

Today

Our nation saw evil -- the very worst of human nature. And we responded with the best of America -- with the daring of our rescue workers, with the caring of strangers and neighbors who came to give blood and help in any small way they could.

Immediately following the first attack, I implemented our government's emergency response plans. Our military is powerful and prepared. Our emergency teams are working in New York City and Washington to help with local rescue efforts.

Our first priority is to get help to those who have been injured -- and to take every precaution to ~~assure and~~ protect our citizens at home and around the world from further attacks. The functions of our government continue without interruption. Federal agencies in Washington which had to be evacuated today are reopening for essential personnel tonight and will be open for business tomorrow. Our financial institutions remain strong and the American economy ~~is~~ open for business as well.

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The search is underway for those who are behind these evil acts. I have directed the full resources of our intelligence and law enforcement communities to find those responsible and bring them to justice. We will make no distinction between the terrorists who committed these acts and those who harbor them. ~~We will not relent until~~

~~they are brought to justice~~

I appreciate members of Congress who have joined me in strongly condemning these attacks. On behalf of the American people, I thank the many world leaders who have called to offer their condolences and assistance. America and our friends and allies join with all those who want peace and security in the world – and we stand together to win the war against terrorism.

Tonight
I ask for your prayers for all those who grieve, for the children whose worlds have been shattered, for all whose sense of safety and security has been threatened. And I pray for ~~them~~ the comfort of a power greater than any of us, spoken through the ages in Psalm 23: "Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I fear no evil, for you are with me."

This is a day when all Americans from every walk of life unite in our resolve for justice and peace. America has stood down enemies before, and we will do so this time. None of us will forget this day, yet we go forward to defend freedom and all that is good and just in our world. Thank you, good night and God bless America.

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