



Editor's Note: (9/25/01) Rick Hittinger of MTA Transit Operations was traveling with his mother in Scotland on Sept. 11 when tragedy struck New York City and Washington, D.C. Here's his account of those moments.

The Scots Warmed His Heart During the Sept. 11 Tragedy

By RICK HITTINGER

My mother and I were in a pub in Edinburgh, Scotland. We had just come in and ordered some food when the bartender came over and asked if we were 'Yanks.'

He said that we should watch the TV, as something was happening in New York. It was 5:15 p.m., local time, and we looked up just as the second plane flew into the World Trade Center. We could not believe our eyes and ears!

The pub was almost empty when we had arrived and was beginning to fill up as we continued to watch in horror.

We stayed for the next two hours and never did eat our meal. People came over to us, hugged my dear Mom and shook my hand while telling us how very sorry they were.

They asked us to tell everyone when we got home that the British, Scottish and Irish people would stand and be counted with us!

It also was so very moving when Queen Elizabeth II had the Band of the Coldstream Guards play our National Anthem at the memorial services in London.

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