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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 7/18/96

On 7/18/96 [REDACTED] Deerpark, New York, 11729, telephone [REDACTED] Director Of Wholesale Operations, [REDACTED] Massapequa, New York, 11758, telephone [REDACTED] was contacted telephonically by SA TIMOTHY J. LATERNER, Federal Bureau Of Investigation, and provided the following information.

On 7/17/96 [REDACTED] stated that he was standing on the dock, in the Vanderbilt Wharf Marina, where he keeps his boat, on the Connetquot River on the South Shore of Long Island awaiting the return of his boat which he had lent to a friend at approximately 8:10 PM. After approximately 15-20 minutes had gone by [REDACTED] began to look for his boat, looking southeast over the water. [REDACTED] further stated that it was at this time, approximately 8:30 PM that he observed what appeared to be a Coast Guard flare approximately 15 miles off the shore of Fire Island. [REDACTED] advised that it was only after he went home and heard of the crash that he realized that approximately 30 seconds to 2 minutes before he observed what he thought was a flare, he observed what he thought was a shooting star travelling west to east coming from the south shore, over Fire Island. [REDACTED] stated that although he thought the light looked like a shooting star, he felt that there was something odd about it because a shooting star is white in color whereas this object he observed was more like a bottle-rocket with a dull orange glow to it. [REDACTED] further stated that the glow moved faster than an aircraft and had no arch to it, travelling west to east from just west of Heckscher State Park to where he lost sight of it somewhere in the vicinity of Davis Park. [REDACTED] advised that the object flew for approximately 10 to 15 seconds before he lost sight of it. [REDACTED] further advised that he saw no smoke trail, nor did he observe where it may have come from, or an initial puff of smoke. [REDACTED] stated that he could not observe any visible object or smoke, and only observed the light it emitted, due to the speed of the object. [REDACTED] only observed the light while in flight and heard nothing, he could not comment on the launch site, because he only observed it in flight. [REDACTED] further stated that he did not see it go all the way to the aircraft. [REDACTED] advised that there was no change that he observed in intensity, color, density or thickness.

Investigation on 7/18/96 at New York, New York (telephonically)

File # 265A-NY-259028 SUB CC-36

by SA TIMOTHY J. LATERNER 7/18 Date dictated 7/18/96

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[REDACTED] observed all of this at approximately 8:30 PM during what he described as twilight, with the sun having already been set. [REDACTED] further advised that the trail was straight and remained horizontal until it was out of his view. [REDACTED] did not see it strike the aircraft. CAMES stated that it approached the aircraft (what he originally thought was a Coast Guard flare) from west to east. [REDACTED] could not see a launch point, nor did he observe anything strike the aircraft. [REDACTED] was approximately 15 miles from where he observed the crash site and no more than 5 miles from the missile (originally described as a shooting star). [REDACTED] observed this looking in a southerly direction.

[REDACTED] concluded the interview by stating that everything happened so quickly, making it difficult for him to remember any details.

*****SEE ATTACHED MAP FOR FIELD OF VISION*****