



Rescue workers survey the rubble of the World Trade Center on Tuesday after two airliners crashed into the twin towers.

Doug Kanter/Agence France Presse

# 'It must have been hell'

Dazed survivors tell of fleeing amid ash, death

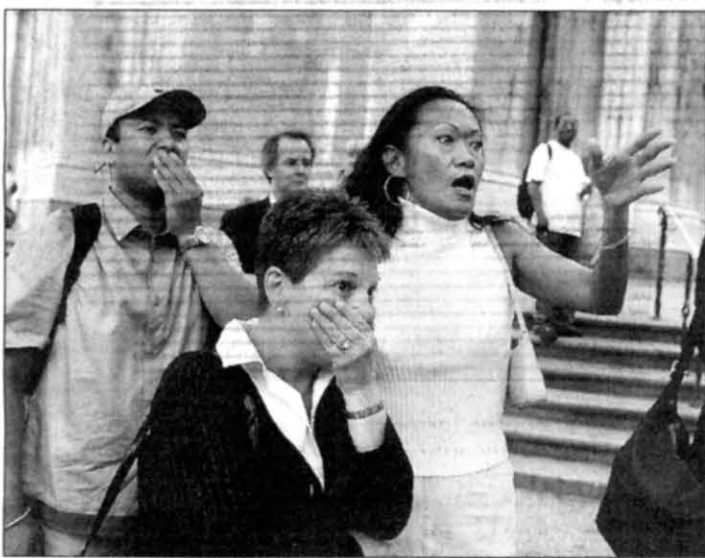
By Barton Gellman  
Washington Post

NEW YORK — Valerie Johnson stared, transfixed, at the inferno a thousand yards south and west of her. Tears streamed furrows through a film of ash on her face. Her mind tried to grasp what her eyes beheld: a blazing gash across the tower of wealth that symbolized New York for her all of her life. The fire marched downward, floor by floor, windows bursting out ahead of the flames.

Then Johnson screamed a guttural, wordless wail. A sound like nothing she ever heard, low as thunder, but louder and longer, pressed in on her chest for 10 seconds or more, resounding through Centre Street at Foley Square. Tower One, the northern one and the taller of the two, was gone. It was 10:29 a.m., an hour and three-quarters after the first of two jetliners ripped through New York's twin emblems of global prestige.

"Oh God, oh God, my niece works in that building," Johnson breathed. "Oh God."

Where we stood there now came a roiling cloud, smoke and ash, 10 stories tall, building speed as it reached the canyons of Manhattan's southern tip. Survivors streamed, choking and gagging, behind the cloud. Among



Marty Lederhandler/Associated Press

People in front of St. Patrick's Cathedral are horrified looking down Fifth Avenue toward the World Trade Center.

them, stumbling blindly toward the fountain at Foley Square, were Elizabeth Belleau and Melissa Morales, strangers grasping hands with all their might as they ran. Belleau plunged her head into the cooling waters and retched, coughing out ash and phlegm. The fountain enclosed a sculpture: *Triumph of the Human Spirit*.

Belleau had been running for nearly two hours. Her morning commute on the BM-3 bus had stalled, then transformed to horror as the Brooklyn Battery Tunnel filled with smoke. The panicked driver abandoned the bus, and firefighters directed passengers to a makeshift triage station on Greenwich Street, just south of the burning towers.

"I saw bodies falling out of the World Trade Center. Oh

God, jumping, falling, glass and smoke," Belleau said, heaving at the image. Then Tower One collapsed, and the world turned black. No sign of the triage station remained, nor of most of the emergency workers who guided her there. Belleau linked hands with five strangers, but lost them all. Later she found Morales, a voice in the dark.

It had taken a fistful of cash to a limousine driver, followed by a hitched ride on a Harley-Davidson, to bring me this far south from upper Manhattan. A walk farther down through the financial district, bypassing police barricades, became a hellscape. Within minutes of the first collapse, ashes were ankle deep for block after city block. Nearer the spot where the towers had been, the ashes were knee deep and higher. Hundreds of small fires

blazed.

Elaine Greenberg, a retired teacher, could not get over the broken vista. "The Woolworth Building is the high building down there," she said, astonished.

Others could speak only of the jumpers, desperate beyond comprehension, leaping to certain death from the 80th, 90th, 100th floors.

"Look, Mommy," William Watt, 2, had said, pointing to the tiny figures plunging down. Strangers grappled his 5-year-old sister aloft in her wheelchair and ran toward evacuation boats on the Hudson River. Monica Watt looked back, then held William tighter and turned her face away. She had no words to answer.

Jet A, the standard aviation fuel, is rated to produce temperatures of 1,500-degrees Fahrenheit. Not much of a skyscraper's flesh and bones is supposed to burn, but the towers served for chimneys as floors collapsed into shafts. "I don't know what it was like up there, but it must have been hell," said firefighter Paul Curran of New York Fire Patrol 3. He was covered in a thick coat of gray ash. "There were a lot of jumpers. I saw bodies hit the upper-level concrete of the second-floor overhang of Tower One. Others were falling into West Street."

Tower One collapsed atop the broken bodies. Then it buried the staging post where Curran prepared to enter the lobby for a staircase, heading up. "We all just ran," he said. "We couldn't do nothing but save ourselves."

## 2 of New York's top firefighters are killed

More than 300 unaccounted for

New York Times

NEW YORK — New York firefighters, impelled by instinct and training, rushed to the World Trade Center on Tuesday to evacuate victims. Then the buildings fell down. The firefighters never came out.

More than 300 were un-

accounted for, the worst disaster in the New York Fire Department's history, explosions having collapsed the two main towers onto the first wave of rescuers as they snaked through stairwells and hallways. In the tumult, the temporary command center set up on a nearby street to deal with the calamity was buried in a rolling wave of concrete chunks.

Among those who died there were Department Chief Peter Ganci and First Deputy

Fire Commissioner William Feehan. Also killed was one of the department's Roman Catholic chaplains, Michael Judge, who had rushed to the scene to comfort victims.

There was no trace of three of the Fire Department's most elite units, Rescues 1, 2 and 4, officials said Tuesday night.

A police official said Tuesday night that some officers at the scene were also unaccounted for, but "we don't have numbers." The official denied reports of 60 missing

officers from the department's Emergency Services Unit and 18 from the Brooklyn North Task Force.

Police officials said that as the day unfolded, several officers who had been presumed lost had surfaced.

As night deepened, officials were able to bring in cranes and heavy shovels to begin moving rubble in hopes of finding survivors. They also had to battle several fires that were still burning in adjacent buildings, officials said.

# Information known about some victims

Pilots, execs among those who lost lives

Newsday

Confirmed victims of the devastating attacks in New York and Washington, D.C., ranged from corporate executives and high-profile media personalities to clergy to the pilots who flew the ill-fated planes.

The two pilots of American Airlines Flight 11 were John Ogonowski, 52, a former Air Force pilot who had just celebrated his birthday, and co-pilot Tom McGuinness of Portsmouth, N.H. Their flight took off from Boston en route to Los Angeles, then crashed into one of the World Trade Center towers.

When Ogonowski left his Dracut, Mass., farm for Logan Airport early Tuesday, he tooted his car horn to family members who lived nearby, as he did every day. But his brother Jim said he knew immediately that something had gone terribly wrong with his brother when he heard the details of the crashes into the World Trade Center.

"I had that sinking feeling on that," Jim Ogonowski said outside his brother's home. "I can't describe it."

Ogonowski is survived by a wife and three daughters.

McGuinness was remembered as a family man who loved flying. A prayer service was held Tuesday night at McGuinness' church in New Hampshire.

"I think, clearly, he was a devoted family man," said Rick DeKoven, administrator at Bethany Church in Greenland. "He was active in his community and church. I just think he set an example for all of us, and we're going to sorely miss him."

Daniel C. Lewin, 31, chief technology officer and board member of Akamai Technologies Inc., was aboard the Los Angeles-bound flight that crashed into Tower One of the World Trade Center, according to the Cambridge, Mass.-based Internet company. The Denver native, who was raised in Jerusalem, is survived by his wife and two sons.

Lewin, who co-founded the company three years ago, served in Israel's defense forces for more than four years, according to Akamai's Web site. He was seeking his doctorate degree at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

"Daniel was a wonderful person, really well-liked," said Rudi Seitz, a former fellow student.

Lewin was responsible for the development and support of the company's Genesis system, a processor verification tool that is used widely within IBM and in other companies.

Among others killed in the attacks was the Rev. Michael Judge, 68, chaplain of the New York City Fire Department. Judge was a widely known Franciscan friar whose busy schedule sometimes included a White House ceremony one day and ministering to improv-

erished AIDS patients the next.

The child of Irish immigrants who ran a rooming house, Judge became a shoeshine boy on the streets of Manhattan after his father died when he was 6. At 14, he entered the Franciscan seminary.

He was particularly known for his work with AIDS patients.

"His death consecrated what his life had built," said Brother Denis Clark of St. Francis, who saw Judge for the last time at morning prayers Tuesday. "He was always dedicated to others and available to anyone who needed him."

Last year, on a beach on Long Island, Judge spoke to mourners at a memorial service for victims of the TWA Flight 800 crash, telling the crowd that the victims' spirits lived on.

"Have your memories and hold tight to your tears," he said. "Open your hearts, and let their spirit and life keep you going."

Cee Cee Ross-Lyle, 31, of Fort Myers, Fla., a flight attendant for United Airlines, called her husband, Fort Myers police officer Lorne Lyles, on a cellphone from United Flight 93 shortly before it crashed outside Pittsburgh, according to Fort Myers Police Department spokeswoman Kara Winton. Before becoming a flight attendant, Ross-Lyle was a police officer.

Tara Shea Creamer, 30, of Worcester, Mass., was reported by her family to have been aboard American Airlines Flight 11 when it crashed into the World Trade Center.

Companies with offices there also reported that their employees had died.

Among them were 10 of 11 people working at the Provident Securities branch, according to Carl Marciniak, a spokesman for the company.

Entertainment and sports personalities were also among the victims.

Garnet "Ace" Bailey, director of pro scouting for the Los Angeles Kings, was one of the passengers aboard United Airlines Flight 175, the second plane to hit the twin towers. Mark Bavis, an amateur scout, also was aboard the flight.

The Boeing 767 was scheduled to fly from Boston to Los Angeles, where the Kings open training camp Tuesday.

"We've received confirmation from both of their families that they were on Flight 175," a team spokesman said.

Bailey, 53, who won two Stanley Cups as a player, was entering his 33rd season as a player or scout in the NHL and his eighth as Kings director of pro scouting.

Barbara Olson, a noted conservative voice on the political talk-show circuit and the wife of U.S. Solicitor General Theodore Olson, was among those killed aboard the hijacked airplane that crashed into the Pentagon.

Others confirmed dead as of late Tuesday night included:

■ Sara Low of Batesville, Ark., flight attendant.

■ Ted Hennessey, Belmont, Mass., passenger.

■ Brian Sweeney, 38, of Barnstable, Mass., passenger.

■ Karen A. Kincaid of Washington, D.C., an attorney who was a passenger.

## Doctors help a flood of patients — but thousands, they can't

New York Times

NEW YORK — As emergency vehicles sped through smoky chaos, and triage centers and morgues sprouted wherever space allowed, it became sorrowfully clear that the hundreds of people bloodied and burned by Tuesday's destruction of the World Trade Center towers may have been the lucky ones.

Throughout the day, New York City struggled to quantify the aftermath of the carnage visited upon it on a beautiful late-summer morning. But by evening, there was only the sense that hundreds,

probably thousands, of people were dead, their bodies buried beneath the still-smoldering rubble of what once had been a soaring symbol of the city.

No one knew how many; no one knew what to say.

"I don't think we really want to speculate about that," Mayor Rudolph Giuliani said Tuesday afternoon. "The number of casualties will be more than any of us can bear ultimately, and I don't think we want to speculate on the number of casualties."

The mayor added: "I don't think we will know the answer to that until sometime tomorrow or the next day."

At hospitals throughout lower Manhattan, hundreds of doctors and nurses worked as though all part of one big MASH unit, tending to the wounded at the front lines of a war. Many of those who had not been injured donated the only thing they could think of: their blood.

Then there were the patients, their clothes and hair covered with debris and blood and shards of glass. Some had burns covering their entire bodies; others were more dazed than wounded; a few died while being tended to.

By late afternoon, the emergency rooms at several hospi-

tal were teeming with the wounded and those trained to save them. But most of the area's hospitals remained on standby, a status that grew more eerie by the hour.

A television studio lot at Chelsea Piers was quickly transformed into an emergency trauma unit after the first plane struck the first tower at the World Trade Center, shortly before 9 a.m. There were rows of gurneys and IV racks, stacks of gauze and white cloths, all beneath makeshift signs reading "Trauma" and "Critical" in neon-orange paint. Doctors and nurses in surgery gowns and masks

stood at the ready, including some out-of-town doctors who had left a medical conference in midtown to help out.

But as rescue workers frantically searched through the smoky rubble of the buildings that once defined the lower Manhattan skyline, there was nothing for these doctors and nurses to do except wait and hope that they would be called upon to use their skills.

"It's extraordinarily unsettling," said George G. Neuman, the chief anesthesiologist at St. Vincent's Manhattan Hospital. "We want to take care of these people. They are down there, walking distance away, but we

can't get to them.

"There have to be thousands of people there," he added. "And we have seen only a few hundred."

Giuliani estimated that, as of late Tuesday afternoon, about 600 people were being treated at local hospitals, including about 150 who had been critically injured.

There were also those whom the mayor called the "walking wounded": dozens, if not hundreds, of people who were injured in the attack, but chose to return to their communities in New Jersey and on Long Island to be treated.