Memorial to all those slain in the coordinated terrorist attacks against the United States.

Confirmed Death Toll as of 3/11/2002 12:43:37 PM:

at

This list is based on authoritative sources, The Associated Press and funeral home records.
Six months after the terrorist attack on America, President George W. Bush remembered the tragedy of September 11 at a White House ceremony, and vowed to continue the fight against global terror.

Addressing the Washington diplomatic corps March 11, with the flags of 179 nations displayed on the White House lawn behind him, the president vowed to continue the fight against terror and to support those nations that need assistance to track down and defeat terrorists within their own borders.

Announcing the start of the “second stage of the war on terror,” the president said: “America encourages and expects governments everywhere to help remove the terrorist parasites that threaten their own countries and the peace of the world.”

He added: “If governments need training or resources to meet this commitment, America will help.”

In the presence of more than 1,000 diplomats, legislators, military officers and relatives of victims of terrorism, President Bush warned that “the terror that targeted New York and Washington could next strike any center of civilization. Against such an enemy, there is no immunity, and there can be no neutrality.”

Several members of the Washington diplomatic corps spoke as well. Ambassador Jibril Aminu of Nigeria said: “Our sympathies and solidarity are with you in the struggle against international terrorism.”

Ambassador Sung-Chul Yang of South Korea called terrorism “the scourge of mankind,” adding that “it has nothing to do with religion or culture, and everything to do with death and destruction.”

Ambassador Faruk Logoglu of Turkey condemned the terrorist attacks and promised that “justice will be done, no matter what it takes.” The ambassador endorsed Turkey’s participation in coalition operations in Afghanistan, adding that modern Turkey is “living testimony to the proposition that Islam, democracy and modernity are compatible. Our secular society is one where civilizations do not clash but where, indeed, they embrace.”
PRESIDENT BUSH: Diplomatic representatives of coalition of nations, members of the Congress, Cabinet, Supreme Court, members of the American armed forces, military coalition members from around the world, distinguished guests, and ladies and gentlemen:

WELCOME TO THE WHITE HOUSE.

We have come together to mark a terrible day, to reaffirm a just and vital cause and to thank the many nations that share our resolve and will share our common victory. Six months separate us from September the 11th. Yet for the families of the lost, each day brings new pain. Each day requires new courage. Your grace and strength have been an example to our nation. America will not forget the lives that were taken and the justice their death requires.

We face an enemy of ruthless ambition unconstrained by law or morality. The terrorists despise other religions and have defiled their own. And they are determined to expand the scale and the scope of their murder. The terror that targeted New York and Washington could next strike any center of civilization. Against such an enemy, there is no immunity, and there can be no neutrality.

Many nations and many families have lived in the shadows of terrorism for decades and during years of mindset and merciless killing. September the 11th was not the beginning of global terror, but it was the beginning of the world’s concerted response.

History will know that day not only as a day of tragedy but as a day of decision, when the civilized world was stirred to anger and to action. And the terrorists will remember September 11th as the day their reckoning began. A mighty coalition of civilized nations is now defending our common security.

Terrorist assets have been frozen. Terrorist front groups have been exposed. A terrorist regime has been toppled from power. Terrorist plots have been unraveled from Spain to Singapore. And thousands of terrorists have been brought to justice, are in prison, or are running for fear of their lives.

With us today are representatives from many of our partners in this great work. And we’re proud to display their flags at the White House this morning. From the contributions these nations have made – some well known; others not – I am honored to extend the deepest gratitude of the people of the United States.

The power and vitality of our coalition have been proven in Afghanistan. More than half of the forces now assisting the heroic Afghan fighters or providing security in Kabul are from countries other than the United States. There are many examples of commitment. Our good ally France has deployed nearly one-fourth of its navy to support Operation Enduring Freedom. And Great Britain has sent its largest naval task force in 20 years. British and American special operation forces have fought beside teams from Australia and Canada, Norway, Denmark and Germany.

In total, 17 nations have forces deployed in the region, and we could not have done our work without critical support from countries, particularly like Pakistan and Uzbekistan. Japanese destroyers are refueling coalition ships in the Indian Ocean. The Turkish air force has refueled American planes. Afghans are receiving treatment in hospitals built by Russians, Jordanians, Spanish, and have received supplies and help from South Korea. Nations in our coalition have shared in responsibilities and the sacrifices of our cause.

On the day before September the 11th, I met with Prime Minister John Howard of Australia, who spoke of the common beliefs and shared affection of our two countries. We could not have known that bond was about to be proven again in war. And we could not have known its human cost.

Last month, Sergeant Andrew Russell of the Australian Special Air Service died in Afghanistan. He left behind his wife, Kylie, and their daughter, Leisa, just 11 days old. Friends said of Sergeant Russell: “you could rely on him never to let you down.”

This young man and many like him have not let us down. Each life taken from us is a terrible loss. We’ve lost young people from Germany and Denmark and Afghanistan and America. We mourn each one. And for their bravery in a noble cause, we honor them.

Part of that cause was to liberate the Afghan people from terrorist occupation, and we did so. Next week the schools reopen in Afghanistan. They will be open to all, and many young girls will go to school for the first time in their young lives.

Afghanistan has many difficult challenges ahead, and yet we’ve averted mass starvation, begun clearing minefields, rebuilding roads, and improving health care. In Kabul, the friendly government is now an essential member of the coalition against terror.

Now that the Taliban are gone and al Qaeda has lost its home base for terrorism, we have entered the second stage of the war on terror – a sustained campaign to deny sanctuary to terrorists who would threaten our citizens from anywhere in the world. In Afghanistan, hundreds of trained killers are now dead. Many have been captured. Others are still on the run, hoping to strike again. These terrorist fighters are the most committed, the most dangerous, and the least likely to surrender. They’re trying to regroup, and we’ll stop them.

For five months in Afghanistan, our coalition has
been patient and relentless, and more patience and more courage will be required. We're fighting a fierce battle in the Shah-i-Kot Mountains, and we're winning, yet it will not be the last battle in Afghanistan, and there will be other battles beyond that nation. For terrorists fleeing Afghanistan, for any terrorist looking for a base of operations, there must be no refuge, no safe haven.

By driving terrorists from place to place, we disrupt the planning and training for further attacks on America and the civilized world. Every terrorist must be made to live as an international fugitive with no place to settle or organize, no place no hide, no governments to hide behind, and not even a safe place to sleep. I've set a clear policy in the second stage of the war on terror: America encourages and expects governments everywhere to help remove the terrorist parasites that threaten their own countries and peace of the world. If governments need training or resources to meet this commitment, America will help.

We're helping right now in the Philippines, where terrorists with links to al Qaeda are trying to seize the southern part of the country to establish a militant regime. They're oppressing local peoples, and they've kidnapped both American and Filipino citizens. America has sent more than 500 troops to train Philippine forces. We stand with President Arroyo, who is courageously opposing the threat of terror.

In the Republic of Georgia, terrorists working closely with al Qaeda operate in the Pankisi Gorge, near the Russian border. At President Shevardnadze's request, the United States is planning to send up to 150 military trainers to prepare Georgian soldiers to reestablish control in this lawless region. This temporary assistance serves the interests of both our countries.

In Yemen, we are working to avert the possibility of another Afghanistan. Many al Qaeda recruits come from near the Yemen-Saudi Arabian border, and al Qaeda may try to reconstitute itself in the remote corners of that region. President Saleh has assured me that he is committed to confronting this danger. We will help Yemeni forces with training and equipment to prevent that land from becoming a haven for terrorists.

In the current stage of the war, our coalition is opposing not a nation but a network. Victory will come over time as that network is patiently and steadily dismantled. This will require international cooperation on a number of fronts: diplomatic, financial and military. We will not send the American troops to every battle, but America will actively prepare other nations for the battles ahead. This mission will end when the work is finished, when terror networks of global reach have been defeated. The havens and training camps of terror are a threat to our lives and to our way of life, and they will be destroyed.

At the same time, every nation in our coalition must take seriously the growing threat of terror on a catastrophic scale – terror armed with biological, chemical or nuclear weapons. America is now consulting with friends and allies about this greatest of dangers, and we're determined to confront it. Here's what we already know: Some states that sponsor terror are seeking or already possess weapons of mass destruction. Terrorist groups are hungry for these weapons and would use them without a hint of conscience. And we know that these weapons, in the hands of terrorists, would unleash blackmail and genocide and chaos.

These facts cannot be denied and must be confronted. In preventing the spread of weapons of mass destruction, there is no margin for error and no chance to learn from mistakes. Our coalition must act deliberately, but inaction is not an option.

Men with no respect for life must never be allowed to control the ultimate instruments of death.

Gathered here today, we are six months along – a short time in a long struggle. And our war on terror will be judged by its finish, not by its start.

More dangers and sacrifices lie ahead, yet America is prepared. Our resolve has only grown, because we remember. We remember the horror and heroism of that morning – the death of children on a field trip, the resistance of passengers on a doomed airplane, the courage of rescuers who died with strangers they were trying to save. And we remember the video images of terrorists who laughed at our loss.

Every civilized nation has a part in this struggle, because every civilized nation has a stake in its outcome. There can be no peace in the world where differences and grievances become an excuse to target the innocent for murder. In fighting terror, we fight for the conditions that will make lasting peace possible. We fight for lawful change against chaotic violence, for human choice against coercion and cruelty, and for the dignity and goodness of every life.

Every nation should know that for America, the war on terror is not just a policy, it's a pledge. I will not relent in this struggle for the freedom and security of my country and the civilized world. And we'll succeed.

There will be a day when the organized threat against America, our friends and allies is broken. And when the terrorists are disrupted and scattered and discredited, many old conflicts will appear in a new light. Without the constant fear and cycle of bitterness that terrorists spread with their violence, we will see then that the old and serious disputes can be settled within the bounds of reason and goodwill and mutual security.

I see a peaceful world beyond the war on terror, and with courage and unity, we are building that world together. Any nation that makes an unequivocal commitment against terror can join this cause. Every nation of goodwill is welcome. And together, we will face the peril of our moment and seize the promise of our times.

MAY GOD BLESS OUR COALITION.
AMBASSADOR AMINU: President Bush, distinguished ladies and gentlemen: Mr. President, it’s a tremendous honor to share this podium with you, and I thank you immensely for the privilege. I bring you fraternal greetings from President Olusegun Obasanjo, the people of Nigeria and, indeed, from Africa.

The terrible events of September 11th, 2001, lie fresh in our minds six months on, as if they were yesterday. Those who perished therein will never be forgotten, nor will those who have given their lives in the aftermath – nor, for that matter, the grief of their families. Our sympathies and solidarity are with you in the struggle against international terrorism.

The vice of September 11, 2001, brought out the best of American virtues. We admire how the country achieved instant social mobilization and how all closed ranks, forgot their differences and renewed their patriotism with the homeland. The community spirit and sacrifice have been very touching. The systematic steps taken to build an international coalition and to secure United Nations support for the actions you are taking are also laudable.

In all these, Mr. President, you’ve demonstrated outstanding leadership, which has been recognized and appreciated by the American people. You and America have discovered each other in the dark shadows of September 11th, 2001. Mr. President, you are well-equipped to offer this leadership, and let me mention one or two of the many enabling attributes you are blessed with, which help you along.

Your commitment and the first lady’s commitment to education means that you believe in equality and opportunity for everyone, because education is the efficient human-resource lever, the great social leveler and the fountain for dispensing social justice anywhere.

Mr. President, in addition to your own nuclear family, you have what many leaders in your position must have wished they had: both parents alive and well, with firsthand knowledge of the task you face, always praying for you and always there for you. Prayers from parents do not fall flat.

Besides, your faith-based initiative is an indication of your deep faith in the Supreme Being, who in everything just says “be,” and it shall be. He is the one whom we all worship in our various dignified ways, and from whom only does come true guidance and true victory. God’s victory is the sweetest, because it is universal, just and everlasting.

Mr. President, even as you are doing what has to be done on the war front and on domestic security, it is reassuring that you are also sensitive to the need to move on, so that the unpleasant past will not be allowed to oppress and retard the future. We will need to return to the outstanding global issues – the promise of world peace, human rights, and social justice on Earth, respect for all peoples and nations, promoting friendship and trade, as well as scientific and cultural co-operation to improve the standard of living for all and to make the world a better place for all – a world where the strong give a lending hand to the weak, and where those who have share with those who have not.

America, by the grace of God, as the leading nation on Earth, will no doubt continue to bravely assail the endless challenges and burdens of leadership with grace and restraint, promoting justice to and hope for all, and building people-to-people friendship. America needs, as you are planning to do, to send out its young people to all parts of the world, bearing the message of peace and friendship, not only so that the young shall grow, but so that the young shall grow together, and so that people meet not only in palaces and conference halls and boardrooms, but in stadia, markets, restaurants, dorms, around family dining tables.

Even on this occasion, on this solemn occasion, Mr. President, one can be forgiven for mentioning our continent, Africa, which we hope you will be able to visit very soon. Africa has experienced more than its share of disasters imported from outside the continent – one-way cruises from Goree Island, colonialism, the Cold War, compound interest debt burden, HIV/AIDS, and international terrorism. It should now enjoy some of the other imports as well – education, health, trade, investment, infrastructure, and technological development.

Africans, even as they help themselves, as they must do, desperately need to be assisted to be part of the world’s economy, to dare to hope for a better future, to afford democracy, and to be saved from becoming the next terrorist den.

But in cooperating with Africa, the benefits will not be one-way. America will find in Africa a reliable ally against war and terrorism, a worthy strategic partner in defense and in energy security, and an inspiring friend who smiles in even the face of so much suffering.

Mr. President, as we renew our solidarity with the United States and our sympathy for the grieving families and peoples, may we be gathering to celebrate and smile, observing happy events instead of the very sad events of last September, the type of which we must all work and pray never to witness again.

I thank you, Mr. President.
AMBASSADOR YANG: Mr. President, Excellencies, distinguished guests, ladies and gentlemen: Six months ago, the whole world witnessed the unprecedented atrocities of September 11th. On behalf of the Republic of Korea and the Korean people, I would like to once again express my deepest sympathy and heartfelt condolences to the victims, families and friends afflicted by these horrors.

More than half a century ago, brave soldiers from the United States and 21 nations collectively defended South Korea against communist aggression. The Americans alone lost 33,746 precious lives during the Korean War. Today we are confronting yet another global challenge — terrorism, the enemy of humanity. As we then fought side by side and shoulder to shoulder, now the Korean people actively support the U.S.-led campaign against terrorism and will do so until it is eradicated.

Terrorism is the scourge of mankind. It has nothing to do with religion or culture, and everything to do with death and destruction. It must not and will not be tolerated under any circumstances. As President Kim Dae-jung, the Nobel peace laureate, emphatically stated, and I quote: "Terrorism is undeclared. Terrorism has no face. Terrorism kills innocent civilians. It is the most cowardly and cruel act of provocation. It is a barbaric crime that cannot be justified under any pretext. It must be rooted out at all cost."

One lesson we all learn from the events of September 11th is that no nation is impregnable or invulnerable from such heinous crimes. The eternal vigilance against all kinds of terrorism is the only safeguard against our inherent insecurity. Let us remember the motto on the Korean Memorial here on the Washington Mall: Freedom is not free. In remembering the past, we must be constantly on guard against the present and future intruder of liberty, the universal value of man and society. The march toward liberty and human dignity is neither linear nor stationary. History proves time and time again that this perpetual march prevails over all irrational impulses and inhuman forces.

God bless America, Korea, and all the freedom-loving people around the world. Thank you very much.

AMBASSADOR LOGOGLU: Mr. President, Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen: It's a privilege for me to address this meeting. Six months ago on this day, we were all devastated by the loss of thousands of innocent civilians, most at the prime of their lives. Our hearts go out to them and their families. We pray for them and for the brave firemen and policemen who perished in the line of duty. We once again condemn those terrorist attacks and remind their perpetrators that justice will be done, no matter what it takes.

September 11th taught us lessons: that terrorism has no limits; that it knows no religion or ideology; that it's not confined to any geography or nationality. But one lesson stands above others: that the war on terrorism requires sustained solidarity by the civilized world, unrelenting long-term struggle on many fronts. Let's be aware that any relaxation, any wavering in this war will be exploited by the terrorists.

Mr. President, you and the American people have responded to September 11th with dignity and determination. You showed that the spirit of this great nation could not be broken, even under intolerable adversity. We know how the American people feel, because we have ourselves been victims of terrorism. The Turkish people empathize deeply with the American nation. We also never forgot that your country understood our own fight against the terrorists. As a friend of America and as a major ally, we have given our firm and broad support to the international effort you mobilized for the war on terrorism. We have today troops in Afghanistan. We are prepared to do more in that country with continued support from the international community.

Turkey's presence in Afghanistan is one proof that the war on terrorism is not against Islam. Turkish society itself is living testimony to the proposition that Islam, democracy and modernity are compatible. Our secular society is one where civilizations do not clash but where, indeed, they embrace.

This is best symbolized by the Istanbul spirit of dialogue and harmony that emerged at a unique meeting recently held between the West and the East in that historic city. As we fight terrorism, we must at the same time strive for inclusion and participation, trying to win the hearts and minds of people everywhere for the values we together cherish.

We must, however, remain vigilant and be prepared to crush terrorism wherever it appears. There are still dangers and many countries that have yet to put their houses in order. It's our right to expect that all countries tread the proper line against terror.

Mr. President, ladies and gentlemen, on this day of remembrance, our sympathies and prayers are with the American people and the victims. We stand united in our condemnation of terrorism. Let us also stay united in our resolve to defeat it. Thank you.
Following his address on the South Lawn, President Bush greets members of the armed services of various nations who are part of the global coalition forces against terrorism.
Left: President Bush and Postmaster General Jack Potter unveil a postage stamp honoring the heroic New York City firefighters of September 11.

Right: Along with the president, New York firefighters Billy Eisengrein, George Johnson, and Dan McWilliams view the stamp depicting their rescue efforts.
PHOTOGRAPH ON BACK COVER:
Two beams of light illuminate the sky above New York City from near the site where the World Trade Center towers once stood. The beams, which were activated on March 11, 2002, are a temporary memorial that will light up the New York City sky every evening until April 19, 2002.
At the left is the Empire State Building, its top made distinctive with red, white, and blue lights; at right is the Statue of Liberty in New York Harbor.