

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 6/29/97

On June 19, 1997, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] was contacted at [REDACTED] East Moriches, New York, [REDACTED]. After being advised of the identities of the interviewing agents and the nature of the interview, [REDACTED] provided the following information:

On July 17, 1996, [REDACTED] and her husband [REDACTED] docked their boat in their slip at ABBOTTS HARTS COVE MARINA, 29 Maple Avenue, East Moriches, NY, at approximately 8:00 p.m. The [REDACTED] were returning from a forty minute boat ride in Moriches Bay. After they docked their boat, [REDACTED] husband began washing it. [REDACTED] stood on the dock, facing south, talking to another boater. [REDACTED] advised that it was a clear evening and that the sun was setting but that it was still light out when they arrived back in the marina. Facing south, [REDACTED] advised that she did not have a direct view of the ocean due to a tree line.

Approximately 10 or 15 minutes after arriving back at the marina, while standing on the dock facing south, [REDACTED] observed what she thought was a flare ascending in the sky. When [REDACTED] first observed the object it was already in the sky above the tree line. She did not see it leave the ground. [REDACTED] advised that the object was orange, slightly more brilliant at its top. The object traveled from her left to right in a straight line at a steep angle, which [REDACTED] described as more vertical than horizontal. The object did not leave a trail.

[REDACTED] observed the object traveling for approximately 10 - 15 seconds when a large explosion occurred just above and to the right of the object. [REDACTED] does not remember if the object stopped or disappeared before the explosion but stated that she lost sight of it due to the explosion. [REDACTED] stated that the explosion was intense orange and red colors that expanded in a ball shaped mass. [REDACTED] advised that if she compared the size of the flare-like object to the width of a pencil, then the explosion would be like the size of an apple comparatively.

[REDACTED] stated that the "ball" of orange and red broke into two objects, and the two objects fell outward and down. [REDACTED] advised that she had the impression that one piece was

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larger than the other, which she estimated to be a 40% and 60% split of the original fire ball object, but she could not recall which sized piece was on the left and which was on the right. [REDACTED] advised that the two objects remained red and orange but lost their brilliance as they fell. [REDACTED] stated that it took less time for the objects to fall than it did for the flare-like object to go up and reach its maximum altitude.

Approximately five seconds after the objects disappeared from [REDACTED] view behind the tree line, she heard a loud boom which she described as sounding similar to an intensely loud thunder rumble. [REDACTED] advised that she did not feel any vibration accompanying the noise and that the noise seemed to originate from the area where the objects disappeared.

Following the interview, the interviewing agents escorted [REDACTED] to the ABBOTTS HARTS COVE MARINA. [REDACTED] identified the area where she was standing when she witnessed the event as being the slip row farthest east in the marina and the second slip in from the marina house. Standing in this location, facing south, [REDACTED] identified a series of pilings located in the water at the end of the slip row. [REDACTED] advised that the entire event occurred in the sky above the pilings. Holding a twelve inch ruler given to her by the interviewing agents straight up and down at an arm's length away, the one inch mark closest to the ground, she placed her thumb on the three inch mark and aligned it with the horizon. CORRAO estimated that the flare-like object first appeared at the six inch mark and the explosion occurred approximately at the eight inch mark.

[REDACTED] stated that she does not wear or require prescription eyeglasses. She advised that she was not under the influence of any substance when she witnessed the event. [REDACTED] advised that at no time while she was witnessing the event did she identify the object as an aircraft.