NYC 9/11 Public Portal Document

THE DAILY NEWS, WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 14, 2001

No letup for Rudy just 48 days from finish line

By MICHAEL R. BLOOD
DAILY NEWS CITY HALL BUREAU CHIEF

It was a typical workday for Mayor Giuliani that mixed mourning and the mundane: a day filled with countless tasks, meetings across the city and enough TV interviews to rival a President.

The mayor was featured on ABC, CBS, NBC, Fox News Channel and CNN; joined with Gov. Pataki to tour an assistance center set up at the Jacob Javits Convention Center for the families of victims of Monday's crash of American Airlines Flight 587; held staff and budget meetings; visited the Rockaways and Washington Heights to console grieving families, and met with the prime minister of Mongolia at City Hall.

At the Javits Center, the mayor said he hoped an advertising campaign featuring Woody Allen, Yogi Berra, Robert De Niro, Billy Crystal, Henry Kissinger and other celebrities, designed to lure tourists to the city, would not be dampened by the jet crash.

Officials have been desperate to revive tourism — a pillar of the city's economy — in the aftermath of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center.

"People are going to come in larger numbers," the mayor predicted.

He praised the resilience of communities that have suffered. And, as he has done almost daily since Sept. 11, the former federal prosecutor urged New Yorkers to be defiant in the face of terrorism and the fear it causes.

Giuliani recalled that President Bush had sympathized with him Monday over how severely the city had been tested, and that he had assured Bush, "We'll pass the test."

The mayor added: "We're going to give tremendous help to the people who need help, show them a great deal of love, the way New Yorkers are capable of."

With 48 days left in his term, Giuliani isn't looking back.

"I think legacies happen after you're dead, and I don't intend to die, so I don't give any thought to legacy," the departing mayor said yesterday, nearing his eighth anniversary in office.

"I think that's one of the silly things that goes on among politicians when they start thinking about legacies. You let history and the future take care of however they view you. It's not my job to figure out my legacy," he said in an interview with CNN.

With Celeste Katz

CITY_21MC100_008016686

NYC-WTC_000412073