

Terrorism: Special Report

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Official Statement by Congressman Pombo

At 9:43 A.M. on Tuesday, September 11, 2001, I was atop the United States Capitol giving a tour of the Capitol Dome when I saw a burst of fire, then a mushroom cloud and smoke billowing out of the Pentagon.

At first, I thought the explosion occurred in nearby housing developments. It could not be the Pentagon. But no, it was much too close. The Pentagon was on fire.

I left my office exactly one minute before the second airliner crashed into the World Trade Center, and I did not know at first that the United States had been the victim of terrorist attacks. Quickly, though, I could see that something was terribly wrong and was ushered out of the Capitol to safety.

Like everyone else, I was shocked and saddened at the events of that day. These were senseless and cowardly attacks on our freedom and our liberty. These acts will not go unpunished.

We, as Americans, have a tremendous ability to join together and unite in times of need. We have seen this in the record number of citizens throughout the nation rushing to blood banks to donate blood. My district office in Stockton, California, has been flooded with calls from people wanting to help.

In 1994, when we were faced with the potential of sending United States forces into Bosnia, and again in 1998 facing a potential conflict with Iraq, I presented five parameters to guide decisions to commit our armed forces to overseas conflict. We must:

1. Protect territories belonging to the United States.
2. Preserve our political and economic system from foreign threats.
3. Keep sea lanes open for trade, and maintain free and voluntary trade between the United States and trading partners.
4. Prevent domination of strategic areas of the globe by powers hostile to the existence and interests of the United States.
5. Safeguard Americans and their property from acts of terrorism.

These acts have hurt each and every one of us, but our resolve is unshaken and our courage as a people is solid. And so, our duty as a nation is to unite behind President George W. Bush to take whatever steps necessary to apprehend these cowardly thugs and bring a swift and just punishment.

To the families, who have either received the news of the death of a loved one, or are holding out hope that their loved one will be recovered safely, my prayers, and the prayers of all Americans are with you. I knew one of the victims, and understand the pain.

I stand firmly behind our President in this hour of crisis. The United States of America will continue to shine as a beacon of hope and freedom to nations throughout the world. There is nothing any terrorist can ever do to change our Republic.

May God bless America.

U.S. Flags available at Congressman Pombo's Stockton Office

For those that are interested in obtaining a United States Flag, flags will be made available to purchase at Congressman Pombo's Stockton district office on Monday of next week. For more information call (209) 951-3091.

3x5 Nylon - \$9.49

4x6 Nylon - \$14.62

5x8 Nylon - \$21.75

*No profit will be made on any flag sold from Congressman Pombo's office. Flags will be sold at cost.

Today in History

1807 - Former U.S. Vice President Aaron Burr was acquitted of a misdemeanor charge. Two weeks earlier Burr had been found innocent of treason.

1812 - Moscow was set on fire by Russians after Napoleon Bonaparte's troops invaded.

1847 - U.S. forces took control of Mexico City under the leadership of Gen. Winfield Scott.

1901 - U.S. President William McKinley died of gunshot wounds inflicted by an assassin. Theodore Roosevelt, succeeded him.

1940 - The Selective Service Act was passed by the U.S. Congress providing the first peacetime draft in the United States.

1960 - The Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) was founded. The core members were Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and Venezuela.

1982 - Bashir Gemayel, Lebanon's president-elect, was killed by a bomb at his party's headquarters in east Beirut.

1998 - Israel announced that they had successfully tested its Arrow-2 missile defense system.

From www.on-this-day.com

For the most up-to-date information concerning this crisis, you can visit my website at:

www.house.gov/pombo

How You Can Help

Donate to the National Disaster Relief Fund

The Stockton branch of the American Red Cross has put out a call for mental-health workers trained in disaster response. You can make a monetary donation to the "National Disaster Relief Fund" by making a check payable to The American Red Cross. Checks can be dropped off or mailed to 747 N. Pershing, Stockton, CA 95203. You can also make a donation over the phone via credit card by calling 800-HELP-NOW. See Stockton Red Cross below for upcoming training classes.

The Local American Red Cross

747 N. Pershing Ave.
Stockton, CA
209-466-6971
sjcarc@crossnet.org

The local American Red Cross is open until 6pm. Hours for the rest of the week have not yet been determined. If you would like to become a volunteer for the local disaster response team, the local Red Cross will be holding classes this Saturday 9/15/01 on Introduction to Disaster Services from 9am - noon and Mass Care Overview from 1pm - 5pm. The training is free.

Local Blood Banks

Stockton Delta Blood Bank

2888 March Ln. (March & Feather River)
Stockton, CA 95207
209-943-3830 or 888-94-BLOOD
Email: donorops@aol.com
Website: www.deltabloodbank.org
Thursday 11:30am - 7pm
Friday & Saturday 8am - 3:30pm

Sacramento Blood Center

1625 Stockton Blvd.
Sacramento, CA
916-456-1500 or 800-995-4420

Sac. Valley Hi Blood Center

7880 Alta Valley Way, Suite 100
Sacramento, CA 95823
(916) 456-1500, Ext. 449

Lodi Delta Blood Bank

Hutchins St Square
125 South Hutchins St
(209) 368-1808

Delta Blood Bank Lodi branch will continue to collect emergency blood donations at Hutchins Street Square on Thursday and Friday from 10:00am to 7:00pm.

Local Salvation Army Offices

Stockton's Salvation Army

1305 E. Weber Ave.
Stockton, CA
209-948-8955

Lodi's Salvation Army

525 W. Lockeford St.
Lodi, CA
209-369-5896

Manteca's Salvation Army

119 Sycamore Ave.
Manteca, CA
209-239-8926

Sacramento's Salvation Army

1200 North B Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
916-442-0331

WARNING: Gas Station Price Gouging

The Secretary of Energy has issued a statement regarding price gouging at the gas station pumps. If you encounter unjustified prices, seek other stations and contact the Department of Energy Hotline at (800) 244-3301.

Weekly Quote

"I don't want to bring them to justice. I want to defeat them."

- Former Speaker Newt Gingrich - FoxNews, 9/11/01

Wordsmith

ter·ror·ism

Pronunciation: 'ter-&r-"i-z&m

Function: noun

Date: 1795

: the systematic use of terror especially as a means of coercion

- ter·ror·ist /-&r-ist/ adjective or noun

- ter·ror·is·tic /"ter-&r-'is-tik/ adjective

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By the Numbers

U.S. Military Conflict Death Tolls

War	Fatalities
Civil War	+620,000
World War I	116,516
World War II	295,000
Korean War	54,246
Vietnam War	58,193
Desert Storm	246

International Tragedies

Event	Date	Fatalities
Tianamen Square	1989	?? 2,600
Titanic	1912	+1,500
Oklahoma City bombing	1995	168
Waco assault	1993	+80
Hindenburg	1936	36
Chernobyl	1986	31
Columbine shootings	1999	15
Challenger shuttle explosion	1986	7

District Comments on the Terrorist Attacks

“Bin Laden and the rest of these terrorists need to know there isn't a place in this world for them.” - **Ronald Lowry** - 9/12/01

“Unlike 1941, the enemy is not obvious and a declaration of war is more a statement of emotion than a destination to send military forces.” - **Jack Dighton** - 9/12/01

“You must stand up to this coalition and keep the United Nations and NATO out of our affairs!! The United States is the strongest nation in the world and we need to remain that way by taking care of our own problems and not let any other nation interfere with our business.” - **Daniel Larson** - 9/12/01

“The security of our nation must take precedence over all other concerns.” - **Gerald Gasber** - 9/12/01

“I would hope that the government responds accordingly as it should when the US or it's citizens have been attacked in a time of war.” - **Edward Primasing** - 9/12/01

“I have always believed that the President of the United States is responsible to the American public and would like to respectfully take this opportunity to ask point blank, ‘Sir, you are going to beat on someone for this, aren't you?’” - **Derrick Rosado** - 9/12/01

“We, as individual citizens, do not want to see these acts go unavenged, and we are willing to do whatever it takes to bring the enemies of our nation to justice” - **Susan Cabral** - 9/12/01

“We must have the guts to see to it that no one ever attacks America and gets away with it.” - **Don Moyer, Mayor, City of Ripon** - 9/12/01

“It is incredible that a person could place so little value on their own life and the lives of thousands of innocent people. No person or nation should live with this kind of threat....No one. The threat is real. Very real.” - **Mark Mullins** - 9/12/01

“Don't let America become an armed camp. Accept the risks of a free and open society.” - **Eric Cowperthwaite** - 9/12/01

“It is time to rock and roll and not continue to be the gentle giant.” - **Katie Payne** - 9/12/01

“We are ready to provide resources and bear arms as necessary against all who would attack the US.” - **David Myrick** - 9/12/01

“This is a major crime against our nation....probably the largest crime against our free world in the history of war and an absolutely illegal act.” - **Marjorie Chase** - 9/12/01

“As the debate rages on I would also ask that you remember that we are A FREE SOCIETY and treasure that FREEDOM. We will have to accept the situations that occur if we are to remain a free society.” - **Gary Hanna** - 9/12/01

“We need to show the world we are truly united and willing to fight all acts of aggression toward our way of life and our society.” - **Rinda Webber** - 9/12/01

“We want the country that houses and supports these terrorists bombed into the ground.” - **Tamra Watson** 9/12/01

“We need to set a precedent that know one will misunderstand.” - **Rick Merkel** - 9/12/01

“We must unite behind our leadership to bring to justice those who would intentionally kill innocent men, women and children.” - **Blake Crary** - 9/12/01

“Today's tragic attack makes it only too clear that the world is a cruel and dangerous place.” - **Gerald Gasber** - 9/12/01

“Let the world know that the USA WILL NOT STAND FOR ACTS SUCH AS THESE!” - **Yvonne Archer** - 9/12/01

“America is feeling the cost of FREEDOM.” - **Clifford and Carolyn Glidden** - 9/12/01

“My first reaction like many will be swift and substantial retaliation for this abomination.” - **Richard Hutchison** - 9/12/01

You can view more comments on Congressman Pombo's web site bulletin board at the link here:
<http://www.house.gov/pombo/board/board2001/board2001.htm>