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DE FBINY #0007 2010150

ZNR UUUUU

O 190120Z JUL 96

FM FBI NEW YORK (265A-NY-259028) (RAPID START)

TO DIRECTOR FBI/IMMEDIATE/

ALL FBI FIELD OFFICES/IMMEDIATE/

ALL LEGATS/IMMEDIATE/

BT

UNCLAS

CITE: //3540//

SUBJECT: UNSUB(S); EXPLOSION OF TWA FLIGHT 800, 29 MILES

SOUTHEAST OF HAMPTON, NEW YORK; JULY 17, 1996; AOT - IT - EOD;

OO:NEW YORK.

INVESTIGATION IS CONTINUING IN AN EFFORT TO IDENTIFY THE CAUSE OF THE EXPLOSION WHICH OCCURRED ON TWA FLIGHT 800 EN ROUTE FROM JFK INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, NEW YORK, TO CHARLES DEGAULLE AIRPORT, PARIS, FRANCE, ON JULY 17, 1996, AT APPROXIMATELY 2035 HOURS.

3914
[Stamp: SEARCHED, SERIALIZED, INDEXED, FILED]
JUL 18 1996
FBI - NEW YORK

Case inadvertently opened due to instructions set by SSA Case closed when encl noted.
7-23-96
8/1/96 OGA
AOT-IT-EOD (NY)

01/19/96
ASACs *
* COTE SAC
1404 For #14 Supv
7/18/96
ADP
10:05
265A-BA-89394-1
Saf Saf

b6
b7C

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#0007

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DISCLOSES AN UNIDENTIFIED OBJECT RAPIDLY APPROACHING FLIGHT 800 JUST PRIOR TO THE FLIGHT DISAPPEARANCE FROM THE RADAR SCREEN. THIS IS BEING REVIEWED BY FAA SPECIALISTS.

INDEPENDENT INVESTIGATION REVEALS AN INDIVIDUAL ON LONG ISLAND, RESIDING IN THE VICINITY OF THE CRASH SITE, WHO, WHILE OUT ON A ROUTINE WALK, OBSERVED WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS A "FIREWORKS LIKE" OBJECT ASCEND INTO THE AIR. HE OBSERVED A "WHITE PUFF" EMERGE AND THEN BREAK IN TWO, GENERATING A FIREBALL, DESCENDING FROM THE SKY. THIS INDIVIDUAL IS BEING THOROUGHLY DEBRIEFED AND HAS TAKEN INVESTIGATING AGENTS TO THE LOCATION WHERE HE BELIEVES THE PROJECTILE ORIGINATED.

NEW YORK IS CONDUCTING INVESTIGATION IN THIS REGION IN AN EFFORT TO DISCOVER ANY EVIDENCE REMAINING, SCORCH MARKS OR PARTS CONSISTENT WITH THE FIRING OF A MISSILE FROM THAT LOCATION. A CANVAS IS BEING CONDUCTED TO DETERMINE IF ANY INDIVIDUALS SAW, OR HEARD, ANYTHING UNUSUAL DURING THE PRECEDING EVENINGS. ADDITIONAL LEADS ARE BEING GENERATED CONCERNING BOATING ACTIVITY IN THE AREA AND STOLEN OR MISSING CRAFTS.

INTERVIEW WITH DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENT

b6
b7c

PAGE FOUR DE FBINY 0007 UNCLAS

[REDACTED] STATES THAT A SHOULDER FIRED ROCKET, KNOWN AS A
MANPAD, WOULD FUNCTION CONSISTENT WITH THIS EYEWITNESS'
ACCOUNT.

b6
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A 1-800-TIPS NUMBER HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED TO ACCEPT LEADS.

ALL MEDIA BROADCASTS ARE BEING MONITORED TO ASCERTAIN
ADDITIONAL RELATED INFORMATION.

NAVY VESSELS EQUIPPED WITH SONAR ARE BEING BROUGHT IN TO
ASSIST IN BLACK BOX RECOVERY EFFORTS. CONTRARY TO MEDIA
REPORTS, THE BLACK BOX RELATED TO FOR THIS FLIGHT HAS NOT BEEN
RECOVERED.

FBI HEADQUARTERS IS IN RECEIPT OF FAXES GENERATED FROM
CAIRO CLAIMING CREDIT.

THERE IS A MEETING SCHEDULED FOR 9 PM 7/18/96 BETWEEN
NTSB STAFF AND FBI INVESTIGATORS TO COORDINATE INVESTIGATIVE
EFFORTS.

ADMINISTRATIVE:

ONE OF THE CREW ON BOARD FLIGHT 800, WORKING AS A FLIGHT
ATTENDANT, WAS [REDACTED]
OF THE NEW YORK DIVISION.

INVESTIGATION AT NEW YORK CONTINUING.

BT