

DOCKET NO. SA-516

APPENDIX 3

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
WASHINGTON, DC

INTERVIEW TRANSCRIPT
FRANKLIN D. PEREZ
NOVEMBER 18, 1996
(11 pages)

1 APPEARANCES:

2 TERRY STACEY, TWA

3 LU LIEBER, FBI

4 STEPHEN F. KLAPACH, FAA

5 KEVIN LONGWELL, Boeing Company

6 DENNIS SANTIAGO, IAM

7 LOU BURNS, AIRLINE PILOTS ASSOCIATION

8 MARGARET GIUGLIANO, TWA

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I N D E X

INTERVIEWEE

Page

Franklin D. Perez

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E X H I B I T S

IDENTIFIED

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None

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P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

MR. WIEMEYER: On the record.

Okay. Would you, first of all, give us your first name and spelling on your last name.

MR. PEREZ: Franklin.

MR. WIEMEYER: The first name is Franklin?

MR. PEREZ: Right.

MR. WIEMEYER: Okay. And your middle initial?

MR. PEREZ: D, D as in David.

MR. WIEMEYER: And your last name?

MR. PEREZ: Perez. P as in Peter, e-r-e-z.

MR. WIEMEYER: Okay. And what's your local address, mailing address?

MR. PEREZ: It's 47-48 39th Place, in Sunnyside.

MR. WIEMEYER: And the Zip code?

MR. PEREZ: It's 11104.

MR. WIEMEYER: And local phone number?

MR. PEREZ: It's 718 area code, 937-1049.

MR. WIEMEYER: Okay. And you're an employee of TWA?

MR. PEREZ: Yes.

MR. WIEMEYER: How long have you been with TWA?

MR. PEREZ: Since '79, March 5th, '79.

MR. WIEMEYER: And what is your position?

MR. PEREZ: I'm an ^{AIR}~~AMP~~ mechanic, hangar line.

MR. WIEMEYER: Okay, what certificates and licenses

1 do you hold?

2 MR. PEREZ: I have an ^{A+P}~~AMP~~ air frame and power plane.

3 MR. WIEMEYER: Okay. What was your exposure to
4 Flight 800?

5 MR. PEREZ: Well, all I did was, I taped the lavatory
6 service panel in the back with speed tape, that's all I did.
7 And there was a fact that they guy told us the bags -- there --
8 was some -- of bags or something, and I told the guy. Yeah, he
9 said, put them on. That's it.

10 MR. WIEMEYER: Okay, what was the need to speed-tape
11 the lav service door?

12 MR. PEREZ: Oh, the latch is -- one latch was not --
13 was not staying on secure, so.

14 MR. WIEMEYER: Okay. So it wouldn't stay closed, in
15 other words?

16 MR. PEREZ: Right, wouldn't stay closed, it wouldn't
17 say.

18 MR. WIEMEYER: What would've been -- been required to
19 make a -- a permanent repair on that?

20 MR. PEREZ: Oh, you would've had to replace the
21 latch. Because that came up towards the end of the -- they had
22 just serviced, and it was almost ready to go, so they had to
23 write a -- make a write-up. And what we did was, we did a
24 temporary repair, which is to put a -- speed tape around the
25 door, the access door.

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1 MR. WIEMEYER: How long were you around the aircraft?

2 MR. PEREZ: ^{MAYBE} ~~May~~ ten, twenty minutes.

3 MR. WIEMEYER: Do you remember whether it was early
4 or late in the cycle?

5 MR. PEREZ: It was late, because I was working the
6 next flight coming out.

7 MR. WIEMEYER: Okay, where is this lav service door
8 located?

9 MR. PEREZ: It's rear of the bulk of the bulk cargo,
10 roughly around that same area on the bottom of the aircraft.

11 MR. WIEMEYER: Okay. You mentioned something about
12 some bags. Would you expand on that a little?

13 MR. PEREZ: There was some bags that they wanted to
14 put back on, because -- so they said that they had a bag pull
15 or something, and he said put it on. So the guy told me to
16 tell them to put it on, and he put it on.

17 MR. WIEMEYER: Okay. Did you assist him with putting
18 those on?

19 MR. PEREZ: Yeah, I gave him a hand.

20 MR. WIEMEYER: Do you recall -- and that went back in
21 the bulk cargo?

22 MR. PEREZ: No, that was in the forward cargo.

23 MR. WIEMEYER: In the forward cargo. And do you
24 recall anything with regards to temperature of the cargo holds
25 or anything like that, as far as your exposure to this?

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1 MR. PEREZ: No, it was pretty -- pretty cool; wasn't
2 -- was a normal day, summer day.

3 MR. WIEMEYER: Okay.

4 MR. PEREZ: Eighty.

5 MR. WIEMEYER: While you were out there on the
6 airplane, did you notice if the fuelers were there on the
7 airplane working the airplane, or not?

8 MR. PEREZ: No, I didn't notice that at all.

9 MR. WIEMEYER: Okay.

10 MR. PEREZ: Don't recall.

11 MR. WIEMEYER: And so, you primarily were down on the
12 right-hand side of the airplane? I'm trying to picture this
13 correctly.

14 MR. PEREZ: It's -- if you look at the aircraft, it's
15 closer to the tail end of it, but it's -- it's aft of the bulk
16 cargo, is where they service the lavs. So I was told by my
17 lead at the time, I wasn't even working that flight, too.

18 Because the other guys were busy with other stuff, so
19 they told me go -- why don't you go put some speed tape on --
20 block it up.

21 MR. WIEMEYER: Did you have any conversations with
22 any of the other maintenance people that worked on the airplane
23 about anything that --

24 MR. PEREZ: Perez.

25 MR. WIEMEYER: -- you can recall specifically?

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1 MR. PEREZ: No. Because I wasn't part of that group
2 that was doing the work on it.

3 MR. WIEMEYER: Okay, I don't have anything, Terry.

4 MR. STACEY: Terry Stacey with TWA, I'm a 747 pilot.
5 So you weren't in the aft cargo at all, or the --

6 MR. PEREZ: No.

7 MR. STACEY: -- cargo area, just in the forward
8 cargo?

9 MR. PEREZ: Just the forward cargo.

10 MR. STACEY: Nothing else.

11 MS. LIEBER: I'm Lu Lieber with the FBI, and I have
12 -- don't have any questions.

13 MR. KLAPACH: Steve Klapach from the FAA. I don't
14 have any questions, either.

15 MR. LONGWELL: I'm Kevin Longwell, with Boeing. I
16 have no questions.

17 MR. SANTIAGO: Dennis Santiago with IAM. Just one
18 question.

19 When you approached the aircraft, did anybody
20 approach you ask you any questions, any fuelers or anything?

21 MR. PEREZ: No.

22 MR. SANTIAGO: No? Were they finished fueling at the
23 time?

24 MR. PEREZ: I don't really recall.

25 MR. SANTIAGO: You don't recall.

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1 MR. PEREZ: Because there was a lot of --

2 MR. SANTIAGO: Activity?

3 MR. PEREZ: Yeah, activity around the aircraft.

4 MR. SANTIAGO: But did you actually go inside the
5 forward cargo hold?

6 MR. PEREZ: Yeah, I did.

7 MR. SANTIAGO: Did you hear any noises or anything
8 inside?

9 MR. PEREZ: Nothing. Not a thing. Normal.

10 MR. SANTIAGO: Okay, I don't have anything else.

11 MR. BURNS: Hi, I'm Lou Burns, with Airline Pilots
12 Association. No questions.

13 MR. WIEMEYER: I have one follow-up question. Did
14 you notice any condensation or any other fluids dripping off
15 the wings?

16 MR. PEREZ: Well, I really didn't look for.

17 MR. WIEMEYER: Is this something that you do see on
18 occasions?

19 MR. PEREZ: Condensation on the wing? Sure.

20 MR. WIEMEYER: Okay. In your opinion, could that be
21 misinterpreted to be some other fluid by people?

22 MR. PEREZ: No.

23 MR. WIEMEYER: Well, that was quick. I don't have
24 anything else.

25 Anybody else?

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1 (No response.)

2 MR. WIEMEYER: Appreciate your coming by, thank you.

3 MR. PEREZ: All right.

4 MS. LIEBER: Thank you, Mr. Perez.

5 MR. WIEMEYER: Off the record.

6 (Whereupon, the interview was concluded.)

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