

# The Boston Globe

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 17, 2001

## THE WEATHER

TODAY: Mostly sunny, breezy,  
highs in mid-70s  
TOMORROW: Sunny start, then  
clouds, highs in 70s  
HIGH TIDE: 11:39 a.m.  
FULL REPORT: PAGE B12

# Prayer and preparations

## Bush, aides seek covert powers for war against terror



GLOBE STAFF PHOTO/EVAN RICHMAN

Colleen and Henry King, with daughters Molly (second from left) and Meagan, at a Mass yesterday in Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic Church in Newton.

By Anne E. Kornblut  
and Brian McGrory  
GLOBE STAFF

WASHINGTON — President Bush, vowing to “rid the world of evil-doers,” delivered a fresh round of warnings against Osama bin Laden yesterday, as senior aides began arguing for broad new powers to conduct a “crusade” against terrorism.

As church bells pealed across the nation and war drums throbbed around the world, senior US officials stressed that the battle ahead will be a long and complex one, unlike any America has waged before.

For that reason, officials said they needed sweeping new authority to fight a faceless, transient enemy. Attorney General John Ashcroft said he needs an expanded authority to wiretap terrorism suspects — a change he asked the Congress to take up immediately.

Vice President Dick Cheney said the CIA should be allowed to have more “unsavory characters” on its payroll. And Secretary of State Colin L. Powell said he is reviewing a federal ban on CIA-sponsored assassinations overseas.

In the most chilling revelation of the day, Cheney said that during the frenzy of Tuesday’s attack, Bush made a split-second decision to allow military jets to shoot down rogue planes headed toward the capital — including commercial airliners.

“You have to ask yourself, if we had combat air patrol up over New York and we’d had the opportunity to take out the two aircraft that hit the World Trade Center, would we have been justified in doing it? And I think absolutely we would

TERRORISM, Page A8

## ‘Emotional experience’ invokes God, patriotism

By Michael Paulson  
GLOBE STAFF

People wept as if at funerals, and cheered as if at rallies.

They alternated religious hymns with patriotic anthems, praying for the military and the president, as well as grieving for relatives and friends.

Clergy dug into their Bibles, reaching for parables about war and peace. And worshippers dug into their ward-

robes, setting aside their Sunday best for clothing normally worn on the Fourth of July.

On this first Sunday since the worst acts of terrorism ever to strike the United States, Christians streamed into churches, mingling their faith with their nationalism, seeking the comfort of neighbors as well as of God.

“I just felt like I needed to come out,” said Mary Whitney, a nurse from Dorchester, who donned her red, white, and blue

scarf and joined 1,200 others at the Catholic Cathedral of the Holy Cross in Boston’s South End. “During the week, I was too self-involved. Today, I wanted to be part of the group.”

Some said they found church exactly what they needed.

“This is the first time I’ve had an emotional experience in church . . . and I have gone to church all my life,” said Theresa M. House, an 18-year-old Harvard sophomore who went to the university’s Memorial

Church in Cambridge.

And Joan Deepe, who attended the Quaker meeting on Beacon Hill, said, “I feel so fortunate to have places to come to re-center and remember that there is a spirit of good and love.”

Priests and ministers turned to scriptural wisdom, and their own experience, in a collective effort to make sense of the unthinkable: 19 hijackers taking over four airplanes with passengers on board and crash-

FAITH, Page A15

## Informant gap could hurt Afghan operation

By John Donnelly  
and Anthony Shadid  
GLOBE STAFF

WASHINGTON — The Bush administration, with virtually no good intelligence in Afghanistan, is in the awkward position of relying entirely on foreign governments in the Muslim world for information on the whereabouts of Osama bin Laden, US officials and intelligence specialists say.

The intelligence blackout is so complete that American officials worry it could jeopardize or severely limit US military options and actions in the hunt for bin Laden, who has been identified as the prime suspect in last Tuesday’s deadly terror attacks.

“There’s a great, great lack of US intelligence on Afghanistan now,” said Julie R. Sirrs, a former Defense Intelligence Agency official who specialized in Afghanistan and the region. “I think people in the intelligence community were overconfident they could uncover things in time.”

Only a handful of US intelligence officials speak the main languages of Afghanistan, Pashtu and Dari, an Afghan Persian dialect, Sirrs and others said.

Two US officials acknowledged yesterday that the Bush administration feels hamstrung by the lack of informants on the ground to provide what’s called “humint,” or human intelligence. They declined to estimate how many informants the United States has in Afghanistan, but both said the number is tiny.

“I know Americans can more easily accept casualties now, but I don’t think they will tolerate it for folly,” said one US official, speaking on condition of anonymity. “And right now I don’t see US troops going in unless they really

AFGHANISTAN, Page A4

## Next steps

### Identification quest

People flock to a New York armory with loved ones’ personal items in the hopes that DNA samples will help in the search. **A14.**

### Tourism suffers

Conventions and hotel reservations are canceled, fanning fears of an industry slump in New England. **City & Region, B1.**

### Healing process

Collectively and individually, people find a variety of ways to cope with the pain. **Living/Arts, B7.**

### Chilling return

Many will walk into workplaces today with familiar colleagues missing. **Business, C1.**

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## Market set to meet unknown

By Scott Bernard Nelson  
GLOBE STAFF

NEW YORK — After a four-day market shutdown forced by last week’s terrorist attacks, the New York Stock Exchange will reopen at 9:30 this morning with two minutes of silence for the missing and the dead, followed by rescue workers who will ring the opening bell.

After that, no one knows what will happen, as investors resume trading in a vastly changed world.

“There are still many, many difficulties people are going to have to deal with,” said Charles Abry, managing director at Oppenheimer Funds’ Boston office. “We’re just hoping cool heads prevail and we end up having a reasonable day all around.”

Yesterday, hundreds of financial workers were laboring to turn lower Manhattan back into a functioning financial district, as a tight ring of security surrounded the stock exchange and the Wall Street area.

Dust from the collapse of the World Trade

MARKETS, Page A10



REUTERS PHOTO

Wall Street getting a wash yesterday for today’s reopening of the market.

## Officials probe stranger’s visit to Logan tower

By Matthew Brelis  
GLOBE STAFF

Officials are trying to determine whether a man who gained access to the control tower at Boston’s Logan International Airport, and identified himself to controllers as an airline pilot with family in Afghanistan, is one of the hijackers responsible for the destruction of the World Trade Center, aviation sources said yesterday.

Federal aviation and law enforcement officials are not certain whether the man, who used a pilot’s identification to gain access to the facility, was a hijacker. But they confirmed the man visited the tower for 15 minutes on Saturday, Sept. 8, three days before two flights from Logan were hijacked and struck the twin towers in New York City.

Furthermore, the Federal Aviation Administration, which operates the tower that serves as the

TOWER, Page A17

## At Boston campuses, Muslims increasingly wary

By Patrick Healy  
GLOBE STAFF

A well-connected Saudi Arabian father has sent a firm message to his son, studying at Boston University: Keep a low profile, don’t talk about last Tuesday’s terrorist attacks, and be prepared to leave the United States at a moment’s notice.

The father, like many overseas parents of Muslim students, is increasingly anxious that Boston is no longer a safe college town for his son.

“They think it’s time for me to leave,” the BU student said yesterday, asking not to be identified out

of privacy concerns.

On Saturday night, members of the Harvard University Islamic Society received a harshly worded e-mail blaming all Muslims for the terrorist attacks at the World Trade Center and the Pentagon. Other Muslim students have reported slurs and sporadic violence targeting them, though none on their campuses or by classmates.

Muslim students — an estimated 3,000 of whom attend college in the Boston area — have been a vibrant presence on campuses for decades, holding weekly prayer services and joining volunteer ef-

STUDENTS, Page A15



GLOBE STAFF PHOTO/JOHN BOHN

Muzammil Mustufa of the Tufts Muslim Students’ Association.