

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 7/25/96

[redacted] West Islip, New York 11795, [redacted] auxiliary with the Coast Guard Station (CGS), Fire Island, (516) 661-9101, was advised of the identity of the Agents and the purpose of the interview and provided the following information:

[redacted] On July 17, 1996, at approximately 8:20 PM, [redacted] was working a "special" meaning he was taking a single passenger from Sayville over to Fire Island. [redacted] does not remember the passengers name, [redacted]

At approximately 8:20 PM, the boat was one and one-half miles north of the turn buoy when to the east of the boat [redacted] saw a red object flying upward. [redacted] stated that he described the object as a flare when he called the incident into the Coast Guard but that it was actually much bigger than any flare he had ever seen. As the "flare" lifted into the sky he next saw a big explosion of a large red color. The red explosion then hung stationary for a few seconds and then started to head back toward the water. In the middle of the explosion, he saw a dark cylinder heading for the water. Out of this large explosion came another reddish flare off shoot.

Originally, when he called the incident into the Coast Guard he felt the flare had come up from the east possibly out of the back bay. But when other boats started to report the flare as coming from as far away as Bellport, [redacted] now figures that the flare must have come from the ocean.

[redacted] could not remember any names from any of the other boats who were on the radio talking about the flare. [redacted] said that in his capacity as a Coast Guard Auxiliary Officer, the Coast Guard will keep a log of those boats who called into the Coast Guard with reports.

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Investigation on 7/20/96 at Fire Island Coast Guard Station (telephonically)

File # 265A-NY-259028

by SA ERICK J. LAUBER/dp Date dictated 7/24/96 - NEW YORK

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