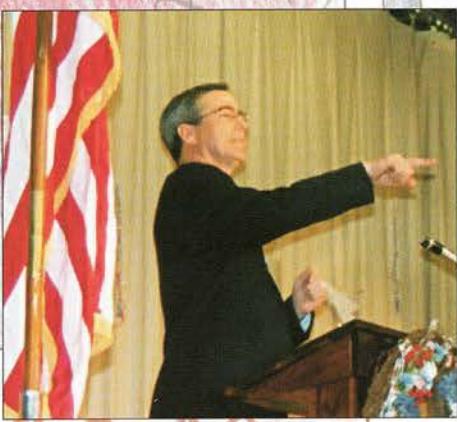


# America's unsung Heroes: Letters from Hazleton



NATCA Thanks



# Grateful Words



October 2001

Dear NATCA brothers and sisters,

Children say the most incredible things, and almost 400 seventh and eighth grade students at West Hazleton Elementary/Middle School in Hazleton, Pennsylvania did just that a few weeks ago. They sent hundreds and hundreds of cards and letters to the NATCA national office congratulating controllers on a job well done and extolling our virtues as "unsung heroes" for our actions on September 11.

We sat in awe and amazement as we read through the stack of kind and grateful words sent by these students. Over and over the kids thanked us for landing all of the planes safely, acknowledged us for our hard work, and told us to keep it up.

Inspired by their sentiments, my wife Jill and I, Dulles Controller Dee Daniel and Doug Church and Maureen Malone from the national office drove almost five hours to Pennsylvania to meet them. Every now and then I have the good fortune to do something so fulfilling and heartwarming it blows me away. This was one of those times. The PTA, who had prepared a lunch, and a cadre of teachers greeted us and assisted with our school assembly.

I spoke for 30 minutes about the men and women I represent, and how they landed every plane when they were asked to. I told the kids they were heroes, too, because they did not let the terrorists take away their freedom to live and learn and laugh and love. Dee, Jill and I took questions from the two groups—about 200 in each—for another 45 minutes or so.

Soon each assembly was done, and the kids filed out with Dee, Doug, Jill and Maureen handing each child a NATCA beanie airplane, folder and pen. They swirled around us, and I gave every business card I had out—most of them after the kids asked for my autograph. Four local television stations covered the event, and the story made the front page of the local paper. And once again the students gave us cards – this time thanking us for visiting them.

We wanted to ensure all of our members had the opportunity to read through these wonderful letters – so we compiled them into this booklet – appropriately titled, "America's Unsung Heroes: Letters from Hazleton." We attempted to include as many cards and excerpts from the letters as possible. Next time you are in the national office, please stop by our offices if you would like to see the complete collection.

We know you will take these students' sentiments to heart, and we hope they inspire you to take pride in the job you do so well.

In solidarity,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John S. Carr".

John S. Carr  
President

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ruth E. Marlin".

Ruth E. Marlin  
Executive Vice President

# "If it weren't for you I think much greater loss."

September 25, 2001  
West Hazleton Elementary/Middle School  
325 North Street  
West Hazleton, PA 18222

Dear Mr. Carr,

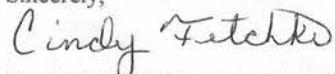
The seventh and eighth grade students, of West Hazleton Elementary/Middle School, created cards and letters for the air traffic controllers. We were all shocked and saddened by the events of September 11<sup>th</sup>. As we try to make sense of the senseless tragedy, we are discussing how many heroes have emerged in our society. Our students have decided to honor the Air Traffic Controllers for their heroism on that horrible day.

Enclosed you will find some of their thoughts on the role of the Air Traffic Controller on that terrible day. The faculty tried to make the students aware of the job of the Air Traffic Controller, and how stressful it must have been to land every plane that was flying over the United States while knowing that four planes had crashed. We can not begin to imagine how difficult that was. We thank all of you for landing the other planes without any accidents or further catastrophes.

In closing know that you are all in our thoughts from this point forward. If there is some way that you could answer the following questions it would be greatly appreciated. How many planes were in the air at that time? How many Air Traffic Controllers were working that day? On any given day how many planes normally fly over the United States? These are some students' questions which we have not been able to answer.

I hope that you will see that some of the appropriate controllers get some of these cards and letters. Thank you for your help in this matter. I have sent these in four separate envelopes, two addressed to you and two to Ruth Marlin. It was therapeutic for our students to feel they had done something good at this time. Thanks again, and continue the good job of keeping people flying safe.

Sincerely,



Cindy Fetchko, Teacher, West Hazleton Middle School

our country would be mourning a

You did a great job landing all of those plane. You all acted like veterans landing all of the plane without killing or hurting anyone else. All I can say is Thank you.

Thank you for saving all those innocent lives on September 11, 2001.

I've been keeping track of our country's great tragedy. And in doing so I have come to recognize the unrecognized heroes. If it weren't for you I think our country would be mourning a much greater loss.

I'm, as well as many other people, are grateful that you and fellow Air Traffic Controllers were able to safely land every plane in the sky without a major accident. So, thank-you for a job well done, and keep up the good job.

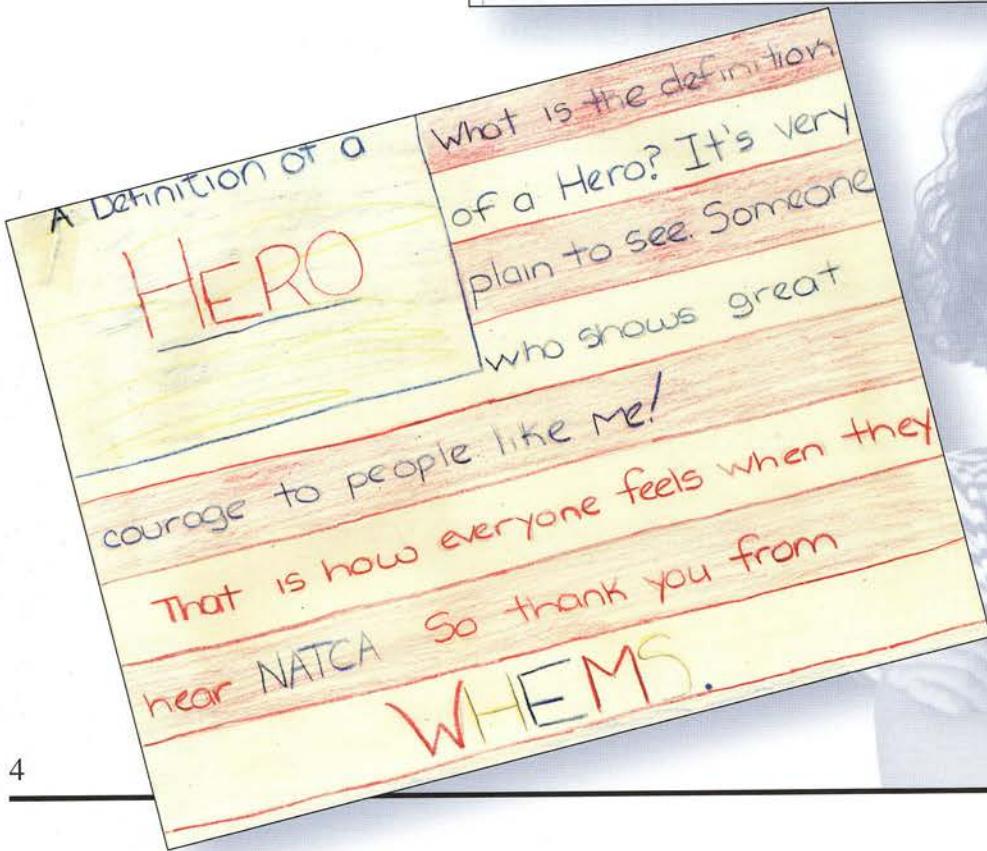
I just wanted to say  
thank you for safely landing the  
other planes,



# "You are HEROES"

You are heroes to each individual who cared, felt sorrow, and wished the tragic plane accidents in New York, and the pentagon in washington had never happened. Each and every person has been affected by this unpleasant tragedy. Don't forget everyone around the world appreciates what you have done. Once again congratulations and thank you!

I am really grateful for what you did you saved a lot of lives. If their was no such thing as Air Traffic Controllers the world just might be over!



Well, I also really wrote this letter to tell you "I Thank you". If it wasn't for you many people would not be here today. So Thank you and since you do your job well, keep doing it the way you do!

(Well, thank you for your time and all of your efforts to land all those planes. You saved a lot of lives... Thank you.

I am writing this letter to thank you for what you did when this tragedy happened. I will end my letter by saying "Thank you" for what you are doing and to keep doing your job the right way! Thank You!

I know being a Air Traffic controller is a ~~really~~ stressful job, but you did what you had to. You took real responsibility in bringing down the planes. All the people that are Air Traffic controllers did not let their feelings get in the way of doing their job. And we all thank you for that.



# "You really helped us out"

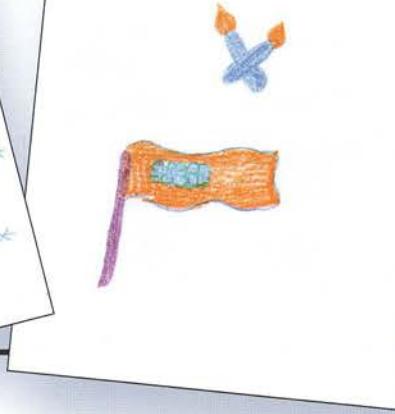
To whom it may concern  
Thank you for all you have done. It  
is extraordinary what you can do  
with planes. You could have saved hundreds  
of peoples lives. You are good at your  
job. Keep it up.

My name is Christopher Hostig. I am in  
7th grade at West Hazleton Middle School. I  
would like to thank you for bringing down the  
rest of the planes so that no other buildings  
went down and no one else was killed. I am very  
greatful because you saved more lives from being  
killed.

I want to say thank you. For All you Did to close  
The Airports And land the planes. you Did a very  
good job. And I hope you can help the people in New  
york. And find out who Did this to these people.



My total thank you! from  
me lea Wolfe of West Hazleton  
middle school.



NATEA

WE Repeize that you helped  
Save tons of peoples lives on all  
those planes in bring them!

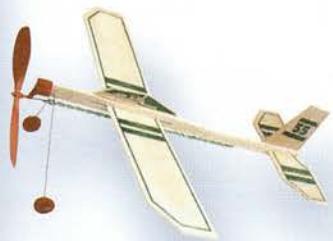
THANK  
YOU SO  
MUCH!!

I and many other people are thankful for what you did. You landed approximately 5,000 planes in one day. You saved a lot of peoples lives.

You really helped us out in our time of need, I am really grateful for that. You are all truly heroes, thank you again.

I think you did a great job downing the planes under so much stress. Thank you for saving so many lives.

You made room for all of the other planes in the sky to land. People were panicing at this time, but you stayed focused. I understand you had a major responsibility. I think that you are definetely a hero. If no one was there to land the planes, think of how many other things could have gone wrong. Thank you so much for all of your hard work.



# “You have done

I thank you from the bottom of my heart. Keep up the good work. God bless you all and America.

You deserve the same amount of credit as the other people helping at the scene. If you didn't get all of the planes out of the sky in time and at the correct place there may have been other crashes. Also we wouldn't have known about the other missing planes. I just wanted to tell you good job, and thank you very, very much for helping at.

Dear Air Traffic Control Worker,

You have done the impossible. You have taken us through this tragedy. With lives at risk, you have landed all of the planes without trouble. You put your sorrow for those who have died away, and you landed the planes one after another. You should get a higher recognition than mine because you are the heroes! You will be remembered for this for the rest of history to come.

# the impossible”

My name's Cody, I'm  
7<sup>th</sup> grade student at West Hazleton  
Middle School. I'm so glad that  
you're working there, and that  
you saved us from all those planes  
that could have crashed.

Even though nobody I knew was hurt in the tragedy,  
I still want to thank you very much for helping  
all the people that were in those planes and that  
got hurt. If it wasn't for you I probably wouldn't  
be here writing this letter. If it wasn't for you  
a plane could have come crashing into my school.

As the crashes was  
going on in Germany  
my violin conductor  
was trying to get back  
to the US, but because you  
stop all the air planes.  
She is still alive. Thank you  
so much



# "P.S. You have something good with

The students of West Hazleton Elementary/Middle School would like to thank you for what you did because if you didn't stop the other planes they could have crashed in other areas and kill more innocent people.

I am sure you know that what has happened will change our lives forever. But what you did is a wonderful thing, but in my eyes and probably other peoples you's are considered hero's THANK YOU for your time!

Dear Air Traffic Controllers,  
My name is Mariana Gureki. I just want to say that you did a really good job with the planes that went down in New York. You did your job with the other planes. We are all grateful for what you did.

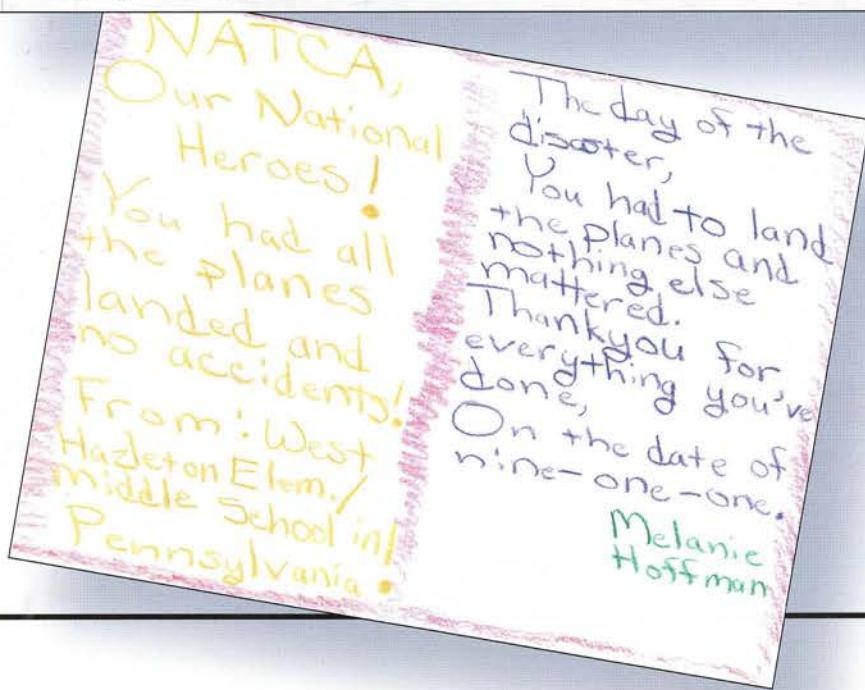


made me want to do my life."

I thank you for getting all the planes out of the sky on 9/11/01 after the tragic happened. You are the people that stopped all accidents after the four planes crashed. That was a good job by all the Air Traffic Controllers.

If you didn't stop those planes from dropping, there could have been a chance that a plane could have been dropped on my town.  
Thank You!!!

P.S. You have made me want to do something good with my life. I might not be a hero like you but I'll try and help as people as I can.



# "I want to thank bottom of my heart"

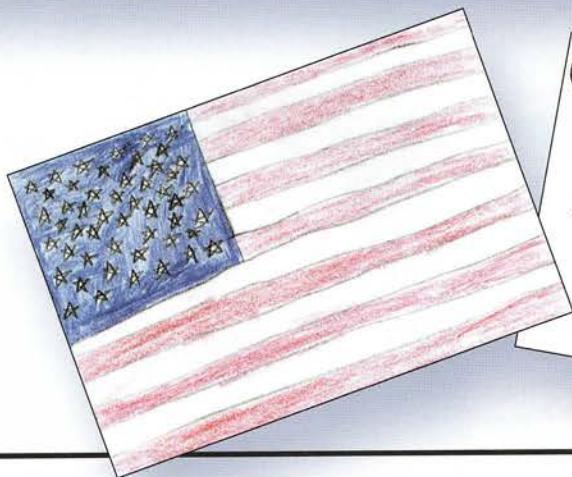
Dear, flight controllers

Thank you for Saving  
all those people in the  
planes. I thought that a lot  
more planes would be falling  
from the sky. Thank you  
for staying under control.

Thanks for landing all the other planes.

And for all the other work you did during this tragedy.

I have been watching, and learning about  
our nation's tragedy. There were many heroes and  
heroines, but some of them were not given credit.  
Without air traffic controllers there may have  
been other planes that could have crashed. We  
can only imagine what you must have felt  
when you lost contact with the planes. Thank  
you for staying under control and saving so  
many other lives.



God Bless  
AMERICA!

By Kristen Barbara

you from the

I would like to thank you for doing your job so well the day of the tragedy and every day.

I want to tell you that you did great job and I appreciate it because you didn't get all the planes down then might have had another building crashed and destroyed. I want to thank you the bottom of my heart.

I realize that your job is very hard and stressful. I think that you are heros and you saved thousands of lives. You are heros.

And thank a lot for taking care of all of the people in the Air when the terrorist bombing happened.



# "You did a lot for

Anyway I just wantd you to know how much I appericate your kind and generous work even though it's your job. all i know is that it a very important and hard job to do, and because of that i'm not that scared to be in a plane, even with everything that happened.  
Thank you again.

I want to give you credit and to say thank you for landing all the planes safely on sept 11.

You air traffic controllers have done your jobs. Thank you so much. God Bless America and all air traffic controllers.

Well, I'm sad about the people that died, but I'm so happy that used saved those people's life.



# this country”

If you had not thought as quickly as you had hundreds of people would have died in those planes. Thank you for saving lives. I'm very grateful!

I hope that you guys stay the way you guys are and never change. The United States needs more people like you. People who know what there doing.

You did a lot for this country although you probaly don't realize it. I took my time to write this letter out to you guys, just to thank you So, here goes, thanks guys, you did a lot. You deserve a reward. To bad all I can give you is this letter and most of my support



# "Thanks for being

All of you Air traffic controllers were great you took your time and told the planes to land emmidetly. As Soon as they could. So they would know if their is any more high jacked planes in the air. Once again I want to thank all of you for doing a job well done.

I just realized what all you people went through to land those planes. The reason I just realized is that my teacher just told me. Now I see you people did a great thing and maybe saved some lives.

Hi, my name is Steve Udibe, and I'm astonished of the work you completed. The nonveracking ability you have concord was so hard. You have probably saved more lives by getting in so many air planes at a time in a hour.

I am sorry that you aren't getting credit for your actions on Tuesday 9/11. I want to thank you for getting the planes and the people down safley. That was very brave and cool.

there”

Also people will never forget about you's either & how you's prevented more things from happening that was a very smart thing that you's have done we are very proud of you's. You did the right thing & thank you.

Thanks for being there for all the people you saved. I was surprised when the two planes hit the twin towers. If anything happens again in New York I'll bet you'll be there.

I cannot say thank you enough for the tragedy that you handled so well. I am glad you grounded the planes that were in the air. I am also glad you watched out for the other planes and made sure that they landed safely. Thanks.



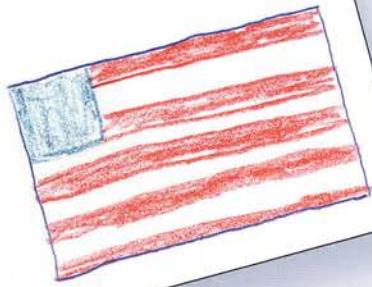
# "I feel safer with

I have to give you credit for how you landed the planes. It must take some serious skill to do that. I'm sure you have a very stressful job. Remember one thing though, Don't Worry, Be Happy! You save and control many peoples lives everyday. You should be proud of your self. So give your self a pat on the back.

I a student of West Hyleton Middle School thank you and rest of Air Traffic Controllers. You and the rest of them landed the planes nicely. We are very thankful for what did. You landed over 5,000 planes.

THANKS

FOR  
SAVING THE  
USA!



I'm very happy that you's saved so many lives. That's just so awesome!



# "you helping"

Thank to your reactions, all of the planes and jets in the sky that day landed safely. For doing what you did, you can call yourselves heroes. Without you, there would have been a lot of collisions. Thank you very much.

I am grateful to you that you landed most of the planes. You saved a lot of lives, I think you deserve more credit than you have received.

I know I could never do what you did, even with about fifteen thousand people helping. For these heroic feats I thank you along with a few million other people.

I had heard that you didn't get any credit for landing so many airplanes in just a short period of time. I also heard how stressful your jobs could be by just keeping track of 700 airplanes. I just wanted to congratulate you on that and also give you credit too.

I am in 7th grade and I feel safer with you helping us as much as you can. I also can say if your not everyone's hero, your mine.



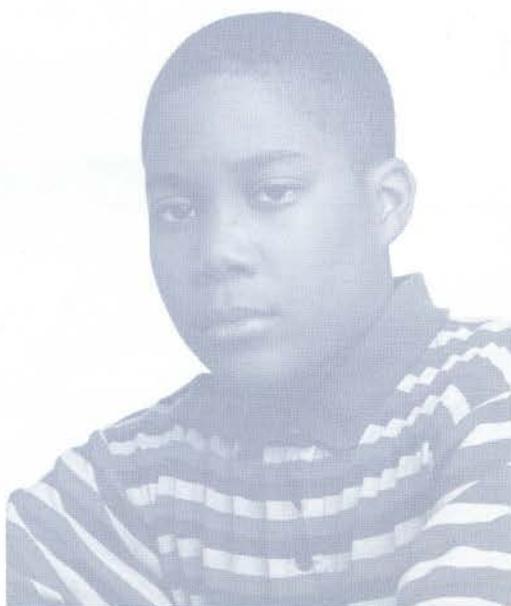
# "you saved a lot

Thank you for what you did  
you saved a lot of people  
and there families. There is  
no other way that I can thank  
you.

My name is Cassie  
and I'm writing this  
letter to thank you  
for shutting down the  
air lines for a day.  
After the planes hit  
on 9/11/01.

The world is in a great dept of gratitude for  
your talent. You saved thousands working  
hard to land the airplanes.

I think it was  
a very good thing  
to do. You all stayed  
calm and used your  
heads. All of you should  
get a medal for your  
bravery. Congratulations  
you are all truly  
heroes!



# of people'

I, a student at West Hazleton Middle School, along with many other students want to tell you what a great job you did getting all of the airplanes to land safely on the date of September 11, 2001. After the airplane crashes you did a good job getting all of the planes to land safely.

I would like to thank you for getting all planes in and canceling all flights. I don't know what convinced those terrorists to hit the Pentagon and the Twin Towers.

I think you should be recommended as heroes. I think the event that went on in New York and the Pentagon in Washington was tragic. Thank you for all you have done for us & tried to help us. In my own opinion you should be called heroes.

To all the air traffic control people  
I think that all of you did a great job on Tuesday for what happened. If you didn't do that something else might of happened.

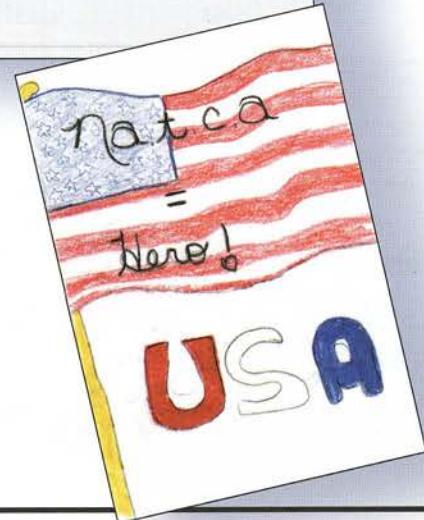
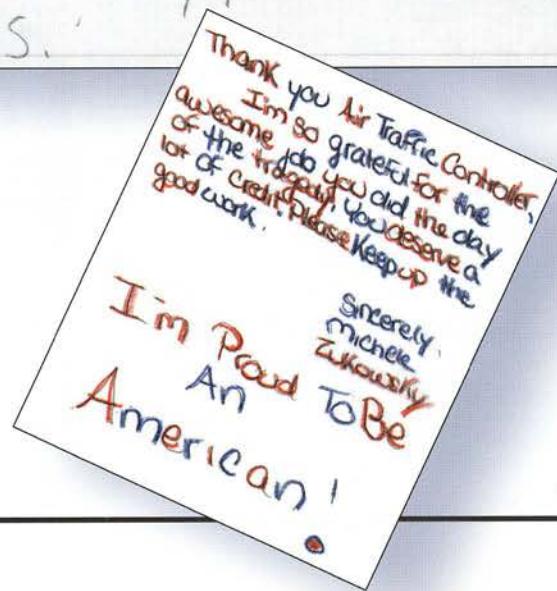


# “Please keep up

Hi! My name is Erin Sebia. I'm 12 years old. I am in seventh grade. I am writing to you because I thought that landing those planes must have been hard. So, I wanted let you know that you are a hero.

You had to land your plane without anyone getting injured, and you did! Not only are the firefighters, or police men heroes so are you! I'll never forget that.

Thank you for everything you did last Tuesday. Thank you for landing all the planes so they wouldn't get hijacked by terrorists. You saved a lot of lives.



# the good work'

Dear Air Traffic Controllers,

I'm thanking you for closing all the nations airports but thing I want to know is how did you let 4 high jackers get past your security. It was good what you did it shut down all the airports because more high jackers would probably have come on cause they caught most people after that. The only thing is we need as home better security.

Sincerely,  
Jade

I know that that you are just doing your job but you did it very well. I hope if this happens again you will do the same thing.

Please keep up the good work because it is wonderful on how you work & react at situations, I really appreciate this.



# "I respect you greatly"

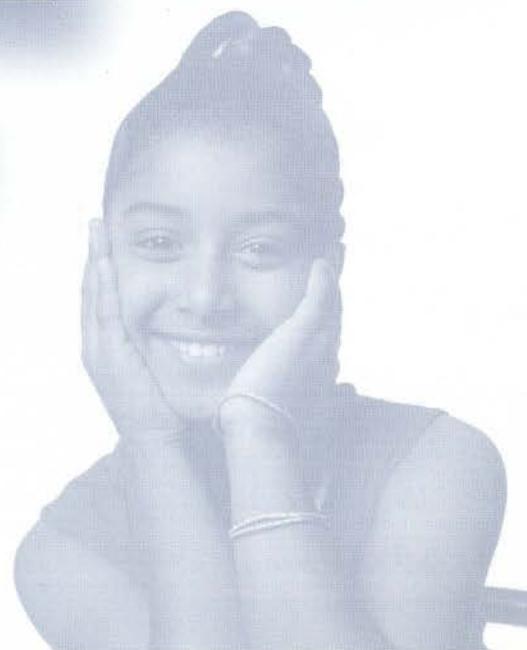
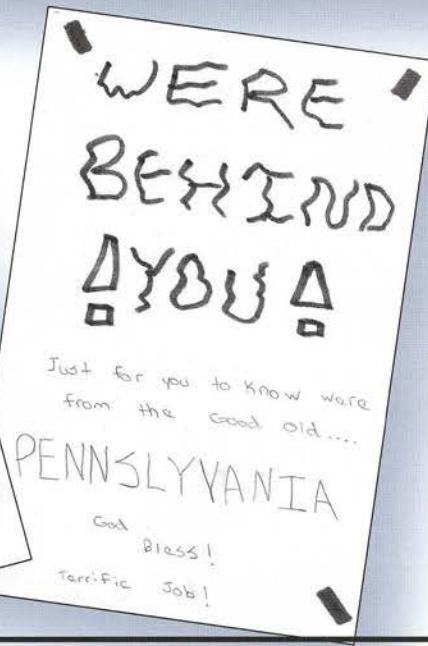
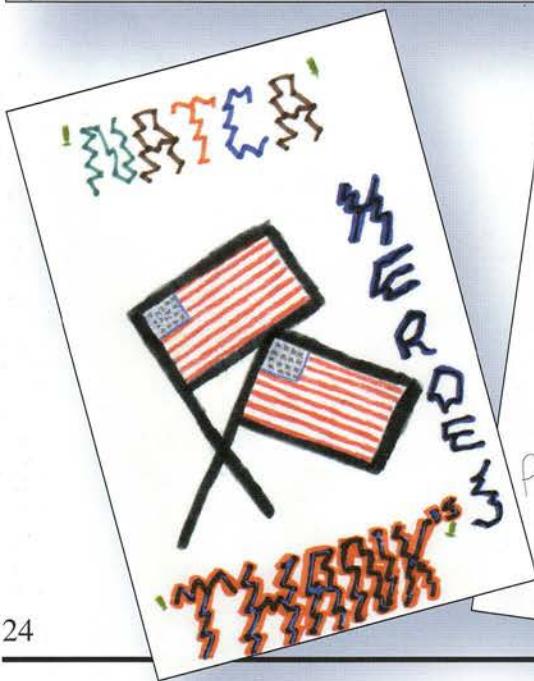
I am really

greatful for what you did with the planes when  
you landed them without any commotion or accidents.

Thank you very much, keep up the good work. You deserve  
a reward.

So the 8<sup>th</sup> grade of  
West Hazleton middle school is thanking  
you for what you did to bring therest  
of the planes down safely. I'm  
sad what hupped. But all we can  
do is pray.

I respect you greatly for your  
actions. You're a hero to me



# for your actions”

I would like to thank you for saving other people's lives. Many other people that have been on the plane with the terrorists have lost their lives and that's why I'm thanking you because you really did your job. You're the best! May God bless you and America.

I know you weren't actually there, in New York or the Pentagon, but I imagine that it must of hard landing all of them planes on the runway without a single crash or death. That was incredible!

I thank you for landing all those planes. I thank you for saving all the lives of people in the planes you landed. I think you should get credit for landing all the planes.



# "You are heroes to

It must have been a really hard task to land all those planes. It probably took a long time. You should have got credit. You are my hero. Keep up the good work.

You are very good at your job. I never thought your job was very important until you landed thousands of planes. If it wasn't for you the planes in the air would never of known what happened and they might of crashed into something that could of killed thousands of people but you saved them all. I think you are a real hero.

Landing the planes must have been nerve racking because I get nervous at the free throw line in basketball. When I'm at the free throw the worst I can do is lose a game, but if you didn't do that, people could have died. Thank you for everything you did.

# the nation'

I don't care some people think that you are not  
heros but you will always Be a hero to me.

What happened was a disaster  
and yous are doing your  
best to help clean up and  
stuff. And I wanna say  
Thank You.

No one I know was in  
the Trade center or on A Plane  
That day but it affected me  
greatly. You are heros to the  
Nation.

My name is Kaitlyn Petrole. Clo  
am I writing to thank you. Thank you  
for helping us on Tuesday the 11<sup>th</sup>. In  
a time of confusion you stayed clam.  
Thank you once again.

I think you deserve more credit for what you  
have done.

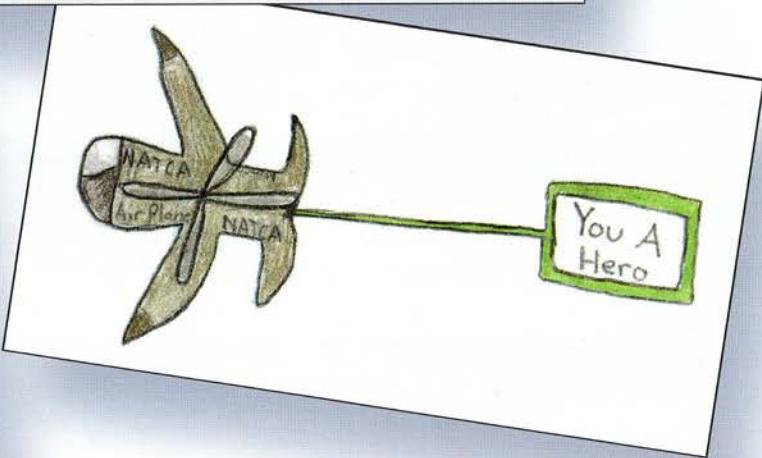
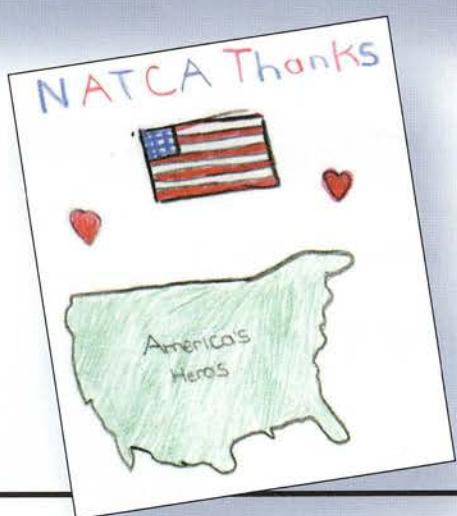


# "Your job landed many

If we didn't have all of the Air Traffic Control Workers we probably would have had a lot more plane crashes on that terrible day. So you too, are definitely heroes.

Thank you for getting all the planes out of the sky during the attack. You guys were a lot of help to all the pilots. The way you got all of the planes out of the sky is must be hard. But you people sure know how to get the planes to land. So I say thanks to all of you. You should be proud of yourselves.

I know that my family and I are very grateful for all your hard work and the effort you made to land all of the airplanes in time.



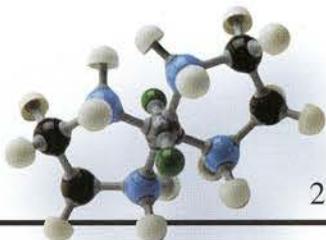
# people who were scared”

My name is Michael Angeloni, and I just want to thank you for everything you have done to help airplanes in crisis. You are very important because, without you, a lot more planes would crash. During this crisis, I am proud to say that you kept your cool. You are very important people because of this.

People are saying that the firefighters and police officers are heroes, but you are also a hero. I think it was wrong that you didn't get any credit for landing all those planes. So I think the real heroes are you guys.

Your job landed many people who were probably very scared and happy to have their feet back on the ground. You have helped our nation when they needed it in this time of tragedy. You too are a hero and don't let anyone tell you you're not because in my eyes you are, thank you. Your heroic efforts will go on in time.

Thank you for your devoted time in this incident. Every plane landed in its right spot without colliding with anything. It may not seem it, but the way you all landed these planes may have saved thousands of lives.



# “What you did

I think you did a great job getting all the planes down. You got them down fast so there was no more incidents. Hopefully none of these incidents happen again. Good job again and keep up the good work.

I thank you for your efforts in landing all of the aircraft in your area at the time. I'm sure it was stressful to make sure every one of the planes landed.

America is very grateful to you for your efforts. You as a worker are a hero. When our nations tragedy occurred you did more than anyone.

I am glad there were no more plane crashes when you landed the airplanes, that's because you did a wonderful job.



# was awesome”

I would like to say thanks for all your help for all the things you did for us and trying to keep the plane on track and thanks for trying your best.

I'm 12 years old. On Tuesday September 11 what you did was awesome, how you land the planes. You did a great thing on September 11. For doing what you did ~~anyone~~ could call yourself heroes. I have been grateful for what you did. After all, you helped the whole United States. Thanks very much.

So I thank you so much for landing our planes safely. You deserve a lot more credit than people do give you. That is why I am writing to you. You have done such a great job trying to land some thousand of planes in a matter of only so much time. I think you have helped our country a lot when we needed it most. I thank you for that. I am very grateful for all you have done thank you.



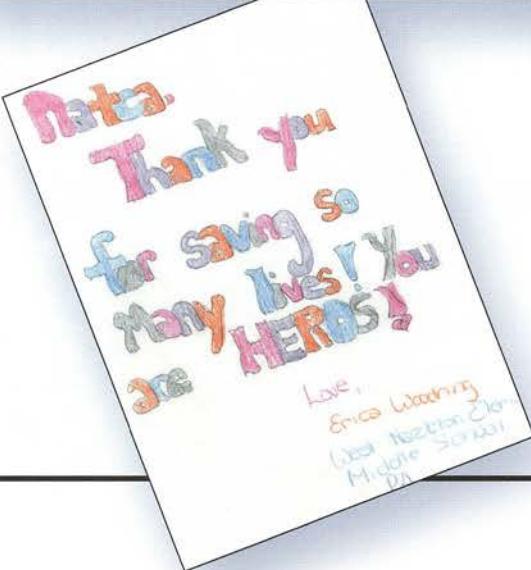
# "I will never forget what

Thank you for directing all the planes down safely. You save a lot of lives each day, if there was no air control, there would be a lot of plane crashes.

I hope you are happy, and thankful of what you did because I am. I hope you have a wonderful life. You saved thousands of people from getting in a plane accident. I will never forget what you did for being a hero.

Thank you for all the hard work you did on that day. I am so proud of you that I will call you a hero.

My name is Ambanda, and I just figured you all deserved a thank you for what you did!



I recognize as being a hero because you landed all the planes in America on September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2001 cause of what happened in New York. I think you're heroes because you landed the planes and there was no accidents. I am from Pennsylvania. Good Luck in how you are helping.

Thank you,  
Courtney Galbiati

you did for being a hero"

people like the curious jobs  
the you are doing. They like you when  
you people make their day, and put a  
smile on their faces

It's hard work doing what you do.  
You are considered heros to the United States,  
for not letting any more attacks take place.  
As U.S citizens, you deserve all the credit  
you can possibly take.

I am grateful for your work. People  
don't understand how hard it is  
to do your job. It must be very  
stressful and tiring. Congratulations  
for your excellent work!

My name is Thomer Sowers. I know there are  
any where from 5,000 to 700 planes in the air  
at one time and you have what I think is one  
of the most stressful jobs there are - But on  
9-11-01 all the planes where grounded and your  
job became ten times harder. You had saved  
countless lives and I am very grateful.



# "Thank you for protecting

I would like to thank you for helping to land the other planes in a safe and orderly fashion with no accidents.

If you would not have landed the planes safely more people would have died so you should get a lot of credit for doing a great job.

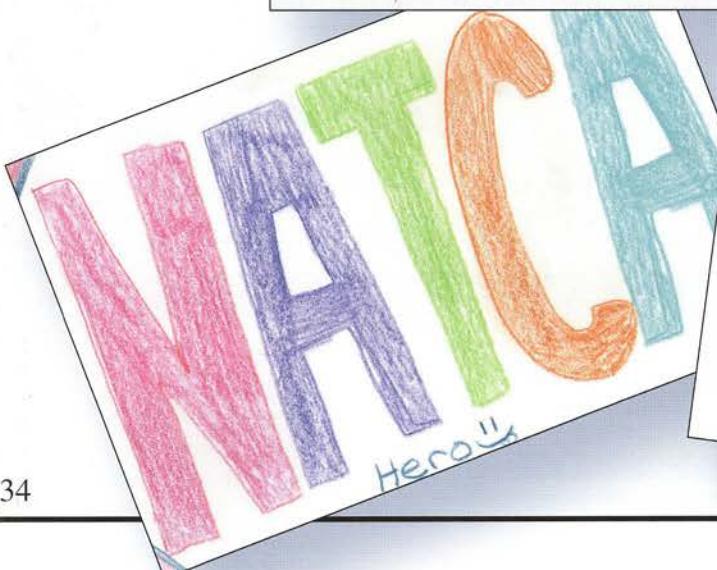
Everyone at West Harleton is proud of the job you did, & is very thankful for landing the planes.

I want to congradulate all of the air controllers in a safe, and a well done job.

Hi my name is Eric Minnick & just want to thank you for landing all of the other planes safely. I think what happened was terrible.

I recognize you as being a Hero Because if it wasn't for you this devastating tragedy would have been much worse. You were able to land all of the planes in the U.S.A. without any accidents. Thanks for being a hero !!

Sincerely,  
Melissa Burens



# America from the terrorists”

I am from Hazleton PA. I think you did a fantastic job bring all them plans down at once. Thank you protecting America from the terrorists.

I think you did a spectacular thing of landing all those planes on 9/11/01. This is no easy task. You saved a lot of lives by doing this and I'm sure that they are just as grateful as I am.

I'm writing this letter to you to thank you for your actions on September 11. I think you did a great job on landing all of those planes on that Tuesday. Of been a really hard task.

I'm writing you is because I want to honor you for all the work you did. You were under alot of pressure but you handled the job great. Thanks a lot



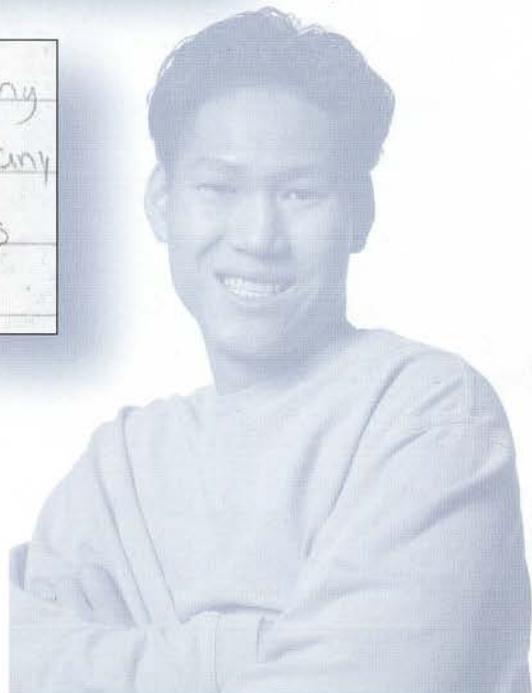
# "You are a special hero

While most others watched the news to hear more of this despicable act of violence you had an even harder day at work.

I am writing this letter to thank all of the Air Traffic Controllers for the great job they have done bringing all of the planes down. They have done it in a very orderly way and also quickly. Bringing the planes down might have prevented more tragic events then from what has already happened.

You saved as many people as you could and everyone should be proud abt that

I think you did an outstanding job landing all those planes without any collisions. It's not fair that no one is giving you any credit.



# in what happened”

I hope that you continue doing your job as successful as you are now. My other hope is that if something like this happens in the future you'll land the planes safely again.

You are a special hero in what happened because you saved more people from getting hurt. Everyone really appreciates your work.

It was not cool to do that to us when we did not do anything to them. I hope that they get the guy that did this. It was smart to get all the plane's that were in the air down so that nothing else would happen to any other places.

I think you are also a hero because you had to land all of the planes when the World Trade center and the Pentagon got hit by the planes. If you would not have done that there would have been more problems, then there already is.



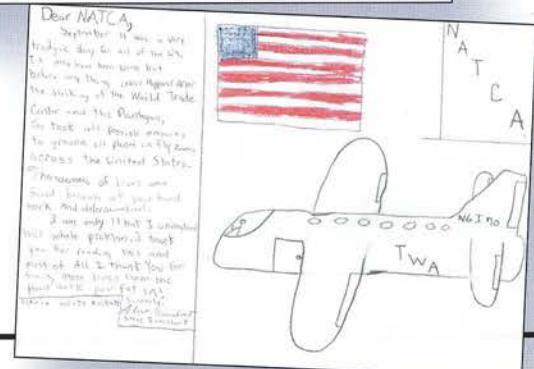
# "People don't realize how

Because of you a lot of people that were still in the air were safe because you called them and told them to land the planes. I would love to THANK YOU A lot again for the safe of planes and lives.

If it wasn't for you, there might have been another plane crash. People don't realize how important you guys really are.

I just wanted to say thank-you for all of the things you did during this tragedy. You deserve a lot of credit because I would never be able to land all those planes in ten minutes.

I would like to say, it must take skill to bring down all the planes when the World Trade Center and the Pentagon got hit.



# important you guys are"

Thanks for not crashing  
any planes on the day of  
the World Trade Center attack, I  
heard that this is a stressful  
job. Good luck with your  
job.

I strongly believe the you where the main reason why all those people are now home with thier families thanking god that they are all now safe.

I just want to give you credit for landing so many planes on a day like Tuesday. Thank you very much, you saved a lot of lives. In such a major crisis, directing so many planes you got the job done.



# “God Bless the Air Traffic

You are an important part of the landing system. I'm very greatful that you are there when I travel on planes.

I appreciate what you did for America on Tuesday September 11, 2001. You helped land the planes safely without panic.

When I heard about the tragedy I was in shock. I appreciate your good work and hope others do also. I just want to thank you for helping save all the lives on the planes.

I'm grateful to you for preventing any other disasters from occurring. I think you are part of the many heroes involved in this incident, and deserve respect for saving many people's lives.

Many people don't know the stress air traffic controllers face everyday directing the airplanes. This is especially true on that fateful day. Well, on behalf of this nation, I'd like to thank you for undergoing the stress of landing those aircraft safely. I would like to personal recognize you, N.A.T.C.A,

# Controllers and Thank You!"

The big tragedy on September eleventh was a tragic accident. You all did your jobs right. We will have to just remember and rebuild all that was lost. I just wanted to say good job and live and remember.

I want to thank you for saving many other lives.

I want thank you personal for the great job you have accomplished, and I let our country is proud.

I appreciate what you have done for us and I feel sorry that you had to endure that stress. God Bless the Air Traffic Controllers and Thank You!



# "your part in the tragedy was as those of the firemen"

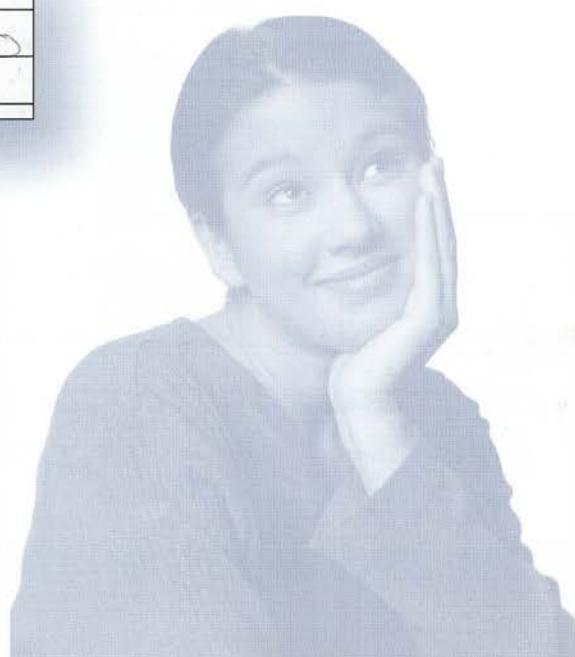
Thank you very much for helping all the other people who were on some other planes. Thank you very much for saving other people's lives including mine.

I wrote this letter to show you my appreciation and that you deserve more recognition because your part in the tragedy was just as important as those of the firemen and the policemen. Thank you for saving all those lives.

From what I heard your job is very stressful. I was wondering how hard that must have been to land all those planes at once.

Thank you for all that you have done to land the planes so that everyone was safe.

I know it must have been hard for you to make decisions in such a chaotic time. I think you did the right thing and know that your keeping our country safe.



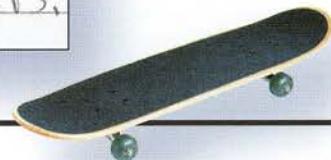
# just as important

I think its about time we should honor you. You should feel as if you all are superheroes and you just saved the world because you had to land all those planes in so little time - I hope this letter makes you smile if so then my wish come true.

- I would like to thank you for landing all the planes you did. You deserve credit for all your work.

I'm glad that you grounded the other air planes. If you didn't do that all the people in the other planes would have been killed or injured.

I greatly appreciate what you did. It is my belief that you deserve more recognition for your actions. Your role in this tragedy was as significant as that of the doctors and firefighters.



# "I will remember for the rest

Dear Sirs,

How many times, we ask, do instances like the one on tuesday, that I dare not mention, happen or even come to be thought of? When these rare occasions come about America must be prepared with you, the best of the men capable, you men make America proud. The one problem in this nation is that no-one person in the U.S. after what you did to prevent more chaos from springing into action on us thanked you good men for what you have done. I'd like to take that responsibility to thank you for your actions in the coarse of your duties. I will remember what you have done for the rest of my life, even though I have no picture of you in my mind, or way to thank you enough for your actions. I guarantee to you that I will honor, love, cherish, and believe in your ideals until the end of my life.

Sincerely Yours,

Dean Miller

West Hazleton Elementary/Middle School

what you have done  
of my life."

To whom it may concern:

Hello my name is Daine Cleary. I would like to point out that the air-traffic controllers reacted very well under pressure in landing those airplanes. I would like to congratulate them on a job well done.

When the president wanted all the planes out of the air they didn't lose control. They directed the planes to the nearest runway. They also helped make sure the planes didn't crash into each other.

When they saw the planes crash into the World Trade Center and the Pentagon they didn't freak out. They continued their jobs and who knows how many lives they saved! Who actually know how many more could have and would have died if they didn't direct them? Which leads me to being thankful to the President for taking that decision to pull the planes from the sky. To the family's of the fallen I'm sorry and I can't imagine how much pain you are going through.

Sincerely,  
Daine Cleary



"Some people may not  
important you are

To whom it may concern:

On September 11, 2001, when the hijackings happened, the FAA ordered every aircraft in the United States to land in order to avoid more attacks. When the general public thinks about how complicated this process was, they don't think much of it. However, I understand how difficult this must have been, with over 3000 commercial aircraft and countless numbers of private aircraft airborne. It must have been a challenge to direct every aircraft into the nearest airport without any incidents in that chaotic mess.

I want to congratulate all of the Air Traffic Controllers (ATCs) around the U.S. for an excellent job! Now pilots can trust ATCs even more to get them where they are going without incident. The passengers of the airline industry will also have more faith in air travel. Good job!

Sincerely,  
Joseph Rukowski

know how  
but I do."

To whom it may concern,

My name is Kenny Williams. I am 13 years old and I live in Pennsylvania. I would just like to congratulate you on the commendable job you and the other air traffic controllers did dealing with the disaster. Some people may not know how important you are but I do. You are the people that worked and worked to save other peoples lives by bringing down those planes safely. You people were very helpful during the disaster.

I think you people should be awarded for all of the lives you saved by bringing down those planes. Nobody really thinks about how many lives you saved by bringing down the planes. In conclusion congratulations on the terrific job all of you people did.

Sincerely,  
Kenny Williams



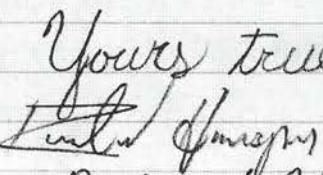
# "you did your job

To whom it may concern:

I am a student at West Hazleton Middle School which is in Northeastern Pennsylvania. On Tuesday the eleventh, I and many others watched the television in disbelief. As the news came on stating two planes hit the twin towers and then the Pentagon.

I did not even think it would happen again. When the F.A.A. shut down all flights, everyone who was involved with it moved swiftly and brilliantly to get all planes down safely. I congratulate and honor you for that.

I hope that a tragedy like this never happens again. If it should though it will feel good to know that people of your intelligence, composure, and skill are working behind publicity keeping everyone safe.

Yours truly  
  
Richard Hunsinger

# and you did it well'

Tricia Zelenack  
West Hazleton Elementary  
Middle School 8th grade

Dear Air Traffic Controllers,

Hello, my name is Tricia Zelenack, and I am a resident of West Hazleton Pennsylvania. I attend West Hazleton Elementary/Middle School, and I am in 8th grade. Due to the attack on the United States of America on September 11, 2001, many people were concerned about New York, and Washington, and were not concerned about the difficult job you were entitled to do. But you did your job and you did it well, and even though the whole United States may not show it, deep down in their hearts we all know that they appreciate the pride and determination that you put into your job on that devastating day.

Thank You!

Sincerely,  
Tricia Zelenack  
Tricia Zelenack





National Air Traffic Controllers  
Association - AFL-CIO  
1325 Massachusetts Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20005

[www.natca.org](http://www.natca.org)

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