSee also: Airport racial profiling in the United States poll of Arab-Americans in May 2002 found that 48% believed their lives had changed for the worse since September 11. A July 2002 poll of Muslim Americans found that 48% believed their lives had changed for the worse since September 11, and 57% had experienced an act of bias or
discrimination.[271] Following the September 11 attacks, many Pakistani Americans identified themselves as Indians to avoid potential discrimination reported to the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC). 301 of those were complaints
from people fired from their jobs. Similarly, by June 2002, the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) had investigated 111 September 11th-related complaints from airline passengers purporting that their religious or ethnic appearance caused them to be singled out at security screenings, and an additional 31 complaints from people who alleged
they were blocked from boarding airplanes on the same grounds.[271]See also: Muslim attitudes towards terrorism and Peace in Islamic philosophyMuslim organizations in the United States were swift to condemn the attacks and called "upon Muslim Americans to come forward with their skills and resources to help alleviate the sufferings of the
affected people and their families".[273] These organizations included the Islamic Society of North America, American Muslim Council, Council on American Muslim Council on American Mu
launched blood drives and provided medical assistance, food, and shelter for victims. [274][275][276]Curiosity about Islam increased after the attacks. As a result, many mosques and Islamic centers began holding open houses and participating in outreach efforts to educate non-Muslims about the faith. In the first 10 years after the attacks, interfaith
community service increased from 8 to 20 percent and the percentage of U.S. congregations involved in interfaith worship doubled from 7 to 14 percent. [277] President of Russia Vladimir Putin (right) with his wife (center) at a commemoration service in New York City on November 16The attacks were denounced by mass media and governments
worldwide. Nations offered pro-American support and solidarity.[278] Leaders in most Middle Eastern countries, as well as Libya and Afghanistan, condemned the attacks. Iraq was a notable exception, with an immediate official statement that "the American cowboys are reaping the fruit of their crimes against humanity".[279] The government of
Saudi Arabia officially condemned the attacks, but privately many Saudis favored bin Laden's cause. [280][281] Although Palestinian Authority (PA) president Yasser Arafat also condemned the attacks, there were reports of celebrations of disputed news
broadcasters that justified the attacks or showed celebrations, [284] and the Authority claimed such celebrations do not represent the Palestinians' sentiment. [285][286] Footage by CNN[vague] and other news outlets were suggested by a report originating at a Brazilian university to be from 1991; this was later proven to be a false accusation. [287]
[288] As in the United States, the aftermath of the attacks saw tensions increase in other countries between Muslims and non-Muslims. [289] United Nations Security Council Resolution 1368 condemned the attacks and expressed readiness to take all necessary steps to respond and combat terrorism in accordance with their Charter. [290] Numerous
countries introduced anti-terrorism legislation and froze bank accounts they suspected of al-Qaeda ties. [293] [294] British Prime Minister Tony Blair said Britain stood "shoulder" with the United States. [295] In a speech to Congress
nine days after the attacks, which Blair attended as a guest, President Bush declared "America has no truer friend than Great Britain".[296] Subsequently, Prime Minister Blair embarked on two months of diplomacy to rally international support for military action; he held 54 meetings with world leaders.[297]The U.S. set up the Guantanamo Bay
detention camp to hold inmates they defined as "illegal enemy combatants". The legitimacy of these detentions has been questioned by the European Union and human rights organizations. [298] [299] [300] On September 25, 2001, Iran's president Mohammad Khatami, meeting British Foreign Secretary Jack Straw, said: "Iran fully understands the
feelings of the Americans about the terrorist attacks in New York and Washington on September 11". He said although the American administrations had been at best indifferent about terrorist operations in Iran, the Iranians felt differently and had expressed their sympathetic feelings with bereaved Americans in the tragic incidents in the two cities.
He also stated that "Nations should not be punished in place of terrorists".[301]According to Radio Farda's website, when the news of the Embassy of Switzerland in Tehran, which serves as the protecting power of the United States in Iran, to express their sympathy, and some of
them lit candles as a symbol of mourning. Radio Farda's website also states that in 2011, on the anniversary of the attacks, the United States Department of State published a post on its blog, in which the Department of State published a post on its blog, in which the Department thanked the Iranian people for their sympathy and stated that it would never forget Iranian people's kindness. [302] After the attacks,
both the President[303][304] and the Supreme Leader of Iran condemned the attacks. The BBC and Time magazine published reports on holding candlelit vigils for the victims by Iranian citizens on their websites. [305][306] According to Politico Magazine, following the attacks, Ali Khamenei, the Supreme Leader of Iran, "suspended the usual 'Death
to America' chants at Friday prayers" temporarily.[307]Further information: War on terror and U.S. invasion of Afghanistan Events leading upto the Iraq War14 July Revolution 19781979Ba'ath Party Purge 1979IranIraq War 19801988KDPI insurgency 19891996Iraqgate
1982c.1990Iragi invasion of Kuwait 1990Gulf War 19901991Sanctions against Irag 19902003Iragi uprisings 1991Iragi no-fly zones conflict 19912003Arms-to-Irag affair 19921996Irag Liberation Act 1998September 11 attacks 2001U.S. anthrax attacks 2001U.S. invasion of Afghanistan 2001Alleged Prague connection
whether they are good enough to hit S.H. at the same time. Not only OBL".[308]In a meeting at Camp David on September 11 attacks.[309] Nonetheless, they later invaded the country with allies, citing "Saddam Hussein's support for terrorism".[310] At the
time, as many as seven in ten Americans believed the Iraqi president played a role in the 9/11 attacks. [311] Three years later, Bush conceded that he had not. [312] The NATO council declared that the terrorist attacks on the United States were an attack on all NATO nations that satisfied Article 5 of the NATO charter. This marked the first invocation
of Article 5, which had been written during the Cold War with an attack by the Soviet Union in mind.[313] Australian Prime Minister John Howard, who was in Washington, D.C., during the attacks, invoked Article IV of the ANZUS treaty.[314] The Bush administration announced a war on terror, with the stated goals of bringing bin Laden and al-
Qaeda to justice and preventing the emergence of other terrorist networks. [315] These goals would be accomplished by imposing economic and military sanctions against states harboring terrorists, and increasing global surveillance and intelligence sharing.
Military Force Against Terrorists, which grants the President the authority to use all "necessary and appropriate force" against those whom he determined "planned, authorized, committed or aided" the September 11 attacks or who harbored said persons or groups. It is still in effect.[317]On October 7, 2001, the War in Afghanistan began when U.S.
and British forces initiated aerial bombing campaigns targeting Taliban and al-Qaeda camps, then later invaded Afghanistan with the Fall of Kandahar on December 7, by U.S.-led coalition forces.[318]Al-Qaeda leader
Osama bin Laden, who went into hiding in the White Mountains, was targeted by U.S. coalition forces in the Battle of Tora Bora, [319] In an interview with Tayseer Allouni on October 21, 2001, bin Laden stated: The events proved the extent of terrorism
that America exercises in the world. Bush stated that the world has to be divided in two: Bush and his supporters, and any country that doesn't get into the global crusade is with the terrorisms... America wouldn't live in security until we live it truly in
Palestine. This showed the reality of America, which puts Israel's interest above its own people's interest above its support of Israel. [320] Main article: Aftermath of the September 11 attacksSee also: Post-9/11 Main article: Health effects arising from the
September 11 attacksSurvivors covered in dust after the collapse of the World Trade towers; a photograph of another dust-covered victim, Marcy Borders, subsequently gained much attention. [321][322]Hundreds of thousands of toxic debris containing more than 2,500 contaminants and known carcinogens were spread across Lower
Manhattan when the towers collapsed. [323][324] Exposure to the toxins in the debris is alleged to have contributed to fatal or debilitating illnesses among people who were at Ground Zero. [325][326] The Bush administration ordered the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to issue reassuring statements regarding air quality in the aftermath of
the attacks, citing national security, but the EPA did not determine that air quality had returned to pre-September 11 levels until June 2002.[327]Health effects extended to residents, students, and victims' names were included in the
World Trade Center memorial.[329] An estimated 18,000 people have developed illnesses as a result of the toxic dust.[330] There is also scientific speculation that exposure to toxic products in the air may have negative effects on fetal development.
function.[332]Years after the attacks, legal disputes over the costs of related illnesses were still in the court system. In 2006, a federal judge rejected New York City's refusal to pay for health costs for rescue workers, allowing for the possibility of suits against the city.[333] Government officials have been faulted for urging the public to return to
lower Manhattan in the weeks shortly after the attacks. Christine Todd Whitman, administrator of the EPA in the attacks aftermath, was heavily criticized by a U.S. District Judge for incorrectly saying that the area was environmentally safe. [334] Mayor Giuliani was criticized by a U.S. District Judge for incorrectly saying that the area was environmentally safe.
Street area.[335]The James L. Zadroga 9/11 Health and Compensation Act (2010) allocated $4.2billion to create the World Trade Center Health Program, which provides testing and treatment for people with long-term health programs.
such as the Medical Monitoring and Treatment Program and the WTC Environmental Health Center program. [337]In 2020, the NYPD confirmed that 247 NYPD police officers had died due to 9/11-related illnesses. Both agencies believe that the death
toll will rise dramatically in the coming years. The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey Police Department (PAPD), the law enforcement agency with jurisdiction over the World Trade Center, confirmed that four of its police officers have died of 9/11-related illnesses. The chief of the PAPD at the time, Joseph Morris, made sure that industrial-
grade respirators were provided to all PAPD police officers within 48 hours and decided that the same 30 to 40 police officers would be exposed to the air. The FDNY and NYPD had rotated hundreds, if not thousands, of different personnel
from all over New York City to the pile without adequate respirators and breathing equipment that could have prevented future diseases. [338][340][341]Main article: Economic effects of the September 11 attacks U.S. deficit and debt increases in the seven years following the attacks from 2001 to 2008The attacks had a significant economic
impact on the U.S. and world markets.[342] The stock exchanges did not open on September 17. Reopening, the Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA) fell 684 points, or 7.1%, to 8921, a record-setting one-day point decline.[343] By the end of the week, the DJIA had fallen 1,369.7 points (14.3%), at the time its
largest one-week point drop in history. In 2001 dollars, U.S. stocks lost $1.4trillion in valuation for the economy's export sectors.[345][346][347] The city's GDP was estimated to
have declined by $27.3billion for the last three months of 2001 and all of 2002. The U.S. government provided $11.2billion in early 2002 for economic development and infrastructure needs. [348] Also hurt were small businesses in Lower Manhattan near
the World Trade Center (18,000 of which were destroyed or displaced), resulting in lost jobs and wages. Assistance was provided by Small Business Administration loans; federal government Community Development Block Grants; and Economic Injury Disaster Loans.[348] Some 31,900,000 square feet (2,960,000m2) of Lower Manhattan office space
was damaged or destroyed.[349] Many wondered whether these jobs would recover, [350] Studies of 9/11's economic effects show the Manhattan office employment were less affected than first feared, because of the financial services industry's need for face-to-face interaction.
[351][352]North American air space was closed for several days after the attacks and air travel decreased upon its reopening, leading to a nearly 20% cutback in air travel capacity, and exacerbating financial problems in the struggling U.S. airline industry.[353]The September 11 attacks also led to the U.S. wars in Afghanistan and Iraq,[354] as well
as additional homeland security spending, totaling at least $5trillion.[355]Further information: War in Afghanistan (20012021), and Killing of Ayman al-ZawahiriIf Americans are clamouring to bomb Afghanistan back to the Stone Age, they ought to know that this nation does not have so far to go. This
is a post-apocalyptic place of felled cities, parched land and downtrodden people. Barry Bearak, The New York Times, September 13, 2001[356]Most of the attacks, tens of thousands of people attempted to flee Afghanistan due to the possibility of
military retaliation by the U.S. Pakistan, already home to many Afghan refugees from previous conflicts, closed its border with Afghanistan on September 17, 2001.[358] The Taliban leaders in Afghanistan pleaded against military action, saying "We appeal to the
United States not to put Afghanistan into more misery because our people have suffered so much", referring to two decades of conflict and the humanitarian crisis attached to it.[356]All United Nations expatriates had left Afghanistan after the attacks and no national or international aid workers were at their post. Workers were instead preparing in
bordering countries like Pakistan, China and Uzbekistan to prevent a potential "humanitarian catastrophe", amid a critically low food stock for the Afghan population. [360] The World Food Programme stopped importing wheat to Afghanistan on September 12 due to security risks. [361] From left to right: U.S. soldiers engaged in the war on terror in
Afghanistan in May 2006. Army Major General Chris Donahue left Afghanistan as the final American soldier on August 30, 2021Approximately one month after the attacks, the United States led a broad coalition of international forces to overthrow the Taliban regime from Afghanistan for their harboring of al-Qaeda.[358] Though Pakistani authorities
were initially reluctant to align themselves with the U.S. against the Taliban, they permitted the coalition access to their military bases, and arrested and handed over to the U.S. aver 600 suspected al-Qaeda members.[362][363]In 2011, the U.S. aver 600 suspected al-Qaeda members.
the presidencies of Donald Trump and Joe Biden in 2020 and 2021, the United States alongside its NATO allies withdrew all troops from Afghanistan completing the withdrawal marked the end of the 20012021 War in Afghanistan. Biden said that after nearly 20 years of
war, it was clear that the U.S. military could not transform Afghanistan into a modern democracy. [366] Main article: Cultural influence of the September 11 attacks, Entertainment affected by the September 11 attacks, and Osama bin Laden in popular culture See also: Osama bin bin Disputatio
bin Laden (elephant)Immediate responses to 9/11 included greater focus on home life and time spent with family, higher church attendance, and increased expressions of patriotism such as the flying of American flags.[367] The radio industry responded by removing certain songs from playlists, and the attacks have subsequently been used as
background, narrative, or thematic elements in film, music, literature, and humour. Already-running television shows as well as programs developed after 9/11 have reflected post-9/11 cultural concerns. [368]9/11 conspiracy theories have become a social phenomenon, despite a lack of support from expert scientists, engineers, and historians. [369]
9/11 has also had a major impact on the religious faith of many individuals; for some it strengthened, to find consolation to cope with their view of religion.[370][371]The culture of America, after the attacks, is a fixed to question their faith or lose it entirely because they could not reconcile it with their view of religious faith or lose it entirely because they could not reconcile it with their view of religious faith or lose it entirely because they could not reconcile it with their view of religions.
noted for heightened security and an increased demand thereof, as well as paranoia and anxiety regarding future terrorist attacks against most of the nation. Psychologists have also confirmed that there has been an increased amount of national anxiety in commercial air travel.[372] Anti-Muslim hate crimes rose nearly ten-fold in 2001 and have
subsequently remained "roughly five times higher than the pre-9/11 rate".[373]Further information: War on terror, Anti-terrorism legislation, Airport security repercussions due to the September 11 attacks, and Legal issues related to the September 11 attacks ealso: Senate Intelligence Committee report on CIA torture Alleged "extraordinary"
rendition" illegal flights of the CIA, as reported by Polish newspaper Rzeczpospolita[374]As a result of the attacks, many governments across the world passed legislation to combat terrorism. [375] In Germany, where several of the 9/11 terrorisms across the world passed legislation to combat terrorisms.
packages were enacted. The first removed legal loopholes that permitted terrorists to live and raise money in Germany. The second addressed the Canadian Anti-Terrorism Act, their first anti-terrorism law.[377] The United Kingdom passed the Anti-
terrorism, Crime and Security Act 2001 and the Prevention of Terrorism Act 2005.[378][379] New Zealand enacted the Terrorism Suppression Act 2002.[380]In the United States, the Department of Homeland Security was created by the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to coordinate domestic anti-terrorism efforts. The USA Patriot Act gave the
federal government greater powers, including the authority to detain foreign terror suspects for a week without charge; to monitor terror suspected terrorists without time restrictions. The FAA ordered that airplane cockpits be reinforced to prevent terrorists from
gaining control of planes and assigned sky marshals to flights. Further, the Aviation and Transportation Security Administration to inspect passengers and luggage, causing long delays and concern over passenger
privacy.[381] After suspected abuses of the USA Patriot Act were brought to light in June 2013 with articles about the collection of American call records by the NSA and the PRISM program, Representative Jim Sensenbrenner (of Wisconsin), who introduced the Patriot Act in 2001, said that the NSA overstepped its bounds.[382][383]Criticism of the
war on terror has focused on its morality, efficiency, and cost. According to a 2021 report by the Costs of War Project, the several post-9/11 wars participated in by the United States in its war on terror have caused the displacement, conservatively calculated, of 38 million people in Afghanistan, Pakistan, Iraq, Libya, Syria, Yemen, Somalia, and the
Philippines.[384][385][386] They estimated these wars caused the deaths of 897,000 to 929,000 people directly and cost $8trillion.[386] In a 2023 report, the Costs of War Project estimated that there have been between 3.6 and 3.7million indirect deaths in the post-9/11 war zones, with the total death toll being 4.5 to 4.6million. The report defined
post-9/11 war zones as conflicts that included significant United States counter-terrorism operations since 9/11, which in addition to the wars in Iraq, Afghanistan and Pakistan, also includes the civil wars in Syria, Yemen, Libya and Somalia.[18] The report derived its estimate of indirect deaths using a calculation from the Geneva Declaration of
Secretariat which estimates that for every person directly killed by war, four more die from the indirect consequences of war.[18] The U.S. Constitution and U.S. law prohibits the use of torture, yet such human rights violations occurred during the war on terror under the euphemism "enhanced interrogation".[387][388] In 2005, The Washington Post
and Human Rights Watch (HRW) published revelations concerning CIA flights and "black sites", covert prisons operated by the CIA.[389][390] The term "torture by proxy" is used by some critics to describe situations in which the CIA and other U.S. agencies have transferred suspected terrorists to countries known to employ torture.[391][392]Main
articles: Trials related to the September 11 attacks and United States v. Khalid Sheikh MohammedPresident Obama appeared on major television networks:[393]As all 19 hijackers died in the attacks, they were never prosecuted in the attacks, they were never prosecuted in the attacks and United States v. Khalid Sheikh MohammedPresident Obama appeared on major television networks:[393]As all 19 hijackers died in the attacks, they were never prosecuted in the attacks, they were never prosecuted in the attacks and United States v. Khalid Sheikh MohammedPresident Obama appeared on major television networks:[393]As all 19 hijackers died in the attacks and United States v. Khalid Sheikh MohammedPresident Obama appeared on major television networks:[393]As all 19 hijackers died in the attacks and United States v. Khalid Sheikh MohammedPresident Obama appeared on major television networks:[393]As all 19 hijackers died in the attacks and United States v. Khalid Sheikh MohammedPresident Obama appeared on major television networks:[393]As all 19 hijackers died in the attacks and United States v. Khalid Sheikh MohammedPresident on major television networks:[393]As all 19 hijackers died in the attacks and United States v. Khalid Sheikh MohammedPresident on major television networks:[393]As all 19 hijackers died in the attacks and united States v. Khalid Sheikh MohammedPresident on major television networks and united States v. Khalid Sheikh MohammedPresident on major television networks are stated in the attacks and united States v. Khalid Sheikh MohammedPresident on major television networks are stated in the attacks and united States v. Khalid Sheikh MohammedPresident networks are stated in the attacks and united States v. Khalid Sheikh MohammedPresident networks are stated networks and united States v. Khalid Sheikh MohammedPresident networks are stated networks and united States v. Khalid Sheikh MohammedPresident networks are stated networks are stated networks and united States v. Khalid Sheikh MohammedPresident networks a
Osama bin Laden was never formally indicted; he was ultimately killed by U.S. special forces on May 2, 2011, in his compound in Abbottabad, Pakistan, after a 10-year manhunt.[s][394] The main trial of the attacks against Mohammed and his co-conspirators Walid bin Attash, Ramzi bin al-Shibh, Ammar al-Baluchi, and Mustafa Ahmad al Hawsawi
remains unresolved. Khalid Sheikh Mohammed was arrested on March 1, 2003, in Rawalpindi, Pakistani security officials working with the CIA. He was then held at multiple CIA secret prisons and Guantanamo Bay, where he was interrogated and tortured with methods including waterboarding.[395][396] In 2003, Mustafa al-Hawsawi
and Abd al-Aziz Ali were arrested and transferred to U.S. custody. Both would later be accused of providing money and travel assistance to the hijackers. [397] During U.S. hearings at Guantanamo Bay in March 2007, Mohammed again confessed his responsibility for the attacks, stating he "was responsible for the 9/11 operation from A to Z" and that
his statement was not made under duress.[38][398] In January 2023, the U.S. government opened up about a potential plea deal,[399] with Biden giving up on the effort in September that year.[400]To date, only peripheral persons have thus been convicted for charges in connection with the attacks. These include: Zacarias Moussaoui who was
indicted in December 2001 and sentenced to life in prison without the possibility of parole in May 2006 by a U.S. federal juryMounir El Motassadeq who was first convicted in February 2003 by a Federal Court of Justice in Germany and was deported to Morocco in October 2018 after serving his sentence [401] Abu Dahdah who was arrested in
November 2001, sentenced by a Spanish High Court and released from prison in May 2013.[402]In July 2024, The New York Times reported that Mohammed, Walid bin Attash and execution. However, U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin
revoked a plea agreement with Mohammed days later. [403] Further information: Hijackers in the September 11 attacks Immediately after the attacks, the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) started PENTTBOM, the largest criminal inquiry in U.S. history. At its height, more than half of the FBI's agents worked on the investigation and followed a
half-million leads.[404] The FBI concluded that there was "clear and irrefutable" evidence linking al-Qaeda and bin Laden to the attacks and the operational leader, responsible for crashing American Airlines Flight 11 into the North Tower of the World Trade Center. The FBI quickly
identified the hijackers, including leader Mohamed Atta, when his luggage was discovered at Boston's Logan Airport. Atta had been forced to check two of his three bags due to space limitations on the 19-seat commuter flight he took to Boston. Due to a new policy instituted to prevent flight delays, the luggage failed to make it aboard American
Airlines Flight 11 as planned. The luggage contained the hijackers' names, assignments, and al-Qaeda connections. "It had all these Arab-language [sic] papers that amounted to the Rosetta stone of the investigation", said one FBI agent.[406] Within hours of the attacks, the FBI released the names and in many cases the personal details of the
suspected pilots and hijackers [407][408] Abu Jandal, who served as bin Laden's chief bodyquard for years, confirmed the identity of seven hijackers as al-Qaeda members during interrogations with the FBI on September 17. He had been jailed in a Yemeni prison since 2000.[409][410] On September 27, photos of all 19 hijackers were released, along
with information about possible nationalities and aliases.[411] Fifteen of the men were from Saudi Arabia, two were from the United Arab Emirates, one was from Egypt, and one was from Lebanon.[412]By midday, the U.S. National Security Agency and German intelligence agencies had intercepted communications pointing to Osama bin Laden.[413]
Two of the hijackers were known to have traveled with a bin Laden associate to Malaysia in 2000[414] and hijacker Mohamed Atta had previously gone to Afghanistan. [415] He and others were part of a terrorist cell in Hamburg [416] One of the members of the Hamburg cell in Germany was discovered to have been in communication with Khalid
Sheikh Mohammed who was identified as a member of Al-Qaeda. [417] Authorities in the United States and the United Kingdom also obtained electronic bank transfers, which indicated that Mohammed Atef, a bin Laden deputy, was a key figure in the planning of the 9/11 attacks. Intercepts
were also obtained of conversations that took place in America on, or around, September 11 between bin Laden discussing potential repercussions. In another conversation with an associate in Afghanistan, bin Laden discussed the "scale and
effects of a forthcoming operation". These conversations did not specifically mention the World Trade Center, the Pentagon, or other specifics. [418]Origins of the 19 hijackersNationalityNumberSaudi Arabia15United Arab Emirates2Egypt1Lebanon1 In their annual violent crime index for the year 2001, the FBI recorded the deaths from the attacks as
murder, in separate tables so as not to mix them with other reported crimes for that year.[419] In a disclaimer, the FBI stated that "the number of deaths is so great that combining it with the traditional crime statistics will have an outlier effect that falsely skews all types of measurements in the program's analyses".[420] New York City also did not
include the deaths in their annual crime statistics for 2001.[421]Further information: September 11 intelligence Agency (CIA), conducted an internal review of the agency's pre-9/11 performance and was harshly critical of senior CIA officials for not doing
everything possible to confront terrorism.[422] According to Philip Giraldi in The American Conservative, Helgerson criticized their failure to stop two of the 9/11 hijackers, Nawaf al-Hazmi and Khalid al-Mihdhar, as they entered the United States and their failure to share information on the two men with the FBI.[423]In May 2007, senators from both
major U.S. political parties (the Republican and Democratic parties) drafted legislation to make the review public. One of the backers, Senator Ron Wyden said, "The American people have a right to know what the Central Intelligence Agency was doing in those critical months before 9/11".[424] The report was released in 2009 by President Barack
Obama. [422] Main article: Joint Inquiry into Intelligence Community Activities before and after the Terrorist Attacks of September 11, 2001 In February 2002, the Senate Select Community. [425]
Their 832-page report released in December 2002[426] detailed failings of the FBI and CIA to use available information, including about terrorists the CIA knew were in the United States, to disrupt the plots.[427] The joint inquiry developed its information about possible involvement of Saudi Arabian government officials from non-classified sources.
[428] The Bush administration demanded 28 related pages remain classified. [427] In December 2002, the inquiry's chair Bob Graham revealed in an interview that there was "evidence that the evidence that th
by the unanswered guestions and redacted material from the congressional inquiry and demanded an independent commission. [427] September 11 victim families, [430] members of Congress [431] and the Saudi Arabian government are still seeking the release of the documents, [432] In June 2016, CIA chief John Brennan said that he believes 28
redacted pages of a congressional inquiry into 9/11 will soon be made public, and that they will prove that the government of Saudi Arabia had no involvement in the September 11 attacks. [434]In September 2016, Congress passed the Justice Against Sponsors of Terrorism Act that would allow relatives of victims of the September 11 attacks to sue
Saudi Arabia for its government's alleged role in the attacks. [435][436][437] Main articles: 9/11 Commission Report released in 2004, on events leading up to the attacks and steps recommended to avoid a future terrorist
attackThe National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States, popularly known as the 9/11 Commission, chaired by Thomas Kean,[t] was formed in late 2002 to prepare a thorough account of the circumstances surrounding the attacks, including preparedness for and the immediate response to the attacks.[442] The commission issued
the 9/11 Commission Report in July 2004, a 585-page report based on its investigations. The report detailed to prevent the attacks. According to the report, a 585-page report based on its investigations. The report detailed to prevent the attacks are concluding to the report, and intelligence agencies were inadequately coordinated to prevent the attacks.
"We believe the 9/11 attacks revealed four kinds of failures: in imagination, policy, capabilities, and management".[444] The commission made numerous recommendations had yet to be implemented.[445]Main article: NIST World Trade Center Disaster
          ationSee also: 7 World Trade Center (19872001) 9/11 and collapseThe exterior support columns from the lower level of the South Tower remained the collapses of the Twin Towers and 7WTC. The investigations examined why the
buildings collapsed and what fire protection measures were in place, and evaluated how fire protection systems might be improved in future construction. [446] The investigation into the collapse of 1WTC and 2WTC was completed in August 2008. [447] NIST found that the fireproofing on the Twin
Towers' steel infrastructures was blown off by the initial impact of the planes and that had this not occurred, the towers likely would have remained standing. [448] A 2007 study of the north tower's collapse published by researchers of Purdue University determined that since the plane's impact had stripped off much of the structure's thermal
insulation, the heat from a typical office fire would have softened and weakened the exposed girders and columns enough to initiate the collapse regardless of the number of columns cut or damaged by the impact. [449][450] The director of the original investigation stated that "the towers did amazingly well. The terrorist aircraft didn't bring the
buildings down; it was the fire that followed. It was proven that you could take out two-thirds of the columns in a tower and the building would still stand".[451] The fires weakened the trusses supporting the floors, making the floors sag. The sagging floors pulled on the exterior steel columns causing the exterior columns to bow inward. With the
damage to the core columns, the buckling exterior columns could no longer support the buildings, causing them to collapse. Additionally, the report found the towers' stairwells were not properly reinforced to provide adequate emergency escape for people above the impact zones.[452] NIST concluded that uncontrolled fires in 7WTC caused floor
beams and girders to heat and subsequently "caused a critical support column to fail, initiating a fire-induced progressive collapse that brought the building down".[447]Main article: Alleged Saudi government role in the September 11 attacksSee also: Saudi ArabiaUnited States relations, Saudi Arabia and state-sponsored terrorism, and The 28
pagesIn July 2016, the Obama administration released a document compiled by U.S. investigators Dana Lesemann and Michael Jacobson, known as "File 17",[453] which contains a list naming three dozen people, including the suspected Saudi intelligence officers attached to Saudi Arabia's embassy in Washington, D.C.,[454] which connects Saudi
Arabia to the hijackers.[455][456]In September 2016, Congress passed the Justice Against Sponsors of Terrorism Act.[457][458] The practical effect of the legislation was to allow the continuation of a longstanding civil lawsuit brought by families of victims of the September 11 attacks against Saudi Arabia for its government's alleged role in the
attacks.[459] In March 2018, a U.S. judge formally allowed a suit to move forward against the government of Saudi Arabia brought by 9/11 survivors and victims obtained two videos and a notepad seized from Saudi national Omar al-Bayoumi by the British courts. The first video showed him
hosting a party in San Diego for Nawaf al-Hazmi and Khalid al-Mihdhar, the first two hijackers to arrive in the U.S. The other video showed al-Bayoumi greeting the cleric Anwar al-Awlaki, who was blamed for radicalizing Americans and later killed in a CIA drone strike. The notepad depicted a hand-drawn airplane and some mathematical equations
that, according to a pilot's court statement, might have been used to calculate the rate of descent to get to a target. According to a 2017 FBI memo, from the late 1990s until the 9/11 attack, al-Bayoumi was a paid cooptee of the Saudi General Intelligence Presidency. As of April 2022 [update] he is believed to be living in Saudi Arabia, which has denied
any involvement in 9/11.[460]Main articles: Rescue and recovery effort after the September 11 attacks on the World Trade Center siteThe rebuilt World Trade Center, September 2020On the day of the attacks, New York City
mayor Rudy Giuliani stated: "We will rebuild. We're going to come out of this stronger, economically stronger, economically stronger than before, politically stronger, economically stronger, economically stronger, economically stronger. The skyline will be made whole again".[461]Within hours of the attack, a substantial search and rescue operation was launched. After months of around-the-clock operations, the World Trade Center site was
cleared by the end of May 2002.[462] The damaged section of the Pentagon was rebuilt and occupied within a year of the attacks.[463] The temporary World Trade Center PATH station opened in late 2003 and construction of the new 7World Trade Center PATH station opened in late 2003 and construction of the new 7World Trade Center PATH station opened in late 2003 and construction of the new 7World Trade Center was completed in 2006. Work on rebuilding the main World Trade Center site was delayed until
late 2006 when leaseholder Larry Silverstein and the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey agreed on financing. [464] The construction of One World Trade Center began in April 2006, and reached its full height in May 2013. The spire was installed atop the building at that date, putting OneWTC's height at 1,776 feet (541m) and thus claiming
the title of the tallest building in the Western Hemisphere. [465] [466] One WTC finished construction and opened on November 3, 2014. [466] 467] [468] On the World Trade Center site, three more office towers were to be built one block east of where the original towers stood. [469] 4WTC, meanwhile, opened in November 2013, making it the second
tower on the site to open behind 7World Trade Center, as well as the first building on the Port Authority property. [470] 3WTC opened in June 2018, becoming the fourth skyscraper at the site to be completed. [471] In December 2022, the Nicholas Greek Orthodox Church fully reopened for regular services [472] followed by the opening of the Ronald
O. Perelman Performing Arts Center in September 2023.[473] With construction beginning in 2008,[474] 2 World Trade Center remains as of 2025 unfinished.[475] Scale models of the building were publicly revealed in September 2024, although Silverstein Properties was still trying to secure funding for the tower at the time.[476][477]Main article:
Memorials and services for the September 11 attacks many memorials and Museum in Lower Manhattan, August 2016 In the days immediately following the attacks, many memorials and vigils were held around the world, and photographs of the dead and missing were posted around Ground Zero. A witness described being unable
to "get away from faces of innocent victims who were killed. Their pictures are everywhere, on phone booths, street lights, and walls of subway stations. Everything reminded me of a huge funeral, people were quiet and sad, but also very nice. Before, New York gave me a cold feeling; now people were reaching out to help each other".[478] President
Bush proclaimed Friday, September 14, 2001, as Patriot Day.[479]Tribute in Light, an installation of 88 searchlights at the footprints of the World Trade Center towers.[480] In New York City, the World Trade Center Site
Memorial Competition was held to design an appropriate memorial on the site. [481] The winning design, Reflecting Absence, was selected in August 2006, and consists of a pair of reflecting pools in the footprints of the towers, surrounded by a list of the victims' names in an underground memorial space. [482] The memorial was completed on the
10th anniversary of the attacks in 2011;[483] a museum also opened on site in May 2014.[484]The Sphere by the German sculptor Fritz Koenig is the world's largest bronze sculpture, weighing more than 20 tons, was the only
remaining work of art to be recovered largely intact from the ruins of the towers. Since then, the work of art, known in the U.S. as The Sphere, has been transformed into a symbolic monument of 9/11 commemoration. After being dismantled and stored near a hangar at John F. Kennedy International Airport, the sculpture was the subject of the 2001
documentary The Sphere by filmmaker Percy Adlon. In August 2017, the work was installed at Liberty Park, close to the new World Trade Center aerial and the 9/11 Memorial. [485] The National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial in Arlington County, Virginia, September 2008 In Arlington County, the Pentagon Memorial was completed and opened to the public
on the seventh anniversary of the attacks in 2008.[486][487] It consists of a landscaped park with 184 benches facing the Pentagon was repaired in 20012002, a private chapel and indoor memorial were included at the spot where Flight 77 crashed into the building.[489]In Shanksville, a concrete-and-glass visitor center was
opened in 2015,[490] situated on a hill overlooking the crash site and the white marble Wall of Names.[491] An observation platform at the visitor center and the white marble wall are both aligned beneath the path of Flight 93.[491] New York City firefighters donated a cross made of steel from the World Trade Center and mounted on top of a
platform shaped like the Pentagon. [493] It was installed outside the firehouse on August 25, 2008. [494] Many other permanent memorials are elsewhere. Scholarships and charities have been established by the victims' families and by many other permanent memorials are elsewhere.
who died there are read out over music. The President of the United States attends a memorial service at the Pentagon, [496] and asks Americans to observe Patriot Day with a moment of silence. Smaller services are held in Shanksville, Pennsylvania, which are usually attended by the First Lady. In 2023, Joe Biden did not attend services in the
affected areas, instead marking the day in Anchorage, Alaska, the only U.S. president to do so since the attacks [497][498][499]9/11 Commission ReportAttacks on the United StatesBojinka plotDelta 1989 and Korean 085, two other flights that were falsely suspected of being hijacked as part of the
September 11 attacksList of cultural references to the September 11 attacksKhobar Towers bombingList of aviation incidents in Volving terrorist attacksList of terrorist incidents in New York CityOutline of the
September 11 attacksOperation Yellow RibbonTimeline of al-Qaeda attacksTimeline of the September 11 attacksUSS Cole bombing1998 United States embassy bombing1998 United States 
Massachusetts, New Iersev, Ohio, Kentucky and West Virginia. The hijackers began their first attack at around 08:13am, when a group of five took control of American Airlines Flight 11, injuring two people and murdering one before forcing their way into the cockpit. The fourth and final hijacked plane of the attacks crashed in a Pennsylvania field
at 10:03a.m., which concluded the attackers were now dead and all of the hijacked planes were destroyed. However, the attackers were now dead and all of the hijacked planes were destroyed. However, the attackers were destroyed to the attackers were now dead and all of the hijacked planes were destroyed. However, the attackers were now dead and all of the hijacked planes were destroyed.
[1][2] however, the exact number is unknown as it is difficult to determine whether or not the illnesses were related or unrelated to the attack. Sources vary regarding the number of injuriessome say 6,000[3] while others go as high as 25,000.[4] Al-Qaeda's name for the events is the Manhattan Raid, though this name is rarely used by non-jihadist
sources.[5]^ The expression 9/11 is typically pronounced. The eleven in English,[6] even in places that use the opposite date format. The slash is not pronounced. The exact time is disputed. The exact time is disputed. The exact time is disputed. The 9/11 Commission Report states that Flight 11 struck the North Tower at 08:46:40a.m.,[7] NIST reports 08:46:30a.m.,[8] and some other sources claim
08:46:26a.m.[9]^ a b c The exact time is disputed. The 9/11 Commission Report states that Flight 175 struck the South Tower at 09:03:02a.m.[12] and some other sources claim 09:03:02a.m.[13] In any case, the 16-minute gap between each impact is rounded to 17.[14]^ a b While NIST and the 9/11 Commission
give differing accounts of the exact second of the North Tower's collapse initiation, with NIST placing it at 10:28:22a.m.[15][16] and the commission at 10:28:25a.m.,[9] so the time it took for the North Tower to collapse was just shy of 102 minutes
either way. Excluding the hijackers The aircraft was a Boeing 767-200 (Extended Range "ER") model; Boeing assigns a unique code for each company that buys one of its aircraft, which is applied as an infix to the model number at the time the aircraft is built, hence "767-223(ER)" designates a 767-200 built for American Airlines (customer code
23). The aircraft was a Boeing 767-200 model; Boeing assigns a unique code for each company that buys one of its aircraft, which is applied as an infix to the model number at the time the aircraft was a Boeing 757-200 model; Boeing assigns a
unique code for each company that buys one of its aircraft, which is applied as an infix to the model number at the time the aircraft was a Boeing 757-200 model; Boeing assigns a unique code for each company that buys one of its aircraft, which is applied as an infix to the model number at the time the aircraft was a Boeing 757-200 model; Boeing assigns a unique code for each company that buys one of its aircraft, which is applied as an infix to the model number at the time the aircraft was a Boeing 757-200 model; Boeing assigns a unique code for each company that buys one of its aircraft, which is applied as an infix to the model number at the time the aircraft was a Boeing 757-200 model; Boeing assigns a unique code for each company that buys one of its aircraft, which is applied as an infix to the model number at the time the aircraft was a Boeing 757-200 model; Boeing assigns a unique code for each company that buys one of its aircraft was a Boeing 757-200 model; Boeing assigns a unique code for each company that buys one of its aircraft was a Boeing 757-200 model; Boeing assigns a unique code for each company that buys one of its aircraft was a Boeing 757-200 model; Boeing assigns a unique code for each company that buys one of its aircraft was a Boeing 757-200 model; Boeing assigns a unique code for each company that buys one of its aircraft was a Boeing 757-200 model; Boeing assigns a unique code for each company that buys one of its aircraft was a Boeing 757-200 model; Boeing assigns a unique code for each company that buys one of its aircraft was a Boeing 757-200 model; Boeing assigns a unique code for each company that buys one of its aircraft was a Boeing 757-200 model; Boeing assigns a unique code for each company that buys one of its aircraft was a Boeing 757-200 model; Boeing assigns a unique code for each company that buys one of its aircraft was a Boeing 757-200 model; Boeing 857-200 model was a Boeing 857-200 model
which is applied as an infix to the model number at the time the aircraft is built, hence "757-222" designates a 757-200 built for United Airlines (customer code 22). NIST and the 9/11 Commission both state that the collapse began at 9:58:59a.m., which is rounded to 9:59[138]:84[139]:322 for simplicity. If the commission's claim that the South
Tower was struck at 9:03:11 is to be believed, then the collapse began 55 minutes and 48 seconds after the crash, not 56 minutes. The exact time of the North Tower's collapse initiation is disputed, with NIST dubbing the moment it began to collapse as being 10:28:22 a.m. [140] and the 9/11 Commission recording the time as 10:28:25. [141]:329^
The massacre at Camp Speicheroften described as the second deadliest act of terrorism in history after 9/11is said to have killed between 1,095 and 1,700 people. [152] The upper estimate would tie it with the attack on the World Trade Center's North Tower, but until the true death toll of the massacre becomes known, then the hijacking and crash of
Flight 11 was the deadliest act of terrorism on record. President Barack Obama announced his death on May 1 in the U.S. Former Secretary of State Henry Kissinger was initially appointed to head the commission [438] but resigned only weeks after being
appointed, to avoid conflicts of interest. [439] Former U.S. Senator George Mitchell was originally appointed former 15, 2002, Bush appointed former New Jersey governor Thomas Kean to head the commission. [441]^ "First
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United States official commission websiteList of victimsSeptember 11, 2001, Documentary Project from the U.S. Library of Congress, MinervaNational Security ArchiveSeptember 11 Digital Archive: Saving the Histories of September 11, 2001, from the Center for
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Responsible Statecraft, The Quincy InstituteSeptember 11, 2001 collection at the Smithsonian National Museum of American HistoryListen to this article dated 11September2019(2019-09-11), and does not reflect subsequent edits. (Audio help More spoken
articles) Multimedia Day of Terror Video Archive CNN.comPortals: Modern history New York City Politics United States Virginia Retrieved from "Skip to main content 9/11 Memorial | Home Note for screen reader users: once expanded, the first four items of the navigation menu have some associated content which may provide additional information
of interest. These sections can be located by jumping to the level 3 heading which follows each sub-menu. Skip to main content All Lesson Plans Essential Question: What happened on 9/11? Students will be introduced to a timeline of key events on the morning of 9/11. Students will
investigate a variety of primary source materials related to the 9/11 attacks. Students will understand how first-person accounts and multiple perspectives deepen historical study. al-Qaeda is responsible for multiple terrorist attacks since its founding
in the 1980s by Osama bin Laden and others who were involved in the War against the Soviet Union in Afghanistan. Their aim has been to overthrow governments in the Middle East, and elsewhere in the Muslim world, which do not strictly enforce a narrow, fundamentalist version of Islam. Hijack: This means totake control by force. 1. Tell students
that today theyll be investigating the question, What happened on 9/11? 2. Write the essential question (What happened on 9/11?) on the board and draw a T-chart with three columns. Label the columns Things I know, Things I know, and Things I
second is for things they arent completely sure of, and the last is for things they are curious about. 3. Take student answers for 510 minutes, sorting them into the appropriate categories. If a student answers outside of the scope of the essential question (referencing something that came before or after 9/11), keep track of those on a separate piece of
paper. Lessons in our other modules may be helpful in addressing some of the topics students raise. 4. Show students this short film, whichoutlines the key events of the morning of 9/11. Students to identify any questions from the
list that were answered by the film and discuss the answers. Star any points that were not addressed in the film using the 9/11 Memorial & Museum Interactive Attack Timeline. 7. Conclude by having students share the additional information they
learned, referencing where they found it in the timeline and what type of resource it was (text, image, audio clip, video clip).8. Return to the original list of observations students that in the next lesson, theyll continue learning about 9/11
by exploring the experiences of those who were actually there. Essential Question: What happened on 9/11? reservations@911memorial.org Contact Us About Media Center Careers Accessibility Calendar Support 2024 National September 11 Memorial & Museum 9/11 MEMORIAL is a registered trademark of the National September 11 Memorial &
Museum September 11 Attacks History >> US History 1900 to PresentGo here to watch a video about the September 11, 2001 the United States was attacked by an Islamic terrorist group called al-Qaeda. They hijacked four passenger planes and used them as
weapons to crash into buildings. Two of the planes crashed in Shanksville, Pennsylvania after the passengers attempted to retake control of the plane. The AttacksIt was early in the morning on September 11 when the hijackers took control of the
four airplanes. At the time, no one dreamed of their intentions. Here is what happened to each flight in the order that they crashed into the North Tower at 9:03 AM: United Airlines Flight 175 from Boston crashed into the South Tower at 9:03 AM
9:37 AM: American Airlines Flight 77 from Dulles Airport in Washington, D.C. crashes into the Pentagon. 10:03 AM: United Airlines Flight 93 from Newark, New Jersey crashes into a field near Shanksville, Pennsylvania when the passengers attempt to take control. Authorities believe the terrorists' target was the White House or the U.S. Capitol
Building. When the first plane hit the North Tower, many people thought it was some sort of horrible accident. When the second plane hit, we knew we were under attack. The Twin Towers. Eventually, the structural integrity of both
buildings gave way and the towers collapsed. The South Tower collapsed first followed by the North Tower around a 1/2 hour later. Several other buildings and skyscrapers around the Twin Towers collapsed as well. How many people died? The death toll from the attacks was devastating. All 246 passengers and crew on the four airplanes died along
with 2,606 people at the World Trade Center and 125 at the Pentagon. In total, 2,996 people were killed during the attacks, including 2977 victims and 19 terrorists. September 11 National MemorialPhoto by Ducksters 9/11 Heroes There are many stories of heroes on the ground and in the air during the attacks. The firefighters and police of New York
City worked diligently to save thousands of people before the buildings collapsed. Many of them gave their lives including 343 firefighters, 72 police, and 55 military personnel. The passengers aboard Flight 93 also fought back to gain control of the plane. They knew they were probably going to die, but they didn't let the plane crash into a building
where more would die. We will never know just how many lives their bravery saved. Who were the attackers? There were 19 terrorists involved in the hijackings. They were members of the Islamic terrorists involved in the hijackings. They were members of the Islamic terrorists involved in the hijackings. They were members of the Islamic terrorists involved in the hijackings. They were members of the Islamic terrorists involved in the hijackings.
market crashed. Things were even worse in New York City which had to deal with the dust, debris, and destruction of so many buildings. Many had to deal with the death of friends and loved-ones and the loss of jobs and businesses. The United States government, led by President George W. Bush, retaliated with a "War on Terror." The U.S. attacked
the Taliban in Afghanistan and searched out leaders and members of al-Qaeda. Osama bin Laden was able to hide out in mountain caves for many years before he was finally hunted down and killed in 2011. One World Trade Center BuildingPhoto by DuckstersMemorials There are memorials to the victims at each of the three locations of the attacks.
There is the National September 11 Memorial and Museum at the World Trade Center in New York City, the Pentagon Memorial in Virginia, and the Flight 93 National Memorial in Virginia, and the Flight 94 National Memorial in Virginia, and the Flight 95 National Memorial in Virginia, and the Flight 95 National Memorial in Virginia, and the Flight 95 National Memorial in Virginia, and the Flight 96 National Memorial in Virginia, and the Flight 96 National Memorial in Virginia, and the Flight 97 National Memorial in Virginia, and the Flight 97 National Memorial in Virginia, and the Flight 98 National Memorial National Natio
help fight terrorism. Around 50,000 people had jobs in the Twin Towers before the attacks. All four flights were headed across the country to California. This was part of the terrorists' plans so that the planes would be filled with fuel for a long flight. The passengers aboard the planes used cell phones to relay details of the hijackers. President Bush
said after the attacks that "We will not waver; we will not falter, and we will not falter.
History 1900 to Present On September 11, 2001, people in New York City woke up to a beautiful late summer day. It was a Tuesday, and people were preparing for another day at work and school. Thousands of people headed for the World Trade Center, a complex of seven buildings that included a pair of skyscrapers known as the twin towers. Each
tower had 110 stories and stood about 1,360 feet high. The tallest buildings in New York City at the time, the twin towers rose above the citys downtown skyline. Nobody there knew that in just a few hours, both buildings would fall. A shocking eventPeople who live in New York are used to seeing and hearing airplanes flying overhead. But on the
morning of September 11, people stopped on the streets and looked up. The sound of an approaching airplane was too loud, and the plane seemed to be flying too low. To the horror of people watching below, the airplane flew straight into one of the twin towers of the World Trade Center. American Airlines Flight 11 hit the north tower at 8:46 a.m. The
impact of the crash tore a hole that stretched from the 93rd to 99th floors of the building. Smoke and flames poured out of the tower. Many people thought they had just seen a terrible accident. But 17 minutes later, a second plane flew into another one of the World Trade Center buildingsthis time into the south tower. United Airlines Flight 175
crashed into the 77th through 85th floors of the south tower at 9:03 a.m. Some cell phone and TV station cameras caught the second attack on film. The footage was played over and over again on television. Soon people knew that hijackersindividuals who capture an aircraft, ship, or vehicle by forcehad taken over the planes. A group of men had
taken control of the cockpit of each airplane and flown them into the buildings on purpose. The attack continues attack. About half an hour after the second tower was struck in New York City, hijackers crashed a third airplane. American Airlines Flight 77 hit the west side of the Pentagon, a five-sided concrete building that
serves as headquarters for the U.S. Department of Defense, in Arlington, Virginia, just outside Washington, D.C. The planes fluid as soon as possible. But it was too late for United Airlines Flight 93. Hijackers had already
taken control of this fourth aircraft. They were flying the plane toward Washington, D.C. Passengers and crew members on the plane called loved ones, who told them about the other attacks in New York and Virginia. People on Flight 93 thought their aircraft would be used as a weapon, too. So they fought the hijackers to try to get control of the
plane. In a phone call recorded as passengers and crew began to fight back, passenger Todd Beamer was heard saying, Are you ready? OK, lets roll. Flight 93 eventually crashed into a field near Shanksville, Pennsylvania. The crash site was close to the hijackers likely target, a government building in Washington, D.C. The rescue begins Back in New
be an extremely difficult rescue operation. Almost all the elevators in the twin towers had stopped working. So rescuers started climbing up the stairs, but many were blocked by rubble or fire. Still, firefighters forged ahead, ignoring the danger. (Read more about the heroes of 9/11.) The towers fallWhen the airplanes hit the twin towers, they caused
massive damage. Concrete floors were destroyed. Steel support beams were cut in two. Floors above the crash sites started to sag downward. Meanwhile, the sprinklers in both buildings grew unstable. Then they collapsed. The south
tower fell first. Once it began to crumble, it took only 10 seconds for it to collapse. The impact caused the north tower to shake, and it, too, crumbled to the ground 29 minutes later. First responders helped many people from the
twin towers, the Pentagon, and the four airplanesdied in the attacks that day. The official response W. Bush led the country in a day of prayer and remembrance. Then he led the nations effort to find and punish the people who had caused the
attacks. A terrorist group based in Afghanistan (a country in the Middle East) called al Qaeda claimed responsibility for the 9/11 attacks. Their leader was Osama bin Laden considered the United States to be their enemy, which is why the hijackers used the airplanes to attack important U.S. buildings. In total, 19 hijackers
took over the four planes that crashed on 9/11. World leaders promised to help the United States punish al Qaeda and locate their leader. In October 2001, the United States and its allies started military actions in Afghanistan, searching for members of al Qaeda who worked with bin Laden to plan and carry out the 9/11 attacks. It would take nearly 10
years for these forces to locate and kill bin Laden himself, who was eventually discovered hiding in nearby Pakistan in May 2011. Banding together attack on such a powerful nation was a threat to peace around the world. They brought
flowers to U.S. embassies and lit candles to honor the victims. They gathered to sing The Star-Spangled Banner. One French newspaper showed its support with the front-page headline Nous sommes tous Amricains, meaning: We are all Americans. After the attacks, many people in the United States wanted to show support for their country, too. They
gave flowers, candles, food, and thank-you notes to first responders. U.S. residents and organizations also donated a record-breaking $2.8 billion to help the families of victims of the attacks. By the end of 2001, more than 300 U.S. charities were raising money for the cause. Most Americans tried to help others after the 9/11 attacks. But some people
took their anger and fear out on people who looked like they came from the same Middle Eastern countries as the hijackers. Innocent people who had not treated fairly. 20 years laterA lot has changed since September 11, 2001. To prevent similar terrorist attacks from happening in the country
the United States government created the Department of Homeland Security in 2002. The organization is responsible for border security, immigrations and customs, and disaster relief and prevention. But they also keep a close watch over suspected terrorist groups and send warnings if they think the country and its people are in danger. That way,
the government can protect them. Air travel became stricter after 9/11. Before the attacks, private security companies performed all airport screenings. In 2002, the TSA began using
explosive detection systems nationwide to screen all bags for explosives. They also installed more advanced technologies, such as the full-body scanner, to ensure travelers werent trying to bring anything harmful on an airplane. (The hijackers used weapons they had carried onboard to gain control of the aircrafts.) Other ruleslike using small
dangerous weapons. By the time Barack Obama was elected president in 2008, some 4,500 American soldiers had died in Afghanistan and Iraq, with many thousands more wounded. Many Americans felt the loss of life wasnt worth itbin Laden was finally located and killed. Hisangerous were ever found. But in 2011, bin Laden was finally located and killed. Hisangerous weapons were ever found.
death was a blow to al Qaeda and gave some U.S. citizens hope that progress was being made in the fight against terrorism. By the end of his second term in 2017. And another terrorist group, the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria
Afghanistan by August 31 instead, just before the 20-year anniversary of the 9/11 attacks. Honoring the victims Memorials now stand to pay tribute to those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001. The 9/11 Memorial and Museum in New York City contains pools set within each area where the twin towers stood; the names of all the 9/11 victims
from each tower are inscribed on bronze panels. At the National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial, each of the 184 benches is dedicated to a victim of the Virginia attack. And the Tower of Voices at the Flight 93 National Memorial in Pennsylvania has 40 wind chimes to honor the planes passengers and crew members. The attacks on September 11, 2001,
shook the world and made people realize that even a powerful country like the United States could be a victim of terrorism. But the horrific event also brought out the best in all of us. Text partially adapted from the Nat Geo
Kids book September 11by Libby Romero. At Hearst Networks EMEA, we share stories that matter. A global broadcaster since 1995, we reach audiences in over 100 countries, including the UK, Nordics, Benelux, Central & Eastern Europe, Spain, Italy, Germany, Africa and the Middle East. Our stories are global and local, linear and digital, and
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Networks EMEA and youll be offered personal and professional development opportunities throughout your career with us. Well do everything we can to see you thrive and grow. Soon after the attacks, U.S. President George W. Bush visited the site of the fallen World Trade Center, which became known as Ground Zero. He declared that the people
who knocked these buildings down will hear from all of us soon. The United States then launched a war on terror. The North Atlantic Treaty Organization supported that effort. In October 2001 U.S. and allied forces attacked Afghanistan, where al-Qaeda was based. They drove out the rulers who had protected the terrorists. They also hunted for al-
Qaedas leader, Osama bin Laden. U.S. forces finally located and killed bin Laden in 2011. After the September 11 attacks, airport security increased. Passengers and baggage are now screened more thoroughly. In addition, federal air marshals are now assigned to many U.S. flights. These law enforcement officers wear regular clothes and carry
hidden weapons. They are trained to protect a planes passengers and crew from terrorist threats. College Is More Expensive Than Many Parents Thought, And Some Can't Afford It Jun 28, 2025 Tesla Is Set To Report Deliveries Wednesday. Here's What To Expect. Jun 28, 2025 Tesla Is Set To Report Deliveries Wednesday. Here's What To Expensive Than Many Parents Thought, And Some Can't Afford It Jun 28, 2025 Tesla Is Set To Report Deliveries Wednesday.
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September 11 Attacks History >> US History 1900 to PresentGo here to watch a video about the September 11, 2001 the United States was attacked by an Islamic terrorist group called al-Qaeda. They hijacked four passenger planes and used them as weapons
airplanes. At the time, no one dreamed of their intentions. Here is what happened to each flight in the order that they crashed into the North Tower of the World Trade Center in New York City. 9:03 AM: United Airlines Flight 17 from Boston crashed into the South Tower at 9:03 AM. 9:37
AM: American Airlines Flight 77 from Dulles Airport in Washington, D.C. crashes into the Pentagon. 10:03 AM: United Airlines Flight 93 from Newark, New Jersey crashes into a field near Shanksville, Pennsylvania when the passengers attempt to take control. Authorities believe the terrorists' target was the White House or the U.S. Capitol Building.
When the first plane hit the North Tower, many people thought it was some sort of horrible accident. When the passenger planes caused an intense fire and extreme heat in the Twin Towers. Eventually, the structural integrity of both buildings
gave way and the towers collapsed. The South Tower collapsed first followed by the North Tower around a 1/2 hour later. Several other buildings and skyscrapers around the Twin Towers collapsed first followed by the North Tower around a 1/2 hour later. Several other buildings and skyscrapers around the Twin Towers collapsed first followed by the North Tower around a 1/2 hour later. Several other buildings and skyscrapers around the Twin Towers collapsed first followed by the North Tower around a 1/2 hour later. Several other buildings and skyscrapers around the Twin Tower around a 1/2 hour later. Several other buildings and skyscrapers around the Twin Tower around a 1/2 hour later. Several other buildings and skyscrapers around the Twin Tower around a 1/2 hour later. Several other buildings are several other buildings and skyscrapers around the Twin Tower around a 1/2 hour later. Several other buildings are several other buildings.
people at the World Trade Center and 125 at the Pentagon. In total, 2,996 people were killed during the attacks, including 2977 victims and 19 terrorists. September 11 National MemorialPhoto by Ducksters9/11 Heroes There are many stories of heroes on the ground and in the air during the attacks. The firefighters and police of New York City
worked diligently to save thousands of people before the buildings collapsed. Many of them gave their lives including 343 firefighters, 72 police, and 55 military personnel. The passengers aboard Flight 93 also fought back to gain control of the plane crash into a building where probably going to die, but they didn't let the plane crash into a building where probably going to die, but they didn't let the plane crash into a building where probably going to die, but they didn't let the plane crash into a building where probably going to die, but they didn't let the plane crash into a building where probably going to die, but they didn't let the plane crash into a building where probably going to die, but they didn't let the plane crash into a building where probably going to die, but they didn't let the plane crash into a building where probably going to die, but they didn't let the plane crash into a building where probably going to die, but they didn't let the plane crash into a building where probably going to die, but they didn't let the plane crash into a building where probably going to die, but they didn't let the plane crash into a building where probably going to die, but they didn't let the plane crash into a building where probably going to die, but they didn't let the plane crash into a building where probably going to die, but they didn't let the plane crash into a building where probably going to die, but they didn't let the plane crash into a building where probably going to die, but they didn't let the plane crash into a building where probably going to die, but they didn't let the plane crash into a building where probably going to die, but they didn't let the plane crash into a building where probably going to die, but they didn't let the plane crash into a building where probably going to die, but they didn't let the plane crash into a building where probably going to die, but they are pr
more would die. We will never know just how many lives their bravery saved. Who were the attackers? There were 19 terrorists involved in the hijackings. They were members of the Islamic terrorists involved in the hijackings. They were members of the Islamic terrorists involved in the hijackings. They were members of the Islamic terrorists involved in the hijackings. They were members of the Islamic terrorists involved in the hijackings. They were members of the Islamic terrorists involved in the hijackings.
crashed. Things were even worse in New York City which had to deal with the dust, debris, and destruction of so many buildings. Many had to deal with the death of friends and loved-ones and the loss of jobs and businesses. The United States government, led by President George W. Bush, retaliated with a "War on Terror." The U.S. attacked the
Taliban in Afghanistan and searched out leaders and members of al-Qaeda. Osama bin Laden was finally hunted down and killed in 2011. One World Trade Center BuildingPhoto by DuckstersMemorials There are memorials to the victims at each of the three locations of the attacks. There
is the National September 11 Memorial and Museum at the World Trade Center in New York City, the Pentagon Memorial in Virginia, and the Flight 93 National Memorial in Virginia, and the Flight 94 National Memorial in Virginia, and the Flight 95 National Memorial in Virginia, and the Flight 95 National Memorial in Virginia, and the Flight 96 National Memorial in Virginia, and the Flight 96 National Memorial in Virginia, and the Flight 97 National Memorial in Virginia, and the Flight 97 National Memorial in Virginia, and the Flight 98 National Memorial National Na
fight terrorism. Around 50,000 people had jobs in the Twin Towers before the attacks. All four flights were headed across the country to California. This was part of the terrorists' plans so that the planes would be filled with fuel for a long flight. The passengers aboard the planes used cell phones to relay details of the hijackers. President Bush said
after the attacks that "We will not waver; we will not falter, and we will not fail. Peace and freedom will prevail." Activities Take a ten question quiz about this page. Listen to a recorded reading of this page.
1900 to Present Skip to main content 9/11 Memorial | Home Note for screen reader users: once expanded, the first four items of the navigation menu have some associated content which follows each sub-menu. The 9/11 Memorial &
Museum offersinteractive lesson plans for students in grades 3 to 12 that address the 9/11 attacks, their ongoing repercussions, and the history of the World Trade Center. Lessons plans are divided by grade level and theme below. More Lesson plans are divided by grade level and theme below. More Lesson plans are divided by grade level and theme below.
Lesson plan Lesson plan Essential Question: How was Operation Neptune Spear carried out, and what was the countrys reaction to its outcome? Grades: 9 to 12Theme: Repercussions of 9/11 Lesson plan Essential Question: Why were the World Trade Center, Pentagon, and U.S. Capitol targeted on 9/11? Grades: 6 to 12Theme: Antecedents on 12Theme and 12Theme and
of 9/11 Lesson plan Essential Question: How did counterterrorism measures evolve in the immediate aftermath of 9/11 Counterterrorism measures evolve in the immediate aftermath of 9/11 Lesson plan reservations@911memorial.org Contact Us About Media Center Careers Accessibility Calendar Support 2024 National September 11 Memorial & Museum 9/11
MEMORIAL is a registered trademark of the National September 11 Memorial & Museum On September 11, 2001, people in New York City woke up to a beautiful late summer day. It was a Tuesday, and people were preparing for another day at work and school. Thousands of people headed for the World Trade Center, a complex of seven buildings
that included a pair of skyscrapers known as the twin towers. Each tower had 110 stories and stood about 1,360 feet high. The tallest buildings in New York City at the time, the twin towers rose above the citys downtown skyline. Nobody there knew that in just a few hours, both buildings would fall. A shocking eventPeople who live in New York area above the citys downtown skyline.
used to seeing and hearing airplanes flying overhead. But on the morning of September 11, people stopped on the streets and looked up. The sound of an approaching airplane was too loud, and the plane seemed to be flying too low. To the horror of people watching below, the airplane flew straight into one of the twin towers of the World Trade
Center.American Airlines Flight 11 hit the north tower at 8:46 a.m. The impact of the tower. Many people thought they had just seen a terrible accident. But 17 minutes later, a second plane flew into another one of the World Trade Center.
buildingsthis time into the south tower. United Airlines Flight 175 crashed into the 77th through 85th floors of the south tower at 9:03 a.m. Some cell phone and TV station cameras caught the second attack on film. The footage was played over and over again on television. Soon people knew that hijackersindividuals who capture an aircraft, ship, or
vehicle by forcehad taken over the planes. A group of men had taken control of the cockpit of each airplane and flown them into the buildings on purpose. The attack continues Flight 77 hit
the west side of the Pentagon, a five-sided concrete building that serves as headquarters for the U.S. Department of Defense, in Arlington, Virginia, just outside Washington, D.C. The planes flying over the country to land as soon as possible. But
it was too late for United Airlines Flight 93. Hijackers had already taken control of this fourth aircraft. They were flying the plane toward Washington, D.C.Passengers and crew members on the plane toward Washington, D.C.Passengers and crew members on the plane toward Washington, D.C.Passengers and crew members on the plane toward Washington, D.C.Passengers and crew members on the plane toward Washington, D.C.Passengers and crew members on the plane toward Washington, D.C.Passengers and crew members on the plane toward Washington, D.C.Passengers and crew members on the plane toward Washington, D.C.Passengers and crew members on the plane toward Washington, D.C.Passengers and crew members on the plane toward Washington, D.C.Passengers and crew members on the plane toward Washington, D.C.Passengers and crew members on the plane toward Washington, D.C.Passengers and crew members on the plane toward Washington, D.C.Passengers and crew members on the plane toward Washington, D.C.Passengers and crew members on the plane toward Washington, D.C.Passengers and crew members on the plane toward Washington, D.C.Passengers and Crew members on the plane toward Washington, D.C.Passengers and Crew members on the plane toward Washington, D.C.Passengers and Crew members on the plane toward Washington, D.C.Passengers and Crew members on the plane toward Washington, D.C.Passengers and Crew members on the plane toward Washington, D.C.Passengers and Crew members on the plane toward Washington, D.C.Passengers and Crew members on the plane toward Washington, D.C.Passengers and Crew members on the plane toward Washington, D.C.Passengers and Crew members on the plane toward Washington, D.C.Passengers and Crew members on the plane toward Washington, D.C.Passengers and Crew members on the plane toward Washington, D.C.Passengers and Crew members on the plane toward Washington, D.C.Passengers and Crew members on the plane toward Washington, D.C.Passengers and Crew members 
weapon, too. So they fought the hijackers to try to get control of the plane. In a phone call recorded as passengers and crew began to fight back, passenger Todd Beamer was heard saying, Are you ready? OK, lets roll. Flight 93 eventually crashed into a field near Shanksville, Pennsylvania. The crash site was close to the hijackers likely target, a
government building in Washington, D.C. The rescue begins Back in New York City, dark smoke poured from the twin towers. People rushed to escape the area, which later became known as ground zero. First responders including police officers, firefighters, and paramedics arrived within minutes of the first attack on the World Trade Center. They
rushed into both towers to help people trapped inside, even though it would be an extremely difficult rescue operation. Almost all the elevators in the twin towers had stopped working. So rescuers started climbing up the stairs, but many were blocked by rubble or fire. Still, firefighters forged ahead, ignoring the danger. (Read more about the heroes
of 9/11.) The towers fallWhen the airplanes hit the twin towers, they caused massive damage. Concrete floors were destroyed. Steel support beams were cut in two. Floors above the crash sites started to sag downward. Meanwhile, the sprinklers in both buildings were damaged. There was nothing to stop the raging fires, which became hot enough to
weaken steel. The buildings grew unstable. Then they collapsed. The south tower fell first. Once it began to crumble, it took only 10 seconds for it to collapse. The impact caused the north tower scollapsed. More than 25,000 made to the ground 29 minutes later. First responders helped many people before the twin tower scollapsed. More than 25,000 made to the ground 29 minutes later.
it out of the buildings before they fell. But nearly 3,000 peoplefrom the twin towers, the Pentagon, and the four airplanesdied in the attacks that day. The official response W. Bush led the country in a day of prayer and remembrance. Then he
led the nations effort to find and punish the people who had caused the attacks. Their leader was Osama bin Laden considered the United States to be their enemy, which is why the hijackers used
the airplanes to attack important U.S. buildings. In total, 19 hijackers took over the four planes that crashed on 9/11. World leaders promised to help the United States and its allies started military actions in Afghanistan, searching for members of al Qaeda who worked with
bin Laden to plan and carry out the 9/11 attacks. It would take nearly 10 years for these forces to locate and kill bin Laden himself, who was eventually discovered hiding in nearby Pakistan in May 2011. Banding together Although the 9/11 attacks took place in the United States, many people from other countries felt that a terrorist attack on such a
powerful nation was a threat to peace around the world. They brought flowers to U.S. embassies and lit candles to honor the victims. They gathered to sing The Star-Spangled Banner. One French newspaper showed its support with the front-page headline Nous sommes tous Amricains, meaning: We are all Americans. After the attacks, many people in
the United States wanted to show support for their country, too. They gave flowers, candles, food, and thank-you notes to first responders. U.S. residents and organizations also donated a record-breaking $2.8 billion to help the families of victims of the attacks. By the end of 2001, more than 300 U.S. charities were raising money for the cause. Most
Americans tried to help others after the 9/11 attacks. But some people took their anger and fear out on people who looked like they came from the same Middle Eastern countries as the hijackers. Innocent people who had not treated fairly. 20 years laterA lot has changed since September 11,
2001. To prevent similar terrorist attacks from happening in the country, the United States government created the Department of Homeland Security in 2002. The organization is responsible for border security, immigrations and customs, and disaster relief and prevention. But they also keep a close watch over suspected terrorist groups and send
warnings if they think the country and its people are in danger. That way, the government can protect them. Air travel became stricter after 9/11. Before the attacks, private security Administration (TSA) was created to give the federal government direct
responsibility for all airport screenings. In 2002, the TSA began using explosive detection systems nationwide to screen all bags for explosives. They also installed more advanced technologies, such as the full-body scanner, to ensure travelers werent trying to bring anything harmful on an airplane. (The hijackers used weapons they had carried
onboard to gain control of the aircrafts.) Other ruleslike using small containers for liquids like shampoo or removing shoes during security checkswere put in place to make sure people didnt sneak dangerous things onboard. The United States also entered a long war on terror abroad. In addition to sending troops to Afghanistan, Bush also sent troops
to Iraq in 2003 because of rumors that the country was hiding dangerous weapons. By the time Barack Obama was elected president in 2008, some 4,500 American soldiers had died in Afghanistan and Iraq, with many thousands more wounded. Many Americans felt the loss of life wasnt worth itbin Laden was still missing, and no weapons were ever
found. But in 2011, bin Laden was finally located and killed. His death was a blow to al Qaeda and gave some U.S. citizens hope that progress was being made in the fight against terrorism. By the end of his second term in 2017.
And another terrorist group, the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS), threatened the removal of all troops from Afghanistan by May 1, 2021. Trumps successor, Joe Biden, delayed the removal, announcing that
the United States would be removing all troops from Afghanistan by August 31 instead, just before the 20-year anniversary of the 9/11 attacks. Honoring the victims Memorials now stand to pay tribute to those who lost their lives on September 11, 2001. The 9/11 Memorial and Museum in New York City contains pools set within each area where the
twin towers stood; the names of all the 9/11 victims from each tower are inscribed on bronze panels. At the National 9/11 Pentagon Memorial, each of the 184 benches is dedicated to a victim of the Virginia attack. And the Tower of Voices at the Flight 93 National Memorial in Pennsylvania has 40 wind chimes to honor the planes passengers and crew
members. The attacks on September 11, 2001, shook the world and made people realize that even a powerful country like the United States could be a victim of terrorism. But the horrific event also brought out the best in all
of us. Text partially adapted from the Nat Geo Kids book September 11, 2001 attacks. They happened on Tuesday, September 11, 2001, in the United States. The attacks were carried out by a terrorist group called al-Qaeda. Four groups of terrorists
took control of airplanes. Each group had a pilot trained to fly the plane crashed in the U.S. Two planes hit the World Trade Center's twin towers in New York City. Another plane crashed in a field in Pennsylvania. It did not reach its
target in Washington, D.C. Almost 3,000 people died during these attacks. Most of the victims were from the United Kingdom, India, and Canada. Key Moments of 9/11All times listed are local time (Eastern Daylight Time). The Airplanes Used in the
AttacksFour different planes were used in the 9/11 attacks. American Airlines Flight 11 This was the first plane to leave. It was a Boeing 767-200ER. This plane was 159 feet long. It had two aisles inside. Flight 11 usually flew between Boston and Los Angeles. On September 11, it took off at 7:59 a.m. with 81 passengers. It crashed into the North Tower
at 440 miles per hour. It was carrying a lot of jet fuel. United Flight 175This was also a Boeing 767-200ER. Like Flight 11, it was supposed to fly from Boston to Los Angeles. United 175 took off at 8:14 a.m. It had 56 passengers on board. It crashed into the South Tower at 9:03 a.m. The plane was traveling at 540 miles per hour. American Airlines
Flight 77This was the third plane to take off. It was a Boeing 757-200. Flight 77 left Washington, D.C., at 8:20 a.m. It was also going to Los Angeles. It had 58 passengers. The plane crashed into the Pentagon at 9:37 a.m. It was also going to Los Angeles. It had 58 passengers. The plane crashed into the Pentagon at 9:37 a.m. It was also going to Los Angeles. It had 58 passengers. The plane crashed into the Pentagon at 9:37 a.m. It was also going to Los Angeles. It had 58 passengers.
8:42 a.m. from Newark, New Jersey. It was headed for San Francisco. Only 37 passengers were on board. This plane crashed at 560 miles per hour. It landed in an empty field in Shanksville, Pennsylvania, at 10:03 a.m. What Happened After the Crashes Ground zero: The remains of the World Trade Center after the attacks. All 246 people on the four
planes died. The 19 terrorists were also killed. Both of the World Trade Center towers caught fire. The South Tower burned for 56 minutes before it also collapsed. As the towers fell, parts of them hit other buildings nearby. This caused a third building, 7 World Trade Center, to fall later
that day. Many other buildings were badly damaged. The plane that hit the Pentagon crashed into the western side of the building. It went through three of the Pentagon's five "rings." This crash killed 125 people inside the Pentagon. In total, 2,996 people died in the attacks. This included firefighters and policemen who were trying to save lives. Some
conspiracy theories have suggested that people in the U.S. government knew about the attacks, the United States blamed Al-Qaeda. President George W. Bush announced a "War on Terror." This meant the U.S. would
take more actions to stop terrorism. President Bush said this was to protect Americans. Security was made much stronger, especially at airports. The U.S. asked Afghanistan's government, the Taliban, to hand over bin Laden. The Taliban
refused. So, the United States went to war against Afghanistan. The Taliban was removed from power. A new government made some big changes in U.S. SecurityThe U.S. government of Transportation (DOT) created the Transportation Security Administration (TSA). Before 9/11, airlines
handled airport security. The TSA made it the government's job. New officers were hired to work at airports. They also flew on planes as air marshals. The TSA also helps with security on trains and their property inside the
United States. The TSA later became part of this new department. War in IraqAfter defeating the Taliban, President George W. Bush thought the U.S. should invade Iraq. He believed Iraq helped terrorist groups, including al-Qaeda. He also said Iraq was making dangerous weapons. In March 2003, the United States began its invasion of Iraq. Other
countries like the United Kingdom also helped. Iraq's government was overthrown, and a new one was elected. However, no dangerous weapons were found in Iraq. 1997 photo of extreme terrorist Osama bin Laden. On May 2, 2011, United States Navy SEALs killed al-Qaeda leader Osama bin Laden. He was responsible for the September 11 attacks
and other terrorist acts. Images for kidsKhalid Sheikh Mohammed after his capture in 2003Flight paths of the four planesWorld Trade Center site (Ground Zero) with an overlay showing the original building locations Remains of 6, 7, and 1WTC on September 17Aerial view of the Pentagon Search and rescue teams inspect the wreckage at Ground Zero
on September 13The exterior support columns from the lower level of the South Tower remained standing after the building collapsed. Rebuilt One World Trade Center nearing completion in July 2013The Tribute in Light on September 11, 2006, the fifth anniversary of the attacks Fritz Koenigs monumental sculpture The Sphere in its final location in
Liberty ParkSee also In Spanish: Atentados del 11 de septiembre de 2001 para nios EXCLUSIVE Former director of the CIA, Leon Panetta, urges the British Government to be 'very tough' with China over Beijing's proposal for its new mega embassy in London Analysts say the bill would add trillions of dollars to the already steep US national debt BIG
READ Leader who doesnt know what he wants seen as a problem as welfare climbdown divides party BIG READ The BBC battles uncooperative headliners, technical gaffes and jealousy among colleagues as it covers the Somerset festival From multigenerational family dramas to propulsive dystopian fiction, here are 14 great releases to get lost in this
month Serco, which runs five prisons in the UK, has suggested on the spot searches of prison staff as a method of 'increasing the resilience of Staff against corruption' George Finch, 18, has become the interim leader of Warwickshire County Council and is thought to be the youngest ever acting council leader in the UK More landlords are leaving the
market before a new bill giving extra rights to tenants comes into force - with one estate agent saying it is a 'race to the bottom' SPORT ANALYSIS The youngest member of the squad is no cub - and showed against Western Force he is not going to hang around waiting for fortune to come to him It was only half an hour, but his surprise set after a two-
year break from live music showed what makes this festival so special INTERVIEW As they bring their 50th anniversary tour to the UK, the masters of metal talk about gigging in their 70s, hi-tech mega-shows, being left out of Glasto - and their rather good new Portuguese wine The wedding, attended by guests such as Ivanka Trump and the
Kardashians, has caused a stir among local residents My parents encouraged me to be obedient and well behaved, and I ended up a burned out people pleaser. Dont make the same mistake with your kids Try organic ketchups and fresh veggie skewers experts offer simple swaps to reduce UPFs at your barbecue Paul Johnson, head of the IFS and one
of the country's most well informed voices on UK economic policy, predicts Rachel Reeves willmake stealth tax rises Not ready to purchase a subscription? Click to download the free sample version Download sample On September 11, 2001 (9/11), 19 suicide bombers linked with the Islamic extremist group Al-Qaeda hijacked four airliners and carried
out suicide attacks against targets in the United States. Two planes were flown into the World Trade Center towers in New York City. A third plane hit the Pentagon just outside of Washington, D.C., and the fourth plane crashed into a field in Pennsylvania. See the fact file below for more information on the Patriot Day or, alternatively, you can
download our 36-page Patriot Day worksheet pack to utilise within the classroom or home environment. Key Facts & Information The 9/11 Attacks On Tuesday morning of September 11, 2001, at 8:45 AM, the United States suffered a terrorist attack when an American Airlines Boeing 767 filled with 20,000 gallons of jet fuel crashed into the north
tower of the World Trade Center (also known as WTC) in New York City. These terrorist attacks became known as 9/11, which is how the American date of September 11 is written. The events of September 11 is written. The events of September 11 is written.
American Airlines Flight 11 crashed into Tower One (the north tower) of the World Trade Center at 8:50 AM. United Airlines Flight 77 crashed into Tower Two at 9:04 AM. American Airlines Flight 77 crashed into Tower Two at 175 then crashed into Tower Two at 18:50 AM. United Airlines Flight 77 crashed into Tower Two at 19:04 AM. American Airlines Flight 77 crashed into Tower Two at 19:04 AM. American Airlines Flight 77 crashed into Tower Two at 19:04 AM. American Airlines Flight 77 crashed into Tower Two at 19:04 AM. American Airlines Flight 77 crashed into Tower Two at 19:04 AM. American Airlines Flight 175 then crashed into Tower Two at 19:04 AM. American Airlines Flight 77 crashed into Tower Two at 19:04 AM. American Airlines Flight 77 crashed into Tower Two at 19:04 AM. American Airlines Flight 77 crashed into Tower Two at 19:04 AM. American Airlines Flight 77 crashed into Tower Two at 19:04 AM. American Airlines Flight 77 crashed into Tower Two at 19:04 AM. American Airlines Flight 77 crashed into Tower Two at 19:04 AM. American Airlines Flight 78 crashed into Tower Two at 19:04 AM. American Airlines Flight 78 crashed into Tower Two at 19:04 AM. American Airlines Flight 78 crashed into Tower Two at 19:04 AM. American Airlines Flight 78 crashed into Tower Two at 19:04 AM. American Airlines Flight 78 crashed into Tower Two at 19:04 AM. American Airlines Flight 78 crashed into Tower Two at 19:04 AM. American Airlines Flight 78 crashed into Tower Two at 19:04 AM. American Airlines Flight 78 crashed into Tower Two at 19:04 AM. American Airlines Flight 78 crashed into Tower Two at 19:04 AM. American Airlines Flight 78 crashed into Tower Two at 19:04 AM. American Airlines Flight 78 crashed into Tower Two at 19:04 AM. American Airlines Flight 78 crashed into Tower Two at 19:04 AM. American Airlines Flight 78 crashed into Tower Two at 19:04 AM. American Airlines Flight 78 crashed into Tower Two at 19:04 AM. American Airlines Flight 78 crashed into Tower Two at 19:04 AM. American Airlines Flight 78 crashed into Tower 
supposed to target the United States Capitol Building in Washington, D.C. Instead, the plane crashed in a field in Pennsylvania as passengers on the flight fought against the hijackers to regain control of the plane. Tower Two of the World Trade Center collapsed at about 10:00 AM. At 10:30 AM, Tower One also collapsed. The attacks resulted in the
deaths of 2,977 people. The victims included 246 passengers and crew on the four planes, 2,606 in New York City, both in the towers and on the ground, and 125 individuals at the Pentagon. Men, women and children from more than 90 countries died in these attacks. The 19 terrorist hijackers also died in the attacks. The hijackers were Islamic
terrorists from Saudi Arabia and several other Arab nations who were reportedly backed financially by Saudi fugitive Osama bin Laden and his al-Qaeda network. In 2004, Osama bin Laden cited U.S. support of Israel, the presence of U.S. troops in Saudi Arabia,
and sanctions against Iraq as reasons for the attacks. A Day to Remember Cleanup of the World Trade Center site was completed in May 2002. The Pentagon was repaired within a year. Many memorials were constructed to remember 9/11. These include the National September 11 Memorial & Museum in New York, the Pentagon Memorial, and the
Flight 93 National Memorial in Pennsylvania. Next to the National Memorial, the 1,776 feet One World Trade Center was completed in 2013. Osama bin Laden was killed in Pakistan by Navy Seals from the United States. Of the nearly 3 000
people killed, 343 were New York City firefighters and paramedics. 23 New York City police officers also died along with 37 Port Authority officers who struggled to complete a building evacuation to rescue office workers in the higher floors. Only six people who were in the World Trade Center towers when they collapsed survived. Close to 10,000
other people were also treated for injuries, many of them severe. Operation Enduring Freedom was launched by incumbent President George W. Bush less than a month after the attacks. This was an international effort led by America to remove the Taliban from power in Afghanistan and destroy the al-Qaeda network that was based there. It formed
part of War in Afghanistan and the larger Global War on Terror. Within two months of Operation Enduring Freedom, the Taliban had been removed from operational power. Although the U.S. forces had effectively removed the Taliban had been removed from operational power. Although the U.S. forces had effectively removed the Taliban had been removed from operational power.
million of art was lost after the 9/11 attacks. Some of the artwork destroyed included works by Picasso and Hockney. The morning after, the New York Times was first to print the 9/11. In fact, there were so many
that it took New York City firefighters 100 days to put them all out. The cost to clean up the 1.8 million tons of debris after 9/11 was around $750 million. The site of the World Trade Center became known as Ground Zero. Originally, this was used to refer to the site where the atomic bomb exploded over Hiroshima in 1945. September 11 is now
remembered as Patriot Day in the United States. This is a national day of mourning to remember the victims of the terrorist attacks. Patriot Day worksheets This is a comprehensive bundle which includes everything you need to know about Patriot Day worksheets This is a comprehensive bundle which includes everything you need to know about Patriot Day worksheets This is a comprehensive bundle which includes everything you need to know about Patriot Day worksheets This is a comprehensive bundle which includes everything you need to know about Patriot Day worksheets This is a comprehensive bundle which includes everything you need to know about Patriot Day worksheets This is a comprehensive bundle which includes everything you need to know about Patriot Day worksheets This is a comprehensive bundle which includes everything you need to know about Patriot Day worksheets This is a comprehensive bundle which includes everything you need to know about Patriot Day worksheets This is a comprehensive bundle which includes everything you need to know about Patriot Day worksheets This is a comprehensive bundle which includes everything you need to know about Patriot Day worksheets This is a comprehensive bundle which includes everything you need to know about Patriot Day worksheets This is a comprehensive bundle which includes everything you need to know about Patriot Day worksheets This is a comprehensive bundle which includes the patriot Day worksheet and the patr
teaching students about Patriot Day. On September 11, 2001 (9/11), 19 suicide bombers linked with the Islamic extremist group Al-Qaeda hijacked four airliners and carried out suicide attacks against targets in the United States. Two planes were flown into the World Trade Center towers in New York City. A third plane hit the Pentagon just outside
of Washington, D.C., and the fourth plane crashed into a field in Pennsylvania. Complete List Of Included Worksheets Patriot Day Facts Mapping 9/11 Attacks War on Terror People & Places Behind al-Qaeda Worlds Skyscrapers 9/11 Light a
Candle Patriot Day Towering Facts Remember the Words A Moments Silence Conduct an Interview The New York Times September 11, 2001 was a scary day. Terrorists hijacked four planes. They flew three planes into buildings: the Pentagon in Washington DC and the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center in New York. The terrorist attacks on
September 11, 2001 resulted in the collapse of the Twin Towers after two commercial airliners were hijacked and crashed into them. After the September 11, 2001 attacks, the U.S. government also responded long-term by investigating what happened,
making changes to laws, taking military action and restoring the area. Link/cite this page on your own website, please use the code below to cite this page as the original source.
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