

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 07/29/96

On July 22, 1996, [redacted] Date of Birth (DOB) [redacted] Social Security Account Number (SSAN) [redacted] home address Post Office [redacted] Calverton, New York, home phone [redacted] was contacted. [redacted] was apprised of the identity of the interviewing agents and furnished the following information:

On July 17, 1996, [redacted] was swimming on a piece of property owned by his grandfather with two friends of his, [redacted] and [redacted]. The property is located on South Country Road in West Hampton about two miles from the center of town and three-four (3-4) miles from the shore line.

At approximately 8:30, [redacted] was standing on the shore facing east. [redacted] thought he heard a train horn and turned in the direction of the train tracks which were to the south. [redacted] said that in the south-west he saw what appeared to be a flare rise up from below the tree line. [redacted] said that he would be able to pinpoint exactly where in the tree line he saw the flare rise from because there is a slight dip in the tree line there. The flare was orange/pink in color and was moving away from [redacted] in a south/southeasterly direction rising at about a sixty-five (65) degree angle at a steady speed.

[redacted] described the top of the flare as a little ball, orange/pink in color. The flare left behind a smoke trail which was bluish/gray in color. The smoke trail behind the flare like vapor or gas. The smoke trail immediately behind the flare was darker but also blue/gray and seemed to be streaming out from behind the flare. The smoke trail was consistent in its color, density and thickness.

The flare rose upward and then arced downward. The time it took to reach the top of the arc was approximately five seconds. The flare descended from the arc for approximately one second exploded into an orange ball. [redacted] said the explosion seemed to move out and down splitting into six orange pieces which fell straight down trailing black smoke behind them.

Investigation on 07/22/96 at West Hampton, New York

File # 265A-NY-259028 HH-CC1 471

by SA ALBERT HOLL SA TIM LATTERNER/hrg J.L.L. Date dictated 07/26/96

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[REDACTED] lost sight of the objects as they dropped past the tree line. [REDACTED] said several seconds later there was a noise which sounded like loud rolling thunder.

[REDACTED] did not see anything else in the sky and did not observe any object fall away from the smoke trail.

[REDACTED] said that a cloud of black smoke hung in the air at the explosion point. The smoke trail from the flair also remained and ended in a small blue/gray cloud within the larger black smoke cloud.

[REDACTED] said that he was approximately six-nine (6-9) miles from the beginning of the smoke trail and ten-eleven (10-11) miles from the explosion originated from somewhere on the water in Moriches Bay.