

WITNESS INTERVIEWS

9/9

DATA
POINT

CONTACTED BY PHONE	BY WHOM	FOLLOW-UP RECOMMENDED	FOLLOW-UP DATE	BY WHOM	NAME	PHONE #
-----------------------	------------	--------------------------	-------------------	------------	------	---------

9/9	JR, KP RS	YES			✓ ① Robert Celloni	
					② Lou Napalatin	
					③ Sam Boudos	
9/9	JR, KP RS	YES			✓ ④ Carl Anderson	
					⑤ Ross Dobish	
9/9	MB	NO			✓ ⑥ Jeri Beam	
9/9	MB	NO			✓ ⑦ Keith Rodriguez	
					⑧ Josin + Justin Makar + mother	
9/9	KP	NO			✓ ⑨ Bob Wardrinski	
9/12	PF				✓ ⑩ Duane Midar	
					⑪ Jerry Malesky	
9/9	RS	NO			⑫ Gina Mc Murry	
9/9	RS	NO			✓ ⑬ Karli Mueller ^{daughter of}	
9/9	RS	POSSIBLE			✓ ⑭ Steve Kisio	
9/9	MB	YES			✓ ⑮ John Medley	
9/9	MB	??			✓ ⑯ John Nedley JR	
9/9 7:00 PM	BJ	NO			✓ ⑰ Mark Barney	
					⑱ Bill Seawright	
					⑲ Norbert Ferrence	
					⑳ Robert Sci Jarvie	
					⑪ Fred Piccarelli	

> together (1)

9/10

Witness Interviews.

Date Contacted	By Whom	Follow-up Recommended	Followup Date	By Whom	DATA POINT Name	Phone #
By phone	K.P.	—		✓	(21) Robert Jarvie	
By phone	K.P.	—		✓	(22) Carol Nocera	
By Phone	P.F.			✓	(23) Diane Kent	
By Phone	PF	PERSONAL INTERVIEW	9/10	RS, BW, PF	(24) Bill Seewright	
By Phone	K.P.	—		✓	(25) Dean Felgar	
By Phone	B.J.	yes		✓	(26) Bill D ^E RO	
	PF	YES		No doc	(27) David Bobawic	
By Phone	RS	NO		✓	(28) Becky Meuser	
In person	K.P.	Possible		✓	(29) Norbert Forrence	
at Dealership	K.P.	This was the followup	See (4)	(30) Carl Anderson	unis Dealership	
at Dealership	K.P.	This was the followup	See (1)	(31) Mr. Cellini	unis Dealership	
In person at home	K.P. + B.J.	This was the followup		✓ (4) (32) John Nedley family		
by phone	J.R.	yes!	See (63)	(33) Denise Clark	Student	
by phone	M.B.	no		✓	(34) Joe McBride	
by phone	J.R.	no		✓	(35) Joe Hart	
by phone	J.R.	no		✓	(36) Chuck Elbaum	
by phone	E.S.	NO		✓	(37) Robt. Cappel	
by phone	RS	NO		✓	(38) Erwin Robert	
by phone	J.R.	?		✓	(39) Mike Price	
By phone	PF	NO		✓	(40) Jeff Mohr	
By Phone	PF	NO	No doc	(41) David Bobawic		
by phone	BW	NO		✓	(42) Jason Moka	
by phone	MB	NO		✓	(43) Linda Jones	

Also

Robert Wood

Tom Moly

Witness			Interviews		Phone #
By Phone	Whom	Follow-up Recommended	Follow-up Date	By Whom	
				DATA POINT Name	
By Phone	PF	NO		44 Shirley Whippo	
By Phone	PF	NO		45 BEAVER LAKES C.C.	
by Phone	JR	?		✓ 46 Amy Giza	
by Phone	KP	yes		✓ 47 David Duffy	
By Phone	PF	NO		✓ 48 John Corsi	
By Phone	PF	yes			
By Phone	JR	NO		✓ 49 Ben Wilkes	
By Phone	PF	NO		✓ 50 ANDREA BLOOR	
by Phone	JR			✓ 51 James Augustine	
By Phone	PF	?		✓ 52 Mr Gary, Bonnie + JED Thompson	
by phone	M	?		✓ 53 Jim Dougherty	
by phone	JR	yes		✓ 54 Anthony Dippolito	
By Phone	PF	NO		✓ 55 George Hayduk	
by Phone	JR	NO		✓ 56 Mar-Jean Zamperini	
By Phone	PF	NO		✓ 57 Michelle Maunda	
By Phone	RS	NO		✓ 58 Roger Slamos	
By Phone	RS	NO		✓ 59 Rhonda Boggess	
by phone	MB	NO!		60 anonymous	
Person	KP.	NO!		✓ 61 Raney Miller	
Person	KP.	NO!		✓ 62 Cheryl Steel	
Person	KP.	this was follow up		✓ 63 Denise Clark	
Person	K.P.	this was the follow up		✓ 64 Christopher Clark	
Phone	KP.	yes		✓ 65 David Duffy	
Phone	K.P.	Possible to go see sight		✓ 66 Richard Trenary	
Phone	PF	NO ?		✓ 67 Arthur Daugherty	
Phone	KP.	yes		✓ 68 Gerald Taylor	
Phone	PF	yes		✓ 69 Scott Riddle	
Phone	BT	NO		✓ 70 Laurence Conti	

JODI DID IT →

today

Cont'd.

9/11

contacted by Phone	By Whom	Follow up Recommended	Follow up Date	By Whom	Name	Phone #
Phone	BT	yes		71	Mike	
Phone	RS	no		✓ 71	George Schofield	
Phone	JK	no		✓ 71	Richard Rattay	
person	everyone	no		✓	Russell Dobbish	
Phone	PF	No		✓ 75	Tom Chase	

9/12/94

Witness Interviews

9/12

<u>Date Contacted</u>	<u>By Whom</u>	<u>Follow-up Recommended</u>	<u>Follow-up Date</u>	<u>BY whom</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Phone #</u>
9/12	PF	NO	✓ 76	(71)	CLIFFORD HUNT	
9/12	BT	NO	✓ 77	(72)	Gordon White	
9/12	KP	NO	✓ 78	(73)	MR. BLACK (REHAB FAC)	
9/12	PF	NO	✓ 79	(74)	Pat Hughes	
9/12	AF	NO	✓ 80	(75)	Pick D'Agostino	
9/12	PF	NO	81	(76)	Deanne MGA	
9/12	KP	NO	✓ 82	(77)	Ed Hines	
9/12	KP	—	✓ 83		LORI LABON	
9/12	PF	NO	✓ 84		DOROTHY HARKS	
9/12	KP	—	✓ 85		MARK WOLD	
9/12	PF	POSSIBLE psychiatric HELP	✓ 86		J.R. Bob KOEHNKE	
9/12	AF	NO	✓ 87		Bob BRENNAN	
9/12	AF	Maybe?	✓ 88		George Hareuknich	
9/12	PF	YES - insulation	89		KEN ELLIS	
9/12	KP	NO	✓ 90		Bill McKnight	
9/12	PF		91		Bob Koehnke	
9/12	PF		92		Twila Adamo	
9/12			✓ 93		Lou Tasillo	
9/12			✓ 94		Christoph Jare	
9/12			✓ 95		Fred Sivawee	
9/12	RS		✓ 96		Pat Jones	
9/12			✓ 97		Lou Tasillo	

DATA POINT #

9/14

name of witness	phone #	Interviewer	followup	
Allen Yoho	[REDACTED]	Kim	NO	(109
Paul Calamia	[REDACTED]	Kim	NO	(110
Jeannie Schilling	[REDACTED]	Kim	NO	(111
Brenda Szekis	[REDACTED]	Pat	NO	(112

Sept 13 1994

Date Contacted	By Whom	Followup	Name	Phone #
98) 9/13	K.P.	_____	Chuck ELBaum	
99) 9/13	K.P.	_____	Walt Acheson	
100) 9/13	K.P.	_____	Bill Shane	
101) 9/13	K.P.	_____	BOB Emler	
102) 9/13	PF		Mike Beckack	
103) 9/13	PF		ANN Stiteler	
104) 9/13	CM	No	Mike Duganich	
105) 9/13	PF	?	Nancy Weichey	
106) 9/13	CM	NO	ED Springer	
107) 9/13	PF	NO	Jim Strucklan	
108) 9/13	K.P.	_____	Allen Richardson	

①

①

Date of interview: 9/9/84

Witness Questions:

(Gody's notes)

Reeve from group telephone
interview D. Reeves, K. Retrone,
and R. Sumwalt present)

Name: Robert Cellini

Address: [REDACTED]

Telephone #:

Occupation: Manager

Age Date of Birth:

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

In bldg, one of the other guys heard loud (power up) thrusting noise, I went to door, just saw airplane coming straight down, nose first, sort of turning (saw USAir emblem on ~~tail~~ ^{airplane}) After it hit I closed door, explosion (red + black ball of flames) shook door I was holding - drove up Dobish's driveway, ran

Did anything fall off the airplane?

From what I could see it looked like it was all in one piece - it was dark, ^{grayish} didn't look like there were any lights, it was all dark -

Was there smoke or fire?

It seemed like there was smoke/gray from wings, seemed like it was from the front.

Down to crash site — I started running
around & yelling for anyone needing help —
anyone still alive.

It didn't sound right:

* Heard loud "thrusting" noise, then
nothing, then I opened the door, then
I heard a whining/screaming noise like
you hear in the movies when an
airplane crashes

(2)

What were positions of landing gear & flaps?

Didn't see that part of a/c

What were the weather conditions? clouds? winds? visibility?

What is your aviation experience?

See airplanes coming in all the time, & I watch, couple of my friends are pilots, my wife's a flight attendant.

What was your position (distance & direction from the crash site. Draw a diagram if possible)

~~Driving-wise~~

Estimates ~ 1 mile or less.

③

Did you see the actual ground impact? Airplane was behind trees - I lost it behind trees, that's when I closed the door & the smoke just bellowed

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

Nose straight down like a bullet. I was looking at top left side of A/C

Estimate aircraft's attitude during descent? At impact?
Saw emblem (right side up)

I spotted A/C about 1500-2000 ft above tree line

Do you know of any other witnesses?

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane? Carl was sitting by window heard loud noise...
I ran to

What was the aircrafts position?
(flight attitude)

What was the sun position?

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

I

Plane pointing towards you, I
was looking at my right side

Sumwalt's

Field notes from group
phone interview

Manager of Sales

~~Robert Cell/bai~~

Robert Cell/bai -

- Loud thrusting noise, "thrusting" sound; loud, nothing on.
- Falling straight down, ~~to~~ like a bullet
- Slightly turning, could read US Air on side.
- Remember a greyish, headed straight for ground. (like a light grey smoke coming from the nose of the aircraft).
- Lights were not on in the aircraft.

NOT
positive
on this.



~~Estimates~~

Estimates he was $\frac{1}{2}$ - 1 mile from the aircraft wreckage.

Estimates a/c was 1500 feet agl when he first saw aircraft.

Happened real quick.

①

④

9/9/94
Phone

Witness Questions: (8, review notes)

Name: Carl Anderson (Unit)

Address: [REDACTED]

New Brighton, PA 15066

Telephone #:

Occupation:

Age (Date of Birth):

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

N 7¹⁰, we were all sitting in salesroom - we all heard a loud noise, one of the guys shouted Oh my God. I heard it real loud, sounded low, like it was coming straight at us (I ducked under a desk)

Glanced up, saw airplane through window

Did anything fall off the airplane?

Didn't see anything

Was there smoke or fire?

No, nothing -

was heading north, it
was like the pilot
The plane was trying to ~~pull~~ pull it up
at the same time, seemed like he was
trying to turn away from the power plant
(to his right) It was low, ~ 2,000 ft.
Airlanes fly over all the time, this was
loud & low, not normal. It was like
he was heading for the woods, this guy
should be a hero (no nuclear power plant,
mall, etc.) ~~He~~ He started to bank,
the pitched straight down, like a rocket,
then boom, red & black billowing smoke.

Caught sight of airplane through a
window, for 2-3 seconds

called 911, then
I ran to highway to direct emergency
vehicles. The other 3 drove to crash to
help.

I thought it was a fighter jet, went by so
fast, low (loud?)

(2)

What were positions of landing gear & flaps?

No, couldn't tell he was going too fast - 2-3 seconds was all

What were the weather conditions?
clouds? winds? visibility?
Beautiful

What is your aviation experience?
See airplanes flying over dealership

What was your position (distance & direction from the crash site. Draw a diagram if possible)

Less than 1 mile

③

Did you see the actual ground impact?

No, blocked by trees

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

?

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?

Straight down.

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

Heard the loud noise (sounded loud because he was low & fast ~~and~~ coming down.)

What was the aircrafts position?
(flight attitude)

What was the sun position?

Don't know, not an issue.

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

★ People one guy working there at the gas station - there was a guy working there in a white van. He's the one that told me it was a commercial aircraft, specifically a 737.

I had the impression it was a fighter jet.

RL Sumwalt's field notes
from group phone
interview

Carl Anderson - "Went straight down, like a rocket."
looked like pilot was "trying to pull it up."

30° turn

@ 3/4 to 1/2 mile from accident
site.

1500 feet

happened so fast

exactly like a paper plane - • flew and
then went straight down.

①

⑥

4444
Phone

Witness Questions:

Name: JERI BEAM

Address: [REDACTED] Clinton PA 15826

Telephone #: [REDACTED]

Occupation: Firefighter

Age (Date of Birth): 26 years.

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

I was at the soccer field. man pointed out. airplane was completely upside down. No flames, no smoke. No spiralling, went down. I didn't see impact. Big orange flames. Watched airplane 10-15 seconds before impact. nose first completely upside down.

Did anything fall off the airplane?

I saw the top of the plane. It went directly overhead, nose down angle.

Fell off - no. Everything seemed completely intact until impact.

Was there smoke or fire?

no

noises - I heard nothing. Only the beds around me. There must have been 75 beds plus adults around me.

(2)

What were positions of landing gear
& flaps?

What were the weather conditions?
clouds? winds? visibility?

perfect. not a cloud in sky. Sun
wasnt real bright

What is your aviation experience?
absolutely none

What was your position (distance &
direction from the crash site. Draw
a diagram of possible)

about 1/2 mile by road, soccer field
northwest. ~~southwest~~

③

Did you see the actual ground impact?

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?

No idea

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

Person said "Her look"

What was the aircrafts position?
(flight attitude)

What was the sun position?

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

didn't see any smoke or fire,
no spiralling. Top of it was face down.
~~no rolling~~ No wobbling - completely
normal except it was upside down

①

⑦

9/9/94
phone

Witness Questions:

Telephone Interview by Malcolm Kennedy

9/9/94

Name: Keith Rodriguez

Address: [REDACTED]

Coronapolis PA

Telephone #: [REDACTED]

Occupation: ~~that~~ Dir of Inflight Services

Age (Date of Birth): air train corp.
[REDACTED]

Describe what happened: I was in

What did you see? hear?

Aliquippa + heard the noise, went to site to help but couldn't get noise.

Heard - a loud rumbling sound when hit the ground. I was 2 miles away.

never saw the plane before accident.

Did anything fall off the airplane?

Was there smoke or fire?

(2)

What were positions of landing gear & flaps?

What were the weather conditions? clouds? winds? visibility?

perfect, clear. no wind to speak of. sunny. sun faced west

What is your aviation experience?

2000 hrs flight time. ATP in 3 airplanes
10 yrs as flight attendant with USAir

What was your position (distance & direction from the crash site. Draw a diagram if possible)

③

Did you see the actual ground impact?

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?

④
What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

Saw noise itself. Then my father told me about the accident from his police radio

What was the aircrafts position?
(flight attitude)

What was the sun position?

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

no

①

⑨

3:45 PM.
9/9/94
phone

Witness Questions:

Name: ~~Robert Woodrinski~~ BOB WOODRINSKI

Address:

Pgh. PA. 15216

Telephone #: [REDACTED]

Occupation:

Age (Date of Birth):

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

no sound - no engine - no nothing - 200 yds
above him. Plane intact - no smoke
landing gear up. saw bottom of plane

Did anything fall off the airplane?
NO

Was there smoke or fire? NO

②

What were positions of landing gear & flaps?

* * GEAR definitely up * *

What were the weather conditions?
clouds? winds? visibility?

Beautiful weather
Sun DID NOT impair vision

What is your aviation experience?

What was your position (distance & direction from the crash site. Draw a diagram if possible)

③

Did you see the actual ground impact? NO

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

Nose hit down

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?

200 yds above car

④

What attracted your attention to the
accident airplane?
COMING RIGHT AT HIS CAR

What was the aircrafts position?
(flight attitude)

What was the sun position?

SUN DID NOT IMPAIR VISION.

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

SUN ROOF DOWN - WINDOWS DOWN NO SOUND AT ALL
SAW BOTTOM OF PLANE CLEARLY

①

interviewed
9/12

PF

⑩

Witness Questions:

Name: Duane Midan
Address:

no answers
all day
9/9

Telephone #: [REDACTED]

Occupation:

Age (Date of Birth):

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

Saw profile of A/c vehicle; nose down
from approx. 6 miles away.

Did anything fall off the airplane?

Was there smoke or fire?

②

What were positions of landing gear & flaps?

What were the weather conditions?
clouds? winds? visibility?

What is your aviation experience?

What was your position (distance & direction from the crash site. Draw a diagram if possible)

③

Did you see the actual ground impact?

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

What was the aircrafts position?
(flight attitude)

What was the sun position?

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

262-
8021

(13)

Interviewed by
Robert Sunwalt

9/9/94

Karli Mueller



Atgippa, PA 15001

Saw nothing, but heard impact noise.

①

⑭

9/9/94

Witness Questions:

Name: Steve Risio

Address:

Aliquippa, PA PA 15001

Telephone #: [REDACTED]

Occupation:

(Retired ATC controller)

Age (Date of Birth): 63

Retired ATC

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

In car right after 7:00 PM.

Spotted A/C at 500 feet at most

~~left~~ vehicle down

No smoke, during flight.

"Banking downward turn"

Only saw A/C 1-3 seconds.

going straight down

Saw silhouette of A/C.

Did anything fall off the airplane?

NO

Was there smoke or fire?

NO

(2)

What were positions of landing gear
& flaps?

~~NO~~

What were the weather conditions?
clouds? winds? visibility?

VIS = more than 20-30 miles

WINDS = ~ 20 Kts. Surface - saw trees blowing
pretty good.

What is your aviation experience?

ATC Controller 20 yrs 2 mos, 2 days

Oct 72 military
retired.

What was your position (distance &
direction from the crash site. Draw
a diagram if possible)

1 1/2 - 1 3/4 mile from aircraft.

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

Always look up at aircraft.

What was the aircrafts position?
(flight attitude)

500 feet or less.

What was the sun position?

~~Not~~ Not relevant.

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

- ~~Papers~~ Debris found on golf course
Some 1 1/2 miles away.

(3)

Did you see the actual ground impact?

No - One ridge between him + crash site.

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

either left or right wing + nose simultaneous.

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?

within 10° degrees of vertical.

0

(15)

9/9/94
By telephone

Witness Questions:

Name: Soln Medley

Address: [REDACTED] Aliquippa
off at HOPEWELL exit ^(exit 9) of Expressway, E on 151 for
(Exit 9)

Telephone #: [REDACTED] $\frac{1}{2}$ to $\frac{3}{4}$ mile,

Occupation: civil Engineer [REDACTED]

Age (Date of Birth):

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

By the time I looked up, I barely saw
something go behind trees and a tremendous
fireball. my 11-year old son ^{Soln} saw more.

Did anything fall off the airplane?

Was there smoke or fire?

John Medley

Expressway

Exit #9 Hopewell

Come around ramp

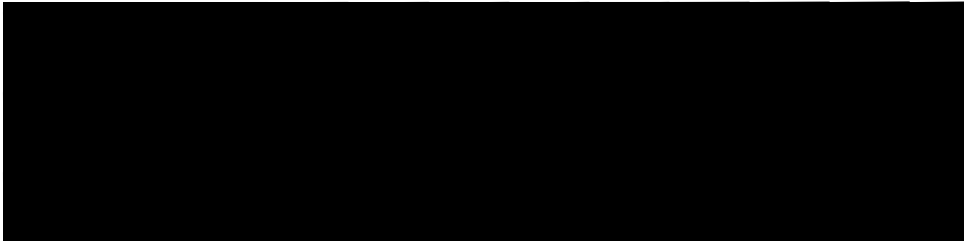
151 EAST (Right)

1/2 mile

Yellow brick on left

 on left

Get to Texico ← gone to far


114

②

What were positions of landing gear & flaps?

What were the weather conditions?
clouds? winds? visibility?

What is your aviation experience?

What was your position (distance & direction from the crash site. Draw a diagram if possible)

③

Did you see the actual ground impact?

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

What was the aircrafts position?
(flight attitude)

What was the sun position?

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

①

Interviewed on 9/19
at 1900
(17)

Witness Questions:

Name: Mark Barney

Address: [REDACTED]

Telephone #: [REDACTED]

Occupation: Sales representative

Age (Date of Birth): 35 years

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

He was coaching at the soccer field at the time of the accident. He saw the aircraft on the way down. He saw the belly of the aircraft then it went straight down at about a 75 degree left wing nose down to the ground.

Did anything fall off the airplane?

Nothing fell off the airplane.

④ Was there smoke or fire? Missing?

No smoke or fire noticed.

②

What were positions of landing gear & flaps?

Does not recall seeing the gear or flaps

What were the weather conditions?
clouds? winds? visibility?

The weather was wonderful, clear and very little cloud cover.

What is your aviation experience?

No aviation experience

What was your position (distance & direction from the crash site. Draw a diagram if possible)

He was west of the site about 1 mile or less.

③

Did you see the actual ground impact?

No. The aircraft disappeared behind the tree line.

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

From his location, it appeared as if the nose impacted first.

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?

75 degree nose down. He described it relative to a clock with the nose at the 7 o'clock position and the tail at the 1 o'clock position.

Try to clarify noises heard - get descriptions of engine sounds...
coming towards you / going away...
Pops bangs, whines...

Could not remember the sounds.

Other airplanes? Traffic?

This question was added on 9/10. This witness was interviewed 9/9 at 1900 hours.

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

While coaching, he changed his position to the northeast and froze as he saw the aircraft in a steep angle of descent.

What was the aircraft's position?
(flight attitude)

What was the sun position?

The sun was to the witnesses back.

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

He described the aircraft as, "... it was like dive bombing."

(21)
9/10/94

Witness Questions:

Name: ROBERT JARVIE

Address:

Telephone #: [REDACTED]

Occupation:

Age (Date of Birth):

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

BON AIR GOLF COURSE

Geese sighting - early morning - Approximately 20-30 geese

Eastern side of golf course

Did anything fall off the airplane?

* Was there smoke or fire? Missing?

②

What were positions of landing gear
& flaps?

What were the weather conditions?
clouds? winds? visibility?

What is your aviation experience?

What was your position (distance &
direction from the crash site. Draw
a diagram if possible)

③

Did you see the actual ground impact?

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?

Try to clarify noises heard - get descriptions of engine sounds...
coming towards you / going away...
Pops bangs, whines...

Other airplanes? Traffic?

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

What was the aircrafts position?
(flight attitude)

What was the sun position?

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

00

Called 911 at 705-70

Family member on plane

Witness Questions: 9/10/97

Arrested 10:00 am 9/10/97

Name: ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ CAROL NOCER @
Address: [REDACTED]

Telephone #: [REDACTED] Ellwood City 16117

Occupation: Customer service rep at a Bank.
Age (Date of Birth):

Describe what happened:
What did you see? hear?

Chippewa to Coatesville
1/2 mile from Aliquippa exit
Big plane drop out of sky

WOBBLING down could see it
could see colors on A/c
Did anything fall off the airplane?

Was there smoke or fire?
NO SMOKE
fire
explosion

(2)

What were positions of landing gear
& flaps?

What were the weather conditions?
clouds? winds? visibility?
Gorgeous day

What is your aviation experience?

What was your position (distance &
direction from the crash site. Draw
a diagram if possible)

Plane coming at them

③

Did you see the actual ground impact?

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?

Came straight down

no angle.

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

What was the aircrafts position?
(flight attitude)

What was the sun position?

Beautiful day.

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

Wife heard nothing
Windows up

exploded heard

Wings flopping back + forth.

heading towards Pit.

①

called 9:15 AM 9/11

②3

Witness Questions:

Name: DIANE KENT

Address:

Telephone #: [REDACTED]

Occupation:

Age (Date of Birth):

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

was pointing out Roadside maintenance to driver of her car + noticed aircraft in vertical attitude. A/C descending straight down about 1/2 mile from her position.

Did anything fall off the airplane?

she did not notice or see anything fall from A/C.

④ Was there smoke or fire? misting?

she observed no smoke or fire until after impact.
- A/C descended below tree line.

②

What were positions of landing gear & flaps? she did not remember flap position or if landing gear was extended or not. She didn't notice anything physically unusual about aircraft.

What were the weather conditions? clouds? winds? visibility?

no

What is your aviation experience? she was an A/C mechanic in the airforce (Soviet times how long ago).

What was your position (distance & direction from the crash site. Draw a diagram if possible)

she was driving on Green Garden Rd towards the Hills Dept. store. A/C come down straight ahead of her position.

CRASH
Site

* position

③

Did you see the actual ground impact?

no.

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first? she assumes the nose since a/c was in vertical position.

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact? not sure, but first noticed a/c above the tree tops.

Try to clarify noises heard - get descriptions of engine sounds... coming towards you / going away... Pops Pbangs, whines... she heard a loud roar as she noticed a/c descending vertically. she wasn't sure at first, but towards end of phone interview seemed more certain that this sound had something to do with attracting her attention.

Other airplanes? Traffic? no other a/c were noticed until later - Helicopter + a small private a/c.

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

Basically it come into her view, but seems to remember a loud roar also.

What was the aircrafts position?
(flight attitude)

A/c was vertical

What was the sun position?

she believes in the left rear of her position

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

Both occupants could feel the heat from the explosion

- tried to call other occupant without making contact

• ~~my~~ EYVONNE NEFF } should be here
[redacted] } Sunday evening 9/12

Bill Seawright

Summitt's

field notes

from personal interview
with Bill Seawright

Shipping port ~~whistle~~ whistle

25° left bank

banked, but not
turning.

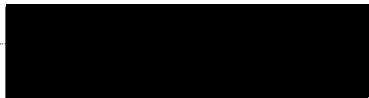
Commuter came over shortly after this
plane over. I appx same

"Could almost read numbers"

Right engine at an angle to wing.

Angle from front path 40°

Raccoon Township Hall

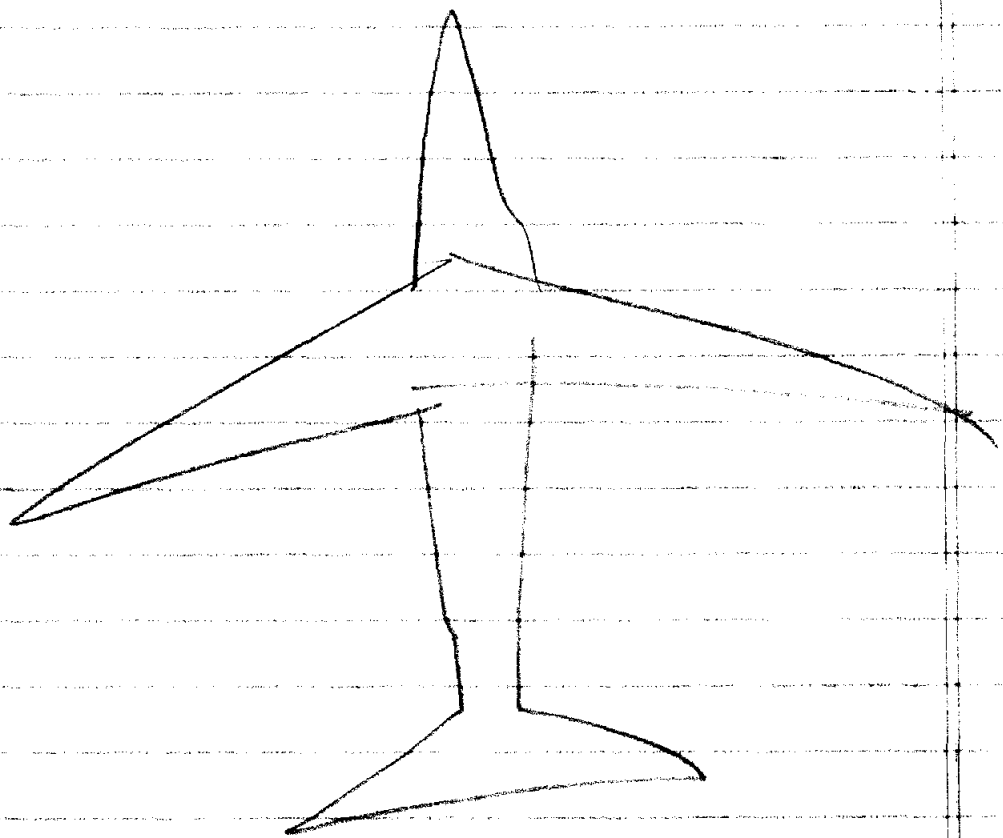


Given
painted
or railings

Race (?) Wilkins Patterson Rd (?)

Raccoon State Rd 3021

Raccoon Elementary School.



①

Called 9:00 AM ~~9/10~~ 9/10
Personal interview PM ~~9/10~~ 9/10

24

Witness Questions:

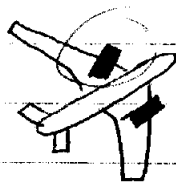
Name: Bill SEEWRIGHT (WILLIAM H.)
Address:

Telephone #: [REDACTED]

Occupation: Food Service CATERER @ GREATER PIT A/P
Age (Date of Birth):

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear? Saw a/c fly over
his home at approx 25° Left Bank, yet A/c was not turning.
as a/c passed overhead, noticed Right engine cocked at
a 30° angle outward.



looking from
underneath.

Did anything fall off the airplane?
no

Was there smoke or fire?
no

(2)

What were positions of landing gear
& flaps? no comment on flaps
& landing gear was up & locked.

What were the weather conditions?
clouds? winds? visibility?
crystal clear

What is your aviation experience?
has serviced a/c at PIT for 25 years with food.
has worked for several contract caterers.

What was your position (distance &
direction from the crash site. Draw
a diagram if possible)
probably 56 miles - need a map to confirm

③

Did you see the actual ground impact? no - didn't even know A/c
had crashed

What portion of the aircraft hit the
ground first?
N/A

Estimate aircrafts attitude during
descent? At impact?

~~N/A~~

A/c appeared to be traveling "straight + level", at
at ~~25~~ approximately a 25° left Bank.

(4)

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane? the a/c was closer to his home (flight path) than the usual. the A/c was lower and banked, yet still flying in a straight line, not turning. He noticed that the right engine was cocked outward as opposed to straight, ~~and~~ he knew that something was wrong.

What was the aircrafts position?
(flight attitude) ~~going a round~~
~~1500-2000 ft~~ not sure, except he almost read the #'s on a/c.

What was the sun position?
the sun was ~~to~~ behind him

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

Shortly after A/c passed by, the shipport sirens sounded from the nuclear plant, and then the Civil Defense Township emergency sirens began to sound off. (Raccoon Twp)

①

(25)

19/10/94

Witness Questions: 10:20 A.M.

Name: Dean Felgar

Address:

Aliquippa Pa 15001

Telephone #:

Occupation: training for 25515. memagel

Age (Date of Birth):

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

BRADBERRY PLAN

Plane Making left turn — left side of airplane went
Started spinning — complete rotation UP
straight down — CR fan

Did anything fall off the airplane?

Was there smoke or fire?

(2)

What were positions of landing gear & flaps?

What were the weather conditions?
clouds? winds? visibility?

Clear day

What is your aviation experience?

What was your position (distance & direction from the crash site. Draw a diagram if possible)

About 2 miles away

③

Did you see the actual ground
impact?

What portion of the aircraft hit the
ground first?

Estimate aircrafts attitude during
descent? At impact?

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

What was the aircrafts position?
(flight attitude)

What was the sun position?

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

①

(28) 9/10

Witness Questions:

Name: Becky Meuser

Beaver Lake

Address:

Alaqua, PA 15001

Telephone #:

Occupation:

Housewife

Age (Date of Birth): 31

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

Just not flying right, coming down fast. Wing ~~tip~~ slightly turned

saw it 4 seconds flying straight, then went slight "wing tip to wing tip" sort of subtle; then went into "corkscrew pattern" down toward the ground.

Did anything fall off the airplane?

no

④ Was there smoke or fire? Nisting?

no

②

What were positions of landing gear & flaps?

Didn't notice

What were the weather conditions? clouds? winds? visibility?

Beautiful
clear

What is your aviation experience?

None

What was your position (distance & direction from the crash site. Draw a diagram if possible)

appx 1 mile - Beaver Lake.

③

Did you see the actual ground impact?

No

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

~~rose~~ rose
Did not come
straight down.
but corkscrewed
down. slight turn

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?

straight

Try to clarify noises heard - get descriptions of engine sounds...
coming towards you / going away...
Pops pbangs, whines...

Some change in noise, but not
able to ~~identify~~ identify precisely.
Thought it may be the sound of
an engine in reverse, but not sure.

Other airplanes? Traffic?

Faint
crack
He was
south of
crack site.

Plane way off to right, this one was
to the left.
higher, "big plane"

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

husband looking up at it and noticed that "Something did not look right."

What was the aircraft's position?
(flight attitude)

What was the sun position?

Sun was ~~in~~ in direction of plane.

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

① John-Robert - Hillyssa (32)
11 86 50 Hopewell Soccer Club
Witness Questions:

Name:

Address:

Telephone #:

Occupation:

Age (Date of Birth):

1/10
1/5/11

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

Turned Right before going into tailspin

Did anything fall off the airplane?

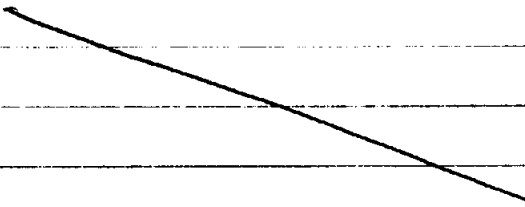
④ Was there smoke or fire? misting?

②

What were positions of landing gear & flaps?

What were the weather conditions? clouds? winds? visibility?

What is your aviation experience?



What was your position (distance & direction from the crash site. Draw a diagram if possible.)

③

Did you see the actual ground impact?

NO

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?

Try to clarify noises heard - get descriptions of engine sounds...
coming towards you / going away...
pops bangs, whines...

loud noise

Other airplanes? Traffic?

NO

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

loud noise

What was the aircrafts position?
(flight attitude)

What was the sun position?

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

①

9/10/94

visited

@1530

9/11

(33)

Witness Questions:

Name: Denise Clark

Address:

Monaca PA 15061

on a hill top
2 1/2 - 3 miles from
crash site
(Potters
Twp)

Telephone #:

Occupation: College student

Age (Date of Birth):

answering machine at house, but best
bet is use beeper # (local touchtone
beeper.)

① Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

I had just gone out in the front yard
toward the car. My son always looks
at airplanes overhead, he said "Mom,
look that one's real low." I looked up,
it was about 100 feet above trees, we're
on top of a hill.

Did anything fall off the airplane?

No.

Was there smoke or fire?

When it went right wing up it seemed
like the left engine sputtered & "puffed"

I would compare it to an engine stall,
or maybe when you restart...

Sputtering - real quick puff, no other smoke or
I didn't hear any explosion or boom or anything. Heard flame
a whining noise when the right wing came up. Only lasted a few seconds.

① cont'd

It seemed to start to turn to its left, as it started to bank, it hesitated then all of a sudden the right wing came up 90° $\perp$ to ground. ~~It~~ It seemed almost level then the nose gradually dropped down, tail came up. Then it disappeared.

We were looking at the right side, when the wing went up we were looking at the belly.

② Whining noise (cont'd) Then I didn't hear the whine anymore - we could still see the tail, the rest of the airplane was blocked by trees. Whining noise was like on an airline when you go in reverse ^{after landing} only lower, like there was less power. (40%) Then the quick puff of smoke. After the puff it got real quiet. Until impact.

What were positions of landing gear & flaps? Landing gear appeared to be intermediate setting, flaps I don't know.

What were the weather conditions? Clouds? winds? visibility? Perfectly clear, few, high clouds, good visibility, slight constant breeze

What is your aviation experience? Took flying lessons locally, also took ATC training at CCB (Community College of Beaver County) & FAA Academy

What was your position (distance & direction from the crash site. Draw a diagram if possible.)

2 1/2 - 3 miles from crash site, in Potter Township. On top of a hill. Looking east south-east towards airplane.

③

Did you see the actual ground impact? No, behind trees

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

From our position, I would say the nose hit first. Steep descent estimated 70 degree nose low.

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?

It went from parallel to tree line with wings perpendicular to ground, then nose dropped to 70° nose down

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane? Son

What was the aircrafts position?
(flight attitude)

What was the sun position?
Sun was behind us, no factor.

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

Joe McBride
pilot



Youngstown to PIT for 10 hrs
shorts 360

We constantly get traffic advisories
on TCAS

Given his rate of speed, maybe
he got a resolution advisory

We got 11,000 hrs flying for
Crown Airlines based in Youngstown
fly over that area 6 or 7 miles NW
of PIT airport where you are
~~also~~ landed off

We go through at 6000' from
Youngstown

Common to get TCAS at that
point TCAS 2, a good one
6 mile/12 mile range selection

advisory "TRAFFIC" closure rate
as "~~climb~~" "climb" resolution
15°-20° pitch up advisory

RA's are typical with other airport.
abrupt manoeuvre

①

③⑤

4/19/97

Witness Questions:

Name: Francis J. Joe Hart

Address:

~~Pa~~ Ridge, ~~Ark~~ Arkansas

Telephone #:

Occupation: Retired Lt. Col Air Force

Age (Date of Birth):

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

Doing test flight work in 50's, accepting B-47's in Tulsa. It was during this time period they developed the autopilot so it could use radio signals. It was one of our check items, & we were leery, constantly alert & watching it. We Did anything fall off the airplane?

Was there smoke or fire?

504W
85-95?

had a disconnect button & I had hands on the controls.

→ one time shooting coupled ILS approach, a/c entered an abrupt violent bank. I disconnected instantly, recovered & landed w/o incident. Shaken, reported it, maintenance couldn't find anything.

→ deflection of radio signals → autopilot ??

②

What were positions of landing gear & flaps?

What were the weather conditions? clouds? winds? visibility?

What is your aviation experience?

What was your position (distance & direction from the crash site. Draw a diagram if possible)

③

Did you see the actual ground impact?

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

What was the aircrafts position?
(flight attitude)

What was the sun position?

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

①

③⑥

9/10/94

Witness Questions:

Name: Chuck Elbaum

Address:

Millburn, NJ 07041

Telephone #:

Occupation: Ex-pilot ~~1988-1989~~ 1988-1989

Age (Date of Birth):

Describe what happened: 1988-1989

What did you see? hear?

USAIR Flt from Newark to LaGuardia
on ~~the~~ approach for 28R, 6-7 miles
out over woods, when all of a sudden
we were in a 90° ^{right} bank. No notice.

It took him about 12 seconds to right it.

Don't know type A/C. Perpendicular to the

Did anything fall off the airplane? ^{ground.} →

Was there smoke or fire?

It was like a snap (not a bank or roll)
Probably about 6000-7000 ft. Pilot
was white as a ghost, it felt like
the ~~flaps~~ speed brakes deployed
Flaps & gear down as I recall.
I tried to engage the pilot in
conversation

I was on left side of alc, I
think I saw speed brake deploy on
left side but ~~not~~ not on right side.

②

What were positions of landing gear & flaps?

What were the weather conditions? clouds? winds? visibility?

What is your aviation experience?

Expilot - learned to fly in Pittsburgh area when I was 15, flew up into my mid 20's until I got too busy. I'm an observant passenger, I pay attention, especially during.

What was your position (distance & direction from the crash site. Draw a diagram if possible)

③

Did you see the actual ground impact?

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

What was the aircrafts position?
(flight attitude)

What was the sun position?

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

①

③⑦

9/10/94

Witness Questions:

Name: Robert Cappo

Address: [REDACTED]
Chippewa, PA 15010

Telephone #: [REDACTED]

Occupation:

Age (Date of Birth):

Front yard on [REDACTED] In flt. path for
Beaver Valley Airport - used to air traffic.

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

1900 Could not see anything because it was too
cloudy. "Heard" plane with no engine."

Initially - a high pitched whine that went
progressively lower then no sound at all.

"From real high fast pitch to real slow low
pitch". "Engine had no power."

Did anything fall off the airplane?

Saw nothing - too cloudy

④ Was there smoke or fire? Missing?

(2)

What were positions of landing gear & flaps?

What were the weather conditions? clouds? winds? visibility?

Too cloudy to see anything.

What is your aviation experience?

Lived in flight path of Beaver Valley Airport.

What was your position (distance & direction from the crash site. Draw a diagram if possible)

③

Did you see the actual ground impact?

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?

Try to clarify noises heard - get descriptions of engine sounds...
coming towards you / going away...
Pops bangs, whines...

Other airplanes? Traffic?

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

What was the aircraft's position?
(flight attitude)

What was the sun position?

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

①

Interviewed by Robert Summitt

(38)

9/10/94

Witness Questions:

Name: Erwin Robert Robert

Address: [REDACTED] Hopewell To

~~Hopewell~~ T. Alagipps 15009

Telephone #: [REDACTED]

Occupation: Retired 35 mission over Europe

Age (Date of Birth): 75 in B24 C46

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

Watched aircraft for a few seconds - watched it

Banked to left, after aircraft had been told to turn to 100°.

Did several wingovers. A couple of wing overs, then aircraft turned to $\approx 270^\circ$ Heading.

Then straight into ground.

Looked like he tried to pull out at

Did anything fall off the airplane? Last minute.

no

④ Was there smoke or fire? Missing?

~~no~~

no

(2)

What were positions of landing gear & flaps?

Retracted - gear
flaps - don't know

What were the weather conditions?
clouds? winds? visibility?

Perfect

~~west~~ westly

What is your aviation experience?

35 missions during ww2 B24 F/E
C46

Nothing ~~in~~ after ~~the~~ Korean War.

What was your position (distance & direction from the crash site. Draw a diagram if possible)

1 1/2

east of accident
site

③

Did you see the actual ground impact?

Yes ??

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?
nose first

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?

90° verticle - perhaps tried to "pull up slightly at last minute"

Try to clarify noises heard - get descriptions of engine sounds...
coming towards you / going away...
Pops pbangs, whines...

Didn't hear a thing
other than impact.

Other airplanes? Traffic?

no

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

Raking in yard, turned head
and there it was.

What was the aircraft's position?
(flight attitude)

What was the sun position?

to left of
airplane

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

Feels that it may be related to
thrust reverser.

Typically worries
about reversers deploying.

①

9/10/94
Godi (39)
Reeves

Witness Questions:

Name: Mike Price

Address:

Aliquippa, PA 15001

Gastetner Corp.

Telephone #:

Occupation: Forensics Photographer & Copier Tech.

Age (Date of Birth):

① Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

~~riding in car~~ riding in car on road at top of hill where we live. I saw airplane in normal pattern for airport, I looked down for a moment, looked up again as A/C began to roll left. I said to my dad - "pull over, that airplane is in trouble." He said ^{what do you mean?} "he's just turning" I said "No they don't turn that way" →

Did anything fall off the airplane?

No

Was there smoke or fire?

No smoke, no flames, no fire

Didn't see any "puff"

① cont'd. Bank seemed sharp/sudden & he was going wrong direction for airport, it was happening too fast. They pulled off side of road & got out of car to watch. We were facing basically north, ^{airplane went from} my left to right. Came straight down. Looked like someone picked it up by the tail & dropped it straight down.

* ~~At most~~ ^{At most} 35-40 seconds for whole occurrence.

Did not hear anything other than faint boom after smokeball/impact.

→ He saw no real spinning/rolling as it came down, ~~he~~

(2)

What were positions of landing gear & flaps?
Gear up, flaps I couldn't tell.

What were the weather conditions?
clouds? winds? visibility?

No clouds, dry, sunny, winds light. When smokeball went up it drifted real slow, away from me (left to right)

What is your aviation experience?

None (10 years in army w/ helicopters, non-flying) But my 9 year old son is into them, we make a habit/hobby out of watching them fly over.

What was your position (distance & direction from the crash site. Draw a diagram if possible)

South of crash site ~ 1-2 mile, on Ridge Rd in Independence Township.

(about 1 mile S-SW of soccer field)

Crash site was between me & them

check this?

③

Did you see the actual ground impact? No, trees

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

Nose first, straight from my angle. I was looking at belly

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?

Straight down, wings even.

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

We make a habit/hobby of watching planes - my 9 yr. old son is into them. Identifying emblems on tail

What was the aircrafts position?
(flight attitude)

What was the sun position?

on my left - made the airplane even more visible, lit up the aluminum.

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

No.

9/10/94

SAM HANCOCK
USA in

He lives on the flight path. sometimes
to see them land

Wedding photo

MICHAEL PRICE

[REDACTED]

all

[REDACTED]

someone just picked up the tail
no smoke, no burn

①

Phone 9/10/94

(40)
0

Witness Questions:

Name: JEFFERY MOHR
Address:

Telephone #: [REDACTED] (FATHERS HOME)

Occupation: Police Officer

Age (Date of Birth):

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

Saw a/c in front of him flying left to right. a/c was
sideways + descending - Right wing ^{down} ~~up~~, left wing ^{up} ~~down~~.
~~at~~ a/c crossed highway turned upside down + continued
to roll inverted. a/c appeared to be "flaying".

Did anything fall off the airplane?

no.

④ Was there smoke or fire? misting?

no.

(2)

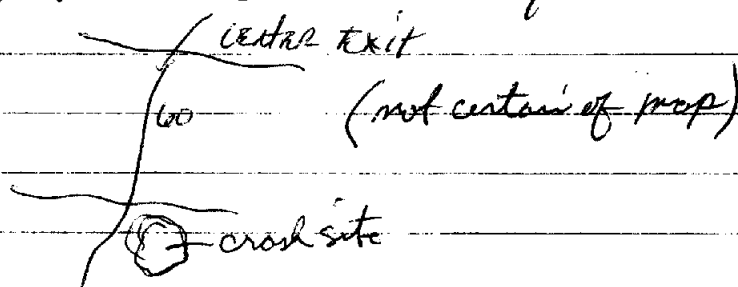
What were positions of landing gear & flaps? all equipment appeared in order; landing gear was up. N/A on flaps

What were the weather conditions?
clouds? winds? visibility?
clear

What is your aviation experience?
works at airport; police officer @ A/P

What was your position (distance & direction from the crash site. Draw a diagram if possible)

he was heading towards the crash site on Hwy 60 South towards the Airport; ~~He was driving just past (South) of Center Township exit when noticed a/c~~



③

Did you see the actual ground impact? No.

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

He believes the nose.
Best guess before A/C went below trees

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?

aircraft was sideways during descent; nose down
inverted ~~before~~ before impact

Try to clarify noises heard - get descriptions of engine sounds...
coming towards you / going away...
Pops phangs, whines...
did not hear - windows up

Other airplanes? Traffic?
did not notice any other A/C

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

What was the aircrafts position?
(flight attitude)

What was the sun position?

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

CALL MOTHER - HPT OF SAT 10:10

GET NAMES OF ADULTS ON SOCCER FIELD

By BILL WEEKS

(46)

①

9/10/94

Witness Questions:

10½ YRS

"ROBIN" MOTHER

Name:

JASON MOKA

Address:

[REDACTED]

Telephone #:

[REDACTED]

Occupation:

STUDENT

Age (Date of Birth): 10½

Describe what happened: ON SOCCER FIELD
What did you see? hear?

ENG SPATTERING — LEFT WING UP
FLYING LOW — COMING TOWARDS
SOCCER FIELD —

CLIMBED HIGHER THEN

NOSE ~~FLY~~ DOWN

Did anything fall off the airplane?

④ Was there smoke or fire? misting?

80' Before HIT

ENGINES CAUGHT ON FIRE

PARTS
SAW ~~REAR~~ FLY AFTER A/C
HIT GROUND

What were positions of landing gear
4 years?

What were the weather conditions?
clouds? winds? visibility?

What is your aviation experience?

What was your position (distance &
direction from the crash site. Draw
a diagram if possible)

ON SOCCER FIELD -

COACH MAHAMMUD ?

PARENTS - JANET SMITH

JOYCE JONES - (JONATHAN - SON)

③

Did you see the actual ground impact?

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

Nose First

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?

Try to clarify noises heard - get descriptions of engine sounds...
coming towards you / going away...
pops bangs, whines...

Other airplanes? Traffic?

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

What was the aircraft's position?
(flight attitude)

What was the sun position?

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

①

④3
9/10/94

Witness Questions:

Name: LINDA JONES

Address: [REDACTED]

alleguippa

Telephone #: [REDACTED]

Occupation: Housekeeper at motel

Age (Date of Birth): 47

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

I live clear on top of hill. I was standing on the deck, just saw it going the wrong way + low. Coming down. Then it started to bank to right, then come back up, then into a roll with left wing first. Steep descent like

Did anything fall off the airplane?

7 o'clock position on clock and disappeared behind trees.

Debris fall off ^{airplane} - no

Engine sounded fine. Later a tractor come nearby and I couldn't hear the

④ Was there smoke or fire? Nisting?
explosion

smoke or fire - no

②

What were positions of landing gear
& flaps?
none - couldn't tell

What were the weather conditions?
clouds? winds? visibility?

clear. nice evening
no planes, balloons, parachutes

What is your aviation experience?

none. I like to watch airplanes
+ airshow, commercial passengers
travel

What was your position (distance &
direction from the crash site. Draw
a diagram if possible)

this was about 6:12 to 6:15

about 1 mile from the crash

1/2 mile up green garden from mills

at top of green garden, 2nd highest
point in Beaver County

③

Did you see the actual ground impact?

no

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?

see description

Try to clarify noises heard - get descriptions of engine sounds...
coming towards you / going away...
pops pbangs, whines...

normal engine noise, when plane was in steep descent a tractor some nearby and drowned out other noise

Other airplanes? Traffic? none

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

~~I~~ ^{deck} Relaying on my ~~deck~~ I just watched it

What was the aircrafts position?
(flight attitude)

Description

What was the sun position?

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

Not off hand

Witness Questions:

Name: Amy Giza (David)

Address: [REDACTED]

Alliquippa PA

Telephone # [REDACTED]

will be at

Occupation: housewife, planning on educating her son at home.
Age (Date of Birth):

- ① Describe what happened:
6 yr. old son saw everything
What did you see? hear? parked
In my car in front of Hills, reading.
w/ my little boy (6 yrs. old) "Mommy that
airplane just fell out of the sky". The noise
was distracting me from my reading. I glanced
up once, it was kind of irritating, then went
back to book. We were parked facing →
Did anything fall off the airplane?

Didn't see airplane

- ② Was there smoke or fire? Missing?

Didn't see

(1) right towards the crash. The noise was strange: The first noise was like a strange engine noise, not the usual airplane noise we hear overhead. Didn't seem ~~at~~ at all like a big airplane. I thought it was a small plane. (Heard noises for about 20 seconds, total) The second noise was a whining noise, like something moving down. (Like people were setting off fireworks, that whine you hear when they go up.)

Son didn't hear anything, but saw it & drew her attention to it. He said if there was a noise he didn't associate it with airplane. "A giant airplane" I immediately believed him because the noise had stopped

②

What were positions of landing gear & flaps?

Didn't see

What were the weather conditions? clouds? winds? visibility?

Beautiful day, didn't seem to be anything

What is your aviation experience?

None, see's them fly overhead

What was your position (distance & direction from the crash site. Draw a diagram if possible)

~~at~~ at Hills Store

③

Did you see the actual ground impact?

NO

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

~~too~~ Don't know

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?

Don't know

Try to clarify noises heard - get descriptions of engine sounds...
coming towards you / going away...
Pops / bangs, whines...

Other airplanes? Traffic?

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

The noises - for about 20 seconds
My son said Mommy, that
plane just fell out of the sky

What was the aircraft's position?
(flight attitude)

What was the sun position?

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

I didn't call earlier because everyone
was saying they didn't hear any
noise. Then finally last night - those
guys at the car dealership - someone
finally heard what I heard! So
I thought I'd call.

Will be at home till 11³⁰ (47)

8³⁰ am.
SUNDAY

Witness Questions:

Name: DAVID DUFFY

Address:

home : work Pager

Telephone #: [REDACTED]

Occupation: Pilot / movie theater manager

Age (Date of Birth):

Called flight service station a couple minutes after crash to report.

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

Picked up plane at 3000' heading NORTH altitude 4-5000 ft began left bank turn. Started watching it getting a little steep. turned beyond 90° through 130° - went over to a complete inversion. At this point witness saw the engines - knew it was a 737-300. Rolled into complete 180° inversion - very gently. Then the nose pitched down & fell to horizon. He first thought it was a normal launch out of Pitt →

Did anything fall off the airplane?

NO, It was a complete airplane

Was there smoke or fire?

NO

NO NOISE
WINDOWS
were up.

heading north - because of the flight pattern.

Saw ALC for ~ 8-12 seconds, ~~the~~
starting on northerly heading, ~ 4-5000',
in what appeared to be stable flight, then
gentle bank into uncontrolled descent
behind trees ~ 1400 ft.

When he first saw ALC it looked like
it was climbing slightly, wings were
level (slightly hesitant.)

②
What were positions of landing gear
& flaps?

landing gear up.

What were the weather conditions?
clouds? winds? visibility?

Great

What is your aviation experience?

Pilot for 10 years PRASEL,

What was your position (distance &
direction from the crash site. Draw
a diagram if possible)

on Rt 18 + Broadhead Rd.
in Monaco

5-6 miles from site

③

Did you see the actual ground impact?

NO

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

?

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?

④
What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

Just likes to look at planes, was waiting in traffic at a ramp.

What was the aircrafts position?
(flight attitude)

360° heading NORTH ~ 4000-5000 ft.

What was the sun position?

SUN off to RIGHT, glinted off belly of airplane as it descended, ~~the~~ saw airplane rotating slowly

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

Saw airplane rotating after nose fell through horizon to straight down. At first I had clear view of belly, Alk slowly turned about $\frac{3}{4}$ rotation before I lost it behind trees.

Counterclockwise rotation from pilots position. Probably lost Alk at ~ 1400' during descent because of trees/hills.

①



PF - Phone 9/11

48

9/11/94

Witness Questions:

Name: John L. Ceresi

Address: [REDACTED]

Alliquippa Pa.

Telephone #: [REDACTED]

Occupation:

Age (Date of Birth):

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

at first heard nothing when he usually hears a/c in pattern for PIT. then he heard a tremendous roar, looked up, and saw a USA A/c descending on about a 45° downward angle + moving extremely fast.

Did anything fall off the airplane?

no

④ Was there smoke or fire? misting?

no

(2)

What were positions of landing gear
& flaps? did not notice

What were the weather conditions?
clouds? winds? visibility?

clear

What is your aviation experience?

none

What was your position (distance &
direction from the crash site. Draw
a diagram if possible)

about 1/4 mile from crash site

③

Did you see the actual ground impact?

no

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

N/A

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?
a couple thousand feet

Try to clarify noises heard - get descriptions of engine sounds...
coming towards you / going away...
Pops pbangs, whines...

Sounded extremely loud, like the engines were revving up! Heard several secondary explosions after the initial impact explosion

Other airplanes? Traffic?

none

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

the loud noise from the engines

What was the aircraft's position?
(flight attitude)

~~at~~ wings on a/c were level, with a
45° nose down attitude.
a/c was definitely not banked.

What was the sun position?

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

~~Shirley Whipple~~

~~left message~~

~~Plot debris on a map~~

John Corrie

outside charging crates
didn't hear anything - then
a Big Roar. Looked up
coming down 45% @
fast-sounded like a/c was
revving up, fast speed.

- heard a lot of secondary
explosions

- lives on Patterson about
1/2 mile from site

- a/c was not Barked

- couple thousand felt

①

9/11/94
Mum
PF.

9/11/94 50

Witness Questions:

Name: ANDREA BLOOR

Address:

Telephone #: [REDACTED]

Occupation:

Age (Date of Birth):

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

outside in back yard noticed a/c very low & very loud
A/c was in nose up attitude - like "trying to get to altitude"
thought it unusual to see top of wings -
A/c fly away from them - viewed from the back.

Did anything fall off the airplane?

No

② Was there smoke or fire? Missing?

No

②

What were positions of landing gear
& flaps?
could not tell.

What were the weather conditions?
clouds? winds? visibility?

clear

What is your aviation experience?

none

What was your position (distance &
direction from the crash site. Draw
a diagram if possible)

about 8 miles from crash site

③

Did you see the actual ground impact? no

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?
N/A

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?

A/c was just above the treetops climbing - wings level nose up.

Try to clarify noises heard - get descriptions of engine sounds...
coming towards you / going away...
Pops pbangs, whines...
extremely loud engine noise, like a "car revving up its engines".

Other airplanes? Traffic?

2 helicopters flew over this area on separate occasions to the west approx 15 minutes before the A/c in question.

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

the wing ~~strobe~~ Strobe lights - They had never seen this before on other a/c in the air - & the noise from the low a/c -

What was the aircrafts position?
(flight attitude)

now up flying away from their position. The A/c was coming from the South (?) appeared first above the trees climbing wings level.

What was the sun position?

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

Ben Wilkes (412) [REDACTED]

49
9/11/99

Bethel Park, PA 15102

"Power Alley", located about ~~1~~² miles from accident site (west)
could have been some "man made wind shear/turbulence, don't know what the activity was

I just wanted to make sure these things were considered, bring it to your attention

"fly-by-wire" problems near powerplants, electromagnetic activity

I've investigated powerplant accidents, I'm familiar w/ control design for ALC

Airbus crashes...

light ^{weight} ~~light~~ ^{weight} ~~light~~
Andrea Bloor WE airport

outside on picnic table
a/c coming from South?

- a/c very low
nose up moving forward

- engine was accelerating
very loud, like a car
engine revving up

- about 8 miles

- noticed strobe lights

- low a/c like just above the
treetops

- like he was trying to climb
get to altitude

- 2 helicopters were in the
area - ~~two~~ at different
times going 15 min.

①

9/11/51
9/11/94

Witness Questions:

Name: James Augustine

Address: [REDACTED]

Pittsburgh, PA

Telephone #: [REDACTED]

Occupation:

Age (Date of Birth):

① Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear? On 279 North
Had exited @ Westview/Ross Township - was
stopped at light at top of off ramp. Heard a noise
& looked up through his sunroof & saw airplane,
very low, heading towards airport. (generally)

It was in basically level flight, no pitch
or bank that he saw. Nothing looked →

Did anything fall off the airplane?

No

Was there smoke or fire?

Yes - blackish smoke, a streak, or stream,
(not billowing/puffing) coming from
right engine. Like dumping fuel?

① wrong, except it was so low & black streak out of right engine. Didn't see anything more, got home & heard about crash. He saw it about 7pm.

(2)

What were positions of landing gear
& flaps?
gear up

What were the weather conditions?
clouds? winds? visibility?

good - sunroof open

What is your aviation experience?

none

What was your position (distance &
direction from the crash site. Draw
a diagram if possible)

Rt 279 N @ Ross Township exit

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

Noise, looked up saw A/c low with black streak from right engine.

What was the aircrafts position?
(flight attitude)

level when he saw it.

What was the sun position?

off left

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

James Augustine [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
Pittsburg, PA

Approx 7pm

has answering

~~Nothing off~~

- Have sunroof in my car, I heard noise, sounded like engine noise, I looked up, thought airplane was awfully low - going toward airport, airplane was coming towards me, it looked like there was black smoke, like a streak, like he was dumping fuel or something.

You could just about see it & it was ~~so~~ low.

- Noise was like they were adding power or something. Sounded like that before he looked up.

Nothing fell off

- ★ Attitude - level flight, looked like nothing wrong except that it was so low & black streak.

Highway

279 North

getting off at Westview/
Ross Township exit.

I was stopped at the stoplight at
~~bottom~~ top of off ramp when I
heard noise & looked

I got home & found out the
airplane crashed.

wx - fine, sun roof

Didn't see anything else in the air.

I wasn't going to

①

9/11 Phoned
P.F.

52

9/11/94

Witness Questions:

Name: Bennie, Gary + Ted Thompson
Address:

Telephone #: [REDACTED]

Occupation: Gary - USA Boy Thrower

Age (Date of Birth):

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

was looking in direction of A/C crash site + noticed the A/C just as it was to an apex in a nose up attitude. The A/C Broke right for just a second, + then rolled left, the tail came up + nose went down until the A/C was in a straight ^{down} vertical position. the only person who heard any sound from engines was the Son J&O who said it was a faint low sound.

Did anything fall off the airplane?

no

④ Was there smoke or fire? Misting?

no

(2)

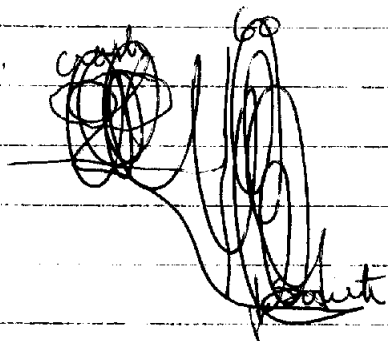
What were positions of landing gear
+ flaps?
up

What were the weather conditions?
clouds? winds? visibility?
clear

What is your aviation experience?
Gary - works for USA at PIT - baggage handler.

What was your position (distance +
direction from the crash site. Draw
a diagram of possible)
at Ball field at Kane Rd. - about 1.5-2 miles from
~~crash site~~ ~~South East of his position~~

he was South east of
crash site.



③

Did you see the actual ground impact?
No

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

almost straight up + down - vertical

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?

aircraft was in a nose up - climb attitude, then it appeared to stop as it reached its apex, dipped slightly to the right, then rolled left + accelerated down in a nose down attitude.

Try to clarify noises heard - get descriptions of engine sounds...
coming towards you / going away...
pops bangs, whines...

did not hear anything -

Ted the 10 yr old said claim he heard a very faint noise as the A/C was going up; nothing on the way down.

Other airplanes? Traffic?
No

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

Just happened to be looking that direction

What was the aircrafts position?
(flight attitude)

a/c was just approaching the apex of a climb.

What was the sun position?

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

Gary saw that it was a USA 737, but thought it was a 200 series. Viewed incident from the right side of a/c.

Gary stated that the entire time lapse from when he first saw the A/c just before reaching the apex, until it ~~went~~ went below the trees was approx 10-12 seconds.

Bonnie Thompson

- At Ball field on home Rd.
South/EAST

was looking in that direction
nose up / pretty high up
- from the right side of
a/c
went up pitched right
& corkered straight down
- 1-2 miles from site
- no smoke
- no sound from Bonnie

Gary Thompson

- Flying NW direction
nose up Banked slightly to
the right - knew was a 737
+ USA

Anything in text -
thru a 737-200

Plane stopped in the air

When the plane over &

accelerated down

- not completely vertical but close

looked he was going to get

control - no engine noise

- when the plane came it dipped

like he would get control, but

then moving to the left, tail

went up & turned vertical

downward - 1/2 circumference

approximately straight up & down

10-12 from the front

to support

no engine sounds

perfectly clear to

the ground from right hand side of

Jack Thompson
- faint sound from a/c as it

①

4/11/94 03
Telephone m BRENNER

Witness Questions:

Name: Jim DOUGHTY

Address: [REDACTED]
Greenwillard PA 15046

Telephone #: [REDACTED]

Occupation: automotive technician - used to

Age (Date of Birth): [REDACTED] listening to motors. Gets
home over every day
we watch them at lunchtime

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

I was on the soccer field - Greengarden Plaza
was on my right, Greengarden Rd where
plane crashed was on my left, St 60 was
in front of me. sounds of engines made (over)
me look up. I hear a lot of engines overhead →

Did anything fall off the airplane?

No. all I heard was spitting noise.
It sounds like he was trying to
put power to the engines. Then it went
down

④ Was there smoke or fire? Misting?

Black smoke and a big fire went up
after it disappeared. When I first looked
up - no fire, no smoke

There were sputtering noises
coming from engine. Plane came
from my right to my left. I
was looking at the belly of plane
It was nose down at a 45° angle.
I do not remember seeing landing
gear down.

②

What were positions of landing gear & flaps?

gear up

What were the weather conditions?
clouds? winds? visibility?

beautiful clear blue skies, really nice

What is your aviation experience?

Passenger ~~on commercial flights~~

on commercial flights

What was your position (distance & direction from the crash site. Draw a diagram if possible)

I was catapowered

③

Did you see the actual ground impact?

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?

Try to clarify noises heard - get descriptions of engine sounds...
coming towards you / going away...
Pops Pbangs, whines...

Other airplanes? Traffic?

~~no~~ other traffic, a lot of birds
flocks flying around I didn't see any
at issue

(4)

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

When I first looked up plane was level & like a sputtering noise like he had an engine going out. ^{Engine on the} Left side of plane (because it was closer), then throttling up like for a takeoff - a large boost - just for seconds,

What was the aircraft's position?
(flight attitude)

then no noise. Position during powerup - right wing low like he was returning to airport, then nose went down. Engine sounds none. Plane dropped into 45° angle like a pencil balanced on your finger.

What was the sun position?

Tractor pulls - when they first power up & sputter, before plane comes out & engine starts on tractor - that was sound.

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

The plane did not rotate or tilt away down

see landing gear was up.

①

9/11/94 phone
P.F.

55

Witness Questions:

Name: George Hayduk
Address:

Telephone #: [REDACTED]

Occupation:

Age (Date of Birth):

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

was driving on Greenbarden Rd towards the Shopping plaza,
suddenly heard an extremely loud roar of engines along
with a very high pitched whining sound. A couple seconds
later he heard a loud "whoosh" sound, then saw a flash
& tremendous amount of black smoke - Did not hear
an explosion or metal breaking sound.

Did anything fall off the airplane?

N/A

④ Was there smoke or fire? Misting?

N/A

②

What were positions of landing gear
& flaps?
N/A

What were the weather conditions?
clouds? winds? visibility?

Clear

What is your aviation experience?

None

What was your position (distance &
direction from the crash site. Draw
a diagram if possible)

Not sure, but fairly close; somewhere on
Green Garden Rd, close to shopping mall.

③

Did you see the actual ground impact?

NO

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

N/A

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?

N/A

Try to clarify noises heard - get descriptions of engine sounds...
coming towards you / going away...
Pops pbangs, whines...

heard extremely loud engine roar, shook his car; along with roaring sound, a high pitched whine. He next remembers a very loud "whoosh" sound.

Other airplanes? Traffic?

N/A

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

the noise

What was the aircrafts position?
(flight attitude)

~~about 5000~~ N/A

What was the sun position?

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

Pipe line in the area

~~at the station~~
~~going up so fast like on~~
~~pretty faint~~

George Hendrick

- in his truck on Green Garden

Did not see on A/C

All of the sudden the
engines stalled him

- a white high pitch

~~at the same time~~

at the same time the engines
were roaring the white

- heard a tremendous
woosh then black
smoke

①

9/11/94

Jodi Reeves 56

Witness Questions:

Name: Mar-Jean Zamperini

Address: [REDACTED]

Pittsburgh, PA

Telephone #: [REDACTED]

Occupation:

Age (Date of Birth):

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

I was teaching marching band, practicing in the parking lot of Moon High School. We weren't playing at the time (about 7⁰⁵ pm) I saw the airplane flying ~~really~~ low, very loud & making a funny noise. ~~It~~ It was flying lower than usual for that position & there was no bank or wobble →

Did anything fall off the airplane?

No

② Was there smoke or fire? Misting?

No

① cont'd. Or anything, I only
saw the airplane for 3-4 seconds

(2)

What were positions of landing gear & flaps?

Gear up

What were the weather conditions? clouds? winds? visibility?

Beautiful

What is your aviation experience?

None

What was your position (distance & direction from the crash site. Draw a diagram if possible)

~ 6 miles South of crash site

Did you see the actual ground impact?

No

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

N/A

Estimate aircraft attitude during descent? At impact?

N/A

Try to clarify noises heard - get descriptions of engine sounds... coming towards you / going away... pops / bangs, whines...

I heard ~~the~~ a ^{turbine noise} firing noise, not a normal airplane noise (high pitch) like a rocket taking off, a thundering (growing) noise like a rocket ship.

Other airplanes? Traffic?

No

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

The noise

What was the aircraft's position?
(flight attitude)

Apparently normal level flight

What was the sun position?
Directly behind me

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

A few minutes after I heard the airplane we all smelled some strange smell, like grease on an electric burner, stinks like ~~burning~~ ^{some} burning rubber, someone peeling out of a parking lot. Or a cookout gone bad.

inarguable thunder

Pitt. PA 0 15282

I was teaching, band practicing in
— calling in ^{parking lot} response to news request
(N 6 miles south ^{east} of accident)

N 705 pm airplane came by really low,
& really loud & making a funny noise,
not a normal airplane noise (not
high pitch ^{turbine} noise, but a noise
like a rocket ship taking off, a
thundering noise)

It was flying low, not wobbling, nothing
coming from it..

I watched it for 3-4 seconds then went
back to what I was doing

Would anything make a funny smell.
like grease on an electric burner, stinks.
my boyfriend thought it was like burning
rubber ~~on~~ someone peeling out of parking
lot.

Moan High school — band practice in parking lot,
simulating football field, weren't playing
at the time

Sun was directly behind me —

Airplane was going ~~west~~ ^E SE at about
same altitude that other airplanes
fly overhead at, ~~the~~

No smoke, mist, fire

Noise - like a rocket takes off, a really loud rumble, not like other airplanes. Going with the airplane. Solid noise, like a growl. Sputtering, popping? No

WX - beautiful

Only saw airplane when she glanced up, nothing else there, not even clouds.

Airplane flew over

We smelled smell after A/C flew over - kerosene like smell, flaming, like someone was cooking out or something burning

About 5 minutes later we heard sirens.

W

①

9/11/94 ^{phone}

57

Witness Questions:

Name: Michelle Merenda
Address:

Telephone #: [REDACTED]

Occupation:

Age (Date of Birth):

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

Saw the A/C in a vertical attitude nose down; wing appeared tilted. Only viewed of a couple of seconds.

Did anything fall off the airplane?

no

④ Was there smoke or fire? Missing?

no

②

What were positions of landing gear
& flaps?
did not notice

What were the weather conditions?
clouds? winds? visibility?

clear

What is your aviation experience?

None

What was your position (distance &
direction from the crash site. Draw
a diagram if possible)

in Center Township on Broad Street - North of crash
Site

③

Did you see the actual ground impact?

no

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first? ~~no idea~~, assume the nose

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?

Vertical nose down, wing tilted

Try to clarify noises heard - get descriptions of engine sounds...
coming towards you / going away...
Pops, bangs, whines...

Did not hear anything

Other airplanes? Traffic?

no

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

the sun reflected off A/c which drew attention to the spot.

What was the aircrafts position?
(flight attitude)

straight up + down / tail high

What was the sun position?

Sun was on the same level as A/c in the opposite direction

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

Saw the underside of A/c - called 911

Michelle Merenda

- Saw underside of plane going down - in Carter Township
- called 911
- saw a little flash/reflection off a/c
- Sun on even plane w/A/C
~~plane~~ A/C same level as sun
- the wing was tilting

Interviewed by Robert Sumwalt ~~at~~ 9/11/94
Phone

Roger A. Stamos

[REDACTED]

Coral Gables, FL 33156

64 yrs old, retired from Eastern Airlines
L1011 Captain

Had a theory that this accident may
be related to flaps/slats.

9/11/94

Interviewed by Phone - Robert Sumwalt

Rhonda Boggess

Darien, IL 60561

Ms Boggess flew on USAir flight ¹¹⁸¹ ~~1181~~ CLT-ORD on the day of the accident. This was in the accident aircraft, N513, and on the leg prior to the accident flight.

Ms. Boggess flies weekly between ORD-CLT-ORD. She reports that she sat in seat 5, right window (probably seat 5F). ~~The couple next to her~~ About 1 hour into the flight the couple sitting next to her reported to a Flight Attendant that they heard a "Buzzing" sound or "hum" noise. ~~After~~ This noise lasted for about 5 minutes. A few minutes later ($\approx$ 5 minutes) the FIA returned ~~to the~~ and explained that the noise was an "intercom or radio that the pilots had left on."

Ms. Boggess also reported "large sweeping turns" during flight - more so than usual. Noted that she could "feel the G's" during the ~~for~~ turns.



Page 2 of 2

Rhonda Boggess interview

On follow-up, the interviewer contacted a jump seat rider who had ~~ridden~~ flown in the cockpit ~~of this~~ during this flight. JIS rider confirmed that the F/A did contact the cockpit about the humming noise - This was caused by JIS rider inadvertently keying the PA mic when his legs were crossed.

Regarding the "large sweeping turns" he noticed ~~not~~ nothing unusual. Crew was deviating around rain showers shortly after departure.


R. Boggess
9/11/94

①

60
9/11/94

Witness Questions: Concerned citizen

Name: anonymous

Address:

Telephone #:

Occupation:

Age (Date of Birth):

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

I believe the plane flew into geese
this is the Atlantic flyway

Large strand of geese must have
hit the plane

A similar accident occurred 35 years ago
in Newfoundland or Labrador or take off
Did anything fall off the airplane?

"traffic emergency" refers to geese

I live in the area and watch birds. Now
the birds fly in

Was there smoke or fire?

(2)

What were positions of landing gear & flaps?

What were the weather conditions? clouds? winds? visibility?

What is your aviation experience?

What was your position (distance & direction from the crash site. Draw a diagram if possible)

③

Did you see the actual ground impact?

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

What was the aircrafts position?
(flight attitude)

What was the sun position?

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

Witness Questions:

Name: Randy Miller + Cheryl Steel

Address: [REDACTED]
South Heights PA 15081

Telephone #: [REDACTED]

Occupation:

Age (Date of Birth):

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

The plane was flying STRAIGHT then turned tail at 1:00 Nox at 7:00
It did a straight drop while then making a 360°.

It caught itself + head up - Bank Right.

It then made a 180° Roll - clockwise - + flew this way 1/4 mile
shot over Rt. 60 + crashed - All Belly up!!!

Did anything fall off the airplane?

NO

(*) Was there smoke or fire? Missing?

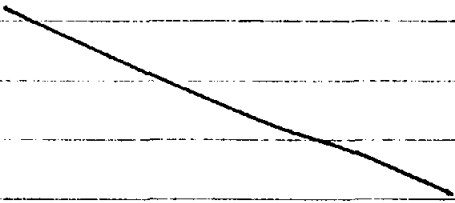
NO — NO — NO —

②

What were positions of landing gear
& flaps?
NO landing gear

What were the weather conditions?
clouds? winds? visibility?
Fine weather

What is your aviation experience?



What was your position (distance &
direction from the crash site. Draw
a diagram if possible)

Rt. 60 South

Near Aliquippa exit

③

Did you see the actual ground impact?

NO

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?
1 mile high

Try to clarify noises heard - get descriptions of engine sounds...
coming towards you / going away...
Pops pbangs, whines...

NO Plane sounds
NO engine sounds

Other airplanes? Traffic?

NO

NO

④

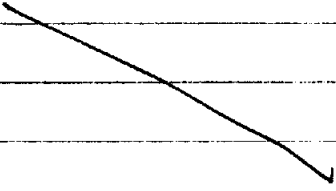
What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

The acrobatics of the plane.

It looked like it was a Remote control plane.

What was the aircrafts position?
(flight attitude)

What was the sun position?



Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

①

9/11 Phoe

67
9/11/94

Witness Questions: Concerned Citizen!

Name: Anthony Daugherty

Address:

Telephone #: [REDACTED]

Occupation: Air Conditioning Mechanic

Age (Date of Birth):

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

was working on Roof of Ramada Inn in PHL next to A/P. noticed
on A/C who's right engine was making an incredibly loud
screaming sound like an air compressor with sheet metal in it.
Thought it was going to explode! Does not remember what
day or time, nor what type A/C.

Did anything fall off the airplane?

N/A

② Was there smoke or fire? Missing?

N/A

②

What were positions of landing gear
& flaps? N/A

What were the weather conditions?
clouds? winds? visibility?
N/A

What is your aviation experience?
N/A

What was your position (distance &
direction from the crash site. Draw
a diagram if possible)

N/A

③

Did you see the actual ground impact?

N/A

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

N/A

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?

N/A

Try to clarify noises heard - get descriptions of engine sounds...
coming towards you / going away...
Pops pbangs, whines...

Other airplanes? Traffic?

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

What was the aircraft's position?
(flight attitude)

What was the sun position?

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

Sunday Monday

off thursday

- worked on Roof at Kennedy
PHL
all summer
- * one particular Right engine
I was just screening
Sounded like an compressor w/ ^{short} metal
expected a/c to crack & land
or engine to blow up.
- this plane will crash someday
- about a week ago

~~Arthur Murphy~~

①

9/11

phone
PF.

65

Witness Questions:

Name: Scott Riddle

Address:

- lives on top of Hill overlooking
Crash site - where shots are
being administered

Telephone #: [REDACTED]

Occupation: Aviation Mechanic for USA - 15 yrs exp.

Age (Date of Birth):

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

~~at 10:00~~ A/C passed very low over his house; heard
a loud bang, followed by loud noise from engine - as though
it was self disintegrating; next he heard a whinny type sound
followed by silence then followed by the impact explosion.

Did anything fall off the airplane?

no

② Was there smoke or fire? Missing?

no

②

What were positions of landing gear
& flaps?

did not see

What were the weather conditions?
clouds? winds? visibility?

What is your aviation experience?
aviation mechanic - jib - for 15 years

What was your position (distance &
direction from the crash site. Draw
a diagram if possible)
on top of the hill overlooking the site of impact

③

Did you see the actual ground impact? no

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?
N/A

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?

N/A

Try to clarify noises heard - get descriptions of engine sounds...
coming towards you / going away...
Pops Phangs, whines...

after the Bang noise, the engines no longer sounded
Normal, sounded as though pieces were being eliminated
out exhaust of engines).

Other airplanes? Traffic?

was a small a/c flying over the crash site after
the impact.

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?
the sound of the engines

What was the aircrafts position?
(flight attitude)

N/A

What was the sun position?

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

just remembers that these sounds were not normal at all. He definitely states that the sound was not associated with thrusts (reverse). total time lapse he figures from first land bang to impact was less than 30 sec.

Scott Riddle

~~McHennel 9 LP~~
~~1957~~

~~Scott Riddle plane is going~~

- called 911
- very low over his house
- there was Bang, sounded as though one engine was self disintegrating.
- next a whining type sound, then quite, then crash explosion.
- lives overlooking the field on top of Hill
- site where crews are getting there shots
- did not see
- was a small ape flying over the site after crash

Sucked as though

- not a normal, pieces were coming out engine
- not a normal sound at all took place within 30 sec. guess
- did not sound ~~of~~ like the reversers, very definite

Done today
work tomorrow



Sounds like a
witness done
9-10-94 1:15 pm
~~Mr. Sherman~~
Molloy

Roger Sherman (a civilian)
called with some information
re: United F14 640 (A-737)

August 22, 1994

It was quite a dip to
the left side, although
the pilot was able to

recover, Mr. Sherman

thought that this was

important to share with you.

He can be reached at

Office (around 4 hours)

or Home

Lawrence Corti

Spoke to Lawrence 9/11.

70

Small Alc appeared
Front Porch

Piper Cub

Heard Boom, saw Explosion
looked across

Heard Sirens

Police responded

Saw ^{small} Alc flying around.

9/11/94 Interviewed by phone by Robert Sumwalt

George F. Schofield, Jr

#

Stewart, FL

34997

Military Air Force pilot

Flew for Eastern, Northeast, Delta 29 years

Medical retired $\approx$ 8 years ago

~~Will Fax his~~

His theory is attached:

US Air Crash

1. Weather clear, wind from the west favoring 28.
2. A/C arrives vicinity of Pittsburgh hot and high.
3. Out of 10,000, airspeed 250 kts.
4. Auto pilot still engaged.
5. Check lists being accomplished.
6. Field disappears beneath nose and still 6000 feet to lose during circle to 28.
7. Flaps extended initially. (Flap placard speed may have been exceeded?)
8. Right flap extends normally.
9. Left flap fails to extend. (Split flap indication not spotted?)
10. A/C begins roll to left countered by autopilot feeding in right turn inputs to maintain level flight
11. Auto pilot requests right aileron down, left aileron up.
12. Airspeed now starts to decay rapidly as right wing is extremely dirty. (Flaps & aileron extended)
13. Nose is lowered to maintain airspeed. (Throttles previously closed at beginning of descent.
14. As max aileron is fed in left inboard spoiler raises increasing dirty configuration. (Outboard spoiler?)
15. At some point the auto pilot is disengaged and even with both pilots assisting airplane continues left roll to the point lift is decreased even more. (Left bank angle exceeds 30 degrees.)
16. With extreme aileron travel, spoiler on left wing is raised through spoiler mixer assembly. (See 14. above.)
17. Every natural reaction worsens the problem.
18. Both pilots struggling with right aileron input.
19. No lift as aircraft is in near vertical turn.
20. Any increase in engine thrust just increases vertical speed.
21. Grab the mike in a valient effort to get a message out, still not knowing what is causing the problem. (Thinking of R/W 10?)
22. Precious little time and mind frozen with fear.

Respectfully, George F Schofield Jr., [REDACTED] Stuart Fl

([REDACTED])

75
9/11/97

I live in Cranberry Township
near exit 3 on turnpike (between
[redacted]) Near 79/76

About ^{645-7pm} ~~6:45~~ pm I was in my
garage - I heard jet engines surging,
sounded low over my house. Noise
was odd, like engines were being
throttled up & throttled down. ^(like when it adds power to taxi from a stop.)
Airplanes don't usually come over our
house. I was busy with something
at my workbench & decided not to
run out to look - regrets it now
It was a large airplane.

We live NNE ^{of accident} approximately
10 miles

~~Richard~~

Richard Rattay
[redacted]

①

9-11

Shore

FF.

9/11/97

Witness Questions: Concerned Citizen

Name: Tom Chase

Address:

Telephone #: [REDACTED]

Occupation: TN State Emergency Unit #12

Age (Date of Birth):

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

While Monitoring CB channel #9 heard Broken up transmission from automobile at 18:57 local time - "In Airport Area"; "engine Problem"; "plane is going down".

Did not see any part of flight or crash.

Did anything fall off the airplane?

④ Was there smoke or fire? misting?

(2)

What were positions of landing gear & flaps?

What were the weather conditions? clouds? winds? visibility?

What is your aviation experience?

What was your position (distance & direction from the crash site. Draw a diagram if possible.)

③

Did you see the actual ground impact?

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?

Try to clarify noises heard - get descriptions of engine sounds...
coming towards you / going away...
Pops pbangs, whines...

Other airplanes? Traffic?

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

What was the aircrafts position?
(flight attitude)

What was the sun position?

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

~~100 North East~~

76

heard a plane go over / true night
about crash
engine whining, sort of timing
sand V

- New Brighton + Rochester
10 miles from crash site
Did not see a/c
- usually hear a/c fly over

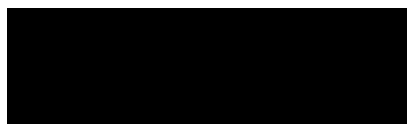
lives North East of crash site

Clifford Hunt

Contacted 9-12
By phone

Call taken by Beverly Johnson

Caller: Gordon White



(h)
(w)

On Aug 23, 94 Mr White flew from PHL - CLT. Somewhere ~~&~~ during the flight the pilot reported that there was a problem with thrust reversers. Aircraft delayed in PHL. Electrical problems, thrust reversers cited. Pilot reported that she "had to shut them (thrust reversers) off." ALC put in hangar for maintenance once it landed.

On follow up with USAir it was determined that ALC was AC #981, a DC-9.

(KP)

Witness Questions:

9/12/99

Name: John Black

Address: [REDACTED]

Telephone #: [REDACTED]

Occupation:

Age (Date of Birth):

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

Witness reported a sound.

Came to Command Center
to report a sound. Does
not where he was reference
to accident site.

Did anything fall off the airplane?

Saw nothing. - only
heard a noise.

(*) Was there smoke or fire? Missing?

②

What were positions of landing gear
& flaps?

What were the weather conditions?
clouds? winds? visibility?

What is your aviation experience?

What was your position (distance &
direction from the crash site. Draw
a diagram if possible)

③

Did you see the actual ground impact?

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?

Try to clarify noises heard - get descriptions of engine sounds...
coming towards you / going away...
Pops bangs, whines...

Other airplanes? Traffic?

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

What was the aircraft's position?
(flight attitude)

What was the sun position?

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

Loud ROARING noise
died down

Loud ROARING noise
died down

3-4 miles

7:00-7:05

1 PAM Hughes 10.14.2013 9/10
Facility
~~Walter Anderson~~ * No Followup

- Saw shadow of building
so low - A/c pushed down
tree tops - engines running
A/c went straight up
like challenger
Heard loud sound like a boom
from engine.
plane twirled + crashed

A/c went across roof very low
thought it would hit us
went across trees + "laid
the trees down"

- as it got further out
it appeared to try to turn
left - one wing was down
- some kind of noise to
like trying to rev-up
- thought something happened to
one engine, a noise at least
A/c straight up in air

thought pilot was trying to get
over trees, tumbled + crashed
- facility on same side of
60 North of crash site.

Called 9/12

no followup recommended.

— WITNESSES

Rich D'Apostolo

(as) [REDACTED]
(ch) [REDACTED]

- During Mill Street saw a/c in its side,
at red light - coming almost straight down
1/2 mile south to north off vertical a/c was rocking
west of crash Back + forth - never saw it actually spin
did not hear anything - looked as though was past
180 + starting to pull it up.

lives on

[REDACTED] - across from crash site

P.F.

①

77

KP

~~9/12/99~~ ~~10/35am~~

Witness Questions:

9/12/99 10:35am
in person

Name: ED

Address:

[REDACTED]

Aliquippa

Telephone #: [REDACTED]

Occupation:

Age (Date of Birth):

son John Hives
[REDACTED]
→ goes by Eddie

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

Strange sounds Engines not making
takeoff sounds - Also making a popping
noise - thought it was a helicopter

Shop is about a mile from site

Did anything fall off the airplane?

/

④ Was there smoke or fire? Missing?

②

What were positions of landing gear & flaps?

What were the weather conditions? clouds? winds? visibility?

What is your aviation experience?

What was your position (distance & direction from the crash site. Draw a diagram if possible)

③

Did you see the actual ground impact?

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?

Try to clarify noises heard - get descriptions of engine sounds...
coming towards you / going away...
Pops pbangs, whines...

Other airplanes? Traffic?

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

What was the aircraft's position?
(flight attitude)

What was the sun position?

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

Dorothy Marks

9/12 84

- on other side highway
by Gateway Rehab
stopped + looked at the
View.
- Plane was in her peripheral
vision
- saw smoke only
- she heard a sound like
a gas grill igniting (impact)
- noticed nothing at all
unusual about 9/c

* no follow-up

P.F.

80 11:30am
Phone

Witness Questions: 9/12/97
K.P.

Name: MARK WOLD
Address:

Telephone #: [REDACTED]
Occupation: Rescue Squad
Age (Date of Birth):

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

At the scene 15 min after impact.

walked into scene from top of hill.

Fires burning. Never smelled jet fuel.

Burning paper.

No debris being thrown anywhere.

Did anything fall off the airplane?

(*) Was there smoke or fire? Missing?

②

What were positions of landing gear & flaps?

What were the weather conditions?
clouds? winds? visibility?

What is your aviation experience?

What was your position (distance & direction from the crash site. Draw a diagram if possible)

③

Did you see the actual ground impact?

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?

Try to clarify noises heard - get descriptions of engine sounds...
coming towards you / going away...
pops pbangs, whines...

Other airplanes? Traffic?

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

What was the aircraft's position?
(flight attitude)

What was the sun position?

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

①

Witness Questions:

86
9/12/94

Name: J.R. (BOB) KOEHINKE

Address:

Telephone #: [REDACTED]

Occupation: Floor Covering BUSINESS

Age (Date of Birth):

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

Gentleman had two dreams of the same occurrence as follows:
A flight attendant was standing between Capt. F.O. in cockpit when
AC Banked, FA fell on Capt + couldn't get off, ^{causing} ~~causing~~ A/C
to lose control. Believes very strongly that this will
happen again.

Individual was very emotional + had a suggestion:

~~Did anything fall off the airplane?~~

No one should be allowed to access to the cockpit except
Capt + F.O. But if not feasible, a restraining Belt with a
large ring to restrain anyone from tumbling into pilots
should be installed in every A/C.

* Was there smoke or fire? Misting?

②

What were positions of landing gear & flaps?

What were the weather conditions?
clouds? winds? visibility?

What is your aviation experience?

What was your position (distance & direction from the crash site. Draw a diagram if possible)

③

Did you see the actual ground impact?

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

Estimate aircraft's attitude during descent? At impact?

Try to clarify noises heard - get descriptions of engine sounds...
coming towards you / going away...
pops, bangs, whines...

Other airplanes? Traffic?

④
What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

What was the aircraft's position?
(flight attitude)

What was the sun position?

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

Delta flight

Bob Brennan:

- on a non stop from LAX - ATL
Wed Dec 29, 1993
- in First class
not sure it was 737 or 757
- On final rolled into a
60° Bank direction
to the left
- two missed approaches
- asymmetrical thrust to
Compensate
- plane rolled again to 70°
Bank angle on final
- Pilot was having problem
with flap indicator light.
- lowered flaps & gear it began
to roll again (2nd time)
- pulled back all power & lowered
nose
- then throttled back up to go around

- frequent flyer - can tell us exact equipment.
 - 3rd time flogs up landing
 - last minute equipment change
-

Multi Private VFR



- call back

①

88

9/12/97

Witness Questions:

Name: George Marubovich

Address: about 1/2 mile from crash site

Telephone #: [REDACTED]

Occupation: USAir Employee

Age (Date of Birth):

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

Just after 7:00 heard a roar which he did not associate with an A/C. He felt + heard loud sound accompanied by a distinctive vibrations. ~~He~~ Went outside to look + heard a small single engine A/C power down + begin to circle crash site. ~~He~~ Says the small private came from the same direction as the USAir - from over the Shopping Center + Green Garden Rd.

Did anything fall off the airplane?

NA

* Was there smoke or fire? Mist?ing?

NA

②

What were positions of landing gear & flaps?

What were the weather conditions? clouds? winds? visibility?

What is your aviation experience?

What was your position (distance & direction from the crash site. Draw a diagram if possible)

3

Did you see the actual ground impact?

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?

Try to clarify noises heard - get descriptions of engine sounds...
coming towards you / going away...
Pops bangs, whines...

Other airplanes? Traffic?

④
What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

What was the aircraft's position?
(flight attitude)

What was the sun position?

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

9/12/94

Witness Questions:

Name: Bill McKnight

Address:

Aliquippa 15001

Telephone #:

Occupation:

Age (Date of Birth):

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

Getting of Hopewell exit

At least 1
revolution

Nose down

definitely in a spin

← doesn't know if it
was in a spin - probably
left

Nose may have come up at end.

Black smoke

Did anything fall off the airplane?

* Was there smoke or fire? misting?

②

What were positions of landing gear
& flaps?

What were the weather conditions?
clouds? winds? visibility?

What is your aviation experience?

What was your position (distance &
direction from the crash site. Draw
a diagram if possible)

③

Did you see the actual ground impact?

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

Estimate aircraft's attitude during descent? At impact?

Try to clarify noises heard - get descriptions of engine sounds...
coming towards you / going away...
Pops pbangs, whines...

Other airplanes? Traffic?

④
What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

What was the aircraft's position?
(flight attitude)

What was the sun position?

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

General Dynamics

94

Jose Christoph about 7pm

Ex Aircraft Inspector

On flight path
Walking down dog

Washington,

Top of hills 20 to 30 miles apart
wing level

ALC Broke left
Turned quickly

Saw ALC shaking
way up in the sky

9/12

Fred Sivavec

95
Cecil Township
~ 30 mls

Cannistburg
[redacted]

15137

Backyard on Patio Shortly after 7pm

Heard 1 plane go by

Saw A/C with 2 engines on body go by

^{note} Saw another plane go by

Heard ^{another} A/C Approaching ~ 30 seconds behind

2 motors on wing looking like 737

They usually make a turn

Heard no sound from 2nd plane

Geese was around area at the time

Bunch of Black Birds

9/12

Richard Olesnevich North of Hopewell

± 10 mls.

Slide drive, Rochester
New Sewickley Turnchip

PAX ALC wings vertical to ground

Standing in driveway

North of airport

Looking in

Saw PAX plane

Rt wing down

Turning to right

ALC was standing almost vertical

Appeared to be climbing

levelled out

Rt wing down, wings vertical

Appeared to be climbing initially

Seemed to level out.

Severe right turn.

Louis Tasillo

UT

North of Braddock 10 mls East of
East of Pitt the Point-downtown
Usually hear HE Pitt.

6:45 Hear HE

Did not sound right

Looking Andy Griffith Show
Sounded like motor slow down
Heard exhaust

Heard jet engine whine down
He was flying from the west.

Jet sounded Low & soer sounding.

SEP 9 '94 19:14 FROM USAIR SAN CRO

PAGE.001

ATTN: Beverly Johnson

USAir

FAX

412

262 8017

Date:

9/4/94 6:20 PM

To:

RON HOLLEY [REDACTED]

From:

BETTY WALDEN TEAM LEADER SAN CRO

Subject:

FLT. 427

Interoffice

Correspondence

MR. JAMES DAVID, RETIRED ARMY COLONEL CALLED TO SAY HE SAW THOUSANDS OF BIRDS ON MON EVE SEPT 4. HE WAS VISITING HIS MOTHER ON WOODBINE R HOPEWELL TOWNSHIP, ALQUIPPA, PA. HE TRIED CALLING NTSB [REDACTED] AND VOICE MAIL WAS FULL, HE WANTED USAIR TO BE AWARE THAT FLOCKS OF BIRDS WERE ON THE HILL ABOVE WOODBINE RD. ON 9/5/94 WHEN HE WALKED HIS DOG. HE DID NOT KNOW THE SIZE OF THE BIRDS. HE SAID WE WERE FREE TO CONTACT HIM IF WE CHOOSE TO DO SO.

JAMES [REDACTED], HIS MOTHER'S NAME IS MARY DAVID

MARY [REDACTED] RESERVATIONS UNIT SUPERVISOR

MONITORED THIS CALL ALSO (JEANNIE KONICKI)

DIALET [REDACTED]

C.C: R. Hooper - Regional Director Reservations SAN

①

9/14/94
K.P.

Witness Questions: 10:00 am.

Name: Jeannie Schilling

Address:

Telephone #: [REDACTED]

Occupation:

Age (Date of Birth):

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

Thought plane was landing. Facing opposite direction. When she turned back - plane was facing her. Nose came up. The turned to left & wing tipped down. The plane twisted & went straight down. IT DID $2\frac{1}{2}$ Revolution. A corkscrew type turn.

Did anything fall off the airplane?

NO

Was there smoke or fire?

NO

NO

②

What were positions of landing gear
& flaps?
?

What were the weather conditions?
clouds? winds? visibility?

Beautiful clear night

What is your aviation experience?

None

What was your position (distance &
direction from the crash site. Draw
a diagram if possible)

Soccerfield

③

Did you see the actual ground
impact?

What portion of the aircraft hit the
ground first?

Estimate aircrafts attitude during
descent? At impact?

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

Plane was low

What was the aircrafts position?
(flight attitude)

What was the sun position?

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

①

9/14

PF

9/14

by
phone

Witness Questions:

Name: Brenda Saakis
Address:

Telephone #: [REDACTED]

Occupation:

Age (Date of Birth):

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

at Hills Plaza - a/c was wings straight then banked Right, then
veered left + became inverted. She got in car +
began to drive to Site; about halfway there, debris began
to fall on her car, i.e. seat belt, buckle; papers, turned around

Did anything fall off the airplane?
no

Was there smoke or fire?
no

②

What were positions of landing gear
& flaps?

didn't notice

What were the weather conditions?
clouds? winds? visibility?

What is your aviation experience?

What was your position (distance &
direction from the crash site. Draw
a diagram if possible)

in the Green Garden Plaza

③

Did you see the actual ground impact?

no

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

nose down

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?
tuned over - inverted

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

the large size + maneuvers being done; thought that A/C was too big to be doing aerobatics.

What was the aircraft's position?
(flight attitude)

level, then banked right + rolled over to the left to become inverted, then nose down.

What was the sun position?

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

Sound from A/C was "like rrrrrr".

- like a car trying to start on a real cold day
- a grinding noise

- A/C looked like it was trying to pull up.

Robert J. Capo

Sept 14
10:40 am
Hamk Hughes ^{interview}

1501X

WR

Back porch
looking towards east

Could hear engine noise

plane went down + turned Right
turned left - parallel to '60

Unusual Noise → Made high speed, pitch engine noise
getting slower + lower in tone.

300 ft Before impact it made NO Sound

See Vehicle only at end.

Whining noise - NO air push -

Noise from NEast.

Bomk + GO NORTH.

Wed
Sept 17

Frank PESOK

MONACA

§

I live on a hill, I was walking
my dog. as you flies less than 3 miles

I heard the sound of an
engine blast - full power - for
short duration, maybe 5 sec
for 2-3 sec,
muffled then. dead silence & sound & feel
of the crash. then sirens & my
telephone ringing

I live about 3 miles WSW of
the accident

I didn't think it was of
consequence until recently

Aviation 16 years as flight
attendant. never heard airplane
takeoff as so short duration

I didn't see ^{or hear} any air traffic
during this time. Beautiful day,
slightly breezy, 10 kt gusts at most with
wind ^{out} of NW

Ralph PECKER

we were at the X

I looked over & saw airplane
out of airport path

not was tipped down

he did not have full control
of plane

He flew into ground
Pilot deliberately flew
into ground

PATRICK JONES

Haweswell

proclaim Krumm
Monday.

Stock Clerk USA in

age = 37

I was at the soccer field. I looked up
and saw plane, looked down,
someone said "Look".

descent glide path,

Plane was level, descending,
too fast, ~~fluttered~~ rolled right-left
banked over left,
into dive, slowly rotated, not a
full rotation, and impacted.

For a few seconds I heard a
loud engine noise, ^{for a couple seconds} when the
sound stopped, it went into the more
radical dive.

Weather - nice.

Anything ball off - no
mist from engine - no
rain it went behind the trees,
it was still nose-down, maybe
nose was slightly lifted.

After impact, bay closed.

The whole sequence was maybe 30
seconds.

monday —
PICCIRILLI
FRED ~~PICCIRILLI~~ notes by
malcolm
Brennan
ALBUQUERQUE PA

utility & car maintenance & 5

I was on soccer field w my children
~7PM finished practice. got them in
mood to play Sat morning. It was
70.5 - 70.4. I heard roar of
airplane behind me. growling
roar like t/c of 757.

I turned around & saw USA in
noticed N number, I thought "512"
& as motors were just roaring.
Right wing dipped & tail went
straight up in air. I noticed
smoke reddish brown from right
wing. & lifting wing & spreading.

Perfect plane, clean shiny.
It was still running at full
thrust, engines growling. Just
before it hit the hilltops the
nose just started to lift.

No wind. Clear, Beautiful blue

2 -

sky, it hit

reddish brownish smoke furling.
I tried to drive there + was turned
back.

When I 1st saw it, the plane was
rightsided. It was ~~plunging~~ the
plane toward the hillside, away
from people.

Other than smoke out of right
wing, it was clean + shiny.

The flaps were tucked in, gear
tucked in.

greenish, reddish smoke. ~~Too~~
much smoke to be vapor in red
beacon-light

It was reddish brown, then
became gray.

Everything seemed like slow motion

Later the smoke stayed in the air
no wind to dissipate

Pilot put it there on purpose

growl of motor - like t10, ~~lost~~ -
couldn't have been a few second
when the airplane turned down,
the motors were humming, running,
no longer struggling, .

The whole scenario took about
20 sec.

altitude - maybe 3500' hard to
estimate

When the nose entered the trees
it disappeared

reddish, brownish, greyish

The color of smoke I saw in the
engine was lighter and more intense
to the color of the initial impact
smoke

I clean engines, I clean them, not
work on them.

Rotation of plane no it was almost
in flat horizontal position

after it turned into dive

as it approached tree the nose
lifted slightly

smoke - vapour hole in side of
plane with smoke coming out
it came from the fuselage forward
of the wing

it seemed to hit the wing and divert
from leading edge. The end of a
small bonfire

after the mushroom it lingered
I felt no concussion from impact.
then the cloud swirled out

Down the
flume

notes by
malcolm
Brenner
from interview
tape by NBC
Broadcasting

started 630 catching rabbits + snake
sitting to Chinese restaurants
for money saw fellow flying
~~hydroplane~~ hydroplane, was far below him
hydroplane had w 3 dollar wheels

Plane rolled to one side, didn't roll
over + over. The rt engine rolled
to one side, left engine gave off
charcoal color smoke, rt engine
puffing like a dragon

Wheels were down, left engine
gave off smoke

I could have touched the belly
of the plane, plane landed in the
woods. Engine was only 10-15 ft ahead

Engine hit trees + came off
~~It~~ ^{as wing lifted up} did not explode. The people were
screaming, ladies tried to give me
here baby. Blue suit w red hair
help my baby. Left wing up in
air. Gas poured everywhere

Right engine came off but was still turning, sparking, both wings folded up, poured gas, it ignited the plane

It burned my elbow. The lady's arm smacked me in the chest.

I was at the edge of the forest it landed in the middle

The other witnesses are lying about it slamming into the ground, they couldn't hear. It was like the engine ran out of gas

The plane was coming in crooked ~~It~~ did not sound itself into ground and explode. It landed

I was leaning by the tree
The ^{ultra-}light plane - circling above trees.
I didn't see him afterwards, went to my truck to get away

Plane was red + blue

"Take my babies" red haired lady
in blue suit

she wings got bent up from
hitting the trees,

when it exploded I was 25-30 ft
away Plane was cocked to right

The tree w the red flag is where I
got hit

I've seen stuff in Vietnam
heads + guts hanging over chests
this was most devastating thing I've
seen.

The people were alive when it landed,
didn't explode

STEVE MANISCALCO

~~Steve Maniscalco~~:

H

W



Talked with George Snyder w/US Air

- FOR should show all systems were normal
- left roll
- muffled sound on ~~Record~~ CVR
- Pilot thinks he had a midair
- no evidence of wind shear
- very low pressure
- * a residual wing vortex is what they experienced
- first thought engine or wing had fallen off
- 180° attitude left
- they were able to recover because of alt. speed + no flaps.

- worked w/ General Dynamics

~~Now works~~ Systems Engineer / Project leader

(F111 Signal Data Converter)

* Has had experience with crash investigation

88-89 AAL DAL 737 PASSENGER FLT IN BACK
90° LEFT BACK 90° RIGHT + BACK TO LEVEL
NOT A PILOT

①

K.P.

9/13/94

9:45 am

Witness Questions: Phone call

had spoken
with Jodi
earlier

Name: Chuck ELBAM

Address:

Telephone #: [REDACTED]

Occupation:

Age (Date of Birth):

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

was on a USAIR flight in 1988 or 1989 from either
EWR or LGA to PIT. They were at 5,000 ft coming in
on 28R. A violent twist to right - about 90°,
for about 12 sec. then snapped back. There was a
differential on speed brakes. Ran this thing out all the
way on the runway. Did not come down on #1s.

~~Did anything fall off the airplane?~~

NO REVERSE THRUSTS

② Was there smoke or fire? Missing?

②

What were positions of landing gear & flaps?

What were the weather conditions? clouds? winds? visibility?

What is your aviation experience?

What was your position (distance & direction from the crash site. Draw a diagram if possible)

③
Did you see the actual ground impact?

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?

Try to clarify noises heard - get descriptions of engine sounds...
coming towards you / going away...
Pops bangs, whines...

Other airplanes? Traffic?

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

What was the aircraft's position?
(flight attitude)

What was the sun position?

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

Witness Questions:

8:45

~~10/13/94~~ 9/13/94

K.P.

Phone

Name: WALT Acheson

Address:

Telephone #: [REDACTED]

Occupation: State police

Age (Date of Birth):

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

at soccer field

Saw plane in the vertical position

Saw complete wing span

Did anything fall off the airplane?

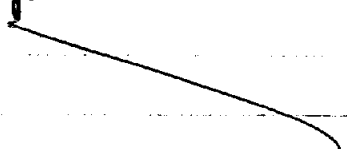
NO

④ Was there ~~Smoke~~ or fire? Missing?

NO! NO! NO! NO!

②

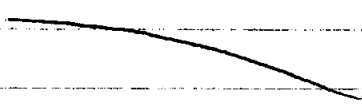
What were positions of landing gear & flaps?



What were the weather conditions?
clouds? winds? visibility?

Wonderful

What is your aviation experience?



What was your position (distance & direction from the crash site. Draw a diagram if possible)

1/2 mile from site

③

Did you see the actual ground impact?

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?

Try to clarify noises heard - get descriptions of engine sounds...
coming towards you / going away...
Pops pbangs, whines...

heard nothing

Other airplanes? Traffic?

NO

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

Children

What was the aircraft's position?
(flight attitude)

What was the sun position?

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

①

10:30 AM

9/13

Witness Questions: KP.

Name: Bill Shane

Address: Crafton / Inorahm

Telephone #: [REDACTED] WK [REDACTED] HM

Occupation: United Steel Workers

Age (Date of Birth):

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

went to his deck after daily #

heard loud plane - saw it very low

flaps down

DARK BLACK SMOKE out of both MOTORS.

Did anything fall off the airplane?

② Was there smoke or fire? Missing?

②

What were positions of landing gear & flaps?

What were the weather conditions? clouds? winds? visibility?

What is your aviation experience?

What was your position (distance & direction from the crash site. Draw a diagram if possible)

③

Did you see the actual ground impact?

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?

Try to clarify noises heard - get descriptions of engine sounds...
coming towards you / going away...
Pops Pbangs, whines...

Other airplanes? Traffic?

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

What was the aircrafts position?
(flight attitude)

What was the sun position?

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

①

9/13/94

Witness Questions:

Name: BOB EMER

Address: [REDACTED] in hopewell

Telephone #: [REDACTED] (W); [REDACTED] (H)

Occupation:

Age (Date of Birth):

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

Heard a compressor stall

Engines making 757 noises

Did anything fall off the airplane?

④ Was there smoke or fire? misting?

②

What were positions of landing gear & flaps?

What were the weather conditions? clouds? winds? visibility?

What is your aviation experience?

What was your position (distance & direction from the crash site. Draw a diagram if possible)

③

Did you see the actual ground impact?

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?

Try to clarify noises heard - get descriptions of engine sounds...
coming towards you / going away...
Pops pbangs, whines...

Other airplanes? Traffic?

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

What was the aircrafts position?
(flight attitude)

What was the sun position?

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

①

9/13/94

Witness Questions:

Name: MICHAEL BECHACK

Address:

Telephone #:

[REDACTED]

Occupation: Air force - 8 yr Exp A/C Mechanic

Age (Date of Birth):

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

at Hopewell soccer field approx. 1 mile from crash site; noticed A/C at about 4000-5000 flying north; looked again & A/C appeared as though it was climbing, then banked right & spun 2-3 times before fell behind the trees, total time elapsed: 20 seconds

Did anything fall off the airplane?

no

④ Was there smoke or fire? Missing?

no

②

What were positions of landing gear
& flaps?
in order

What were the weather conditions?
clouds? winds? visibility?
clear

What is your aviation experience?
8 years as fighter a/c mechanic

What was your position (distance &
direction from the crash site. Draw
a diagram if possible)
1 mile, between crash site & PIT

③

Did you see the actual ground impact?

no

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

nose

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?

attitude nose down

Try to clarify noises heard - get descriptions of engine sounds...
coming towards you / going away...
Pops Pbangs, whines...

normal engine sounds as a/c passed
his direction

Other airplanes? Traffic?

no

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

looking that direction

What was the aircrafts position?
(flight attitude)

5000-6000'

What was the sun position?

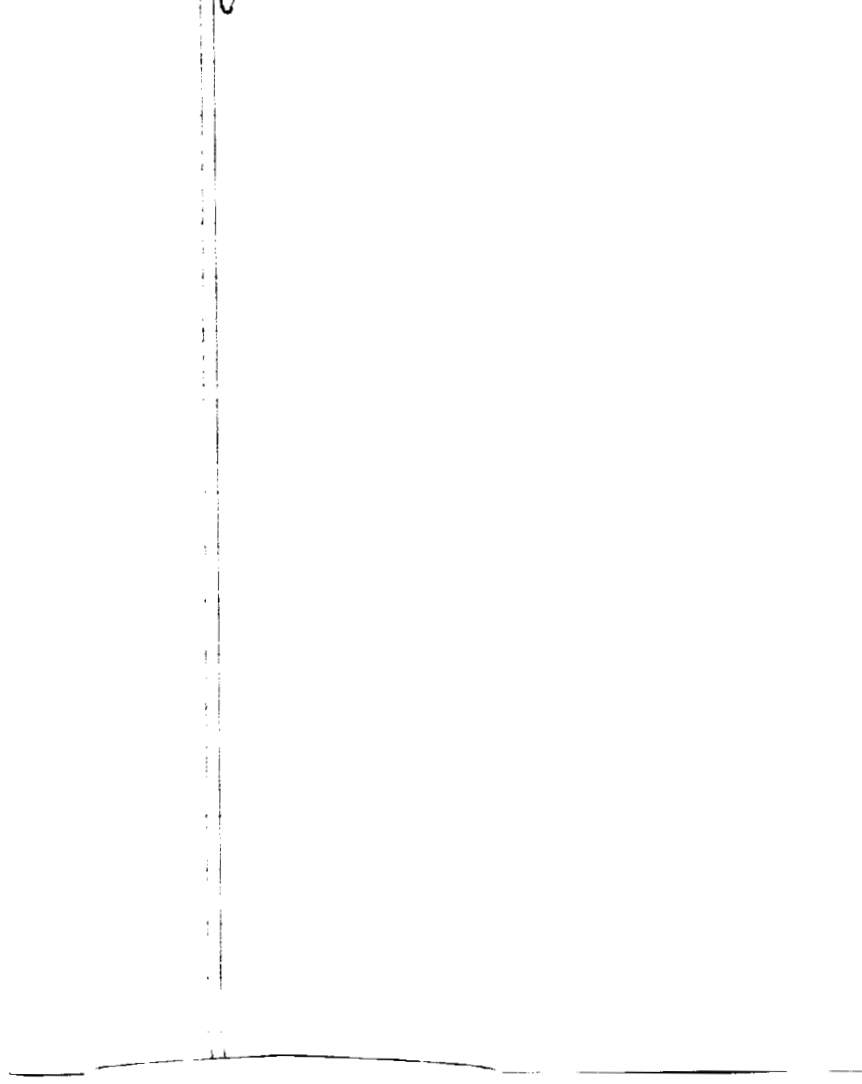
Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

Mike ~~Backack~~ BECHACK

- Air force two of the mechanics (842)
- in Hopewell at a high point
- 1 mile away
- facing North - looking from Behind A/C
- heard A/C prior to
- Seeing A/C - looked up
- flying in a round manner
- the A/C nosed up, right roll
- 1st appeared that A/C was taking off
- no smoke or fire
- engines sounded round + humming when flew over
- 40-50000
- when he saw it spinning at about 5000-6000 - a little before when it spun
- 2 or 3 revolutions

"20 Sec
from start of
spin"

Ohio River Side of Co
Kane Rd Soccerfield
- Reflection of Sun



ANN STITLER

56

w/ friends

- looked up for just a second
- in a nose dive
- 1 mile away
- low at the time.

Risk Carriage favor

9-13

①

9/13/17

Witness Questions:

Name: Mike Buganich
Address:

Telephone #: [REDACTED] (right)
Occupation: Bank employee
Age (Date of Birth):

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

Heard loud rcs coming over, aircraft rolled to right
left wing went up (there was no smoke) for 1/2 second.
Roll continued and the aircraft rolled to a nose
down position. He could see the underbelly of
the aircraft. Heard a thud as the aircraft hit and
then there was an explosion and black smoke.

Did anything fall off the airplane?

No

Was there smoke or fire?

No.

②

What were positions of landing gear & flaps?

No

What were the weather conditions?
clouds? winds? visibility?

~~*~~

What is your aviation experience?

What was your position (distance & direction from the crash site. Draw a diagram if possible)

Soccer field

③

Did you see the actual ground impact?

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?

Couldn't tell

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

Other prows on soccer field

What was the aircrafts position?
(flight attitude)

What was the sun position?

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

①

9/13/94

Witness Questions:

Name: NANCY WEICKER

Address:

Oakland Township.

Telephone #:

Occupation:

Age (Date of Birth):

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

working in yard & noticed a Blue flame coming from the rear of an A/c. She thought it was normal, but her Husband thought it was abnormal; not right. A/c was turning Right, & then turned left away from Airport.

Did anything fall off the airplane?

no

Was there smoke or fire?

yes - a Blue flame from rear of a/c

②

What were positions of landing gear
& flaps?
NA

What were the weather conditions?
clouds? winds? visibility?

What is your aviation experience?

What was your position (distance &
direction from the crash site. Draw
a diagram if possible)

③

Did you see the actual ground impact?

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

Estimate aircraft attitude during descent? At impact?
how far its position

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

What was the aircrafts position?
(flight attitude)

normal flight - turning right then left.

What was the sun position?

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

Nancy WEICKEY

- Right turn in sky
- fire the back of A/C
Blue flame
- Oakland Township
about 7:00 PM
- low for big A/C
in relation to Butler
- flame by tail section



looking South turning
away from Pit
turning away (a left)

Witness Questions:

Name: Ed Springer
Address:

Telephone #:

Occupation: high school teacher

Age (Date of Birth):

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

Couple of ac in ~~the~~^{the} ~~Brown Shagwren~~^{Swamp Sparrows} - looking at aircraft which was jelling back and forward or changing speed. Little turn to right and then went to left. 10 seconds later there was a flash. He believes that the "motor" mount may be in the river.

Did anything fall off the airplane?

No

Was there smoke or fire?

No

②

What were positions of landing gear & flaps?

No

What were the weather conditions? clouds? winds? visibility?

What is your aviation experience?

What was your position (distance & direction from the crash site. Draw a diagram if possible)

Penny Shopping Centre, Badan

③

Did you see the actual ground impact?

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

What was the aircrafts position?
(flight attitude)

What was the sun position?

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

Other aircraft in area

NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Time

Date

RECORD OF [] VISIT [] CONFERENCE OR ☒ TELEPHONE CALL

1305

09/12/94

Name(s) of Person(s) contacted or in conference and location

Routing

Symbol

Initials

Mr. Jim Hollingsworth

WOODVILLE, FL 32362.

Subject

Previous 132 roll probs.

Digest

Mr. Hollingsworth reported that in Spring of 1981 he was a mechanic with Sunland Airlines. They had a Frontier Airlines 132 leased to them. They had a leaking aileron power cylinder actuator and replaced it 3 times in 2 days. Each time they installed serviceable unit the test flight crew reported in-command rolls. They finally found a chafing wire in the wheel well that was causing aileron hardovers.

Conclusions, Action Taken, or Required

Noted + Passed to Command Post.
VIA FAX.

Date

Title

Signature

09/12/94

SAS-1

Facsimile Cover Sheet

The Upjohn Company

Environmental Quality Division

Corporate Environmental Affairs

7171 Portage Road, Kalamazoo MI 49001

To: Mr. Jim LaBell

Company:

Phone:

Fax:

From: Mr. Mel Visser

Unit: 6602-306-1

Phone:

Fax:

Date: 9/12

Pages: 3

(Including This Page)

Comments:

MEMORANDUM

Date: September 12, 1994
To: Tom Haueter
From: Jim La Belle, North Central Regional Office [REDACTED]
Subject: Information re USAIR Flight 427

Tom,

I've had three phone calls over the past couple of days that may be of interest:

- 1) Mr. Andy Mc Kenna of the Chicago area was on the accident airplane on the flight prior to the accident (Charlotte to ORD). Mr. Mc Kenna was sitting in row 1C, and mentioned to a flight attendant that he heard an unusual sound. He characterized the sound as a "gurgling, sputtering sound" comparable to water going down a partially clogged drain. The flight attendant responded that the sound was most likely coming from the PA Speaker. Mr. Mc Kenna thought this unlikely, but said nothing more. He noted that he first noticed the noise while in cruise flight, and that the noise continued for most of the flight (or until he just forgot about it). Mr. Mc Kenna is a frequent (1st class) flyer and is affiliated with a local major league baseball team. Contact number: [REDACTED] He is anticipating a call from one of your groups. ✓ 13/9
- 2) This comes via Wichita FSDO; A retired Boeing Aircraft Inspector, Mr. Francis Lashbrook, said the B737 has some inherent horizontal stab problems that can result in reverse lift in certain flight regimes. His numbers: Home [REDACTED] Work [REDACTED] (To systems)
- 3) A Sr. VP with the Upjohn company was in the vicinity of the accident on another flight, and had some observations about an unusual smoke/vapor formation. His statement is attached.

[REDACTED]
Jim La Belle

The plume's size, general shape and color was similar to what could be expected from a point source cooling tower water vapor condensate on a quiet day. With the sun backlighting it, the color ranged from the color of light clouds to dark clouds. The motion, for my short observation time was limited and would be consistent with "slowly building".

With closer observation, the plume had a shape that could only emanate from a stationary point source in "unusual atmospheric conditions". The plume expanded in diameter as it rose, with the maximum diameter being at about 10 times the groundlevel diameter. The height was no more than twice the diameter. The west edge of the plume was near vertical, with the plume leaning to the east and perhaps a little south.

The most unusual aspect of this plume was that it was rolled over at the top and ended in a flat plane. The best way I can describe this is to verbally construct. Imagine the above plume expanding as it rises, then from its maximum diameter, continue to rise but shrink the diameter to 60% of maximum while rising another 50% in height. Terminate the plume in a flat horizontal cut. Call the top of the plume a dinner plate. Now, fold the top of the dinner plate over to the southeast to where it is 65% of the height of the maximum plume height. The dinner plate is oriented at 45 degrees from the horizontal. As I observed the dinner plate, top of the plume, from my vantage point, it was a dark colored ellipse. I was not surprised by the dark color, as it was in the shade of the plume. I was perplexed by the apparent point start and unusual shape of this plume.

I did not get another look at the plume from the ground and was unaware of any aircraft problem until we received a panic call from our daughter on arrival at home. On looking at the news reports, I became aware that my sighting could have come from the crash of 447.

This ends my observation. Thoughts about this experience, news reports and my personal experience lead me to the following speculation. Apparently 447 went thru some rather severe motion prior to the major trauma causing its demise. Could this motion have resulted in unusual motion of fuel in partially filled tanks, causing flow of the fuel, or flow in the vapor space above the fuel thru a vent to produce a static charge that ignited the air and vapor rich headspace? This may be a possibility at low altitude.

Best wishes in your investigation and continuing efforts in transportation safety. If you desire any clarification, I can be reached at work on [REDACTED] or at home.

Sincerely,

Melvin J. Visser



MEL AND GLORIA VISSER

Portage, MI 490023

Telephone [REDACTED]
Sept, 10 1994

Jim LaBell
Regional Supervisor
NTSB
31W775 North Ave.
West Chicago, Ill
60185

Dear Jim,

Per our phone conversation of yesterday, the following is an account of what I observed on my flight into Pittsburgh on Thursday September 8, 1994. As I mentioned to you, I am a Chemical Engineer with 35 years of various technical experience and am currently the executive in charge of Environmental Quality and Safety at The Upjohn Company. My observations come from someone interested in natural phenomenon and a passion for making sense out of observations, not an experienced pilot or meteorologist.

My wife and I were on the USAir flight from Hartford scheduled to arrive at 7:15 pm. She had seat 17D and I occupied seat 17F with 17E empty. In the 757, this put me on the right side, on the front of the wing, window seat. My sense is that we were approaching the runway travelling due West and my observations will be stated from that reference.

During the descent, I continuously looked out the window, enjoying the sights of the rivers and the geography of the Pittsburgh area. Within the last minute of the descent, I observed an unusual plume to the west of northwest of my location. From my vantage point, it appeared to be on the north side of a ridge, 8-15 miles distant. The ridge looked to be running slightly to the north of west at the point of the plume. My observation was that the ridge was a southern riverbank and that the plume was emanating from a cooling tower associated with a power generating station on the shore.

Closer observation of the plume gave me cause to wonder how it could have possibly developed into such a shape from a stationary point source. I remarked to my wife, "there's a twisted mushroomed shaped plume from a cooling tower out there... Must be some strange atmospheric conditions to have created it. I'd like to get a closer look from the terminal". From her position, she did not see the plume. My total observation time of the plume was probably less than 20 seconds. During this time, the plume appeared to be quite stable.

①

9/13/94

Witness Questions:

Name: Jim Strucklan

Address:

Telephone #: [REDACTED]

Occupation: Construction Carpenter

Age (Date of Birth):

Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

Saw A/C in normal flight + turned around.
approx 15 sec before he felt the impact vibrations
+ sound, he distinctly heard the engines reverse
thrust.

Did anything fall off the airplane?

N/A

Was there smoke or fire?

N/A

②

What were positions of landing gear
& flaps?

N/A

What were the weather conditions?
clouds? winds? visibility?

What is your aviation experience?

worked at PIT for 3 months + became
familiar with reverse-thruster sounds.

What was your position (distance &
direction from the crash site. Draw
a diagram if possible)

③

Did you see the actual ground impact?

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

What was the aircrafts position?
(flight attitude)

What was the sun position?

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?

Anthony Dippolito — USAir
Express
[REDACTED] (w) after employee
[REDACTED] 1230

Freedom, PA 15042

He was hunting by airport when this happened, watched it from up on a hill

No birds! They were dove hunting, his dad saw a flock of geese farther south & low.

flyng away from airport
He saw it flip over, then nose down & rotate some more. Then disappeared behind trees/hills.

In Clinton, dove hunting
up on hill, airport to my right.
Saw airplane straight out in front of me heading away from airport,

steep 4,000-6,000'
did a right turn, 180°, back towards airport, then did immediate right aileron roll, pitch relatively level until it completed aileron roll, then pitched down, went straight down, as it came down made another 1/2 turn

— Didn't hear anything, or see any smoke until impact.

→ before it disappeared behind hills/trees.
That 1/2 turn could be either left or right.

Described right roll. — he was looking
at left wing high, right wing low,
top of aircraft

• No planes, no birds (balloons) gliders.

No smoke / pieces of airplane falling off

Real clear, good visibility
Sun was to my left rear.

Couldn't hear anything, but I was
& probably 7-8 miles west

①

9/11
2001

54
9/11/94

Witness Questions:

Name: Anthony Dippolito

Address: [REDACTED]

Freedom, PA 15042 mobile [REDACTED]

Telephone #: [REDACTED] (h) [REDACTED] (w)

Occupation: Mechanic for USAir Express

Age (Date of Birth):

① Describe what happened:

What did you see? hear?

Hunting doves in Clinton (NW of airport), on top of hill, with the airport to my right. Saw airplane moving ^{away from} ~~towards~~ airport when I first saw it, about 4000-6000 ft. Then it did a steep right 180° turn, back towards airport, then a right aileron roll, relatively level flight until roll completed, then pitched ^{straight} nose down. As it came down, it rotated →

Did anything fall off the airplane?

No.

② Was there smoke or fire? Misting?

No

① cont'd. another $\frac{1}{2}$ turn (approx) Not sure if turn was right or left, I think it was right. After $\frac{1}{2}$ turn it disappeared behind hill, trees.

②

What were positions of landing gear
& flaps?
Couldn't see

What were the weather conditions?
clouds? winds? visibility?
Real clear, good vis - nice day

What is your aviation experience?
US Air Express mechanic.

What was your position (distance &
direction from the crash site. Draw
a diagram if possible)

About 7-8 miles west southwest of site

③

Did you see the actual ground impact?

No

What portion of the aircraft hit the ground first?

N/A

Estimate aircrafts attitude during descent? At impact?

Straight down

Try to clarify noises heard - get descriptions of engine sounds...
Coming towards you / going away...
Pops Pbangs, whines...

Didn't hear anything

Other airplanes? Traffic?

No — No birds

④

What attracted your attention to the accident airplane?

I was up on hill looking for doves
(hunting) & spotted airplane

What was the aircraft's position?
(flight attitude)

What was the sun position?
Behind me

Is there anything else you remember/
or would like to add?