On Never Forgetting…

Manhattan
World Trade Center Site
Friday, Memorial Day weekend 2006

Imagine joining me for a sunny, hot New York Friday in May. We revisit ground Zero.

We see men and women of the USMC, members of the FDNY and the US Coast Guard, dressed in uniform tee shirts. They are running in disciplined, sweat stained formations around the perimeter of the site. They stand solemnly in front of the entrance.

The realization dawns that this is no longer the disaster recovery site. A change is palpable. The World Trade Center is filled with a new energy. It is our nation's Reconstruction Site.

We watch, remembering a sunny, blue morning on September 11, 2001, when I was not far from this very place.

Then the smartly uniformed US Marine Corps band move in perfect unison; their instruments snap into playing position so quickly that the movement is a blur.

I keep my composure until I hear the opening chords of "Going home", excerpted from Dvorak's New World Symphony….

We must never forget, I remind myself.

Not **ever** forget….

JBG

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