

All Area Agencies

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"I think the National Military Strategy, which the president is responsible for establishing, is undergoing an evolution. I mean there is no country in the world that can beat us conventionally, but unconventionally, in other words terrorism, there are plenty of rogue nations and organizations that can cause our democracy lots of problems," Stewart continued.

"It is time the United States took the gloves off in dealing with terrorist activities. The U.S. needs to make sure that whoever perpetrated this gets swift and total retribution."

"As we do that we have to align with as many countries in the world as possible to support our initiative," he continued.

"As for being a watershed I hope our enemies, North Korea, Cuba, could align with us to say this type of activities cannot be tolerated in the civilized world."

"I hope the U.S. takes advantage of its membership in the United Nations to use that as a form to say this type of activity will no longer be tolerated in our world."

As for the damage to the Pentagon, Stewart said the National Military Command center which is connected to the offices of the Secretary of Defense and the joint chiefs of staff where he worked, is on the opposite side of the building complex from where the jet airliner hit. "It upset me to hear the news about the Pentagon," Stewart said, his eyes reddening, his voice wavering with emotion. "Terrorism of this type goes back years, and only came to light in the 1960s with hijackings. This is a cowardly way of doing business."

When asked if he had heard about the welfare of his friends and associates still in the Pentagon, Stewart said, "I am afraid to ask who was lost. I have a lot of friends in the Pentagon. I am not looking forward to seeing the casualty list."

With a masters degree in national security strategy, Stewart said he had been mulling the events over in his mind. "I feel this type of thing was inevitable. I believe the U.S. should make a thorough investigation, collaborate with all countries that will align with us to validate the retribution, then follow through. I think we need to declare war! I think it is warranted. Terrorists should be placed on notice."

Stewart said everyone should beware of generalized retribution. "I am sure the National Security Council of whom the secretary of state and secretary of defense are members, will sift through all information before they made a recommendation. It will take all the best minds in Washington."

County offices remained open on Tuesday, Stewart said there was no need to close the offices.

County Emergency Coordinator Notified
County emergency coordinator Rosemary Luchini Gonzalez said the state emergency management operations center called her Tuesday morning to make sure everything was okay, and to let her know the state emergency center was now in operation and that Sierra Blanca Regional Airport was closed.

Federal Offices Closed Including Forest Service

The only offices closed in the county were the federal U.S. Forest Service, Lincoln National Forest Smokey Bear Ranger District offices in Ruidoso and Capitan. The offices were closed Tuesday and Wednesday as a security and safety precaution, said district ranger Jerry Hawks. The Ranger station offices were to be open again with regular hours today, Thursday, Hawks told THE NEWS.

Hawks said because of potential for fire danger in the forest, he, district fire manager Matt Reidy and his assistant and one fire engine and its crew were on duty throughout the closure. Hawks said the closure only involved the offices, and did not involve actually closing the forests to public use. He did say that the planned prescribed burns in the northern part of Lincoln County have been postponed, to make sure fire crews are available if needed on a national level. Also fire conditions are drying and are less favorable to controlled burns, he added.

Sierra Blanca Regional Airport Closed

Sierra Blanca Regional Airport (SBRA) and Carrizozo Municipal Airport both were closed to all air traffic Tuesday and Wednesday. Tim Morris, SBRA manager, said he got the information to close the airport at 8 a.m. Tuesday when he called the Albuquerque Flight Service for the daily weather briefing. Albuquerque Flight Service is an organization that provides, on behalf of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) weather and other travel related information to airports and pilots, Morris said. The Service is the notifying agency for FAA.

Once receiving the notice to close, Morris said SBRA staff closed all security gates to stop any ingress or egress from the airport area. He said he also notified local pilots who routinely fly in the mornings and other pilots who were planning to fly out of SBRA that day. "We controlled the access, and with security cameras everywhere we watched for any movement at the airport," Morris said.

In addition, Ruidoso Police Department sent officers to SBRA as standby to enforce the closure.

Morris said all airport employees remained on the grounds, to monitor the situation and to provide ground support in case a commercial plane was forced to land. SBRA has capability to land 737s up to 757s if necessary, Morris added. Also SBRA staff monitored the J65 jetway, a major air route for commercial jets above 20,000 altitude over Lincoln County.

Under the shut down, Morris said he was instructed there would be no flights, including emergency medical flights.

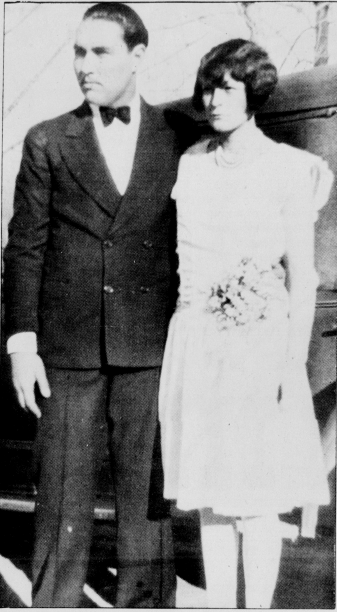
Early Wednesday Morris did not know when the no flight order would be lifted and said he was monitoring the situation with the flight service throughout the day. He said several pilots had called wanting to know when they could fly.

Morris said he was in communication with Ruidoso police chief Lanny Maddox and Tomas Chavez, Village of Ruidoso Emergency Coordinator throughout the day.

Ruidoso Police Officers Assist

Maddox told THE NEWS he assigned three officers to do rotation duty at the airport throughout the closure. "I sent the officers to enforce the aircraft grounding," Maddox said.

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Donald J. and Dorothy B. Queen
January 1, 1928

Dorothy Queen To Celebrate 90th Birthday On Sept. 19

Dorothy Bricker Queen was born in Los Angeles, California in September 19, 1911.

Her family were Utah Mormons who had moved to California to improve their economic lot in life and because of her father's doctrinal differences with the church. Dorothy herself was never a member of the church. The family was of English origin.

In addition to her mother, Minnie Beck and father John, she had three sisters and a brother. Her brother died when she was 11 and her mother when she was 13. She was taken in by an older married sister. In addition to attending school, she enjoyed visiting the ocean and amusement parks nearby.

While attending a Valentine's Day party at a Methodist Church, she was approached by a tall, dark and handsome young man who introduced himself as Donald J. Queen, a native of White Oaks, NM. Thus began a love affair that would last for almost half-a-century. They went together for almost a year, enjoying the beauty of the California of that time, the ocean, the desert around Palm Springs and the mountains and forests around Big Bear Lake.

The were married in San Bernardino on January 1, 1928. The man from White Oaks had just turned 19, his California girl was 16.

The family prospered in the relative prosperity of the California of the 1920s. But later in 1928, Ed Queen decided it was time to get out of the city and return to his first love, mining. Ed and May Queen's children were all married by then and they chose to go with them. In addition to Don and Dorothy, there were Lawrence and Vera Queen and Ellyn and Leonard Whitwell.

They outfitted themselves for a mining expedition that would take them first to northern California on a placer mining operation, thence to Manhattan, Nevada and in 1933 the Queen family returned to White Oaks after a 15 year absence (for Dorothy, Vera and Leonard it would be the first time).

The family managed to survive the Great Depression by mining at White Oaks and in Arizona. In addition to mining they hunted, grew some small crops and raised a few cows and chickens. The women cooked meals over wood stoves, pumped water from cisterns, washed over wash boards, as was the rural way of that era. For entertainment they attended dances, played musical instruments, etc.

In 1935, Don and Dorothy's only child, Donald M. Queen, was born in Carrizozo, at the Ray and

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