
Timetable of Events

Economic, Strategic Crises Collide: Sept. 11, 2001

7:59 a.m. American Airlines (AA) Flight 11, a Boeing 767, leaves Boston for Los Angeles, with 81 passengers and 11 crew aboard.

8:01 a.m. United Air Lines (UAL) Flight 93, a Boeing 757, leaves Newark for San Francisco, with 38 passengers and 7 crew.

8:10 a.m. AA Flight 77, a Boeing 757, leaves Washington Dulles for Los Angeles with 58 passengers and 6 crew.

8:14 a.m. UAL Flight 175, a Boeing 767, leaves Boston for Los Angeles with 56 passengers and 9 crew aboard.

8:45/8:51 a.m. Plane crashes into World Trade Center, tearing gaping hole in the building and setting it afire. Later determined to be hijacked AA Flight 11.

9:03/9:06 a.m. Second plane crashes into second World Trade Center tower and explodes. Assumed to be hijacked UAL Flight 175, but not confirmed. Both towers burning.

9:17 a.m. FAA order shuts down all New York City airports.

9:30 a.m. Manhattan is effectively sealed off.

9:40 a.m. FAA halts all flight operations at U.S. airports, first time in U.S. history.

9:41/9:43 a.m. Plane crashes into Pentagon, setting portions of the building on fire. Later determined to be hijacked AA Flight 77.

9:44 a.m. White House and Pentagon evacuated.

9:48 a.m. U.S. Capitol evacuated.

10:00 a.m. (approx.) News reports of other incidents in D.C., including a car bomb at the State Department, a fire on the Mall, etc. Later reported to have been incorrect, although still at around 1:00 p.m., there were reports of “unexplained explosions” in the vicinity of the State Department and White House.

10:00/10:05 a.m. South tower of World Trade Center collapses.

10:10 a.m. Portion of Pentagon collapses.

10:10 a.m. Plane crashes in Somerset County, Pennsylvania, later determined to be hijacked UAL Flight 93. Unconfirmed reports say that this plane was to have been crashed at Camp David, Maryland, the site of the 1978 Camp David peace accords.

10:24 a.m. FAA announces all trans-Atlantic aircraft flying into the United States are being diverted to Canada.

10:28 a.m. North tower of World Trade Center collapses.

10:45 a.m. All Federal office buildings in Washington are evacuated.

10:56 a.m. Securities and Exchange Commission closes all U.S. exchanges for the day.

10:57 a.m. New York State Gov. George Pataki orders all state offices closed.

1:04 p.m. President Bush, speaking from Barksdale AFB in Louisiana, says U.S. military is on high alert worldwide, and that United States will hunt down and punish those responsible. Leaves Barksdale at 1:20 p.m. for an undisclosed location.

1:27 p.m. Mayor Anthony Williams declares State of Emergency for Washington, D.C.

3:00 p.m. (approx.) Navy dispatches ships to New York and Washington, including missile destroyers and medical support.

4:10 p.m. Building 7 of World Trade Center complex is reported to be on fire.

5:20 p.m. Building 7 of World Trade Center complex, 47 stories high, collapses, having been damaged by the fires in the twin towers.

7:00 p.m. (approx.) President Bush’s helicopter touches down at White House.

8:30 p.m. President Bush delivers a televised address to the nation.

8:45 p.m. (approx.) Reports come in that World Trade Center Building 5 has been considered “on the brink of collapse” for most of the day.

9:00 p.m. (approx.) Marriott Hotel near the World Trade Center reported to have collapsed.

Impact on Economic Crisis

- Stocks around the world tumble, while bonds, oil, and gold shoot up. U.S. markets are closed, but the European markets all end the day down between 5-9%.

- Nasdaq, the American Stock Exchange, and the New York Stock Exchange announce they will remain closed on Sept. 12, after consultation with the Securities and Exchange Commission. The Chicago Board Option Exchange, the world’s largest options exchange, says it will not open on Sept. 12, according to Reuters wire service.

- President and CEO of the New York Board of Trade (NYBOT), Mark Fichtel, whose offices had been located in the World Trade Center, says that the offices may have been completely destroyed, and “may be history.” The NYBOT operates America’s biggest exchange for trade in cocoa, coffee, and sugar. The NYBOT will attempt to transfer operations to its back-up offices in Long Island, New York.

- The Federal Reserve Board of Governors issued a terse statement, “The Federal Reserve System is open and operating. The discount window is available to meet liquidity needs.” The statement would indicate that the Fed is prepared to pump significant amounts of liquidity into the U.S. and world financial system. The Fed and other world central banks immediately begin injecting a total of \$120 billion of liquidity

in one day into the banking system, and the already-exploding world debt bubble.

- Federal Reserve Board Chairman Alan Greenspan, who had been in Zürich, Switzerland, attending a Bank for International Settlements (BIS) meeting, boards a Swissair flight headed to the United States; the plane turns around in mid-flight, and heads back to Zürich.

- According to Reuters, Greenspan is in discussion with the President's Working Group on Financial Markets, which is made up of the Treasury Secretary, the head of the SEC, the head of the Commodity Futures Trading Commission, and Greenspan. The President's Working Group on Financial Markets—known as the “Plunge Protection Committee”—meets when the United States' and world financial markets are in crisis, which is a condition that has been true for at least the past 18 months, and sets the context for the blast.

- The U.S. dollar falls 2% against the euro, 3% against the yen, and hits seven-month lows against the British pound and the Swiss franc. The dollar appears to be falling rapidly against the Russian ruble, although an official fixing of the dollar-ruble ratio is not made during Sept. 11. One economist in Washington expressed the common fear: “The major risk

is panic in the financial markets. If for some reason, the United States is no longer seen as a safe haven for capital . . . there could be some very large capital movements” out of the dollar and dollar instruments.

- According to a Bloomberg wire, “The Clearinghouse Interbank Payment System [CHIPS], which is a private telecommunications system operated by the New York Clearinghouse Association for banks in the New York area, isn't working.” CHIPS transfers an average total value of \$1.2 trillion daily—equal to the total daily value of payments that passes through the entire Federal Reserve System—and handles 95% of all U.S. dollar payments moving among countries worldwide.

‘Eurasian War Party’ Demands Bush Attack

by Mark Burdman

EIR's previous warnings of the “geopolitical” menace represented by the Samuel Huntington/Trilateral Commission “Clash of Civilizations” strategy—the strategy which nurtured the “Afghansi” terrorist networks against Russia in the first place—are borne out by the horrific Sept. 11 attacks in New York and Washington and their immediate aftermath. These events are a thorough strategic destabilization of the United States. It is planned to escalate with Jacobin demonstrations and riots later in September in Washington, and with immediate attempts by the Brzezinski-ite “Eurasian War Party,” through the media, to stampede President George Bush into flight forward attacks on Islamic nations.

Huntington, like his former Harvard colleague and admirer Henry Kissinger, is a devotee of the “geopolitical” doctrine invented by Britain's Sir Halford Mackinder in the early Twentieth Century. Mackinder insisted that the Anglo-American “rim powers” must do everything possible to stop development in what he called the “Eurasian Heartland.” His doctrine was effectively responsible, for the two world wars of the Twentieth Century. Now, the “Clash of Civilizations” variation on the theme, threatens to start a third world war, early in the Twenty-First Century.

While the full truth of what happened on Sept. 11 in the United States is obviously not yet known, the policy faction associated with Huntington and Brzezinski is already hyperactive, in trying to exploit those events, to set in motion religious wars, beginning in the Middle East, and then extending into Central Asia, the Indian Subcontinent, and other crucial regions of Eurasia, using such assets as the fanatical Taliban of Afghanistan, who were effectively created by Brzezinski and his friends in the 1980s, originally as a tool to fight “Holy War” against the Soviet Union.

The Press Cranks Up A Bush Flight Forward

The following statement was issued by Lyndon H. LaRouche, Jr. on Sept. 11, at 1730 EDT.

My monitoring of the coverage of the today's crisis by leading television media, and others, shows a clear pattern of intent to push President Bush into a typical case of cowardly “flight forward.” That coverage presents us with the image of the terror-stricken soldier, messing his pants in a foxhole, who charges against a machine-gun nest “to get it over with.”

There is a clear impulse, radiating from these news media and political sources, to have the President immediately take awesome reprisals for the sake of appearing to deliver prompt retribution, even without waiting to uncover the actual perpetrators.

There are, in fact, a very limited number of entities which have the highly sophisticated capability to have pulled over today's terrorist operations. None of these are on the short list of “usual terrorism suspects” or so-called “rogue states.” Unfortunately, the politically terrified coward would rather kill someone, rather than uncover the actual perpetrators, and then cover up the fact that the “reprisals” had been taken against the wrong targets.