

A Society in Mourning

On September 11, more than 5,000 people perished and thousands more were injured in New York City, at the Pentagon, and in Pennsylvania during an extraordinary and odious terrorist attack. Among the confirmed dead and missing are six members of ASIS, all of whom worked in the World Trade Center complex. The Society extends its condolences to the families of these members, and in the following vignettes, *ASIS Dynamics* highlights their contributions to the security profession.

James Corrigan

James Corrigan had been employed by Silverstein Properties, Inc., since 1995. The management company gained control of the 10.6 million-square-foot World Trade Center complex in July 2001. Corrigan was security and fire safety director for 7 World Trade Center, the 2 million-square-foot, 47-story companion building that collapsed late in the afternoon on September 11.

From 1969-94, Corrigan worked for the New York City Fire Department in Brooklyn as a captain in charge of fire suppression, fire safety and prevention education, and enforcing fire safety laws and codes. From 1963-69, Corrigan was a patrolman with the New York City Police Department. He served as member of the U.S. Army Military Police from 1964-66.

Corrigan joined ASIS in February 2000, and was a member of the New York City Chapter. He was a resident of Little Neck, New York.

Ronald G. Hoerner

Hoerner was resident manager of Summit Security Services, Inc.'s World Trade Center facility, responsible for all operations, investigations, and administration. Summit served as the security contractor for the World Trade Center from 1996 onward. The company provided guard services to the complex under the supervision of the Port Authority of the States of New York and New Jersey. Summit had assigned approximately 425 security personnel to the complex, all overseen by Hoerner.

Hoerner was a U.S. Air Force Reserve sergeant from 1964-70. He joined the New York State Parkway Police Department in 1968, served in the department's Crime Prevention Unit, and retired as an investigator with the Crime Scene Unit in 1994. Throughout his career, Hoerner was awarded many citations, including two Superintendent Commendations.

Hoerner joined ASIS in March 1998 and was a member of the Long Island Chapter as well as a New York State-certified crime prevention professional and a member of the New York State Police Investigators Association. He was a resident of Massapequa Park, New York.

Douglas G. Karpiloff, CPP

Douglas G. Karpiloff, CPP, worked for the Port Authority as security and life safety director for the World Trade Center. He had responsibility for both the World Trade Center's interim and permanent security programs and was in charge of all operational life safety and security for the complex, including overall direction of visitors' desks, security control centers, fire command systems, and more than 250 security officers.

Karpiloff was named *Access Control and Security Systems* magazine's Security Director of the Year in 2000. Among the accomplishments he was cited for was creating a security program that stood as a model for others worldwide. *Security Management* magazine's Senior Editor Michael Gips agrees. "Doug was a tremendous help to me in preparing a survey that looked into the counterterrorism practices of landmark properties around the United States. He detailed for me the World Trade Center's security plan, which I used as a framework to examine how seriously other properties were taking the threat of terrorism. It was clear he did virtually everything possible to protect that complex," says Gips.

Karpiloff was also a teacher, a sought-after speaker, and a member of the ASIS Council on Physical Security who will be greatly missed by his fellow council members, says Joseph R. (Bob) Granger, CPP, council chairman and security manager for United Space Alliance. "When he came onto the council five years ago...we found we had a lot in common. We both had huge facilities," Granger says. Over the years, he recalls, the two men looked to each other for professional support. He recalls nervously rehearsing a presentation in front of Karpiloff. "He coached me a lot along the way. He said, 'You'll do fine. You know your stuff, Bobby. You know your stuff.'"

Lawrence C. Bank, a professor in the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, University of Wisconsin at Madison, also came under Karpiloff's supportive influence. "I met Doug about a year ago at a National Research Council meeting in Washington, D.C., and worked with him on an initiative for a building-vulnerability center here at the University of Wisconsin. I found him to be a true inspiration, and I know the whole building community will greatly miss his enthusiasm, professionalism, expertise, and sense of humor," says Bank.

Karpiloff became a CPP in 1995. In 1996, he was asked by the Federal Protective Service in Washington, D.C., to conduct a threat assessment and create a security master plan for the Ronald Reagan Building and worked with the Building Owners and Managers Association to help secure buildings close to Denver's federal courthouse during the Timothy McVeigh trial.

Karpiloff had previously been general manager of tenant services at the World Trade Center and held several security-related positions with the Port Authority. He was a member of the New York City Chapter and a resident of Mamaroneck, New York. According to Charlie R. Pierce, who served with Karpiloff on the Physical Security Council, it is believed that "[Karpiloff] was last seen charging back into the building to

assist a fireman as the weakened and tortured structure collapsed in and upon itself. This selfless action...would have been considered to be normal procedure to him.”

Howard B. Kirschbaum

Howard B. Kirschbaum was security manager for Marsh U.S.A., Inc., and one of nearly 300 Marsh employees lost when the company’s offices in 1 World Trade Center sustained a direct hit from the first hijacked airplane.

Kirschbaum’s duties at Marsh included security management, guard force management, investigations, and fire and life safety. He had previously worked as a private investigator and as a detective in the NYPD. He joined ASIS in April 2000 and was a member of the New York City Chapter. Kirschbaum was a resident of Staten Island, New York.

John P. O’Neill

“I think interesting times lie ahead,” John P. O’Neill, a noted FBI expert on counterterrorism, told members of the National Strategy Forum held in 1997.

“Unfortunately, I cannot predict that no Americans will be injured or killed as a result of a terrorist attack.”

At age 50, O’Neill himself became a victim of terrorism. He had recently retired from his position as special agent in charge of the Bureau’s New York office to join Silverstein Properties. September 11 was O’Neill’s second day on the job as head of the WTC’s security.

At about 11:30 p.m., the night before the attack, ASIS member Wallace F. Millard, president of Millard Associates, Ltd., and a longtime friend, encountered O’Neill in a restaurant they both frequented. Millard says that they shared a drink, and O’Neill told Millard about his new career. “He said he had a new position as director of security at the World Trade Center. He told me, ‘Monday was my first day, and it’s a great job,’” Millard recalls.

O’Neill was reportedly last seen entering Tower Two to assist in the evacuation after the second airliner struck it. He was apparently inside when the building imploded. His body was later recovered by rescuers.

During his career with the FBI, O’Neill headed investigations of the attacks on the U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania and the bombing of the U.S.S. Cole in Yemen. Ironically, he also helped investigate the 1993 bombing of the World Trade Center and spent several years investigating Islamic extremist Osama bin Laden. O’Neill joined ASIS in February of this year and was a member of the New York City Chapter. He was a resident of New York City. O’Neill earned a bachelor of science degree in administration of justice at American University in Washington, D.C., in 1974 and a master’s degree in forensic science in 1978 from George Washington University, Washington, D.C.

“He was a professional all the way,” says Millard of his friend. “He will be sorely missed in the terrorism sector.”

Richard Rescorla, CPP

Richard Rescorla, CPP, age 62, was first vice president of security for Morgan Stanley Dean Witter. Rescorla was among those singled out for his heroism during the *America: A Tribute to Heroes* broadcast.

Actor Robin Williams recounted Rescorla’s bravery during the first World Trade Center bombing in 1993 when he helped evacuate thousands of frightened and injured people. On September 11, Williams said, Rescorla sang in an attempt to raise spirits and lessen panic as he organized the evacuation of the company’s nearly 4,000 employees. The British Broadcasting Service (BBC) quoted Bob Sloss, managing director of Morgan Stanley Dean Witter, as having last seen Rescorla on the 10th floor of the tower ushering people to safety. “He was definitely there well after it was established that the building was in trouble,” Sloss said. “He was seen by many people and was singing to them to ease the panic.” The BBC also reported that Rescorla phoned his wife Susan during the evacuation and said: “If anything happens to me, I want you to know you made my life.” Rescorla was a native of Hayle, Cornwall, United Kingdom, who came to the United States as a young man. He fought in the Vietnam War and won a Silver Star for bravery. Rescorla was previously employed with Continental Bank of Chicago as director of security and with the Bank Administration Institute as vice president of security. Rescorla joined the Society in June 1999 as a member of the Northern New Jersey Chapter and became a CPP in May 2000. He was a resident of Morristown, New Jersey. According to Reginald J. Montgomery, CPP, chairman of the Northern New Jersey Chapter, when he told Rescorla that a plaque was being made for him to honor his attainment of the CPP designation, Rescorla responded, “Oh no, no, no, that isn’t necessary.”

“I told him, ‘It’s necessary for us as a chapter,’” says Montgomery. “He was a very modest man.” ■

—by Ann Longmore-Etheridge, editor, Dynamics. ASIS Dynamics will update this story in the next issue to include any new information.

Officers Down

In addition to Ronald Hoerner, Summit Security Services also lost the following security officers:

Larry Bowman, Brooklyn
Denny Conley, Brooklyn
Francisco Cruz, Jr., Queens
Samuel Fields, New York City

Daniel Lugo, New York City
Robert Martinez, Queens
Jorge Morron, Queens
Esmerlin Salcedo, Bronx
Ervin Gaillard, Bronx