On September 11, 2001 at 8:45AM Eastern Time, hijacked American Airlines Flight 11 struck the north tower building of the World Trade Center (WTC) in lower Manhattan. Commercial television networks immediately covered unfolding events, broadcasting live as a second plane collided with the WTC south tower, and documenting two additional attacks by hijacked planes targeting the Pentagon and White House. In the days following September 11, local and national network television news divisions provided extended coverage of rescue and recovery operations at the collapsed WTC towers and the severely damaged Pentagon building. Profiles of those who had lost their lives in the attacks also featured prominently during the news coverage.

Official investigation of the attacks focused on al-Qaeda, an international terrorist organization previously held responsible for assaults targeting United States military personnel and U.S. embassies. In response to the events of September 11, the United States government launched a military invasion of Afghanistan and initiated a global manhunt for al-Qaeda leader Osama Bin Laden and other prominent members of his international organization. Television news coverage of these actions was extensive.

UCLA Film and Television Archive’s News and Public Affairs Collection (NAPA) holds extensive television news coverage related to the events of September 11 and consequent ‘War on Terror.’ This material is available for on-site viewing at UCLA by advance arrangement through the Archive Research and Study Center.

For more information about the NAPA Collection, please contact the Archive Research and Study Center at 310-206-5388, arsc@cinema.ucla.edu or

Consult the NAPA database online:
- http://www.cinema.ucla.edu/collections/NAPA/napasearch.html

Detailed abstracts of the contents of network newscasts are available to UCLA-based internet users through the Vanderbilt University Television News Archive:
- http://tvnews.vanderbilt.edu/
NAPA – FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

How do I search the NAPA collection?

NAPA Holdings are searchable online via the Archive’s website:
  • http://www.cinema.ucla.edu/collections/NAPA/napasearch.html

How do I request NAPA items to view?

From the Archive website (http://www.cinema.ucla.edu) you can search NAPA holdings, compile a research request list, and submit your viewing requests to the Archive Research and Study Center via the online database.

Where do I view items I’ve requested?

After you have received confirmation of your title requests, primary viewing of NAPA items takes place in the Instructional Media Lab (IML), located in room 270 of the Powell Library on the UCLA campus.
9/11 AND THE ‘WAR ON TERROR’
A TIMELINE OF EVENTS

2001

September 11, 2001:

8:45am (Eastern Time): A hijacked American Airlines commercial jetliner crashes into the 110-story north tower of the World Trade Center (WTC) in lower Manhattan.

9:03am: A second hijacked plane strikes the south WTC tower.

9:43am: A hijacked commercial jetliner collides into the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. The impact partially topples one side of the building.

9:58am: The south WTC tower collapses.

10:10am: A fourth hijacked jetliner crashes in western Pennsylvania, about 80 miles southeast of Pittsburgh.

10:28am: The north WTC tower collapses.

Sept. 12, 2001: President George Bush holds a live briefing from the White House’s Cabinet Room.

Sept. 13, 2001: President Bush and First Lady Laura Bush visit hospitalized survivors of the Pentagon attack. Secretary of State Colin Powell publicly identifies Osama Bin Laden as the prime suspect in organizing the events of September 11.

Sept. 14, 2001: President Bush visits 'Ground Zero,' the former site of the WTC towers and declares a national emergency. The U.S. Congress grants President Bush consent to use force against the parties responsible for the attacks. The Justice Department releases the names of the nineteen alleged hijackers and the Treasury Department creates a special group to track terrorist financing. The U.S. military is granted the authority to call up reservists to active duty.
**TIMELINE (continued)**

**Sept. 17, 2001**: In a televised statement, President Bush declares that the military will "defend freedom at any cost," and vows to bring "the terrorists" to justice, "dead or alive."

- *ABC World News Tonight*: 5:30:50pm – 5:43:10pm  NA83775
- *CBS Evening News*: 5:37:00pm – 5:41:50pm  NA83772
- *NBC Nightly News*: 5:35:30pm – 5:40:10pm  NA83773

**Sept. 19, 2001**: Military movement of aircraft into the Persian Gulf under orders from the Pentagon initiates "Operation Infinite Justice," (later renamed "Operation Enduring Freedom").

- *ABC World News Tonight*: 5:30:40pm – 5:36:40pm  NA83812
- *NBC Nightly News*: 5:30:40pm – 5:39:40pm  NA83810

**Sept. 20, 2001**: President Bush addresses the nation and demands that Bin Laden be handed over by Afghanistan. Military build-up picks up in the Gulf, with increased U.S. and British presence.

- *ABC World News Tonight*: 5:32:40pm – 5:38:40pm  NA83832
- *CBS Evening News*: 5:30:50pm – 5:34:10pm  NA83829
- *NBC Nightly News*: 5:30:30pm – 5:41:20pm  NA83830

**Oct. 7, 2001**: Air strikes begin against military targets and terrorist training camps inside Afghanistan.

- *ABC World News Tonight*: 5:30:30pm – 5:41:50pm  NA84064
- *CBS Evening News*: 5:00:40pm – 5:11:40pm  NA84068
- *NBC Nightly News*: 5:30:30pm – 5:43:50pm  NA84061

**Oct. 26, 2001**: President Bush signs an anti-terrorism law granting the government expanded power to track suspected terrorists. The law allows for greater wiretapping and surveillance and stricter detention laws. It also redefines what crimes constitute terrorist acts.

- *ABC World News Tonight*: 5:44:30pm – 5:46:50pm  NA84361
- *CBS Evening News*: 5:35:30pm – 5:37:50pm  NA84358
- *NBC Nightly News*: 5:31:00pm – 5:35:50pm  NA84359

**Oct. 28, 2001**: A memorial service is held at Ground Zero for the families of the victims of the World Trade Center attack. Recovery work at the site is suspended for the service.

- *ABC World News Sunday*: 0:06:20 (runtime) – 0:09:30  NA84366
- *NBC Nightly News*: 5:30:40pm – 5:33:30pm  NA84363


- *ABC World News Tonight*: 5:30:50pm – 5:37:00pm  NA84422
- *CBS Evening News*: 5:30:50pm – 5:35:10pm  NA84419
- *NBC Nightly News*: 5:35:40pm – 5:38:50pm  NA84420

**Nov. 10, 2001**: President Bush address the United Nations about the war in Afghanistan. Afghan rebels capture the city of Mazar-e Sharif in Afghanistan from the Taliban with help from heavy bombing by U.S. troops.

- *NBC Nightly News*: 5:30:40pm – 5:41:00pm  NA84563

**Nov. 16, 2001**: Mohammed Atef, Bin Laden’s military chief, is confirmed dead as a result of U.S. air strikes. Ground combat continues in Afghanistan.

- *ABC World News Tonight*: 5:31:00pm – 5:40:10pm  NA84659
- *NBC Nightly News*: 5:30:50pm – 5:35:40pm  NA84657

Dec. 9, 2001: A videotape of Osama Bin Laden surfaces in which he claims that al-Qaeda was responsible for the 9/11 attacks.

Dec. 18, 2001: Tribal fighters and U.S. Special Forces pursue al-Qaeda guerrillas through the mountains of eastern Afghanistan after destroying suspicious caves and tunnels in Tora Bora.


2002

Jan. 29, 2002: President Bush delivers his State of the Union speech in which he condemns an “Axis of Evil” that includes North Korea, Iran and Iraq.

March 11, 2002: The six-month anniversary of the 9/11 attacks is commemorated with memorials in Boston and Pennsylvania and the lighting of the “Twin Towers of Light” at the WTC site in lower Manhattan.

March 18, 2002: U.S. General Tommy Franks declares the end of “Operation Anaconda” in eastern Afghanistan, and calls it, "an unqualified and absolute success."

May 28, 2002: At the WTC site the last steel beam standing is removed during a ceremony for Ground Zero workers. The death toll at the site stands at 2,823.

May 30, 2002: Recovery efforts officially conclude at the WTC site. A bell rings at 10:29am, commemorating the moment that the north WTC tower collapsed.
RELATED RESOURCES

PRINT RESOURCES
(for more information consult the UCLA Libraries collections)


RELATED RESOURCES (continued)

AUDIOVISUAL RESOURCES
(the following materials are available through the Archive Research and Study Center)

Study Copy: VA6018 T

Study Copy: VA3890 T

Study Copy: DVD232 T

WTC: The First 24 Hours (2002). ISIS. Director, Étienne Sauret.
Study Copy: VA20239 M

Study Copy: VA5418 T

INTERNET RESOURCE