

**DOCKET NO. SA-516**

**APPENDIX D**

**NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD  
WASHINGTON, DC**

**DOCUMENTS PERTAINING TO WITNESSES 200-299  
(227 pages)**

200

000002

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 08/09/96

[REDACTED]

Manorville, New York (NY), [REDACTED] was advised of the official identities of the interviewing agents and purpose of the interview. [REDACTED] provided the following information:

[REDACTED] advised that on the evening of July 17, 1996, he was on the Great Gun Dock located on the bay side of Fire Island, NY, near Moriches Inlet. [REDACTED] stated the dock runs in an east to west direction and he was standing slightly west of the center of the dock. There was a restroom located to his right. [REDACTED] was with his mother, [REDACTED] and father, [REDACTED]. It was dusk. [REDACTED] stated that somebody on the dock said, "Look, a flare." [REDACTED] observed a small pale red/pink dot, originating from the southeast direction, appearing from his vantage point to be the size of an eraser going up in the sky.

[REDACTED] was unable to estimate his distance from the rising dot. He indicated he first observed the object when it was a relative distance of one foot above the horizon. The dot was followed by a thin, very white trail of smoke, which was slightly wider than the dot. The smoke was consistent in color and density. It dissipated in approximately five seconds.

The dot traveled up a path shaped like a candy cane: straight up, then curving at the top from west to east, if one was facing south. As the dot started to come down, it exploded as a single burst of flames into a bright orange fireball. He observed two defined, staggered sections of flames falling. From his vantage point he was unable to see the flames landing. [REDACTED] heard no sounds. [REDACTED] described the timing of events were as follows: the dot rose and curved for ten to fifteen seconds; there was an explosion and the flames fell for 30 seconds. [REDACTED] stated he first believed he had seen a flare or a comet. The sun had already set behind him and to his right.

265A-NY-259028-SUB C1

Investigation on 7/24/96 at Manorville, New York

File # 265A-NY-259028

by SA STACY R. DIAMOND  
SA PAUL PALUMBO/axh

Date dictated 7/25/96

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
OCT 31 1996	
FBI - NEW YORK	

311

1138

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 07/25/96

[redacted] Moriches, New York, [redacted] was advised of the official identities of the interviewing agents and the nature of the interview. [redacted] then furnished the following information:

[redacted] advised that between 8:35 and 8:40 PM, he observed what appeared to be a meteor flare to the southeast. [redacted] was on his boat approximately one mile north of the mouth of the Forge River at the time. The red orange fireball was observed arcing downward for approximately four-five (4-5) seconds and was situated at an 11:00 o'clock face position. [redacted] never saw anything going up and advised that it was impossible to tell how high the explosion occurred. The fireball seemed to breakup just above or at the tree line.

296

265A-NY-259028-SUB-CC1

SEARCHED <i>AB</i>	INDEXED _____
SERIALIZED <i>AB</i>	FILED _____
JAN 27 1997	
FBI - NEW YORK	
<i>AM</i>	

(\*)  
*AM*

Investigation on 07/20/96 at Moriches, New York

File # 265A-NY-259028

by SA GAVIN P. SHEA *GPS*  
SA JASON RANDAZZO (GPS:hrq)

Date dictated 07/20/96

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 8/9/96

[REDACTED] Shelter Island, New York (NY),  
[REDACTED], was advised of the official identity of  
the interviewing Agent and the nature of the interview. [REDACTED]  
then furnished the following information:

[REDACTED] advised that while sitting on the back deck of  
the house at [REDACTED] Shelter Island, NY, facing the  
south, he observed a very small 1/2" to 3/4" scale high bright  
shaft of red, pinkish light that seemed to go up and then slowly  
descend. [REDACTED] saw nothing else and stated that the whole  
incident he observed took between 3 1/2 to 5 seconds.

265A-NY-259028-SUB-cc

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
JAN 27 1997	
FBI - NEW YORK	

AM

295  
cc  
AM

Investigation on 7/25/96 at Long Island, New York (telephonically)

File # 265A-NY-259028

by SA GAVIN P. SHEA/jxs

Date dictated 7/28/96

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 8/7/96

On July 26, 1996, Special Agent JAMES MAHER and Special Agent MARCIE A. HOUK interviewed [redacted] New York, New York, [redacted], regarding any observations he made on the night of the TWA explosion and regarding any suspicious activity he may have observed in the neighborhood before the explosion. After being advised of the identities of the interviewing Agents and the nature of the interview, [redacted] provided the following information:

On July 17, 1996, [redacted] was visiting at his mother's residence, [redacted] Mastic Beach, New York, [redacted]. His mother's name is [redacted]. [redacted] was outside on the deck when the explosion occurred. He saw what he thought to be fireworks and then a fireball, red in color. [redacted] did not hear anything. After the fireball, he observed a wall of flames on the horizon. This occurred at about 8:40 p.m.

Other than the explosion, [redacted] on the evening of July 17, 1996, observed a boat in the "back bay". It was a white speedboat with two people in it, travelling west.

[redacted] advised that his mother has been at the house on [redacted] all summer and she may know more about any unusual activity in the neighborhood before the explosion.

270

265A-NY-259028-SUB-CC1

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
NOV 12 1996	
FBI-NEW YORK	

Investigation on 7/26/96 at Long Island, New York

File # 265A-NY-259028

SAs MARCIE A. HOUK/  
JAMES MAHER/JM/dxa

Date dictated 8/5/96

1188

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 7/28/96

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] New York 11946, [REDACTED]

was interviewed after being informed as to the identity of the interviewing agents, as well as the nature of the interview.

[REDACTED] stated that on July 17, 1996, at approximately 8:25 pm, she was standing in the Hampton Bays High School parking lot talking to a friend. [REDACTED] reports that as she was looking towards the south (Atlantic Ocean), she looked in the sky and observed what she describes as a firework/Roman candle which did not go off the right way. She thought it was a dud. [REDACTED] reported that this firework looked like a thin red streak that eventually burst into a large flare.

Prior to losing sight of this flare behind the tree line, she observed flames coming out of each side as it slowly descended. [REDACTED] describes the flame on the right side as going out and then up. She describes the flames on the left side as jetting out. [REDACTED] did not see any smoke, and she did not hear any sounds.

Because [REDACTED] thought the flare was a dud firework, she did not pay any more attention to it, and continued to go about her business.

265A-NY-259028-SUB-022 - 269

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
NOV 12 1996	
FBI - NEW YORK	

Investigation on 7/28/96 at Hampton Bays, New York

File # 265A-NY-259028

by SA KEVIN M. KELLEHER/ATF  
DET. MICHAEL MONGON, SCDP:cam MFM PETA/119 Date dictated 7/28/96

1189

A

211

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 7/29/96

[redacted] Medford, New York, [redacted], was advised of the official identities of the interviewing agents and the nature of the interview. [redacted] then furnished the following information:

[redacted] advised that at approximately 8:30 pm, she was sitting in front of the boardwalk at Smith Point with a friend named [redacted]. [redacted] mentioned to [redacted] that a boat must be in distress because a flare had been shot up. [redacted] described the flare as a small reddish-orange ball with a whitish flash around it. [redacted] stated that she only observed the reddish-orange ball for two to three seconds. The reddish-orange ball seemed stationary and then there was an explosion which expanded to a large mushroom cloud which was approximately ten times larger than the size of the reddish-orange ball. [redacted] advised that the explosion had red and orange flames and grey smoke with a bright light inside. Approximately two seconds later, the mushroom cloud expanded even further and a fiery object seemed to shoot from the cloud and descend to the water. [redacted] stated that six to eight seconds elapsed during the whole incident described. No smoke trail was observed behind the reddish-orange ball and the explosion was not heard, but only observed. The explosion appeared to have taken place east of her position. She estimated the distance as five miles and stated it looked as if it occurred only one mile off shore.

265A-NY-259028-SUB CC, 260

SEARCHED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	INDEXED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
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NOV 12 1996	
FBI-NEW YORK	
TC	

(X)  
TC

Investigation on 7/22/96 at Medford, New York

File # 265A-NY-259028

SA CHARLES J. RUSSELL

by SA GAVIN P. SHEA:cam

Date dictated 7/24/96

1198

218

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 08/15/96

[redacted] East Patchogue, New York, was advised of the nature of this interview and the identity of the interviewing agent. He provided the following information:

On July 17, 1996, at about 8:20 PM, he was at Mott Lane in Brookhaven. Mott Lane ends at the Great South Bay. He was there with two friends, [redacted] and [redacted]. After they were there for a few minutes, [redacted] observed what appeared to him as two objects flying up, coming together and exploding.

[redacted] stated that it looked as though two propane tanks had caught fire and were streaking up from the water or coast line in the south southeast sky over Shirley, New York. He thought a gas station might have exploded. The objects had an orange and purple tail of flame. He could not see any smoke trail or the object at the head of the trail. The object or objects took less than one and a half seconds to reach their highest point. There was then a blue and dark purple flash. Something came off the top of the plane followed by flame. Then another part dropped off. The rest of the plane seemed to coast a little further.

All this appeared to occur about two inches above the horizon. It did not appear to be ten miles away. There were orange and yellow flames and black smoke coming from the object as it fell.

Investigation on 08/12/96 at East Patchogue, New York **265A-NY-259028-SUB CC**

File # 265A-NY-259028

by SA JAMES MCCARTHY/hrg

Date dictated X

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
08 <del>DEC</del> 15 1996	
FBI-NEW YORK	

1207



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 7/31/96

[redacted], white male, date of birth [redacted], social security number [redacted], home address [redacted] Chester, Connecticut, home telephone [redacted] was interviewed on the below date by the below listed special agent. He was advised of the identity of the interviewing agent and the nature of the interview. [redacted] provided the following information:

[redacted] was on the beach at Dennisport, Massachusetts on 7/17/96. He described the evening as very clear. The sun had set.

At approximately 8:30 pm, [redacted] saw a reddish flare in the sky back towards Long Island. [redacted] could not tell if the initial line was going up or down. It then burst into a small fireball. It looked like the puff associated with fireworks. A larger fireball erupted off the smaller one. [redacted] then saw several jets shooting down from the larger fireball. He realized that he was not looking at a regular flare but did not know what he was seeing. The entire event lasted 5 to 10 seconds. It was close to the horizon so [redacted] thought it was far away.

[redacted] marked his position on a map and drew his line of sight to the event. He then sketched the event. Both sketch and annotated map are attached.

120

265A-NY-259028-SUB C

Investigation on 7/31/96 at Chester, Connecticut

SEARCHED [initials] INDEXED [initials]  
SERIALIZED [initials] FILED [initials]

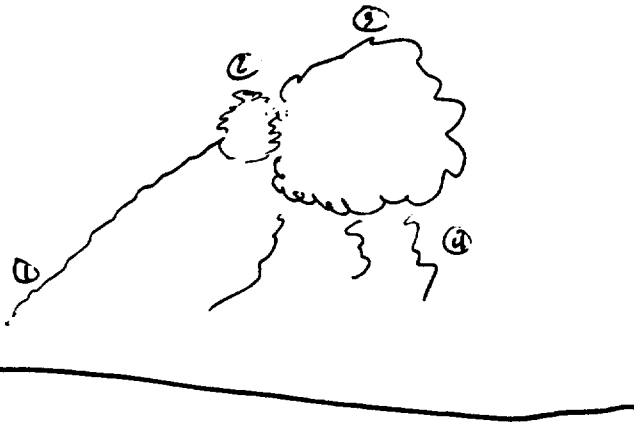
File # 265A-NY-259028

by SA Kenneth E Gray Jr : KEG/keg

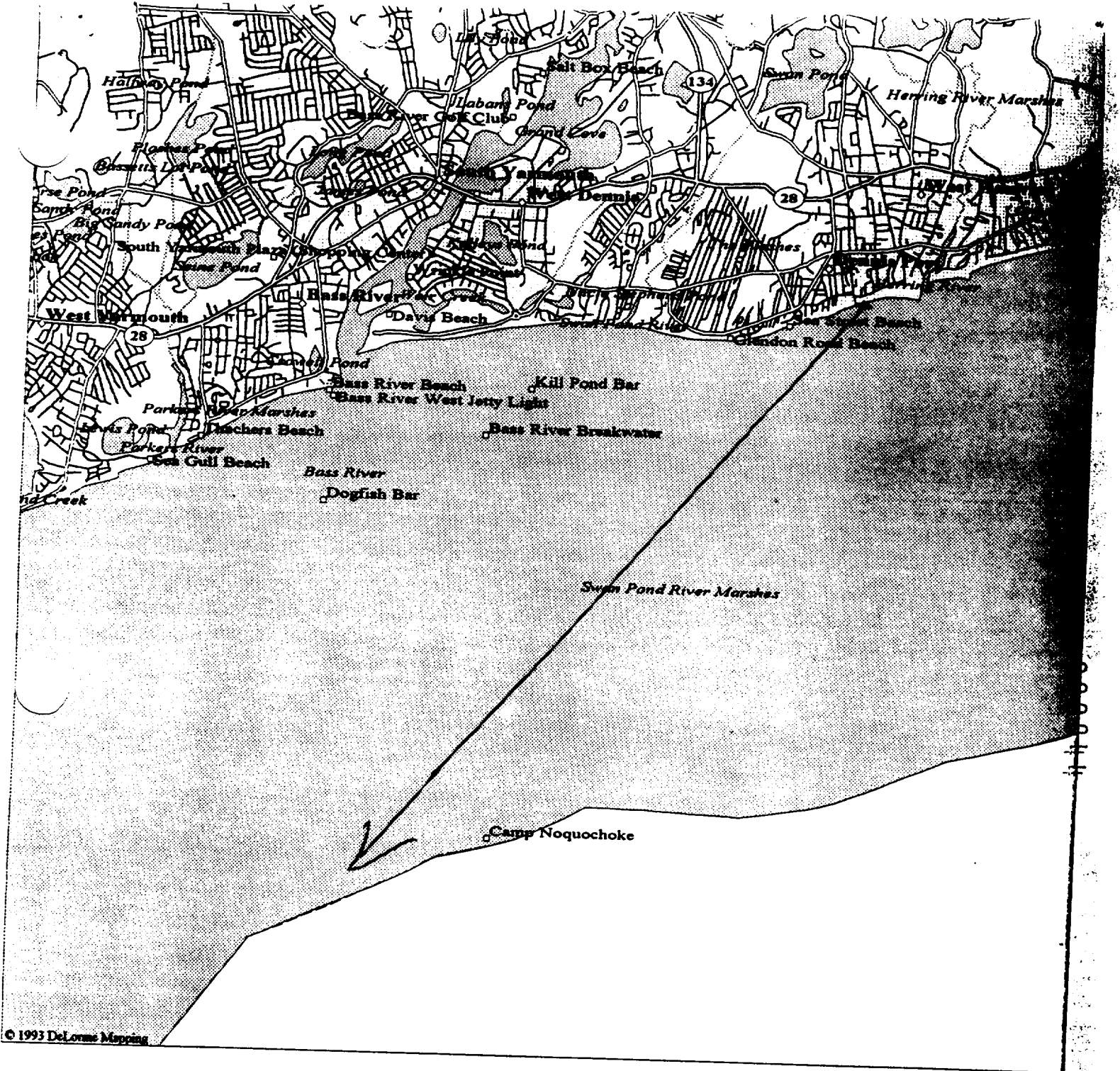
Date dictated 7/31/96

1813

000043



7/31/96



© 1993 DeLorme Mapping

- LEGEND**
- Population Center
  - State Route
  - Geo Feature
  - Town, Small City
  - - - County Boundary
  - - - Street, Road
  - - - Hwy Ramps
  - - - Trails

- Major Street/Road
- State Route
- US Highway
- +++ Railroad
- ..... River
- Land Mass
- Open Water

Scale 1:62,500 (at center)

1 Miles

2 KM

Mag 13.00  
Wed Jul 31 09:40:33 1996

[Redacted] *WHP*  
7/31/96

1815

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 7/30/96

[redacted] a white male, date of birth [redacted] SSN [redacted] who is employed as a purchasing agent for [redacted] Portland Maine, telephone number [redacted] and who resides on [redacted] Bridgeton, Maine, telephone number [redacted] was interviewed at the FBI Office, Portland, Maine. [redacted] advised the following:

[redacted] advised that he and his wife, [redacted] were vacationing and residing with a friend, [redacted] in West Babylon, Long Island, New York, from July 15th through 19th. While vacationing there, [redacted] would walk the FIRE ISLAND BEACH twice a day with his metal detector, first around 5:00 am, then around 6:30 or 7:00 pm.

[redacted] advised that on the evening of July 17th, he and his wife and friends went out for dinner. When they returned to their friend's house afterward, Mrs. [redacted] wanted to go to the beach to watch the waves and the surf come in. At approximately 7:15 pm, [redacted] and his wife drove to FIRE ISLAND. They parked their automobile in parking lot #5 of the state park which is near a lighthouse. [redacted] and his wife then walked in an easterly direction along the FIRE ISLAND NATIONAL SEASHORE for a mile or so.

[redacted] advised that they stopped at an area on the beach to sit and watch the surf come in. There were other people on the beach at that time. [redacted] advised that there was a black couple with two small children nearby. The black female had a video camera and she was filming the children playing in the water off shore. [redacted] described the black man as being medium height and weight. The black female was medium height but heavy. At approximately 8:30 pm, [redacted] heard the sound of jet plane engines and he looked up to see a large commercial jet which had apparently just taken off from JOHN F. KENNEDY INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT. The aircraft was increasing in altitude as it flew out over the ocean in an easterly or southeasterly direction. [redacted] advised that the aircraft appeared to be about two miles high and about two miles out over the water when it flew past his location

265A-NY-259028-SUB C

Investigation on 7/30/96 at Portland, Maine

File # 265A-NY-259028-262

by SA GARRY E.W. BARNES

Date dictated 7/30/96

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED

TC

1816

265A-NY-259028-302

Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED]

On 7/30/96, Page 2

[REDACTED] advised that within seconds after the aircraft passed by him, his wife called his attention to two fishing draggers which were directly south or southwest of their location. These two dragger were about six miles out at sea near each other. [REDACTED] advised that as he was looking at the draggers, but further east or in the same direction of where the aircraft flew, he saw a streak of light travel up from the water into the sky. [REDACTED] described the streak of light as though it was a rocket or like a shooting star only going upward. [REDACTED] advised that he did not watch the light because his attention was drawn toward the two draggers. He advised that he then heard a low rumbling sound come across the water and saw a flash of light. [REDACTED] advised that he could not now remember which came first, the light or the rumbling sound. [REDACTED] advised that at the time, he did not pay much attention to either the light or the sound. Mrs. [REDACTED] told [REDACTED] that they should be heading back in case it rains so they started walking back toward their car. As they were walking back, which was approximately five minutes after he observed the light and rumbling sound, [REDACTED] saw a small inboard/outboard motor boat traveling at a high rate of speed about two miles out, traveling in a westerly direction, or from the same general direction of where he saw the mysterious light to the east. [REDACTED] advised that he saw two individuals standing up in the boat. The boat was travelling so fast that as it came up out of the water, [REDACTED] saw the color blue on the boat's hull. [REDACTED] advised that he is not positive if the blue was on the top of the hull or on the bottom of the hull. [REDACTED] remembered thinking at the time that it was a small boat for being out so far from shore. [REDACTED] advised that he did not see exactly where the boat may have been heading. It could have entered the FIRE ISLAND INLET or it could have continued further west toward Freeport.

[REDACTED] advised that he never knowingly saw the aircraft explode. He advised he never made any connection about what he saw on the evening of July 17th while on the beach until the next morning when he read about it in the newspaper and saw the news on television.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 7/22/96

[redacted], white female, date of birth [redacted] social security number [redacted] home address [redacted], [redacted] New Haven, Connecticut, home telephone number [redacted] was interviewed on the below date by the below listed special agent. She was advised of the identity of the interviewing agent and the nature of the interview. [redacted] provided the following information:

[redacted] was standing by the water's edge at her condominium, after dinner on 7/17/96. She was looking out at the Long Island Sound. It was evening. The sun had set. The sky was clear.

[redacted] saw a large streak of light appear directly above and behind the east breakwater lighthouse in New Haven Harbor. This streak then formed a huge irregular shaped ball, that descended and expanded. The ball was red. It was brighter than the lighthouse and obscured it as it dropped behind it. It dropped down to the horizon, directly behind the lighthouse. [redacted] estimated the initial height as twice as high as the lighthouse appeared (approximately two degrees). [redacted] initially thought it might be fireworks. The entire event lasted only three to four seconds.

[redacted] did not see the initial formation of the streak. She did not see any event prior to seeing the streak. She did not hear any sound she could associate with it. She could not recall seeing any aircraft in the vicinity. She did not see any smoke.

[redacted] drew a diagram of what she saw. She also marked her position and line of sight to the streak on a map. Copies of both map and diagram are attached to this FD-302.

265A-NY-259028-SUBCC

118

Investigation on 7/22/96 at New Haven, Connecticut

File # 265A-NY-259028

SEARCHED [initials] INDEXED [initials]  
SERIALIZED [initials] FILED [initials]

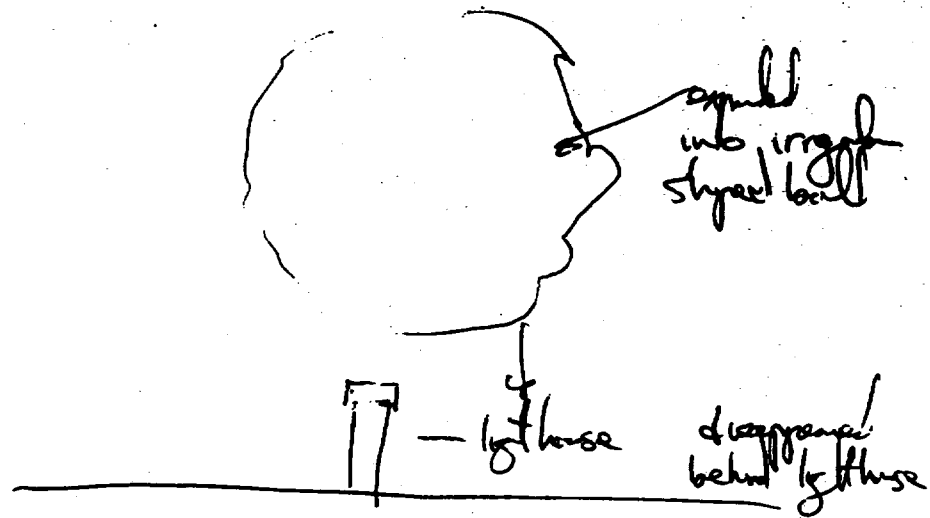
(X)

by SA Kenneth E Gray Jr

Date dictated 7/22/96

2416

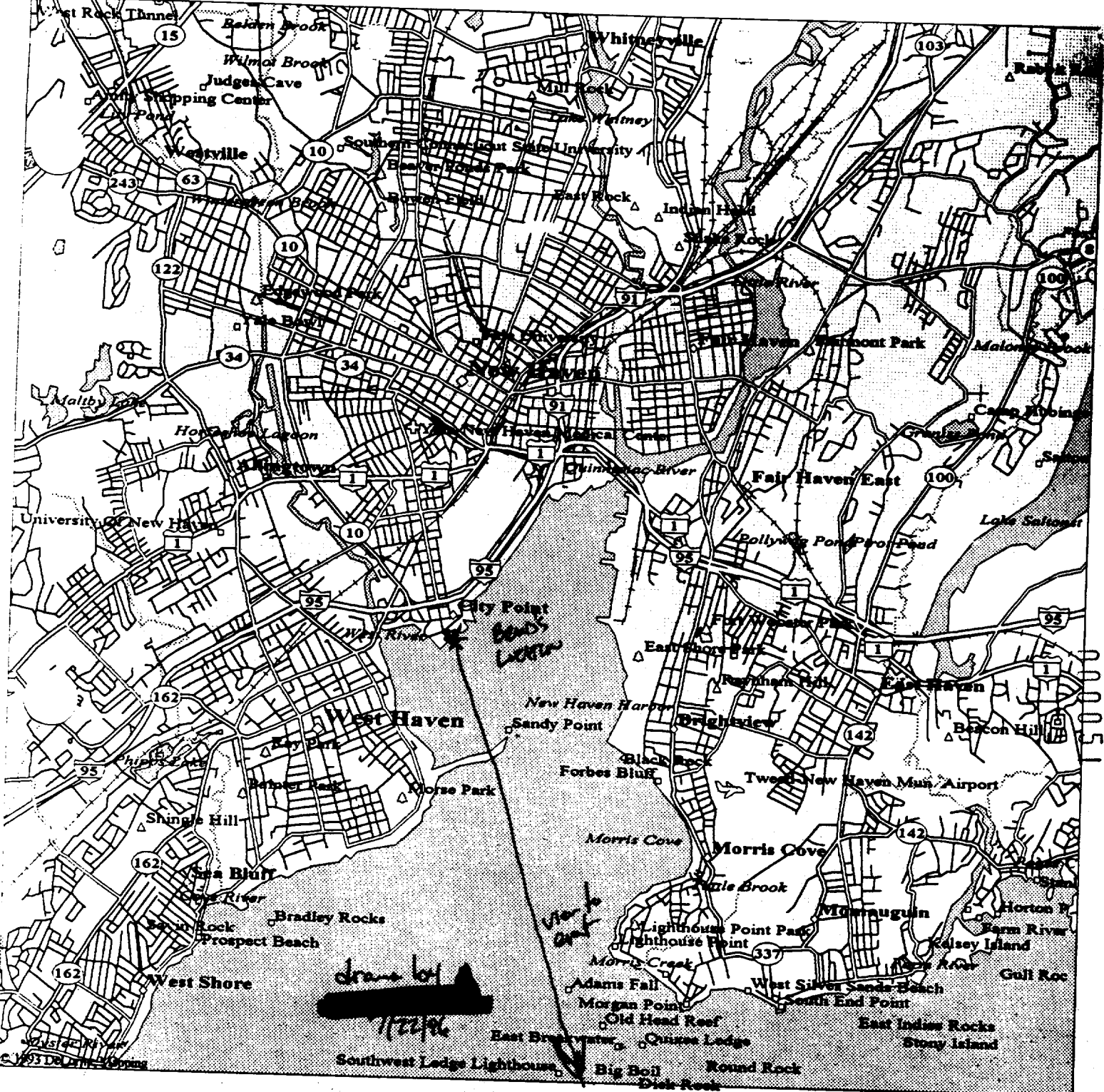
Start  
here  
spread into  
cone



drawn by



7/22/96



- LEGEND**
- Population Center
  - State Route
  - Geo Feature
  - △ Town, Small City
  - △ Large City
  - △ Hill
  - ⊕ Hospital
  - △ Park

- ▬ Interstate, Turnpike
- ▬ US Highway
- ✈ Airfield
- ▬ Street, Road
- ▬ Hwy Ramps
- ▬ Trails
- ▬ Major Street/Road
- ▬ State Route

Scale 1:62,500 (at center)

1 Miles

2 KM

Mag 13.00  
 Mon Jul 22 16:53:00 1996

2418



- 1 -

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 8-2-96

[redacted] white male, date of birth [redacted] residing at [redacted] Niantic, Connecticut, [redacted] provided the following information concerning observations [redacted] made at approximately 8:30 p.m. on July 17, 1996.

[redacted] stated that on the evening of July 17, 1996, he was at the Niantic Bay Yacht Club in Niantic, Connecticut. [redacted] stated that he was seated at the last table at the end of the concrete pier with his back facing Long Island and was in the company of [redacted] and [redacted] at the time. [redacted] stated that at approximately 8:30 p.m., [redacted] made a comment to him to the effect that they must be having fireworks over Black Point. [redacted] stated that he has had subsequent contact with [redacted] who states he cannot remember making the comment to [redacted] at the time. [redacted] stated that at that point in time he turned and looked out over Black Point to a point he calculated to be 30 miles south of Moriches Inlet on Long Island, New York, which [redacted] stated would be approximately 70 statute miles from [redacted]'s position in Niantic, Connecticut.

[redacted] stated that what he observed at the time from over the horizon and slightly to the right of twelve o'clock was a column of rising orange and red flame that was quite big and lasted only a short time and then went away in what [redacted] described as faint sparkles similar to a roman candle drifting down. [redacted] stated that the visibility on the evening of July 17, 1996 was very good and that he specifically recalls that it was a nice evening after his Wednesday evening yacht races. [redacted] stated that the observation he made was directly southwest and that the positive inclination of the burning orange/red column was almost straight and a little bit off vertical. [redacted] calculated the relative bearing from his position to be 220 degrees magnetic. [redacted] stated the entire episode lasted only approximately 6 seconds and that he did not hear any sound associated with the episode.

116

Investigation on 8-2-96 at Niantic, ConnecticutFile # 265A-NY-259028Date dictated 8-2-96by SA Robert A. Martineau/ses

000054

265A-NY-259028

Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED], On 8-2-96, Page 2

[REDACTED] provided a pen and ink drawing of what he observed in the sky on the evening of July 17, 1996, as well as a New York Sectional Aeronautical Chart on which [REDACTED] drew his line of site for the evening of July 17, 1996 at approximately 8:30 p.m. Copies of both the drawing and the applicable portion of the Aeronautical Chart are attached hereto and the originals are being maintained in exhibit envelope.

224

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 7/31/96

Doctor [redacted] (no middle name) [redacted], medical doctor, white male, date of birth [redacted], social security number [redacted], home address [redacted], Stony Creek, Branford, Connecticut, home telephone [redacted] was interviewed on the below listed date by the below listed special agent. He was advised of the identity of the interviewing agent and the nature of the interview. Stefano provided the following information:

[redacted] was sitting on his second story balcony, overlooking Long Island Sound, on 7/17/96. The sun had set and visibility was limited; [redacted] could not see Long Island due to some fog above the water.

At 8:30 pm, [redacted] saw something dark rise from lower left to being above the island immediately across the bay from him. He then saw a yellow orange flare-like thing, that exploded in the gap above the island. The area expanded to an irregular ball and then formed a column to the horizon. It then disappeared.

The entire event lasted no more than 10 seconds. [redacted] estimated the height as one to two degrees above the island. He believes he saw something going up prior to the explosion. He did not, however, see this clearly.

[redacted] drew a sketch of what he saw and then annotated a map with his position and line of sight to the event. He estimated the line of bearing as 185 degrees (magnetic) to the event. Copies of both sketch and map are attached.

265A-NY-259028-SUB CC1-

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 13 1996	
FBI - NEW YORK	
TG	

(X)

115

Investigation on 7/31/96 at Branford, Connecticut

File # 265A-NY-259028

by SA Kenneth E Gray Jr

Date dictated 7/31/96

2413

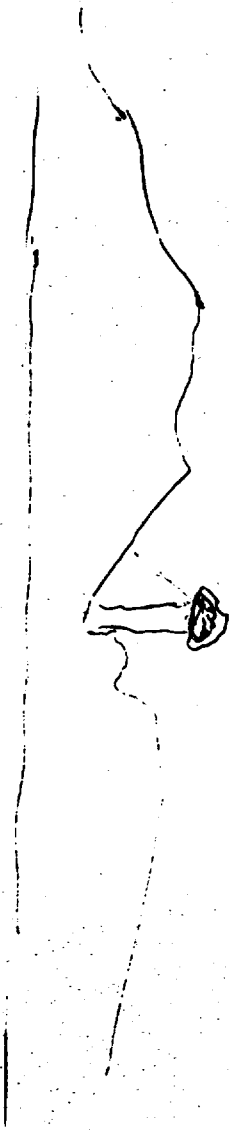
STEFANO 3.213

000057

7/31/68



drawn by





©1995 InForme Mapping

**LEGEND**

---	Major Street Road
---	State Route
---	Interstate Highway
---	Waterway
---	Boundary
---	Contour
---	Spot Elevation
---	Spot Elevation
---	Spot Elevation
---	Spot Elevation
---	Spot Elevation
---	Spot Elevation

Scale 1:62,500 (at center)  
 1 Mile  
 2 KM

Mag 13.00  
 Wed Jul 31 18:21:08 1996

2415

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 7/21/96

[REDACTED] Sayville, NY, [REDACTED] was interviewed at his residence. After being advised of the identities of the interviewing agents and the nature of the interview, [REDACTED] provided the following information:

[REDACTED] advised that on the night of Wednesday, July 17, 1996 he was playing cards with [REDACTED] on the deck of [REDACTED] condominium located at [REDACTED]

Between approximately 8:30 and 8:35 PM [REDACTED] left the table to smoke a cigarette. While looking out over the water of Harts Cove, [REDACTED] observed what he thought to be a red flare falling straight down from the sky. [REDACTED] did not see the flare ascending and thought he saw it at its peak. [REDACTED] did however, see a trail of grey smoke that was diagonal with the lowest point to the left and the highest point to the right which was in the vicinity of where he saw the flare originate. The smoke trail was straight and appeared to be floating from left to right.

As a point of reference [REDACTED] stated that he was looking about 20 degrees to the left of the Coast Guard Station when he first observed the flare.

[REDACTED] then advised that the flare did not appear to be that high in the sky and appeared to fall in the vicinity of Moriches Bay or Harts Cove. [REDACTED] stated that he only watched the flare drop for 3 to 5 seconds at which time it disappeared behind the reeds located between the condo and Harts Cove.

[REDACTED] advised that he did not hear any explosions and did not see any aircraft in the vicinity of the flare. [REDACTED] further stated that he did not observe any aircraft falling from the sky.

Investigation on 7/18/96 at Sayville, NY

File # 265A-NY-259028

by SA KENNETH H. BAUCOM, SA ROBERT CHACON  
SA ALBERT J. HOLL

Date dictated 7/21/96

265A-NY-259028

Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED]

Date 7/18/96

Page 2

Asked if he noticed any other people outside that night, other than his three companions, [REDACTED] stated that he did not.

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 7/26/96

[REDACTED] Flushing, NY 1 [REDACTED] was telephonically contacted at his residence by the below listed agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). After being advised of the nature of the interview, [REDACTED] provided the following information:

[REDACTED] advised that on the evening of Wednesday, July 17, 1996, he was riding his motorcycle westbound on Dune road at approximately 35 to 40 miles per hour from a club known as DOCKERS in Hampton Bays, Long Island. [REDACTED]'s attention was drawn towards the water as he noticed a red flame streak towards the sky. The flame then curved right and proceeded downward toward the water before finally splitting into two balls of fire.

[REDACTED] stated that the bright flame was like a flare being launched. It had a head, followed by a small tail, and its path was defined by a narrow trail of smoke.

[REDACTED] brought his motorcycle to a stop soon after crossing the Quogue bridge (thought to be the Ponquogue) to view this activity. [REDACTED] stated that he did not see the two balls of fire hit the water as the dunes near him were higher than the horizon. [REDACTED] then drove his motorcycle to a location near the SURF CLUB where he could gain a better vantage point to view this activity. While en route to this location, [REDACTED] stated that a blackhawk helicopter darted overhead from the land to the location of the activity on the water. At first, [REDACTED] thought that the incident that he observed was some sort of national guard exercise. However, prior to hearing media reports of a 747 crash, [REDACTED] considered that a small aircraft may have crashed.

When [REDACTED] reached an unobstructed view of the ocean, he viewed smoke rising from the water at what he estimated to be approximately 20 miles from the shore. [REDACTED] described the sky as hazy, punctuated by smoke rising from the water. No flames were viewed by [REDACTED] on the surface of the water.

Investigation on 7/23/96 at Calverton, NY (telephonically)

File # 265A-NY-259028 TW 517

by SA RICHARD K. WENDEB/hz

Date dictated 7/26/96



265A-NY-259028

Continuation of FD-302 [REDACTED]

On 7/23/96, Page 2

[REDACTED] estimated that this took place after 8:30 PM and may have been at approximately 8:40 PM. After viewing this, [REDACTED] ate at a nearby club called GATORS. When hearing on the news that a 747 had crashed, [REDACTED] called both Channels 4 and 7 to report his eyewitness account. Afterwards, when crossing the Westhampton bridge, [REDACTED] stated that he was stopped by a New York State Police Trooper, first name unknown, [REDACTED] (Phonetic). [REDACTED] explained what he had witnessed and Trooper [REDACTED] noted his information.

[REDACTED] adds that the speed of the streaking flame appeared to be increasing as it descended (prior to splitting into balls of fire). The splitting into balls of fire occurred closer to the surface of the water in the streak's descent (as opposed to having occurred closer to the apex of its path). [REDACTED] further stated that the only noise heard was a muffled fizz during the object's descent.

[REDACTED] stated that he first viewed this activity as he observed something streak upward towards the sky.

- 1 -

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 7/23/96

[REDACTED] was telephonically contacted regarding his call to the F.B.I. on 7/19/96 regarding TWA Flight 800. [REDACTED] stated that he was at Jones Beach (not sure exactly which area) at about dusk when he saw what he describes as a large spark appear by the wing area near the body of a 747 Aircraft. [REDACTED] states that the spark was not near the engines. [REDACTED] adds that a few seconds later (approx. 10) the plane blew up. Jacobs said he heard 4 or 5 loud explosions. He describes the spark as light orange in color. The plane was heading eastbound when this incident occurred.

[REDACTED] resides at 1222B E. 225th St. BX. NY 718-3253.

37

Investigation on 7/23/96 at NY, NY (Telephonically) (telephonically)  
 File # 265A-NY-259028  
 by R. Bendetson Date dictated 7/23/96

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 7/22/96

[redacted] South Seldon, New York, [redacted] was telephonically contacted at his residence. After being advised of the official identity of the contacting agent and the nature of the interview, [redacted] provided the following information:

On the evening of July 17, 1996, [redacted] was travelling on a ferry from Bridgeport, Connecticut, to Port Jefferson, New York, with his wife, when he saw what he initially thought to be a fireworks rocket ascending to his south over Long Island. At the point where the "rocket" was last seen, [redacted] saw an orange fireball erupt and fall to the horizon. When he saw the fireball, [redacted] looked at his wife's beeper and saw that the time was 8:36 PM. He was approximately 15 to 20 minutes from arrival in Port Jefferson when he witnessed these events.

The "rocket" was in the air for approximately two (2) to three (3) seconds before the fireball erupted. It glowed red, but no smoke trail was visible. The "rocket" had a consistent flight on a slightly eastward path. [redacted] heard no sound and saw no aircraft associated with the fireball.

[redacted] is a Police Officer employed by the New York [redacted] and assigned to the [redacted] in Brooklyn, New York. His date of birth is [redacted]

265A-NY-259028

Investigation on 7/22/96 at Seldon, New York

File # 265A-NY-259028

by SA STEPHEN RICHMOND, JR./maj

Date dictated 7/22/96

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 1 1996	
FBI - NEW YORK	

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 7/25/96

[redacted] work location: [redacted] Hauppauge, New York, [redacted] was telephonically contacted at her residence. [redacted] date of birth [redacted] social security account number [redacted] provided the following information:

On July 17, 1996, Wednesday, [redacted] and her boyfriend (unidentified) drove to an area known as Sands Pit, a public park area located at the southern end of the Patchogue River, at the Patchogue Bay, Patchogue, New York. [redacted] stated that she was driving the vehicle and arrived at the park at approximately 8:30 PM after having dinner at a local restaurant. [redacted] parked the vehicle, facing south, looking out over the Patchogue Bay. After being parked for a few moments and enjoying a clear evening at around twilight, [redacted] was talking to her boyfriend seated in the passenger side of the vehicle while looking out the drivers side window which was completely open when she noticed a flare off in the distance, rising into the air. [redacted] originally observed the flare approximately halfway up in its flight. She described it as moving steadily straight up and described as being reddish-orange with a short reddish-orange smoke trail. [redacted] advised that she initially thought that a boat in the bay was in some sort of distress and shot a flare in the air for assistance. [redacted] then took her attention momentarily away from the flare and noticed the boats moored at the nearby dock located in a southeast direction from her vehicle when she reacquired the flare still glowing and still steadily rising. She then observed the flare pause, then brightly pulse in a small concentrated area. She stated that from her initial sighting of the flare to the pause and pulse seemed like 10 - 15 seconds. [redacted] further described the flare as being a steady glow and rose at a steady, remarkable pace. At the point where the flare paused then pulsed she did not observe any other objects in the immediate atmosphere.

[redacted] stated that within two (2) seconds of the pulse she observed a large object seemingly stopping its forward momentum while igniting into a fireball, then breaking into two

265A-NY-259028

Investigation on 7/22/96 at New York, New York

File # 265A-NY-259028

by SA RALPH TUCKER, JR./maj

Stamp: (telephonically) [redacted] AUG 1 1996 Date dictated 7/22/96 NEW YORK

1877

265A-NY-259028

Continuation of FD-302

. On 7/22/96 . Page 2

(2) large pieces. These two large pieces then floated downward, then disappeared at the horizon. [REDACTED] described the large object igniting then breaking up to resemble a wishbone.

After the two fireballs were no longer observed, [REDACTED] drove her car down the park near the boat dock trying to obtain sight of the fireballs on the water. [REDACTED] initially thought that the items may have dropped into the bay or into the ocean south of South Point Park. [REDACTED] described numerous other curious people standing near the dock peering out toward the water.

[REDACTED] advised that she and her boyfriend returned home at approximately 9:00 PM, and shortly thereafter, became aware of the TWA flight missing while watching T.V. [REDACTED] could not recall hearing any sound related to the above described incident.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 7/29/96

On 7/27/96 [redacted] was interviewed at the Austrian Airlines office at JFK International Airport, Queens, New York. Upon being advised of the identities of the interviewing Agents, [redacted] furnished the following information:

[redacted] advised on 7/17/96 he was flying in a private Cessna with his friend [redacted] when they witnessed the explosion of TWA flight 800. According to [redacted] they were flying 2000' above Jones Beach approximately 30 nautical miles from the area of the explosion. [redacted] described observing a "bright stripe of light", which "looked like an S" a few seconds prior to witnessing a fireball. [redacted] advised he was unable to tell whether the "bright stripe of light" was ascending or descending and that his initial impression was that it might be some phenomenon of sunlight. [redacted] stated that upon observing the fireball, his first thought was not of an airplane but that a ship or an oil platform might have exploded.

[redacted] stated he did not observe any other aircraft or ships in the area, although his colleague [redacted] advised he had seen a ship in the area. [redacted] did not describe this ship to [redacted]

[redacted] provided the following biographical data:

Name	[redacted]
Address	[redacted]
Position	[redacted]

265A-NY-259028-SUB CC, -

Investigation on 7/27/96 at Queens, NY

File # 265A-NY-259028

by SA JOHN G. SORGE, DET. WAYNE T. PAROLA

Date dictated 7/27/96 FBI - NEW YORK

(X)  
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265A-NY-259028

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#1960

FAJ:maj

The following investigation was conducted by Special Agent FREDERICK A. JACKSON, on July 22, 1996, at New York, New York:

On July 22, 1996, [redacted] Bohemia, Long Island, [redacted] was telephonically contacted at place of employment, regarding his observations on the evening of July 17, 1996.

[redacted] advised he was bicycle riding with [redacted] Bohemia, Long Island, [redacted] on the West Sayville, Long Island Dock between 8:30 PM - 9:00 PM at twilight. [redacted] while looking east and southeast over water, observed a small reddish-orange round dot rise from the water, reaching its apex, making a small arch, falling a short distance, then disappearing. [redacted] observed no explosion, noise, or trail of smoke. [redacted] believes this object appeared to be a flare.

[redacted] related that two (2) seconds later he observed two (2) red streaks just to the right of the initial light source falling off at the horizon. [redacted] stated that he observed no airplanes, objects, or explosions in the area at this time. [redacted] related that [redacted] observed only the very ending of the two (2) red streaks.

265A-NY-259028-SUB CC, -

61

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 2 1996	
FBI - NEW YORK	

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 07/26/96

[Redacted] Center Moriches, New York (NY) [Redacted] was interviewed at his place of employment, [Redacted] Islandia, NY, [Redacted] with regard to his observations on Wednesday, July 17, 1996. [Redacted] provided the following:

Somewhere between 8:15PM and 8:30PM, while [Redacted] was fishing in Moriches Inlet, he was standing in his boat facing northeast, trying to untangle his fishing line, when something caught his attention out of his right eye. He looked in an east/southeast direction and saw what he described as a perfect column of red yellow flames with a black "spinal cord" of smoke running down through the center. He compared the size and shaped of the flames to a radio tower. [Redacted] stated that he thought that perhaps a propane tank might have exploded on the sand bar which separated him in the inlet from the ocean. He said he watched the flames for about ten (10) minutes and then went back to his fishing line. When he looked up again later, the flames were gone, leaving a column of black smoke with a small gray mushroom cloud on top. He did not see any objects and only heard two muffled sounds approximately fifteen to twenty (15 to 20) seconds after seeing the flames. [Redacted] stated that it was a clear evening and there was still daylight.

59

Investigation on 07/25/96 at Islandia, New York 265A-NY-259028-SUB  
File # 265A-NY-259028  
by SA Frank M. Finn  
SA Kim A. Crowell (KAC:amo) Date dictated 07/25/96 1:55

FBI - NEW YORK

1898



239

- 1 -

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 7/18/96

[REDACTED] East Moriches, NY, was voluntarily interviewed at his residence regarding the TWA Flight #800 incident. Present were FBI Special Agents BILLIVAN JOHNSON and MICHAEL JONES. After being apprised of the identities of the agents and the purpose of the interview, [REDACTED] provided the following information:

[REDACTED] stated on 7/17/96 at dusk, which [REDACTED] estimated to be 8:30pm - 8:45pm, he was playing poker with 3 friends on his outside deck. [REDACTED] was sitting with his back to the bay. Out of the corner of his eye, [REDACTED] saw a flash of light, and when he turned, he saw a red-orange color flame going up in the sky in a southeast direction. [REDACTED] assumed it was a flare from a boat although he believed it looked larger. [REDACTED] added the projectile rose from the channel at a very high arch and at its apex, separated into 2 reddish-orange balls. [REDACTED] observed the incident looking due south from where he was sitting.

[REDACTED] advised due to limited visibility being caused by the time and mist, he could not see if the projectile came from a boat in the channel or the opposite shore line. [REDACTED] estimated his residence to be approximately 2 miles from where the trajectory originated.

[REDACTED] remarked he was not home during the day so he could not comment if there was any unusual activity that day in the bay. He added his wife, [REDACTED] did not witness this event nor any of his neighbors.

[REDACTED] advised the poker game started around 7:00pm and concluded at 10:00pm. He added the four of them went inside his residence at approximately 9:00pm.

[REDACTED] stated he had not had an alcoholic drink before this incident occurred, and does not use illegal drugs. [REDACTED] does take medication for his heart which does not adversely effect him in any way.

265A-NY-259028-SUB 2

Investigation on 7/18/96 at East Moriches, Long IslandFile # 265A-NY-259028 # 164by BILLIVAN H. JOHNSON, MICHAEL JONESDate dictated 7/18/96 FBI - NEW YORK

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 7/25/96

On July 20, 1996, [redacted]  
Shirley, New York [redacted]  
[redacted] was interviewed at his home. After being advised  
of the identity of the interviewing Agents and the nature of the  
interview, [redacted] provided the following information.

On July 17, 1996, at approximately 8:30PM, while  
working as a Security Guard at the Forge River Marina, he saw a  
red "flare like" fire in the sky. The fire split into two pieces  
and fell. [redacted] heard no sound associated with the events.  
[redacted] did not recall any unusual activity either coming or  
going in the last several weeks. There were no transient  
dockings on July 17, 1996.

Investigation on 7/20/96 at Shirley, New York

File # 265A-NY-259028

by SA MICHAEL GALGANO (ATF), DET. DOUG FOY (SCPD)  
SA CHRISTOPHER BRYCELAND (CB:meg)

Date dictated

7/25/96

265A-NY-259028-SUB C

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AUG 1 1996	
FBI - NEW YORK	
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 7/22/96

[redacted], Date of Birth (DOB) [redacted] was interviewed at her residence. After being advised the identity of the interviewing agent and the nature of the interview, [redacted] provided the following voluntary information:

[redacted] advised that she and [redacted] were walking along the track at Westhampton High School, Lilac Road, Westhampton Beach, New York during the evening of July 17, 1996. This track is less than two (2) miles from Westhampton Beach on the Atlantic Ocean. While walking facing the south, at approximately 8:30 - 8:40 P.M., [redacted] observed a bright white light arching into the sky from west to east. It appeared to her to be emanating from Westhampton Beach, at an angle not exactly vertical, and travel over the ocean. At the time, she thought it was a firework.

This light reached high into the sky, at an angle of greater than forty-five (45) degrees, and took approximately three (3) seconds to reach its apex. At its apex, [redacted] observed that the light appeared to fizzle out, then moments later, a huge explosion occurred, consisting of a bright oblong wall of flames, originating from the apex of the white light. After the flames disappeared, she saw grey smoke in the general area in the sky where the flames were.

[redacted] saw no smoke with the white light during its ascent, and did not hear any sound or explosion.

The following information was obtained through observation and interview:

NAME:  
RACE:  
SEX:  
DATE OF BIRTH:  
ADDRESS:  
  
TELEPHONE:

[redacted] 45

Investigation on 7/19/96 at Westhampton, New York

File # 265A-NY-259028

by SA DAVID L. COLETTI

Date dictated 7/22/96

1910

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 7/22/96

[redacted] Date of Birth (DOB) [redacted] was interviewed at the home of [redacted] Westhampton, New York. After being advised the identity of the interviewing agent and the nature of the interview, [redacted] provided the following voluntary information:

[redacted] advised that she and [redacted] were walking along the track at Westhampton High School, Lilac Road, Westhampton Beach, New York during the evening of July 17, 1996. This track is less than two (2) miles from Westhampton Beach on the Atlantic Ocean. While walking facing the south, at approximately 8:30 - 8:40 P.M., [redacted] observed a bright white light arching into the sky from west to east. It appeared to her to be emanating from Westhampton Beach, at an angle not exactly vertical, and at the time she thought it was a firework.

This light reached high into the sky, at an angle of greater than forty-five (45) degrees, and took approximately four to five (4-5) seconds to reach its apex. At its apex, [redacted] observed sparks, then moments later, a huge explosion consisting of a bright oblong wall of flames, originating from the apex of the white light. After the flames disappeared, she saw smoke in the general area in the sky where the flames were.

[redacted] saw no smoke with the white light during its ascent, and did not hear any sound or explosion.

The following information was obtained through observation and interview:

NAME:  
RACE:  
SEX:  
DATE OF BIRTH:  
ADDRESS:

[redacted]

44

TELEPHONE:

Investigation on 7/19/96 at Westhampton, New York

File # 265A-NY-259028

by SA DAVID L. COLETTI

Date dictated 7/22/96

1911

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 7/22/96

[REDACTED] Mestic, New York telephonically contacted the Federal Bureau of Investigation, New York Office. Having been advised of the identity of the interviewing agent, [REDACTED] provided the following information:

He had gone crabbing with about twenty other people yesterday (July 17, 1996). They were standing on the dock at the Forge River Marina in Mestic when a young boy, approximately 11-13 years of age named [REDACTED] noticed something that appeared to be a flare flying up into the air. [REDACTED] called the group's attention to this object as it flew into the air. This flying object looked like it came up from land in the Moriches area.

The flying object was relatively slow in flying up and took about four or five seconds before hitting the airplane. The smoke, which trailed this object, was whitish in color and the band of smoke was narrow. It looked like a flare or Roman candle flying into the air. The object flew at an angle into the air and neither it, nor its impact with the plane, made any noise. There was one flame which came from the object, then a second once it struck the plane. The flying object was very bright, but not uncomfortable/blinding to look at.

The object seemed to take off from Dune Road or the left side of the inlet.

Other members of the group who saw the object's flight were [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] Last Name Unknown (LNU), one of whom is the father of [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] (LNU) own the business [REDACTED] telephone: [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] stated that he had spoken to a neighbor, [REDACTED] telephone: [REDACTED] who stated that his son, [REDACTED] age 13, had also seen the flying object.

Investigation on 7/18/96 at New York, New York (telephonically)

File # 265A-NY-259028

by SA ALAN K. LEWIS/dcd

Date dictated 7/19/96

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MMW  
265438  
265A-NY-259028  
GJG/jxs

The following investigation was conducted by Detectives (Det.) GENE GROSS and RICHARD HIGGINS, Suffolk County Police Department (SCPD):

[REDACTED], of [REDACTED] Mastic, New York, [REDACTED], was advised of the identity of the interviewing Detectives and the purpose of the interview, and [REDACTED] provided the following information:

[REDACTED] advised that on the evening of July 17, 1996, he was standing on the dock at Forge River Marina, River Road, Mastic, New York, facing in a southeast direction when he observed an object, reddish/orange in color, ascending into the sky from an east to west direction. The sighting lasted for approximately 3 to 4 seconds. [REDACTED] then saw an explosion in the sky in the same direction he saw the object ascending. He did not notice any smoke trails or hear any explosion. He stated he believes he was approximately 13 miles away from where he saw the explosion.

146

265A-NY-259028-SUB-CC4

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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JAN 27 1997	
FBI - NEW YORK	
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 7/19/96

The following investigation was conducted by SA Nikki Allen via telephone on 7/19/96. SA Allen contacted [redacted] [redacted] North Babylon, Long Island, telephone number [redacted] and her son were on their way back from the Babylon library when [redacted] saw a definite white clear trail of smoke going straight from the ground to the sky a few minutes before 8 p.m. on 7/17/96. [redacted] stated that she saw an object at the top of the smoke trail that seemed to be leading the smoke trail upward. [redacted] did not see the plane or any other solid object. [redacted] stated that it was still daylight at this time. When the stoplight changed to green, [redacted] drove on and did not see anything else.

-7

265A-NY-259028 sub  
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 FBI - NY  
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Investigation on 7/19/96 at NEW YORK, NEW YORK (telephonically)

File #

by SA-NIKKI ALLEN Date dictated 7/19/96

1938

1.

265A-NY-259028

JAK

JPK:nac

On July 25, 1996, at approximately 6:00 p.m.,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Hampton Bays, New York [REDACTED] was interviewed by Investigators JOHN P. KEARY and EDWARD S. MLODYNIA, New York State Police. [REDACTED] provided the following information:

[REDACTED] advised that on July 17, 1996, at approximately 8:18 p.m., he arrived at Ponquogue Beach to play volleyball. He stated that he subsequently began to play volleyball with five of his friends. He stated he was on the team which was facing away (north) from the ocean. At about 8:30 p.m., he saw what he thought was a flare blossom into a larger flame in the sky. He stated this occurred to his southwest. He stated this larger flame came down into the ocean in two columns. He estimated this occurred over 10 miles away. [REDACTED] did not see anything ascending into the sky and could not provide any landmark over which this event occurred.

244

265A-NY-259028-SUB - CC/

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
OCT 10 1996	
FBI - NEW YORK	



259

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 7/27/96

On July 21, 1996, [redacted] Patchogue, New York, [redacted] called the Trans World Airlines (TWA) Flight 800 hotline to provide some information. She was called back the same day, and she reported the following:

On Wednesday, July 17, 1996, from about 8:00 pm until 8:45 pm, she was with her two children and a friend at a park near the Davis Park Ferry on Patchogue Harbor. At approximately 8:30 pm, she saw something like a spark in the sky. (She said she was sitting on a swing in the park and looking in a southeasterly direction - the direction of Moriches.) She saw the spark out of the corner of her eye, and as she turned to look at it, it seemed to explode, creating a deep red, yellow, spidery-shaped light in the sky. She remembered a blue aura around the pattern. The light seemed to drip from the sky, with the falling drops coming down like a funnel to a single point on the horizon. She passed it off as some kind of fireworks, although she had never seen anything quite like it before.

The next morning someone called her to advise about the TWA disaster. She was shocked, knowing she had probably seen the disaster with her own eyes. In fact, this realization troubled her so much that she would not watch news reports on television. Her father finally called her and told her to call the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) and report what she saw; he thought it would help her emotionally.

[redacted] advised she did not hear any sound in relation to what she saw. Neither did she see anything that appeared suspicious or would indicate there was something else in the sky that would have struck Flight 800, causing the explosion.

Investigation on 7/21/96 at Patchogue, New York (telephonically) **265A-NY-259028-S**

File # 265A-NY-259028 SEARCHED 03 SERIALIZED 03 LED

by SA MICHAEL S. MAIER:cam Date dictated 7/23/96 **SEP 19 1996**

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260

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 7/25/96

On July 22, 1996, [redacted] was telephonically contacted AT [redacted] [redacted] was advised of the identity of writer as a Special Agent (SA) of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). [redacted] voluntarily provided the following information:

That on Wednesday, July 17, 1996 he and a friend, [redacted], were fishing in Mariches Inlet, when at approximately 8:45 PM, he saw what appeared to be a flare rising into the sky to the south, southeast from [redacted] position, [redacted] said that he commented to his fishing partner of the inadvisability of firing flares for no good reason; however, inasmuch as the flare was not red, which would indicate a distress signal, but rather whitish/yellowish in color, it seemed less serious at the time. [redacted] said that it appeared to him that the flare was launched from a position off-shore and not from any beach area. He watched the flare move upward in the sky to a point where the flare seemed to lose energy and arc and began to descend, he observed a fireball somewhat above where he last saw the flare.

265A-NY-259028-SUB

Investigation on 7/22/96 at Shirley, New York

(telephonically)

File # 265A-NY-259028

by SA VERNON L. SWINT/VLS/jmj

Date dictated 7/23/96 FBI-NEW YORK

SEP 13 1996

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261

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 8/12/96

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Hampton Bays, New York, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] was [REDACTED] of the identity of the interviewing Agent and the purpose of the interview. [REDACTED] provided the following information:

[REDACTED] was on a small beach in Southhampton, two beaches west of Ponnequoge Beach on July 17, 1996. [REDACTED] was with his wife, [REDACTED] standing at the shoreline looking out over the water.

[REDACTED] saw a red navigator light from an airplane in the distance. [REDACTED] then saw an orange firework, with a tail, in the air southwest of him. The firework traveled up, then arched down before [REDACTED] lost sight of it.

Seconds later [REDACTED] saw a second and third fire work in the sky simultaneously. Both were orange with tails and they traveled in the same arching pattern of the first firework.

Approximately 30 seconds later [REDACTED] heard a rumble and saw a blue vertical line of smoke stretch down to the horizon. The blue cloud remained for three to four minutes. All this activity occurred at 8:30 pm. In addition to [REDACTED] and his wife, there were other people on the beach, a man and a woman with a camera.

265A-NY-259028-SUB C

Investigation on 7/25/96 at Hampton Bays, New York

File # 265A-NY-259028

by SA DAVID P. MARZILIANO/pan

Date dictated 7/25/96

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
SEP 20 1996	
FBI - NY	

1243

263

1.

265A-NY-259028  
TMO:dxa TMO

The following investigation was telephonically conducted by Senior Investigator THOMAS M. O'NEILL of the New York State Police Department on July 23, 1996:

[REDACTED]  
Cupertino, California, [REDACTED] stated [REDACTED] on

July 17, 1996, at approximately 8:45 p.m., he was sitting on the deck of the Westhampton Yacht Squadron. He was looking south when he saw what he believed to be a flare or a firework. [REDACTED] described the flare-like object as being a small bright yellow light about twenty degrees above the horizon, and he thought at the time, that it was over Moriches Bay. The light began to fall and grow in size, growing larger at about twelve degrees above the horizon. [REDACTED] stated that at about five degrees above the horizon, the light burst into two wide sheets of reddish orange fire. The fire fell behind the dune line (Dune Road) and out of [REDACTED] sight. [REDACTED] then saw flames shoot up into the air, followed by a smoke trail. [REDACTED] heard no explosion.

218

265A-NY-259028-SUB G

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SEP 13 1996	
FBI-NEW YORK	

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266

- 1 -

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 8/9/96

[REDACTED] Centerport,  
New York 11721, [REDACTED] was contacted at  
her residence. Prior to any questioning, [REDACTED] was advised of  
the identity of the interviewing agent and the nature of the  
interview. [REDACTED] she provided the following information:

On July 17, 1996, [REDACTED] and her family were standing on  
Dune Road in Westhampton Beach, New York, when at approximately  
8:30 p.m., noticed a very distinct line of black smoke rising  
from the water. A second later she noticed a cloud of white  
smoke, followed by a big glowing red circle of fire rise up  
further into the atmosphere and come right down to the right of a  
dredge boat. [REDACTED] stated this event lasted approximately two  
seconds, was followed by two loud "booms," then saw two more  
minor explosions.

This same evening, [REDACTED] added, that at approximately  
8:00 p.m., she noticed a 25 foot power boat (no further  
description) off in the distance drive by and thought it was  
rather odd because it was getting very dark and there was not a  
marina nearby.

Investigation on 7/28/96 at Long Island, NY (telephonically)

File # 265A-NY-259028

by SA PAMELA A. CULOS/nac

Date dictated 7/29/96

125P

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 6/25/97

145 [REDACTED]  
Bayshore, New York. Also present during the interview were [REDACTED] and [REDACTED]

268 [REDACTED]  
After being advised of the official identities of the interviewing agents and the purpose of the interview, [REDACTED] then provided the following information:

145 [REDACTED] On July 17, 1996, at approximately 8:00 or 8:15 p.m., [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were doing homework in [REDACTED] house at [REDACTED] Bayshore, NY. The house was located eight miles inland from the southern shore of Long Island, NY. [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] were sitting on the couch in the living room, and there was a large window in back of the couch. The living room was on the second floor of the house. [REDACTED] was sitting on the east end of the couch facing west, and [REDACTED] was sitting on the west end of the couch facing east.

268 [REDACTED]  
The day was clear, the sun was setting in the west and the sky was light blue.

145 [REDACTED] [REDACTED] was looking out the living room window over the tree tops in back of the neighbor's house across the street. She noticed a plane coming from the south east. The plane appeared to be one quarter inch in length. (During the interview, a standard ruler was utilized to determine measurements in inches.) She could see the outline of the plane. The plane was traveling east to west in the normal travel path of planes coming from MacArthur/Islip Airport. The plane appeared light grey/silver in color, and the sun was reflecting off of it.

145 [REDACTED] At the same time she saw the plane, [REDACTED] also noticed an orange flare to the right of the aircraft. The flare was moving slowly and was smaller than the plane. [REDACTED] could not recall in which direction the flare was moving, however she motioned with her hands from right to left in an upward direction when referring to the flare. [REDACTED] further described the flare as a "fire rocket."

145 [REDACTED]  
She then heard and saw the plane explode. The explosion was small, appeared to be five inches in diameter and

Investigation on 6/20/97 at Bayshore, New York

# 265A-NY-259028 CC-1-643 Date dictated 6/25/97

by SA CHRISTINA GUST and SA STEVEN A. BONGARDT (CG:cq)

2398

265A-NY-259028

Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED]

On 6/20/97

Page 2

was reddish/orange in color. The flare came down from the small explosion. <sup>145</sup> [REDACTED] could still see the plane, and stated that the plane continued moving east to west for a short time after the initial explosion. The initial explosion moved from left to right and grew larger. It then went down slightly but was still visible above the tree line.

<sup>268</sup> [REDACTED] commented that she remembered the small <sup>268</sup> explosion as yellow/light yellow in color. [REDACTED] also advised that she saw an orange flare to the right of the first explosion. <sup>268</sup> [REDACTED] stated that the flare was shaped like a tear drop, and she could not recall if the flare had a trail. [REDACTED] was also unsure of the speed of the flare. <sup>268</sup> <sup>145</sup> <sup>268</sup>

Both <sup>268</sup> [REDACTED] and <sup>145</sup> [REDACTED] had never seen a flare prior to July 17, 1996.

<sup>145</sup> [REDACTED] then heard and saw a larger, second explosion. The second explosion was twice as loud as the first. In addition, the second explosion was made up of many colors, and it was visible in the entire sky in back of the neighbor's house across the street. The explosion "looked like a rainbow". It was light green, then yellow and then orange. The second explosion then moved downward and faded.

Both explosions were so loud that they shook <sup>268</sup> [REDACTED] house, including the pictures on the walls. [REDACTED] mother, <sup>268</sup> [REDACTED] came upstairs and asked if [REDACTED] was <sup>145</sup> alright. [REDACTED] thought that [REDACTED] may have fallen, thereby causing the noise and the shaking of the house.

The initial explosion lasted for five seconds. <sup>268</sup> [REDACTED] stated that it was as if they were "in the movie theater." <sup>268</sup> [REDACTED] further stated that although the explosion was similar to thunder, it was "very loud", "louder than thunder", and it hurt her ears. <sup>268</sup> [REDACTED] also advised that the pictures in the house "rattled", and that it felt like an earthquake.

<sup>145</sup> [REDACTED] advised that the entire event lasted approximately three seconds. <sup>268</sup> [REDACTED] believed that the event lasted sixteen seconds. When timed by interviewing Agent <sup>145</sup> BONGARDT, [REDACTED] described the sequence of events in fifty-seven seconds, and [REDACTED] described the events in fifteen to sixteen seconds. <sup>268</sup> <sup>268</sup> <sup>145</sup>

During the interview, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] each drew a picture of the event. A copy of each picture is attached hereto, and the originals are contained in 1A envelopes.

2399

265A-NY-259028

Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED]

, On 6/20/97

, Page 3

When [REDACTED] looked at the clock after the event, the time was 8:25 p.m. *208*

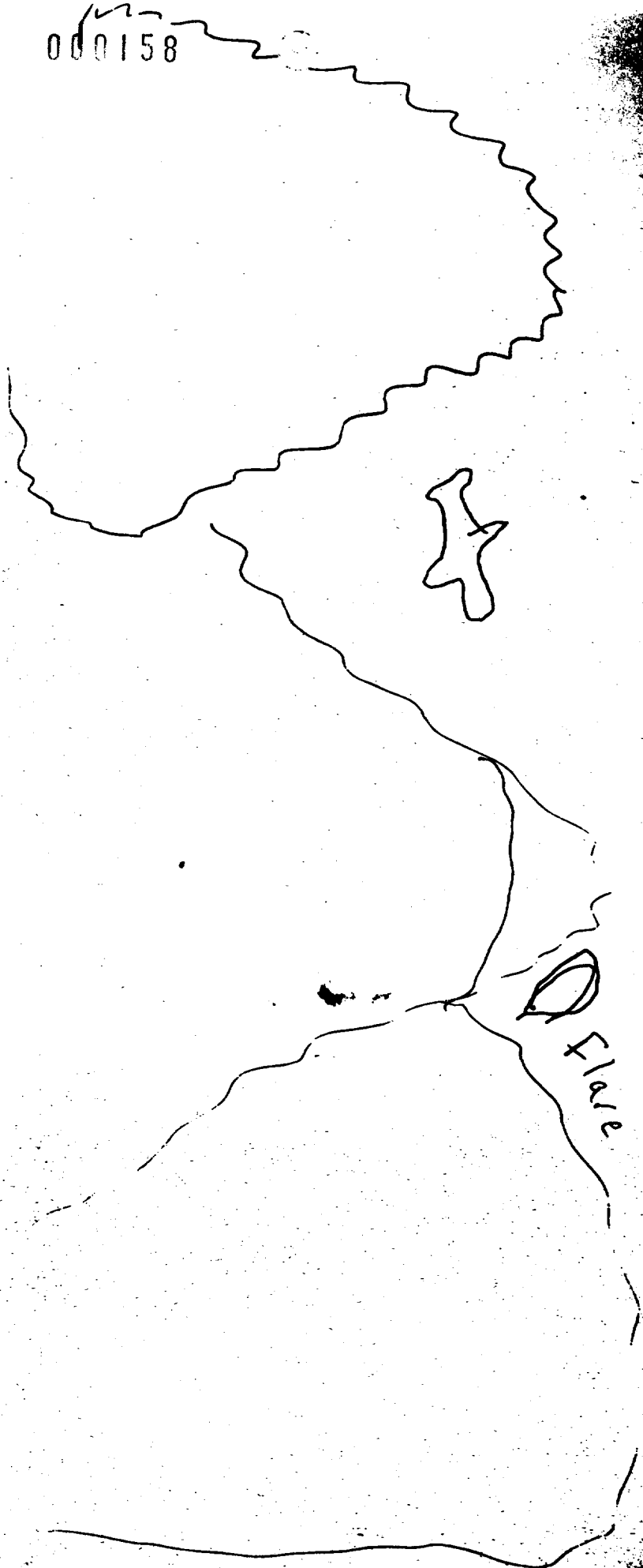
*208* [REDACTED] *145* At approximately 8:45 p.m., [REDACTED] told [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] that she had seen the event on television. *145* [REDACTED] telephoned the Federal Bureau of Investigation a few days later.

The following is descriptive information for [REDACTED] *145*

[REDACTED]



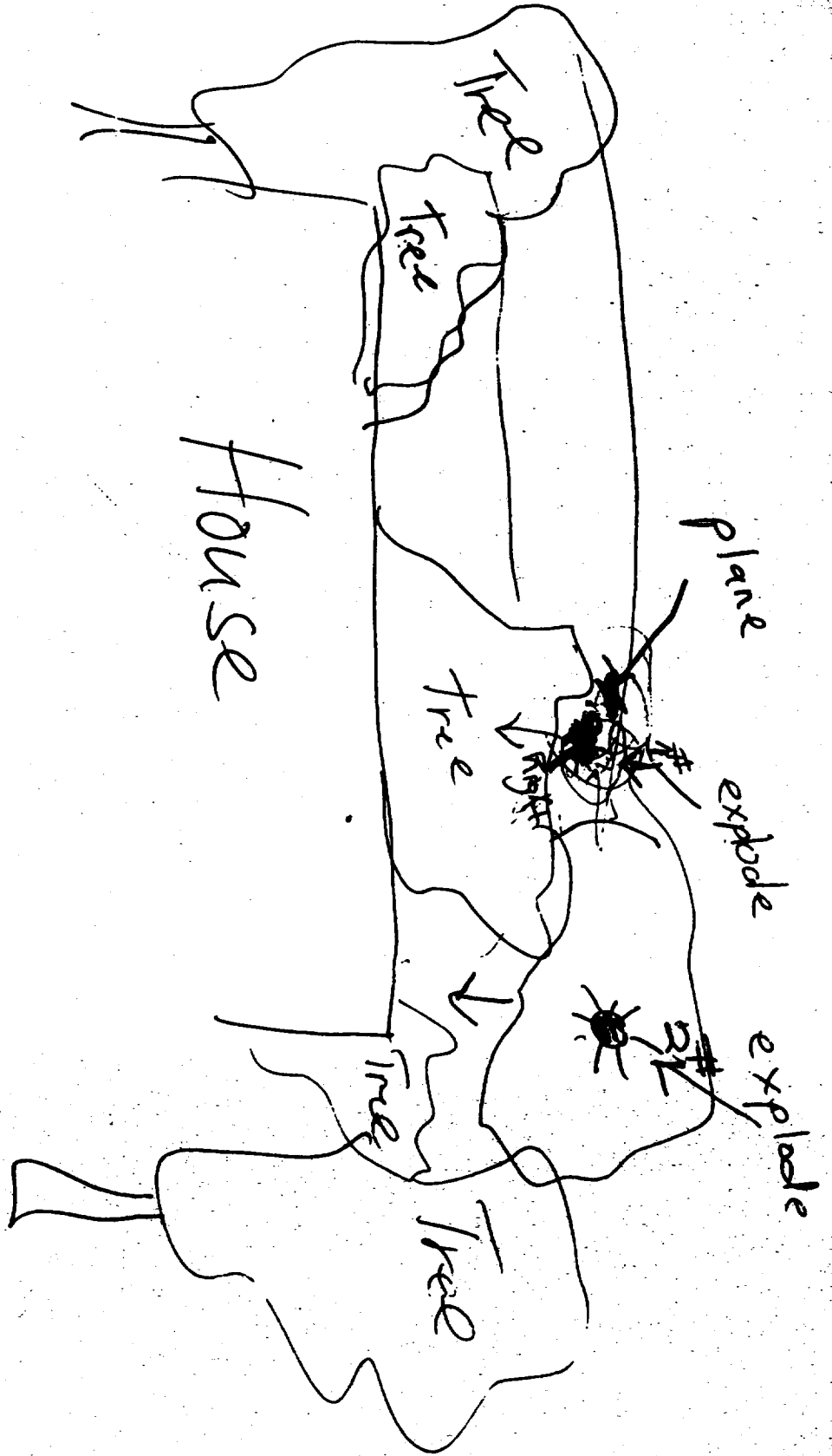
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Flare

1042

6/20/97



2402

6/1/97

270

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 8/01/96

[REDACTED]

Stratford, Connecticut

[REDACTED] was interviewed telephonically on the below listed date by the below listed special agent. He was advised of the identity of the interviewing agent and the nature of the interview. [REDACTED] provided the following information:

[REDACTED] was visiting a friend who was vacationing at a timeshare condominium on Shore Road, in Clinton, Connecticut on July 17, 1996. While out on a deck after sunset, [REDACTED] noticed a red line appear in the sky. This was approximately 8:30 pm. The red line was slanted to the top right. It extended 1 1/2 inch to 2 inch at arm's length. The line was of continuous intensity. It was very bright. [REDACTED] thought it was a distress flare. He could not say whether it was going up or down. He presumed it to be going up.

At the top of the line, a lightning bolt shaped event occurred. It took 5 to 15 seconds to expand and drop down. The lightning bolt area started at the apex and extended down into a cone. The cone was dimmer red. It expanded and extended down to the horizon. As it reached the horizon, it then faded away.

[REDACTED] is a graphic designer and offered to construct a composite image to represent what he saw. [REDACTED] produced a 5 frame composite, on his MAC, to represent the event. In addition, [REDACTED] was asked to mark on a map his position and his line of sight to the event. On July 31, 1996, [REDACTED] provided the results of this rendition. Attached to this FD-302 report of interview is black and white copies of [REDACTED] composites and his description of same and the annotated map. [REDACTED] original computer disk, a 135 MB removable cartridge disk, the annotated map and the original renditions were placed in a 1-A envelope.

[REDACTED] advised that while observing this event, he called the attention of other people who were at the timeshare.

206

Investigation on 7/26/96 at Bridgeport, Connecticut (telephonically) **265A-NY-259028-SL**

File # 265A-NY-259028

by SA Kenneth E Gray Jr: KEG/keg Date dictated 8/01/96

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
<b>AUG 28 1996</b>	
FBI-NEW YORK	

265A-NY-259028

Continuation of FD-302 of \_\_\_\_\_, On 7/26/96, Page 2

Other witnesses are \_\_\_\_\_ and a child, \_\_\_\_\_ believed he was first to see it. \_\_\_\_\_ had been filming with his video camera, but did not record the event. The composites used a frame from his video to show the view from Clinton, Connecticut.

2124

07-26-96

From:

[Redacted]  
Stratford, CT 06497

During the time period 7/13 through 7/19, [Redacted] was enjoying her time-share beachside apartment [Redacted] located in Clinton CT. On Wednesday July 17th, [Redacted] daughter, and my girlfriend) and I went to [Redacted] to visit for a few days and nights. I brought my video camera (JVC GR-AX900 VHS-C) for fun. After a day of sun & fun, six people were on the 2nd floor outdoor deck facing the beach enjoying a glass of wine. These people are:

[Redacted]

Approximately 8:30 (just before the dark of evening fell) I called everyone's attention to the bright red straight line in the sky over Long Island. I extended my arm and measured the red line with my open fingers at about a 1 1/2" to 2 1/2" height.



The straight line was followed by what I describe as a fuzzy lightning bolt "shaped" display that unfolded over a 5-15 second time interval on the right side of the straight red line forming a rough triangular shape. As the lightning bolt shape descended to the ground, the bolt shape became wider at the bottoms, as well as becoming a dimmer red color, mixing with grey and white colors towards the bottom of each bolt step.

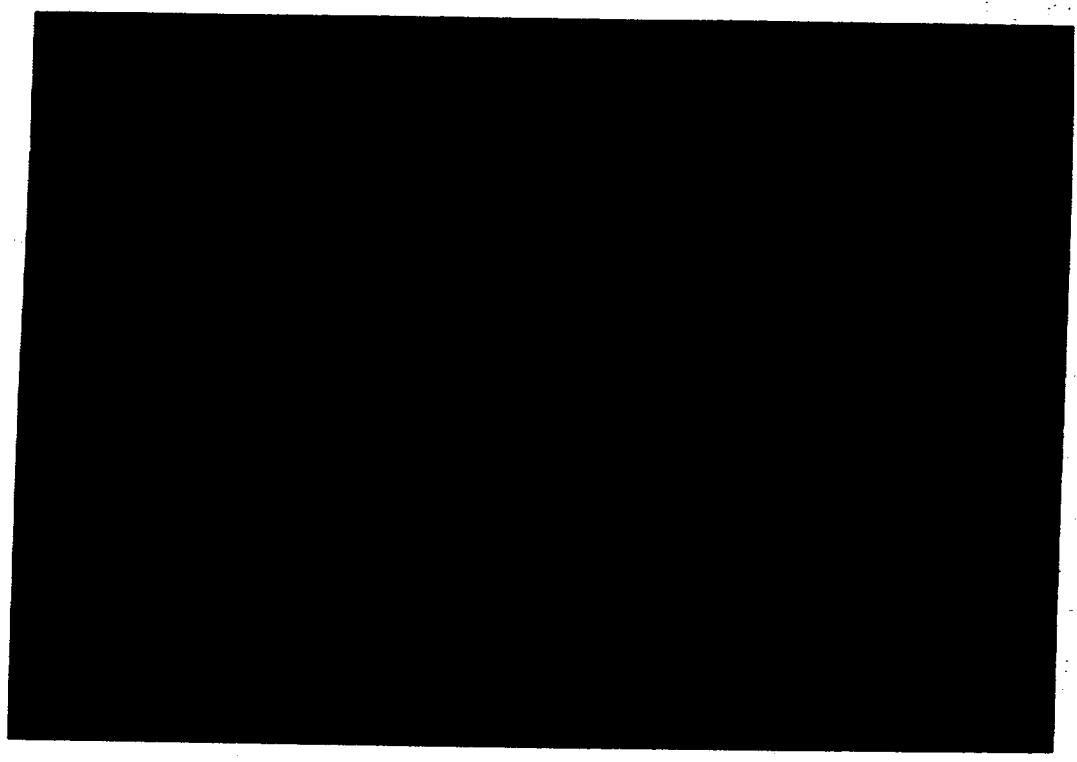


Everyone present saw the display and I said, "I think it's a distress flare, someone's in trouble". I took no action. About an hour later, CNN explained that a crash had occurred over Long Island and we realized just what we had witnessed. We were greatly upset.

I had been video taping only minutes before the display, but had shut off the camera. I took various video pans of the horizon during that evening including one complete pan taken about 15 minutes before the crash. Unfortunately I missed the actual jet scene by a few moments. I did no more video taping that evening.

000166

Below is a graphic I created using a photo from Barbados of the coast line with an approximate similar position. I used the Barbados photo because I don't personally possess the technology to grab video frames from the video I had shot that evening. I scanned the photo in grayscale, turned the photo scan into an RGB color graphic and rendered what I saw that evening on the horizon over Long Island.



Yesterday (July 25th) I called a friend who does possess the basic technology to grab video frames and digitize them so they can be viewed on a computer screen. I went to his video studio and grabbed a few frames and saved them on disk. I returned home to create a composite of the actual Clinton CT coastline right before the crash. I then layered in the jet crash rendering showing the color and approximate placement of the display on that horizon. It is as close to what we saw, and where we saw it, as I can produce.

Also attached are the five graphics I created to show how I saw the event that occurred.

I hope my efforts help in your investigation.



John M. Mahoney  
SA FBI 7/26

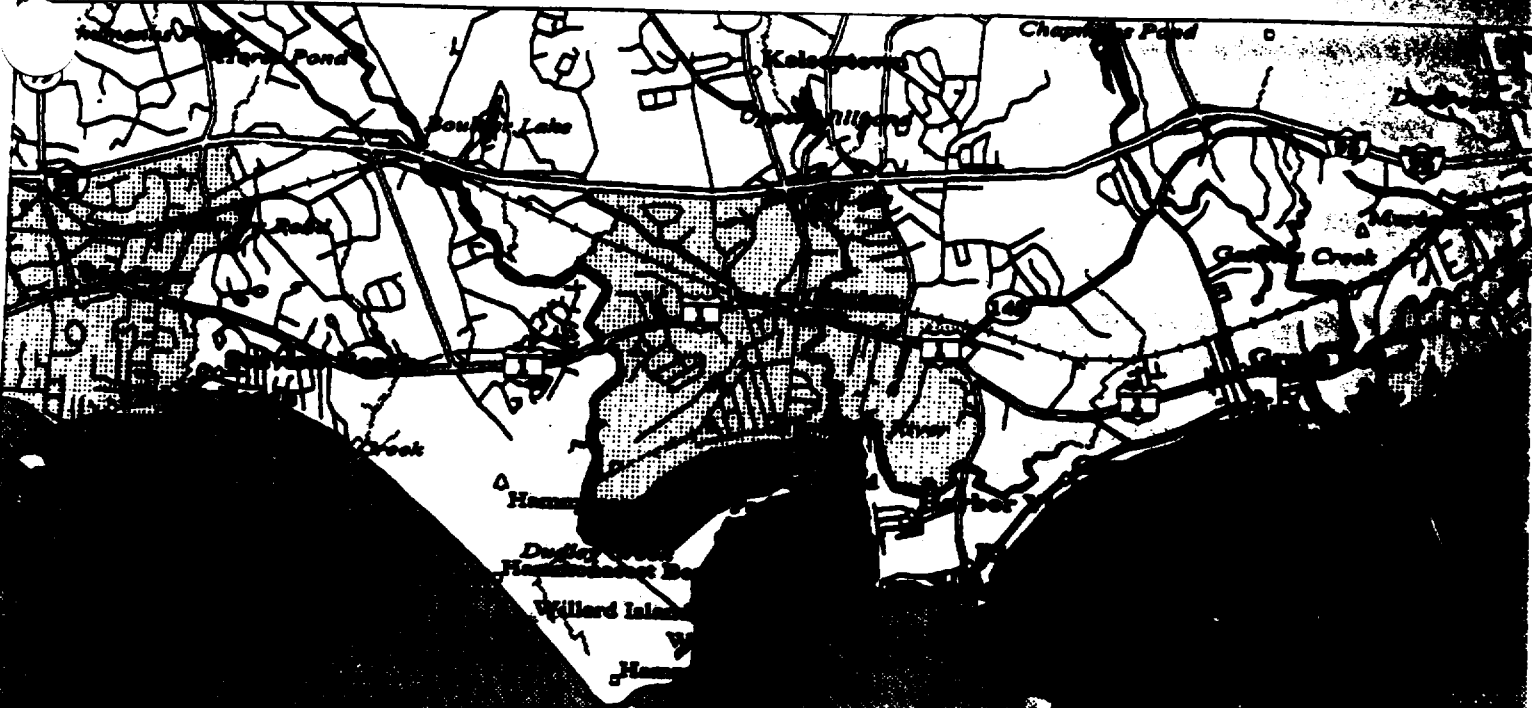
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JUL-26-1996 12:36 FROM FBI NEW HAVEN

TO

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P.02



- LEGEND**
- Population Center
  - State Route
  - Geo Feature
  - ◇ Town, Small City
  - △ Hill
  - △ Park
  - ⊃ Interstate, Turnpike

- County Boundary
- Street, Road
- Hwy Ramps
- Major Street/Road
- State Route
- Interstate Highway
- US Highway

Scale 1:62,500 (at center)

1 Miles

2 KM

Mag 13.00  
 Fri Jul 26 13:02:36 1996

2427

211

- 1 -

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 08/06/1996

On August 2, 1996, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Burbank, California, [REDACTED] was advised as to the identity of the interviewing agent and thereafter provided the following information:

[REDACTED] was vacationing at her parents home in Killingworth, Connecticut when she went to visit a former employer, [REDACTED] and his brother, [REDACTED] Westbrook, Connecticut. After dinner, [REDACTED] and the [REDACTED] were sitting on a deck in the yard of the [REDACTED] residence approximately four feet above the beach. All three were looking around the beach area commenting on how pleasant the area was. At that moment, [REDACTED] recalls seeing a flare-like light rush up into the sky. [REDACTED] thought was that there was going to be a fireworks display. The fire built up and then pieces of fire fell. At the time, [REDACTED] believed it was a fire work that failed to function. [REDACTED] now understands that what she was seeing was on a much smaller scale because she believed it was closer in proximity to Connecticut than it turned out to be. [REDACTED] recalls some "clipper" boats (possibly Coast Guards) immediately responding to the area of the explosion where she thought it to be and then quickly disperse. She believes this occurred because the boats also thought the incident was closer and then the boats probably responded to the correct location.

[REDACTED] drove [REDACTED] home to [REDACTED] parents house approximately one hour later. [REDACTED] parents advised [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] of TWA Flight 800 exploding. It was at this time, [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] realized what they actually had witnessed earlier in the evening.

265A-NY-259028-SUB CCL

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SEP 12 1996	
FBI - NEW YORK	

Investigation on 08/02/1996 at Los Angeles, CAFile # 265A-NY-259028by SA MARIJO DAILEYDate dictated 08/06/1996



272

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 7/29/96

[REDACTED], Wading River, New York, [REDACTED], was interviewed at the Center Moriches United States Coast Guard Station by Special Agent JOSEPH P. FANNING and New York State Police Investigator DE SCOON. [REDACTED] was advised of the identity of the interviewers and then supplied the following information:

[REDACTED] was with his wife, [REDACTED], and a family friend, [REDACTED] on the evening of July 17, 1996 looking at a new house nearby his residence at approximately 8:30 PM. [REDACTED] was looking in a southerly direction while standing in an open field approximately 300 feet east of his residence. He noticed what he believed to be a parachute flare off in a southwest direction about forty degrees above the horizon. This flare was bluish/red in color and was moving at a steady speed from west to east. [REDACTED] continued to watch this flare while trying to get his wife and friend to look at it. The flare traveled in this west to east direction for what he estimated was approximately 20 seconds, at which time it started to descend in a curved descent and the same speed. [REDACTED] estimated this curved descent lasted approximately 10 seconds when the flare then opened up in a bottle or cup shape that was red in color. A second or so later, this shape expanded outward on both sides in two pieces. At this point, [REDACTED] realized these were flames. The flames dropped in a square type shape with the flames more solid on the outsides.

At the time of this incident, [REDACTED] believed the flare, and subsequent flames, were about five miles from him to the south. [REDACTED] thought at the time that when the flare initially opened up into the red bottle type shape that it was fireworks. [REDACTED] never heard any explosions.

[REDACTED] is retired. [REDACTED]

203

Investigation on 7/23/96 at Center Moriches, New York 265A-NY-259028-SUBCC

File # 265A-NY-259028

Investigator DE SCOON

by SA JOSEPH P. FANNING (JPF:mxh) Date dictated 7/23/96

2422 *JPF*

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 29 1996	
FBI-NEW YORK	

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 07/27/96

[REDACTED] Mastic Beach, New York, [REDACTED] was interviewed at his residence by Special Agents (SAs) NATALE PARISI and JOHN D. FETHIERE of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). [REDACTED] was advised of the identities of the interviewing agents and provided the following information:

On Wednesday, July 17, 1996, at approximately 7:30 PM, [REDACTED] his three (3) children and family friends child, were on there way to Great Gun Beach, to collect beach glass. While driving along the road near the Moriches Inlet, at about 8:00 PM, [REDACTED] noticed a red, older looking commercial fishing boat, that was between twenty to thirty (20 to 30) feet in length, heading out to sea. He thought it was odd that they would be heading out at that time with it getting foggy out. While heading south bound along the inlet, approximately ten (10) minutes later, [REDACTED] noticed a low flying airplane. The plane was blue and white in color.

Approximately 10 minutes later, while heading back on the same road, [REDACTED] four-year-old, saw what he called "firework". [REDACTED] looked out in a south, south-easterly direction and saw a column of fire going up and then falling into itself. The fire was orange in color and turned into black smoke. The angle was up and down and [REDACTED] estimated that it was 300 feet above the water.

[REDACTED] could not see the water from his location, because he was standing behind a sand dune. [REDACTED] advised that it was still light out when he viewed the fire column.

[REDACTED] noticed three other people out on the beach that evening, an unknown female and two children. [REDACTED] had no information about what they saw or who they were.

While leaving the beach area, [REDACTED] noticed what looked like a barge with a light on, in the same direction of the fire column.

Investigation on 07/21/96 at Mastic Beach, New YorkFile # 265A-NY-259028by SA NATALE PARISI  
SA JOHN DAN FETHIERE/hrgDate dictated 07/23/96

265A-NY-259028	
SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 28 1996	
FBI-NEW YORK	

274

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 07/25/96

On July 21, 1996, [redacted] Manorsville, New York, [redacted] was contacted and furnished the following information:

[redacted] advised that shortly after 8:30 PM, on July 17, 1996, [redacted] was turning out of the BOSTON MARKET parking lot on the corner of William Floyd and Montauk Highway in Shirley, New York, heading south, when she saw a long red streak with a bright light on top high in the sky. [redacted] stated that she thought the streak was a firework that never exploded. [redacted] described the streak as being one (1) foot long, wider at the top, tapering to a point at the bottom. She stated that the streak was leaning to the left, with an arc coming off of the side of it on the right. [redacted] advised that she did not hear anything but stated that her car windows were rolled up. She stated that she could not tell if the streak was going up or down. She advised that it disappeared from view quickly. [redacted] estimated that the streak was several miles out at sea from the beach. Her location was four to five (4 to 5) miles inland from the beach.

Investigation on 07/21/96 at Manorsville, New York

265A-NY-259028-5

File # 265A-NY-259028

1124

SA JANE C. KELLY  
SA ERICK LAUBER/hrg

Date dictated 07/21/96

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 28 1996	
NEW YORK	

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275

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 07/24/96

[redacted] East Quoge, New York, [redacted] was interviewed on July 22, 1996 at her place of residence. After being advised of the identity of the interviewing agent and the nature of the interview, [redacted] provided the following information:

[redacted] was walking from the front of her home to her car approximately 8:30 PM on July 17, 1996, when she observed an orange colored "arc" moving upward from behind trees south-southwest of her home. The arc continued to travel upward and appeared to bend to the left a little at the end. Then the arc, which appeared to dissipate into a "little round glow" for 2-3 seconds, ended in a large explosion.

At first, [redacted] thought that what she saw was fireworks. However, when the arc ended in a large explosion, she no longer believed the arc to be fireworks. [redacted] is sure that what she saw was a missile, based on what she has seen on television and the movies.

[redacted] can pinpoint exactly where she was when she saw the arc and exactly where the arc was as it rose through the sky and exploded.

Investigation on 07/22/96 at East Quoge, New York

File # 265A-NY-259028 *76 7261*

Date dictated 07/24/96

265A-NY-259028-51

by SA WILLIAM INZERILLO *WR*

SEARCHED  INDEXED   
SERIALIZED  FILED

AUG 28 1996

1275

276

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 7/20/96

On July 19, 1996, Special Agent NATALE PARISI interviewed [redacted] Patchogue, New York. SA PARISI identified himself as a Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). [redacted] provided the following information:

[redacted] advised that at about 8:30 P.M., on July 17, 1996, she and her husband were on Mascot Dock, located at the end of South Ocean Street, in Patchogue, Long Island. [redacted] was facing in a south easterly direction, when she noticed a flare like object traveling upward from a north to south direction. she next saw a bright orange fireball in the sky. [redacted] believes that the flare like object was orange in color and lasted for about five seconds.

[redacted] advised that the fireball then fell to the ocean, followed by black smoke. [redacted] advised that she is uncertain about the origin of the flare like object.

[redacted] did not hear anything during her observations.

Investigation on 7/19/96 at Patchogue, New York

File # 265A-NY-259028

by SA NATALE PARISI/MAM

Date dictated 7/19/96 **AUG 28 1996**

265A-NY-259028-S

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FBI-NEW YORK

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265A-NY-259028  
JK:dt

The following investigation was conducted by SA JOHN P. KINTZING on July 23, 1996.

[REDACTED] St. James, New York, 11780, [REDACTED] was telephonically contacted at work. [REDACTED] advised that he was on [REDACTED] boat at dusk on 7/23/96 about one mile north of Mt. Sinai, when he saw what looked like a flare shooting into the sky. [REDACTED] explained that there was a red burst and then a yellow ball falling from the sky. [REDACTED] thought it was fireworks.

265A-NY-259028-SUB C

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
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FBI-NEW YORK	

280

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 8/8/96

On July 28, 1996, [redacted] was interviewed at the SOUTHAMPTON GOLF CLUB, Southampton, New York (NY). [redacted] After being advised of the identities of the interviewing Agents and the nature of the interview, [redacted] provided the following information:

On the evening of July 17, 1996, [redacted] was on the corner of Shore Road and Roanoke Avenue, in Riverhead, NY. He was in his Jeep with the top down stopped at a stop sign. His view was southwest.

[redacted] saw a red dot traveling from west to east, parallel to the horizon. The red dot also seemed to be heading slightly south. [redacted] estimated that the distance of the red dot was about twenty miles.

He counted for about three or four seconds, and then the red ball turned into a bright orange explosion, as big as a house. The orange flames fanned out and dove down at about a 45 degree angle in the same direction that the red object was traveling, from west to east. It was like the red object pushed whatever it hit forward, causing it to explode, and dive downward. [redacted] never heard any sounds.

There was no smoke trailing the red dot. He thought that the red dot got a little bit smaller just prior to the bright orange explosion.

The explosion was so large that he thought that it occurred over the land.

Investigation on 7/26/96 at Southampton, New York

File # 265A-NY-259028

by SAs JAMES J. ROTHE  
GREGORY J. O'NEILL/JJR/pan

Date dictated 7/26/96

265A-NY-259028-SUB

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 29 1996	
FBI-NEW YORK	

1301

- 1 -

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 8/8/96

[REDACTED] was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agents and the nature of the interview. [REDACTED] thereafter provided the following information:

On July 17, 1996, at 8:00 pm, [REDACTED] advised that he was sitting about a quarter mile east of the Moriches Inlet Beach with his girlfriend. [REDACTED] stated that about 8:30 pm he observed a red/orangish color fire in the sky about nine to ten miles south.

[REDACTED] stated that several seconds later the red/orangish flame exploded and dropped straight down into the ocean.

[REDACTED] stated that he observed a barge with lights approximately one mile east of the Moriches Inlet at approximately 7:00 pm. [REDACTED] felt this was unusual for a barge this size to be so close to the beach. [REDACTED] also heard a loud bang at approximately 9:00 pm which [REDACTED] also felt to be unusual.

265A-NY-259028-SI

Investigation on 7/25/96 at Quogue, Long Island

(telephonically)

File # 265A\_NY-259028by SAs DAVID SEBASTIANI/  
JOHN DAN FETHIERE/DS/rdoDate dictated 7/25/96

AUG 30 1996

FBI-NEW YORK



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 8/8/96

██████████ Master Sergeant, New York Air National Guard, 106th Aerospace Rescue Squadron, was interviewed at his place of employment. ██████████ was advised of the identity of the interviewers. He was further advised that the purpose of the interview was to obtain his observations from the evening of July 17, 1996. ██████████ then supplied the following information:

██████████ is employed as a Master Sergeant for the New York Air National Guard on a full-time basis. On July 17, 1996, he reported for his normal tour of duty at 6:30 am and worked a full day. ██████████ then stayed on the base to do a night drill he needed to make up.

Sergeant ██████████ was scheduled to do a parachute jump from a HC-130 to a drop zone just north of the tower. ██████████ and Staff Sergeant ██████████ went out to the drop zone to meet ██████████. After ██████████ parachuted in, they were standing around drinking Cokes. The skies were clear and there was no wind.

██████████ was looking south when he saw what looked like a flare at about 2,500 to 3,000 feet traveling from west to east. The object was orange with a pink center. It also had a very faint grayish white plume. The plume of this object was traveling from a higher elevation to a lower one.

The flare then erupted into a fireball and the fireball fell straight down and then broke in two. ██████████ observed what he thought was a second flare type object appear higher and to the right of the fireball as it fell. The whole series of observations by ██████████ lasted ten to fifteen seconds. The area where ██████████ made these observations was the same area where the 106th HC-130 was going to be operating that evening.

265A-NY-259028-SUB C

Investigation on 7/26/96 at Westhampton, New YorkFile # 265A-NY-259028by SA JOSEPH P. FANNING/mt  
DET. THOMAS CORRIGAN/NYCPD/JPF/dap

Date dictated


SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 30 1996	
7/26/96	

1303

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FD-302a (Rev. 11-15-83)

245A-NY-259028

Continuation of FD-302 of 

, On

7/26/96

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2

The following information was obtained on   
via interview and observation:



## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 8/8/96

[REDACTED] was interviewed at [REDACTED] Westhampton Beach, New York. After being advised of the identities of the interviewing Agents and the nature of the interview, and the nature of the interview, [REDACTED] provided the following information:

On the evening of July 17, 1996 [REDACTED] was in a hammock on the back porch of the residence at [REDACTED] which overlooks the Atlantic Ocean. At about 8:20 pm, he saw a red-orange fireball which he thought was a boat flare. [REDACTED] did not see anything ascend from the surface. His view of the fireball was due south over the Atlantic Ocean to the left of a rock jetty which juts out from his beach front. He did not hear anything when he saw the fireball.

As the fireball descended, it broke into four or five pieces which looked like streams of fire. The fire streams descended into the water at which time he heard three or four explosions. Initially, he thought that a boat had exploded, and that the fireball was a distress flare that the boat had previously fired.

Others present were his aunt, [REDACTED], who owns the house, and his wife, [REDACTED]. He advised that he was the first to see the explosion, and that he brought the incident to his aunt and wife's attention. His aunt can be reached at [REDACTED]. [REDACTED] resides in Port Jefferson Station, [REDACTED].

Investigation on 7/28/96 at Westhampton Beach, New York

265A-NY-259028-SUB

File # 265A-NY-259028

SAs JAMES J. ROTHE

by GREGORY J. O'NEILL/JJR/dapDate dictated 7/28/96  
WITHOUT TEXTSEARCHED 28 INDEXED 28  
SERIALIZED 28BY [REDACTED]  
DATE 8/13/96This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and AUG-20-96  
it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 08/09/96

[redacted] was interviewed at his residence, [redacted], Center Moriches, New York (NY), [redacted]. After being advised of the identities of the interviewing Agents and the nature of the interview, [redacted] provided the following information:

On the evening of July 17, 1996, [redacted] was having dinner at [redacted] on Dune Road, along with [redacted] and [redacted]. At about 8:30 pm, [redacted] point out to [redacted] that appeared to be a flare.

[redacted] was facing south at the time. The flare appeared as an orange glow, but was moving from west to east. He did not see the flare ascending at any time. He did not see any smoke following the flare.

He followed the flare from west to east, and it suddenly burst into a fireball. At this point [redacted] heard a sonic boom. He ran from [redacted] on the north side of Dune Road, across Dune Road, to the ocean. [redacted] then saw two fiery pieces descending into the ocean. As the pieces hit the horizon, they disappeared and [redacted] heard another sonic boom.

[redacted] went back to [redacted] and called the police. About two minutes after he returned to [redacted] he saw a plane head out in the direction of the fireball. [redacted] told him that he thought the plane as a "C31". [redacted] estimated that the entire event last about five minutes.

[redacted] believed that [redacted] may have seen more since he was the one at the table who first noticed the flare.

265A-NY-259028-SUB

Investigation on 7/24/96 at Center Moriches, New York

File # 265A-NY-259028

by SA JAMES J. ROTHE  
SA GREGORY J. O'NEILL/axh

UPLOADED  
DATE dictated 7/24/96  
BY [signature]

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 29 1996	
FBI-NEW YORK	

1306

286

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 07/23/96

[REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED] East Moriches, New York, [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED] was advised of the identities of the interviewing agents and the purpose of the interview. Suffolk County Police Detective DENNIS RAFFERTY was also present for the interview. [REDACTED] provided the following information:

[REDACTED] was interviewed at the Moriches Yacht Club located at the end of Union Avenue in Center Moriches, New York. [REDACTED] said at the time of the plane crash he was standing on the dock located on the Great Gun beach on Fire Island. [REDACTED] was facing south when he noticed a flare ascending in the southeast direction. [REDACTED] said the flare was slightly east of him when he saw it.

[REDACTED] described the object he saw as a skyrocket with a yellowish glow, possibly a flare that misfired. [REDACTED] said he followed the flare for 10-15 seconds and then saw an explosion. [REDACTED] then saw the plane explode but he did not see it crash in the water. [REDACTED] did not hear the plane explode in the air or on the ground.

[REDACTED]

UNRECORDED

Investigation on 07/19/96 at Center Moriches, New York 265A-NY-259028-SUB

File # 265A-NY-259028  
by SA Frederick R. Schmied  
SA Martin Bernstein

Date dictated 07/23/96

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 22 1996	
FBI-NEW YORK	

1312

287

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 07/23/96

[redacted] Center Moriches, New York, [redacted] provided the following information:

[redacted] said that as he was getting out of his parents car in the Moriches Yacht Club he noticed a firework ascending into the air. [redacted] said the firework was ascending over the Great Gun beach on Fire Island, southeast of the club. After watching the firework for a few seconds he saw an explosion. He did not realize at that time that the object that fell to the ground was a plane.

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WITH-OUT TEXT   
BY

Investigation on 07/19/96 at Center Moriches, New York DATE 8/27/96

265A-NY-259028-SUB-C

File # 265A-NY-259028  
by SA Frederick R. Schmied  
SA Martin Bernstein

Date dictated 07/23/96

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 22 1996	
FBI-NEW YORK	

/313

289

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 07/24/96

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] Mastic Beach, New York, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] was advised of the identities of the interviewing agents and the purpose of the interview. Suffolk County Police Detective DENNIS RAFFERTY was also present for the interview. [REDACTED] provided the following information:

At the time of the plane crash of TWA flight 800 [REDACTED] was on his boat off of the eastern end of Meriches Inlet. [REDACTED] saw a red flare ascending into the air before he saw an explosion. [REDACTED] was not initially aware that the explosion was that of a plane. After the explosion [REDACTED] saw the plane go over the horizon. [REDACTED] then headed 150 degrees southeast of the inlet towards the crash site.

[REDACTED] was asked if he saw anything suspicious on the day of the plane crash or the days leading up to it. [REDACTED] said he saw a red tug boat come into the inlet at about 07:30 pm on 07/17/96. [REDACTED] said the tug boat was named "fnu RIVER" [REDACTED] said he never saw the tug boat before and felt it was not a local vessel. [REDACTED] said the tug boat had 30 twin diesel engines. The tug did not look like it was a fishing boat and did not have any gear for work. [REDACTED] never saw the operator of the boat or any crew members.

[REDACTED] said he saw the tug head east after it left the Inlet on 07/17/96. [REDACTED] has not seen the tug in the Inlet since that day.

169

265A-NY-259028-9

Investigation on 07/19/96 at Center Moriches, New York

File # 265A-NY-259028

by SA Frederick R. Schmied  
SA Martin Bernstein

Date dictated 07/23/96

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 22 1996	
FBI-NEW YORK	

1317

290

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 8/1/96

[redacted] Hampton Bays, New York, was contacted at his residence. After being advised of the identity of the interviewing agents and the nature of the interview, [redacted] provided the following information:

[redacted] advised he had been at the north end of Shinnecock Inlet Beach down from his home on July 17, 1996. At approximately 8:40 P.M. [redacted] was taking pictures of his friend, [redacted] while facing the direction to the ocean, slightly southwest. [redacted] stated he noticed a ball of light in the frame of his camera as he snapped the picture. [redacted] also stated he believes he took approximately four to six pictures at the end of the roll which may have the ball of light in the pictures. [redacted] described the ball of light as a yellow flame.

Later in the evening [redacted] learned of the TWA Flight 800 plane crash. [redacted] had not contacted the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) because he was not sure what to do with the film. [redacted] was interested in selling the pictures to the media. [redacted] had taken the roll of black and white film to a photo processing center for developing. [redacted] agreed to obtain and release the film to interviewing agents for potential evidentiary reasons. A receipt was given to [redacted] for the film.

[redacted]

Investigation on 7/31/96 at Hampton Bays, New York

File # 265A-NY-259028

by SA SHAWN M. WOLFF/MAM

Date dictated 7/31/96

265A-NY-259028-SUB C

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED <u>SE</u>	FILED <u>M</u>
AUG 22 1996	
FBI-NEW YORK	

1319



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 07/22/96

York, [redacted], East Moriches, New York, [redacted] after being advised of the nature of the interview and identity of the Special Agent and the Suffolk County Police Detective, stated the following information:

On July 17, 1996, at approximately 8:30 p.m., dusk, [redacted] and his wife, [redacted] were sitting on their deck, located at the rear of their house, facing the water, [redacted] stated he saw a flare coming down from a south-eastern direction off Fire Island. [redacted] stated he did not see or hear anything prior and that the object was coming down in a flat-spin, which later separated into two parts.

[redacted] stated that from his view, beginning to end of the event, it took about ten to fifteen (10 to 15) seconds before the object hit the water. He then stated that after the object hit the water, he saw smoke trailing off. He had no further information.

265A-NY-259028-SUB CC

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SERIALIZED <u>AB</u>	FILED
JUL 22 1996	
FBI - NEW YORK	
	TC

484

Investigation on 07/19/96 at East Moriches, New York

File # 265A-NY-259028

by SA JOHN HUI [initials]  
SCPD Detective MIKE PITTS (JH:amo)

Date dictated 07/19/96