



*Remarks by Brigadier General Edwin J. Arnold, Jr.
Commander, Mississippi Valley Division,
at the 9-11 Remembrance Day*

Good morning.

Today, Americans gather at the Pentagon, near the site of the New York World Trade Center, at Bagram and Kandahar in Afghanistan, here, and at hundreds of other places around the country and the globe.

United in purpose, we gather to remember the victims of last year's horrific terrorist attacks against this nation.

We also gather to remember those in and out of uniform who continue the fight against those who would harm us for no other reason than the United States stands as a bright shining light of freedom in the world.

When the terrorists struck at the Pentagon and the World Trade Center, they sought to topple the world's mightiest symbols of military power and economic prosperity.

And while those blows hurt, they did not cripple the far-reaching capabilities or the effectiveness of our Armed Services and our financial institutions.

(REMEMBERING THE VICTIMS)

United, we grieve for the 3,000 innocent people who perished in those surprise attacks against our nation. They came from all walks of life, all races, all ages.

We must not forget that the victims at the World Trade Center included citizens of dozens of other nations. Terrorism threatens all civilized nations, not just the United States.

(REMEMBERING THE HEROES)

From the tragedy of the 9-11 attacks, America has found scores of new heroes.

Heroes like the passengers of United Airlines Flight 93. We know from cell phone calls they made that the passengers knew about the terrorist attacks and that they were determined their airliner would not be used as another guided missile – and it wasn't.

Todd Beamer, a passenger on Flight 93, called his wife to let her know about the hijacking and to tell her that he and his fellow passengers were not going to allow their plane to hurt anyone on the ground.

He left his cell phone on after saying goodbye. He was heard saying, "Let's roll" just prior to the passengers attacking the terrorists aboard their plane.

Flight 93 crashed about 80 miles southeast of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, killing everyone aboard.

And America has found heroes in the 343 New York City policemen and firefighters who sacrificed all when the World Trade Center towers collapsed around them as they struggled to get everyone out.

(RECOVERY)

The Mississippi Valley Division is proud to have been a part of the recovery effort:

- 19 individuals division-wide participated**
 - 2 - HQ's MVD (David Sills & Mike Stewart)**
 - 1 - St. Paul**
 - 2 - Rock Island**
 - 7 - St. Louis**
 - 1 - Memphis**
 - 1 - Vicksburg (Clyde Scott)**
 - 5 - New Orleans**

Before closing, I want to take this time to present two awards. Would David Sills and Mike Stewart come forward.

Civilian Award for Humanitarian Service

- David Sills**
- Mike Stewart**

The following employees also received this same award, in earlier ceremonies, for their service during the aftermath of September 11th:

From the Engineer Research & Development Center:

- **Dr. Richard C. Dove – Geotechnical & Structures Lab**
- **Dr. Paul F. Mlakar - Geotechnical & Structures Lab**
- **Jeff F. Powell – Information Technology Lab**
- **Wayne A. Stroupe – Public Affairs Office**

(CONCLUSION)

We will never forget September 11th, 2001, as America's darkest day. But out of the darkness of that horrible day has risen a national resolve to make this world a safer place.

We will long remember the heroes who emerged from the tragedies of those attacks, and we will fight the good fight against a global network of terrorism for as long as it takes to end its threat to America and all civilized nations.