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The following investigation was conducted by Investigators JOHN P. KEARY and DANIEL J. REGINI of the New York State Police Department on July 27, 1996:

At approximately 5:47 pm on July 27, 1996, Investigators interviewed [redacted] Date of Birth [redacted] of [redacted] Rocky Point, New York, telephone number [redacted] and his work telephone number is [redacted] was interviewed at his residence. He stated the following:

On July 17, 1996, at approximately 8:30 pm, he was fishing with [redacted] and [redacted] both of [redacted] Farmingville, New York, telephone number [redacted]. He stated that they were fishing in [redacted] eighteen foot Sea Squirt in Moriches Inlet. [redacted] indicated they were approximately three quarters of the way out of the inlet. The bow of the boat was facing south, toward the ocean. The boat was anchored approximately twenty feet to the west of the jetty on the eastern side of the inlet. [redacted] was sitting in the right seat (starboard side) facing out over the ocean. All of a sudden [redacted] heard an explosion. He glanced over to the southeast and observed what he thought was a firework ascending into the sky. He stated he originally felt this firework emanated from the shoreline on the other side of the jetty to the east. [redacted] stated that he continued to watch the firework ascend, expecting to view the explosion in the sky. He stated this object which was ascending left a wispy white smoke trail. About midway through its flight, the smoke trail stopped and the object turned a bright red in color. He felt that this bright red flame was at the top of the device. [redacted] stated that he now thought it was some type of boating distress flare. All of a sudden, it apparently reached the top of it's flight. He stated that the red fireball then arched from the east to the west. At this point he observed an airplane come into the field of view. He stated this airplane was very high up and many miles from his location. He stated that the bright red object ran into the airplane and upon doing so both the plane and the object turned a real bright red then exploded into a huge plume of flame. [redacted] noted that he felt that either the bright red object pushed the nose cone of the plane up or the plane was slightly angled upward when the strike occurred. He stated he felt the bright red object struck the plane towards the cockpit area. This plume separated into two sections which spiraled to the ground and left a white cloud of smoke in the sky. He stated he did not hear any further explosions and did not see flames once the plane fell into the ocean. [redacted] at first attempted to go out to sea to help but soon realized that they

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did not have near enough fuel to reach the site. During this attempt to travel to the crash site, [REDACTED] observed two large fishing boats to the southeast. He stated that he felt they may have been trawler type boats and that they were about nine or ten miles away.

[REDACTED] stated that the flight of the bright red device took about fifteen seconds. He stated the entire incident was over in about thirty seconds. He stated that the eastern jetty was his reference point for the origin of the projectile. He stated that the boat was equipped with loran, but it was not in use at the time. He did note that they had utilized the depth finder on the boat to find a specific drop off in the inlet. He stated that if necessary, he could go back to this exact location as they fish there often. [REDACTED] stated he now feels that the origin of the projectile was about six miles to his southeast. He stated he does not wear glasses or contacts. The sun was in the west southwest at the time.