

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 8/2/96

[REDACTED] Date of Birth (DOB): [REDACTED] was interviewed at his residence, [REDACTED] Lake Ronkonkoma, New York, telephone number: [REDACTED] by Investigator JOHN P. KEARY, New York State Police (NYSP) and Special Agent WILLIAM HANSEN, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). [REDACTED] was advised of the identities of the interviewers and the purpose of the interview was to obtain details he might have concerning the crash of TRANS WORLD AIRLINES (TWA) Flight 800. [REDACTED] thereafter, provided the following:

[REDACTED] advised that on July 17, 1996, at approximately 8:30 p.m., he was fishing in the vicinity of Moriches Inlet. He was with his brother, [REDACTED] and his son, [REDACTED] (DOB: [REDACTED]). [REDACTED] stated that his boat was drifting just to the inside of the inlet in the vicinity of the east cut. He advised that he was fishing off the rear of the boat and was facing towards the south. He advised that his son [REDACTED] brought the "flare" to his attention. [REDACTED] advised that he looked to the "eleven o'clock position" (south/southeast) and observed an orange "dot" in the sky. He advised that this dot apparently was towards the end of its flight in that it was high up and it was followed by an explosion right after he saw it. He stated that he believed that the arc initially started very slightly to the west and moved in a slightly easterly fashion. He stated that the dot burned very brightly and the he did not notice any type of irregular pattern of flight or any smoke trail. [REDACTED] advised that the jetty on the east side of the inlet was in front of him as he observed this. [REDACTED] advised that he could not give an accurate estimate of distance other than to say it was far over the ocean.

During the course of his interview, [REDACTED] noted that a commercial type fishing boat proceeded out of the inlet into the ocean approximately 15 to 20 minutes before the incident involving TWA Flight 800. He described this boat as being 35-50 feet in length, was probably a netter, and had either the words "River Rouge" or "Rouge River" was written on the bow of the boat. [REDACTED] thought it was unusual that a fishing boat would be going out at that time of day.

Investigation on 7/20/96 at Lake Ronkonkoma, NYFile # 265A-NY-259028Inv. JOHN P. KEARY NYSP/  
by SA WILLIAM HANSEN FBI/WH/emfDate dictated 7/26/96