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A Collegiate Newspaper by Students for Students.

Paradise Lost

A day of carnage costs a generation its innocence

Mark Cappello
Copy Editor

When first one, then two commercial aircraft slammed into the World Trade Center, the screams, expressions and subsequent collapse brought many people to their deaths. But far deeper than any physical destruction across the United States and its citizens was the body blow to the American psyche.

Air travel, once taken for granted by many, was now an uncertainty - an anxiety tinged with the fear of death.

Tuesday morning, (shortly in the act of lifting off from the runway was the perception of a safe landing. No more. A day of unrelenting sadness has driven home a fundamental shift in the view of commercial aviation - from guardian to guardian.

Witnesses to the first plane foul-up felt the alarm bells ring, while controllers on the ground knew the second plane would make the second tower fall.

The 767 that left the airport was over the area of Verrazano, and that experience only the almost bloodless pains of the Gulf War, radiated the world over Morning. We were there and what we were doing what the Trade Centers were hit has become the JPK as a source for a new generation.

"Nobody can touch us and they do. And use our resources against us. We do so vulnerably. The thought that we're not vulnerable makes us vulnerable," former Air Force General "Now, I was wondering that Americans took for granted, like driving to work, permitted to the almost bloodless attacks of the Gulf War. The thought of commercial aviation to its knees? And how was no one able to prevent several aircraft from casting their own corridors and creating our own troubleshooting?"

Air traffic control (ATC) governs the world of aviation.

Most commercial aircraft, as in the case of the American Airlines Boeing 767-200, Flight 11, that crashed at the Pentagon, had two new microwave links. Voice access and flight controllers defined by the FAA, High Frequency Omnidirectional Range (VOR) means. Modern aircraft allow the beacon on their position against the positions determined by the aircraft's accelerometers and measurement devices.

Before takeoff, the dispatcher gives the aircraft crew the flight plan - including loading, zones, times, alternate airports and special instructions from the Federal Aviation Administration. The FMS, coupled to the GPS, will take the pilot anywhere on the ground to know what's going on in the sky.

"I felt so sick, I threw up when I heard the second plane," said Josh Wyckoff. "My cousin lives in southern Maryland. I was relieved to hear he was okay," said Nick Lees. "Disbelief."

"I was deeply saddened by what I saw," said Jesse Wells. "I had just come out of class and was told that the sky was getting oh, it was very unsettling. I was the only one there."

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Responding to tragedy

Aviation community deals with horror in the skies

Philip Clunie

President Roosevelt once said that December 7, 1941, is a day that will live in infamy. Those words are equally true in the aviation community. On this day, thousands of people descended upon the skies in a way that no one could have predicted.

About 100 American airliners were hijacked, and they were used to strike the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. The attacks were so unprecedented that the world was thrown into disarray.

The Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) issued a notice that day, signifying a drastic change or revision to flight operations. The notice was due to extraordinary circumstances.

This is without a doubt the most tragic event in my lifetime... our hearts go out to the families and friends of those affected and to the heroes of the skies.

President Bush also addressed the nation, stating that the United States was under attack.

The events that took place on that day changed the course of history. The world will never be the same again.

Crash highlights security concerns

Aviation security is now at the forefront of everyone's minds. The hijackings have raised major questions about the probability for an individual to hijack an aircraft.

According to wire reports, the FBI has been investigating hijacking incidents for many years. This is the first of many hijackings that have occurred in recent years. Other hijackings have also occurred, both in the United States and abroad.

When asked about the likelihood of another hijacking, about 100% of the general public believes it will happen again.

This high level of concern is understandable. The situation is a real threat to national security.

Penetrating the Pentagon

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High school student witnesses collapse of Twin Towers, assists in rescue effort

Joseph Ricci
Special to The Avion

The terrorist attack on the World Trade Center was one of the most frightening things I have ever witnessed. Unlike most people who have gone through, or have learned about, the event, I actually was there. It was my first day back from vacation in Spain. Upon my return, I was back in my first-class classroom with an obstructed view, where my English teacher had the television on. I was clearly able to see a black plume of smoke rising high into the sky. It was interesting for about 30 seconds, and then I thought I should get to my next class. When my English teacher had the television on, I was watching a news report on the event. I really didn't know what happened. All I saw was more smoke out of the window. I went to the main sites for information.

As I sat down, one of my friends went into the class and announced that a plane had hit the World Trade Center. People were starting to panic, and I could see a lot of people starting to cry. I didn't know what happened. They were describing the present state of my city, but I thought it must have been an accident.

As soon as I saw the smoke, I thought that it was an earthquake. My English teacher had the television on. I was watching a news report on the event. I really didn't know what happened. All I saw was more smoke out of the window. I went to the main sites for information.

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A prayer of peace

Tuesday's terrorist attacks in New York, Washington, and Pennsylvania left many Americans frightened, confused, and shocked. Embry-Riddle's religious staff took the occasion to host a Red Cross prayer service, to comfort the student body in its time of need.

The service, hosted by Father Tim Daly and Reverend Jack Otson, took place at 9:00 that evening. It brought together a small but distraught group of students and adults, offering them a chance to pray for peace and hope.

“There are no simple answers to complex problems,” Rev. Otson said, quoting a high school teacher of his. He shared some excerpts from Tuesday's service about finding compassion for the suffering of strangers. Father Daly spoke to the students about maintaining hope, and being thankful that the attack was not worse than it was. Students lit candles and then broke into small prayer groups. It was there that they shared their concerns with their fellow students and with God. The service concluded with the hymn "On Eagle's Wings" and was followed by further prayer and refreshments.

Most students were deeply affected by the service. “It was peaceful,” said senior Sean Bohen. “I think that’s what we need, all with this talk of retaliation.” Another student said, "I was a little disappointed by the small turnout. But I’m grateful that they had the ceremony, and that we got to pray with people as we did."