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First, my heart, my sympathy, and my condolences go out to all those directly affected in New York and DC. I have watched in disbelief as this piece of world history unfolds before my eyes.

Second, this has been an interesting day as I watch our great nation brought to an almost standstill. "A day that will live in infamy" has been overshadowed. For the first time since 1812, our nation's mainland has been the target of a military-style attack, the death toll of which will probably dwarf the death toll of the Pearl Harbor attack. There are no planes in our skies; there is fear in the hearts of Americans on Main Street; there is no clear enemy from a political or military standpoint.

As I see it, this is an attempt to rock the world financial markets and bring the great business machine of the world to a halt. This has been a highly coordinated, synchronized act of war (regardless of what the media or our political leaders may call it). I don't care to argue the religious implications of what the cause of this attack was. Maybe it was religious, maybe it was a 5,000-year-old territory conflict, maybe it was a protest. It was definitely insanity, an act which erased the lives of possibly thousands of innocent, American civilians and possibly hundreds of military lives in DC.

We need to remember those lost, those who were innocently going about their lives before they were introduced to a hell unimaginable.

I am not a religious man, but we need to pray, in what ever way we choose, for the families and friends of those lost that they may find peace and solace in their time of suffering.

We need to remember our history. Our great country has been attacked before. We bonded, rose to a common cause, and overcame adversity as a people. Our great nation has been through this before, even though this was an attack on our mainland, our civilian population, and on of our proudest symbols of prosperity, freedom, and opportunity for all.

This is a time in which Americans show our mettle, our strength, and our determination. This is a time when our resolve, our character, and our perseverance shines. This is a time in which we must restore our way of life as quickly and efficiently as humanly possible.

Terrorism is designed to create terror, to instill fear in a population, and to halt a nation. In some ways, it is psychological warfare. Our common enemy is now fear. If we allow fear to begin to dominate our way of life, our way of doing business, our great nation, then the terrorists' objectives have been accomplished. We must rebuild, restore, and revive. We must continue to live free in our nation of opportunity. We must dig deep and remember the principles on which our great nation was founded -- life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

We are Americans. We must persevere.