September 12, 2001

this Nation, in a joint meeting. He is in the Chamber.

RECESS

Mr. BIDEN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate recess for 3 minutes so that the Prime Minister of Australia may be greeted.

There being no objection, the Senate, at 11:13 a.m., recessed and reconvened at 11:13 a.m. when called to order by the Presiding Officer (Mr. NELSON of Florida).

TERRORIST ATTACKS AGAINST THE UNITED STATES—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Under the previous order, the Senator from Virginia is recognized for up to 10 minutes.

The Senator from Virginia.

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. President, my fellow Members of the Senate: This is a very sad day as we witnessed all of the heart-breaking implications, tragedies and lives lost at the result of yesterday's sadly terrorist attacks on the United States.

Yesterday's attacks were attacks not just on our particular Commonwealth of Virginia or State of New York or the United States; rather it is an attack on freedom-loving people and all the principles that we stand for as a unique and great nation.

On Monday afternoon, Senator BOXER and I were ready to introduce a resolution condemning the suicide bombings in the Middle East. We would have introduced that resolution on Monday, but wanted to include another “whereas” clause recognizing the attacks in Israel on Sunday. We now see with great shock and horror that our United States is obviously not impervious to these suicide bombings and such vicious attacks on innocent people.

What we need to do now is coalesce. Coalesce as a people with our shared beliefs. Coalesce to comfort those who have lost loved ones. And then we must determine where we must improve and move forward to try to prevent such acts from occurring in the future.

First, our goal and prayers right now must be focused on the rescue, hoping that we can save those who are still alive. Secondly, we need to find and ascertain as many details and information as to determine how our security was breached so as to hopefully prevent it in the future. And thirdly of course, we will hold accountable those who are responsible for this attack and attain justice.

Presently, we are hearing stories of great heroes just in the first day of recovery. People who knew that the building was going to collapse, but nevertheless tried to save people out. On C-Span this morning, one of those who was just a volunteer helper knew what was going on...