



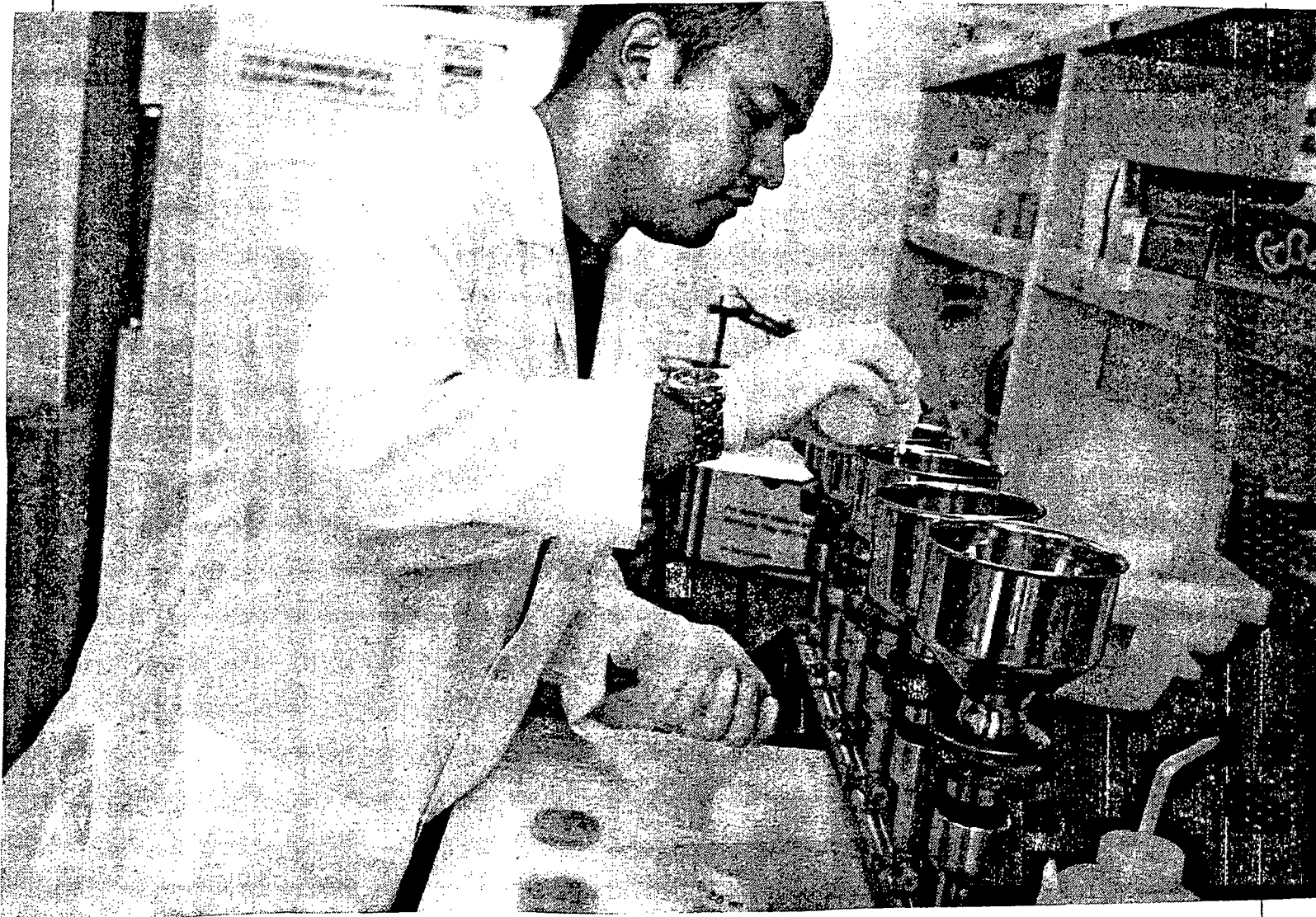
Joel A. Miele Sr., P.E., Commissioner  
Charles G. Sturcken, Esq., Chief of Staff/Special Counsel

# News Digest

Date: September 21-26, 2001 Includes: Sept. 16 - Present

## THE WATER SUPPLY

### *Added Security for Dams, Reservoirs and Aqueducts*



Inside a laboratory of the New York City Department of Environmental Protection, Mario Benavides tests a sample of the city's water supply.

NYTimes 9.26.01 Page 10 of 2

[www.ci.nyc.ny.us/dep](http://www.ci.nyc.ny.us/dep)

Yesterday .....67%  
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Compiled by the bureau of Public and Intergovernmental Affairs • (718) 595-6600

Added . . . . .

by GREG WINTER  
and WILLIAM J. BROAD

Cities and states are reassessing the safety of their drinking water, probing for weaknesses and shoring up defenses in what experts consider the unlikely event of a terrorist attack on water supplies.

Helicopters, patrol boats and armed guards sweep across the watershed feeding New York City, enforcing a temporary ban on fishing, hunting and hiking. Massachusetts has sealed commuter roads that run atop dams or wind down to the water's edge. And Utah has enlisted the help of the Federal Bureau of Investigation to peer down at reservoirs from planes and satellites, hoping to spot any weak points before the crowds gather in Salt Lake City in February for the Winter Olympics.

Since Sept. 11, fears of biological or chemical attack on water systems have spread through e-mail messages that warn consumers to stock

up on bottled water, fueling anxious conversations in offices and living rooms.

Yet experts say any threat to public water supplies remains largely remote. In fact, experts on germ warfare say, to cause widespread health problems by contaminating a public water supply verges on the impossible.

"The water threat is mostly science fiction," said Richard Spertzel, a microbiologist who formerly led the United Nations' biological-weapons inspection teams in Iraq.

Poisoning the voluminous rivers and reservoirs nourishing cities would require truckloads of chemicals or biological agents that would be difficult to produce and relatively easy to spot, experts say.

Even if terrorists crashed a Boeing 767 laden with anthrax into a reservoir, the lethal agent might well be destroyed in any resulting fire, or fail to diffuse effectively.

Perhaps most important, most cities could simply close off a contaminated reservoir and draw water from another source. New York City, for example, has nearly 20 reservoirs to choose from.

Rather than tainting a city's water supply, experts say, terrorists would be more likely to try to interrupt it entirely, perhaps by destroying dams or aqueducts.

"That is the larger threat," said Diane Vande Hei, executive director of the Association of Metropolitan Water Agencies, who helped coordinate Clinton administration efforts to safeguard water against terrorism.

But she and other experts concede that they are looking at everything differently now, "in light of what we thought could never happen."

Though pipes and spigots might not be so effective as scattering toxins into the air, some researchers say they believe that the water industry may have underestimated the risk that biological and chemical agents could make their way into homes without being detected.

Many cities, with their thousands of miles of pipe, were never designed to prevent terrorists from patching

into neighborhood lines and poisoning the water after it has been treated and tested for safety.

"If someone is going to attack us, that's where they would do it," said Dr. Dennis D. Juranek, associate director of the Division of Parasitic Diseases at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. "We're highly vulnerable."

Such an attack, experts advise, could sicken small neighborhoods or large buildings, but would probably not result in the widespread loss of life that terrorists generally seek.

Still, the threat is real enough that security experts checked the White House for similar weaknesses years ago and found it to be vulnerable. Extensive changes were made there

to safeguard against poisoning.

Now cities are doing what they can to protect their pipes, putting padlocks on access doors, setting up surveillance cameras and installing alarms to prevent tampering in their tunnels.

They have also dispatched lobbyists to Washington to drum up money for security and, while they are at it, to get financing for fixing leaky pipes and other outdated infrastructure.

In addition, utility companies are pushing to be allowed to keep many details of their security plans a secret. At present, federal law requires utilities to publish reports on how they would tackle their worst emergencies. That information may be important for fire departments and the police, cities say, but could also be useful to anyone interested in causing trouble.

"We don't need to advertise where the weakest links in the armor are," said Tom Curtis, deputy director of the American Water Works Association.

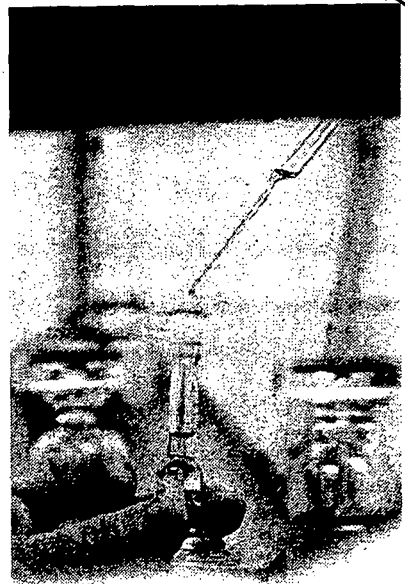
Some cities have greatly increased their testing efforts. In New York City, technicians stare through microscopes at any organisms they find, and pore through computer printouts of chemicals around the clock, making sure nothing out of the ordinary appears.

"This has always been in the back of our minds," said Thomas Tipa, operations director for the New York City Department of Environmental

Protection. "It's finally become a reality. We're on full alert."

But while cities regularly test for dozens of compounds in the water, they are still incapable of screening for many known chemical and biological agents, according to the disease control centers. Even if they had the technology to do so, the time and expense involved in testing for the many organisms that can survive in chlorine would be prohibitive.

As a result, utility companies are looking for cues overseas, from countries like Israel that have lived with the threat of such weapons for years. Emulating them, many cities hope to place robots in the pipes, armed with computer chips that light up when dangerous microorganisms pass by.



Testing for organisms at a municipal laboratory in Corona, Queens.

Page 2 of 2



**Ryan, Geoff**

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**From:** Osorio, Maria  
**Sent:** Monday, September 24, 2001 5:37 PM  
**To:** Principe, Mike; Lipsky, David; Ashendorff, Arthur (ex); Freud, Salome (ex);  
Seeley, Anne (ex); Neuman, Sharon (ex); Ryan, Geoff  
**Subject:** NYC monitoring continues to show safe water

FYI. The following article was posted on WaterTech eNews on Sept. 24, 2001. MO

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**NYC monitoring continues to show safe water**

NEW YORK - US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Administrator Christie Whitman said Friday, 21 September, that the most detailed results to date of ongoing monitoring of drinking water here provide additional reassurance that city residents are not being exposed to dangerous contaminants during the cleanup of debris from 11 September's terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

Contaminants tested for include asbestos, radiation, mercury and other metals, pesticides, polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and bacteria, EPA said.

"As we continue to monitor drinking water in and around New York City, and as EPA gets more comprehensive analysis of this monitoring data, I am relieved to be able to reassure New York and New Jersey residents that a host of potential contaminants are either not detectable or are below the agency's concern levels," Whitman said. "Results we have just received on drinking water quality show that not only is asbestos not detectable, but also we can not detect any bacterial contamination, PCBs or pesticides.

Whitman confirmed that EPA personnel, working in coordination with the New York City Department of Environmental Protection at and around the World Trade Center disaster site, have thus far taken a total of 13 drinking water samples from water mains in lower Manhattan.

In addition to analyzing the samples for asbestos, pesticides and PCBs, EPA has also tested drinking water for metals (including mercury), and radioactivity (both alpha and beta). None of these contaminants exceeded EPA drinking water standards.

"In addition to carefully evaluating drinking water in the New York area, EPA has taken samples at the Newtown Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant, where runoff from lower Manhattan goes for treatment, to identify what sort of materials are leaving the disaster site," Whitman continued. "While we haven't yet gotten results for all possible contaminants, we do know that levels of metals and mercury are below permit discharge limits."

However, Whitman did state that "following one rainstorm with particularly high runoff, we did have one isolated detection of slightly elevated levels of PCBs. This is something that we are continuing to monitor very closely."

Other analysis of monitoring data taken at Newtown Creek treatment plant shows that total suspended solids and biochemical oxygen demand, common indicators of how well a wastewater treatment plant is operating, indicate that the plant is working within permit limits.

The agency will continue to collect water samples at stormwater discharge points when it rains and to fully analyze the samples for asbestos, PCBs, metals and total suspended solids.

## Recreation suspended on reservoir properties

All permitted recreational activities have been suspended at all city properties throughout the watersheds of New York City's upstate reservoirs, effective 10:30 a.m. on September 11, according to an announcement by Commissioner Joel A. Miele Sr., P.E., of the New York City Department of Environmental Protection (DEP).

These activities include fishing from the shore and rowboats at the reservoirs, as well as hiking or other permitted activities at all of the city's watershed properties.

People with DEP fishing and hiking permits are advised that fishing and hiking privileges are suspended until further notice.

Unusual incidents or activities in the watershed may be reported to 888 DEP-NYC1, 888 337-6921, 888-H2O-SHED or 888 420-7433.

Catskill Mountain News, Margaretville, N.Y.

Wednesday, September 19, 2001--

# DEP Police Set up Collection Station For NYC Relief

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By Tom Coddington

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DOWNSVILLE — For what is being called “ground zero disaster relief,” for those in New York City affected by the Sept. 11 disaster, the city’s Department of Environmental Protection police (DEPP) have set up a collection station at their Downsville precinct office.

DEPP personnel will be available between 9 a.m.-3 p.m. daily to receive the items.

A list of items requested, as being needed most, is: Work gloves, T-shirts, sweat shirts, clean twels, bottled water, Gatorade and Power Bars.

“Please give only what’s on the list,” states a department release.

According to DEPP Captain Mark Benedetto, the items will be loaded onto DEP trucks at the Downsville office and hauled from there to the city.

**The Walton Reporter**

**September 19, 2001**

September 19, 2001

The Walton Reporter

# No Sewer Service For Delhi Motel

By Robert A. Cairns

DELHI — Delhi's village board of trustees has rejected a request by a motel owner to connect his business to the village waste water treatment plant.

At Monday night's board meeting, trustees voted to send a letter to Gunther Hartung, owner of the Buena Vista motel, informing him of their decision not to extend sewer service to the motel.

Hartung had appeared at a previous meeting, requesting the service so that he could expand the motel. The motel is not within the village limits. When Trustee James Wood asked Hartung if he would be willing to have his property annexed by the village, Hartung said no, citing the cost of village taxes. "That would be too expensive for us," he stated.

At that time, trustees voiced concerns about giving up capacity at the plant to a non-village business, possibly limiting the availability of sewer service for Delhi College and other users that are within the village.

On Monday, Wood said that the village should reject the request, "unless they're willing to be annexed and pay taxes like everyone else using the system pays taxes." The board agreed, without further discussion.

# Delhi Aids NYC Recovery Effort

The Walton Reporter

By Robert A. Cairns

DELHI — The town of Delhi received "Good Neighbor" money from New York City, as part of the Memorandum of Agreement between the city and the towns in its watershed. On Thursday, Delhi voted to be a good neighbor and send some of that money back to New York City.

At the monthly meeting of the town council, Supervisor Gary Manning asked the board to send a check for \$10,000 from the good neighbor fund to the New York City Fire Department Benevolent Fund, to aid injured firefighters and the families of firefighters who died in the collapse of the World Trade Center towers. The board approved the idea, unanimously, with no discussion.

In other business, Town Justice Joseph Skovira informed the board that his court clerk had resigned, and presented a new plan to the board. Skovira also serves as village justice. Under his plan, Cathy Fletcher, who serves as clerk for the village court, would take over the town court duties, as well. Town court would be held on Wednesdays, in conjunction with village court, instead of on Mondays, as is the current schedule. Skovira told the board that the town would save money by funding a raise in Fletcher's pay rather than hire a replacement clerk, and would save more money by doing away with a court bailiff position.

The board agreed to the plan, but Manning noted that the town could not make the change unilaterally. "The village has to agree with this," he said.

Also at the meeting, the board:

- Reappointed Jane Hymers to a five-year term on the Zoning Board of Appeals.

- Voted to support the restoration of elk in New York. The town had been approached by the Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, which is spearheading the project and seeking support from area towns. The resolution passed, 3-2, with Manning and Councilwoman Michelle DeFreece opposed.

## NBDC Spearheads Collection Drives

The National Bank of Delaware County has launched two collection drives.

The first fund, the NBDC Firefighters' Fund, will go toward replacing lost and ruined turnout gear for the fire stations hit hardest by the World Trade Center disaster. This drive was initiated to respond to the generosity which the metropolitan area departments showed residents of Delaware County during the flood of 1996. "Now, with their depleted supplies and funds, is the time for us to pay them back," commented Julia Larsen, assistant vice president at the bank. There are collection buckets in each office. Checks payable to NBDC Firefighters' Fund, may be mailed to PO Box 389, Walton, NY 13856.

Likewise, the bank will have the collection bucket from The Salvation Army in its Walton office for any who would like to donate to the cause. The Salvation Army has been feeding up to 100,000 rescue workers daily. Anyone wishing to contribute may do so at any branch of NBDC, making checks out to Salvation Army.

September 19, 2001

# Landowners

**80% Exemption  
Property & School Taxes**

## NYS Forest Tax Law

Free NYC Watershed Forest Management Plan

*Free Information*

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**Rod Jones, *Certified Forester***

**Northeast Timber Services, 6 Garden St., Walton, NY 13856**

**607-865-5917 • rkjonesfamily@juno.com**

**The Walton Reporter**

**September 19, 2001**

U.S. States Communications, Education,  
Environmental Protection And Media Relations  
Agency(1703A)

Washington, DC  
20460



# Environmental News

**TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2001**

## **WHITMAN DETAILS ONGOING AGENCY EFFORTS TO MONITOR DISASTER SITES, CONTRIBUTE TO CLEANUP EFFORTS**

**Contact: Bonnie Piper, 202-564-7836  
David Deegan, 202-564-7839**

EPA Administrator Christie Whitman announced today that results from the Agency's air and drinking water monitoring near the World Trade Center and Pentagon disaster sites indicate that these vital resources are safe. Whitman also announced that EPA has been given up to \$83 million from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to support EPA's involvement in cleanup activities and ongoing monitoring of environmental conditions in both the New York City and Washington metropolitan areas following last week's terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

"We are very encouraged that the results from our monitoring of air quality and drinking water conditions in both New York and near the Pentagon show that the public in these areas is not being exposed to excessive levels of asbestos or other harmful substances," Whitman said. "Given the scope of the tragedy from last week, I am glad to reassure the people of New York and Washington, D.C. that their air is safe to breathe and their water is safe to drink," she added.

In the aftermath of last Tuesday's attacks, EPA has worked closely with state, federal and local authorities to provide expertise on cleanup methods for hazardous materials, as well as to detect whether any contaminants are found in ambient air quality monitoring, sampling of drinking water sources and sampling of runoff near the disaster sites.

At the request of FEMA, EPA has been involved in the cleanup and site monitoring efforts, working closely with the U.S. Coast Guard, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and state and local organizations.

EPA has conducted repeated monitoring of ambient air at the site of the World Trade Center and in the general Wall Street district of Manhattan, as well as in Brooklyn. The Agency is planning to perform air monitoring in the surrounding New York metropolitan area. EPA has established 10 continuous (stationary) air monitoring stations near the WTC site. Thus far, from 50 air samples taken, the vast majority of results are either non-detectable or below established levels of concern for asbestos, lead and volatile organic compounds. The highest levels of asbestos have been detected within one-half block of ground zero, where rescuers have been provided with appropriate protective equipment.

R-157

- more -

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FROM OSWER-06RR-10

- 2 -

In lower Manhattan, the City of New York has also been involved in efforts to clean anything coated with debris dust resulting from Tuesday's destruction. This involves spraying water over buildings, streets and sidewalks to wash the accumulated dust off the building and eliminate the possibility that materials would become airborne. To complement this clean up effort, EPA has performed 62 dust sample analyses for the presence of asbestos and other substances. Most dust samples fall below EPA's definition of "asbestos containing material" (one percent asbestos). Where samples have shown greater than one percent asbestos, EPA has operated its 10 High Efficiency Particulate Arresting, HEPA, vacuum trucks to clean the area and then resample. EPA also used the 10 HEPA vac trucks to clean streets and sidewalks in the Financial District in preparation for Monday's return to business. The Agency plans to use HEPA vac trucks to clean the lobbies of the five federal buildings near the World Trade Center site, and to clean the streets outside of New York's City Hall.

Drinking water in Manhattan was tested at 13 sampling points, in addition to one test at the Newtown Sewage Treatment plant and pump station. Initial results of this drinking water sampling show that levels of asbestos are well below EPA's levels of concern.

While FEMA has provided EPA with a Total Project Ceiling cost of slightly more than \$83 million for the Agency's cleanup efforts in New York City and in at the Pentagon site, EPA currently is working with emergency funding of \$23.7 million. If costs exceed this level, FEMA will authorize EPA to tap additional funding in increments of \$15 million. As part of the additional funding to be provided by FEMA, EPA will be responsible for any hazardous waste disposal, general site safety and providing sanitation facilities for many of the search and rescue workers to wash the dust off following their shifts. EPA is coordinating with both the U.S. Air Force Center for Environmental Excellence and the U.S. Coast Guard to quickly implement these additional responsibilities to ensure that search and rescue personnel are provided with the maximum support and protection from hazardous materials that may be found during their mission.

At the Pentagon explosion site in Arlington Va., EPA has also been involved in a variety of monitoring of air and water quality. All ambient air monitoring results, both close to the crash site and in the general vicinity, have shown either no detection of asbestos or levels that fall well below the Agency's level of concern. Testing of runoff water from the disaster site does not show elevated levels of contaminants. Given the large numbers of Department of Defense (DOD) employees returning to work this week, EPA has worked closely with officials from DOD and from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) to evaluate air and drinking water quality and to be certain that the workplace environment will be safe.

While careful not to impede the search, rescue and cleanup efforts at either the World Trade Center or the Pentagon disaster sites, EPA's primary concern has been to ensure that rescue workers and the public are not being exposed to elevated levels of potentially hazardous contaminants in the dust and debris, especially where practical solutions are available to reduce exposure. EPA has assisted efforts to provide dust masks to rescue workers to minimize inhalation of dust. EPA also recommends that the blast site debris continue to be kept wet, which helps to significantly reduce the amount of airborne dust which can aggravate respiratory ailments such as asthma. On-site facilities are being made available for rescue workers to clean themselves, change their clothing and to have dust-laden clothes cleaned separately from normal household wash.

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FROM OSWER-OEER-10

# Keeping 'bathtub' dry

*Experts fight to secure WTC's foundation*

By **ROBERT INGRASSIA**  
DAILY NEWS STAFF WRITER

Engineers plan to shore up portions of a huge concrete basin under the collapsed twin towers to make sure it doesn't give way and flood the PATH train system.

The 60-foot-deep cavern, known as the "bathtub," housed the foundation and basement levels of the World Trade Center, keeping out water from the Hudson River.

When the towers crumbled, some of the basement floors supporting the 3-foot-thick basin walls collapsed. Portions of the basin are held up only by rubble.

In the coming weeks, as crews dig deeper into the debris, workers will install cables and braces to keep the walls from caving in, officials said.

## Where water would go

Mayor Giuliani said yesterday that when cleanup workers remove material near a wall, it will be done "very, very carefully so there is no damage to it."

If the bathtub gave way, water would rush into the basement levels. With nowhere else to go, the water would drain into two PATH tubes connecting the complex under the Hudson River to the Exchange Place station in Jersey City.

If enough water entered the tubes, it could eventually reach the PATH terminus at W. 33rd St. and Sixth Ave. From there, it could seep into New York City subway tunnels.

Engineers called that scenario highly unlikely, saying that even a catastrophic failure of the Trade Center retaining walls wouldn't create a torrent large enough to completely flood the PATH system.

The basin was built over a year in the late 1960s. It spans 16 acres and reaches down to bedrock. Material from the excavation was used as fill to expand southern Manhattan into the Hudson River, land on which Battery Park City was built.

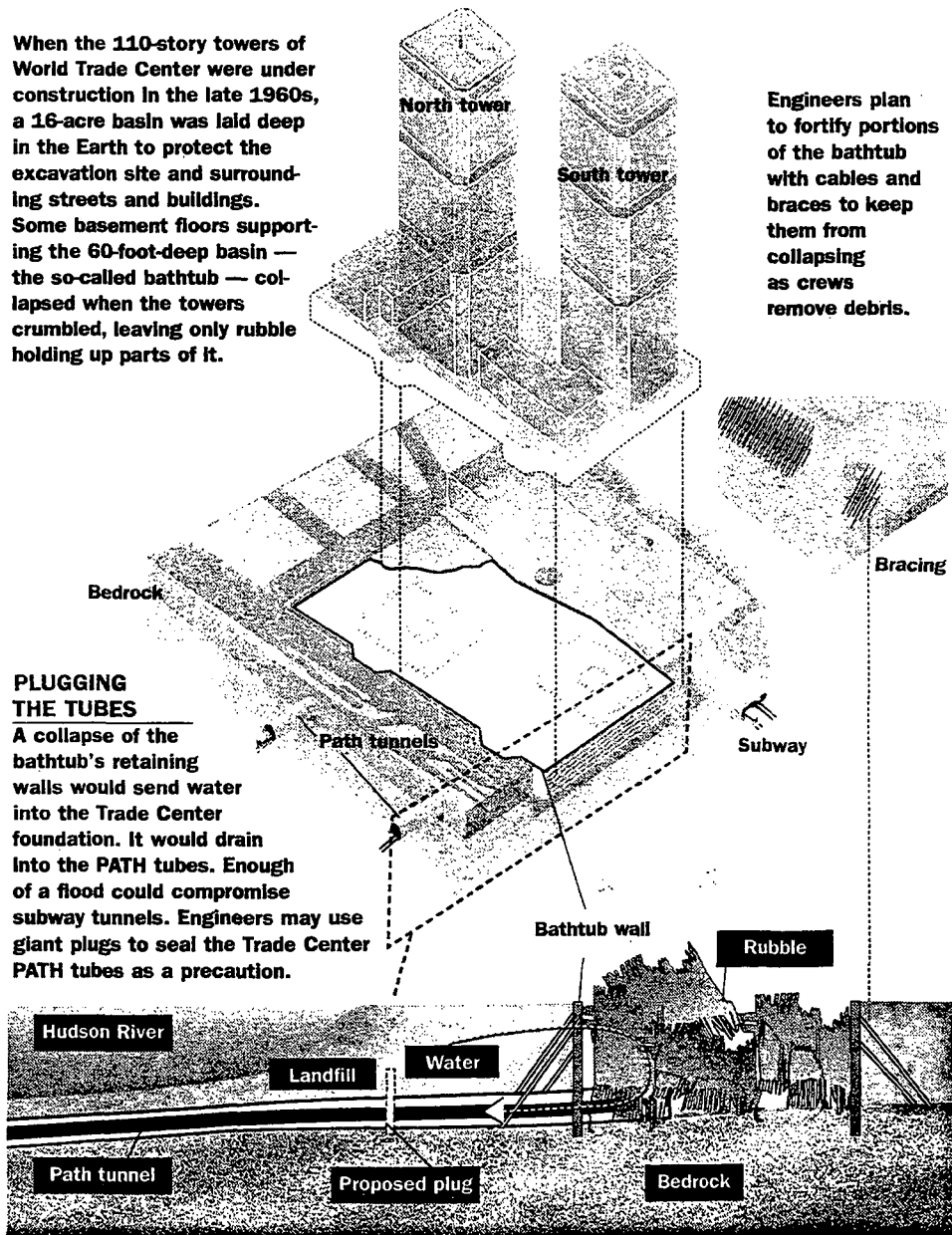
Officials said they're confident they can keep the bathtub walls from collapsing. The Army Corps of Engineers is monitoring the cavern, and workers have installed motion sensors near the walls.

"A bathtub collapse is wild speculation," said Daniel Hahn, of Mueser Rutledge Consulting Engineers, a firm advising the Port Authority on the cleanup. "In a great number of areas below ground, the basement floors are in place and are bracing the walls."

## 16 ACRES OF TROUBLE

When the 110-story towers of World Trade Center were under construction in the late 1960s, a 16-acre basin was laid deep in the Earth to protect the excavation site and surrounding streets and buildings. Some basement floors supporting the 60-foot-deep basin — the so-called bathtub — collapsed when the towers crumbled, leaving only rubble holding up parts of it.

Engineers plan to fortify portions of the bathtub with cables and braces to keep them from collapsing as crews remove debris.



## PLUGGING THE TUBES

A collapse of the bathtub's retaining walls would send water into the Trade Center foundation. It would drain into the PATH tubes. Enough of a flood could compromise subway tunnels. Engineers may use giant plugs to seal the Trade Center PATH tubes as a precaution.

Hahn, a former Port Authority engineer who worked on the Trade Center foundation during its construction, said that any compromised parts of the walls can be stabilized.

## Huge concrete plugs eyed

"We've given the Fire Department methods to make sure the walls stay vertical," he said.

Still, PATH officials are considering installing huge concrete plugs in the train tubes leading from the site to New Jersey.

"The plugs would be put in place just in case the water would rise," said Dave Jamieson, a Port Authority spokesman. "We don't want to damage the Exchange Place station."

Millions of gallons of water already have flowed into the PATH tubes since the Trade Center attack. Officials said much of the water came from broken mains, firefighters' hoses and rainfall.

During the past several days, contractors working for PATH

have been pumping water from the tubes at a rate of 2,000 to 4,000 gallons a minute. Crews have installed pumps in the Exchange Place station, fed large hoses into the tubes and pumped the water into the Hudson.

Jamieson said workers have plugged broken mains that were causing much of the runoff from the Trade Center. He said all of the water has been pumped from one of the PATH tubes, and a minimal amount remains in the other.

COUNTING DOWN

DAILY NEWS

Saturday, September 22, 2001

DAILY NEWS/AP

# Architects, Planners and Residents Wonder How to Fill the Hole in the City

By KIRK JOHNSON  
and CHARLES V. BAGLI

The destruction of the World Trade Center on Sept. 11 cut a huge hole in the fabric of New York City. But already, even as the grief and mourning go on, the city's wound is becoming a kind of repository of ideas about what the site, and the city around it, should become.

Proposals range from the grandiose and ambitious to the small and intimate. Some business leaders argue for a crash-course construction project that would replace lost office space for corporations displaced by the disaster. Others say rebuilding at the trade center site must be sensitive, above all else, to the human losses, with a memorial incorporated as part of the very essence of the design.

But there is nearly universal agreement among people in fields as diverse as economics, urban planning, security and ethics that New York is about to encounter a question that few great cities have ever faced: What is to be done with an immensely valuable piece of land that is crucial to the local economy, but which has also become hugely important — indeed almost spiritual — to people in New York and around the world?

One idea put forward in recent days would make the trade center site a new home for that ultimate Wall Street symbol, the New York Stock Exchange, a home that could also include the American Stock Exchange and Nasdaq. Another developer has proposed a ring of 50-story towers. Urban planners and economic development experts say that improving transportation to downtown, by adding rail connections, should be a priority.

But for now, every idea is just that — words and arguments. The architects, planners, builders and corporate executives who have put out proposals have done so almost into thin air. No process exists yet to act on any because the machinery to begin even sorting through the ideas has yet to be built, and state and city officials have differing notions of how much control each will bring

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*Visions for land that is  
both immensely valuable  
and newly spiritual.*

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to bear on what is conceived, and then built.

But the framework for that process — the different sorts of intellectual and emotional components that will be involved in rebuild-

ing at the site — are coming into place, development experts say. And here, too, the questions are many and difficult.

Is the World Trade Center site still purely

a place of trade and business, as that part of Manhattan has been since the 1600's, or does it now belong, in a way, to the world — or to the families of the victims in the disaster — with new obligations about what happens there? How should New York, in thinking about what is to come, weigh the needs of its businesses and residents alongside the global statement that redevelopment will make about New York in the 21st century?

Underlying all those questions is one that millions of people are also asking themselves: What kind of city is New York now, in the aftermath of the attacks?

"We're going to have to invent something

entirely new here, and it's going to mean rethinking the ways we use the city," said Richard Sennett, a sociologist and Manhattan resident who is also the chairman of the Cities Program, an urban design program at the London School of Economics.

The still-evolving ideas about the trade center range from the immediate and concrete to the long-term and conceptual. One plan being pushed by the former president of the State Urban Development Corporation, Richard A. Kahan, would combine a new home for the New York Stock Exchange with a major cultural element, perhaps a big part of the Guggenheim Museum. The combination, he argues, would acknowledge and capture the broader place that downtown has become.

Professor Sennett and others say that a memorial to the victims must be the first element on the drawing board, and that the commercial use should then be adapted to that vision. The transformed human meaning of the World Trade Center site, they say, has become the driving force.

Some people are arguing for an international design competition that would produce something emblematic of a global city. Others favor an emphasis on local ideas to embody New York at its most distinctive.

In order to get going on the rethinking and rebuilding, some have called for the creation of a powerful new government agency led by the state that could cut through the ordinary approvals system and expedite the redevelopment; others contend that the wounds of the disaster are so deep that a broad conceptual effort giving a say to city residents and the families of victims, even if it slows down the rebuilding process, must be a priority.

Most experts on the downtown economy agree that simply replacing lost office space with new buildings would be a pallid response to the disaster, and that the opportunity must be seized to rethink the city's needs, from transportation to new work and life patterns, modern telecommunications and, of course, the threat of global terrorism.

The trade towers, they say, were conceived in the 1960's in an era of moon shots and urban renewal. The city has moved on.

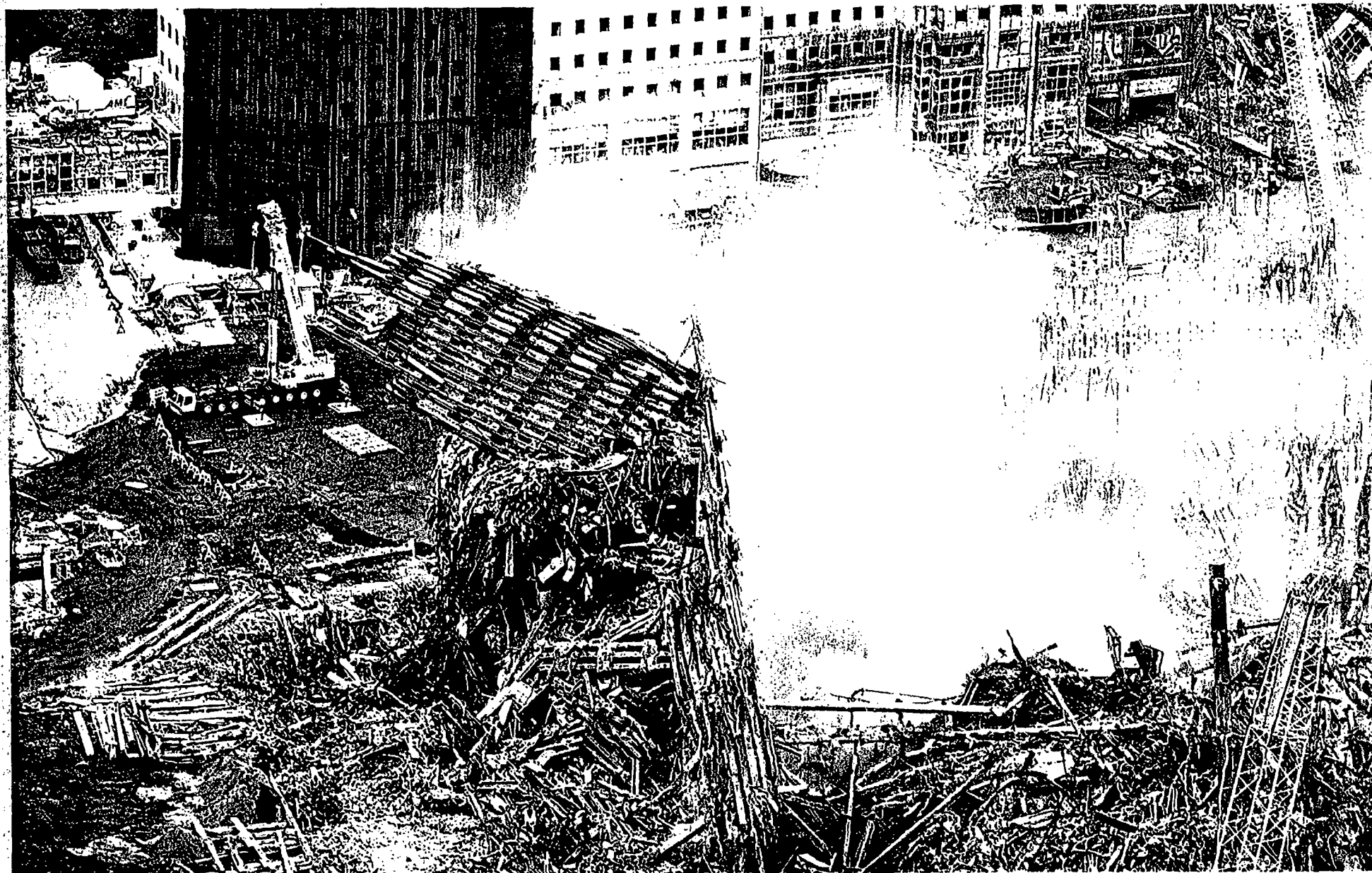
"This tragedy has given us an opportunity to rethink and rebuild all of Lower Manhattan," said John E. Zuccotti, a former city planning chairman and deputy mayor who heads the company that owns the World Financial Center near the trade center site. But it will take, he added, "political leadership, compromise, planning and public-private cooperation at a pace unprecedented in the history of the city and state."

One major element of that rethinking centers on Lower Manhattan's transportation needs.

Many developers, for example, are arguing for a new rail link as part of the redevelopment, one that would allow Long Island Rail Road commuters to come all the way into Lower Manhattan. Other transportation proposals include an extension of the PATH train system from New Jersey so that it could connect with the No. 4 and 5 lines of the New York City subway at Fulton Street, and an extension of the No. 7 subway line from 42nd Street farther south to 31st Street or beyond to encourage the development of Manhattan's West Side north of the trade center.

Many planners and developers also say that Battery Park City, which has given Lower Manhattan a residential element it did not have 30 years ago when the trade towers were built, should be incorporated into a new design. One proposal includes taking a stretch of West Street, a busy thoroughfare that now separates Battery Park from the trade center site, and putting it underground, creating a kind of mall effect that would give the new site a great human accessibility.

NYTimes  
9.26.01  
Page 1 of 4



Associated Press

While workers continued to sift through rubble at the World Trade Center site, several proposals about what should rise at the location have emerged. So far, however, no mechanism exists for sorting through the ideas.

A major question still to be settled in all of this is whether the money to rebuild will match the ambition. Although \$20 billion in federal money has been pledged to aid the cleanup and rebuilding, it is unclear how far that will go, or how expensive trans-

portation or other improvements in the area would be paid for.

Another issue is just how fast the city has to go in rebuilding. The impetus to plan well and make the redevelopment a kind of rebirth for the city would take time, but many economists and business leaders say

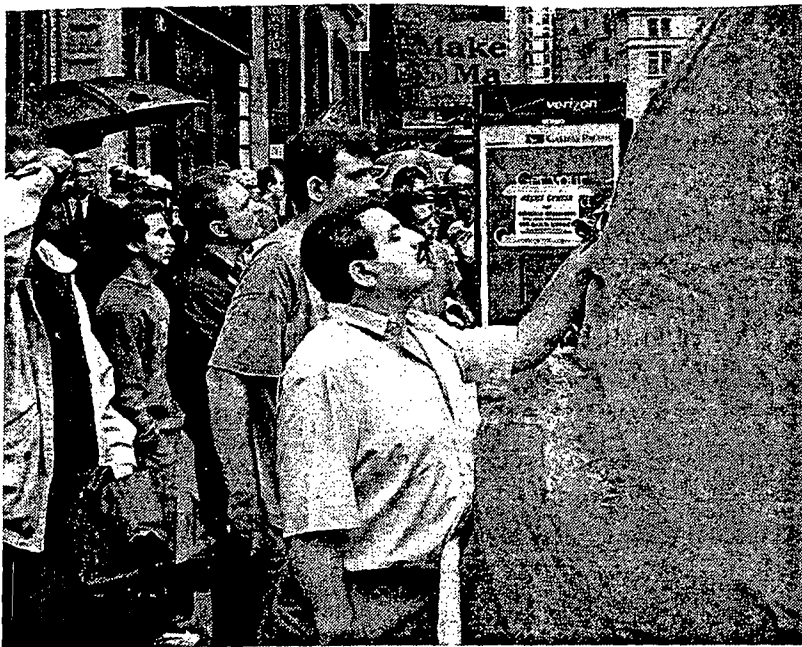
that the need to quickly and firmly articulate a vision is also great because it would send a strong signal to corporations that New York's energy and momentum had not been lost.

"The tension is between doing something quickly and doing it well," said Robert D. Yaro, the executive

director of the Regional Plan Association, a nonprofit economic and land-use planning group in Manhattan.

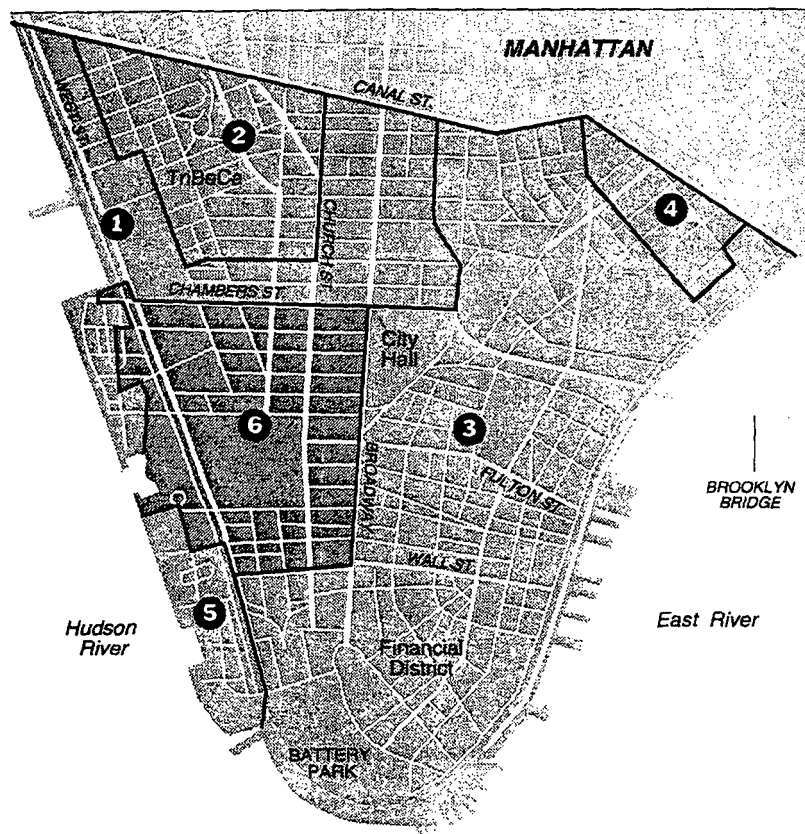
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# rchitects.....



Beth A. Keiser/Associated Press

A tarp went up along Broadway in Lower Manhattan to keep pedestrians from obstructing sidewalks to glimpse the trade center rubble.



## Who's Allowed Where

| Zone                                      | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 |
|-------------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Residents and workers                     | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |   |
| All pedestrians                           |   |   | ✓ | ✓ |   |   |
| Delivery vehicles (8 p.m. to 5 a.m. only) | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |   |   |
| Local vehicles (must show registration)   |   | ✓ |   | ✓ |   |   |

Source: City of New York

The New York Times

"This space, almost regardless of what we do, will become a pilgrimage site. It cannot be just a standard-issue commercial real estate deal or we will not be living up to the expectations of the world."

Whether New York, where entrenched battles over development projects are the norm, is even capable of the kind of compromise and cooperation necessary for fast decision-making at the trade center site is another question.

Mr. Zuccotti at the World Financial Center has said as part of his proposal, for example, that the glass-roofed Winter Garden atrium at Battery Park City could perhaps become part of a new transportation hub where train lines would connect something like the old Pennsylvania Station in Midtown.

The chairman of the Battery Park City Authority, James F. Giff, promptly said he would oppose any such idea.

"The Winter Garden is one of the crown jewels of Battery Park City," he said. "It is a breathtaking structure and I wouldn't want to see it turned into a subway station."

What kind of memorial is appropriate for the site is also likely to provoke a major civic debate even without taking into account the real estate interests, and here, too, specialists in urban design and architecture have been free with their ideas.

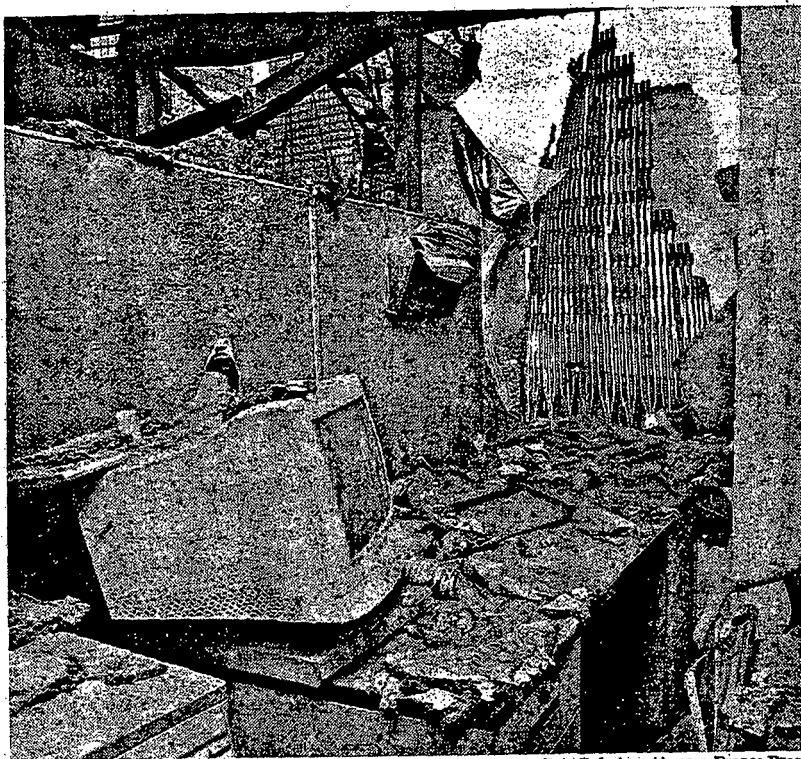
Some have suggested leaving part of the tower wreckage in place, the way some cities in Europe did after World War II. A cathedral in Lübeck, Germany, for example, was rebuilt as it had been before its destruction, but for one thing: the cathedral bells that had crashed down from the belfry were left where they lay, partly embedded in the ground.

New York might also face a variation on the kind of debate experienced in Lisbon in the mid-1700's after an earthquake destroyed much of the city. A statue of the king on his horse was to be built, and opinion raged about which way the statue should face: inward to the new triumphal arch of the city's reconstruction, or outward toward the Portuguese empire. The king and his horse today look out and away from the arch.

"That's a real question for New York," said John R. Mullin, a professor of urban planning at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst. "Whether the new design looks in or looks out: Will it be something for New Yorkers or something for New York's symbolism in the world?"

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# Architects.....



Eric Fieberberg/Agence France-Presse

Some have suggested that the site, long a center of business, would make a good home for the New York Stock Exchange.

Professor Mullin says his own view is that because the trade center site is already so invested with meaning, almost anything New York does will become a new icon no matter what, and that leads him to support a memorial and a design that distinctively reflects the New York experience.

Unlike the days in the 1960's when the trade towers were conceived, he said, New York's role as a pre-eminent world capital is secure, and the city doesn't have to proclaim itself with towers to the sky as it did then. It can whisper, he said, and the world will still listen.

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# Beauty From Evil: Preserving Felled Tower Facade as Sculpture

**W**HAT do we do with the facade in the ruins?

That twisted aluminum remnant of the south tower of the World Trade Center has become the most revered shape in the city. The sightseers snapping pictures from two blocks away can't help calling it beautiful. Even the workers at the site, the ones eager to take it down before it collapses on them, will occasionally stop and remark on the strange form looming above the rubble.

Until Sept. 11, New Yorkers did not spend much time contemplating sculpture in public spaces. Sculptors kept trying to make statements in plazas, but the public generally responded with either anger (they forced the removal of Richard Serra's wall) or with indifference. Can you even remember what sculptures used to rise from the plaza at the World Trade Center?

Now people study the charred metal and see a Roman coliseum, a Gothic cathedral, a ship, a bird in flight, a hand reaching to heaven. They have no interest in preserving the old sculptures in the plaza (a bronze globe as well as works in black granite and stainless steel), but they're already wondering how best to preserve the facade.

Other cities have turned wartime wreckage into memorials, and there's talk of doing that with the tower facade. Some people

have even envisioned turning the whole site into a solemn memorial, but that's problematic, and not merely because the real estate is so valuable. New York is too young and vibrant for the ruins and grand monuments to the past that are the trademarks of European capitals. People come here for the buzz of Times Square, not for the silence of Grant's Tomb or our other monuments to the dead.

In designing a memorial to the World Trade Center's victims, we could learn from the Rev. Lyndon Harris, the pastor of St. Paul's Chapel, the Episcopal church next to the trade center site. He is planning a memorial using a sycamore in the church's cemetery that was uprooted on Sept. 11.

"The tree pretty much saved the church by absorbing the power of the blast," Father Harris said. "We're thinking of using part of the trunk to make a baptismal font. We have to remember what happened and grieve, and we have to look forward, too. We would use the trunk to make a memorial to the dead juxtaposed with the new life of baptism."

The facade memorial could also be juxtaposed with life if it was made part of the city — not just a solemn tourist destination but a place where New Yorkers work and play. The charred and twisted aluminum would look best framed by new buildings down-

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**'We have to remember what happened and grieve, and we have to look forward, too.'**

---

town and a new public space filled with people. What we don't need is another big empty space like the old plaza.

"The plaza never quite worked and no one could ever figure out why," said Angus Kress Gillespie, the author of "Twin Towers," a history of the trade center. "It was just so big and windswept. Something was missing."

**O**NE reason for the facade's current appeal is that it's surrounded by so many busy workers. Oddly enough, the site can seem one of the more hopeful places in the city, because here people are doing something about the attack. They are already looking forward.

There are terribly quiet moments when a body is taken out of the rubble and wheeled out on a construction cart accompanied by

six firemen — three pallbearers on each side, their hands touching the cart as they escort it to the street. The workers stand at attention, saluting, construction helmets above their hearts.

But once the procession is gone, the hats go back on and the workers resume clearing the rubble, far more energetically and cheerfully than you would expect after nearly two weeks of 12-hour shifts. Watching them, you can imagine that the facade above isn't just the debris from a successful attack — it's the building hanging on, still refusing to fall, just like New Yorkers. It's the message sung by Tom Petty during Friday night's telethon: "I'll stand my ground."

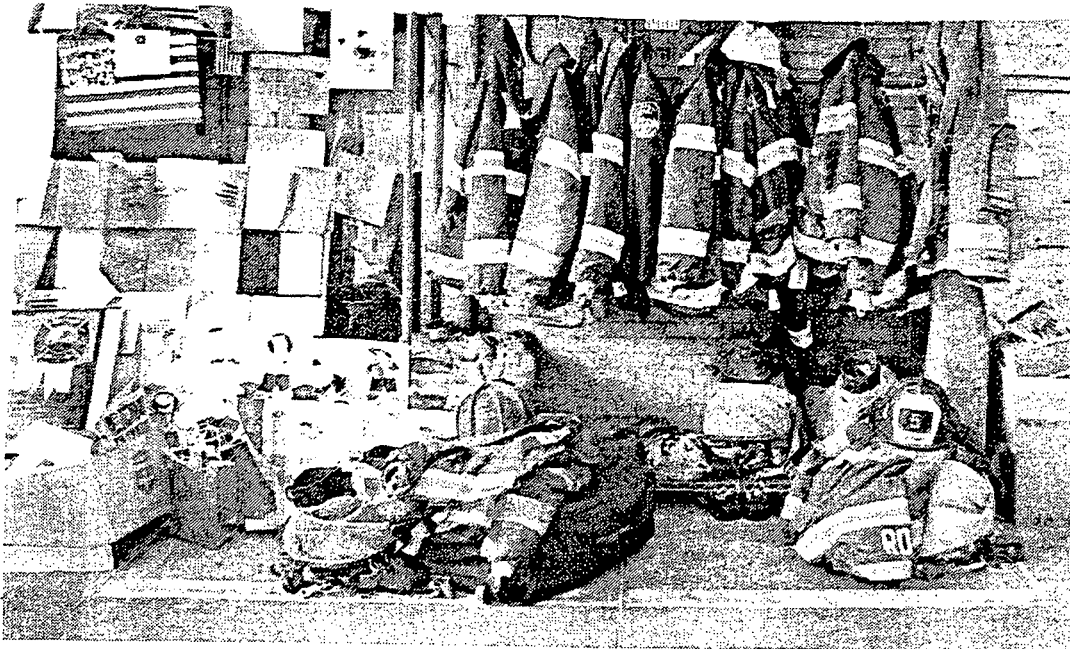
At night under the floodlights, the spires of the facade can start to look like the masts in the famous flash-lit photo of *Endurance*, the British ship that was crushed by the Antarctic ice in 1915. The photo shows the ship sitting in the icy rubble, its masts and rigging a ghostly white against the black Antarctic sky.

The ship is trapped in the ice, about to be crushed and sunk, but the picture is inspiring because you know that Shackleton and all his men will miraculously make it home alive. Like the masts still standing above the rubble, they have not given up.

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# Staten Island Mourns Its Heavy Losses

Home to 5% of the City's Population, but 20% of Missing Firefighters



Photographs by Mary DiBiase Blaich for The New York Times

Cards, notes and letters adorn the walls of the Rescue 5 station on Clove Road in Staten Island. Lt. John Peters and his wife, Roni, feel some guilt because he came back safely after the attack.

By AMY WALDMAN  
with JIM O'GRADY

Each Saturday after Labor Day, the Staten Island Athletic Club holds a race in memory of Marty Celic, a firefighter who died on the job, at age 23, in 1977. In recent years, Marty's younger brother, Tom, has popularized the race, shortening the distance from 10 miles to 4 and providing plenty of beer at the finish.

The event says much about this borough of 440,000 people, many of whom are the city's firefighters and police officers. It is a close-knit community linked by everything from running clubs to churches to civic associations.

Now the race will say even more. It will be run next year in memory not only of Marty, but also of Tom Celic, 43, senior vice president for liability at Marsh and McLennan. He is among those missing from the World Trade Center.

So are another Marsh and McLennan employee and three firefighters who were active in the borough's running groups. A total of 178 Staten Island residents, or former residents who recently moved, are dead or missing, according to a tally compiled by The Staten Island Advance.

Of those, 78 are firefighters who live on the island, which means that Staten Island, home to about 5 per-

cent of the city's population, is home to more than 20 percent of the lost firefighters. Rescue Company 5 in Concord sent 13 men to the World Trade Center. Only one came back.

"I got a lot of friends who went down in those buildings," said John Palladino, a tree pruner from Port Richmond. "And I got a lot who are still trying to dig them out."

The tragedy has shaken a place that may have geographic proximity to Manhattan but that has kept its sociological distance. With shopping

malls and housing developments (bearing names like Aspen Knolls), many parts of Staten Island feel far more suburb than city.

Residents regularly say "out here" to describe where they live. They view the harbor as a moat that keeps Manhattan at bay; many island residents who escaped the World Trade Center ran instinctively toward the ferry.

Firefighters who willingly work in some of the city's roughest neighborhoods see the borough as a haven they can return to (and as city residents, they receive extra points on the department's entrance exam). Residents who work in the aggressive financial universe of Lower Manhattan also gladly retreat to a place more about community than about competition.

Staten Island has defined itself in opposition to the rest of the city. It offers, from shore or ferry, a view of the Manhattan skyline, not immersion in it. As the only borough that reliably votes Republican, it helped bring Rudolph W. Giuliani into office. It long harbored a secession movement, which essentially ended with Mr. Giuliani's election.

But the trade center attack has drawn Staten Island closer to New York than ever. It has even restored a link that the borough's leaders thought was severed forever.

For decades, New York's garbage came to the Fresh Kills landfill. But last March, after a long political fight, Fresh Kills was closed and the borough rejoiced. The celebration was short-lived, however.

Just six months later, trucks laden with the trade center's grim debris creep along the Staten Island Expressway toward the landfill, where the rubble is sorted. Similarly laden barges move within view of commuters on the ferries. Some island residents have begun to express concern about the effect on everything from their physical and emotional health to property values.

Domenick Crisci had run a launch at Fresh Kills for 15 years. He was applying for a job on the Staten Island Ferry when the call came to go back to Fresh Kills.

At times in recent days Mr. Crisci has found himself crying as he works. "Sometimes you can't help it — you just break down," he said. "It's not garbage," he said over and over as trucks bearing the scent of smoke rumbled by. "It's the trade center."

The use of Fresh Kills disheartens Eric Ogren, too. He runs a gas station and deli less than a mile away. His younger brother, Joseph, half of a set of firefighting twins, has not been found. But his crushed truck, Mr. Ogren knows, is at the landfill.

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Some 300 people gathered in Clove Lakes Park to mourn those missing at the trade center.

He tries to block that out, to keep working. But almost everyone coming through the deli's doors has lost someone. His employees, most of whom are Sri Lankan, wear pins memorializing his brother, who was 30. The Ogrens' father was a firefighter, too; as in many Staten Island families, it was a tradition.

The borough's concentration of loss feels like a reproach to some survivors. Roni Petersen's husband, John, a lieutenant with Engine Company 151 in Tottenville, came back; the husband of the woman on the next block did not, nor did seven other firefighters from Tottenville. Mrs. Petersen wonders why she was lucky: "The fact that John's here and all these people are dead — I feel terrible."

Some cope with loss; others search for scapegoats. On Saturday, around 20 residents protested outside the National Wholesale Liquidators store in Westerleigh, citing rumors that its employees had celebrated as the World Trade Center burned.

Employees, some of whom come from Morocco, Guyana and Pakistan, said there had been no celebrations. The store's owner, Scott Rosen, and Guy Molinari, the borough president, said the same. Nonetheless, another protest is planned. "There's all Arabs in there," said Marie Tritta, a Westerleigh housewife and protester. "They shouldn't be in this country."

And some seek comfort, still, in the borough's insularity, its very ordinariness.

"Staten Island doesn't have any strategic importance to the rest of the world," said Vitaly Korobov, a West Brighton resident. "No one is going to attack it."

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# Landfill a key site in war on terror



ADVANCE PHOTO ■ IRVING SILVERSTEIN

Investigators sift through the World Trade Center debris at the Fresh Kills landfill.

## ■ 400 sleuths are combing through World Trade Center wreckage after it is trucked to Fresh Kills

By DIANA YATES  
ADVANCE STAFF WRITER

A week ago, the southernmost mound of garbage at the Fresh Kills landfill was a quiet, bare expanse. Today it hosts a crime investigation of colossal proportions, covered with heaps of ash, gnarled metal, concrete slabs and, yes, partial human remains.

Crows and gulls perch on the piles, and turkey vultures have begun to plague investigators.

The gruesome debris that blankets several acres is trucked in, day and night, from the World Trade Center disaster.

Tractor-trailers, dump trucks and barges have already carted nearly 50,000 tons of the rubble to

Fresh Kills. City officials believe as much as 3 million tons of debris from Lower Manhattan could end up at what was the notorious Fresh Kills Landfill that plague Staten Island for 50 years.

About 400 city detectives, FBI agents, Secret Service agents, Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms officers, and National Guardsmen work the site, 100 to 150 at a time. Wearing white protective jumpsuits, hard hats and respirators, they drag garden rakes through the piles of litter. They're looking for clues, human remains and any personal items that somehow survived the buildings' collapse.

"It's gruesome work, it's depressing," said police Lt. Ray Sheehan, a crime scene expert.

"We are all united to achieve a common goal. The entire thing is humbling," said Deputy Police Inspector James Luongo, the officer in charge.

Police Commissioner Bernard Kerik said many ex-cops volun-

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# Landfill . . . .

teered to help sift the wreckage, among them a retired detective seeking something belonging to his son-in-law, missing in the disaster. "It's a very emotional process," Kerik said.

Chief of Detectives William Allee said 300 to 350 trucks and a few barges have already deposited their loads at Fresh Kills.

Sanitation workers weigh the material and then dump it on the hill. Workers pick through each pile by hand or run it through a mechanical sifter. By yesterday, the tons of debris had yielded 256 body parts, many personal belongings and "several" knives and box cutters, officials said. It was not known whether these were the weapons used by the hijackers to take over the two aircraft that hit the Trade Center.

"Anything of an evidentiary nature" is removed and catalogued, said Allee. Body parts are stored in an on-site refrigeration truck and are sent to the medical examiner's office.

A kind of order is emerging from the wreckage: There is a pile of flattened cars, another of incinerated trucks — their original shapes impossible to discern — and heavy metal girders are stacked together in a heap.

Among the vehicles retrieved are 10 ladder trucks, five fire engines and several support vehicles — battered reminders of the nearly 300 city firefighters who perished, most of them buried in the collapse of Tower 2.

Firefighters' jackets, helmets and other effects were stored in one tent, which was being treated as a shrine, said Fire Lt. Peter Cassidy of Linden, N.J.

Some of the I-beams and other large metal pieces will be recycled, said Allee.

Sanitation Commissioner Kevin Farrell said most of the rest of the material will be buried in Section 1/9, at the foot of Arden Avenue across the West Shore Expressway in Arden Heights.

"I think Staten Islanders accept, readily, their part in assisting in this tragedy," Farrell said in a press conference yesterday.

In addition to remains and personal effects, investigators are looking for clues to the identity, methods and activities of the hijackers, including the four orange-painted flight data and cockpit voice recorders, commonly known as "black boxes," from the two hijacked Boeing 767s that smashed through the 110-story skyscrapers, said Allee.

They are not particularly interested in the heaps of metal and concrete debris from the buildings. "We know what caused the two towers to fall down," he said. "We know what happened. We saw it."

Apart from the immense — and growing — field of debris, the site looks like a military encampment. Tents and trucks line the perimeter of the work area. There are medics, a mobile kitchen and mess hall, a communications center and a cell phone site. There are tents and refrigeration trucks and trailers and work areas covered in camouflage netting.

An immense, ragged American flag flutters behind one of the tents.

"That flag was recovered from the rubble," said Allee. "That's our flag."

An address is printed in a corner of the flag: 130 Liberty Plaza, a building across the street from the Trade Center.

As for health concerns, Allee said the state Department of Environmental Conservation continuously monitors the air at Fresh Kills. He said the medical examiner and other health officials had visited the site and found conditions to be safe.

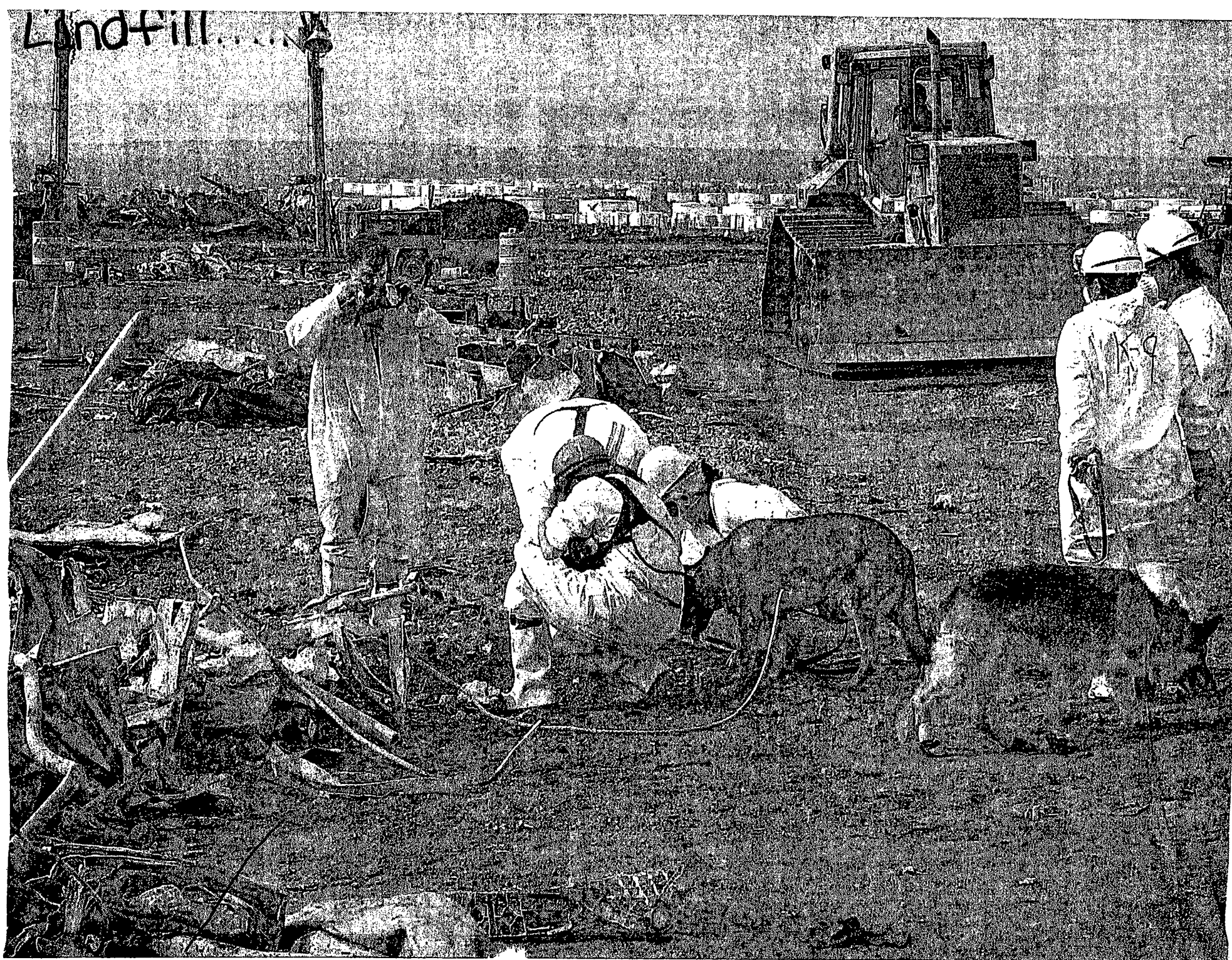
"We wouldn't have all these people working here if it was a health danger," he said.

He said the former dump site is crucial to the success of the investigation.

"We were fortunate that we started with a flat surface with nothing on it," he said. "We feel very secure here."

Allee, a Staten Islander, said he was happy to see the landfill closed in March. "But I think everybody understands the reasons why we're doing this here," he said.

(Advance reporter Heidi Singer contributed to this report. Associated Press material was also used.)



ADVANCE PHOTOS ■ IRVING SILVI

Workers with dogs sift through the World Trade Center debris brought to the Fresh Kills landfill.

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# F.B.I. Says 20 in Custody Sought to Transport Hazardous Materials

By DAVID JOHNSTON  
and NEIL A. LEWIS

WASHINGTON, Sept. 25 — About 20 of the people arrested after the Sept. 11 attack on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon had obtained or tried to obtain special driver's licenses allowing them to transport explosives, poisons or other types of hazardous materials, federal officials said today.

The authorities are investigating whether these men may have been part of a terrorist plot. But they said they did not have evidence that they were part of the plot to hijack the airliners used to attack the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

The arrests prompted the F.B.I. to issue warnings today to officials in New York and other cities about the threat of truck bombs or the use of trucks in a chemical attack, the officials said. In response, New York City officials stepped up spot inspections of trucks at the tunnels and bridges leading to Manhattan.

Attorney General John Ashcroft, testifying today before the Senate Judiciary Committee, said those arrested "may have links," which he did not specify, to the 19 men suspected of hijacking four jetliners on Sept. 11. Another senior official said the efforts to obtain special trucking licenses suggested "that these people may have looked at a broader range of ways to attack us."

Mr. Ashcroft did not detail the possible connections. Other officials said they had not yet determined whether the hazardous materials licenses were coordinating another attack with the suspected hijackers, operating in an alliance with them, or had no connection to the plot.

On Monday, a senior law enforcement official said the Federal Bureau of Investigation had not yet found any knowing accomplices to the suspected hijackers in the United States or any broad network of support in this country for that plot. The

official said the F.B.I. was investigating whether the hijacking plot may originated in Germany, but was con-

tinuing to look for accomplices in the United States.

As the authorities compiled information about people they sought in the hijacking investigation, they began finding many of these license applications and began to see a pattern that remains unexplained. Because few of the men in custody are cooperating, it is possible that investigators may never fully understand whether, as some officials suspect, they unearthed preparations for some other kind of attack.

Today, officials would not identify any people in custody who got or applied for hazardous materials driver's licenses, nor would they detail how these men might be linked to Osama bin Laden nor why they had first come to the attention of authorities in the hijacking investigation.

Mr. Ashcroft compared the authorities' interest in these 20 men to their investigation of reports that Mohamed Atta, who is suspected of being a central figure in the hijacking plot, had asked suspicious questions about crop-dusting planes.

The 20 men were arrested since the attacks on suspicion of lying

about their identities on applications for the licenses, law officials said.

The men are not cooperating with investigators, the officials said. Their efforts to obtain these licenses were detected after several of them were arrested as part of a broad sweep of people that the F.B.I. believed might have had some connection to the hijackers.

States issue the special driver's licenses, but the minimal standards are set by the federal government. The licenses permit people to drive trucks that carry poisonous, flammable, or other dangerous agents.

Officials said the 19 suspected hijackers did not have licenses to transport hazardous materials.

Heavy trucks have been used be-

fore in some of the most deadly terror bombings that have been attributed to Mr. bin Laden's followers.

A Nissan Atlas refrigerator truck packed with explosives was used in the August 1998 bombings of the United States embassies in East Africa that killed 224, including 12 Americans. Mr. bin Laden was indicted as a conspirator in that attack, and four of his associates were convicted in the plot.

A rental truck packed with explosives was used in the 1993 bombing of the World Trade Center.

In his comments to the Senate Judiciary Committee, Mr. Ashcroft said that the F.B.I. had informed the local police to be vigilant for suspicious activity regarding hazardous materials and crop-dusting aircraft. But he did not say whether the authorities had specific information about a continuing threat.

Today, the Transportation Department issued a warning to transportation companies of unconfirmed reports of the possible attacks involving chemical, biological or radioactive materials. The warning said in part, "The F.B.I. and U.S. Department of Transportation have no information of any specific threats directed against additional targets; however, the U.S. transportation industry should remain at a heightened state of alert."

Last week, federal agents in Detroit who were searching for Nabil al-Marabh, a suspected associate of Mr. bin Laden, uncovered evidence that he obtained a license to transport hazardous materials.

The authorities had previously linked Mr. al-Marabh to a former Boston cabdriver now jailed in Jordan on charges of plotting attacks on tourist and holy sites there on the eve of the millennium celebrations. The attacks were foiled by Jordanian authorities, who said the plans were ordered by one of Mr. bin Laden's top lieutenants.

Since the attacks on Sept. 11, F.B.I. agents have questioned former friends and associates of Mr. al-Marabh, 34, including drivers at the Boston Cab Company, where he worked.

In Michigan, Mr. al-Marabh presented an immigration card with a photo and driver's licenses from Ontario and Massachusetts to obtain a chauffeur's license, said Elizabeth Boyd, a spokeswoman for the Michigan secretary of state. On Sept. 11, 2000, Mr. al-Marabh upgraded the license so he could drive 18-wheelers and transport hazardous materials.

States issue licenses to commercial drivers under federal rules. Each driver must pass a driving test and a written examination. Drivers may upgrade their licenses to permit them to transport hazardous materials. To upgrade their licenses, drivers are tested on their knowledge of hazardous materials, understanding of safety measures and transportation methods for various materials.

The Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration at the Transportation Department sets standards for commercial drivers. They must submit

information including their true name, a photo and valid address.

In Florida today, a bank president said F.B.I. agents told him that one of the suspected hijackers sought a government loan last year to buy a crop-duster plane or set up a crop-dusting business.

Robert Epling, president of Community Bank of Florida, in Homestead, said federal investigators told bank officials that Mr. Atta went to a Farm Service Agency office of the Department of Agriculture on the fourth floor of the bank's building to apply for a loan about a year ago. Mr. Epling said three employees later identified Mr. Atta. After telling him their office did not make such loans, Mr. Epling said, they referred Mr. Atta to the bank on the first floor.

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# The Specter of Biological Terror

The terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon have ratcheted up fears that an even more terrible assault could lie ahead — this time with biological or chemical agents. Nothing that happened on Sept. 11 has changed the underlying reality that biological and chemical weapons are extremely difficult to make and disperse. But the attacks have changed our perception of the malevolence and determination of today's terrorists. The suicidal zealotry of the men who flew airliners into buildings, their willingness to prepare for years, their desire for mass casualties and their deep-seated hatred of Americans leave little doubt that they would escalate to even more dreadful weapons if they could.

That said, it is important to be realistic about the threat and how best to combat it. Despite loose talk that a college chemistry major could whip up a lethal weapon in his garage, the historical record suggests that it is nowhere near that easy. Selecting and growing a potent biological agent, maintaining its virulence, making the germs hardy enough and stable enough for widespread dissemination and finding an efficient means of spreading them around all pose obstacles that have frustrated even well-financed state weapons programs.

The Aum Shinrikyo cult in Japan, with more than \$1 billion in assets, an apocalyptic theology that sanctioned mass killing and a corps of scientists and laboratories dedicated to producing lethal agents, launched two nerve gas attacks that killed 19 people, but failed repeatedly — as many as a dozen times over five years — to spread lethal biological agents. That does not mean that a group like Osama bin Laden's network, which also has ample resources and educated followers, would necessarily fail. But it would face enormous difficulties. The danger could escalate, of course, if disaffected Russian scientists sold their expertise, materials and equipment to terrorists or if Iraq, which has its own chemical and biological weapons programs, lent the terrorists a hand.

Although opinions differ widely on whether biological or chemical attacks are likely in the foreseeable future, virtually all experts agree that the United States needs to strengthen its defenses. The Bush administration is already trying to root out the terrorist cells before they strike. Efforts must also be intensified to ensure that impoverished Russian scientists do not sell their secrets or their weaponry to the highest bidder.

There have been spates of rumors about the possible poisoning of reservoirs, raising the specter of vast populations felled by their drinking water. But most experts say reservoirs are an unlikely target. Chlorine that protects the water would neu-

tralize most biological agents, and the vast quantity of water in reservoirs would so dilute any chemical or biological agent that it would probably be rendered harmless. A more worrisome threat, some say, would be the release of lethal agents into the air or water intakes of an office building, or in confined and crowded areas like railroad terminals or subways. Defenses against such possibilities — including better air filtration systems — will have to be one element of homeland defense.

Crop dusters have been grounded twice since Sept. 11 for fear they might be used to spread lethal agents, but many experts are skeptical of the threat. They say the planes would need to be refitted with specialized nozzles to disperse biological agents and would have difficulty carrying nerve gas without leaks that would kill the pilot or those who load the plane. The federal government is right to err on the side of caution, but the nature of the crop-duster threat needs to be better defined.

The first line of defense against a biological attack would not be heroic fire and emergency workers like those who raced to the World Trade Center but rather the public health system that detects and monitors disease trends and would be likely to encounter the dying victims first. New York and other major cities have made great strides toward preparedness in recent years, but nationwide there are too few medical personnel trained to spot biological attacks, a shortage of sophisticated laboratories to identify the agents, inadequate supplies of drugs and vaccines to counteract the threat, and few plans for setting up quarantines and emergency facilities to handle mass casualties. That could prove disastrous if terrorists introduced a highly infectious disease like smallpox.

The nation has shortsightedly allowed its public health agencies and facilities to weaken in recent years. Gearing them up to cope with a malevolent biological attack would have the added advantage of enhancing our ability to deal with infectious diseases whose causes are wholly natural. The investment would pay health dividends even if no biological or chemical attack ever materializes.

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9.26.01

# Risk of biochemical attacks low, but N.Y. is not immune

By **RUSS BUETTNER**  
DAILY NEWS STAFF WRITER

The attack on America two weeks ago has heightened fears that the country could face an even more horrific threat — massive deaths from a chemical or biological attack.

Experts say the risk remains relatively low, given the difficulty of manufacturing, transporting and spreading the deadliest agents. But the government has taken the concerns seriously enough to extend a ban on crop-dusting flights yesterday after reports that at least one hijacker had questioned a Florida crop duster.

Whatever the risk, a biochemical attack would require a massive, speedy response to save those exposed. In that regard, the city is widely considered a leader — but hardly immune.

"I think that New York City is probably one of the best prepared cities in the country," said Jerome Hauer, who built the city's plan. "But I'll qualify that by saying I don't think any city in the country is adequately prepared for biological terrorism at this time."

A chemical attack — like the release of Sarin gas by Iraqi strongman Saddam Hussein against

Kurds in his country — can kill instantly. But several less serious chemical weapons have antidotes, so saving lives demands identifying the agent quickly and getting medicine to sick people.

"I call that a lights-and-sirens response," said Hauer, now a consultant for Kroll Associates and bioterrorism adviser to Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson.

By contrast, bio agents such as anthrax or smallpox can travel by air and take days to make people obviously sick, which by then may be too late.

## Training and supply crucial

Such an attack could flood hospital emergency rooms beyond anything ever seen. And doctors are not trained to recognize the horror unfolding before their eyes.

"Few physicians have ever seen cases of anthrax or smallpox or pneumonic plague," Dr. Donald Henderson, director of the Center for Civilian Biodefense Studies at Johns Hopkins University, told Congress a week before the attack.

"The whole key is finding out very early that you have an incident so you can . . . treat people," Hauer said.

Years ago, the city created a

computer program that analyzes daily emergency room admissions and can red-flag evidence of a biological attack on the day symptoms appear — critical to saving victims, Hauer said.

A second phase of the city's response entails getting medicine to the sick and quarantining the contagious. But disturbingly, antidotes stored by the feds are in short supply. For example, there are only 7.5 million doses of smallpox vaccinations on hand.

The federal government last year awarded a \$343 million contract to make 40 million doses. The delivery schedule was speeded up after the recent attacks.

Unknown to most, part of the massive emergency response on the day of the attack on the World Trade Center included checks by a special National Guard unit for germ warfare. Nothing was found.

The World Health Organization rushed out a report yesterday warning that technological advances made it possible for terrorists to kill millions with chemical or biological weapons.

"The magnitude of possible impacts on civilian populations of their use or threatened use obliges governments both to seek prevention and to prepare response plans," the agency said.

Daily News  
9/25/01  
P. 142

Tuesday, September 25, 2001 • DAILY NEWS

## SILENT KILLERS

The feds grounded crop-dusters again yesterday for fear they might be used to spray chemical or biological weapons, and the United Nations rushed out a report urging world governments to work to prevent attacks and prepare response plans.

| Some of the most fearful agents of death: | BIOLOGICAL AGENTS                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                              | CHEMICAL AGENTS                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                   |
|-------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                           | Anthrax (bacterium)                                                                                                                                 | Smallpox (virus)                                                                                                                                                                       | Plague (bacterium)                                                                                                                                           | Nerve gas                                                                                       | Blisters agents                                                                                                                                 | Choking agents                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>What it does</b>                       | Causes respiratory failure and death within a week if inhaled. Also causes skin ulcers and excruciating intestinal pain.                            | Incubates within two weeks, first causing high fever, weakness and body aches. Ends in pus-oozing rash over full body. Scabs form within four weeks. High mortality rate (20% to 40%). | Causes fever, prostration and pneumonia-like conditions accompanied by vomiting and intense abdominal pain. Without antibiotic treatment, almost 100% fatal. | Gases like Sarin, VX and Tabun can cause incapacitation and death within 15 minutes if inhaled. | Mustard gas and Lewisite liquids cause immediate pain and burning, then blisters. Impair breathing, possibly causing death. Burn eyes' corneas. | Phosgene accounted for 80% of chemical fatalities in World War I. Causes shortness of breath and frothy sputum, and can end in massive pulmonary edema and death. |
| <b>How it's spread</b>                    | Inhalation is most common. Can be dropped from air as dry powder. Also can be transmitted through contaminated food or by contact with open wounds. | Inhaled. Highly contagious. A small aerosol dose can spread widely and wreak havoc. No known treatment.                                                                                | Can be dumped in water or spread in the air in aerosol form or from missile.                                                                                 | Modern forms are generally colorless and odorless, spreading as vapor through the air.          | Vapor spray or liquid. Can be made into solid and spread, making contaminated area dangerous to touch.                                          | Inhalation through air.                                                                                                                                           |

SOURCE: CENTERS FOR DISEASE CONTROL AND PREVENTION

Risk ...  
P. 2 of 2

## Liberties

MAUREEN DOWD

# From Botox to Botulism

WASHINGTON

It was always a delusional vanity, this fixation boomers had about controlling their environment. They thought they could make life safe and healthy and fend off death and aging.

They would banish germs with anti-fungal toothbrushes, hand-sanitizing lotions, organic food, bottled water and echinacea.

They would overcome flab with diet and exercise, wrinkles with collagen and Botox, sagging skin with surgery, impotence with Viagra, mood swings with anti-depressants, myopia with laser surgery, decay with human growth hormone, disease with stem cell research and bio-engineering.

Anti-aging and anti-bacterial products flourished, from "age-defying" pantyhose to anti-bacterial ballpoint pens, sneakers and calculators.

The generation that came of age with psychedelic frolicking became ludicrously obsessed with creating a pure, risk-free atmosphere.

Even when microbiologists warned that the avid pursuit of germless homes was endangering the long-term health of children by contributing to the threat of antibiotic-resistant microbes, the anti-bacterial ads kept coming, depicting kitchens and bathrooms as dangerous places.

After all these finicky years of fighting everyday germs and inevitable mortality with fancy products, Americans are now confronted with the specter of terrorists in crop dust-

Women I know in New York and Washington debate whether to order Israeli vs. Marine Corps gas masks, and half-hour lightweight gas masks vs. \$400 eight-hour gas masks, baby gas masks and pet gas masks, with the same meticulous attention they gave to ordering no-foam-no-fat-no-whip lattes in more innocent days. They share information on which pharmacies still have Cipro, Zithromax and Doxycycline, all antibiotics that can be used for anthrax, the way they once traded tips on designer shoe bargains. They talk more now about real botulism than its trendy cosmetic derivative Botox.

They are toting around flats and sneakers in case they have to run, and stocking up on canned tuna, salmon and oysters, batteries and bottled water.

"People are carrying survival packs to fine restaurants," said Patricia Wexler, a Manhattan dermatologist who has been prescribing antibiotics and sleeping pills for her jittery patients. "Women are taking their little black Prada techno-nylon bags and slipping in gas masks for the couple, Cipro, a flashlight, a silicone gel tube — you smear the silicone on your skin so hopefully it doesn't absorb the spores as fast. It's truly scary. We worry about crop dusters over Midtown. It would be so easy to contaminate the reservoir."

My friend Sally Quinn, a Washington writer, has been trying to order gas masks for her family for several days, only to find sold-out stores, with new orders not expected until late October. "We had such a lapse of imagination before this happened," she said, "that now we have an overstimulation of imagination."

Judy Miller, a Times reporter who is one of the authors of the surprise new best seller "Germs: Biological Weapons and America's Secret War," said she had been deluged with calls from people asking how they can protect themselves.

"It's the ultimate freakout," she said. "I have to tell them that they cannot do a lot as individuals, that it

won't work to take Cipro every time they get the sniffles. This narcissistic, us-me culture is slowly starting to understand that they will have to act as a collective on public health to get the vaccines and trained nurses. "The government doesn't have a clue about how to get the terrorism situation under control. We can't take anything on faith anymore."

Osama bin Laden, Ms. Miller says, has been experimenting with lethal toxins, and satellites have picked up pictures of little dead animals around his camp. "Bunnies, dogs," she murmured. "This guy is relentless."

Ms. Miller agreed there were many scenarios that would "cause you trouble sleeping," including Muslim martyrs willing to be infected with smallpox or Marburg, a cousin of Ebola, who could then walk around our malls and cause an epidemic.

Other experts say the chances of bioterrorism attacks are small.

Don't try telling that to the Perrier-and-Purell generation. □

## Poxes, plagues and pet gas masks.

ers and hazardous-waste trucks spreading really terrifying, deadly toxins like plague, smallpox, blister agents, nerve gas and botulism.

NYTimes 9.26.01

# Poverty Rates Fell in 2000, But Income Was Stagnant

## Gains Were Among High-Wage Earners

By KATHARINE Q. SEELYE

WASHINGTON, Sept. 25 — New economic statistics show that poverty in the United States declined in 2000, with the poverty rates of blacks and female heads of households the lowest on record. At the same time, median income has leveled off after years of growth.

The new figures, released today by the Census Bureau, showed that the median household income in 2000 was \$42,148, adjusted for inflation — a shade off the record high reached in 1999 (\$42,187 in 2000 dollars). Only the Northeast showed a statistical gain in income, up 3.9 percent to \$45,106.

Median household income among Hispanics and blacks set records (\$33,447 for Hispanics, \$30,439 for blacks), with the income of blacks rising \$1,600 from 1999. The median income for blacks was \$15,000 lower than the median income for whites.

"This shows the continuing remarkable success of welfare reform," said Robert Rector, an analyst at the Heritage Foundation, a conservative research group. "There's been a dramatic drop in dependence."

The figures showed that the number of people in poverty had dropped, to 31.1 million in 2000 from 32.3 million in 1999. For a family of four, an annual income below \$17,603 qualified them as impoverished; for one person, the poverty line was \$8,794.

## The gap between the haves and have-nots is not narrowing.

The poverty rate fell as well, for the fourth consecutive year, from 11.8 percent in 1999 to 11.3 percent in 2000, the lowest since 1979 and about the same as the lowest poverty rate ever recorded (11.1 percent in 1973).

However, analysts say, the average poor person fell further below the poverty line in 1999 and 2000 than in any other year since record-keeping began in 1979. They attributed the drop to cuts in food stamps and cash-assistance programs and to declining participation in those programs.

The figures are based on a survey of 50,000 households in 2000 and do not reflect the recent rise in unemployment or other indicators that the economy was softening in the months before the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11.

"The economy was clearly weakening before Sept. 11, and that added another swift kick," said Robert Greenstein, executive director of the Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, a liberal research group.

"It's too early to know if this is a mild, short-lasting downturn or whether the positive period of the '90s has ended and the downturn will be deeper and the rate of growth slower," Mr. Greenstein said.

He said it could take years to recover to the highs of 1999 and 2000. After the earlier peak prosperity year of 1989, poverty was never as low again until 1998 and income was never as high until 1996.

Mr. Greenstein and other analysts were puzzled about why the median income in 2000 remained unchanged from 1999, given low unemployment.

"I was surprised, frankly, that household income was stagnant in 2000," said Jared Bernstein, a senior economist at the Economic Policy Institute, a liberal research group. "So many other indicators were positive, one would have expected middle-income families to get their share of the growth, but that didn't happen."

Not only did income remain stagnant, but the earnings of men who worked full time dropped by a full percentage point, to \$37,339 in 2000, the first time in four years that men experienced a decline.

The earnings of women were statistically unchanged, at \$27,355. Women earned 73 cents to each dollar earned by men.

The household incomes of Asian-Americans and Pacific Islanders continued to be higher than those of other Americans, as they have since this group's income began being recorded by the Census Bureau in 1987, although they showed no significant increase in 2000 over 1999. Asian-Americans and Pacific Islanders had an average median income in 2000 of \$55,521, compared with \$45,904 for non-Hispanic whites (this is the only category that does not include Hispanics), \$44,226 for whites, \$33,447 for Hispanics and \$30,439 for blacks.

Analysts said that most gains in income had been among high-income households and that the income gap between high-income earners and lower-income earners remained at a post-World War II high.

"We still have an economy with very impressive opportunities for those at the top and not for those at the bottom," Mr. Bernstein said. "Yes, low-income families are working more and may have crossed the poverty line, but they are still near-poor. We have structural imbalances in our economy leading to ever-higher levels of inequality, and this boom hasn't cured that problem."

NYTIMES  
9.26.01




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**SCIENCE AND HEALTH**

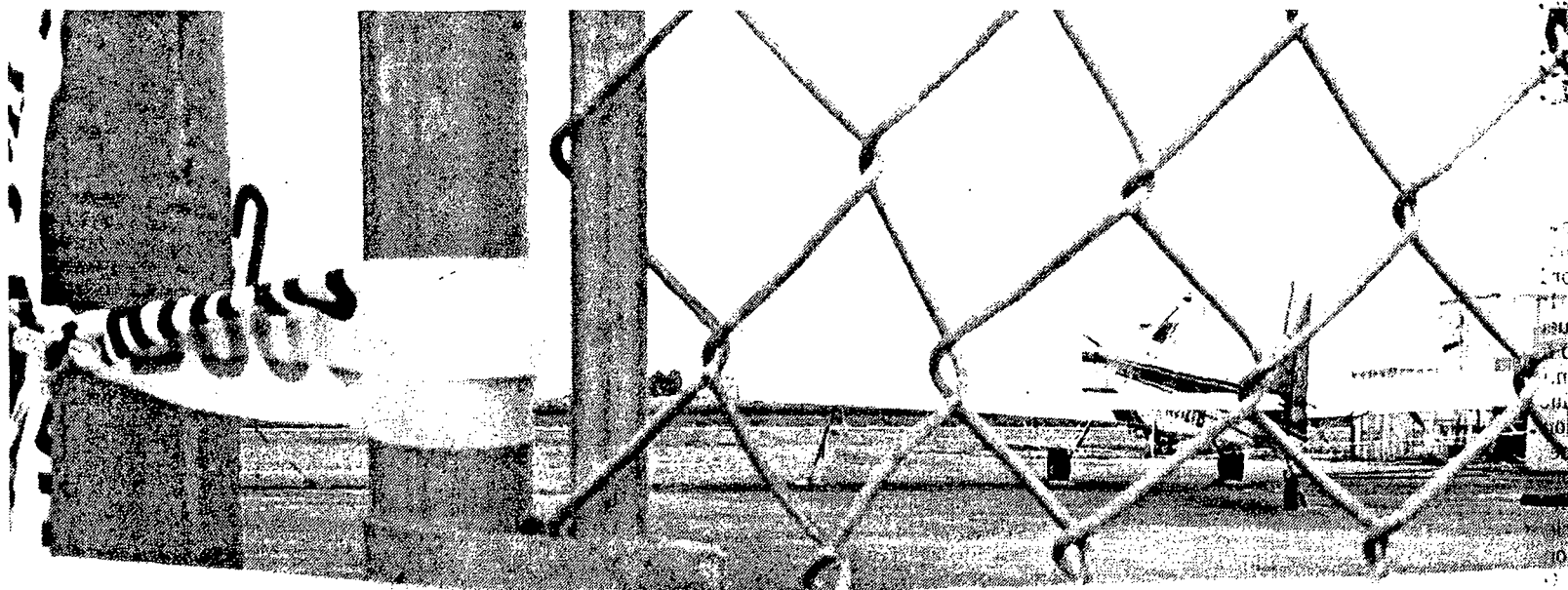
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**U.S. WARNS MERCK ABOUT MARKETING ARTHRITIS DRUG**

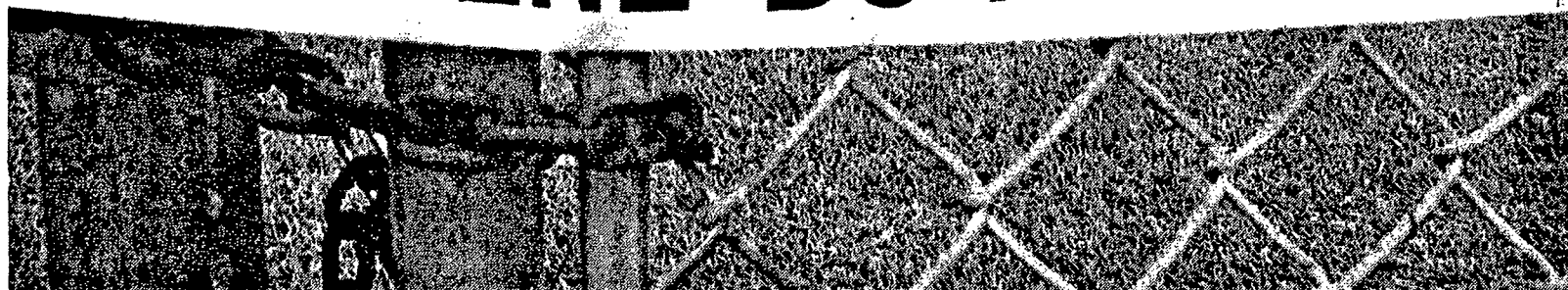
The Food and Drug Administration has ordered Merck & Company to cease promotions intended to persuade doctors to prescribe its arthritis painkiller Vioxx, saying the promotions minimize potential risks. Merck has until Oct. 1 to respond. A recent study comparing Vioxx to another painkiller, naproxen, suggested that Vioxx users faced an increased risk of heart attacks and strokes, but many heart experts want more research. Still, an F.D.A. advisory panel has said Vioxx should carry a warning label about the potential risk.

(AP)

NYTimes 9.26.01



# PRIME SCENE DO NOT CROSS



Colin Braley/Reuters

The manager of South Florida Crop Care, at an airport in Belle Glade, Fla., has told the authorities about visits by at least one suspected hijacker.

## AVIATION PRECAUTIONS

# Crop-Dusters Are Grounded on Fears of Toxic Attacks

By DANA CANEDY

BELLE GLADE, Fla., Sept. 24 — The Federal Aviation Administration grounded crop-dusting planes for a second day today after investigators were told that at least one of the suspected hijackers in the terror-

ist attacks had asked about agricultural planes at a rural airport here.

In testimony before Congress today, Attorney General John Ashcroft said the government feared that crop-dusters could be used to "distribute chemical or biological weapons of mass destruction" and added

that one of the suspected hijackers, Mohamed Atta, had been compiling information about crop-dusting before the Sept. 11 attacks.

In addition, Mr. Ashcroft said, "a search of computers, computer disks and personal baggage of another individual in custody revealed the sig-

nificant amount of information downloaded from the Internet about aerial application of pesticides, or crop-dusting."

NYTimes 9.25.01  
Page 1052

Crop.....

Last week, federal agents interviewed the general manager of a crop-dusting company here, about 80 miles northwest of Miami. The manager told the local police that more than a dozen Middle Eastern men had regularly visited the company in the weeks leading up to the attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

J. D. Lee, general manager of South Florida Crop Care, at Belle Glade Municipal Airport, told the au-

thorities that at least one of the suspected terrorists and his associates showed up at the business in a private plane or in minivans from February to August. Each time, they wanted to know how much fuel and chemicals the yellow 502 Air Tractor crop-dusters could carry and whether any special skills were needed to fly them, Mr. Lee said in an interview today.

One of Mr. Lee's employees, James Lester, who is in charge of maintaining and loading the planes, identified one of the men from a Federal Bureau of Investigation photo as Mr. Atta, who is suspected of crashing American Airlines Flight 11 into one of the trade center towers.

Despite the government's concern about the use of crop-dusters for chemical or biological attacks, weapons experts speculated that the suspects were considering using them in much the same way that they used the passenger jets: as flying bombs. Instead of carrying pesticides, the crop-dusters could carry fuel.

"The most likely explanation is a conventional attack," said Jonathan B. Tucker, an expert on chemical and biological weapons at the Washington office of the Monterey Institute of International Studies.

But Mr. Tucker also said the planes could be used to dispense toxic chemicals or deadly germs. Chemicals would be easier to dispense than germs because the pore size of unmodified sprayer nozzles is right for dispensing liquid chemicals. Mr.

Lee said Mr. Atta showed up at the crop-dusting business to inquire about the planes once in February and on another occasion he could not recall.

On the earlier visit, Mr. Atta flew in on a Cessna with two unidentified men. In July, Mr. Lee said, another group of Middle Eastern men visited his business as frequently as twice a week for about eight weeks. Their last visit was on the Saturday before the Sept. 11 attacks, he said.

"I've probably seen 12, 15 or 18

### *A suspected hijacker showed interest in agricultural planes.*

different ones, but some might have been the same ones," Mr. Lee said. During each trip, Mr. Lee said, the men asked what he said were in retrospect peculiar questions about the operation of the planes. "They were asking questions they didn't have any business knowing," he said.

"They asked about how big a load it could haul, how much fuel it could carry, how fast it could go and how hard it was to fly," Mr. Lee said.

On occasion the men videotaped the outside of the planes and seemed to assess airport facilities, Mr. Lee

recalled. He said he had no reason to be suspicious because pilots often asked about the planes and because the Belle Glade area is home to many Middle Eastern families.

"I had no idea something was up at the time," Mr. Lee said. "But the minute the bombing happened, within an hour, it dawned on me about these people and all the questions they were asking."

The manager of another crop-dusting business at the airport, Adrian Rodriguez of Roma Services, said that he did not recall seeing the men at his facility but that last week the F.A.A. requested information about all his pilots and records from all flights for the past number of years.

Mr. Rodriguez, who is president of the local chapter of the National Agricultural Aviation Association, said the group had sent out a memorandum to its 3,500 members — including the 300 operating in Florida — with suggestions for increased security procedures across the country.

As part of that effort, Belle Glade Municipal Airport now has 24-hour security. All of Roma's planes have extra security devices that keep them from being started or moved from the parking locations.

Mr. Rodriguez said that, though the precautionary measures were called for, he did not see much risk of a crop-duster being stolen and used in an assault. "You can't be a regular pilot and fly one of these things," he said. "It takes lots of hours and experience to do this."

## OBSERVATORY



Nurit Karlin

By HENRY FOUNTAIN

### From Dust to Red Tide

Blooms of toxic algae, the phenomenon known as red tide, can kill fish, contaminate shellfish and make people ill. What brings on this sudden propagation of algae is not completely known, although water temperatures play a role in many cases.

Now, researchers in Florida have uncovered a trigger for red tides along the state's Gulf Coast, and it comes from Africa. The researchers say that clouds of dust from the Sahara provide a spike of nutrients in the Gulf of Mexico, unleashing a chain of events that can cause an algal bloom.

The scientists, from the University of South Florida and other institutions, used satellite images and ground-based measurements to track large dust clouds — essentially, fine particles of soil — from the Sahara in June 1999. Carried by trade winds at altitudes of up to 10,000 feet, the clouds took about two weeks to reach the Gulf of Mexico.

One of the major elements in soil is iron, so as the dust settled in the gulf, iron concentrations in the water increased threefold. This, researchers say, caused the population of a particular nitrogen-fixing bacteria in the water to increase as well. The additional bacteria increased the amount of usable nitrogen in the water, and the nitrogen caused the algae to proliferate (much as nontoxic algae proliferates in a lake or stream polluted by nitrogen-based fertilizers).

The researchers, who reported on their work in the journal *Limnology and Oceanography*, say that understanding this trigger mechanism may help in forecasting algal blooms.

NYT  
9/16/01

# Invisible threat: Air we breathe

**Health experts say the risks to survivors and rescuers are not as dire as initially feared, but precautions are still urged**

By DIANA YATES  
ADVANCE STAFF WRITER

A plume of smoke and airborne debris hovers over Lower Manhattan like a ghost, heightening concerns about the potential long-term health effects of the World Trade Center disaster.

Wind shifts since Tuesday have at times sent smoke toward Staten Island, where the acrid scent has been detected on the North Shore and even in some Mid-Island neighborhoods.

Respiratory health experts say the risks to those who survived the attack and those contributing to the cleanup are not as dire as initially feared. The state Department of Environmental Protection and federal Environmental Protection Agency have been testing air quality at Ground Zero, and have so far shown levels of asbestos below the threshold of concern, according to a city Health Department release issued yesterday.

But experts urge all New Yorkers to continue to take precautions to protect themselves, including keeping windows in nearby office buildings closed.

The potential health consequences of the explosions, fires and building collapses that followed the terrorist attack vary with time and location, experts say. The initial blast, smoke from the extremely hot — and still smoldering — fires and the airborne particles all have differing effects on respiratory function.

The age and the history of the buildings also influences the potential health impact.

"Each accident is going to be unique," said Dr. Dorsett D. Smith, a pulmonologist and clinical professor of medicine at the University of Washington Medical School. "Because of the makeup of that building, the dust will be different than the dust of [another] building."

Exposure to asbestos, originally used as a fire retardant in the Twin Towers, is of particular concern.

Borough environmental engineer Nicholas Dmytryszyn, a former environmental consultant who monitored asbestos abatement work in the World Trade Center, said much of the original asbestos was removed as different parts of the building were rehabilitated. But, he said, the process of abatement was not complete.

"I'm sure there's still areas of the Trade Center that have not undergone renovation in the last 20 years," he said.

To the relief of government officials, however, levels of asbestos in the air were fairly low after the blast. City Department of Environmental Protection spokesman

Charles Sturcken said air monitoring revealed that asbestos levels near the trade center "were slightly elevated" above federal air quality standards.

About 10 blocks away, asbestos readings were at the maximum level allowed, he said, and were not considered a danger to public health.

Dr. Smith said the type of asbestos used in the trade center, called chrysotile, is the least dangerous form of the material.

"A person must be exposed to extremely high concentrations [of chrysotile] for a number of years to develop lung disease," he said. "We don't think it's likely that this particular exposure is going to have long-term consequences."

Dozens of other compounds were released into the atmosphere as the buildings collapsed and burned, however. Many of the materials that burned, including carpeting, polyvinyl chloride (PVC) pipes, telephone and computer cables and insulation, pose a potential hazard.

Strangely, smoke from the original fire may have been the least hazardous by-product of the disaster.

Because it involved jet fuel, which burns at extremely high temperatures, the smoke was relatively clean initially compared to the smoldering fires that came later, said Dmytryszyn.

"It's the smoldering fire that may be more dangerous than the original blast," he said.

A less intense fire only partially consumes whatever is fueling it, releasing high concentrations of small particles and other pollutants into the air, he said. In the days since the attack the smoke over Manhattan has changed color many times, darkening when numerous low-grade fires flared up.

Both Dmytryszyn and Dr. Smith said burning plastics, vinyl and other synthetic products may also release gases that can be dangerous.

"Some of these gases are heavier than air and may become trapped in underground spaces," said Dr. Smith. Workers may be at risk when a door is opened. There may be no oxygen in these compartments, or the toxic gases may be highly concentrated, he said.

Once the gases are released to the atmosphere they are quickly diluted and pose no threat, he said.

Short-term exposure to diluted smoke or airborne particles is not especially worrisome, said Dr. Smith.

"There's more of a potential problem for people who — for one reason or another — stay in the area for hours or days," he said.

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9.17.01  
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# Invisible.....

Most of those involved in the day-to-day cleanup probably won't suffer any long-term health effects, however, particularly if they use protective gear and try to avoid the most polluted zones.

The most common health problems include sore throats, burning eyes and aggravation of existing conditions like asthma, sinus problems and hay fever.

Some people may develop a condition called "reactive airways disease syndrome" (RADS), an inflammation of the windpipe that may cause chronic coughing or other irritation. For some of those afflicted, the symptoms may persist for years.

Fine airborne particles may pose the greatest risk to people's health. Recent studies suggest that the tiniest particles can penetrate deeply into the lungs, potentially aggravating existing health conditions and contributing to lung disease.

Dr. Smith said a number of simple precautions can limit people's exposure to potentially hazardous pollutants. First and foremost, he said, those working in the rubble should wear respirators, if they have them. And they should approach enclosed spaces carefully, assuring proper ventilation to dissipate any gases that may have built up.

People exposed to the debris should wash — not brush or shake — the dust from their shoes and other hard surfaces at the end of the day. And they should find a way to remove dusty clothes before going into their homes.

Those with pre-existing respiratory problems should be particularly careful, staying indoors whenever possible, said Dr. Smith.

Done. 20f2

## AMERICA'S ORDEAL

## Hazard Fills the Air

By Dan Fagin

STAFF WRITER

David Charters has been all over the world as a member of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's elite 26-member Environmental Response Team. But nothing he saw at the wreck of the Exxon Valdez, at Love Canal or at dozens of other environmental disaster sites around the world prepared him for Ground Zero at the World Trade Center.

"The scale of it, the loss of life ... it's just completely different from anything we've had to deal with before," Charters said yesterday during a break from running air tests at the site of last week's catastrophe. "We're doing everything we can to protect the people who are in there busting their tails to try to save lives."

The smoldering pile is not only a rescue site, a triage area and a crime scene, it is

also an environmental hazard. It poses significant health risks to firefighters and others at Ground Zero, especially the many who are not heeding the EPA's advice to wear bulky protective masks in their rush to look for survivors.

"I can't fault those people," said Dave Mickunas, another member of the EPA team, which operates out of Edison, N.J. "It's like telling people who are fighting a war, 'Gee, why don't you put on a dust mask before you try to take this beach.'"

Even so, air testing has shown that exhaustion and collapsing debris aren't the only risks the rescue workers face.

"It is extremely dusty, and we are concerned about the air right at the site," Mickunas said. "Nothing we've found so far is really all that high, but we have found asbestos and particulates that are at or a little over" safety standards set by

the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Agency. Those levels are high enough to pose a risk to anyone working at the site who is not wearing a mask equipped with a high-efficiency filter, he said.

Not only have experts been monitoring the air with a network of nine testing stations, they've also been closely watching the debris being trucked to the Fresh Kills Landfill. In recent days, they've also established stations to wash down vehicles leaving the site and to distribute masks and other protective gear. Health officials, meanwhile, are focusing on potential biohazards, including risks associated with the recovery of bodies.

Rescue workers involved in recovering human remains have been advised to use so-called universal precautions, including

See ENVIRONMENT on A66



Newaday Photo / Dan Fagin

David Charters of the EPA

## Danger Still Rises From Ground Zero

ENVIRONMENT from A65

gloves and masks, to guard against the spread of hepatitis or other blood-borne diseases, said Sandra Mullin, a spokeswoman for the city Health Department. "We don't see any indication of risk to the general population," she said.

The health-protection efforts are focused inside a tight square less than four blocks wide because, so far, air tests have shown that dust levels in the larger surrounding area are unusually high, although not high enough to be a health hazard.

"We are telling people it's safe to return, although the dust can be an irritant and they need to remove it from their homes and offices," said Mullin, adding that the city is recommending that Manhattanites use high-efficiency filters on their vacuum cleaners.

Dust, especially particles less than 10 microns wide that can penetrate deeply into the lungs, is a particular health threat to smokers or people with respiratory disease. Prolonged exposure to asbestos, which was used extensively in the Twin Towers, can cause cancer as well as the lung-scarring disease asbestosis.

While those two contaminants have gotten most of the attention, they are not the only types of toxic pollution generated by the destruction of the skyscrapers. "You've got millions of cubic feet of office space that went up in smoke, and we've got to try to figure out what people had in there," Charters said.

Freon from air-conditioning units is an obvious potential risk, he said, and so are lead, mercury and dioxins produced by the combustion of some plastics. EPA teams also have been doing environmental detective work to try to find what else may be in the air.

Working out of a 35-foot bus that serves as a mobile high-tech testing site, EPA technicians have been analyzing air samples with mass spectrometry, a technique that yields a chemical "signature" for each type of compound in the air. "We're covering hundreds of compounds," Charters said. "So far, there have been no surprises, and that's good."

What has complicated the EPA's efforts is the desperate search for survivors. Masks and other gear can make it difficult for rescue workers to communicate with each other.

Newsday 9.20.01

# Asbestos indictment for Bx. businessman

A Bronx businessman and his asbestos-removal company were indicted yesterday on 19 counts of violating the Clean Air Act and other federal laws.

If convicted, Andre Parker, 35, of Riverdale, could face a maximum of three to five years in federal prison on each count, as well as a fine of \$250,000 per count, said U.S. Attorney Joseph Pavone.

Parker's Bronx-based company, Parker Environmental Management Group, faces a possible fine of \$9.5 million, Pavone

said.

Twelve of the 19 counts accuse Parker and his company of violating the Clean Air Act, while two others charge him with Superfund violations.

According to the indictment, Parker, through his firm's supervisors, ordered workers to illegally remove asbestos from numerous buildings owned by the upstate Plattsburgh Housing Authority.

Company workers then illegally dumped "hundreds of bags" of asbestos at various locations throughout the Plattsburgh area, Pavone said.

Additionally, Parker was charged with perjury for allegedly lying about his role while giving grand-jury testimony in April, Pavone said.

Meanwhile, both Parker and his company also were charged with obstruction of justice for allegedly providing false documents to the grand jury, and mail fraud for allegedly falsifying laboratory results and filing false claims with the U.S. Housing and Urban Development Department.

*Post Wire Services*

NY Post  
9.21.01

**Newsday**

# OF NEW YORK

## Alley Pond Park



Alley Pond Park is located in northeastern Queens, about a mile from the Nassau County border. It consists of over 635 acres of forested hills, ponds, meadows, and salt marshes. Acquired by New York City in 1929, the park has been maintained by the city's Department of Parks and Recreation and the Alley Pond Environmental

Center since 1976. The Center, a National Environmental Study Area, serves families and over 20,000 students annually, offering hiking, birding, lectures, workshops, and tours. Alley Pond, for which the park was named, was obliterated by the construction of the Cross Island Parkway and the Long Island Expressway. —Cynthia Blair

Names of New York is a daily promotional feature produced by the Newsday Marketing Department.

*Newsday*  
9.20.01

# Feds send \$127M to city, with \$20B to come

By FREDRIC U. DICKER  
State Editor

ALBANY — Federal authorities have turned over \$127 million in disaster relief to the city at unprecedented speed — with nearly \$20 billion more yet to come.

State and city officials involved in the Herculean recovery effort say the federal government has, in effect, given New York a blank check to spend all that it takes to address America's worst terrorist attack.

That commitment was clearly demonstrated last week when President Bush quickly signed legislation authorizing up to \$20 billion in additional

aid, including \$2 billion that was released on Friday, officials noted.

The first money received after the Sept. 11 attack, estimated by state officials at \$127.5 million, was deposited last Monday and Tuesday in the city treasury by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and is primarily earmarked for the costs associated with removing the mountains of debris at the World Trade Center site.

But the FEMA funds are also available for a wide range of crisis-mitigation services including unemployment assistance, temporary housing, counseling for families and victims, some funeral ex-

penses, and low-interest loans to repair residences and replace personal and business property.

These services are being administered by city and state agencies.

The nearly \$20 billion in additional funds will cover a massive range of reconstruction, rehabilitation and repair efforts — but details have yet to be determined.

About \$10 billion will be directly allocated by Bush — after consulting with city and state officials and New York's congressional delegation — while the remaining \$10 billion will be allocated by FEMA and other relief agencies, state officials said.

The at-times notori-

ously inefficient federal bureaucracy is aiding New York under streamlined emergency policies, waiving many of the normal eligibility requirements for assistance.

"There's an unprecedented partnership between the federal, state and city governments and each of their respective agencies," said state Budget Division spokesman Kevin Quinn.

The state Legislature, meeting three days after the World Trade Center attack, authorized the state to spend \$500 million on disaster-related expenses, which are expected to be federally reimbursed.

Gov. Pataki, meanwhile,

has ordered over a dozen state agencies to take a series of potentially costly actions to assist disaster survivors and to provide disaster-related relief, the total financial impact of which is yet to be determined.

These actions include:

■ The deployment of more than 7,700 state personnel, including 4,105 National Guardsmen, 600 state-police and 1,284 correction officers.

■ The removal of the \$1,500-per-person cap on emergency financial awards that can be made to attack victims by the state Crime Victims Assistance Fund.

Attack victims are also eligible to apply for reim-

bursement of up to \$30,000 in lost earnings or support, uncovered medical expenses, as well as counseling and burial expenses.

■ Accelerated state Health Department payments of \$60 million in "bad debt and charity" pool payments to New York City-area hospitals, including \$2.4 million to Beth Israel Medical Center, \$1.1 million to Bellevue Hospital and \$700,000 to St. Vincent's Medical Center.

■ Stepped-up availability of low-interest state Mortgage Agency loans, which are given to low- and moderate-income people who wish to purchase homes in the state.

Ny Post  
9.23.01

## AMERICA'S ORDEAL

# Bill Pushes Recovery Effort

By Curtis L. Taylor

STAFF WRITER

A bill to create a powerful local commission to oversee the rebuilding of lower Manhattan is expected to move swiftly through the City Council when it is introduced tomorrow at an emergency meeting.

"Clearly, the message [to terrorists] is we are not going to roll over," said council member Victor Robles (D-Brooklyn), who supports the proposed legislation. "You need to have some mechanism put in place . . . to set the tone and the direction of how we are going to rebuild and move forward."

The ambitious proposal, co-authored by Mayor Rudolph Giuliani and Council Speaker Peter Vallone, would establish a seven-member panel with "broad and sweeping powers" to coordinate city government resources to accelerate the difficult and emotional rebuilding process, city officials said.

Robles said that he was confident his colleagues would "overwhelmingly vote for the recovery plan" after reviewing the proposal and satisfying policy-related questions that might arise.

"This is an emotional time for people and we all want to do something," Robles said. "We are united."

But several other elected officials, privately, have accused Vallone, who is seeking the Democratic mayoral nomination, of trying to use the proposal to generate publicity for himself days before Tuesday's primary. Vallone has denied the allegation.

"It is essential that this be a cooperative effort between the mayor and council to form a commission that will most effectively deal with the crisis in our city," said Vallone, who is running against Bronx Borough President Fernando Ferrer, Public Advocate Mark Green and city Comptroller Alan Hevesi.

Eric Lane, a Hofstra law professor and former ex-

ecutive director and counsel to the 1989 Charter Revision Commission, has said that there's nothing illegal about city officials setting up the commission.

Council members said they have not yet seen details of the proposal, which was undergoing revisions. Deputy Majority Leader Archie Spigner (D-St. Albans) said he would like the council to be able to vote on the commission's appointees, which would be made by the mayor.

The city proposal comes as state and federal officials have promised to deliver potentially billions in aid to help New York recover from the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks that toppled the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center.

The federal government will pay for cleanup costs for the collapsed buildings and state lawmakers have proposed various bills to help victims, including free college tuition in the state and city university systems.

*Newsday*  
9.20.01

JOYCE PURNICK

Metro Matters

## Like Life, The Vote Goes On

NEW YORK has never seen anything like this. The city has held elections during wars, in the aftermath of riots, even had elections delayed at the 11th hour by a court.

And now, on the eve of an election postponed by a terrorist attack, comes word that Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani might want to find a way for people to keep him in office longer than the two consecutive terms he is allowed by law.

If indeed, he is going to go ahead and further complicate the election, the mayor would be exacerbating an already confused and nerve-wracked population. Before aides to Mr. Giuliani revealed the possibility last night, even many voters who wanted the mayor to stay in city government had accepted the law and understood that if he did stay, it would have to be in some other role. Now what?

Unaware of any plans to alter the election rules yet again, voters interviewed at the Riverdale Diner in the Bronx yesterday were expressing regret, but acceptance of what then looked like reality.

They were familiar with the candidates and while most said they wished that Mr. Giuliani could stay in office, they understood that he could not. ("It's against the law," explained Susan Shlinger, who was having brunch with Harry Shlinger, her son, who was visiting from Freehold, N.J.)

The diner, only technically in leafy Riverdale, is a few yards from the elevated No. 1 and No. 9 line and a Getty gasoline station, and not far north of the Marble Hill public houses. The station house of the 50th Precinct, which lost two men in the disaster, is at one end of the flag-rich street, a Genovese drug store at the other. Business at the diner, where you can get coffee, juice and a mini-muffin for \$2.17, was a little slower yesterday than usual, but plenty of people stopped by for brunch and agreed to talk about the mayoral contest.

What they said was, in one way, heartening. If the people eating brunch at the diner are any indication, New Yorkers know all about tomorrow's postponed election, know the candidates and the issues. Several even said that they thought that writing in Mr. Giuliani's name — Gov. George E. Pataki's mischievous suggestion — would waste their votes because term limits would prevent the mayor from serving even if he should win a write-in effort. Or so it seemed.

Who will actually vote is another question. That's the disheartening part. The public clearly finds the primaries — hardly magnetic before Sept. 11 — even less compelling now. Many in the diner echoed the sentiments of Dorcas Gonzalez, who works in her father's car rental business.

"I don't know if I feel up to caring," said Ms. Gonzalez, 29. Her mother, Dorcas Khaliq, a public school teacher, said she would vote, but wondered about the turnout. "I think it's going to be hard for people to make a choice," she said. Her husband, Khalil Khaliq, agreed. "I'm for extending Giuliani's term," he said. "They can't, I know, but we cannot afford an interruption of the administration right now." The next mayor should find a role for Mr. Giuliani, put him in charge of the rebuilding process. "If they can't keep him," he said, "they could give him something positive to do for the city."

JANE SCHWARTZ, who came to the Bronx from West End Avenue to have brunch with her mother, Lillian Rothner, thought otherwise. "I like Giuliani very much, but it is time for a change; I don't like forever, you know?" said Ms. Schwartz, who works in staff development at the Board of Education.

Who is voting for whom? Some said they have changed their minds since Sept. 11, some have not and all cited reasons. They had clearly thought it through.

For instance, Maribel Rivera, who works in personnel in the city's Human Resources Administration. She has had no change of heart and wonders why anybody has. "There's no reason to change our minds," said Ms. Rivera, a supporter of Fernando Ferrer. "The candidates haven't changed. They still believe as they did before."

But Ms. Schwartz said she was originally going to vote for Alan G. Hevesi and will instead vote for Mark Green: "I don't think Hevesi can win." And Mrs. Shlinger, from Riverdale, said she would change her vote to Peter F. Vallone from Mr. Hevesi because she has often seen Mr. Vallone with the mayor lately. Ms. Khaliq said she is sticking with Mr. Ferrer because he wants to raise teachers' salaries. "And I'll be honest, I'm following my roots," she said.

Most seemed ready to move on, however reluctantly, to hold an election despite the crisis, just as the country elected presidents during the Civil War and World War II. Because that's how the system works and why let the terrorists disrupt the democratic process?

New Yorkers, as usual, get it. Even in a crisis, they get it. Though heartsick about the Sept. 11 attacks and frustrated that their mayor cannot run now for re-election, it seemed likely that at least some of them would resolve to exercise a privilege unknown in countries that nurture terrorists, and vote to nominate candidates to succeed the man who has led the city valiantly in a tragic time.

However unhappy about the prospect, most were ready.

But that was yesterday.

NU Times 9.24.01

# Ban on Lone Drivers at Some New York Gates

By RANDY KENNEDY

Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani said yesterday that the police would bar cars carrying only one person from crossing into Midtown and Lower Manhattan on weekday mornings, starting tomorrow, a response to crushing traffic jams that have spread for miles as a result of security checkpoints.

The decision — which city transportation officials had been urging the mayor to make for the last week — was an indication of just how bad traffic across the metropolitan region has become since the attack on the World Trade Center, causing cars and trucks from gridlocked highways to spill back onto local roads as far away as Nassau County and many miles into New Jersey, long after regular rush-hour jams usually abate.

The traffic jams have been caused, in part, by bridge and tunnel closings and the cordoning off of Lower Manhattan. But the heightened security at nearly every crossing into the city is the main factor causing the gridlock. And yesterday — as Attorney General John Ashcroft warned in Washington that there was a “clear and present danger” of additional terrorist attacks that could include trucks carrying hazardous chemicals — the checks were made much stricter.

Asked yesterday if the security checkpoints around the city were the result of a specific or credible threat, Mr. Giuliani said no, but added that “we’re more sensitive to threats that are received that — maybe six months ago or, not even six months ago, three weeks ago — you would have said: ‘There’s another nut that’s calling.’”

The result of the heightened security, all day, everywhere around the city, was a system almost at the breaking point, even delaying the Yankees game by half an hour last

night because fans could not get to Yankee Stadium.

“Traffic today was frankly the worst that many at Transportation had seen in recent memory,” said Tom Cocola, a spokesman for the city’s Department of Transportation. “It was hell. All the arteries were clogged because of the checkpoints, and the rain didn’t help either. It was bad.”

City officials said the ban would apply to cars entering Manhattan south of 62nd Street between 6 a.m. and noon weekdays on all the East River bridges that the city controls. The city also expects the cooperation of the Port Authority of New York

and New Jersey, which operates the Lincoln Tunnel, and the Triborough Bridge and Tunnel Authority, which operates the Queens-Midtown Tunnel, in placing the same restrictions at those crossings.

The bridge and tunnel agency, a part of the Metropolitan Transportation Authority, which also runs the subways and buses, was said yesterday to favor the idea. That is in part because the subways have been carrying only about 80 to 85 percent of their regular ridership since the Sept. 11 attacks, a decline that should be addressed, Mr. Giuliani said yesterday.

City officials said that on an average weekday, roughly two-thirds of the vehicles in Manhattan south of 96th Street are single-occupancy vehicles.

They said the ban would not apply to cars with Taxi and Limousine Commission license plates, meaning medallion and livery cabs and limousines based in New York City. It would also not apply to any vehicles with commercial license plates, even to vans or cars with such plates whose drivers are conducting business or carrying goods into the city. And people who live in Manhattan could take their cars on the streets without passengers, officials said, but if they left the island and tried to return, they could be prevented from doing so during the restricted hours.

“If you’re a delivery guy, clearly we want you to get into the city without as much of a problem,” a senior city official said.

But the remedy announced by the mayor raised a long list of logistical questions that city officials were unable to answer yesterday. How and where would single-occupancy vehicles be stopped? Would they be turned around, on already gridlocked highways, or just ticketed?

“Those are things we are trying to work out right now,” a city official said.

Officials said the ban would be the first time in more than 20 years that such restrictions had been placed on cars entering Manhattan. During a subway strike in 1980, when added vehicular traffic created scenes of gridlock similar to those now, single-occupant cars were temporarily barred from entering south of 96th Street during the morning rush hour.

Since the World Trade Center attack, the police have set up checkpoints at most of the crossings into the city and are stopping many vehicles to make sure they are not carrying explosives or other dangerous cargo.

Inspections were being made mostly of buses and trucks, not cars, because security experts believe that a car could not carry enough explosives to cripple a bridge or tunnel, according to one police official.

Yesterday, those checkpoints appeared to become much stricter and drivers reported that even private minivans carrying families and children were being pulled over and examined near bridges and tunnels. The checks, coupled with a handful of accidents and other delays caused by construction, caused traffic to back up for miles into Queens and Brooklyn from as early as 5:30 a.m. until after noon.

One man described how a normal half-hour commute from the Queens-Nassau County border to the Midtown Tunnel had turned into a two-hour crawl yesterday.

A city official warned drivers not to expect much better: “It’s not going to go back to the way it was in the foreseeable future.”

NYTimes  
9.26.01

## PRIMARY CONCERNS

# Traffic worst yet, says DOT

By PETE DONOHUE  
DAILY NEWS STAFF WRITER

Not enough people abandoned their cars in favor of mass transit yesterday, trapping hundreds of thousands of commuters in the longest traffic tieups since the World Trade Center disaster.

"Yesterday morning's rush hour was the worst trafficwise since the catastrophe," said city Transportation Department spokesman Tom Cocola. "A lot of streets were jammed."

Robert Costa, a pharmacy manager from Bensonhurst, Brooklyn, said traffic was so bad on the Gowanus Expressway that he took side streets to the Brooklyn Bridge — and a trip that normally takes 15 minutes took two hours.

"It's the worst, but I won't take the train," Costa said. "I'm afraid to. I'm afraid of gas bombs. You

never know what could happen."

Subway ridership was "lighter than normal," Mayor Giuliani acknowledged. "The railroads are normal. Since the subways are lighter and vehicular traffic is pretty crowded, I really do urge people to consider for the next couple of days, or the next week or so, to alternate their routine and take public transportation. You will find it a lot easier."

Some heeded the call to take mass transit.

Car salesman Julio Alicea, 34, of the Bronx, drove last week but

took the D train yesterday.

"Traffic is crazy," he said. "It was horrendous. I don't expect to start driving again until mid-October. Hopefully, by then, everything will be okay."

Delays at the George Washington Bridge hit one hour, half an hour longer than normal, according to the broadcast service Shadow Traffic.

### 45-minute wait

Drivers at the Lincoln Tunnel were waiting 45 minutes to an hour, down from two- to three-hour delays last week.

While commuting times into Manhattan on the East River crossings were the normal 15 to 20 minutes, Shadow Traffic said, the area between the Williamsburg and Brooklyn bridges were nightmarishly jammed. Police checkpoints and street rerout-

ings added to the backups.

Air conditioning repairman Bill Burns came over the Williamsburg Bridge and wanted to head south to John St., but was directed north on the Bowery to Delancey St. It took him two hours to snake back downtown.

At Catherine St., he griped: "By the time I get to John St., it will be about lunchtime."

Southbound drivers also were using their brakes as much as their gas pedals in midtown.

"It was very bad on Seventh Ave.," said Vincent Loveless, 31, who delivers and installs pool tables. "I was going nowhere. I was sitting at a light and not moving for 10 to 15 minutes. There are definitely more people on the road."

Tim Clark counts on spending 45 minutes to get to the Garment District from Little Ferry, N.J.

Yesterday, stuck in traffic on 11th Ave. at 42nd St. as his commute neared two hours, he had one word to describe his experience: "miserable."

Southbound cars continued to be rerouted off the West Side Highway at 34th St., keeping the final few miles free for emergency vehicles and minimizing traffic in lower Manhattan. As a result, cars and trucks backed up 40 blocks before the exit.

"Terrible," said cabbie Maximo Larac. "It's really bad. People are getting out and walking. You can't move."

Ted Ballaster, 37, slogging through traffic to deliver electrical supplies to midtown, said gridlock is costing him money. "It's impossible to get anywhere," he said. "You wait two hours to get in, and then you can't even move."

*Daily News*  
9/25/01

# City urges use of transit

## *Today's traffic may be worst yet*

By JOSE MARTINEZ  
DAILY NEWS STAFF WRITER

With many more people expected to return to work today, city officials have issued a special plea for commuters to use mass transit.

"Mass transit, mass transit, mass transit — that's the message," said Tom Cocola, a city Department of Transportation spokesman.

As the city gradually fights its way back toward full operation, Cocola warned that today could be "our toughest, roughest day" for traffic in the aftermath of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

"We hope those coming back had time to think about what sort of alternatives they might have," Cocola said.

Traffic was lighter than normal last week because of the Jewish holiday and because some people may have been reluctant to return to work in the aftermath of the assault on the twin towers.

Still, security checkpoints and road closings slowed drivers entering Manhattan through most East River and Hudson River crossings. Delays at the Lincoln Tunnel reached up to three hours.

As of today, though, city and transit officials expect most people to be back at work — and back on the roads.

In addition to encouraging public transit, officials planned to reopen some roadways into and out of Manhattan, where vehicular access remains limited south of Canal St.

Two Brooklyn-bound lanes of the Brooklyn Bridge were slated to reopen to cars this morning from the southbound-FDR Drive.

The Holland Tunnel may reopen to New Jersey-bound traffic by this afternoon.

To ease congestion on Manhattan's West Side, 11th Ave. will continue to be two-way between 34th and 42nd Sts.

Alternate-side parking rules remain suspended.

Straphangers have extra commuting options, too.

Service on the C line, which had been suspended, is set to resume today along its standard route, from 168th St. in Manhattan to Euclid Ave. in Brooklyn.

The trains will skip the Chambers St. station.

On the E line, trains no longer will be steered into Brooklyn, as they had been since the disaster. The line will make its final southbound stop at Canal St.

But Transit Authority officials hope straphangers remain patient with the altered routes, which are meant to deposit commuters within "a couple of

blocks" of their destination, said spokesman Al O'Leary.

"New Yorkers are resilient," O'Leary said. "They will deal with change when they understand it's not the fault of incompetence or ineptitude."

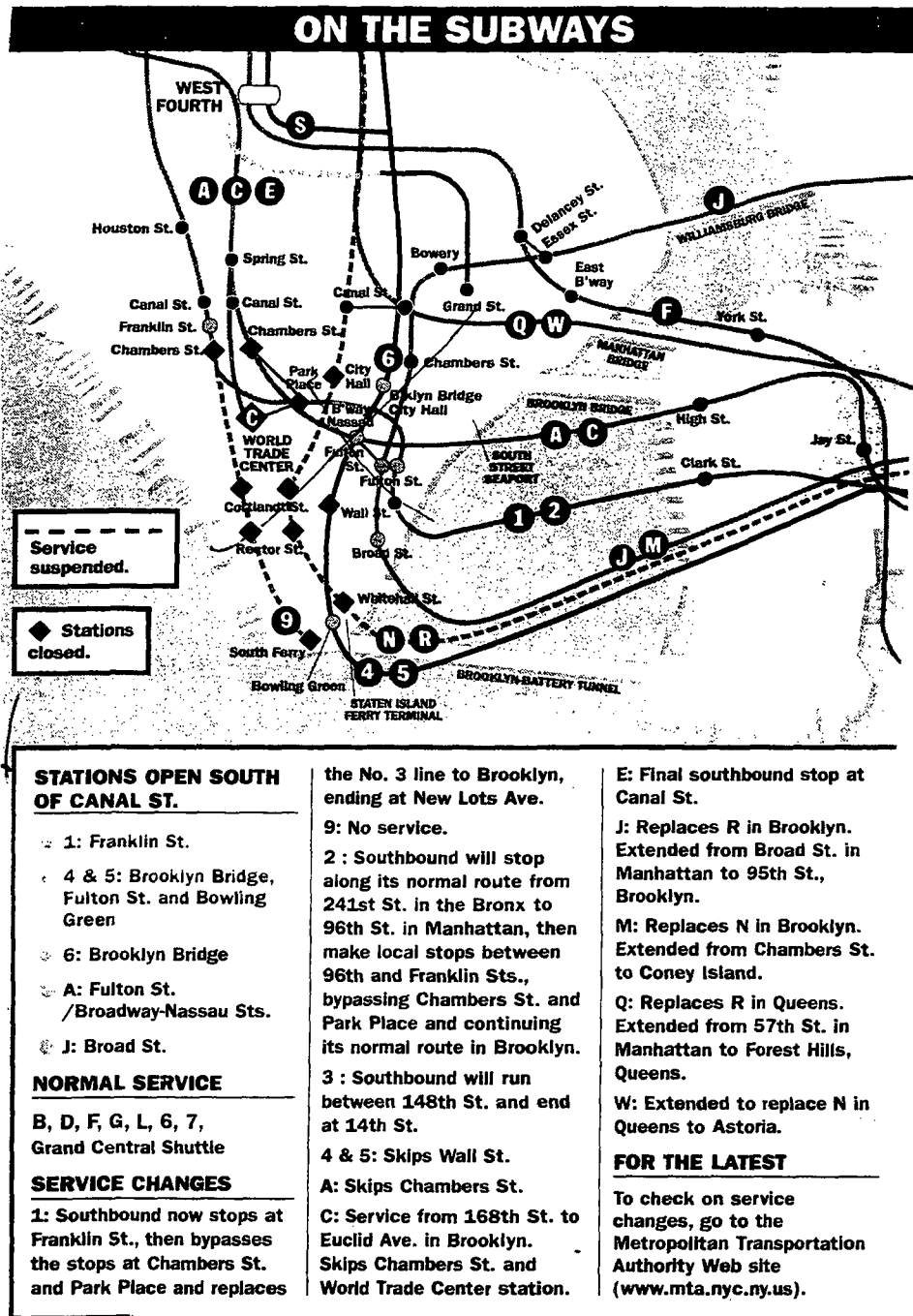
NJTransit commuters can use a bus-ferry service that will take them from Liberty State Park in Jersey City to Pier 16, near Fulton St. in lower Manhattan.

NJTransit's No. 120 buses from Bayonne and No. 134 buses from Old Bridge also will make stops at the park, along with Academy and Coach/USA Suburban buses.

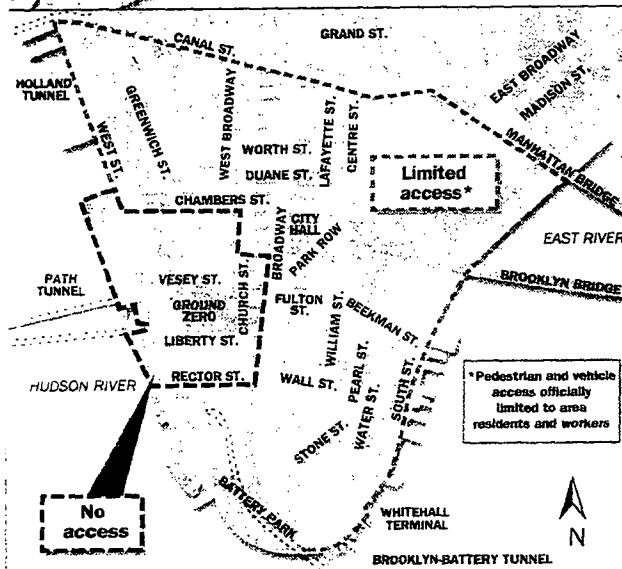
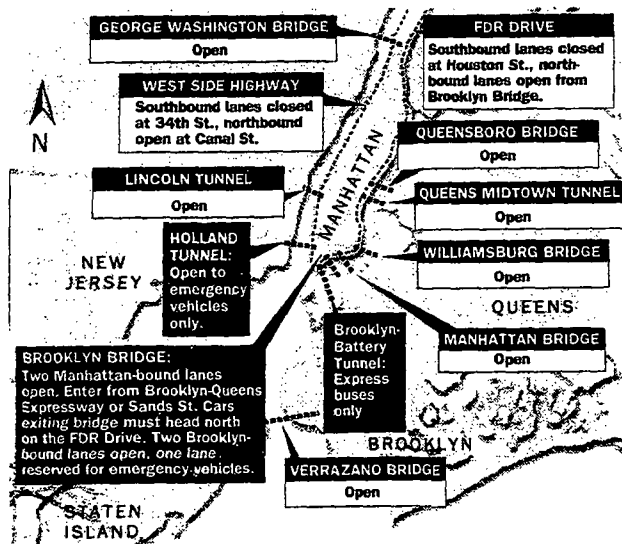
There is no parking available at Liberty State Park's ferry pick-up point.

NJTransit also will begin providing an extra Midtown Direct train at 8:13 a.m. from Summit N.J., to Penn Station.

*Daily News 9/24/01  
T. 1083*



City... P.2043



## GETTING AROUND

### FERRY SERVICE

#### ■ Staten Island ferry

Service to Whitehall Terminal every 20 minutes from 6 a.m. to 9 a.m. and from 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Other times, every 30 minutes.

#### ■ Special Brooklyn service

From the Brooklyn Army Terminal in Sunset Park, Pier 4 at 58th St. and First Ave., to Whitehall Terminal in Manhattan. Boats run every half-hour from 6 a.m. to 9 a.m., and at 10 a.m. In the evening, ferries return from 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. every half-hour; 500 parking spots available. Free shuttle is available from Bay Ridge and Sunset Park from 5 a.m. to 8 a.m. and from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

#### ■ Private ferries

Service from Liberty State Park in N.J. to Pier 16, near Wall St. and the South Street Seaport. Service also running to Pier 78 at W. 38th St.

### LOCAL BUSES

Service suspended south of Canal St. except for the M103 to Chatham Square and the M15 to South Ferry.

### EXPRESS BUSES

Most running from Brooklyn, Queens and Staten Island, except the X25 and X90/92. All end downtown at Water and Pearl Sts.

### TRAINS

- **Metro-North:** Normal service.
- **LIRR:** Normal service.
- **NJTransit:** Normal service.
- **PATH:** Normal service, except WTC line suspended.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

City Transportation Department:  
(718) CALL-DOT or check online at [www.nyc.gov](http://www.nyc.gov)

SOURCES: Metropolitan Transportation Authority, city DOT, Daily News interviews.

City...  
P.30f3



**NEWARK: MOSQUITO COPTERS GROUNDED A**

government ban on low-flying aircraft around major airports has grounded helicopters in the Newark area used to spray breeding grounds for mosquitoes that may carry the West Nile virus, Peter Pluchino, Jr., the mosquito control director of Bergen County, said yesterday. Mr. Pluchino said he did not expect the ban to put New Jersey residents in danger because the mosquito-breeding season is nearly at an end. Unlike the two-day nationwide ban expected to be lifted today on all crop-dusting aircraft, the ban against low-flying aircraft near major airports will remain in effect indefinitely, a spokesman for the Federal Aviation Administration said.

*Hope Reeves (NYT)*

NYTimes  
9.25.01

# Island trash plan hits another bump in the road

Transfer station plan rejected amid allegations of impropriety; N.J. may conduct ethics inquiry

## ADVANCE STAFF REPORT

New York City's long-term plan to ship residential trash out of state has hit another bump in the road.

The city currently uses trucks to move almost all of its residential garbage to landfills in other states. This operation is considered a temporary solution to the closing of the Fresh Kills landfill,

and the city's future aim was to ship more than half its garbage by barge to a trash transfer station, where it would be moved on rail cars to out-of-state disposal sites.

But an investigation by New Jersey officials into the construction of the trash transfer station, planned for Linden, N.J., has concluded that the mayor of

Linden, John T. Gregorio, improperly brokered the deal to build the station, according to a report published in the New York Times.

Following issuance of the report, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection refused to approve the project, and has sent it back to the Union County Board of Freeholders.

The office of the New Jersey attorney general released the results of its investigation yesterday, concluding that Gregorio had helped negotiate a profitable contract for his son-in-law, Domenick Pucillo, who is a part-owner of the property on which the Linden trash transfer station would be built.

In addition, the attorney gener-

al's office has asked the state to conduct a formal ethics inquiry, saying "the report raises serious questions regarding the involvement of Linden Mayor John Gregorio in the project."

Pucillo and the other owners would receive about \$1.2 million a month for the tons of trash that pass through the site, but would pay the city of Linden a much

smaller host fee.

"The mayor participated in matters where his son-in-law had a financial interest," the report said.

Gregorio claims he was not involved in brokering the contract and says he will be cleared.

"I had nothing to do with the negotiations," he said. "And delaying this project is completely uncalled for."

SI Advance  
9.19.01

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**NEW JERSEY**

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**CAMDEN: ENVIRONMENTAL SUIT TO BE HEARD**

A federal appeals panel is scheduled to hear oral arguments today in a case that combines civil rights law and the environment. The residents of a low-income Camden neighborhood say a cement-additive plant should be shut down because it adds to the already high level of pollution there. The opening of the \$50 million plant, built by St. Lawrence Cement Company, was delayed by a federal lawsuit by a group known as South Camden Citizens in Action. An April court order blocked the plant opening but was overturned by an appellate panel in June. Plant proponents argue that blocking the plant will discourage other businesses from moving to Camden.

*Steve Strunsky (NYT)*

NYTimes  
9.25.01

# U.S. Says Memphis Company Falsely Labeled Its Pesticides

By ANDREW C. REVKIN

In what it is calling its biggest enforcement action ever in a pesticide case, the Environmental Protection Agency has accused a company based in Memphis of illegally marketing millions of pounds of insecticides containing falsely labeled imported ingredients.

The agency said in a civil complaint served on Sept. 12 that from 1996 to 1999, the Micro Flo Company, a pesticide manufacturer that is owned by BASF, imported thousands of drums of insecticide ingredients with false paperwork indicating that the drums came from a manufacturer in India approved by the agency. In fact, the agency said, the chemicals came from unapproved manufacturers in several countries.

The agency is seeking \$3.7 million in penalties for violations of federal pesticide laws. The company can seek a settlement or argue its case before an administrative law judge.

There was no evidence that anyone was harmed by any of the products made with the imported chemicals, said Marlene J. Tucker, a lawyer in the E.P.A.'s Atlanta regional office. But, Ms. Tucker added, "the whole point of the statute is not that the harm occurred but that the risk of harm is there."

Ms. Tucker said that illegal importation and false labeling of pesticide ingredients was not uncommon but was often difficult to prove. In this case, she said, the agency visited a Micro Flo factory in Georgia where the chemicals were used and found abundant evidence to support its case.

Micro Flo and BASF, one of the world's largest chemical companies, both denied intentional wrongdoing and said the agency's action was inappropriate and a result of ambiguities in the law.

"Micro Flo does not agree with the analysis that E.P.A. has come up with," William Pagano, a spokesman for the agriculture division of BASF, said in an interview yesterday.

Mr. Pagano said Micro Flo executives planned to meet with federal officials "to sort through all of that."

The company has 30 days from the time the complaint was filed to seek

a settlement.

The compounds in question were permethrin — a common ingredient in products for killing termites, mosquitoes, cockroaches and other pests — and acephate, which kills weevils and other garden pests.

Under federal environmental laws, American pesticide manufacturers or sellers must seek registration from the agency for products made or sold here and for imported ingredients. This is to ensure that there are no harmful impurities and that the products contain the appropriate, tested ingredients, agency

## A question of the origins of ingredients that kill termites and weevils and such.

lawyers said.

In their complaint, agency officials described how thousands of drums of ingredients had been imported with labels saying they were from United Phosphorus, an approved pesticide manufacturer in Bombay, when the materials actually came from many factories elsewhere.

United Phosphorus has sued Micro Flo and BASF, seeking \$57 million in damages.

"Legitimate pesticides registered with E.P.A. must undergo extensive testing and evaluation to prove that they can be safely used," said James C. Wright, a lawyer for United Phosphorus. "Micro Flo, however, bypassed this process in blatant disregard for the health of American families and children."

In a statement issued last week, Micro Flo's president, Bryan Wilson, said, "Micro Flo has already put into place procedures intended to prevent recurrence of the conduct that E.P.A. claims to be a violation."

Job hunting? Check today's Times.

NUT  
9/21/01

# FERRER AND GREEN HEAD FOR RUNOFF IN MAYORAL RACE

## Bloomberg Wins Republican Vote in Primary Delayed 2 Weeks

By ADAM NAGOURNEY

Struggling to choose a new mayor precisely two weeks after a terrorist jet attack devastated the World Trade Center, New York City Democrats yesterday apparently extended the primary contest an additional 16 days by sending two candidates, Mark Green and Fernando Ferrer, into a runoff for their party's nomination, according to a survey of voters leaving the polls.

There was no ambiguity on the Republican side: Michael R. Bloomberg, the billionaire communications entrepreneur, trounced his opponent, Herman Badillo, to become the Republican mayoral candidate in the general election on Nov. 6.

The outcome on the Democratic side — with turnout as depressed as the spirits of many New Yorkers, on a gray day in which the smell of fire still hung in the downtown air — appears to mean that a contest that had stopped midvote on Sept. 11 would continue through a runoff on Oct. 11. None of the Democrats appeared to win more than 40 percent, which would have eliminated the requirement for the second round of elections.

As it was, the four Democrats had been awkwardly grappling with how to campaign, or whether to campaign at all, in a city that had been traumatized by the terrorist attack, which occurred less than three hours after the polls opened on the first primary day. They had been grappling with the increasing popularity of Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani as he has guided New York through this crisis, and with suggestions by Mr. Giuliani that he was looking for a way to circumvent the term limits law that had prevented him from running for a third term.

In a survey of voters leaving the polls yesterday, two-thirds of the Democrats declared that they approved of the way the Republican mayor was handling his job. And roughly 40 percent of the Democrats said that if a way were found to put Mr. Giuliani's name on the ballot in November — and Mr. Giuliani's aides are looking for one — they

would vote for him over any of the Democrats who have spent the better part of the past four years preparing for this vote.

In apparently winning a spot in the runoff, Mr. Ferrer mobilized a growing Hispanic population in New York as he succeeded at assembling a coalition of black and Latino voters behind his attempt to become New York's first Puerto Rican mayor. More than half the black voters and almost three-quarters of Latino voters chose Mr. Ferrer, the survey found. Blacks and Hispanics made up nearly half the primary electorate, the survey said.

Mr. Ferrer, who has been the Bronx borough president for 14 years, faces another longtime fixture in New York government, Mr. Green, who is finishing his second term as the public advocate.

They defeated Alan G. Hevesi, the city comptroller, and Peter F. Vallone, the City Council speaker, according to the survey.

Mr. Ferrer, smiling broadly, sang along with Frank Sinatra to a recording of "New York, New York," as a crowd of supporters waved small American flags in front of him, and, before declaring victory, asked his supporters to join him in a moment of silence for the victims of the attack.

Mr. Ferrer, who had run a campaign talking often about his advocacy for "the other New York," spoke last night of bringing New York together, going so far as to praise Mr. Giuliani, who has been one of his favorite targets. "My friends, you can be sure of one thing: Together we are going to rebuild New York," he said.

"The people of our city said something more with their votes today," Mr. Ferrer said. "They said that even as we recover from this tragedy, we must not forget that there are other pressing problems facing New Yorkers. Problems we must not ignore. The towers have crumbled. But our commitments have not. They remain strong."

Mr. Green took the lectern last night as Mr. Ferrer was talking, in a departure from usual political protocol, in the midst of the 11 p.m. news.

And he took clear aim at Mr. Ferrer's campaign theme about the "other New York," saying that the central theme of his campaign would be unity.

"That will be the basis of my campaign: We are one New York and one city," he declared.

"Our campaigns must be utterly focused on the future," he said. "We have to, and I am confident we will, avoid the kind of petty personal attacks that divert the public. The public demands and has the right for us to have a conversation about how we will rebuild New York."

Mr. Hevesi, in conceding last night, said that he had lost the race, at least in part, because "I made some mistakes, they came back to bite me, in this campaign, and we never recovered from it." He added, "I know we are really good in government; we weren't as good in politics."

Mr. Vallone, though, declined to concede last night, noting that there were still votes left to be counted.

"New York is a city of five boroughs, not one," he said. "And the returns from the other four boroughs are not in yet, so this is not a concession speech." Noting what happened in Florida last year, he said with a grin, "Maybe you shouldn't call an election before the votes are in."

In a Green-Ferrer runoff, Mr. Green would appear to be in a strong position, though it remained to be seen if Mr. Ferrer's performance might result in what his aides have long predicted: galvanizing an unusually strong turnout among Hispanic and black voters. The survey

of voters found that, given that choice, Mr. Green was favored by about half of all the Democrats who showed up yesterday, compared with 40 percent who supported Mr. Ferrer. The survey showed that Mr.

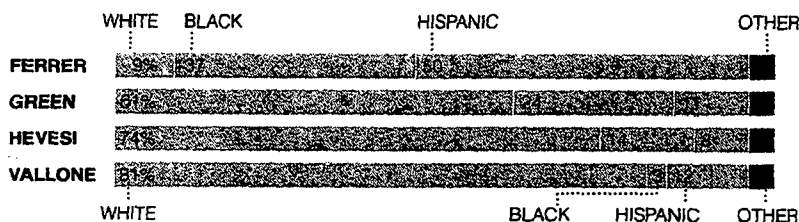
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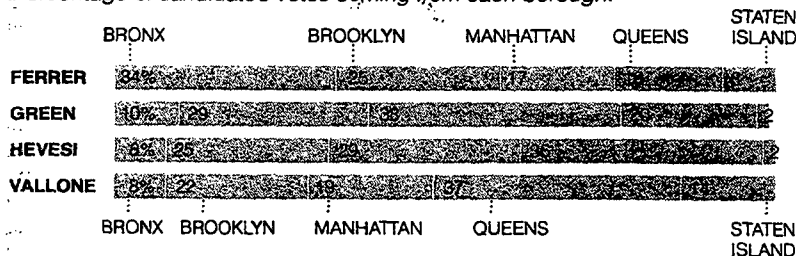
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**VOTERS' SURVEY****Mayor's Race****RACIAL/ETHNIC COMPARISONS**

Percentage of candidate's votes coming from each category.

**REGIONAL COMPARISONS**

Percentage of candidate's votes coming from each borough.



Based on questionnaires filled out by 1,097 voters in New York City as they exited the Democratic Primary on Tuesday.

Source: Edison Media Research

Green is best positioned to pick up most of the votes that went to Mr. Hevesi and Mr. Vallone. Nearly 60 percent of Mr. Hevesi's supporters, and about 50 percent of Mr. Vallone's supporters, said they would support Mr. Green over Mr. Ferrer.

On the Republican side, Mr. Bloomberg, standing in front of an American flag, declared that the pause in campaigning that took place because of the attack on the World Trade Center was about to come to an end. And he argued that he was best suited, given his experience in business, to rebuild New York.

"My experience has prepared me for these rough and difficult days ahead," Mr. Bloomberg said. Mr. Badillo conceded about 11:30 last night.

In another sign of Mr. Giuliani's popularity, in the Republican primary there were indications that many voters had decided to write in a candidate. Those votes will not be tallied immediately, but it is most likely that the name most written in was Mr. Giuliani's.

The unofficial early results were slow in being reported last night, in part because the terrorist attack had damaged the computer system used by the Police Department to report

the results. The Board of Elections said the official results for all races might not be completed before Sunday.

The primary came on an intermittently rainy day in New York. Voters trickled to the polls along streets draped with American flags, and past memorials of candles and posters, some of which were streaked blurry by the rain.

The campaign headquarters last night — usually a place of loud bands, balloons, banners, bustling bars, cheering and blaring television sets, at least on the winners' side — were relatively sedate, reflecting these strange times. Mr. Bloomberg did not even rent a ballroom. Instead, he delivered a victory speech from his campaign headquarters on East 56th street. Rather than a platform filled with television cameras, there was only one, providing a feed to all interested television stations.

This was, in the context of New York's history, an unusually significant election even before the attack on Sept. 11. New Yorkers are electing virtually an entirely new city government — mayor, public advocate, city comptroller and most of the City

Council — because the city's term limits law has forced an exodus of incumbents. And the election signaled, or so it seemed, the end of Mr. Giuliani's era in New York.

A Democratic runoff would take place over the next 16 days; the vote is on Oct. 11, a Thursday. Each of the Democrats would be allowed to spend an additional \$2.6 million on his runoff campaign.

In normal times, the fact that the Democratic primary has apparently come down to two candidates competing for a nomination that has historically been tantamount to winning the mayoralty itself would presage a fierce two weeks of campaigning. Democrats outnumber Republicans in New York by six to one, and Mr. Green last night described the eventual Democratic nominee as "the presumptive next mayor," a characterization that Mr. Bloomberg would probably dispute.

But both Mr. Green and Mr. Ferrer have proven to be mild candidates already this year. And there will be resistance to the two of them changing their tone, assuming there is a runoff. Aides to both said it would be unseemly, during such bleak times, to engage in politics as usual.

more 20/11

Setting the table for a likely runoff, Mr. Green had already begun addressing how he would govern the city during this crisis, outlining ways to rebuild Lower Manhattan and improve security. It is a theme that he

said he would stick to in the days ahead.

"Democrats and all voters should select the person who has the best

leadership skills to unite and rebuild New York," Mr. Green said last night before the polls closed, sitting on a yellow couch in his suite on the 44th floor of the Sheraton Hotel, next to his wife, Deni, and his children, Jonah and Jenya. "That's urgent, and we have done so much to talk to

the voters of New York that I am serene and confident."

Mr. Ferrer had not provided specific proposals for how he would govern the city under these newly changed circumstances. But he has repeatedly emphasized that he would not abandon the central appeal of his campaign — to represent the interests of New Yorkers who, he said, did

not benefit from the good economic times under Mr. Giuliani. An aide said Mr. Ferrer's advisers were now considering how they would conduct the campaign from here.

Mr. Green has a financial advantage in a runoff: he has already raised enough money to spend the maximum allowable in a runoff under the city's campaign finance law. By contrast, Mr. Ferrer would need, in the days ahead, to spend time raising money to be financially competitive with Mr. Green.

Ferrer.. .

P.30fd

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2001

*The New York Times*

# Giuliani May Try to Keep Job After Term Ends in December

**By JENNIFER STEINHAUER**

Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani, reconsidering his position that the mayoral election should go on without him, believes that New Yorkers should be able to decide who leads the city out of these troubled times, even if it includes an extension of his term, people close to the mayor said last night.

While Mr. Giuliani is barred from serving another consecutive term under the city's term limits law, he has rebuffed questions about his view of the matter in recent days. He is expected to address the issue directly as early as today, less than 24 hours before voters are to go to the polls in the rescheduled mayoral primary.

"The mayor has said he doesn't want to talk about politics," said one City Hall official last night of Mr. Giuliani's stance in the days since the destruction of the World

Trade Center. "Tomorrow, he will talk about politics."

Since the Sept. 11 attack, many New Yorkers have called for extending the mayor's term for at least six months, if not four more full years, in spite of the law. Such an extension could require the approval of the State Legislature and the City Council, and neither group has been amenable to the idea in the past week.

In recent days, petitions have made their way around the city calling for extending the mayor's term — not that of the council members and other public servants barred from serving under the law — and at least one large corporation has taken out newspaper advertisements urging the Council and the Legislature to get on board. Letters to the editor pages of all the city's major newspapers are full of calls for the mayor to remain in office for four more years.

Furthermore, officials in the mayor's office, including Deputy Mayor Joseph J. Lhota, have made a round of calls to city and state legislators seeing if they would support some extraordinary move to adjust the law.

Gov. George E. Pataki made his own calls, to the candidates for mayor and to Sheldon Silver, the speaker of the Assembly, seeing how they would feel about postponing the primary. All of them strongly urged the governor not to do so.

But that did not stop the governor from fanning the flames: on Friday, during an announcement to the news media that the primary would indeed go on, Mr. Pataki said of Mr. Giuliani: "If I lived in New York City, I'd write him in." He did not elaborate.

A few days after the trade center attack, Mr. Giuliani said that while he was flattered by the calls from city residents for a term

extension, he believed that the elections should go on without him, if for no other reason than to show terrorists that their acts could not disrupt the basic laws of the land.

But toward the end of last week, Mr. Giuliani's language became more ambivalent, and he began saying publicly that the issue adjusting the law should be "discussed," but that it was not the right time.

Last night, two officials who work closely with the mayor said they were told that Mr. Giuliani would publicly state his support for allowing voters to seek a way to choose him in the general election. The officials would not be more specific.

Any announcement by the mayor that even suggests he will personally insert himself into a battle to interfere in the term

*Continued on Page A1*

P. 10f2

## ***Giuliani May Try To Stay on the Job After His Term Ends***

*Continued From Page A21*

limit law would not come as good news to the other men running for mayor. All of them have had to carefully pivot between echoing the resounding feeling in the city that the mayor has handled this crisis in a masterly way and building the case that they are able to pick up his mantle, all while barely campaigning.

Mr. Giuliani has impressed friends and foes alike with an uncanny balance of tough talk about perpetrators and warm compassion for their victims, and by resounding optimism for the future of the city at a time when nerves are raw and the stock market is falling.

A move to overturn term limits, which have been approved by voters twice, would require an extensive political effort that the mayor's office would have a hard time pulling off. Mr. Silver has said he does not support it, and Peter F. Vallone, the speaker of the City Council and a candidate for mayor, also believes the term limit law should not be challenged. Mr. Giuliani was a strong supporter of the law when it was first floated in the early 90's.

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# PRAYERS AND PROMISES

# Giuliani now wants a shot at third term

## Pros & cons stir debate across city

By **BILL EGBERT**  
and **MAKI BECKER**  
DAILY NEWS STAFF WRITERS

Longtime supporters and new fans of Mayor Giuliani alike said yesterday they want him to keep running the city, while others said New York's term limits law shouldn't be changed, even in a time of crisis.

"I'm a registered Democrat, and I would vote for him in a heartbeat," said Marion Bedrick, an upper West Side designer, who wore a red, white and blue ribbon on her sweater.

"Thumbs up!" cheered Rosemary Genau, a registered nurse from Staten Island.

Genau, a Republican, said she believes Giuliani is the best man to run the city at the time of its greatest crisis.

"I don't think the momentum should be interrupted," she said.

Frank Ramos, 45, believes lawmakers should bend the rules to give Giuliani a chance to run again.

"People need him and he's doing good," said the Democrat. "We should make a special exception because it's an emergency."

The reactions were a reflection of Giuliani's growing popularity for his leadership since the Sept. 11 attacks on the World Trade Center.

But some New Yorkers expressed reservations about altering election laws just to keep Giuliani onboard.

"He's done a great job in the last two weeks," said Elena Diaz, 23, a Queens student and registered Democrat.

But Giuliani seeking another four years despite term limits instituted by voters could be interpreted as "forgoing the democratic system," Diaz said.

"I don't think he should do that," said Kim Pankey, 25, of Brooklyn.

"They shouldn't change the law just for him."

Monday, September 24, 2001 • DAILY NEWS

# PRAYERS AND PROMISES

## New focus: election, gridlock

*N.Y.ers reclaim lives, face fresh challenges*

By GREG GITTRICH  
and CORKY SIEMASZKO  
DAILY NEWS STAFF WRITERS

They played at Shea and prayed at Yankee Stadium yesterday as New Yorkers tried to reclaim their lives from the wreckage of the World Trade Center.

At Ground Zero, construction workers began moving the heavy equipment in as the official missing toll rose by 120, to 6,453.

"We have met the worst of humanity with the best of humanity," Mayor Giuliani said at a Yankee Stadium memorial for the thousands dead or missing in the Sept. 11 attacks.

"Our skyline will rise again."

### No complaints at Shea

At Shea Stadium, there was clear evidence that things had forever changed. Bomb-sniffing dogs were led through the dug-outs and the stands. Fans had to empty their backpacks into clear plastic bags that were then inspected by cops and guards.

Nobody was complaining.

"People are much more sensitive now," said a member of the NYPD bomb squad. "They're more aware of the possibility of terrorism now. It's personal now. Everything they see be-

comes a potential bomb."

Although the Mets lost a 5-4, 11-inning nail-biter, fans still left the stadium with their heads held high. The Mets may not have beaten the Braves, but many fans overcame their fear.

"Win or lose, I'm just glad they're playing again," said Linda Longo, 38, of Rocky Point, L.I. "I'm just glad Shea Stadium is open."

The city was set to face more challenges this week.

Officials were predicting the worst gridlock today since the Sept. 11 attacks. Wall Streeters were headed back to work following the stock market's worst week since the Depression.

And as officials were urging New Yorkers to vote in tomorrow's mayoral primary, sources said Giuliani was set today to announce he still wants to be mayor — term limits be damned.

### Changes at Ground Zero

Meanwhile, the grim business of finding bodies in the World Trade Center wreckage continued. Yesterday it seemed like there were more construction workers than firefighters among the diggers.

"The Fire Department is less-

ening its presence," said a construction foreman who requested anonymity. "They are still in charge; we are still in rescue mode and doing everything they tell us. But there are less firefighters around here."

In their place were hundreds of construction workers who drove in heavier bulldozers and began erecting cranes capable of lifting thousands of pounds of rubble at a time.

Giuliani has insisted the operation is still a search for survivors, even if he concedes there's very little chance anyone is still alive under the wreckage.

It's been 12 days since the last survivor was found.

"It's a little slow going because there's a lot of federal agents looking carefully through the rubble," said trucker Art Ginnino, 38, of Staten Island. "People are hopeful, but ev-

eryone is working because it's the right thing to do. Even if we don't find anyone."

Another noticeable change at Ground Zero was the absence of National Guardsmen. In their place were city cops, who declined to discuss the change.

As the trucks rolled in and out of the site, Christian groups set up what they called "prayer stations" on the perimeter. They blared Christian

rock music and handed out 16-page booklets filled with Scriptures written in a half-dozen languages.

"We really believe that people need prayer now more than ever," said Tommy Nichols, 42, pastor of the Living Word Church at 200 Church St., which was evacuated after the blast.

But the workers and the on-lookers steered clear of the prayer stations. The pamphlets had few takers.

"If everyone stopped pushing

*"We have met the  
worst of humanity  
with the best of  
humanity."*

MAYOR GIULIANI

Monday, September 24, 2001 • DAILY NEWS

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their religions and beliefs on other people there probably would be a lot less violence in this world," said James Dawson, 27, a photographer from Park Slope, Brooklyn.

#### **Proud to live downtown**

While the trucks rumbled by, the denizens of Hudson Tower at 350 Albany St. in Battery Park City returned to dust-filled apartments. They had power and water, but no phone service.

"I feel like we're cut off from the rest of the world," said Tina Evans, 34.

But Evans, a Pole married to a Briton, said she wasn't leaving — as she proudly displayed the American flag she and her husband got after becoming U.S. citizens recently.

"We look out the window and the river is as beautiful as ever — you can't take that away," she said. "New York is the most wonderful city I've ever lived in."

At Liberty Court, 200 Rector Place, the devastation was too much for Connie Long, 36. A technical director for ABC, she could not bear to stay long in

her 32nd-floor apartment.

"It seems like death up there," Long said as she reclaimed her checkbook, a guitar and an amplifier. "It doesn't feel like my home anymore."

#### **Long line at ticket booth**

Uptown at Times Square, there were more tourists in the streets than in recent days. The line at the TKTS ticket booth was full of New Yorkers looking to support Broadway.

"Sales are even better than average for this time of year," said TKTS manager Mike Kane. "I was expecting business to start picking up again, but not this quickly. I'm proud of the people for coming out."

James Wesley, of Washington Heights, his mother from Texas in tow, said he was all for supporting Broadway. But the ticket line was too long and decided to help the city by spending some money at a museum instead.

"We weren't expecting the lines to be this long," he said. "I guess everyone's heeding the mayor's advice. We'll skip this and go over to the Met."

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NUT 9/18/01 P.1072

# After 120 Years, Puffins Are at Home Off Maine Coast



Dr. Stephen W. Kress, director of seabird restoration for the National Audubon Society, and Julie Kleinhans take a puffin's measurements.

Since 1973, Dr. Stephen W. Kress has done whatever it took to persuade puffins to put down roots once again on Eastern Egg Rock, an 11-acre island off the mid-Maine coast in Muscongus Bay. He stocked the island with chicks and decoy puffins to make them feel at home, and then cleared out the hungry gulls. Now he can declare victory.

For the first time since the 1880's, Eastern Egg Rock has a puffin population. The island had 37 nesting pairs this summer and 25 puffins not yet old enough to breed, said Dr. Kress, director of the seabird restoration program for the National Audubon Society.

"It's not just a restoration of a

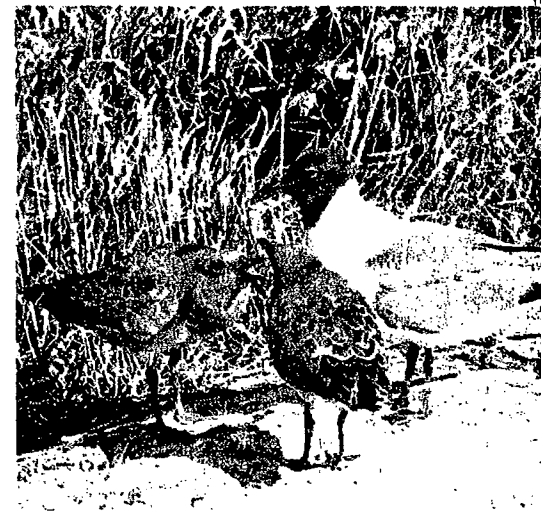
colony — it's a restoration of a whole community of seabirds," Dr. Kress said. Eastern Egg Rock now also has the largest colony of roseate terns, an endangered species, and the largest colony of laughing gulls in Maine.

The knowledge gained may be important in other areas where seabirds have lost their historic habitats, Dr. Kress said. The same strategy that has worked so well for puffins will be tried next winter on Midway Island, where Dr. Kress's team will try to restore several kinds of petrels that were killed when rats were introduced.

More information about the project is available online at [www.projectpuffin.org](http://www.projectpuffin.org).



Two decoy puffins help the real bird, at right, feel at home. Puffins like to nest where they have plenty of company.



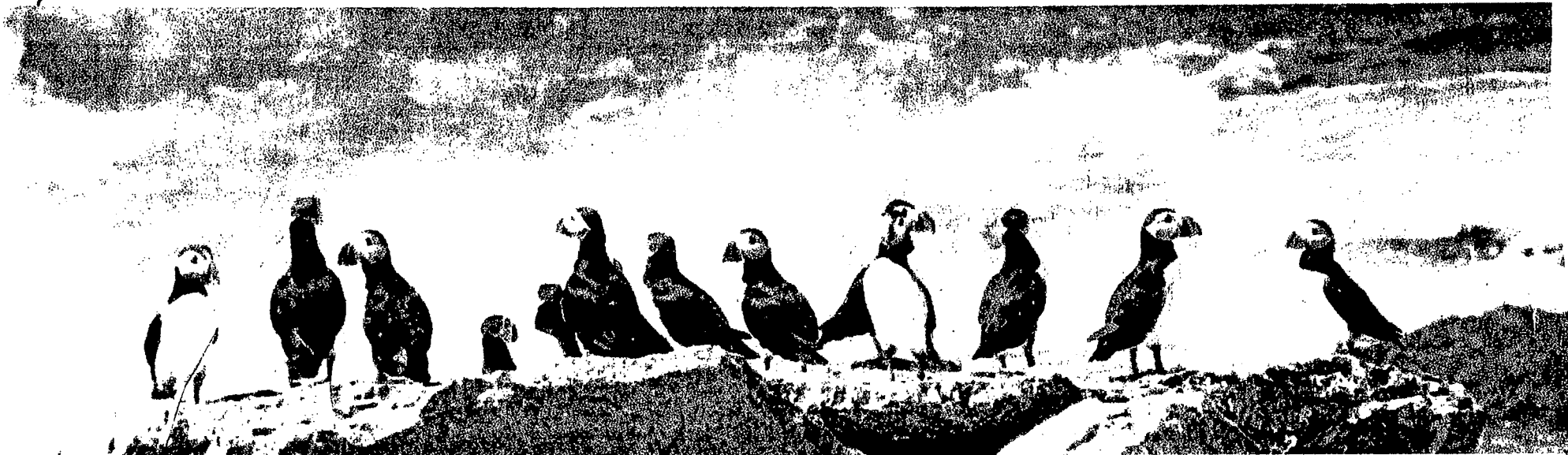
Making the area hospitable to puffins has also drawn other birds, like these laughing gulls.



Sean Devlin and Risha Sparhawk were interns with the puffin restoration project this summer.

P.20fz

THE NEW YORK TIMES, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18, 2001



Photographs by Rebecca Cooney for The New York Times

An aggressive reintroduction program has put puffins back on Eastern Egg Rock, a puffin habitat until the 1880's. The island, off the coast of Maine, had 37 nesting pairs this summer.

## CONSEQUENCES

### Balance Problems Linked to Loud Noise

Repeated exposure to loud noise can damage not only hearing, but the part of the inner ear that controls balance, according to a study of 235 Israeli soldiers.

The study found that the problem could be especially acute for people whose hearing was damaged more on one side than the other.

In the study, which was presented to a conference of the American Academy of Otolaryngology this month in Denver, researchers from Haifa screened soldiers whose duties involved exposure to loud noises.

Slightly more than half had hearing deficits in the higher pitches that were equal in both ears.

The others had deficits that extended into lower tones and were more severe on one side than on the other. The soldiers in this group reported almost twice as much vertigo or dizziness as those who symptoms were the same in both ears.

When balance tests were performed, only 5 percent of those in the symmetrical group were shown to have problems, while almost half of those with one-sided damage did.

NYTimes  
9.25.01

# French Search for Cause of Chemical Plant Explosion

## Some Suspect Terror; Others, Carelessness

By MARLISE SIMONS

TOULOUSE, France, Sept. 24 — Acrid smoke still rose today from the wreckage of one of France's largest petrochemical plants, reduced to a skeleton of giant steel girders bent like twigs in a huge explosion last Friday that wreaked environmental damage and even stirred fears among residents that they, too, were victims of terrorism.

Local and national officials from President Jacques Chirac on down have tried their best to quash such fears. Tonight, as firefighters officially abandoned the search for any survivors in the debris, Toulouse's prosecutor, Michel Bréard, insisted that "technical details" indicated that it was "99 percent certain that it was an accident."

He added that there was no evidence as to what caused the catastrophe but hinted it might have resulted from a lack of care. "The risk of an explosion was not considered important by the site's security."

Mr. Bréard, prosecutor of France's fourth largest city, has ordered a judicial inquiry into the disaster on Friday. The blast left 29 people dead, at least 10 missing, and injured more than 2,500 as it damaged buildings as far as three miles away and spewed acid clouds into the air. Close to 800 remain hospitalized, some of whom may yet die from burns or internal injuries.

Philippe Douste-Blazy, Toulouse's mayor, stood today on a street in Mirail, a shattered neighborhood where every family was shoveling broken glass and torn roof panels, and said some 20,000 homes, apartments and offices had been damaged. Three hospitals, more than 60 schools, a university campus for 25,000 students and a soccer stadium are unusable, "closed until further



Agence France-Presse

French officials are still searching for answers about the cause of an explosion at an AZF chemical fertilizer plant in Toulouse on Friday. The blast killed 29, and close to 800 people were still hospitalized yesterday.

notice," he said. He appealed for help from the army to join in the cleanup and prevent pillaging.

The mayor is among the many vocal Toulouse residents who now wonder how the petrochemical plant, classified as "high risk," came to be so close to the edge of a city of one million people.

Environmental inspectors announced today that most of the ammonia and other gases thrown into the air had dispersed but warned nearby towns and villages not to drink tap water because the plant had contaminated the nearby Garonne River. The scale of the damage — like the cause of the explosion itself — will probably take weeks if not months to determine, city officials said.

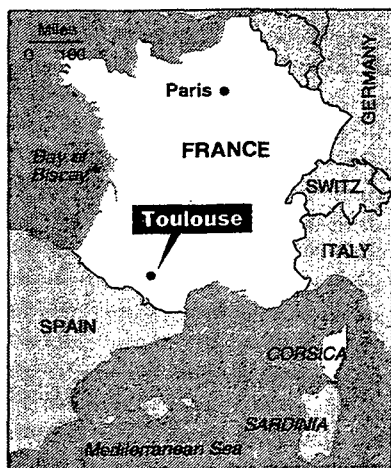
At the ruined plant on Sunday, smoke still curled above the wreckage. "We have to take a break," said David Fabries, pulling away his pair of search dogs. "My dogs and I are getting overwhelmed by the fumes."

Managers and workers at the plant, meanwhile, still talk of a terrorist act or foul play rather than a lapse in their own security as the likely cause of the blast. Like much of the rest of the world, the residents of Toulouse are jittery after the terror attacks on the United States on Sept. 11.

"There was a first noise and then a few seconds later a huge explosion," said Marcel Berson, who lives near the plant. "It blew me across the yard against the wall," he said, showing cuts on his head and his

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The New York Times

arms. "I couldn't breathe. My wife started screaming, it's a plane, it's a plane. She had been watching on TV what happened in America."

The AZF chemical works, on a 40-acre site flanking the Garonne River, is France's largest manufacturer of fertilizers, along with other products. Built in 1924, it was later modernized and bought by the oil and chemical conglomerate Total-Fina-Elf. It employs 470 workers, and when the explosion occurred shortly after 10 a.m. last Friday, the working day had just begun.

Gathered at a makeshift funeral parlor on Sunday, workers and their families bade farewell to 22 colleagues who were killed. Large men sat silent in tight circles, their faces blank.

Jean Thomas, a worker with 26 years at the plant, said he and his workmates had gone over the disaster a hundred times without coming up with an answer. "We've been around ammonium nitrate for years. Believe me, it does not just blow up. You have to set it on fire."

For investigators, the epicenter of the disaster is a 150-foot-wide crater, now filling with water, once a warehouse holding the 300-ton stock of fertilizer. When it blew up, the explosion caused earth tremors measuring a magnitude of 3.4 on the standard seismic scale.

Ammonium nitrate is the kind of

fertilizer that farmers regularly keep stocked in nylon bags. Experts here said that even a very large stock of ammonium nitrate is not a problem as long as it is kept dry and cool. If it gets humid it can heat up and ferment, leading to spontaneous combustion.

But chemists also explained that fertilizer, while commonly available as plant food, can also serve as an explosive. Miners use it mixed it with fuel, to blow things up. For the fertilizer stocks to explode in the Toulouse warehouse, experts here said, some kind of fuel and a source of sudden intense heat would probably have been needed as a detonator.

"There was no pump, no heat source in that building," said Michel Barret, one of the chiefs of maintenance. "With all the measures we take here, it cannot be an accident. To me this was a deliberate act."

Managers of AZF said the site was subject to rigid controls and inspections. The last inspection in May this year reportedly had found no abnormalities.

Philippe Dufetelle, a physician and deputy mayor of Toulouse in charge of environmental affairs, said a new site for the chemical works had been found several years ago. But the management and the workers trade

union had repeatedly argued that a move would be too expensive and might lead to the closing down of the plant. Moreover, he said, the AZF plant is interlinked with two neighboring industrial complexes and a gunpowder plant, making a move not only costly but highly unlikely.

At the regional government, officials said no new decisions about the plant would be likely until the causes of the disaster were known. In the meantime, long processions of trucks have been clearing the site, hauling away the remaining chemicals for storage elsewhere.

But much of Toulouse is still looking over its shoulder. Special security measures have been taken at Toulouse's large industrial park several miles from the plant, headquarters of some of France's top companies including Airbus Industries, the aircraft manufacturer, and a branch of the European Space Agency.

The events of Sept. 11 had already cast a different light on some other recent incidents. Police investigators said that since the attack in America they had renewed their inquiry into a recent robbery of 18 canisters of bottled gas from a local vendor, but that they so far had turned up no link to either suspected terrorists or the disaster at the chemical plant.

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Photographs by Erik Eckholm/The New York Times

Sheep and goats, watched over by a herder on horseback, search for grass on almost barren ground near Bayindeligar in central Inner Mongolia.

## Bayindeligar Journal

# Then Came the Locusts: A Chinese Region Reels

By ERIK ECKHOLM

**BAYINDELIGAR, China** — The situation here does not quite equal the horror of the 10 plagues of ancient Egypt — the pastures have not been overrun by frogs or fleas, at least not yet.

But after three years of calamities including drought, an earthquake, a killer blizzard, and even a plague of locusts that ate the grasslands clean, the sheep and cattle herders of Inner Mongolia are bewildered. They look to the coming winter with dread.

"I don't understand what's happening," said Jibutsima, 78, an ethnic Mongolian woman who, like hundreds of thousands of others in this part of northern China, sees her life falling apart.

While a surge in herd sizes during a decade of good weather and booming demand for meat weakened the region's pastures, the immediate crisis was set off by an extraordinary sequence of natural disasters. Local

officials worry that their region is an early victim of global warming, brought on by rising concentrations of carbon dioxide and other "greenhouse" gases.

The case for a human-induced change in the weather cannot be proved, but the strange patterns here in recent years are consistent with scientific models of global warming, international experts say. If the greenhouse theory is correct, the woes of Inner Mongolian herders give a taste of broader social and environmental stresses to come.

Generations of Ms. Jibutsima's family have tended livestock on these same prairies. They were nomads until the early 1980's, when they settled within the thousand acres of range land that they, like many other local families, were allocated by the government.

In the 1990's, with the demand for mutton soaring and the rains good, she and her sons saved enough to buy a motorbike for herding. They even

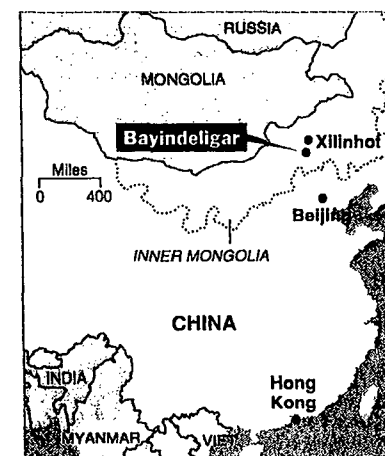
acquired a cheap truck for the three-hour drive through rutted pastures to the nearest market.

Now the truck sits broken. With pastures nearly bald and no hay for the frigid months ahead, the family plans to sell off most of its animals despite abysmal prices to try to save breeding stock — and its future.

"Can it be that nature is changing?" said Ms. Jibutsima, who, like many Mongolians, uses a single name. "Maybe the heavens are disturbed," she added, pointing to the barren hills.

The troubles started in the summer of 1999, when the always-meager rains nearly disappeared and an earthquake destroyed many homes. In 2000, the rains failed again.

By last fall the grasses were spotty at best and the livestock thinner than usual as winter approached. Many families went deep into debt buying hay from other regions to supplement whatever grass the animals



The New York Times

Natural disasters have buffeted Bayindeligar in Inner Mongolia.

would scrounge from dormant pastures.

Then came the blizzard. For 72 hours, starting last December, in an event without known precedent here, a savage mix of snow and fine sand howled through the air, blowing so

# then . . . . .

thickly that a veteran herdsman got lost and perished walking right outside his home.

Many animals froze and in the weeks that followed, as the snow and dirt hardened into an impermeable barrier, many more starved to death. Hopes of relief sprouted brief-

ly in May, when a rainstorm brought the pastures to life.

But the locusts followed. Frenzied hordes of them seeming to come from nowhere ate most of the emerging grass. Little rain has fallen since then. The summer was hotter than normal and more than 20 colossal dust storms have blown away much of the topsoil.

For a brief time after the blizzard the travails of Inner Mongolia at-

tracted outside attention, and food aid from international donors has helped tens of thousands of families to avoid hunger. Still, some families, their incomes slashed, have had to pull children from school.

Ethnic Mongolians account for a good share of the herders in this central pastoral region, although decades of migration into Inner Mongolia by Han Chinese, the country's dominant group, has left the Mongolians a small minority in the province over all.

In the current drought, the responses of ethnic Mongolian and Han Chinese herders have tended to differ, said Zaorgetubater, the deputy chief of the county-level government in Abaga Banner.

"The Mongol attitude is that you keep some animals until you have nothing left, because if you lose your livestock you lose your way of life," he said. "I think for many Han it's more just an economic calculation."

Ms. Jibutsima, for one, is fearful. A few years ago, the family had 200 sheep and 100 cows. They are down to 100 sheep and 20 cows, and now most of them must be sold to buy hay for the remainder.

Hundreds of families have already lost everything. Magjia, 50, his wife, Alatanqige, 43, and their three children are spending bored days at a temporary site around their ger, the traditional felt tent. They sold off the last of their sheep and goats, and the government fenced off their ruined pastures, one of many such areas now under protection to help the grasses return.

Theirs is one of 100 displaced families that are scheduled to move into a resettlement area on the outskirts of Xilinhot, the prefecture capital. With World Bank aid, the government is building 100 brick houses with cattle pens.

Mr. Magjia tried to put the best face on his family's altered state. "We'll get by because I'm a jack of all trades," he said. "I can slaughter sheep. I'm a good singer, or I could even be a tourist guide."

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