**911 Conspiracy Theories**

**From The Black Vault Encyclopedia Project**

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| [**Sept. 11, 2001 attacks**](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/September_11,_2001_attacks) |
| [**Timeline**](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/Timeline_of_the_September_11,_2001_attacks) |
| [Background history](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/Background_history_of_the_September_11,_2001_attacks) |
| [Planning](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/Planning_of_the_September_11,_2001_attacks) |
| [September 11, 2001](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/September_11,_2001_attacks_timeline_for_the_day_of_the_attacks) |
| [Rest of September](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/September_11,_2001_attacks_timeline_for_September) |
| [October](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/September_11,_2001_attacks_timeline_for_October) |
| [Aftermath](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/Aftermath_of_the_September_11,_2001_attacks) |
| **Victims** |
| [Survivors](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/Survivors_of_the_September_11,_2001_attacks) |
| [Foreign casualties](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/Non-American_casualties_of_the_September_11,_2001_Attacks) |
| **Hijacked airliners** |
| [American Airlines Flight 11](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/American_Airlines_Flight_11) |
| [United Airlines Flight 175](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/United_Airlines_Flight_175) |
| [American Airlines Flight 77](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/American_Airlines_Flight_77) |
| [United Airlines Flight 93](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/United_Airlines_Flight_93) |
| **Sites of destruction** |
| [World Trade Center](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/World_Trade_Center) |
| [The Pentagon](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/The_Pentagon) |
| [Shanksville](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/Shanksville,_Pennsylvania) |
| **Effects** |
| [World political effects](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/World_political_effects_arising_from_the_September_11,_2001_attacks) |
| [World economic effects](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/World_economic_effects_arising_from_the_September_11,_2001_attacks) |
| [Detentions](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/Detentions_following_the_September_11,_2001_Terrorist_Attack) |
| [Airport security](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/Airport_security_repercussions_due_to_the_September_11,_2001_attacks) |
| [Closings and cancellations](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/Closings_and_cancellations_following_the_September_11,_2001_attacks) |
| [Audiovisual entertainment](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/List_of_audiovisual_entertainment_affected_by_the_September_11,_2001_attacks) |
| **Response** |
| [Government response](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/U.S._government_response_to_the_September_11,_2001_attacks) |
| [Rescue and recovery effort](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/Rescue_and_recovery_effort_after_the_September_11,_2001_attacks) |
| [Financial assistance](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/Financial_assistance_following_the_September_11,_2001_attacks) |
| [Memorials and services](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/September_11,_2001_attack_memorials_and_services) |
| **Perpetrators** |
| [Responsibility](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/Responsibility_for_the_September_11,_2001_attacks) |
| [Organizers](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/Organizers_of_the_September_11,_2001_attacks) |
| **Miscellaneous** |
| [Communication](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/Communication_during_the_September_11,_2001_attacks) |
| [Tower collapse](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/Collapse_of_the_World_Trade_Center) |
| [Slogans and terms](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/Slogans_and_terms_derived_from_the_September_11,_2001_attack) |
| **Conspiracy theories** |
| [Opportunists](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/September_11,_2001_attack_opportunists) |
| **Inquiries** |
| [U.S. Congressional Inquiry](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/Joint_Inquiry_into_Intelligence_Community_Activities_before_and_after_the_Terrorist_Attacks_of_September_11,_2001) |
| [9/11 Commission](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/National_Commission_on_Terrorist_Attacks_Upon_the_United_States) |
| **Discussions** |
| [The War on Terrorism Forum](http://www.bvalphaserver.com/forum-8.html) |

A number of [Researchers questioning the official account of 9/11](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Researchers_questioning_the_official_account_of_9/11&action=edit&redlink=1) have proposed alternative theories and explanations about the events surrounding September 11th and assert the existence of a [cover-up](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/Cover-up) in the investigation. Much of this research has been organized, debated and presented in public venues through the efforts of [9/11 Truth Movement](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=9/11_Truth_Movement&action=edit&redlink=1), which has highlighted numerous [Criticisms of the 9/11 Commission Report](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Criticisms_of_the_9/11_Commission_Report&action=edit&redlink=1). What follows in this page is an examination of alternative theories and analysis of the anomalies of that day, all of which question the [9/11 Commission Report](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=9/11_Commission_Report&action=edit&redlink=1) and the mainstream media account, summarized as follows:

*Nineteen* [*al-Qaeda*](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Al-Qaeda&action=edit&redlink=1) *terrorists hijacked four commercial aircraft on the morning of* [*September 11, 2001*](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/September_11,_2001_attacks)*. Two of these planes crashed into the twin towers of the* [*World Trade Center*](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/World_Trade_Center) *in* [*New York City*](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=New_York_City&action=edit&redlink=1)*, one flew into the headquarters of the U.S. Department of Defense at* [*the Pentagon*](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/The_Pentagon) *in* [*Arlington County, Virginia*](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Arlington_County,_Virginia&action=edit&redlink=1)*, and the final plane crashed in a field near* [*Shanksville, Pennsylvania*](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/Shanksville,_Pennsylvania) *after passengers attempted to over-power the hijackers.*

**History challenged**

As the sun began to set on the evening of [11 September](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=11_September&action=edit&redlink=1)[2001](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=2001&action=edit&redlink=1) alternate theories of the 9/11 attacks were emerging to explain what had occurred. A history of events emerged from the mainstream media, further known in this article as the **common account** or **official story**.



CNN broadcast of September 11 destruction when the second plane struck the south tower of the WTC.

Before United States retaliation began for the attacks, the first book surfaced promulgating alternative theories about 9-11. French author, [Thierry Meyssan](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Thierry_Meyssan&action=edit&redlink=1) published *9/11: The Big Lie* which focused mainly on the Pentagon attack. Since then, a number of books, websites, and videos have surfaced to challenge the mainstream account of this terrorist event.

While those who accept the 9/11 Commission Report dismiss alternative hypotheses as [conspiracy theories](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/Conspiracy_theories), there are individuals, groups and organizations who say the official story of events can likewise be referred to as a [conspiracy](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Conspiracy&action=edit&redlink=1) theory. Professor of philosophy of religion and theology [David Ray Griffin](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=David_Ray_Griffin&action=edit&redlink=1) has written, "we can say that we accept all those conspiracy theories that we believe to be true, while we reject all those that we believe to be false."

Organizations and groups have come together to assert these theories and highlight certain aspects of the attack. The variety of these theorists’ views is widespread, and not all of them share the same opinion. The common trait they do share is the belief that at least one, if not all, of the explanations for September 11th are wrong. The external links section provides an extensive list of sites in support of many of the theories below.

**Overview**

As with most major historical events, a wide variety of theories exist about those which occurred on 9/11. Alternative theories to the common account surrounding this subject are generally placed in one or more of the following classifications:

* Individuals from both within the U.S. government and the private sector are covering up key details of the attacks as well as stonewalling an honest, exhaustive, independent investigation into the events.
* Individuals both within the U.S. government and private sector had foreknowledge of the attacks and consciously failed to prevent them.
* Individuals both within the U.S. government and private sector orchestrated the attacks.
* Individuals within the government of Israel and other countries had foreknowledge of, or were involved in the attacks.

**Government foreknowledge**

The first theory mentioned here is the idea that individuals within the United States Government and private sector knew of the impending attacks and failed to act on that knowledge. This theory does not necessarily suggest that individuals within the US Government actually conducted the operation, but rather, that there was enough information in the hands of the government that should have prevented the attack.



The World Trade Center on fire. The plume of smoke escaping the Twin Towers is seen for miles.

The skepticism involved runs from doubt about basic intelligence failures to the idea that there was a conscious effort not to act. In the aftermath of the disaster, the intelligence world was looked upon to explain what went wrong within its own community. Theorists building a case for government foreknowledge often draw upon the following reports and articles for support:

**Intelligence Issues**

*Shortly after the attacks,* [*David Schippers*](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=David_Schippers&action=edit&redlink=1)*, the chief prosecutor for the impeachment of* [*Bill Clinton*](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Bill_Clinton&action=edit&redlink=1) *stated he was contacted by three FBI agents who mentioned uncovering a possible terrorist attack planned for September.*

* According to the story, as the agents informed their superiors, they were briefed not to pursue the issue and threatened with prosecution. David Schippers declared, "Five weeks before the September 11 tragedy, I did my best to get ahold of [Attorney General](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Attorney_General&action=edit&redlink=1) [John Ashcroft](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=John_Ashcroft&action=edit&redlink=1) with my concerns."
* It is unclear exactly what warnings he is thought to have received from the [FBI](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Federal_Bureau_of_Investigation&action=edit&redlink=1), but Mr. Schippers has said the information dated back to a 1995 warning that indicated a possible terrorist attack planned for lower Manhattan using a nuclear device.
* Author William Norman Grigg furthered the Schippers story in his article "Did We Know What Was Coming?" According to the article, three unnamed veteran federal law enforcement agents confirmed "the information provided to Schippers was widely known within the Bureau before September 11."

*Two of the 9/11 hijackers from United Flight 77 had lived with an FBI asset months prior to September 11th.*

* According to CBS News, "The CIA sent out an alert Aug. 23, 2001, naming the two as possible terrorists - but the FBI didn't know the names of the two houseguests, who had moved out months earlier."
* The Administration also could not agree to allow the FBI to serve a Committee subpoena and deposition notice on the informant, “citing concerns about adverse impact on FBI efforts to recruit future informants.” Instead, written interrogatories from the Joint Inquiry were, at the suggestion of the FBI, provided to the informant.

*Rep.* [*Curt Weldon*](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Curt_Weldon&action=edit&redlink=1) *(R-PA) has asserted that over a year before the 9/11 attacks, a classified US intelligence unit known as "*[*Able Danger*](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Able_Danger&action=edit&redlink=1)*" identified* [*Mohammed Atta*](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Mohamed_Atta_al-Sayed&action=edit&redlink=1) *and three other future 9/11 hijackers as likely members of an Al Qaeda cell operating in the US.* (Able Danger was a SOCOM EXERCISE, it identified no new data. An extensive search of US files in response to numerous [Freedom of Information Act](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/Freedom_of_Information_Act) (FOIA) request.

* The team recommended that the information be shared with the FBI but the military's Special Operations Command rejected the recommendation. (New York Times, *Four in 9/11 Plot Are Called Tied to Qaeda in '00*, 8/9/2005)
* Pentagon officials said they have found three more individuals who recall an intelligence chart identifying Mohamed Atta as a terrorist one year prior to the attacks.
* [FBI](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=FBI&action=edit&redlink=1) agent and [Al-Qaeda](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Al-Qaeda&action=edit&redlink=1) expert [John P. O'Neill](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=John_P._O%27Neill&action=edit&redlink=1) warned of an Al-Qaeda threat to the United States in the year preceding the attacks. He retired from his position in mid- [2001](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=2001&action=edit&redlink=1) after an undisclosed source leaked information to the New York Times concerning an investigation pertaining to an incident that occurred 13 months earlier. He was then recruited to be chief of security at the [World Trade Center](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/World_Trade_Center). His body was found in a staircase inside the south tower rubble.

**Suggested Warnings or Hidden Motives**

*Four days before the attack, Florida Governor* [*John Ellis Bush*](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=John_Ellis_Bush&action=edit&redlink=1) *signed an executive order that some interpreted as allowing Bush to declare martial law while others have stated it was a routine training order.*

* Daniel Woodring, Bush's assistant general counsel, responded to these allegations in a press release stating "While Governor Bush has taken appropriate steps to deal with this terror attack, he has not in any shape, form or fashion instituted martial law in Florida."

*Defense Secretary* [*Donald Rumsfeld*](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Donald_Rumsfeld&action=edit&redlink=1) *told talk show host* [*Larry King*](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Larry_King&action=edit&redlink=1) *that at eight o'clock on the morning of the attacks he was meeting with Congressmen. During the meeting, Mr. Rumsfeld says that he stated to the group "sometime in the next two, four, six, eight, ten, twelve months there would be an event that would occur in the world that would be sufficiently shocking that it would remind people again how important it is to have a strong healthy defense department."*

* This meeting took place in the conference room adjacent to Mr. Rumsfeld’s office at the Pentagon. Terrorism was one of the topics of the meeting that morning, and within 15 minutes of adjourning; the building was struck by American Airlines Flight 77.

*CBS News reported that Attorney General* [*John Ashcroft*](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=John_Ashcroft&action=edit&redlink=1) *stopped flying on commercial airlines in July of 2001 because of a "threat assessment" by the FBI.*

* The Attorney General did fly at least two more times commercially after the assessment was given, and responded to this report in his 9-11 Commission testimony, “ I have exclusively traveled on commercial aircraft for my personal travel; continued through the year 2000, through the entirety of the threat period to the nation.”

*According to the* [*San Francisco Chronicle*](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=San_Francisco_Chronicle&action=edit&redlink=1)*, San Francisco mayor* [*Willie Brown*](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Willie_Brown_(politician)&action=edit&redlink=1) *received a warning "advising him that Americans should be cautious about their air travel."*

* The mayor stated that the advisory came from "security people at the airport." The article went on to note, "Mike McCarron, assistant deputy director at SFO, said the Federal Aviation Administration 'routinely' issues security notices about possible threats. He said two or three such notices have been received in the past couple of months."

**Wall Street and Finance**



Many theorists turn to the activities of the stock market and certain financial transactions to highlight claims of foreknowledge.

[*Larry Silverstein*](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Larry_Silverstein&action=edit&redlink=1)*, backed by a number of investors, signed a 99-year lease for the World Trade Center complex seven weeks before the World Trade Center was destroyed. Silverstein already owned 7 World Trade Center at the time. Silverstein Properties was awarded an insurance payment of five billion dollars in settlement.*

* This story takes a look at the financial situation with respect to Silverstein Properties for the destruction of the complex.
* Silverstein's personal investment was only a fraction of the value of the properties - approximately $14 million - as the total value of the deal was settled at $3.2 billion, which closed on July 24th, 2001.
* After extensive litigation, Silverstein was awarded nearly $5 billion in insurance money following the destruction of the Twin Towers.
* It will cost Silverstein and investors an estimated $8 billion to rebuild the structures where the World Trade Center complex once stood.
* Meanwhile, court fees and a required annual lease payment of $120 million continue to draw funds from the insurance payment. The Port Authority has questioned whether the real estate developer can afford to pay for the construction of the Freedom Tower and other structures while continuing to pay the bi-state agency rent.
* In March of 2006, during talks about the future of the WTC site and the division of roles in the re-development for the Port Authority and Silverstein, New York State officials charged that Silverstein's greed was responsible for the breakdown in talks just minutes before a midnight deadline. The Port Authority described Silverstein’s last-minute proposal as “outrageous.”

Following the attack, Securities and Exchange Commission Chairman [Harvey Pitt](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Harvey_Pitt&action=edit&redlink=1) said the SEC was examining all unusual trading activity of stocks most severely affected by the Sept. 11 attacks.

*The most notable reference concerns the option market where a high volume of* [*put options*](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Put_option&action=edit&redlink=1) *were purchased in the days before 9/11 on both American and United Airlines. The number of put options purchased was more than six times higher than normal.*

* According to CNN, "Between August 10 and September 10, the NYSE says short sales of UAL Corp. increased 40 percent, American parent AMR Corp increased 20 percent, and aircraft manufacturer Boeing Corp. increased 37 percent. CNN stated: "Short-sellers with advance knowledge of the attack could have made millions."
* CNN also reported in September of 2001 the industry had been on unstable ground throughout the year, and there were a number of put option spikes well before the attacks.
* Former Security and Exchange Commission enforcement chief William McLucas told Bloomberg News that regulators would "certainly be able to track down every trade," however, no arrests ever occurred.
* Mindy Kleinberg, of the 9/11 Family Steering Committee, in her statement to the 9/11 Commission in 2003 noted of the put options placed on United and American Airlines:

*"Never before on the Chicago Exchange were such large amounts of United and American Airlines options traded. These investors netted a profit of at least $5 million after the September 11th attacks. Interestingly, the names of the investors remain undisclosed and the $5 million remains unclaimed in the Chicago Exchange account."*

* The 9-11 Commission examined this activity with the conclusion these trades were coincidentally innocuous and not the result of insider trading, however, they provided no explanation for how trading on a worldwide basis could have been examined and determined to be innocuous. For example, in regards to the AMR put options purchases, the Commission noted, “Much of the seemingly suspicious trading in American on September 10 was traced to a specific U.S.-based options trading newsletter, faxed to its subscribers on Sunday, September 9, which recommended these trades.”
* The San Francisco Chronicle reported in October of 2001 that the SEC had undertaken an unprecedented action of essentially “deputizing” hundreds of private officials in its investigation. The SEC asked the industry to designate senior personnel and provide them with their names, titles, phone numbers and e-mail addresses. According to the article, these chosen 'point people' would "eventually receive access to a "control list" containing confidential information about transactions, individuals, relationships and entities identified by the FBI and other law- enforcement agencies in the probe."

*Put options were also purchased for Morgan Stanley Dean Witter, which occupied 22 stories in the World Trade Center, Merrill Lynch & Co., with headquarters near the Twin Towers, saw a 1200% increase in put options bought in the four days preceding 9/11, and Munich Re of Germany, the world's biggest reinsurance company, was also examined.*

* National Review Online examined many of these trades as well, including the Munich Re reference. The article explained, “[Munich Re](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Munich_Re&action=edit&redlink=1) stock had been dropping since the beginning of September, and a week before September 11, two brokerages cut their ratings on the firm owing to their concerns about deterioration in the capital markets.” However, numerous [Researchers questioning the official account of 9/11](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Researchers_questioning_the_official_account_of_9/11&action=edit&redlink=1) express doubts that the Commission was actually able to explain worldwide trading patterns around the 9/11 attacks.

*On September 10 Amr "Anthony" Elgindy, an Egyptian-born financial analyst, tried to liquidate his children's $300,000 trust account."*

* Although this report doesn't indicate US involvement, Assistant U.S. Attorney Ken Breen has stated that this could have indicated foreknowledge of the attacks.

**World Trade Center towers**

*See also:* [*Collapse of the World Trade Center*](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/Collapse_of_the_World_Trade_Center)

The destruction of the World Trade Center towers was undoubtedly one of the most documented events in recent history. Alternative theories surrounding the destruction of the Twin Towers have evolved into one main idea: that planted explosives brought down the structures. Much of the support for this claim comes from differing interpretations of video footage capturing the collapse. Many [researchers questioning the official account of 9/11](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Researchers_questioning_the_official_account_of_9/11&action=edit&redlink=1) have highlighted the following as evidence for the theory that planted explosives brought down the WTC towers:

**Claims regarding the actual collapse**

*It has been observed the Twin Towers fell straight down, at close to free-fall speed.*

* This is a similar characteristic of a controlled demolition. A consensus has yet to be reached as to the exact duration of the fall; the most widely used number floats around 10 seconds. [Steven E. Jones](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Steven_E._Jones&action=edit&redlink=1) asks, "Where is the delay that must be expected due to conservation of momentum – one of the foundational Laws of Physics? That is, as upper-falling floors strike lower floors – and intact steel support columns – the fall must be significantly impeded by the impacted mass. The paradox is easily resolved by the explosive demolition hypothesis"[[1]](http://www.physics.byu.edu/research/energy/htm7.html)

*The dust cloud and its makeup are considered uncharacteristic of a gravity-driven collapse.*

* This description refers to the unusually massive and dense clouds of dust which formed after nearly all of the materials in the buildings were pulverized. Much of the clouds were composed of micron-sized particles which later spread for vast distances. Professor [Steven E. Jones](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Steven_E._Jones&action=edit&redlink=1) states, "Rather than a piling up with shattering of concrete as we might expect from non-explosive-caused progressive collapse (“official theory”), we find that most of the Towers material (concrete, carpet, steel, etc.) is converted to flour-like powder WHILE the buildings are falling."[[2]](http://www.physics.byu.edu/research/energy/htm7.html) It is unclear as to how much gravitational energy was stored in the buildings or its ability to cause such pulverization since very few studies have been done in order to obtain a conclusive answer for any theory regarding the dust cloud.
  + *Environmental Health Perspectives* conducted a detailed analysis of selected dust samples; the samples were all collected from three sheltered locations protected from rain on September 15th that had washed away dust in other exposed areas.
  + A USGS study showed the elemental composition of a number of dust samples collected from outdoor and indoor locations.
  + No study has been done to determine if explosive residues were present.

*Many witnesses, including numerous firefighters and building employees retold the event with the use of words such as "bomb" or "explosion" to describe what they heard during the attack up to the subsequent collapse.*

The following quotes are examples of statements made by witnesses to the collapses:

* "It seemed like it was going all the way around like a belt, all these explosions,"

Rich Banaciski, Firefighter (F.D.N.Y.) [Ladder 22]

* "It seemed like it took forever, but there were about ten explosions."

Craig Carlsen, Firefighter (F.D.N.Y.) [Ladder 8]

* ". . . there was what appeared to be at first an explosion. It appeared at the very top, simultaneously from all four sides, materials shot out horizontally. And then there seemed to be a momentary delay before you could see the beginning of the collapse."

Frank Cruthers, Chief (F.D.N.Y.) [Citywide Tour Commander]

*It is often pointed out that no steel building before or since the 9-11 attack has collapsed as the result of fire.*

* This historical reference is cited because fire has never induced a total collapse as was seen on September 11th. The WTC towers burned for less than 102 min (WTC 1) and 56 minutes (WTC 2), during which both towers were stable after the impacts. The following examples of Highrise fires which did not result in collapses are generally cited in regards to this claim:
* the Caracas Tower (2004) - burned for more than 17 hours, spread to over 26 floors.
* One Meridian Plaza (1991) - burned for 18 hours, gutted 8 floors of the 38 floor building.
* First Interstate Bank (1988) - burned for 3 1/2 hours, gutted 4 floors of the 64 floor tower.
* 1 New York Plaza (1970) - burned for more than 6 hours.
* The Madrid [Windsor Tower](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Windsor_Tower&action=edit&redlink=1) (2004) - burned for nearly 24 hours resulting in a partial collapse of the steel sections of the structure, which included concrete members.

**Government Inquiry**

Following pressure from technical experts, industry leaders and families of victims, the Commerce Department's [National Institute of Standards and Technology](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=National_Institute_of_Standards_and_Technology&action=edit&redlink=1) conducted a three year $24 million investigation into the structural failure and progressive collapse of several WTC complex structures. The study included in-house technical expertise and drew upon the knowledge of several outside private institutions for aid to include:

Structural Engineering Institute of the American Society of Civil Engineers (SEI/ASCE)

Society of Fire Protection Engineers (SFPE)

National Fire Protection Association (NFPA)

American Institute of Steel Construction (AISC)

Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat (CTBUH)

Structural Engineers Association of New York (SEAoNY)

Opponents of the demolition theory cite this government report which presented evidence on how and why the buildings collapsed. The report also noted that "NIST found no corroborating evidence for alternative hypotheses suggesting that the WTC towers were brought down by controlled demolition using explosives planted prior to September 11, 2001.". Though this report said there was no such evidence, professor [Steven E. Jones](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Steven_E._Jones&action=edit&redlink=1)(See individual viewpoints below), as well as others, continue to say that it did not address any of the specific analysis arguing for the demolition hypothesis. Critics question Jones' credibility on the subject by pointing out that he does not have a structural engineering background.

* The FEMA and NIST reports have yet to resolve all disagreements among engineers. Although not advocating a controlled demotion, *New Civil Engineer* published several articles regarding the collapse. One such article, *Row Erupts Over Why Twin Towers Collapsed*, cites one party claiming "the towers would have collapsed after a major fire on three floors at once, even with fireproofing in place and without any damage from plane impact". Another quote from the same article states, "World Trade Center disaster investigators are refusing to show computer visualizations of the collapse of the Twin Towers despite calls from leading structural and fire engineers…Visualizations of collapse mechanisms are routinely used to validate the type of finite element analysis model used by the investigators.” Additional articles on the subject can be found at the following link:
* In addition to the above articles, other theorists continue to point out critical aspects of the NIST report in the engineering community. In 2005 fire engineers B. Lane and S. Lamont stated: "This lower reliance on passive fire protection is in contrast to the NIST work where the amount of fire protection on the truss elements is believed to be a significant factor in defining the time to collapse. However there is no evidence in NIST's preliminary report that this is backed up by structural modeling in response to fire. It appears that only heat transfer modeling considering different levels of fire protection have been carried out and the failure of the individual elements has been related to loss in strength and stiffness only. Thermal expansion and the response of the whole frame to this effect has not been described as yet."

Dr. S. Shyam Sunder, head of the institute’s Trade Center report, recently addressed many of the issues 9-11 conspiracy theorists have with the study. Dr. Sunder replied, " Yes. I am sympathetic. But our report . . . it is extensive. We consulted 80 public-sector experts and 125 private-sector experts. It is a Who’s Who of experts. People look for other solutions. As scientists, we can’t worry about that. Facts are facts.”

**Claims in reference to the aftermath or debris field**



A section of fuselage rests in the ruins of the World Trade Center.

In addition to the observation of the collapse, theorists draw upon the post collapse elements surrounding the World Trade Center. The compilation of the following is put forward by opponents of the official story to further the idea of a controlled demolition as well as government involvement.

*The rubble of the Twin Towers smoldered for weeks after the collapse.*

* This claim is meant to point out that steel could only have smoldered as a result of pre-placed explosives. A handful of individuals working in and around the debris field utilized phrases containing the words “molten metal” or “molten steel” to describe the devastation. Physicist [Steven E. Jones](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Steven_E._Jones&action=edit&redlink=1) has pointed out that these molten metal observations cannot be known to be steel without a metallurgical analysis being done. The following are some of the more common statements seen:
  + Peter Tully, president of Tully Construction of Flushing, N.Y described "literally molten steel" at the WTC.
  + The observation of molten metal at Ground Zero was emphasized publicly by Leslie Robertson, the structural engineer responsible for the design of the World Trade Center Towers in a second hand account by James Williams who reported that "As of 21 days after the attack, the fires were still burning and molten steel was still running."



The lobby of one of the towers was partially destroyed (broken windows and marble panels) and a dust cloud can be seen rising from the ground during the moments of collapse.

* Sarah Atlas of New Jersey's Task Force One Urban Search and Rescue, one of the first on the scene said "Fires burned and molten steel flowed in the pile of ruins" (*Penn Arts and Sciences*, Summer 2002). Similarly, Dr. Allison Geyh, a public health investigator from Johns Hopkins, recalled in the late fall 2001 issue of *Magazine of Johns Hopkins Public Health*, "In some pockets now being uncovered they are finding molten steel."
* Obtaining a conclusive answer to these molten metal arguments is difficult for a lack of documented research on the issue. While NASA's satellite images of Ground Zero do show large hot spots well after 9/11, they do not provide an exact measure of temperatures within the rubble pile since this type of remote sensing captures only the temperatures on the surface of a debris pile. Independent scientific investigation into what sort of metal, if any, was liquefied has yet to be conducted.

*Most of the columns came down in sections about 30 ft (10 m) long and large sections of steel destined for recycling were quickly sent to areas in SE Asia.*

* This claim suggests the building was destroyed to provide for an easy clean-up and removal of debris, often implying little study was done of the evidence.
* It is important to recognize the longest beam surrounding the towers was no greater than 38 feet.
* Ground Zero actually took more than eight months to remove all of the debris.
* Furthermore, Dr W. Gene Corley, head of the Building Performance Assessment Team on the site, responded to this notion and the evaluation of evidence, "The team has had full access to the scrap yards and to the site and has been able to obtain numerous samples." NIST has numerous sections of steel from both Towers as well as WTC 7.

*The government has yet to produce the* [*Cockpit voice recorder*](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Cockpit_voice_recorder&action=edit&redlink=1) *(CVR) or* [*Flight recorder*](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Flight_recorder&action=edit&redlink=1) *(FDR) from the WTC attack.*

* While it is still publicly unknown if any of the black boxes were recovered intact from the wreckage, a recent report has quoted an unnamed source claiming to have knowledge of the black boxes recovery saying they "were in fact recovered and were analyzed by the NTSB." The Chicago Tribune reported that experts believed the recorders would not be found simply because of the massive scope of the damage and debris. NTSB and FBI have both publicly stated the recorders were never recovered.

*On September 16th, 2001, several news agencies reported authorities finding "the passport of a suspected hijacker" which they described to be that of Satam al Suqami.*

* Without noting the other personal artifacts recovered from the debris pile, this statement is generally presented to promote the idea of its sheer impossibility.

**Individual viewpoints on the collapse**

As the above theories were generated, individuals questioning the collapse were highlighted. The following individuals have expressed concern or doubts on the common account regarding the fate of the Twin Towers:

* In a research report, *Why Indeed Did the WTC Buildings Collapse?,* [Brigham Young University](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Brigham_Young_University&action=edit&redlink=1) Professor of Physics [Steven E. Jones](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Steven_E._Jones&action=edit&redlink=1) writes, "The 'explosive demolition' hypothesis better satisfies tests of repeatability and parsimony and therefore is not 'junk science.' It ought to be seriously, scientifically investigated and debated."
* In a letter to Frank Gayle of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, Kevin Ryan of [Underwriters Laboratories](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Underwriters_Laboratories&action=edit&redlink=1) (UL), wrote "This story just does not add up. If steel from those buildings did soften or melt, I'm sure we can all agree that this was certainly not due to jet fuel fires of any kind, let alone the briefly burning fires in those towers. That fact should be of great concern to all Americans. Alternatively, the contention that this steel did fail at temperatures around 250 °C suggests that the majority of deaths on 9/11 were due to a safety-related failure." UL is the company that certified the steel components used in the construction of the World Trade Center towers. Kevin Ryan was subsequently fired from his job.
* Van Romero, Vice President for Research and Economic Development at [New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=New_Mexico_Institute_of_Mining_and_Technology&action=edit&redlink=1), a major authority on explosions' effects on buildings, has said, "My opinion is, based on the videotapes, that after the airplanes hit the World Trade Center there were some explosive devices inside the buildings that caused the towers to collapse." Romero has since retracted his belief, later stating, "Certainly the fire is what caused the building to fail." ("Explosives Planted in Towers, New Mexico Tech Expert Says", [*Albuquerque Journal*](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Albuquerque_Journal&action=edit&redlink=1), September, 2001).
* On June 13, 2005, the [Washington Times](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Washington_Times&action=edit&redlink=1) reported that former Chief Economist for the Department of Labor during President George W. Bush's first term, [Morgan Reynolds](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Morgan_Reynolds&action=edit&redlink=1), said the common account of the WTC collapse is "bogus" and suggests a controlled demolition destroyed the Twin Towers and adjacent Building No. 7. Some have doubted this individual's credibility because he also questioned the involvement of commercial jets stating that "North Tower's hole wasn't big enough for a Boeing 767."
* Former Assistant Secretary of the Treasury under President Reagan, [Paul Craig Roberts](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Paul_Craig_Roberts&action=edit&redlink=1), expressed his doubt about the common account in the following statement: "I know many qualified engineers and scientists have said the WTC collapsed from explosives. In fact, if you look at the manner in which it fell, you have to give their conclusions credibility."
* In *The New Pearl Harbor*, former theology and philosophy Professor [David Ray Griffin](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=David_Ray_Griffin&action=edit&redlink=1) argues on the fact that since WTC 2 collapsed first, when it appeared most of the jet fuel was ignited on impact outside the tower, makes the collapse questionable. Additionally, he argues the impact of the second aircraft was not as precise as the first, suggesting less fuel would have burned in the central support area.
* Recently, [Charlie Sheen](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Charlie_Sheen&action=edit&redlink=1) has come out publicly stating that he agrees with many of the 9-11 theories, including the controlled demolition. Sheen told talk radio host, Alex Jones, the collapse resembled an implosion. He recalled asking his brother on the day of the attacks, “Did it sorta look like those buildings came down in a controlled demolition?”
* Before his death in February, [1986](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=1986&action=edit&redlink=1), [Minoru Yamasaki](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Minoru_Yamasaki&action=edit&redlink=1), architect and designer of the WTC, stated, "We designed the towers to take multiple 707 jet strikes."
  + This statement is seen on many conspiracy websites with the idea simply being: if the building was designed to withstand an aircraft impact, it should have. It is important to note here, however, the situational condition of the aircraft was part of the design as well.
  + Leslie Robertson, lead structural engineer for the World Trade Center, commented on this point in *Reflections on the World Trade Center*. Robertson notes, “It was assumed that the jetliner would be lost in the fog, seeking to land at JFK or at Newark. Little was known about the effects of a fire from such an aircraft, and no designs were prepared for that circumstance.”
  + Robertson illustrates how the kinetic energy of the 767 impact witnessed on 9-11 was nearly seven times greater than the building's design ever anticipated.

**Structural and Civil Engineers Respond**

As the above individuals have supplied fuel for the demolition theory, the mainstream of the academic world has yet to be convinced. [Massachusetts Institute of Technology](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Massachusetts_Institute_of_Technology&action=edit&redlink=1) has devoted a number of staff members to the analysis of the World Trade Center collapse. Numerous aspects of the collapse have been documented and reviewed within the scientific community. The country's leading structural and civil engineers have examined the attack from the point of impact up through the collapse, concluding that explosives were not necessary to provide what the world observed.

The following are a few examples of the structural engineering response to the collapse:

* According to Farid Alfawak-hiri of the American Institute of Steel Construction, "Steel loses about 50 percent of its strength at 1100 °F (593 °C)." Asif Usmani of Edinburgh University concluded that the interconnecting beams of the towers could have expanded by around 9 cm at 930 °F (500 °C), causing the floors above to buckle.
* Dr. Thomas Eagar, professor of materials engineering and engineering systems at the [Massachusetts Institute of Technology](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Massachusetts_Institute_of_Technology&action=edit&redlink=1), has stated that the building "would have had to have tipped at least 100 feet to one side in order to move its center of gravity from the center of the building out beyond its base." In other words, the structure had no choice but to fall straight down.
* Jet fuel wasn't the only thing burning, notes Forman Williams, Professor of Engineering at the University of California, San Diego. He says that while the jet fuel was the catalyst for the WTC fires, the resulting inferno was intensified by the combustible material inside the buildings, including rugs, curtains, furniture and paper. NIST reports that pockets of fire hit 1832°F (1000°C), high enough to cause structural failure.

Critics of the demolition theory also point out the in-depth planning, preparation, and production involved in a controlled demolition. This labor-intensive task leaves clear signs of the work, such as stripping away building materials to expose the structural supports, and running cables from the explosives to the detonation timers.

**World Trade Center Seven**

*Main article:* [*7 World Trade Center*](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=7_World_Trade_Center&action=edit&redlink=1)

World Trade Center Seven collapsed at 5:20 pm EST in the evening of Sept 11, 2001.

Similar to the Towers One and Two theories, 9/11 researchers have proposed the idea Building Seven collapsed as the result of a controlled demolition. The basis for the demolition theory came from the visual observations of the collapse. Advocates for this theory will point to the speed and the near symmetrical fall of the structure. The building came down in [just under seven seconds](http://www.physics.byu.edu/research/energy/htm7.html).

The [collapse of WTC 7](http://www.wtc7.net/videos.html) was an event that baffled structural engineers. Building Seven was not struck by an aircraft nor were the fires inside caused or sustained by jet fuel. The common working hypothesis suggests Building 7 collapsed as the result of structural damage from the collapsing Towers in addition to prolonged fires throughout sustained by fuel stores for emergency generators. Further discussion of the intensity and severity of the fires is mentioned below. Engineers refer to this type of destruction as a "progressive collapse."

*A crimp or kink near the center of the building is identical in appearance to many that have occurred when implosion professionals have made buildings collapse inwards to minimize damage of the surrounding structures.*

* This observation appears to support the demolition idea which suggests that a carefully calculated fall took place. Although the collapse was not as tidy as sometimes thought; the building just to the north of WTC 7 took considerable damage during its collapse.

*Dust and smoke exiting the falling building are compared to explosive puffs emerging from deliberate building implosions.*

Photographs taken of World Trade Center Seven before and during the collapse:



Fire visible inside Building Seven as seen from the north.



Building damage to the southwest corner and smoke plume from the South face of WTC 7, looking from the World Financial Plaza.



Seconds into the collapse of Building Seven.

**The Damage and Fire**

According to supporters of the controlled demolition theory, one of the primary unanswered questions surrounding Building Seven concerns the severity of both the damage and the fires. The controlled demolition theorists maintain neither were severe enough to initiate a collapse. Very few photographs or video provide a clear image of the full damage to the building. Dr. [Steven E. Jones](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Steven_E._Jones&action=edit&redlink=1), a proponent of the controlled demolition theory, speculates on Building Seven:

*"The likelihood of complete and nearly-symmetrical collapse due to random fires as in the “official” theory is small, since non-symmetrical failure is so much more likely. If one or a few columns had failed, one might expect a portion of the building to crumble while leaving much of the building standing. For example, major portions of WTC 5 remained standing on 9/11 despite very significant impact damage and severe fires."*

Dr. Jones also points to concluding notes in the FEMA report on the WTC 7 collapse:

*"The specifics of the fires in WTC 7 and how they caused the building to collapse [“official theory”] remain unknown at this time. Although the total diesel fuel on the premises contained massive potential energy, the best hypothesis [fire/debris-damage-caused collapse] has only a low probability of occurrence. Further research, investigation, and analyses are needed to resolve this issue."*

Opponents to the controlled demolition theory recognize testimony provided by firefighters and EMT personnel about the severity of the damage to WTC 7. Firefighters used transits to determine whether there was any movement in the structure and were surprised to discover that is was, in fact, moving. A collapse zone was set up at that time, and WTC 7 collapsed about an hour and a half later at 5:20 pm. [[3]](http://www.firehouse.com/911/magazine/towers.html)

* New York Fire Department personnel on the scene described the damage inflicted to the south face of WTC 7. Several statements were given by firefighters and other first responders emphasizing the critical condition of Building Seven.
* The following are just a few of the documented impressions of authorities on the scene:
  + "The most important operational decision to be made that afternoon was the collapse (Of the WTC towers) had damaged 7 World Trade Center....It had very heavy fire on many floors and I ordered the evacuation of an area sufficient around to protect our members, so we had to give up some rescue operations...and back the people away far enough so that if 7 World Trade did collapse, we [wouldn't] lose any more people. We continued to operate on what we could from that distance and approximately an hour and a half after that order was [given], at 5:30 in the afternoon, World Trade Center collapsed completely" - *Daniel Nigro*
  + Deputy Chief Nick Visconti also later recalls recounts, "A big chunk of the lower floors had been taken out on the Vesey Street side." Captain Chris Boyle recalls, "On the south side of 7 there had to be a hole 20 stories tall in the building, with fire on several floors." - *Firehouse Magazine, 8/02*
  + "They told us to get out of there because they were worried about 7 World Trade Center, which is right behind it, coming down. We were up on the upper floors of the Verizon building looking at it. You could just see the whole bottom corner of the building was gone....Finally they pulled us out....They pulled us out of there and then they regrouped everybody on Vesey Street....Finally it did come down." - *Richard Banaciski*
  + "Early on, there was concern that 7 World Trade Center might have been both impacted by the collapsing tower and had several fires in it and there was a concern that it might collapse. So we instructed that a collapse area -- (Q. A collapse zone?) -- Yeah -- be set up and maintained so that when the expected collapse of 7 happened, we wouldn't have people working in it." - *Chief Cruthers*
  + "Then we found out, I guess around 3:00 [o'clock], that they thought 7 was going to collapse. So, of course, [we've] got guys all in this pile over here and the main concern was get everybody out, and I guess it took us over an hour and a half, two hours to get everybody out of there....So it took us a while and we ended up backing everybody out, and [that's] when 7 collapsed." - *William Ryan*

**The Silverstein Quote**



Debris from the collapse of WTC 1 located between WTC 7 (left) and the [Verizon building](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Verizon_building&action=edit&redlink=1) (right).

The demolition theory was further fueled by a quote within a PBS documentary *America Rebuilds*, which aired in September 2002. [Larry Silverstein](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Larry_Silverstein&action=edit&redlink=1), the lease holder for Building Seven and insurance policy holder for the World Trade Center Complex was quoted during the film as he recalled the events of that morning:

"I remember getting a call from the Fire Department commander, telling me they were not sure they were gonna be able to contain the fire, and I said, you know, 'We've had such terrible loss of life, maybe the smartest thing to do is just pull it.' And they made that decision to pull and we watched the building collapse."

*Some suggest this statement could only have been referring to demolition as theorists allege "pull" to be a standard industry term used at the moment a collapse is triggered.*

* Critics of this theory argue the term "pull" was in reference to evacuating the firefighting team from the building, though it is difficult to explain the pronoun "it" in this way in the context of the quote itself on tape.

Silverstein's spokesperson, Mr. McQuillan, later attempted to clarify:

"In the afternoon of September 11, Mr. Silverstein spoke to the Fire Department Commander on site at Seven World Trade Center. The Commander told Mr. Silverstein that there were several firefighters in the building working to contain the fires. Mr. Silverstein expressed his view that the most important thing was to protect the safety of those firefighters, including, if necessary, to have them withdraw from the building."

Mr. McQuillan has commented that by "it," Mr. Silverstein meant the contingent of firefighters remaining in the building.

As mentioned in the previous section, NIST is also conducting an investigation into the structural failures of World Trade Center Seven. The final report is scheduled for release sometime in 2006. In draft copies of that document, NIST states that they have "seen no evidence that the collapse of WTC 7 was caused by bombs, missiles, or controlled demolition."

**The Pentagon**



Clouds of smoke billow out of the Pentagon.

Two main theories exist regarding the Pentagon among [Researchers questioning the official account of 9/11](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Researchers_questioning_the_official_account_of_9/11&action=edit&redlink=1): that Flight 77 did hit the building, and that Flight 77 did not hit the building.

Based primarily on photographic evidence, French researcher Thierry Meyssan, an early proponent of the idea that a Flight 77 did not impact the Pentagon, suggested that a truck bomb or missile caused the damage. Other theories of what did crash at the site have ranged from military aircraft, such as the [A-3 Sky warrior](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=A-3_Skywarrior&action=edit&redlink=1), to cruise missiles.

In contrast, other researchers studying the crash believe that Flight 77 did hit the Pentagon [[4]](http://911review.com/errors/pentagon/index.html),[[5]](http://911research.wtc7.net/essays/pentagontrap.html),[[6]](http://www.oilempire.us/pentagon.html) and suggest Meyssan’s theory is a distraction functioning to discredit the [9/11 Truth Movement](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=9/11_Truth_Movement&action=edit&redlink=1), particularly to the 9/11 families. Most of these researchers cite anomalies such as why the hijackers chose to hit the most unoccupied and yet most reinforced area of the building, rather than targeting high level officials, and how the plane managed to penetrate all US defenses.

The observations below are highlighted by those questioning the official account of the Pentagon attack:

*Flight 77 flew in the direction of the DC area for approximately 40 minutes without interception.*

* This is considered unusual given the Pentagon's close proximity to [Andrews Air Force Base](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Andrews_Air_Force_Base&action=edit&redlink=1) and the well-established standard operating procedures for intercepting aircraft which go off course or lose communication[[7]](http://911research.wtc7.net/planes/defense/index.html), i.e., between September 2000 and June 2001, interceptors were scrambled 67 times.[[8]](http://911research.wtc7.net/cache/planes/analysis/norad/020812ap.html) Thus, 9/11 researchers suggest that routine interception procedures were not followed on September 11th. Officials state that only two airfields in the north sector of the U.S. had aircraft available for scramble: Otis Air National Guard Base in Cape Cod, Massachusetts, and Langley Air Force Base in Hampton, Virginia.

*There are claims that anti-missile batteries at the Pentagon should have intercepted Flight 77.*

* Evidence of the existence of such batteries, let alone their purpose, has yet to be provided.
* CNN reported in September 2002 that for the "first time since the Cuban missile crisis almost 40 years ago, armed missile launchers will be protecting the nation's capital by day's end Tuesday."

*Those supporting a theory that Flight 77 did not hit the Pentagon consider photographic evidence of plane wreckage lying on the grounds of the Pentagon to be ambiguous and unconvincing citing a visual lack of burnt metal, human remains, passenger's luggage or seats.*

* As a response to this claim, others point to similar crashes where the entire aircraft was converted to small, unrecognizable confetti-like debris. The following crash is an example of such a case.
* Most of the photographic evidence of the plane was taken inside the building by search teams and investigators.



CNN released frame of the explosion at the Pentagon as captured by a surveillance camera.

*In March of 2002, the Associated Press published a series of 5 frames captured by a Pentagon surveillance camera.*

* The resolution of the image is less than desirable to determine with any degree of accuracy what caused the explosion and the images were not released officially, but were leaked. The incorrect time and date have added to the speculation.

[[9]](http://911research.wtc7.net/pentagon/analysis/videoframes.html)

*The FBI confiscated a video from a nearby gas station attended by Jose Velasquez, and from the Sheraton Hotel roof. These videos have not yet been released.*

* 9/11 researchers call for the release of all information regarding the crash and suggest that the withholding such information is government secrecy. FBI documents describing the collection of evidence explain this particular video did not capture the impact, however none of the other videos have been released either.

*The Pentagon was struck in a newly renovated and reinforced section.*

* Wedge 1, as the area is referred to, began renovation in 1998. A phased move-in of tenants began in February 2000, with the last tenant move-in completed February 6, 2003.
* The aircraft struck the northern edge of Wedge 1, and some speculate this location to be indicative of insider involvement, noting it as a possible attempt to reduce casualties.

*Initial damage to the outer wall of the Pentagon is thought by those supporting a theory that Flight 77 did not hit the Pentagon to be inconsistent with a large aircraft.*

* Others argue that given the reinforced strength of the building in comparison to the relative light weight material that made up the aircraft, considerable damage was made. The impact point did fit the dimensions of the 757 flight-deck and fuselage -- minus the jet engines, tail, and wings.

The preponderance of eye-witness testimony at the scene reported an aircraft fitting the description of American Airlines Flight 77 crashing into the side of the building.

**United Flight 93**

**Claims cell phone calls were impossible**

*During the flight of United 93 passengers are said to have made a number of calls to both family and emergency personnel. It is argued that connecting a cell phone to a tower's signal would have been near to impossible from the air. Based on this information, some theorists suggest the calls were fabricated or never made at all.*

* In 2003 a Canadian team conducted experiments to determine if cell phones could be used from civilian aircraft flying at cruising speeds and altitudes. Their findings concluded the probability of a typical cell phone making a stable connection to a cell on the ground is less than 1%. Anecdotal evidence provided to the team by airline passengers in other parts of the US and the world corroborates their findings.
* It is unclear what the various altitudes of the aircraft were during the short journey from hijacking to crashing, increasing or decreasing connection odds. In addition, each seat in the plane had a built in phone which could have been used at any point during the flight. Determining whether the calls received were from the GTE Airphones or cell phones has been a difficult task to document.
* It is known that in the final moments of the flight Edward Felt dialed 911 from his cell phone from the lavatory of the aircraft which was answered by dispatcher John Shaw. Felt was able to tell the dispatcher about the hijacking before the call was out of range and subsequently disconnected.

**Claims United Flight 93 was shot down**

*Doubting the common account of the airplane crashing as a result of an attempted cockpit invasion, some have speculated United Airlines Flight 93 was shot down by US fighter jets.*

* This idea was fueled by former theology and philosophy professor [David Ray Griffin](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=David_Ray_Griffin&action=edit&redlink=1) in *The New Pearl Harbor* where he cited research by [Paul Thompson](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Paul_Thompson_(researcher)&action=edit&redlink=1). Thompson cites a number of mainstream media reports that fighter jets were actually much closer to Flight 93 at the time of the crash than stated in the official record. He mentions witnesses who noticed a small white jet near the impact site soon after the crash. There was however, a business jet requested by ATC to investigate the crash area; the aircraft descended to an altitude around 1500 ft in order to survey the impact.
* Mr. Thompson adds that pieces of Flight 93 were found far from the crash site. He claims this to be evidence of a shoot-down. NTSB investigators have found no evidence the plane was shot down. Debris exploding away and landing far from the crash scene is not a unique occurrence in commercial airline accidents.
* [Donald Rumsfeld](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Donald_Rumsfeld&action=edit&redlink=1), in an address to U.S. troops, referred to "the people who attacked the United States in New York, shot down the plane over Pennsylvania." While the Pentagon said Rumsfeld misspoke, and "has not changed his opinion that the plane crashed as the result of an onboard struggle between passengers and terrorists," some believe Rumsfeld's slip was based on truth.

**Claims United Flight 93 landed safely**

*In the moments immediately following a major event, confusion envelops the media as well as the general population. There are reports that flight 93 landed safely in Ohio after a suspected bomb threat. The Flight Data Recorder and Cockpit Voice Recorder from Flight 93 have not been released to the general public. Some claim this is because the plane that crashed in Pennsylvania was actually not United 93.*

The following points help to clarify a few misunderstandings:

* A 1990 Congressional Law prohibits the “public disclosure [of the] cockpit voice recorder recordings and transcriptions, in whole or in part, of oral communications by and between flight crew members and ground stations…”
* On April 18, 2002, the FBI allowed the families of victims from Flight 93 to listen to the voice recordings. This was made possible only because the FBI controlled the investigation, as opposed to the NTSB as in typical air disasters.
* WCPO, a local Cincinnati ABC news affiliate, released a preliminary AP story on United Flight 93’s safe landing at a Cleveland airport. It was later learned Delta Flight 1989 was the plane confused with Flight 93. WCPO has since retracted the story noting its earlier factual inaccuracies.

**Questions about war games on the morning of 9/11**

*Main article:* [*War games in progress on September 11, 2001*](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=War_games_in_progress_on_September_11,_2001&action=edit&redlink=1)

In addition to the above theories, some assert that government and military exercises point to a cover-up. There were a number of drills being performed on the morning of 9-11. US Rep. [Cynthia McKinney](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Cynthia_McKinney&action=edit&redlink=1), economist [Michel Chossudovsky](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Michel_Chossudovsky&action=edit&redlink=1), and publisher/editor [Michael Ruppert](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Michael_Ruppert&action=edit&redlink=1) of [From the Wilderness](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=From_the_Wilderness&action=edit&redlink=1) are a few of the individuals who have questioned these exercises.

The following [war games](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Wargaming&action=edit&redlink=1) and training events were being conducted by USAF, NORAD, CIA, NRO, FAA and FEMA:

* Northern Vigilance: a yearly Air Force drill simulating a Russian attack, in which defense aircraft normally patrolling the Northeast are re-deployed to Canada and Alaska.
* [Vigilant Guardian](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Global_Guardian&action=edit&redlink=1): a NORAD exercise posing an imaginary crisis to North American Air Defense outposts nationwide with a simulated air war and an air defense exercise simulating an attack on the United States.
* [National Reconnaissance Office](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=National_Reconnaissance_Office&action=edit&redlink=1) emergency response drill of a small aircraft crashing into its own headquarters.
* Tripod II, a [FEMA](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Federal_Emergency_Management_Agency_of_the_United_States&action=edit&redlink=1) drill simulating a [biowarfare](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Biological_warfare&action=edit&redlink=1) attack in New York City, was to take place on September 12th. FEMA set up a command post for this exercise at Pier 29 on September 10th.

It is theorized that with these multiple training scenarios being carried out that NORAD, FAA and other military personnel would have been confused in the event of a real attack. There is no evidence that these exercises impeded the reaction of NORAD or that ATC was even aware of any exercise at the time of the hijackings. McKinney has twice questioned Defense Secretary [Donald Rumsfeld](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Donald_Rumsfeld&action=edit&redlink=1) about these 9/11 war games during his testimony before Congress.

**The President's behavior**



Chief of Staff Andrew Card informs President Bush of a second airplane crash into the World Trade Center.

During times of national crisis the behavior of the President will undoubtedly be analyzed by critics and supporters alike. Regarding 9/11, the President's supporters argue he did an excellent job in displaying an image of strength and calm while surrounded by an unfolding chaos, while conspiracy theorists suggest his behavior points to more sinister events. Theories have surfaced that link President Bush's behavior to the idea the government was well aware of what was happening.

Promoting the passage of his education plan, President Bush was at Emma E Booker Elementary School on the morning of September 11th.

* The President's location at the school in [Sarasota, Florida](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Sarasota,_Florida&action=edit&redlink=1) was publicized in the local press.
* After the President was notified at 9:05-7 am of the second plane hitting the WTC, he remained seated for 7-9 minutes. Critics of the President suggest he should have left the area immediately, a point discussed at length in the film [*Fahrenheit 9/11*](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Fahrenheit_9/11&action=edit&redlink=1).
* He spoke a few words to the nation about the attacks at 9:30 am. His motorcade left for the airport at 9:35 am.
* Paul Thompson and Allan Wood have provided a thorough analysis of Bush's actions that morning in their research piece "An Interesting Day."

**Inconsistent explanations**

The military's account of its own response to the 9/11 attacks has been inconsistent over time:

* Initially the military reported that no fighters were sent up to intercept the hijacked planes until after the [Pentagon](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Pentagon&action=edit&redlink=1) was hit.
* Later that week the military revised its statement saying it had sent up fighters earlier than previously stated. As a result of the delay in communication between the military and the FAA the planes arrived too late.
* The 9/11 Commission reported a slightly different version: FAA gave the military insufficient warning of the first hijacked airline and no warning of the other hijackings until after they had crashed.
* Some government officials have remarked that prior to 9/11, it was unimaginable that hijacked planes would be used as suicide weapons. Intelligence officials had received information outlining a terrorist desire to use planes as weapons on at least 12 occasions in the seven years prior to September 11, 2001. (9/11 Congressional Inquiry, 7/24/03) Lack of inter-agency communication is thought to be one of the major faults of investigators prior to the attack. A similar fictional scenario had even been described in a popular novel, the [New York Times Best Seller](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=New_York_Times_Best_Seller&action=edit&redlink=1) [*Debt of Honor*](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Debt_of_Honor&action=edit&redlink=1) (1994) by [Tom Clancy](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Tom_Clancy&action=edit&redlink=1).
* episode 1-the lone gunmen aired June 2001 which the scenario was a rouge element of the government hijacked, via remote control, an airliner and tried to crash it into the WTC to bring about a plan of martial law in America.
* escape from new york-1970's film where a terrorist group managed to infiltrate the flight crew of air force 1 and crashed it into lower Manhattan.

**The 9/11 Commission**

*See also:* [*Criticisms of the 9/11 Commission Report*](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Criticisms_of_the_9/11_Commission_Report&action=edit&redlink=1)

Just over a year after the attacks, the [US Congress](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=US_Congress&action=edit&redlink=1) was tasked with addressing the events that surrounded September 11th. Conspiracy theorists often reference information in or about the Commission's report in support of their hypotheses.

* Vice President [Dick Cheney](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Dick_Cheney&action=edit&redlink=1) initially opposed a congressional commission into the 9/11 attacks, suggesting it would take vital resources and personnel away from the war on terrorism.
* The 9/11 Commission investigation began 411 days after the attacks, whereas the investigations into the [attack on Pearl Harbor](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Attack_on_Pearl_Harbor&action=edit&redlink=1) and the [assassination of JFK](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/Warren_Commission) began after only 9 and 7 days, respectively.
* The commission was given a startup appropriation of only $3 million and made a subsequent funding request for $11 million in order to meet its target date for completion. As a point of comparison, $50 million was set aside to investigate the [destruction of the space shuttle Columbia](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Space_Shuttle_Columbia_disaster&action=edit&redlink=1), and $40 million was set aside to investigate [Bill Clinton](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Bill_Clinton&action=edit&redlink=1)'s lying about his indiscretions with [Monica Lewinsky](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Monica_Lewinsky&action=edit&redlink=1).

**Other points of interest**



PNAC:accused of conspiracy

* US Representative [Cynthia McKinney](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Cynthia_McKinney&action=edit&redlink=1) led a [Capitol Hill](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=United_States_Capitol&action=edit&redlink=1) hearing on July 23, 2005 into "what warnings the Bush administration received before the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001." Panelist and former CIA official Melvin Goodman was quoted as saying "Congresswoman McKinney is viewed as a contrarian and I hope someday her views will be considered conventional wisdom." Many 9/11 researchers testified at the hearing, including Michael Ruppert, Peter Dale Scott, Wayne Madsen and several others.
* A September, 2000 document by the [Project for the New American Century](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Project_for_the_New_American_Century&action=edit&redlink=1) ([PNAC](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=PNAC&action=edit&redlink=1); cofounded by [Dick Cheney](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Dick_Cheney&action=edit&redlink=1), [Donald Rumsfeld](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Donald_Rumsfeld&action=edit&redlink=1), [Paul Wolfowitz](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Paul_Wolfowitz&action=edit&redlink=1), and [Richard Perle](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Richard_Perle&action=edit&redlink=1)), entitled states the following:

*To preserve American military preeminence in the coming decades, the Department of Defense must move more aggressively to experiment with new technologies and operational concepts, and seek to exploit the emerging revolution in military affairs.*

*Further, the process of* [*military*](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Military&action=edit&redlink=1) *transformation, even if it brings revolutionary change, is likely to be a long one, absent some catastrophic and catalyzing event—like a new* [*Pearl Harbor*](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Pearl_Harbor&action=edit&redlink=1)*.*

* In a Zogby International poll commissioned by, half (49.3%) of [New York City](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=New_York_City&action=edit&redlink=1) residents and 41% of New York citizens overall believe the US Government "knew in advance that attacks were planned on or around September 11, 2001, and that they consciously failed to act."
* The [FOX TV](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Fox_Broadcasting_Company&action=edit&redlink=1) series [The Lone Gunmen](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=The_Lone_Gunmen&action=edit&redlink=1) aired their opening episode "Pilot" six months before 9/11 which depicted a secret U.S. government agency behind a plot to simulate a foreign terrorist airline attack (a Boeing 727 flying into 2 World Trade Center by a powerful computer via remote control) to further a larger political agenda.
* The declassified [Operation Northwoods](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Operation_Northwoods&action=edit&redlink=1) document by the [United States Department of Defense](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/United_States_Department_of_Defense) that was never implemented proposed a series of [false flag](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=False_flag&action=edit&redlink=1) terrorist operations on U.S. soil, such as destroying US aircraft, which were to be blamed on Cuba, in order to rally American public opinion to support the launching of a U.S. war against Cuba ([Operation Northwoods](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Operation_Northwoods&action=edit&redlink=1)). "We could blow up a U.S. ship in Guantanamo Bay and blame Cuba," they proposed; "casualty lists in U.S. newspapers would cause a helpful wave of national indignation."
* Between 1993 and 2000, [Marvin Bush](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Marvin_Bush&action=edit&redlink=1), President Bush's brother was a principal in a company that provided security for both The World Trade Center and United Airlines. According to its president CEO, Barry McDaniel, the company had an ongoing contract to handle security at the World Trade Center "up to the day the buildings fell down". This last statement has been used by some conspiracy theorists to say that the contract "expired" on [September 11](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=September_11&action=edit&redlink=1), [2001](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=2001&action=edit&redlink=1). Barbara Bush confirmed this theory in her book 'Reflections' also stating 9/11 was the day the contract expired. Mr. Bush was also a former director and now is an advisor to the board of directors to a firm HCC Insurance Holdings, Inc that had what it called a small participation in the World Trade Center property insurance coverage and some of the surrounding buildings. Marvin Bush was on a subway under Wall Street when the attacks happened.

**Motives**

Conspiracy theories explaining September 11 would not be complete without a motive. Theories as to why members of the U. S. government would have allowed the attacks to occur, perpetrated the attacks, and/or obstructed the investigation generally involve one or more of the following:

* A simple move in a plan for a [new world order](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=New_world_order&action=edit&redlink=1) or as a simple move in a plan for a [New World Order](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=New_World_Order_(conspiracy)&action=edit&redlink=1). This particular takes roots in a [David Rockefeller](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=David_Rockefeller&action=edit&redlink=1) Statement to the [United Nations](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=United_Nations&action=edit&redlink=1) Business Council in September [1994](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=1994&action=edit&redlink=1): *We are on the verge of a global transformation. All we need is the right major crisis and the nations will accept the New World Order.* Another reference to a similar statement made by [Zbigniew Brzezinski](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Zbigniew_Brzezinski&action=edit&redlink=1) in his [1997](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=1997&action=edit&redlink=1) book [The Grand Chessboard: American Primacy and Its Geostrategic Imperatives](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=The_Grand_Chessboard:_American_Primacy_and_Its_Geostrategic_Imperatives&action=edit&redlink=1): *As America becomes an increasingly multicultural society, it may find it more difficult to fashion a consensus on foreign policy issues, except in the circumstances of a truly massive and widely perceived direct external threat.* See also above PNAC reference.
* To expand the power of the federal government. Rep. [Ron Paul](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Ron_Paul&action=edit&redlink=1) has written "The 9-11 Commission report is several hundred pages worth of recommendations to make government larger and more intrusive." He has not endorsed any of the 9/11 conspiracy theories.
* To justify increased defense spending during an indefinitely long "[War on Terrorism](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=War_on_Terrorism&action=edit&redlink=1)" and provide financial payback to many companies that supported the [Republicans](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Republican_Party_(United_States)&action=edit&redlink=1) in the [2000 election](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=U._S._presidential_election,_2000&action=edit&redlink=1) (e.g. [Halliburton](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Halliburton&action=edit&redlink=1)).
* To gain the support of U. S. citizens for the invasion of countries of the [Middle East](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Middle_East&action=edit&redlink=1) in order to control petroleum reserves in response to a [peaking of global oil production](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Hubbert_peak_theory&action=edit&redlink=1).
* To justify the passing of certain legislation, including the [USA PATRIOT Act](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=USA_PATRIOT_Act&action=edit&redlink=1), argued to be restrictive of certain civil rights.
* To allow the [neoconservative](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Neoconservatism_in_the_United_States&action=edit&redlink=1) wing of the Republican Party to seize and maintain power through increased popularity, war, and the stifling of dissenting opinions. (See PNAC reference, above.)
* To ready the public to fight a global existential conflict between Islamic Fundamentalism and Western Civilization that neoconservatives believed was already underway but that most people were unaware of. (See PNAC reference above)
* To destroy embarrassing or incriminating materials located inside of World Trade Center Seven. According to an in the December 7-13 2005 issue of [The Village Voice](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=The_Village_Voice&action=edit&redlink=1), the [CIA](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=CIA&action=edit&redlink=1), the [Secret Service](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Secret_Service&action=edit&redlink=1), the New York City [Office of Emergency Management](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Office_of_Emergency_Management&action=edit&redlink=1), [Salomon Smith Barney](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Salomon_Smith_Barney&action=edit&redlink=1) all had offices located in that building, and other government agencies had offices in the other 6 World Trade Center buildings (FBI, Customs, etc.)

**Whistleblowers**



Sibel Edmonds

Depending on how many of the above theories one believes, the list of collaborators needed can grow or shrink. Opponents of these theories say that one weakness of the conspiracy claims is the absence of credible whistleblowers.

While many researchers in opposition to the above conspiracy theories suggest that a conspiracy would require silencing a vast number of individuals, the proponents of those theories tend to disagree. On speculation alone, author [David Ray Griffin](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=David_Ray_Griffin&action=edit&redlink=1) has argued that many of the people involved would likely not know the full extent of the plot. Griffin theorizes so few individuals have come forward out of fear from threats, possibly in regards to family or employment. In an interview with the [*Santa Barbara Independent*](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Santa_Barbara_Independent&action=edit&redlink=1), Griffin states: "You have a wife and children, and somebody says to you, 'If you go public with that I cannot guarantee the safety of your family.' Griffin does not cite any examples of this occurring.

Griffin also argues that many would likely feel they have little incentive to come forward, given the lack of interest on the part of the mainstream media thus far. "You might just be denounced as a conspiracy kook. The press would ignore you, belittle you. People might look into your past and find that you had done some things you're not so proud of. People would learn very quickly to keep their mouths shut." In spite of these supposed repercussions, he claims a number of whistleblowers such as Kevin Ryan, [Sibel Edmonds](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Sibel_Edmonds&action=edit&redlink=1), and David Schippers have chosen to speak out.

**Claims related to the Saudi Royal Family and other Saudi Government Officials**

Of the increasing instances in which 9/11 conspiracy theories have been discussed in the mainstream media, two instances occurred in 2004 involved Howard Dean and Michael Moore. [Howard Dean](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Howard_Dean&action=edit&redlink=1), who was then the front runner for the Democratic nomination for President stated that he had heard of some people theorizing that the [Saudi Royal family](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=House_of_Saud&action=edit&redlink=1) were behind the attacks. Though he made the comments somewhat sympathetically, he did state that this was not his personal belief. Later, he would also comment that he believed Osama Bin Laden needed to be "proven guilty" in a court of law, a remark some saw as a subtle indication Dean did not presently believe Osama's guilt was self-evident. Such 9/11 statements were often cited as an important reason for the failure of his candidacy.

Also in 2004, Filmmaker [Michael Moore](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Michael_Moore&action=edit&redlink=1) released the much discussed film [Fahrenheit 9/11](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Fahrenheit_9/11&action=edit&redlink=1) in which many aspects of September 11th were discussed from a point of view skeptical of the *official story*. The film suggests that the business relationship between the [Bush family](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Bush_family&action=edit&redlink=1) and the [House of Saud](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=House_of_Saud&action=edit&redlink=1) led to an outright [conspiracy](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/Conspiracy_theory), if not a [conflict of interest](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Conflict_of_interest&action=edit&redlink=1) which hindered both the prevention of the attack and the investigation of it.

An [[1]](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/9/11_conspiracy_theories#_note-0#_note-0) article in the December 7-13 2005 issue of [The Village Voice](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=The_Village_Voice&action=edit&redlink=1) reported "The Joint Inquiry Into Intelligence Community Activities Before and After the Terrorist Attacks of September 11, 2001, which was released in late 2002, included 28 pages that were blanked out, apparently concerning the possible role of Saudi government officials". Another [[1]](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/9/11_conspiracy_theories#_note-0#_note-0) article from the same issue discussing the [9/11 Commission](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=9/11_Commission&action=edit&redlink=1) reported "The Joint Inquiry traced the flow of money from the Saudi royal family and government institutions to a Saudi spy in California who had contact with the hijackers. The commission found Saudi Arabia blameless although behind closed doors the staff is said to have demanded an airing of the situation."

**Claims related to Jews and Israel**

**4,000 Israeli/Jewish employees did not attend work at the WTC on 9/11**

This claim made by [*Al-Manar*](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Al-Manar&action=edit&redlink=1), the television station of [Hezbollah](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Hezbollah&action=edit&redlink=1), has been repeated by a wide variety of other sources, such as [Amiri Baraka](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Amiri_Baraka&action=edit&redlink=1). The original *Al-Manar* claim was:

"With the announcement of the attacks at the World Trade Center in New York, the international media, particularly the Israeli one, hurried to take advantage of the incident and started mourning 4,000 Israelis who work at the two towers. Then suddenly, no one ever mentioned anything about those Israelis and later it became clear that they remarkably did not show up in their jobs the day the incident took place. No one talked about any Israeli being killed or wounded in the attacks."

*Al-Manar* further claimed that "Arab diplomatic sources revealed to the [Jordanian](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Jordan&action=edit&redlink=1) *al-Watan* newspaper that those Israelis remained absent that day based on hints from the Israeli General Security apparatus, the [*Shabak*](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Shabak&action=edit&redlink=1)". It is unclear whether *al-Watan* (a minor Jordanian newspaper with no website) made these claims or who (if anyone) the alleged "Arab diplomatic sources" were. No independent confirmation has been produced for this claim.

In some versions of the story circulated on the Internet, the title was changed to "4,000 Jewish Employees in WTC Absent the Day of the Attack" from its original "4000 Israeli Employees in WTC Absent the Day of the Attack", spawning a further rumor that not only Israeli but all [Jewish](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Jew&action=edit&redlink=1) employees stayed away.

There were a total of 5 Israeli deaths in the attack (Alona Avraham, Leon Lebor, Shay Levinhar, Daniel Lewin, Haggai Sheffi), of which 3 were in the World Trade Center and 2 were on the planes. (4 are listed as [American](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=United_States&action=edit&redlink=1) on most lists, presumably having [dual citizenship](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Multiple_citizenship&action=edit&redlink=1).) The total number of Israeli-born residents of New York was 21,288 in [2000](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=2000&action=edit&redlink=1), out of a population of 8,008,278, or 0.27% of the population; multiplying this by the total World Trade Center death toll (2,602) would give 7 expected victims. Early estimates of Israeli deaths, as of the total death toll and the death toll for other countries' citizens (e.g. [India](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=India&action=edit&redlink=1)) proved substantially exaggerated ([George W. Bush](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/George_W._Bush) cited the figure of 130 in his speech of [September 20](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=September_20&action=edit&redlink=1)).

The number of Jewish victims was considerably higher, estimated at 400-500; meaning that at least 15% of all those killed in the attacks were Jewish. Therefore, more Jews died in the attack than would be expected by the percentage of New York City's population that is Jewish, which is approximately 12% according to the American Jewish Year Book.

The figure "4,000" was probably taken by *Al-Manar* from a [*Jerusalem Post*](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Jerusalem_Post&action=edit&redlink=1) article of September 12 (p. 3) which said "The Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem has so far received the names of 4,000 Israelis believed to have been *in the areas* of the World Trade Center and the Pentagon at the time of the attack." This number was obviously not (as *Al-Manar* claimed) restricted to employees; in fact, Tsviya Shimon, minister of administrative affairs for the Israeli consulate and mission in New York, said on September 14 "that there might have been up to 100 Israeli citizens working in the World Trade Center".

**Sharon was warned by Shabak to stay away from New York**

*Al-Manar* the official television station of Hezbollah, also made related claims that then-prime minister Ariel Sharon was warned to stay away from New York:

Suspicions had increased further after Israeli newspaper [*Yediot Ahranot*](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Yediot_Aharonot&action=edit&redlink=1) revealed that the *Shabak* prevented Israeli premier [Ariel Sharon](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Ariel_Sharon&action=edit&redlink=1) from traveling to New York and particularly to the city's eastern coast to participate in a festival organized by the [Zionist](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Zionism&action=edit&redlink=1) organizations in support of Israel. Aharon Bernie, the commentator at the newspaper, brought up the issue and came up with a negative conclusion, saying "no answer". He then asked about the clue behind the Shabak's position in preventing Sharon's participation, and again without giving an answer.

Detractors claim, however, that this theory does not hold up to examination. A pro-Israel rally led by the [United Jewish Communities](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=United_Jewish_Communities&action=edit&redlink=1), expected to include 50,000 people, had been planned for [September 23](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=September_23&action=edit&redlink=1), [2001](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=2001&action=edit&redlink=1). Ariel Sharon had been scheduled to speak there. It was canceled on [September 12](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=September_12&action=edit&redlink=1). However, according to [*The Forward*](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=The_Forward&action=edit&redlink=1), Sharon was still scheduled to speak there at the point of cancellation.

There was no article in Yediot Aharonot that contains the information cited by Al-Manar, nor was there a columnist named Aharon Bernie. There is an Israeli reporter named Aharon Barnea of Israel's *Channel 2 News* whose wife Amalia works for Yediot Aharonot; it has been speculated that "Aharon Bernie" arose as a misspelling of this name.

**A group of Israelis filmed 9/11 whilst celebrating**

This claim formed part of the *Al-Manar* report mentioned above. The claim is that:

For its part, the Israeli [*Ha'aretz'*](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Haaretz&action=edit&redlink=1) newspaper revealed that the [FBI](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Federal_Bureau_of_Investigation&action=edit&redlink=1) arrested five Israelis four hours after the attack on the Twin Towers while filming the smoking skyline from the roof of their company's building. The FBI had arrested the five for "puzzling behavior". They are said to have been caught videotaping the disaster in what was interpreted as cries of joy and mockery.

This claim was substantially correct. Yossi Melman had reported to that effect in *Haaretz* on [September 17](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=September_17&action=edit&redlink=1) [2001](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=2001&action=edit&redlink=1), using the words "puzzling behavior" and "what was interpreted as cries of joy and mockery." Several mainstream Western media groups researched this. On [June 21](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=June_21&action=edit&redlink=1), [2002](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=2002&action=edit&redlink=1), [ABC](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=American_Broadcasting_Company&action=edit&redlink=1) published a report that five Israelis seen filming the events of September 11 in New York and looking "happy" were subsequently arrested, claiming (on [*The Forward*](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=The_Forward&action=edit&redlink=1)*'*s authority) that the "FBI concluded that two of the men were Israeli intelligence operatives" but had no advance knowledge of 9/11.

*The Forward* had the five as a possible Mossad surveillance operation conducted not against the US but against "radical Islamic networks suspected of links to Middle East terrorism." Mossad was known to have been infiltrating Al Qaeda at the time. Sivan Kurzberg, Paul Kurzberg, Yaron Shmuel, Oded Ellner and Omer Marmari, the five Israelis who were kept in custody in the federal Metropolitan Detention Center in [Sunset Park](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Sunset_Park,_Brooklyn&action=edit&redlink=1) for approximately two months were eventually deported back to Israel on November 20-21, 2001. Ellner and others in the prison have complained of abuse by prison guards.

The claim was revived by the [Scotland](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Scotland&action=edit&redlink=1)-based *Sunday Herald'*s article (Nov 2, 2003).

**Israel advance knowledge**

An ambiguous claim that the [Mossad](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Mossad&action=edit&redlink=1) had been shadowing the perpetrators and had advance warning of these attacks but failed to share it was made at.

Supporters of this claim sometimes cite a [*Washington Post*](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Washington_Post&action=edit&redlink=1) article of [September 28](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=September_28&action=edit&redlink=1), [2001](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=2001&action=edit&redlink=1) according to which "Officials at [instant-messaging](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Instant_messaging&action=edit&redlink=1) firm [Odigo](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Odigo&action=edit&redlink=1) confirmed today that two employees received text messages warning of an attack on the World Trade Center two hours before terrorists crashed planes into the New York landmarks." [CNN](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=CNN&action=edit&redlink=1) also reported this but added that "Alex Diamandis, vice president for sales and marketing with Odigo Inc., said there was nothing specifically about the attacks in the message, but he said it was suspicious in nature, especially because of its timing." The Israeli newspaper Haaretz also published reports regarding these warnings.

The first major Western source to explicitly make this claim was [*Fox News*](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Fox_News&action=edit&redlink=1), in a four-part series by Carl Cameron in December 2001. This story which "alleges that Israeli intelligence officials failed to share what they knew about September 11 with their American counterparts prior to the attacks" was condemned by Israeli officials. Soon afterwards Fox pulled it from its website without explanation.

Israeli officials claim that within the week prior to 9/11, they had warned both the [FBI](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Federal_Bureau_of_Investigation&action=edit&redlink=1) and [CIA](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/Central_Intelligence_Agency) in August of an imminent large-scale attack. There were also reports that the Israeli intelligence agency [Mossad](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Mossad&action=edit&redlink=1) urgently tried to warn the US government that an attack was pending and provided details, but apparently no heed was paid to these warnings, that it asked the French and Egyptian intelligence services to pass similar warnings, and that a company which moved had in fact been planning to relocate for some months, and had announced its relocation plans in April 2001.

**Less common theories**

* The [Church of Scientology](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Church_of_Scientology&action=edit&redlink=1) claims that the 9/11 hijackers were brainwashed by [psychiatrists](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Psychiatry&action=edit&redlink=1) who were the real masterminds behind the attacks, despite the fact that none of the hijackers were ever known to have visited psychiatrists.
* Some theories claim that former Iraqi leader [Saddam Hussein](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Saddam_Hussein&action=edit&redlink=1) conspired in the 9/11 attacks. Some proponents of this theory refer to another theory surrounding the [Oklahoma City Bombing](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Oklahoma_City_bombing&action=edit&redlink=1), according to which Iraqi intelligence agents were involved. This was reported by investigative journalist in her book "The Third Terrorist."
* Some relate it to claims of an [anti-globalization](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Anti-globalization&action=edit&redlink=1) movement, specifically to [s11](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=S11&action=edit&redlink=1), a protest against the Melbourne [World Economic Forum](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=World_Economic_Forum&action=edit&redlink=1) meeting on 11 September 2000 that grew to include a number of other protests over the following year. The World Trade Center is considered by many to be the center point of globalization. Since this was a part of the largest anti-globalization movement in the world, as well as the date of the WTC bombing being 1 year later to the day, this was a popular theory - not the least because their web site was labeled www.s11.org, and 9/11 was alternately called s11. This theory did not get much press coverage and was only covered on internet forums. The official web site closed sometime in 2002 with a block from all members of the public ever accessing the site.
* [Judi McLeod](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Judi_McLeod&action=edit&redlink=1) of [Canada Free Press](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Canada_Free_Press&action=edit&redlink=1) suggests the possible involvement of the [mafia](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Mafia&action=edit&redlink=1), writing:

"If this is mob, did the mob know of the impending attack on 9/11? The terrorist-piloted plane hit Cantor Fitzgerald directly -- one floor below where they were located. This would be the worst possible spot because the flames would go up and engulf everything. Could this really be only sheer coincidence? No suicide jockey flying a plane for the first time coincidentally hit right where the mob knew they would hit."

* Some conspiracy theories of 9/11 have included missile pods on the airplanes and holograms hitting the Trade Center. Donald Rumsfeld also appears to admit that a missile hit the Pentagon and that 'similar' devices contributed to the WTC attacks as well in a Parade Magazine interview in Oct. of 2001 (see US Department of Defense transcript). However, many articles by 9/11 researchers have debunked claims of missiles and pods.

**Relevant Discussions**

* [The War on Terrorism & Homeland Security Forum](http://www.bvalphaserver.com/forum-8.html)

**Criticism of conspiracy theories**

See [conspiracy theory](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/Conspiracy_theory) for a general examination of conspiracy theories, and a description of the fallacies sometimes involved in formulating them.

**The "Loose Change" video**

This is a useful encapsulation of many of the difficulties in the official version of events, though some 9/11 researchers are reported to be critical of it. See [Loose Change video, 9/11 Truth Movement Criticisms](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Loose_Change_(video)&action=edit&redlink=1).

**See also**

* [9/11 Truth Movement](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=9/11_Truth_Movement&action=edit&redlink=1)
* [Bush family conspiracy theory](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Bush_family_conspiracy_theory&action=edit&redlink=1)
* [Cover-up](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/Cover-up)
* [Black propaganda](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Black_propaganda&action=edit&redlink=1)
* [Disinformation](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php/Disinformation)
* [Criticisms of the 9/11 Commission Report](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Criticisms_of_the_9/11_Commission_Report&action=edit&redlink=1)
* [Media manipulation](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Media_manipulation&action=edit&redlink=1)
* [Osama bin Laden](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Osama_bin_Laden&action=edit&redlink=1)
* [Propaganda](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Propaganda&action=edit&redlink=1)
* [Researchers questioning the official account of 9/11](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Researchers_questioning_the_official_account_of_9/11&action=edit&redlink=1)
* [World Trade Center bombing](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=World_Trade_Center_bombing&action=edit&redlink=1)
* [Information warfare](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Information_warfare&action=edit&redlink=1)

**videos**

* [911 In Plane Site](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=911_In_Plane_Site&action=edit&redlink=1)
* [9/11 Guilt: The Proof is in Your Hands](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=9/11_Guilt:_The_Proof_is_in_Your_Hands&action=edit&redlink=1)
* [Loose Change](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Loose_Change_(video)&action=edit&redlink=1)

**Footnotes**

**Books**

* The 9/11 Commission Report
* Inside 9-11 : What Really Happened - Der Spiegel Magazine
* 9/11: The Big Lie - Thierry Meyssan
* Pentagate - Thierry Meyssan
* [Crossing the Rubicon](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Crossing_the_Rubicon_(Ruppert)&action=edit&redlink=1) - Michael Ruppert
* 9/11 Revealed : The Unanswered Questions - Rowland Morgan and Ian Henshall
* The Five Unanswered Questions About 9/11 - James Ridgeway
* The 9/11 Commission Report: Omissions And Distortions
* Divided We Stand: A Biography of New York's World Trade Center

**External links**

Final report of the "National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States" (9-11 Commission), chaired by Thomas H. Kean

* [Kean Report](http://www.9-11commission.gov/)

Cynthia McKinney's July 2005 Congressional Briefing on 9/11

* [McKinney Briefing](http://www.house.gov/mckinney/news/pr050722.htm)

Descriptions of and evidence for various conspiracy theories

* Michael Rupperts' [From the Wilderness, founded by Michael Ruppert](http://www.fromthewilderness.com)
* [Centre for Research on Globalization](http://www.globalresearch.ca), edited by Michel Chossudovsky
* [James H. Fetzer speech](http://youtube.com/watch?v=SaYepwRb5II) on 9/11
* [Distinguished University of Minnesota Philosophy Professor Joins 9/11 Fight, Saying the Truth Must Be Uncovered](http://www.lookingglassnews.org/viewstory.php?storyid=4084)
* [9-11 Research:](http://www.911research.wtc7.net) An Attempt to Uncover the Truth About September 11th, 2001
* Alex Jones ‘Infowars
* [Charlie Sheen Interview by Alex Jones audio file](http://prisonplanet.tv/audio/200306sheen.htm) March 20th 2006
* [Tagesspiegel Interview](http://www.ratical.org/ratville/CAH/VonBuelow.html) with former German Defense Secretary and former German Minister for Research and Technology Andreas Von Buelow
* [Conspiracy Theories](http://www.cbc.ca/fifth/conspiracytheories/) CBC Television
* [Bogus 9/11 websites that muddy the waters](http://www.oilempire.us/bogus.html)
* [Jeff Rense Program](http://www.rense.com)
* [Question911.com](http://www.question911.com) Free DVD downloads about 9/11 Questions
* [911Truth.org](http://911truth.org/) A 9/11 conspiracy website.
* [9/11 Citizens' Commission, International 9/11 Truth Inquiry](http://911busters.com)
* [Israeli penetration of Al Qaeda prior to 9/11 and warnings to USA](http://www.gordonthomas.ie/104.html)
* ['The censured FBI Whistleblower Sibel Edmonds speaks out'](http://www.justacitizen.org/)
* [911citizenswatch](http://www.911citizenswatch.org/) Oversight process led by 9/11 Families Advisory Group
* [Information on 9/11 Wargames](http://www.oilempire.us/wargames.html)
* [Evidence that Flight 93 was shot down](http://www.flight93crash.com)
* [911TrueStory.com](http://www.911truestory.com/) Videos of evidence for controlled demolition.
* [ASCE Report On The Pentagon Examined](http://www.bedoper.com/pentagon/asce/)
* [Israel had prior knowledge](http://www.informationclearinghouse.info/article7545.htm)
* [Scholars for 9/11 Truth](http://www.scholarsfor911truth.org/)
* RINF [9/11 Conspiracy News](http://rinf.com/conspiracies/9-11.html)
* [Official 9/11 story vs. Free Fall Physics](http://911blimp.com/prf_FreeFallPhysics.shtml)
* [BYU.edu - 'Why Indeed did the WTC Buildings Collapse'](http://www.physics.byu.edu/research/energy/htm7.html)
* [WTC7.net](http://www.wtc7.net/)
* [collection of media file, some related to 9/11](http://vestigialconscience.com/)
* [NIST and the WTC](http://wtc.nist.gov/)
* [document base dedicated to 9/11 attacks](http://www.911investigations.net)
* [CNN media hosted at YouTube](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rINKezJ_EYw&eurl=) - [Charlie Sheen](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Charlie_Sheen&action=edit&redlink=1) talks about September 11th
* [Telepolis Special](http://www.heise.de/tp/r4/special/wtc.html): *The WTC Conspiracy* (in German)
* [George Washington’s Blog](http://georgewashington.blogspot.com/)

**Skeptical of or debunking conspiracy claims**

* [Debunking 911 conspiracy theories](http://www.debunking911.com) Evidence against Controlled Demolition and it's most widely held myths.
* [U.S. Department of State](http://usinfo.state.gov/media/Archive/2005/Jul/27-595713.html) "How To Identify Misinformation"
* [U.S. Department of State](http://usinfo.state.gov/media/Archive/2005/Sep/16-241966.html) refutes 9/11 conspiracy book.
* [U.S. Department of State](http://usinfo.state.gov/media/Archive/2006/Jan/20-672210.html) links to refutations of various 9/11 conspiracy theories.
* [Popular Mechanics](http://www.popularmechanics.com/science/defense/1227842.html?page=1&c=y) examines evidence and consults experts to refute the most persistent conspiracy theories of September 11.
* [Reply 1 to Popular Mechanics re 9/11](http://911research.wtc7.net/essays/pm/index.html)
* [Scientific American](http://www.sciam.com/article.cfm?articleID=000DA0E2-1E15-128A-9E1583414B7F0000) 9/11 Article Skeptical of Conspiracy Theories by [Michael Shermer, PhD.](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Michael_Shermer&action=edit&redlink=1)
* [Reply 1 to Scientific American's Debunking of 9/11 Skeptics](http://911research.wtc7.net/essays/sciam/)
* [Snopes.com answer to the rumors about the Pentagon attack](http://www.snopes.com/rumors/pentagon.htm) Skeptical review of David Ray Griffin book, *The New Pearl Harbor*, (and Griffin's response)
* Rebuts various elements of the [September 11 conspiracy theories](http://www.911myths.com)
* Indications of the Imminent Collapse of the WTC Disproves Controlled Demolition Theory [9/11 Controlled Demolition Theory Debunked](http://www.geocities.com/factsnotfantasy/ExplosivesDebunked.html)
* Highlights what most conspiracy theories ignore: [9/11 motives not what Bush claims](http://www.representativepress.org/Motivesfor911.html)
* [Refutes various elements.](http://mckinneysucks.blogspot.com/) Strong focus on refuting Mike Rupport's timeline
* David Ray Griffin and Chip Berlet debate [9/11 issues on Democracy Now!](http://www.democracynow.org/article.pl?sid=04/05/26/150221)
* [The June 1, 2001 Joint Chiefs of Staff directive changing regulations on interception of hijacked planes, requiring SecDef approval and specifically forbidding the shooting down or seizure of "pirated" airliners](http://www.dtic.mil/doctrine/jel/cjcsd/cjcsi/3610_01a.pdf)
* Unraveling Anti-Semitic 9/11 Conspiracy Theories, [the Anti-Defamation League](http://www.adl.org/anti_semitism/9-11conspiracytheories.pdf)
* [Template: Cite journal](http://www.theblackvault.com/wiki/index.php?title=Template:Cite_journal&action=edit&redlink=1)
* [Flight 77 Did Hit The Pentagon](http://www.abovetopsecret.com/pages/911_pentagon_757_plane_evidence.html) -
* [Anti-Defamation League "Unraveling anti-Semitic 9/11 conspiracy theories](http://www.adl.org/anti_semitism/9-11conspiracytheories.pdf)
* [Venezuelan Government To Launch International 9/11 Investigation](http://www.prisonplanet.com/articles/march2006/310306launchinvestigation.htm)
* [Telepolis Special](http://www.heise.de/tp/r4/special/wtc.html): *The WTC Conspiracy* (in German)

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