

Rothman's Statement on Terror Attack

September 12, 2001

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Washington, DC -- Congressman Steve Rothman (D-NJ) released the following statement Wednesday on Tuesday following the terrorist attacks in New York and Washington:

"My fellow Americans, today all Americans must pray with one voice. For those innocents killed in yesterday's cowardly acts, for those families torn asunder by this evil, for those rescue, police, fire, and health workers placing their lives in danger to help their fellow Americans, let us all raise our voices today in one American prayer. Then we will bury our dead as one people. We will pick up the pieces as one nation. And finally, together, we will fight back.

Let us speak to the children of America who are asking their parents today, "Is it over? Are we safe?" My heart goes out to them and to the children of America. I say, we will be all right. We are safe. We are the strongest country, a strong people and no terrorist will ever, ever change that. We will remain a united, strong, and free people.

Make no mistake, my fellow Americans, the terrorists responsible for this horrible crime spent years recruiting and training people and implementing their plan. They also spent millions of dollars doing so. In this new war that they are waging against us, it will take years of American effort and hundreds of millions of dollars to defeat them. Let those who harbor terrorists know they and the terrorists themselves are our enemies, without distinction. America has the will and the resources to defeat you. We are a determined and rich nation with clever and resourceful people. We will also need and we demand the assistance of every government in the world to help us. Whoever does is our friend and whoever does not will be considered to be our enemy.

With one voice, America says to the cowardly terrorists and their supporters, we Americans are still here. You have not stopped America. You have not stopped freedom. We will be here long after you and your fanatical followers are the unpleasant footnotes of history. You have not stopped what a great people have spent 225 years building "the light of hope and humanity for all peoples of the world" the United States of America.

Our forefathers fought and died to protect this land. From Lexington and Concord to Gettysburg. From the Alamo to Omaha Beach. From the World Trade Center to the Pentagon.

We in this generation of Americans are ready to answer the call once more. And we will."

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