

129
643

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 7/25/96

129
 security [redacted] date of birth [redacted] social
 [redacted] residing at [redacted]
 Selden, New York [redacted] telephone [redacted]
 voluntarily appeared at the East Moriches, New York, Coast Guard
 station on two occasions on 7/19/96, and was interviewed
 regarding his observations of the evening of 7/17/96, regarding
 an explosion he observed in the sky. On the first occasion he
 was interviewed by SA PETER C. CASAZZA and SA CAROL KAZMARECK.
 On the second occasion, he was interviewed by the same agents,
 accompanied by ROBERT DOHERTY, Analyst, Missile and Space
 Intelligence Center, Redstone Arsenal, Alabama, telephone (205)
 876-4545. The purpose of the second interview was to enable
 ROBERT DOHERTY to listen to Mr. STURIALE's observation of
 7/17/96.

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 Mr. [redacted] s observations on the evening of 7/17/96:

[redacted] He related that he was fishing with his friend [redacted] 643
 off of the east jetty of Moriches Inlet. He was at the
 furthest point of the jetty facing southwest. At approximately
 8:30 PM, while surf casting he noticed out of his peripheral
 vision what he thought was a flare to the southeast. It first
 appeared to him at eye level and continued to rise upward from
 that point, at a fast rate of speed. It rose to a certain point
 and appeared then to curve southeast and slightly downward.

He then saw a small flash or explosion and then a large
 explosion or fireball.

The entire fireball then descended to the ocean surface
 in two pieces, which were close together. One piece being larger
 than the other.

129 643
 Both [redacted] and [redacted] felt they had witnessed a
 plane explode, even though they never saw a plane.

They continued to fish until approximately 9:45 PM and
 observed many boats and a helicopter heading out to the site of
 the explosion. When they returned to their truck to [redacted] home, he

265A-NY-259028-SUB C

Investigation on 7/19/96 at East Moriches, New York

File # 265A-NY-259028

by SA PETER C. CASAZZA/vao
SA CAROL KAZMARECK

Date dictated 7/21/96

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
AUG 15 1996	
FBI-NEW YORK	

1772

265A-NY-259028

Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED]

On 7/19/96 . se 2

turned on the radio. They heard about a plane crash off Moriches in the Atlantic. They said to themselves that that was no crash, but an explosion.

129 [REDACTED] stated that the fireball first appeared to be close, because the fireball was so bright. After the fireball hit the surface of the ocean he could not see it anymore. There remained only a large cloud and trail of smoke. He estimated that the fireball landed further then seven miles from his location. He advised that the earth curves every seven miles. This would put the crash location beyond his visual line of site.

He described the flare as red and orange in color, which did not leave a smoke trail.

He observed this flare at approximately the 10 o'clock position from his position on the east jetty, designating the 12 o'clock position as his standing at the jetty's point with his shoulders square to the shore line.

He never saw the airplane. He presumed an airplane exploded after seeing the fireball. He estimates it was approximately five seconds from the time he saw the flare to the time that he saw the fireball.

After the fireball fell into the ocean, it was approximately five to ten seconds and he heard a thunder or rumbling come over the water.

He recalls a lot of boat traffic headed out toward the crash site shortly after the fireball and also recalls a 20 to 24 foot boat headed back into the inlet around the same time, but could not recall specifics about the incoming boat.

He related he did not call the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) that evening to report his observation because when he returned home and turned on the news there were so many people calling in, he thought there must be plenty of witnesses. Then the next day when he was at work he spoke to friends about what he saw and they advised him to call the FBI. So he called the next day on 7/18/96, and spoke to a female Coast Guard Lieutenant who took his name and telephone number.

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Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED]

. On 7/19/96 . Page 3

On 7/19/96, an FBI Agent named [REDACTED] from the Boston FBI Office, and two male FBI Agents came to his work location to interview him. After speaking with him they requested that he go to the East Moriches Coast Guard Station to relate his observations.

Background

Name: [REDACTED]
Date of Birth: [REDACTED]
Social Security Account Number: [REDACTED]
Home Address: [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] New York [REDACTED]
Telephone: [REDACTED]
Employment: [REDACTED]
Position: Accelerated Lab Technician
Fishing Friend: [REDACTED]
Home Address: [REDACTED]
Home Telephone: [REDACTED]

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 7/21/1996

On July 20, 1996, three locations were visited. The purpose of these visits was to record general sighting information from three (3) previously interviewed witnesses who, at these respective locations, made observations of Trans World Airlines (TWA) flight 800 and/or "a flare" which seemed to be launched in the general direction of TWA flight 800 at approximately 8:30 PM on July 17, 1996.

The three (3) locations visited were:

- (1) Rogers Beach, West Hampton Beach, New York (NY), for plotting observations previously reported by [redacted] 650
- (2) West Hampton Beach High School Parking Lot, for plotting observations previously reported by [redacted] 649
- (3) East side of Center Moriches inlet, end of jetty, for plotting observations previously reported by [redacted] 129

The personnel making these visits were: Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) - Special Agent (SA) Paul Shea, SA Peter C. Casazza, SA William F. Lynch; Suffolk County Marine Bureau (SCMB) - Deputy Inspector Douglas Matulewich, Police Officer Vincent Termine, Sergeant Charlie Gerlach; Suffolk County Police Department (SCPD) - Police Officer Ken Treder; Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA) Senior Intelligence Officer Robert A. Doherty; and Surface to Air Missile Armaments Analyst Thomas F. LeBlanc.

At the above locations, azimuth directions based on witness statements were taken by SCMB personnel using a GPS 45 Personal Navigator and a hand bearing magnetic compass.

The purpose of recording this and other similar information was to allow for future interpretation of this data.

Investigation on 7/20/1996 at West Hampton Beach, New York 265A-NY-259028-SUB 302

File # 265A-NY-259028

by SAs WILLIAM F. LYNCH
PETER C. CASAZZA, PAUL SHEA (PS:iaw)

Date dictated 7/20/1996 TC

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 7/29/96

On July 29, 1996, SAS William F. Lynch, Peter C. Casazza and Paul Shea, FBI, received from Deputy inspector DOUGLAS MATULEWICH and VINCENT TERMINE, Suffolk county Police Dept., (SCPD)-Marine Bureau, a compass intersection rendering of witness sightings of TWA flight # 800, and/or a "flare", which appeared to have been launched in the direction of flight # 800, just before it exploded and crashed into the ocean approximately 8:30 PM, on Wednesday, 7/17/96.

This rendering was prepared by Messrs MATULEWICH and TERMINE, based upon witness observations given to all of the above personnel, and to Officer Charles Gerlach, SCPD-Marine Bureau, and Robert Doherty and Tom LeBlanc, of the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA), over the period 7/20-29/96. The witness observations/interviews had been done jointly/severally, by the above personnel.

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this endeavor was to learn if the azimuth intersections of witness sightings might indicate a site or general area from which the aforementioned "flare" might have been launched.

GENERAL WITNESS INFORMATION:

The witness info upon which this rendering is based, consisted of; sightings of TWA flight # 800; sightings of an unusual "flare" launched in the direction of flight # 800, which "flare" seemed to adjust its own course; an orange impact/glow upon flight # 800; sightings of a subsequent large and violent aerial explosion; and the ultimate crashing of flight # 800 into the ocean.

Investigation on 7/20-29/96 at EAST MORICHES, N.Y.

File # 265 A NY 259028

by SA WILLIAM F. LYNCH
SA PETER C. CASAZZA. SA PAUL SHEA

Date dictated 7/29/96

265 A NY 259028

Continuation of FD-302 of COMPASS INTERSECTIONS . On 7/20-29/96, Page 2

WITNESS NAMES AND LOCATIONS:

Listed below are the names of the witnesses, and the sites they occupied at the time they observed either TWA flight # 800, or the "flare" which appeared to rise, to meet it.

NAMES

SITES OF OBSERVATIONS

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

645

[REDACTED]

East jetty, Moriches inlet.

643 129

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Westhampton, L.I.

644
646
647

[REDACTED]

Deck of Rogers Beach,
Westhampton, L.i.

363

[REDACTED]

Dock on marina at Great Gun
Beach, Smith Point Park
Beach, Town of Brookhaven,
L.I.

641
642

[REDACTED]

Smith Point Park
Beach,..directly in front of
western-most steps on
boardwalk.

640

[REDACTED]

From his boat, approx. 1 mile
off shore from Moriches
inlet, East Moriches, N.Y.

648

METHOD-EQUIPMENT USED:

During the period cited, the aforementioned FBI, DIA and SCPD personnel personally visited the exact sites which the witnesses had occupied at approx. 8:30 PM, on 7/17/96.

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Continuation of FD-302 of COMPASS INTERSECTIONS . On 7/20-29/96, Page 3

At each site, officers Matulewich and Termine used a naval compass and a Garmin Global Positioning System (GPS-45) instrument to shoot/process the azimuths along which the witnesses had reported their observations on the above date and time.

RESULTS:

Based upon the witness info, and upon the best calculations of officers Matulewich and Termine, the following results were obtained:

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 08/09/96

643
[redacted] residing at [redacted], Date of Birth (DOB) [redacted], Middle Island, New York 11953, telephone number [redacted], was telephonically contacted by Special Agent (SA) PETER C. CASAZZA on July 31, 1996, and advised of additional information he recalled regarding his recollections of the evening of July 17, 1996.

643 [redacted] advised that approximately one-half (1/2) hour prior to witnessing the fireball explosion over the ocean he recalled a loud formula type boat leaving Moriches Inlet. What brought his attention to this boat was the fact that it was so loud. It sounded as if there were no mufflers on it. As it left the inlet, it was going very fast in a southerly direction.

He estimated the boat was twenty-five - thirty (25-30) feet long and was dark in color, probably black. The boat had a small cockpit in the back and two male occupants. It had one or possibly two inboard motors.

643 [redacted] indicated that he could not recall any further details at this time, but that he mentioned this to his fishing friend, [redacted], who was with him that evening and STURIALE also recalls seeing the loud, sleek, fast boat.

643 [redacted] does not recall seeing the boat return to Moriches Inlet prior to them leaving at approximately 10:00 PM.

BACKGROUND:

Name: [redacted]

Date of Birth: [redacted]

Social Security Account Number: [redacted]

Address: [redacted]
Middle Island, New York

Telephone: [redacted]

-421

Investigation on 07/31/96 at Middle Island, New York (telephonically)

2105
File # 265A-NY-25902S SUB 003

SA PETER C. CASAZZA/hrg

Date dictated 08/05/96

000072

265A-NY-259028

Continuation of FD-302 of

[REDACTED]

, On 07/31/96 , Page 2

Fishing Friend:

[REDACTED]

Date of Birth:

[REDACTED]

Social Security
Account Number:

[REDACTED]

Address:

[REDACTED]

Selden, New York 11784

Telephone:

[REDACTED]

2106

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 08/09/96

[redacted], Date of Birth (DOB) [redacted] residing at [redacted], Selden, New York 11784, telephone number [redacted], was telephonically contacted by Special Agent (SA) PETER C. CASAZZA on August 1, 1996, and advised of additional information he recalled regarding his recollections of the evening of July 17, 1996.

[redacted] related that on the evening of July 17, 1996, at approximately one-half (1/2) hour before he witnessed the explosion over the ocean, he recalls a very loud cigarette type boat leaving Moriches Inlet.

He and his friend, [redacted] were fishing off the east jetty of the inlet when the very loud noise coming from the engines of this boat drew their attention to it.

[redacted] described the boat as dark in color, approximately twenty-five - thirty (25-30) feet in length. It most likely had two inboard engines. The boat definitely had one and mostly probably two male occupants.

As it came through the inlet it stopped briefly at the mouth of the inlet for about thirty (30) seconds, then it accelerated at what appeared to be full throttle and took off very fast in a southerly direction.

He did not notice this boat return to the inlet prior to he and his friend, [redacted] leaving the jetty at approximately 9:45 PM. [redacted] indicated that GAGLIANO also took notice of the cigarette type boat.

Background:

Name: [redacted]

Date of Birth: [redacted]

Social Security Account Number: [redacted]

Investigation on 08/01/96 at Selden, New York

File # 265A-NY-259028 SUB CC3 -461

by SA PETER C. CASAZZA/hrg Date dictated 08/05/96

CC3

000074

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Continuation of FD-302 of MATTHEW GERARD STURIALE, On 08/01/96, Page 2

Address: [REDACTED]
Selden, New York 11784

Telephone: [REDACTED]

Fishing Friend: [REDACTED]

Date of Birth: [REDACTED]

Social Security
Account Number: [REDACTED]

Address: [REDACTED]
Middle Island, New York 11953

Telephone: [REDACTED]