

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 7-23-96

[redacted] e, Hastings-On-Hudson, New York, was interviewed at her residence. After being advised of the identities of the interviewing agents and of the nature of the interview, she provided the following information:

[redacted] was vacationing with her family at her father's Fire Island beach house, located at [redacted] Davis Park, New York, on 7-17-96, when she witnessed an unusual occurrence. At approximately 8:30 pm she had just finished getting her children ready and into bed. Sometime shortly after that she went out onto the deck to retrieve some towels. It was close to dark and the sky was a clear blue gray hue. The sun had just gone down. The deck is about twenty two (22) feet above the level of the beach below and the house is the eastern most in Davis Park. It faces directly south and there are no obstructing buildings or objects when looking east down the beach. There were no other people on the deck or in the vicinity, to her knowledge.

As she was on the deck retrieving the towels, her attention was drawn to an unusual movement in the sky. She turned to her left looking straight east and noticed an unusual object travelling at high speed from north to south. She was drawn to it by its unusual characteristics and she therefore watched it travel across the sky. [redacted] described the object as being cylindrical, tubular and bullet shaped. Having no apparent wings, except perhaps, a small vertical shape at the rear, it did not appear to be any kind of passenger airplane. It had no vapor trail or smoke behind it and no flame was seen from the rear (although there may have been a vague "whiteness" at the rear), it moved more quickly than any plane from north to south, low above the horizon at an almost flat trajectory, but was travelling slightly up. It was shiny and silver, like a dime, but at times had a blue gray shadow like a plane. It had no windows and no apparent place for a pilot to sit, but was one continuous smooth shape with a blunt nose. It didn't have a pointy front, but rather the front "melted into the shape" of the object. It was thick and had substantial mass. It was longer than it was thick by about four times and was not skinny but

Investigation on 7-23-96 at Hastings-On-Hudson, NY
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by SA STEPHEN B. HESSINGER
SA JOY ADAM Date dictated 7-23-96

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thick, like a commuter plane would be. She alternately thought that maybe it was a plane, but that she couldn't see the whole plane. It looked like the midsection of a commuter plane, however there was no front nor back to it. Normally she does not pay attention to planes, because they are so common to see in that area. It occurred to her that it had no projections on it, like wings, but why would there be such a huge bullet hurtling through the sky? She was trying to make sense of it. It was not a two seater, because it was cylindrical. It first entered her mind that it must just be a plane from Long Island airspace. She never thought it was a UFO, although it was unusual. It looked like it was all steel and too fast for an airplane. It came from "behind, the beach" and already had altitude when she saw it. There are no houses blocking her view, because they were all washed away by Hurricane Felix last year. She considered that maybe the object had come from Fire Island, but Fire Island is too narrow for planes to take off. In her thirty seven years, she had never seen anything like this. If it was a plane, it was flying too low for the speed at which it was flying. Usually small planes do not fly at that altitude in that area.

She followed the object for approximately 2 or 3 seconds when she then noticed a large commercial airliner which appeared to be travelling at the same altitude, "just stop" and begin to disintegrate. She could see straight up "the spine" of the plane, which headed directly east. The object headed toward the side of the plane, directly south. She had been only vaguely aware, prior to noticing the object, that an airliner was visible. When she first actually looked directly at the airliner, it had already begun to disintegrate. It simply "stopped" at that moment.

It was a "frozen" moment. As the plane came apart, its nose turned up and to the right. She thought it was odd that she could see windows on the top right side of the front of the plane, even though she had previously been able to see only along its spine. It was a 747, she knew, because it had a bump on the top. At first, "fissures" developed all over the plane, particularly showing the passenger windows on the top of the plane's bump and the cockpit. There was no "fiery explosion", like in the movies. Flames did not come out. The front was carried forward and arced down with its momentum. The right wing seemed to stay with the front of the plane. There was a crater on the left side along the top of the plane, just behind the left wing. A portion of the left wing began to fall separately down, yet forward with momentum. The tail section fell backward. There was "blackness" in the rear. All of the pieces seemed to fall

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"gracefully" down and widening, leaving a cloud in the sky. There was no bright fireball, but rather, an orange red glow from the top left area behind the left wing. There was momentarily, a black crater there. It was breaking "like a toy". She noticed that the top of the plane was blue, while the body was white. She did not see the planes engines.

She heard a loud drawn out "BOOM", which took at least a full second to reach her after she saw the plane break apart. It occurred to her that the sound might be an explosion from a car backfiring in an auto shop or maybe from fireworks. However she realized it could not be a car as Fire Island has no cars. The sound had "timbre" to it. Still, it is not unusual to hear sonic booms and fireworks in that area. Most of the visual observations of the plane's initial destruction preceded the sound. She heard the sound as the front of the plane turned to the right. The only explosion she ever saw was the one behind the left wing. It was not a outward flash, but an orange color, which went down with the rear of the plane. It was sustained.

There was red and black from the rear of the plane. Smoke was curling in the air and there was "stuff" (debris) falling from the rear. There were more "complicated" events occurring at the point of the crater behind the left wing, such as redness and orange. As the plane fell, she lost track of it as it went below the horizon. She tried to follow it with her eyes as she continued to lean down to pick up her towel. As the sky darkened, a big black cloud remained, like smoke.

Because of the sound of the surf, she cannot be sure of the number of explosions she heard, but the visibility was excellent and she was looking directly at the object which caught her eye", because of its movement.

During this interview [REDACTED] drew several sketches as she described details of the event. She also [REDACTED] to provide photographs of the [REDACTED] from the deck [REDACTED] she has them developed.

[REDACTED] drew three (3) drawings. Drawing #1 is an overhead view showing the relative position of her [REDACTED] to the beach. Drawing #2 is a horizontal easterly view from the deck, showing the object in flight and how the plane [REDACTED] it was apparently hit. Drawing #3 shows the fracture points of the plane as it disintegrated. These drawings are in a [REDACTED] envelope.

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[REDACTED] demonstrated the relative positions of the object and airliner with her fingers, keeping her eyes closed, as she recalled the event. Holding her hands at just short of arms length, she held her fingers apart to show the length of the plane and the length of the object. Her left fingers were about an eighth of an inch apart (representing the object) and her right fingers were about an inch apart (representing the plane). She held the plane at a right angle to the object, separating her hands by about five inches. This was to demonstrate the moment that she first could see both the object and the plane.

She demonstrated the time sequence with her fingers, as she was timed with a wristwatch. She advised that her eyes were following only the object at first, but shifted to the airliner as it came into focus. At that second, ("a snap") the airliner began to come apart. The object disappeared. Her eyes were then on the plane, which seemed to "stop" in the sky.

Although she had clearly seen a mishap, she was not completely sure she hadn't seen some sort of optical illusion, so she went about finishing her chores, until about 10:00 PM, when a neighbor told her that the television news had been reporting an airline crash off of Long Island. That is when she thought, "Oh that's what I saw". On some level, she was aware that what she had seen was related to the crash, but she is a very cautious and shy person and simply did not wish to think about this event as being the crash.

After watching the early news reports on her neighbor's TV, she walked onto the deck again. With binoculars she could see boats, emergency lights and fire on the horizon. There were newspeople in the area of the house. The TV news reports described bodies being found and that there were other people. She felt a little in shock. She is a shy person, and she was about the event. Her mind kind of went blank about the event. It had all seemed surreal to that point. She thought she would believe she had imagined her observations, but she didn't believe them.

At some time before noon on the following day, she became very depressed as she thought about what she had witnessed, so she telephoned the FBI to advise as to what she had seen. She believes she was unconsciously blocking out part of her memory of the event during this first phone call and a second call from an unknown FBI employee, because she did not recall then that she had seen an airliner - only that she'd seen a

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silver object and an explosion. She had forgotten to provide her home address and telephone number to the individual who had taken the first call so she did provide it to the second person, who had called her at her fathers' house.

She became more and more depressed during the weekend realizing she had seen people dying. On Sunday, 7-21-96, following a day on the beach, she returned to the house and was told by her father that FBI agents had come by looking for eye witnesses to the crash. She was upset that her father did not come out to the beach to get her so she again telephoned the FBI and told the individual more details, including the fact that it was a commercial airline.

[REDACTED] wears no glasses or contact lenses. She was well rested, relaxed and happy at the time of the event. She had not taken any prescription or illegal drugs and had not consumed any alcohol or coffee. SPENCER-PERRY did not have any television, radio or stereo turned on. Further, none were audible from any neighbor's home. There is a casino nearby, but no music or noise was audible from it, because it was a Wednesday night.

[REDACTED] does not believe that what she had seen was a natural or merely mechanical event. Except when the word "missile" was suggested to her, she never used the word, and at that point stated it looked like a "missile thingy". She had avoided drawing any conclusions.

[REDACTED] is described from observation and interview as follows:

RACE: White
 SEX: Female
 HEIGHT: 5'2 3/4"
 WEIGHT: 142 lbs.
 HAIR: Red
 EYES: Green
 DOB: [REDACTED]
 POB: New York, New York
 SSAN: [REDACTED]
 Residence: [REDACTED] Hasting-On-Hudson, New York
 Home telephone: [REDACTED]

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