

000148

COUNTY OF SUFFOLK



ROBERT J. GAFFNEY
COUNTY EXECUTIVE

PETER F. COSGROVE
POLICE COMMISSIONER

POLICE DEPARTMENT

September 18, 1996

SA Peter Casazza
SA William F. Lynch
SA Paul Shea
Federal Bureau of Investigation
135 Pinelawn Rd. - Suite 350 South
Melville, NY 11747

Gentlemen:

On Saturday, July 20, 1996, I became involved in a joint effort to determine the possibility of a missile shooting down TWA flight 800. The objective was to determine if the observations of eye witnesses could be plotted on a chart to determine a location from which a missile was shot.

Enclosed are the recordings of witness observation locations, of witnesses who on the evening of 7/17/96 saw a "flare-like" object rising immediately before the crash of TWA flight 800. These locations are indicated in Latitude (LAT) and Longitude (LONG). In addition are the results of the magnetic bearings taken with a hand held magnetic compass of these observations.

The results of these observations have been plotted on chart number 12353 (17th Ed., June 13/92) Shinnecock Light to Fire Island Light, published at Washington, D.C. by U.S. Department of Commerce, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

The course of TWA flight 800 on 7/17/96 at approximately 2030 hrs. has been plotted on chart number 12353. The results of the various lines of positions of the witnesses observations have been plotted on chart 12353. The flight path of TWA flight 800 may be overlaid with tracing paper which has missile information (to scale) provided by Robert Doherty of the Defense Intelligence Agency (DIA). All of this information taken together indicate to me the very real possibility that if a rocket was used to shoot down TWA flight 800 the "shooter" would have had to been at one of the following locations:

1. LAT 40°40.68'N LONG 072°40.66'W

2286

30 YAPHANK AVENUE, YAPHANK, NEW YORK 11980 - (516) 852-6000

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2. LAT 40°39.19'N LONG 072°37.29'W

The above Latitude and Longitude locations INDICATES THE CENTER OF AN AREA THAT IS STRONGLY RECOMMENDED TO BE SEARCHED AND AT A MINIMUM A ONE (1) nautical mile area should be searched for the remains of equipment that would launch a portable missile. The possibility exists that the equipment was discarded and now remains on the ocean floor.

Sincerely,

Douglas S. Matulewicz
Douglas S. Matulewicz
Deputy Inspector
Commanding Officer
Marine Bureau

DSM:bm

Enclosures 8

[REDACTED]

636
637

LAT 40°37.613'N
LONG 073°15.742'W
Hand held magnetic compass was 098°.

[REDACTED]

521

LAT 40°40.961'N
LONG 073°00.221'W
Hand held magnetic compass was 110°.

[REDACTED]

364

LAT 40°45.104'N
LONG 072°55.968'W
Hand held magnetic compass was 124°.

[REDACTED]

641
642

LAT 40°45.745'N
LONG 072°46.573'W
Hand held magnetic compass was 150°
Hand held magnetic compass was 155°.

[REDACTED]

496
534

LAT 40°48.172'N
LONG 072°45.321'W
Hand held magnetic compass was 152°
Hand held magnetic compass was 160°.

[REDACTED]

649

LAT 40°49.187'N
LONG 072°39.003'W
Hand held magnetic compass was 185°
Hand held magnetic compass was 187°.

[REDACTED]

527
694

LAT 40°50.295'N
LONG 072°28.526'W
Hand held magnetic compass was 225°
Hand held magnetic compass was 223°.