The World Stands United

By Cameron Douglas Craig, President
Gamma Theta Upsilon, Kappa Nu Chapter

The morning of 11 September 2001 will forever be remembered as the day the world stood still. The massive destruction of human life in New York City and Washington D.C. made the world take notice of a new frontier that lies before it—Terrorism. Struggles and differences between nations are now old and no longer valid.

The current question that plagues the citizens of our nation and the world is, “Who is to blame?” The answer may seem easy to some. This is not the work of a nation or religious group but the work of the unnamed. They are simply known as Terrorists—a group that carries no flag under which stands any one nation or religion.

We that are associated with academic institutions around the world must, at all costs, try to remain objective but at the same time be patriotic to each of our own nations. Although we feel the need to retaliate against those who inflicted pain to so many, we must restrain. It is unfortunate that we must wait for the answers. However, time is necessary for the governments of the world to accurately and cautiously determine who is responsible. In the meantime, we must remain confident in our prospective governments to carry out the punishment and continue to offer support and assistance to those in need during this time of uncertainty.

We, the members of Gamma Theta Upsilon, Kappa Nu Chapter, and the Department of Geography, Geology and Anthropology extend our condolences to the families and friends of those lost in last Tuesday’s attacks.

Geographers Who Died Doing Geography: A Facet of Terrorist Activities on September 11, 2001

By Bill Dando, Chairman
Department of Geography, Geology and Anthropology

The events of September 11, 2001 shocked the nation. It has changed the way Americans view the world and also America's role in the globalization process. Geography is the study of the world and what makes our world a special planet. Geographers have toiled, taught, researched, published, and provided guidance for decision-makers for more than three thousand years. Many who labored to enhance the quality of life on their planet have died doing their jobs. My friend, Prof. Bob La Blanc was a passenger on United Airlines flight 175 that was hijacked en route from Boston to Los Angeles and crashed into the South Tower of the World Trade Center. Bob, retired Chairperson of the Department of Geography at the University of New Hampshire, was on his way to attend the Pacific Coast Division of the Association of American Geographers Annual Meeting. Another friend, Joe Ferguson, Associate Director of the National Geographic Societies' Geographic Education Division, was leading a field trip of teachers and students (8) to islands off the California coast. Joe, teachers, and students were passengers on American Airlines flight 77 from Dulles International Airport to Los Angeles that crashed into the Pentagon. My friend of over thirty years, Bob, and my friend for over fifteen years, Joe, died serving our discipline; they died serving our nation in their own way.
Joint Arab-American, Muslim-American Statement

Leaders of Arab-American and American Muslim groups met today [9/12/01] in Washington, D.C. And issued the following statement:

We condemn in no uncertain terms the horrifying attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon on September 11. We are shocked and angered by such brutality and share all the emotions of our fellow citizens about these attacks, which target all Americans without exception. We firmly believe that there can be no justification for such horrible acts. We join with the nation in calling for the perpetrators of this terrible crime to be brought swiftly to justice.

We commend the statements of Attorney General John Ashcroft, Secretary of State Colin Powell and the numerous senators and members of Congress who have cautioned against attempts to stigmatize the Arab-American and American Muslim communities or blame them for this tragedy.

We urge our fellow Americans, the government and media to follow their example and not assign any form of collective guilt against communities for the crimes of individuals.

American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC)
Arab American Institute (AAI)
American Committee on Jerusalem (ACJ)
American Muslim Alliance (AMA)
American Muslim Council (AMC)
Center for Policy Analysis on Palestine (CPAP)
Council on American Islamic Relations (CAIR)
Islamic Institute

Who Attacked Our Country?

From President Bush’s Address to Congress

On September the eleventh, enemies of freedom committed an act of war against our country. Americans have known wars, but for the past 136 years, they have been wars on foreign soil, except for one Sunday in 1941. Americans have known the casualties of war but not at the center of a great city on a peaceful morning. Americans have known surprise attacks but never before on thousands of civilians. All of this was brought upon us in a single day, and night fell on a different world, a world where freedom itself is under attack.

Americans have many questions tonight. Americans are asking: Who attacked our country?

The evidence we have gathered all points to a collection of loosely affiliated terrorist organizations known as al-Qaeda. They are the same murderers indicted for bombing American embassies in Tanzania and Kenya and responsible for the bombing of the USS Cole.

Al-Qaeda is to terror what the mafia is to crime. But its goal is not making money; its goal is remaking the world and imposing its radical beliefs on people everywhere.

The terrorists practice a fringe form of Islamic extremism that has been rejected by Muslim scholars and the vast majority of Muslim clerics, a fringe movement that perverts the peaceful teachings of Islam. The terrorists’ directive commands them to kill Christians and Jews, to kill all Americans, and make no distinctions among military and civilians, including women and children.

This group and its leader, a person named Osama bin Laden, are linked to many other organizations in different countries, including the Egyptian Islamic Jihad and the Islamic Movement of Uzbekistan.

There are thousands of these terrorists in more than 60 countries. They are recruited from their own nations and neighborhoods, and brought to camps in places like Afghanistan where they are trained in the tactics of terror. They are sent back to their homes or sent to hide in countries around the world to plot evil and destruction.
Bernard Brown
Age 11, student at Leckie Elementary School in Washington, D.C. Bernard was a passenger on American Airlines Flight 77 from Dulles International Airport to Los Angeles that was crashed into the Pentagon. He was traveling to a four-day National Geographic Society field workshop in the Channel Island National Marine Sanctuary off Santa Barbara, California with teacher Hilda Taylor.

Sarah Clark
Age 62, teacher at Backus Middle School in Washington, D.C., American Airlines 77 passenger on route to the National Geographic Society workshop with student Asia Cottom.

Asia Cottom
Age 11, student at Backus Middle School in Washington, D.C., A passenger on American Airlines flight 77 traveling to the National Geographic Society workshop.

James Debeuneure
Age 58, teacher at Ketcham Elementary School in Washington, D.C., Going to the National Geographic Society workshop with student Rodney Dickens.

Rodney Dickens
Age 11, student at Ketcham Elementary School in Washington, D.C. Rodney was a passenger on American Airlines flight 77 traveling to the National Geographic Society workshop.

James Joseph Ferguson
Age 39, Geography Education Division, National Geographic Society in Washington, D.C. A geography graduate of Ohio University, Joe had recently been appointed one of the Society’s representatives on the Geography Education National Implementation Project (GENIP), an umbrella organization that embraces the four major geography organizations in the United States. He was escorting the students and teachers to a National Geographic sponsored field workshop involving students, teachers, and scientist Sylvia Earle at the time of his death.

Ann Judge
National Geographic Society Travel Coordinator, a passenger on American flight 77. She often accompanied student and educational groups sponsored by the Society, as she was doing Tuesday. National Geographic Society President and Chief Executive Officer John Fahey noted yesterday:

In many ways, the trip that Ann Judge and Joe Ferguson were leading was the essence of the Geographic mission. They were escorting three teachers and three students from the Washington area to California to hook up with other participants in a marine biology field event in the Channel Islands, as part of our Sustainable Seas program.

Through our educational outreach program, Ann and Joe were going to make geography and the environment come alive for these committed, talented teachers and their star students by putting them into the field with scientists and researchers. It’s hard to believe that something created with such care and commitment to serve a noble purpose could end so tragically. Certainly, the D.C. School District has lost six extraordinary people. And we the Society have lost two treasured colleagues.

Robert G. LeBlanc
Age 70, Professor Emeritus of Geography at the University of New Hampshire was a passenger on United Airlines 175, the plane that was hijacked en route from Boston to Los Angeles and crashed into the South Tower of the World Trade Center. LeBlanc earned a bachelor’s degree at the University of New Hampshire and a doctorate at the University of Minnesota. He began teaching at the University of New Hampshire in 1963 and retired in 1999. Before and after his retirement, he regularly attended meetings of regional, national, and international geographical organizations in the United States, Canada, and abroad. On Tuesday he was on his way to attend the annual meeting of the Association of Pacific Coast Geographers (The Pacific Coast Division of the Association of American Geographers) in Santa Barbara, California.

Hilda Taylor
Teacher at Leckie Elementary School, Washington, D.C. She was accompanying Bernard Brown to the national Geographic Society workshop.
Meeting Minutes: September 6, 2001

Meeting Called to Order: 12.02 pm in the Climatology Lab on September 6, 2001.

1. Introduction of new members by Chapter President Cameron Craig. A special welcome to new executive members Joel Overpeck (Treasurer), and Katherine Kostyn (Historian).
2. Members discussed a framework of activities for the fall semester that will include Geography Awareness Week, Homecoming, Chapter Tea Sessions, and our upcoming Canoe Trip.
3. Faculty Sponsor Dr. Ceh suggested that GTU coordinate with the Colloquium Committee a list of speaking engagements over the semester.
4. Initiation of new members will be held in November; date to be announced later.
5. Undergraduate recruitment and retention will be an important activity that each chapter member will work towards.
6. Chapter Newsletter will be circulated at least once a month; hopefully twice monthly provided submissions are provided by chapter members.
7. Chapter Secretary Naim Zeibak brought up the possibility of a Bagel/Coffee table that will provide the chapter with funds for activities throughout the semester. Dr. Ceh discussed the proper way that the chapter could utilize a Bagel/Coffee table and still keep within the guidelines set by the Marriott Corporation that runs all the concessions at ISU. Chapter members are strongly supportive of this activity.
8. Chapter member Clint Franklin was named coordinator of Geography Awareness Week. He will be assisted by Chapter President Cameron Craig and Chapter Vice-President Bharath Ganesh.
9. Chapter President Cameron Craig suggested a Panel Discussion/Debate be added to the Geography Awareness Week Schedule.
10. Chapter members discussed the possibility of holding chapter meetings off campus at various eateries that have an international flavor.
12. Initiate Adrienne Hapenny brought up the possibility that chapter members could help with organizing and contributing to the Terre Haute Water District Field Days. The event will be held on September 19-21, 2001.
13. Faculty sponsor Dr. Ceh and Chapter Secretary Naim Zeibak stressed the involvement of chapter members to the upcoming West Lakes Regional Meeting at Joliet Junior College, October 11-13, 2001.
14. Meeting was adjourned: 1.06 pm in the Climatology Lab.

Recorded by: Naim Zeibak, Secretary, Gamma Theta Upsilon, Kappa Nu Chapter
September 11, 2001

Call for Papers

The Kappa Nu Chapter of Gamma Theta Upsilon is calling for geographic papers to be presented during Geography Awareness Week, 11-17 November 2001. Please send an email to craigc@coral.indstate.edu of the presenter and topic to be presented. Questions concerning specific details of the agenda for this event can be directed to Cameron Craig or Bharath Ganesh.

Geographic Realms via Internet

To reduce the cost and consumption of paper, Geographic Realms will be available through the following website addresses. The format of each publication can be used in Adobe Acrobat (.pdf). You may also request email notification when the each issue is available (send a request of notification to craigc@coral.indstate.edu).

Http://sapphire.indstate.edu/~craigc/GTU/GR/grf.html
Http://baby.indstate.edu/gtu/

ΓΘΥ~KN Calendar

Tentative until approved
10.4.01 General Meeting
10.5.01 Dues are Due ($35 NM/$10 AM)
10.18.01 General Meeting
11.1.01 General Meeting
11.11-17.01 Geography Awareness Week

All active, new, and former members of Gamma Theta Upsilon are welcome to attend any of the meetings and functions even if membership is not with this chapter.

In the Next Issue of GR

Report on “Paddle Down the Sugar Creek” America on Alert Contributions

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Catherine Kostyn, Historian

Dr. William A. Dando, Chairman
Dr. Brian Ceh, Advisor

Designed by Pei-Hua Huang and Cameron D. Craig