

FORMS.TEXT HAS 1 DOCUMENT

INBOX.58 (#8002)

TEXT:

TPC001 0512130Z

RR HQ

DE TP

R 202053Z FEB 86

FM TAMPA (98-99)(SQ. 6)(P)

TO DIRECTOR ROUTINE

BT

UNCLAS

SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER, INFORMATION CONCERNING LAUNCH EXPLOSION, KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FLORIDA, JANUARY 28, 1986, SABOTAGE; NASA ACT; OO:TAMPA.

FOR THE INFORMATION OF HEADQUARTERS, FBI, TAMPA REPRESENTATIVES MET WITH MARV JONES, THE DIRECTOR OF SAFETY, RELIABILITY AND QUALITY ASSURANCE AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES FOR THE NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION (NASA) CENTER AT KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FLORIDA. THIS MEETING WAS REQUESTED BY MR. JONES AND WAS ALSO ATTENDED BY HIS SECURITY CHIEF, KENNETH LOPEZ.

MARV JONES IS INVOLVED EXTENSIVELY IN THE NASA MISHAP INVESTIGATION BOARD (MIB) INVESTIGATION INTO CAPTIONED MATTER AND APPEARS TO BE OVERSEEING A GOOD DEAL OF THE ACTUAL

RECEIVED

795-192

#219

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 1-26-89 BY SP1006um



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M.L.

93-47051-6



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1-CC Pm 4251  
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PAGE TWO TP 98-99 UNCLAS

INVESTIGATION.

THE FEBRUARY 18, 1986, DISCUSSION TOUCHED ON THE NASA INVESTIGATION INTO CAPTIONED MATTER AND DWELLED EXTENSIVELY ON POSSIBLE SABOTAGE THEORIES IN A "BRAINSTORMING" SESSION WHICH LASTED FOR OVER ONE AND ONE HALF HOURS. IT IS NOTED THAT NO THEORY COULD BE PUT FORTH FOR WHICH WE COULD FORMULATE A FACTUAL BASIS.

FBI REPRESENTATIVES HAVE THE IMPRESSION THAT JONES WANTED TO APPRISE THE FBI OF NASA'S PAST EFFORTS TO ADDRESS POSSIBLE SABOTAGE IN CAPTIONED MATTER AND GAIN AN FBI PERCEPTION OF POSSIBLE SABOTAGE THEORIES REGARDING CAPTIONED MATTER.

TAMPA WANTS TO ENSURE HEADQUARTERS THAT THIS WAS MERELY AN INFORMAL DISCUSSION REGARDING THEORIES ABOUT POSSIBLE SABOTAGE. NEITHER TAMPA'S NASA COUNTERPARTS NOR THE LOCAL FBI REPRESENTATIVE HANDLING CAPTIONED MATTER CAN FIND ANY FACTUAL BASIS AT THE PRESENT TIME FOR A SABOTAGE THEORY.

AFOREMENTIONED FURNISHED TO KEEP HEADQUARTERS APPRISED OF OUR LOCAL LIAISON AND STATUS OF INVESTIGATION.

BT

FORMS TEXT HAS 1 DOCUMENT

NOX.11 (#7677)

TEXT:

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RR HC TP

DE EF

R 2003053 FEB 86

FROM EL PASO (98-345)(P)

TO DIRECTOR (ROUTINE)

TAMPA (ROUTINE)

BT

~~SECRET~~

SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER, INFORMATION CONCERNING LAUNCH-EXPLOSION,  
KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FLORIDA, 1/28/86; SABOTAGE; NASA ACT,

CC: TAMPA

RE DIRECTOR TELETYPE TO EL PASO, FEBRUARY 7, 1986.

THIS COMMUNICATION IS CLASSIFIED "SECRET" IN ITS ENTIRETY.

ON FEBRUARY 13, 1986, [REDACTED] FORT  
BLISS, TEXAS, WAS INTERVIEWED AND STATED THAT EXCEPT FOR THE  
LETTERS WRITTEN BY [REDACTED] TO [REDACTED] NONE OF THE  
LETTERS THAT [REDACTED] OR ANY OTHER MAN IN HIS UNIT RECEIVED FROM  
[REDACTED] CONTAINED ANY THREATS TO NASA.

ORIGINAL FD-302 IS BEING SENT UNDER SEPARATE COMMUNICATION  
TO THE TAMPA DIVISION.

~~CLASSIFIED BY: C-3 DECLASSIFY ON: OADR~~

BT

DECLASSIFIED BY SP1A/GGM  
ON 1-24-89

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FEDERAL BUREAU  
OF INVESTIGATION

*Handwritten signature*

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[REDACTED]

Exec AD Adm.	_____
Exec AD Inv.	_____
Exec AD LES	_____
Asst. Dir.:	_____
Adm. Servs.	_____
Crim. Inv.	_____
Ident.	_____
Intell.	_____
Laboratory	_____
Legal Coun.	_____
Plan. & Insp.	_____
Rec. Mgnt.	_____
Tech. Servs.	_____
Training	_____
Off. of Cong. & Public Affs.	_____
Telephone Rm.	_____
Director's Sec'y	_____

3/5/86

John: *MINTZ*

The following Agents have been selected to assist the Presidential Commission investigating the space shuttle disaster:

Baltimore

SA [redacted] EOD [redacted]  
 [redacted]

SA [redacted] EOD [redacted]  
 [redacted]

WFO

SA [redacted] EOD [redacted]  
 [redacted]

SA [redacted] EOD [redacted]  
 [redacted]

*9-11 (5)  
 (7)  
 (C)*

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 1-24-87 BY SP18-2/m

*Ed Sharp*  
 Ed Sharp

23 JUN 12 1986

*[redacted] and [redacted] will conduct interviews beginning Friday 3/7/86.  
 [redacted] and [redacted] will review records and evidence beginning Monday 3/17/86.  
 3/5/86: Discussed with Director and he approved proceeding with above Agents.  
 FILE*

*Jhr 3/5/86*  
 PERS. REC. UNIT

# Memorandum



Exec AD Adm. *JAM*  
 Exec AD Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Exec AD LES \_\_\_\_\_  
 Asst. Dir.: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Adm. Servs. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Crim. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ident. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Insp. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Intell. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Lab. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Legal Coun. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Off. Cong. & Public Affs. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rec. Mgnt. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tech. Servs. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Training \_\_\_\_\_  
 Telephone Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
 Director's Sec'y \_\_\_\_\_

To : THE DIRECTOR

Date 3/4/86

From : JOHN A. MINTZ *JAM*

Subject : PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION ON THE SPACE SHUTTLE "CHALLENGER"

On 3/3/86 the Director told me of a telephone call he had received requesting the FBI to provide Special Agents to assist the Commission in its inquiry. The Director said that we may offer the assistance of four Special Agents for not longer than 90 days and requested me to call Peter Rostoven, Counsel to the Commission, at telephone number 453-1405.

At 2:17 p.m. on 3/3/86, I called Peter Rostoven who told me that Special Agents were needed to assist the Commission teams to review evidence collected. He said that our Agents would not be used for witness interviews because of the Commission's concern that it not appear that a criminal investigation is being conducted. I asked Mr. Rostoven to be more specific as to what duties our Agents would be requested to perform. He said he did not know but that he would request the Executive Director, Dr. Alton Keel, to call me to describe their needs.

At 2:52 p.m. on March 3rd, Bill McGuiness at telephone number 633-2268 called me and said that the Attorney General's office had received a request from the President's Commission to have FBI Agents assist in their investigation. Mr. McGuiness said this matter was referred to him to handle in the Attorney General's office but that he was calling me to refer the matter directly to the FBI and he would defer to the FBI for the decision. He did request that he be notified of any arrangements that might be made.

At 3:45 p.m. on March 3rd, I called the Administrative Services Division and in the absence of Mr. Sharp instructed Tom Hughes to begin making arrangements for the detailing of up to four Agents for not more than 90 days to the Presidential Commission.

JAM:ams  
(8)

- 1 Mr. Otto
- 1 Mr. Revell
- 1 - Mr. Baker
- 1 - Mr. Clarke
- 1 - Mr. Davis
- 1 - Mr. Sharp
- 1 - [REDACTED]

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 ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 1-26-91 BY SP/act/bm

9  
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CONTINUED - OVER

53 SEP 29 1986

PERS. REC. UNIT

Memorandum for The Director  
RE: PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION ON THE  
SPACE SHUTTLE "CHALLENGER"

At 10:37 a.m. on March 4th, Emily Trapnell, attorney, President's Commission, 453-1405, located at Suite 760, Capital Gallery Building, 600 Maryland Avenue, Southwest, Washington, D.C., called me and said that she had discussed the request for FBI Agent assistance with Dr. Al Keel, the Executive Director, and he had requested her to coordinate arrangements with the FBI. She said she formerly was the Special Assistant to the Chief Counsel at FAA and that Peter Rostoven is handling the broad legal issues for the Commission while she is handling the coordination of the investigation. She said they presently have several military and FAA investigators assigned to the four panels into which the Commission was divided. She said they now have a need for special investigative expertise to "close some loops." She said they need our Agents to conduct one-on-one interviews that will be penetrating and that will compare existing testimony with statements being given by witnesses. She said that some of the people to be interviewed are NASA employees but that some are contractor-type personnel. She said it is very important that the Commission not appear to be conducting a criminal investigation and they do not want to seem to be looking for culpability in their interviews. She said they do not want to intimidate any of the witnesses. Rather, they would like for those interviewed to be encouraged to come forward and furnish full information and even suggest "what else we need to think about." She said for example that there is a critical telephone conversation in which there had been 30 participants in several locations. Ten of these persons have testified and the Commission would like to have complete statements from all of them. She said that their immediate need is to have two Special Agents by the end of this week. There will be some travel involved in the inquiries and she mentioned Utah, Huntsville, Alabama, and Florida as places where interviews may need to be conducted.

Emily Trapnell said that their longer term needs for two other Agents are to review certain records and letters where people have voluntarily contributed information which may contain some evidence.

She said that the persons selected should be able to put aside their "FBI-person" and take on a "Commission-person" identity.

I told Ms. Trapnell that I would make the appropriate arrangements and return her call.

CONTINUED - OVER

Memorandum for The Director  
RE: PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION ON THE  
SPACE SHUTTLE "CHALLENGER"

At 10:50 a.m. on March 4th, I discussed these matters with Assistant Director Sharp and requested him to make arrangements to designate two Agents by the end of this week who would be mature, experienced in conducting sensitive interviews, and who would be able to carry out this responsibility with discretion as requested by the Commission. The Agents designated will report to Emily Trapnell at the address given above. Emily Trapnell said that the service of the investigators would be nonreimbursable as to the salaries of the Agents but that NASA would pay all expenses of their service.

I will keep you advised and upon completion of the arrangements I will notify Bill McGuiness in the Attorney General's office.

APPROVED: <i>[Signature]</i>	Adm. Serv. _____	Legal Coun. _____
Director _____	Crim. Inv. _____	Plan. & Insp. _____
Exec. AD-Adm. _____	Ident. _____	Rec. Mgnt. _____
Exec. AD-Inv. _____	Intell. _____	Tech. Servs. _____
Exec. AD-LES _____	Laboratory _____	Training _____
		Off. of Cong. & Public Affs. _____

Memorandum



Exec AD Adm.   
 Exec AD Inv.   
 Exec AD LES   
 Asst. Dir.:  
 Adm. Servs.   
 Crim. Inv.   
 Ident.   
 Insp.   
 Intell.   
 Lab.   
 Legal Coun.   
 Off. Cong. & Public Affs.   
 Rec. Mgmt.   
 Tech. Servs.   
 Training   
 Telephone Rm.   
 Director's Sec'y

To : Mr. Mintz

Date 3/12/86

From : E. J. Sharp

Subject : PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION ON THE SPACE SHUTTLE "CHALLENGER"

The following information will serve as an update concerning the assignment of four Special Agents to the Presidential Commission on the Space Shuttle "Challenger."

I telephonically contacted Emily Trapnell, attorney, Presidential Commission, on March 5, 1986, to further determine their needs and the reporting dates for the Agents. She indicated she would need the two Agents who would be doing the interviewing by March 7, 1986, and the other two Agents by March 17, 1986.

We thereafter identified two Agents each through the Washington Field and the Baltimore Offices by furnishing certain criteria for selection. The two WFO Agents are (EOD [redacted]), and (EOD [redacted]) while the two Baltimore Agents are (EOD [redacted]) and (EOD [redacted]). A short brier on each Agent is attached to this memorandum.

I met with all four Agents and gave them a briefing on their assignment, expectations of their various roles, administrative matters and that I would serve as their contact with Headquarters until advised to the contrary. I then advised Emily Trapnell of the identities of the four Agents and furnished upon her request their dates of birth, social security number, grade level and home telephone number. I identified SAs [redacted] and [redacted] as the Agents who would be doing the interviews and reporting on March 7, 1986, which they did. I further identified to her SAs [redacted] and [redacted] as the Agents who will report on March 17, 1986, and who will be reviewing records and evidence.

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(7)  
(C)  
[initials]

I advised Emily Trapnell I would serve as her contact with the FBI should any further contacts be necessary unless she is advised to the contrary. She once again expressed the Commission's gratitude for making available to them the four Agents.

Encs. - detach Handle Separately

- 1 - Mr. Mintz
- 1 - Mr. Otto
- 1 - Mr. Revell
- 1 - Mr. Clarke
- 1 - Mr. Davis
- 1 - Mr. Sharp

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 1-26-99 BY SP1/ATM

JUN 12 1986

EJS:mkr  
-7- [initials]

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PERS. UNIT [redacted] (b)  
FBI/DO [initials]

Memorandum E. J. Sharp to Mr. Mintz  
RE: PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION ON THE  
SPACE SHUTTLE "CHALLENGER"

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SA [REDACTED] of the Baltimore Office was initially selected to be part of this group; however, was replaced due to the distance of 75 miles he would have to travel everyday from his residence to Washington, D. C.

Mr. Bill McGuiness, Department of Justice, was advised on 3/12/86, upon his return to Washington that we have made available to the Commission the four Agents requested.

APPROVED: *WJS* SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE  
DATE: *Jan*  
BY: *SP*

BALTIMORE

SA [REDACTED]

EOD [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
SA [REDACTED] is a GS- [REDACTED] with a DOB of [REDACTED]. His SSN is [REDACTED] and home telephone number is [REDACTED]

SA [REDACTED]

, EOD [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
SA [REDACTED] is a GS- [REDACTED] with a DOB of [REDACTED]. His SSN is [REDACTED] and home telephone number is [REDACTED]

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(7)  
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WFO

SA [REDACTED]

EOD [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
SA [REDACTED] is a GS- [REDACTED] with a DOB of [REDACTED]. His SSN is [REDACTED] and home telephone number is [REDACTED]

SA [REDACTED]

EOD [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]  
SA [REDACTED] is a GS- [REDACTED] with a DOB of [REDACTED]. His SSN is [REDACTED] and home telephone number is [REDACTED]

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

- Teletype
- Facsimile
- \_\_\_\_\_

PRECEDENCE:

- Immediate
- Priority
- Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

- TOP SECRET
  - SECRET
  - CONFIDENTIAL
  - UNCLAS E F T O
  - UNCLAS
- Date 2/5/86

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SERIALIZED \_\_\_\_\_  
INDEXED \_\_\_\_\_  
FILED \_\_\_\_\_

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FM TAMPA (98-99) (ORA/C) (P)

TO DIRECTOR PRIORITY

BT

UNCLAS

SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER, INFORMATION CONCERNING LAUNCH EXPLOSION, KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FLORIDA, JANUARY 28, 1986, SABOTAGE; NASA ACT; OO: TAMPA.

FBI LABORATORY REPRESENTATIVES MET WITH KENNETH E. LOPEZ, CHIEF OF THE SECURITY OFFICE FOR THE NASA FACILITY AT KENNEDY SPACE CENTER. LOPEZ WAS BRIEFED ON THE MORNING OF FEBRUARY 4, 1986, BY FBI LABORATORY REPRESENTATIVES ON THE TYPES OF LABORATORY SUPPORT AVAILABLE. LOPEZ BRIEFED FBI ON STATUS OF NASA INVESTIGATION, ADVISED THAT TERRY ARMENTROUT OF THE NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD (NTSB) HAD BEEN ASSIGNED TO THE NASA BOARD BY THE DIRECTOR OF THE NTSB TO COORDINATE THE RECONSTRUCTION AND STRUCTURAL ANALYSIS ASPECTS OF THE NASA INQUIRY. ALSO, LOPEZ INDICATED THAT THE LOCAL NASA MISHAP INVESTIGATION BOARD, (MIB) WILL CONTINUE THE ACTUAL INVESTIGATION.

2 MAR 24 1986

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DATE 1-26-99 BY SP112/AM

Approved: *[Signature]* Transmitted 0017 (Number) 0412 (Time) Per *[Signature]*

FBI

## TRANSMIT VIA:

- Teletype  
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## PRECEDENCE:

- Immediate  
 Priority  
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## CLASSIFICATION:

- TOP SECRET  
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Date \_\_\_\_\_

N-7

PAGE TWO TP 98-99 UNCLAS

TION AND REPORT TO THE PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION ON A REGULAR BASIS AND TAKE DIRECTIONS FROM THE PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION.

FBI LABORATORY REPRESENTATIVES ALSO MET WITH ARMENTROUT OF THE NTSB, ESTABLISHED LIAISON AND FURNISHED DETAILS IN TECHNICAL TERMS REGARDING THE TYPES OF LABORATORY SERVICES AVAILABLE. ARMENTROUT EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR FBI SUPPORT AND WONDERED IF HE COULD CALL UPON FBI LABORATORY REPRESENTATIVES AND HAVE A FBI LAB. EXPERT WITH THAT PARTICULAR EXPERTISE COME TO THE LOCAL NASA FACILITY ON OCCASION WHEN A PARTICULAR PROBLEM WAS ENCOUNTERED. ARRANGEMENTS INITIATED TO SET UP THE DIRECT LINE AT NASA WAREHOUSE WHERE ARMENTROUT CAN CONTACT FBI LABORATORY DIRECTLY., ARMENTROUT ALSO MENTIONED THAT NASA'S MIB PRESENTLY PLACING PRIMARY EMPHASIS ON RECONSTRUCTION OF THE CHALLENGER AND LAUNCH APPARATUS AND SECONDARY EMPHASIS ON EXAMINATION OF THE VERY FEW SMALL SPECIMENS WHICH HAVE BEEN RECOVERED AND WHICH MIGHT BE HUMAN REMAINS FROM THE TRAGEDY.

FBI LAB. REPS ALSO CONFERRED WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE ARMED FORCES INSTITUTE OF PATHOLOGY (AFIP), WHO ARE PRIMARILY CONCERNED WITH EXAMINATION OF THE HUMAN REMAINS. AFIP REPS FURNISHED FBI LAB REPS SOME SPECIMENS OF FIBERS ON THE EVENING OF FEBRUARY 4, 1986, WHICH WILL BE HAND CARRIED BACK TO THE LABORATORY FOR

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

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- Immediate  
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- TOP SECRET  
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Date \_\_\_\_\_

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PAGE THREE TP 98-99 UNCLAS

EXAMINATION AS AGREED ON BETWEEN FBI LABORATORY REPRESENTATIVES AND AFIP REPS.

ON EVENING OF FEBRUARY 4, 1986, LOPEZ ADVISED THAT THE NASA MIB WAS OFFICIALLY APPRISED OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF LIAISON BETWEEN THE FBI LAB AND THEIR NTSS REPS AND AFIP REPS AND EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR FBI SUPPORT.

DURING FEBRUARY 5, 1986, MORNING MEETINGS WITH NASA SECURITY REPS, TAMPA LEARNED THAT THE NASA MIB WILL BRIEF THE PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION ON FEBRUARY 6 AND 7, 1986. BRIEFING WILL INCLUDE AN OVER VIEW OF EFFORTS EXTENDED TO DATE AND DEVELOPMENTS OF THE NASA INQUIRY AND THE ANTICIPATED DIRECTION OF THEIR OVERALL INVESTIGATION FOR THE COMING MONTHS. BRIEFING WILL INCLUDE COMMENTS CONCERNING THE SEARCH AND RECOVERY OF DEBRIS FROM THE SHUTTLE AND LAUNCH APPARATUS, THE STORAGE, HANDLING AND CLASSIFICATION OF ITEMS LOCATED, THE RECONSTRUCTION PHASE AND PROBABLY A REVIEW OF SOME SPECIFIC FILMS OF THE LAUNCH, EMPHASIZING NOTED FAILURE OR APPARENT FAILURE OF THE RIGHT HAND SOLID ROCKET BOOSTER.

BOTH THE NASA MIB AND ARMENTRAUT CONCUR AT THIS POINT THAT TRAGEDY WAS CAUSED BY FAILURE OF THE RIGHT SOLID ROCKET BOOSTER, STILL NOTHING HAS SURFACED TO INDICATE INVOLVEMENT OF SABOTAGE.

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

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(Number)

(Time)

Per \_\_\_\_\_

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FBI

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- Teletype  
 Facsimile  
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## PRECEDENCE:

- Immediate  
 Priority  
 Routine

## CLASSIFICATION:

- TOP SECRET  
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 UNCLAS

Date \_\_\_\_\_

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PAGE FOUR TP 98-99 UNCLAS

HOWEVER, ALL ADVISED THAT SHOULD ANY INFORMATION SURFACE INDICATING POSSIBLE SABOTAGE, FBI, TAMPA WILL BE IMMEDIATELY ADVISED.

SUBSEQUENT TO A THOROUGH DISCUSSION ON THE MORNING OF FEBRUARY 5, 1986, CONCERNING NASA'S INVESTIGATION AS IT PERTAINS TO COMPLAINTS AND INFORMATION VOLUNTEERED BY CITIZENS, TAMPA BELIEVES THAT FBI TAMPA SHOULD FORMULATE A RECOMMENDED POSTURE FOR HANDLING COMPLAINTS RELATED TO THE ABOVE TRAGEDY, ESPECIALLY BY THOSE OFFICES COVERING TERRITORIES IN WHICH A NASA CENTER IS LOCATED. THESE RECOMMENDATIONS WILL BE PRESENTED TO HEADQUARTERS FOR REVIEW AND APPROVAL IN THE IMMEDIATE FUTURE.

FOR THE INFORMATION OF FBI LABORATORY, THE TELEPHONE NUMBER FOR ARMENTROUT WILL BE FURNISHED HEADQUARTERS AS SOON AS SAME IS ESTABLISHED.

TAMPA MAINTAINING DAILY CONTACT WITH NASA CONTACTS. HEADQUARTERS WILL BE KEPT APPRISED OF ALL SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS.

BT

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FBI RR  
U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

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M LOUISVILLE (93-716) (P)

TO BUREAU ROUTINE

TAMPA (OIAOOL MORA/C) ROUTINE

NEW ORLEANS ROUTINE

BT

UNCLAS

SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER, INFORMATION CONCERNING LAUNCH -  
EXPLOSION, KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FLORIDA, JANUARY 28, 1986,  
SABOTAGE; NASA ACT: 00: TAMPA.

REFERENCE LOUISVILLE TELETYPE TO THE BUREAU, DATED  
FEBRUARY 13, 1986.

ON FEBRUARY 14, 1986, [REDACTED] PROVIDED A  
COPY OF THE LETTER HE RECEIVED FROM [REDACTED] DURING 31 FEB 27 1986  
APPROXIMATELY JULY 1984 REGARDING CAPTIONED MATTER. IN THIS  
LETTER [REDACTED] STATED, "MY FRIEND HAS A GOLD MINE (MERCENARY)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-26-89 BY SP1/AC/om

65 AUG 14 1986

see 4251

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

PAGE TWO DE LS 004 UNCLAS

TELL UM TO WRITE ME, I WANT THEM TO GO ON LEAVE AND DON'T NEVER COME BACK. I AM ON A SECRET MISSION (I'VE GOT THE BLUEPRINTS TO "NASA" I'VE GOT IN TOUCH WITH [REDACTED] HE'S COMING TO HELP".

[REDACTED] ADVISED [REDACTED] IS IDENTICAL TO [REDACTED] WHO IS OUT OF THE U. S. ARMY AT THIS TIME.

LETTER HAS RETURN ADDRESS OF [REDACTED] [REDACTED] SUBSEQUENT LETTERS RECEIVED APPROXIMATELY 11/84 AND 12/84 HAD RETURN ADDRESS OF [REDACTED] [REDACTED]

(b)  
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LEAD: LOUISVILLE. AT HOPKINSVILLE. WILL FORWARD FD-302 REGARDING INTERVIEW OF [REDACTED] INCLUDING COPY OF THE LETTER BY SUBSEQUENT COMMUNICATION.

BT

224

\*\*\*\*\*

TO: **DIRECTOR, FBI**

Date **1/31/86**

FROM: **BOSTON**  
 SUBJECT: **SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER  
 INFORMATION CONCERNING  
 LAUNCH EXPLOSION,  
 KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FL**

Bureau File Number  
**98-1968**  
 Field Office File Number  
**C-7**  
 Squad or RA Number  
 Agent's Social Security No.

- X if a joint operation with:  
 (Identify in other agency)
- X if case involves  
 corruption of a public  
 official (Federal, State or  
 Local).

**1/28/86.**  
**SABOTAGE; NASA ACT**  
**00:TP**

**Investigative Assistance or Technique Used**

Were any of the investigative assistance or techniques listed below used in connection with accomplishment being claimed?  No  Yes - If Yes, rate each used as follows:  
 1 = Used, but did not help    3 = Helped, substantially  
 2 = Helped, but only minimally    4 = Absolutely essential

1. Acctg. Tech. Assistance	Rating	8. Eng. Sect. Tape Exams	Rating	16. Photographic Coverage	Rating	22. Telephone Toll Recs	Rating
2. Aircraft Assistance		9. Hypnosis Assistance		17. Polygraph Assistance		23. UCO Group I	
3. Computer Assistance		10. Ident. Div. Assistance		18. Search Warrants Executed		24. UCO Group II	
4. Continuous Monitoring		11. Informant Information		19. Show Money Usage		25. UC Other	
5. ELSUR - FISC		12. Lab Div Exams		20. Survival Sqd. (BOG) Asst		26. NCAWC/VI-CAP	
6. ELSUR - Title II		13. Lab Div Field Support		21. SWAT Team Action		27. Visual Invest. Analysis (VIA)	
7. Eng. Sect. Field Support		14. Pen Registers		21. Tech. Agt. or Tech Equip			

<b>A. Preliminary Judicial Process</b> (Number of subjects)		Complaints	Informations	Indictments	<b>D. Recoveries, Restitutions, or Potential Economic Loss Prevented (PELP)</b>				(Explain valuation in remarks)			
					Property Type Code*	Recoveries	Restitutions	PELP Type Code*	Potential Economic Loss Prevented			
<b>B. Arrests, Locates, Summonses or Subpoenas Served</b> (No. of Subj.)		Subject Priority*			\$	\$	\$	\$	\$			
		A	B	C	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$			
FBI Arrests					\$	\$	\$	\$	\$			
FBI Locates					\$	\$	\$	\$	\$			
Local Arrests				1	\$	\$	\$	\$	\$			
FBI Subj. Registered					\$	\$	\$	\$	\$			
Armed												
<b>C. Release of Hostages or Children Located:</b> (Number of Hostages or Children Located)					<b>E. Civil Matters</b>		Government Defendant		Government Plaintiff			
Hostages Held By Terrorists _____ All Other Hostage Situations _____					Amount of Suit		\$		\$			
Missing or Kidnaped Children Located _____					Settlement or Award		\$		\$			
									Enter AFA Payment Here			
<b>F. Final Judicial Process:</b>		Judicial District			Conviction or Pretrial Div. Date		Sentence Date		No. of Subjects			
		District State							Acquitted Damaged			
Subject 1		Subject Description Code* -			Subject 3		Subject Description Code* -					
<input type="checkbox"/> Felony		Conviction			<input type="checkbox"/> Felony		Conviction					
<input type="checkbox"/> Misdemeanor		Title	Section	Counts	In-Jail	Suspended	Probation	In-Jail	Suspended	Probation		
<input type="checkbox"/> Plea					Yrs	Mos	Yrs	Yrs	Mos	Yrs		
<input type="checkbox"/> Trial												
<input type="checkbox"/> Pretrial Diversion												
		Total Fines \$			Total Fines \$			Total Fines \$				
		Add consecutive sentences together. Enter longest single concurrent sentence. Do not add concurrent sentences together. Sentence 10 yrs.-8 yrs. susp. = 2 yrs. In-Jail.			Add consecutive sentences together. Enter longest single concurrent sentence. Do not add concurrent sentences together. Sentence 10 yrs.-8 yrs. susp. = 2 yrs. In-Jail.			Add consecutive sentences together. Enter longest single concurrent sentence. Do not add concurrent sentences together. Sentence 10 yrs.-8 yrs. susp. = 2 yrs. In-Jail.				
Subject 2		Subject Description Code* -			Subject 4		Subject Description Code* -					
<input type="checkbox"/> Felony		Conviction			<input type="checkbox"/> Felony		Conviction					
<input type="checkbox"/> Misdemeanor		Title	Section	Counts	In-Jail	Suspended	Probation	In-Jail	Suspended	Probation		
<input type="checkbox"/> Plea					Yrs	Mos	Yrs	Yrs	Mos	Yrs		
<input type="checkbox"/> Trial												
<input type="checkbox"/> Pretrial Diversion												
		Total Fines \$			Total Fines \$			Total Fines \$				
		Add consecutive sentences together. Enter longest single concurrent sentence. Do not add concurrent sentences together. Sentence 10 yrs.-8 yrs. susp. = 2 yrs. In-Jail.			Add consecutive sentences together. Enter longest single concurrent sentence. Do not add concurrent sentences together. Sentence 10 yrs.-8 yrs. susp. = 2 yrs. In-Jail.			Add consecutive sentences together. Enter longest single concurrent sentence. Do not add concurrent sentences together. Sentence 10 yrs.-8 yrs. susp. = 2 yrs. In-Jail.				

Attach additional forms if reporting final judicial process on more than four subjects, and submit a final disposition for (F-64) for each subject.

Remarks: (For every subject reported in Sections A, B or F above, provide name, DOB, race\*, sex, and POB and SSAN if available.)

For information, telcal received at Ch. 7 (CBS affiliated), Boston evening before captioned launch, in which caller, claiming to be a member of a 3 man group who were going to sabotage the CHALLENGER Shuttle, causing it to explode. Following the actual explosion of the Space Shuttle, Ch. 7 notified Boston FBI about this call. Extensive investigation conducted by Boston FBI to identify caller and same was accomplished evening of 1/28/86. After presentation to Middlesex DA's office, warrant was issued for [redacted] DOB [redacted] causing [redacted] to be incarcerated for a 5 day evaluation. [redacted] admitted to FBI of making calls to CH. 7, thereby relieving FBI of what certainly would have been an extensive investigation.

- 2 - Bureau (1-TP info)  
 2 - Field Office (1-98-1968) (1-SIP Folder)

See codes on reverse side  
**84 AUG 29 1986**

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 1-26-89 BY SP1/SLG/m

(b)  
 (7)  
 (k)

THREE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

AIRTEL

DATE: 3/4/86

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI  
FROM : SAC, LOUISVILLE (98-716) (RUC)

SUBJECT: SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER,  
INFORMATION CONCERNING LAUNCH-EXPLOSION,  
KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FLORIDA, 1/28/86  
SABOTAGE; NASA ACT  
(OO: TP)

Re Louisville teletype to the Bureau dated 2/13/86.

Enclosed for the Bureau, New Orleans, and El Paso are two copies each of FD 302 re interview with [REDACTED]

Enclosed for Tampa are the original and one copy of FD 302 re interview with [REDACTED] and original notes from that interview.

Louisville is considering this matter RUC.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-26-89 BY SP11/GUM

*mv*  
**ENCLOSURE**

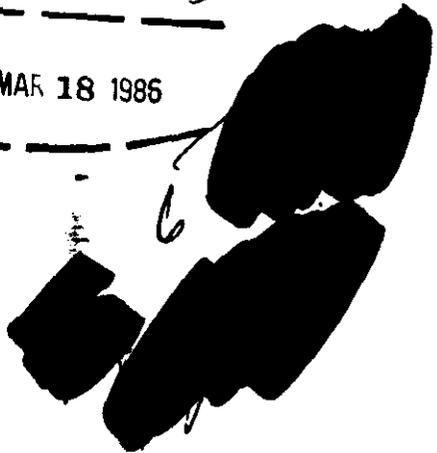
- 2-Bureau (Enc. 2)
  - 2-Tampa (98-99) (Enc. 3)
  - 2-New Orleans (Enc. 2)
  - 2-El Paso (Enc. 2)
  - 1-Louisville
- /lm  
(9)

50 SEP 2 1986

1\*

98-47051-13X

10 MAR 18 1986



*see enc. 4251*

*sc*

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(c)

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date of transcription 2/20/86

On February 12, 1986, [redacted]

[redacted] was interviewed and advised as follows:

Prior to his assignment at Fort Campbell he was assigned [redacted] in Geissen, Germany, APO 09169.

He recalls a [redacted] being assigned to his unit in Germany. He could not recall the exact date when [redacted] was discharged from the U. S. Army, but the date of [redacted] sounded correct. He recalls receiving approximately two letters from [redacted] after [redacted] discharge. The first letter received was approximately two months after [redacted] discharge. In this letter, [redacted] complained that no one was writing to him and that no one liked him. [redacted] then wrote [redacted] a return letter approximately two months later, and then received the second letter from [redacted] approximately two months after that date. Based on the wording in the second letter, [redacted] did not sound stable and [redacted] decided not to write to him anymore. The second letter was approximately one and one-half pages long. [redacted] had written notes in the margin and the whole tenor of the letter did not seem to [redacted] to be stable. There was some mention in the letter about some plans, but [redacted] could not recall whether or not NASA was mentioned.

The primary reason that [redacted] reported the receipt of this letter was that [redacted] had made veiled threats towards [redacted] who has also since been transferred from Germany. These veiled threats related to the fact that when [redacted] was being discharged from the Army he owned a car that met German specifications and did not want to take it with him back to the United States. [redacted] had agreed to buy it since he was staying in Germany. There was some disagreement between [redacted] and [redacted] about payment. [redacted] read the letter and felt that it should be reported. [redacted] did not take any of [redacted]

b7c

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-26-89 BY [redacted]

Investigation on 2/12, 14/86 at Fort Campbell, Kentucky File # LS 98-716

by SA [redacted] SDS/ima Date dictated 2/18/86

41051-1A

comments seriously.

[redacted]

[redacted] reported the receipt of this letter to [redacted] (phonetic) who is now out of the U. S. Army and living in the New Orleans, Louisiana, area. There were approximately two copies of this letter made, one going to whom he [redacted] thought was the CID agent that interviewed him and one going to [redacted] or [redacted]

[redacted]

b7c

[redacted] just recently arrived at Fort Campbell and his personal belongings have not been unpacked; however, he will attempt to find a copy of the letter received from [redacted] in his personal affects. [redacted] did not attach any significance to the comment about [redacted] having copies of plans. When [redacted] heard about the space shuttle explosion he did not have any thoughts that this might be connected to [redacted] might have a forwarding address for [redacted]

[redacted] is not aware of other friends receiving letters from [redacted]. It is possible that [redacted] may have received the letter about the money [redacted] felt [redacted] owed him. It is also possible that [redacted] at Heirborne, Selbach, Germany, may have received a letter from [redacted] about his problems with [redacted]. This would have been an attempt by [redacted] to, "go to the top". [redacted] advised that he was

12-11-86

LS 98-716

Continuation of FD-302 of [REDACTED]

On 2/12/86 and Page 3  
2/14/86

interviewed about this letter by what he thought were CID agents. These agents came to his Company area and showed identification.

There is a [REDACTED] currently assigned at Fort Campbell that was in Geissen at the pertinent time. On the previous weekend, [REDACTED] was planning to travel to the New Orleans area to visit [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] would have a possible address for [REDACTED] if needed.

[REDACTED] could not be sure as to when he received the letter from [REDACTED] but felt that the approximate end of 1984 would be close. [REDACTED] has since transferred from Germany and is currently in the U. S. Army possibly somewhere in Texas.

On February 14, 1986, [REDACTED] advised he had been able to locate a copy of the letter he received from [REDACTED]. He did not locate the original and assumes that the original was given to the CID or other law enforcement officers in Germany. A review of this letter reveals the wording "I've got the blueprints to NASA I've got in touch with [REDACTED] he's coming to help". [REDACTED] advised that [REDACTED] referred to here is [REDACTED] who is now out of the Army and residing at [REDACTED].

[REDACTED] also provided copies of three envelopes that [REDACTED] had used to forward letters to GERMANY. The bottom envelope appears to have the date of July 3, 1984, would have been the envelope that contained the letter in question. It is noted that on this envelope, [REDACTED] gave the return of address of [REDACTED].

It is further noted that on the other two envelopes with postmark of November 30, and December 4, 1984, [REDACTED] gave the return address of [REDACTED].

The copies provided by [REDACTED] are being attached hereto.

b7c

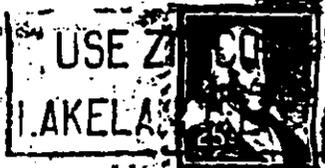
[Redacted]



[Redacted]

APO NY 09169

[Redacted]



[Redacted]

APO NY 09169

CSM

[Redacted]



[Redacted]

APO NY 09169

1  
2  
3

HEY  
I HEAR YOU  
SEND MY MONEY IN  
TO BRING THE HEAT DOWN ON THAT ASS  
DONT GOING TO BRING THE HEAT DOWN ON THAT ASS  
DONT GOING TO BRING THE HEAT DOWN ON THAT ASS  
DADDY  
A HEART ATTACK  
A-TEAM  
SERIOUS AS

REMEMBER THAT GENERAL THE POSTAGE ON  
THAT I GAVE THE DABUE TO--  
HE KNOWS ME  
WRITE BACK  
TOP SECRET  
IMPORTANT  
IS MY HOME BOY FROM TAMPA

DEAR [REDACTED]  
YOU MAKE SCI YET I HOPE SO  
BECAUSE ITS BETTER TO DEAL WITH  
IT HEY I AM IN [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] SO WHEN  
YOUR TIME IS OUT I WILL COME TO FLA  
I STILL  
WANT MY MONEY FOR MY CAR DID  
YOU GIVE MY OTHER BETTER TO  
[REDACTED] I WISH SOME OF YALL OLD  
TIMERS WOULD MUSCLE OLD [REDACTED]

TELL HIM HE BETTER PAY UP-- BEFORE  
I HAVE TO COME BACK & HAUNT HIM  
I VE STILL GOT MY INTERNATIONAL SIBT  
RECORDS TELL [REDACTED]  
IM LOOKING FOR A SOUTH AMERICAN/LATIN  
TRANSLATOR TO GO TO COLUMBIA & PUNK

SOME NATIVES MY FRIEND HAS A GOLD  
MINE (MERCENARY) TELL UM TO WRITE ME  
I WANT THEM TO GO ON LEAVE AND DONT  
NEVER COME BACK IM ON A SECRET  
MISSION (I VE GOT THE BLUEPRINTS TO

"NASA" I VE GOT IN TOUCH WITH [REDACTED] HE'S  
COMING TO HELP  
TELL HELLO TO [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] I BEEN SMOKING A BUNCH IN THIS  
CIVIL GUESS

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(C)

RECEIVED  
M J

FORMS.TEXT HAS 1 DOCUMENT  
INBOX.3 (#9443)  
TEXT:  
TP0011 0342149Z

① *Fujano*  
② *RMA*

PP HQ  
*(LW)*  
DE TP

P 032101Z FEB 86  
FM TAMPA (98-99)(SQ 6)(P)

*2*

Director's Sec'y

TO DIRECTOR PRIORITY

(S)  
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BT

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE *1-26-89* BY *SP1A66m*

~~UNCLAS~~

ATTENTION: CID; LABORATORY DIVISION.

SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER, INFORMATION CONCERNING LAUNCH EXPLOSION,  
KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FLORIDA, JANUARY 28, 1986; SABOTAGE, NASA ACT;  
OO: TP.

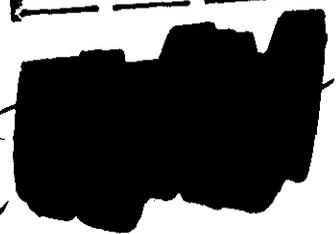
RE TP TELETYPE TO BUREAU, *IA* JANUARY 28, 1986.

TP MAINTAINING CLOSE LIAISON WITH NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND  
SPACE ADMINISTRATION (NASA), KENNEDY SPACE CENTER (KSC), FLORIDA,  
IN CONTINUING SUPPORT ROLE TO NASA'S BOARD OF INQUIRY. FBI TAMPA *(LW)*  
HAS BEEN QUERIED REGARDING FBI LABORATORY SUPPORT AVAILABLE BY THE  
NASA BOARD OF INQUIRY, SPECIFICALLY REGARDING THE EXAMINATION OF  
HUMAN REMAINS. TAMPA INITIATED TELEPHONIC INQUIRY WITH FBI LAB.  
SCIENTIFIC ANALYSIS SECTION, REGARDING THE NASA INQUIRY.

*98-47051-13X1*  
FEB 12 1986

PURSUANT TO A SEPARATE REQUEST BY THE NASA INSPECTOR GENERAL'S

GENERAL'S



(S)  
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*6*

*1-CC Rm. 4251*

*2 SEP 2 1986*

PAGE TWO TP 98-99 UNCLAS

OFFICE AT WASHINGTON, D.C., IN ADDITION TO THE TAMPA INQUIRY, FBI LABORATORY PERSONNEL ARE TRAVELING TO THE NASA KSC FACILITY THIS DATE TO CONFER WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ARMED FORCES INSTITUTE OF PATHOLOGY WHO ARE ALSO ON THE SCENE LOCALLY AND TO BE AVAILABLE FOR A PRESENTATION TO THE NASA BOARD OF INQUIRY REGARDING EXAMINATION SERVICES WHICH ARE AVAILABLE TO NASA IN CONNECTION WITH THEIR OFFICIAL INQUIRY. SAC TAMPA CONCURS WITH TRAVEL OF LAB PERSONNEL.

FBI LIAISON AT KSC, FLORIDA, STRONGLY SUPPORTS A PRESENTATION BY FBI LAB PERSONNEL BEFORE THE NASA BOARD OF INQUIRY. WITHOUT SUCH A PRESENTATION, THE FORMAL REVIEW BOARD WOULD NOT BE AWARE OF THE MANY EXAMINATION TECHNIQUES AVAILABLE, AND THEIR FINAL REPORT COULD CONCEIVABLY LEAVE IMPORTANT QUESTIONS UNANSWERED REGARDING THE REAL CAUSE OF THE FAILURE WHICH RESULTED IN CAPTIONED TRAGEDY.

OFFICIAL NASA POSITION AT THIS POINT REMAINS BASICALLY THAT NASA WILL NOT SPECULATE ON THE EXACT CAUSE OF THE TRAGEDY. HOWEVER, ACTUAL INQUIRY STILL CONCENTRATES ON MAJOR MALFUNCTION, ESPECIALLY REGARDING THE RIGHT SOLID ROCKET BOOSTER.

FBIHQ WILL BE PROMPTLY UPDATED CONCERNING ANY PERTINENT DEVELOPMENTS.

BT

FORMS.TEXT HAS 1 DOCUMENT

INBOX.6. (#1629)

TEXT:

TP0006 0452025Z

RR HQ CV

R 141907Z FEB 86

FM TAMPA (98-99)(SQ 6)(P)

TO DIRECTOR ROUTINE

CLEVELAND (98-2180)(INFO) ROUTINE

BT

UNCLAS

ATTENTION: CRIMINAL INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION, FBIHQ; LABORATORY DIVISION, FBIHQ.

SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER, INFORMATION CONCERNING LAUNCH EXPLOSION, KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FLORIDA, JANUARY 28, 1986; SABOTAGE; NASA ACT;

OO: TAMPA.

RE CLEVELAND TELETYPES TO THE BUREAU, JANUARY 30, 1986, AND FEBRUARY 3, 1986.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] WAS INTERVIEWED TELEPHONICALLY ON THE EVENING OF FEBRUARY 11, 1986, WHEN HE RETURNED A CALL LEFT EARLIER

WITH [REDACTED]

IN ESSENCE, [REDACTED] MENTIONED HE RECALLED SAYING SOMETHING TO

98-47051-13X2

MAY 15 1986

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 1-26-89 BY SP1/EGUM

LAB

319

1-cc Rm. 4251

[REDACTED]

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[REDACTED]

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Handwritten scribble

Handwritten initials

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PAGE TWO TP 98-99 UNCLAS

FRIENDS IN CLEVELAND ABOUT HIS CONCERN FOR SAFETY AT KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, AND HIS PERSONAL OPINION THAT A TRAGEDY COULD OCCUR. HE EXPLAINED HE WAS NEVER COMFORTABLE WORKING AROUND THE FUEL CELLS FOR THE SOLID ROCKET BOOSTERS, AND HE WAS CONCERNED THAT ONE OF THE CELLS MIGHT IGNITE AND MELT DOWN THE VERTICAL ASSEMBLY BUILDING. [REDACTED] WAS VERY EXPLICIT IN HIS COMMENTARY REGARDING SAFETY, AND HE NOTED HE NEVER OBSERVED OR OTHERWISE BECAME AWARE OF ANY SAFETY VIOLATIONS, SHORTCUTS WHICH WOULD IMPAIR SAFETY OR OTHER NEGLIGENCE OR MISCONDUCT. HE STATED THAT ACTIVITY OF THAT SORT WOULD NOT HAVE BEEN TOLERATED. [REDACTED] ADDED HE HAD NO INFORMATION WHATSOEVER REGARDING SABOTAGE OR POTENTIAL SABOTAGE.

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TAMPA APPRECIATES CLEVELAND'S INPUT IN CAPTIONED MATTER.

FOR INFO FBI LABORATORY, TELEPHONE NUMBER ASSIGNED TO THE NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD AT KENNEDY SPACE CENTER IS FTS - 823-5717; COMMERCIAL (305) 867-5717. FBI LABORATORY NUMBER AND EXTENSION FOR THE SCIENTIFIC ANALYSIS SECTION FURNISHED TO NTFB LOCALLY THIS DATE, TAMPA NOTES THAT A JOHN WHITE IS ASSISTING TERRY ARMENTROUT IN THE NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION OF SAFETY BOARD FUNCTIONS AT KSC.

FBIHQ WILL BE KEPT APPRISED OF PERTINENT DEVELOPMENTS.

BT

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

- Teletype
- Facsimile
- Airtel

PRECEDENCE:

- Immediate
- Priority
- Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

- TOP SECRET
- SECRET
- CONFIDENTIAL
- UNCLAS E F T O
- UNCLAS

Date 3/6/86

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI  
 FROM: SAC, LOUISVILLE (98-716) (RJC)

*[Handwritten initials]*  
 10

SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER INFORMATION  
 CONCERNING LAUNCH - EXPLOSION  
 KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FLORIDA,  
 1/28/86, SABOTAGE;  
 NASA ACT  
 OO: TAMPA

Re Louisville teletype to Bureau, 2/18/86.

On 3/4/86, [redacted], Criminal Investigations  
 Detachment (CID), Fort Campbell, Kentucky, advised he has  
 received a reply from its CID Office in Giessen, Germany, and  
 no record was found regarding [redacted]  
 making notification of its receipt of a letter from [redacted]

see 4251

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 1-26-87 BY SP1176/om

*[Handwritten initials]*

- 2 - Bureau
- 2 - Tampa (98-99)
- 2 - New Orleans
- 1 - Louisville

98-47051-14

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11 MAR 1986

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Approved:

*[Handwritten signature]*  
 99

Transmitted

(Number)

(Time)

Per

*[Redacted signature area]*

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

- Teletype
- Facsimile
- Airtel

PRECEDENCE:

- Immediate
- Priority
- Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

- TOP SECRET
- SECRET
- CONFIDENTIAL
- UNCLAS E F T O
- UNCLAS

Date 3/7/86

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI  
 FROM: SAC, HOUSTON (98-801)(P)

10  
wdu

SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER, INFORMATION  
 CONCERNING LAUNCH EXPLOSION,  
 KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FLORIDA,  
 January 28, 1986;  
 SABOTAGE; NASA ACT  
 OO:TP

Re TP teletype to Bu, 2/13/86.

Enclosed for the Bureau and Tampa are two copies each of NASA memorandum and a sketch with notes on opposite side.

On February 27, 1986, original of enclosed sketch and an investigative memorandum regarding details of origination of this sketch were obtained from ROBERT MOONEY, Security Specialist, JOHNSON SPACE CENTER, Clear Lake, Texas.

MOONEY stated that [redacted] who gave him the sketch and was interviewed by him on the details has been alerted to contact his office, if she should again observe any of the four individuals she saw on February 20, 1986.

Jan (b)  
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Houston will maintain contact with NASA Security and follow any further developments in this matter. Houston is opening a 199 investigation on the unknown subjects observed by [redacted] on February 20th.

- 2 - Bureau (Encs.4)
- 2 - Tampa (Encs.4)(98-99)
- 4 - Houston
  - (2 - 98-801)
  - (2 - 199-NEW)

98-47051-148

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 1-26-89 BY SP/ACD

17 MAR 17 1986

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Approved: [Signature] Transmitted \_\_\_\_\_ Per \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Number) (Time)

1986

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XXXXXX  
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

7

Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- Deleted under exemption(s) \_\_\_\_\_ with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

\_\_\_\_\_ Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:  
\_\_\_\_\_

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XXXXXX  
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XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX  
X DELETED PAGE(S) X  
X NO DUPLICATION FEE X  
X FOR THIS PAGE X  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX



TEXT:

TP0008 0901826Z

RR HQ WF

DE TP

R 311814Z MAR 86

FM TAMEA (98-99)(ORA-C)(P)

TO DIRECTOR ROUTINE

WFO ROUTINE

BT

UNCLAS

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-26-97 BY SP8BLL/um

*Handwritten initials and scribbles*

SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER, INFORMATION CONCERNING LAUNCH EXPLOSION,  
KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FLORIDA, JANUARY 28, 1986; SABOTAGE; NASA  
ACT; OO: TAMPA

THIS IS AN UPDATE OF THE STATUS IN CAPTIONED MATTER FOR THE  
INFORMATION OF FBIHQ.

[REDACTED]

*98-17-1-14 X 2*

[REDACTED] WAS LOCATED AND INTERVIEWED AT [REDACTED] ON

MARCH 6, 1986. [REDACTED] ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HE WAS IDENTICAL TO THE

[REDACTED] WHO WROTE THE LETTER TO [REDACTED] AND HE FURNISHED THE

JUL 23 1986

FOLLOWING COMMENTS REGARDING THE LETTER:

(b)  
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(c)

THE LETTER WAS WRITTEN PRIMARILY AS A JOKE. THE REFERENCE TO  
"BLUEPRINTS TO NASA" WAS A REFERENCE TO SOME OLD BLUEPRINTS THAT

[REDACTED]

*19*

*Handwritten marks*

PAGE TWO TP 98-99 UNCLAS

[REDACTED] FOUND, DESCRIPTION AND DISPOSITION SET OUT BELOW. THE REFERENCE TO A GOLD MINE WAS A JOKING REFERENCE TO AN ACTUAL GOLD MINE IN SOUTH AMERICA. [REDACTED] HAD BEEN INVOLVED IN SOME MONEY VENTURES IN SOUTH AMERICA AND HAD DISCUSSED SAME WITH [REDACTED] AND IT WAS THROUGH THESE DISCUSSIONS THAT [REDACTED] GOT THE IDEA OF GOLD MINING IN SOUTH AMERICA. THE REFERENCE TO "[REDACTED]" WAS A REFERENCE TO A FORMER ARMY BUDDY [REDACTED], AND WAS ONCE AGAIN MENTIONED IN PASSING AS A JOKE. DURING THE INTERVIEW, [REDACTED] TURNED OVER SEVERAL PAGES OF OLD NASA BLUEPRINTS CONCERNING CONSTRUCTION AT THE LOCAL NASA CENTER AND HE MENTIONED THAT HE FOUND THESE IN A JUNKYARD [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] HAD DISCARDED THESE BLUEPRINTS AND [REDACTED] KEPT THEM FOR REASONS UNKNOWN. THE BLUEPRINTS WERE TURNED OVER TO THE FBI AND SUBSEQUENTLY RETURNED TO NASA SECURITY AT KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FLORIDA, WHERE THEY WERE EXAMINED AND FOUND TO BE NONSENSITIVE, ROUTINE CONSTRUCTION BLUEPRINTS WHICH WERE ROUTINELY SENT TO ANY CONTRACTORS WHO EXPRESSED A DESIRE IN MAKING A BID ON A SPECIFIC CONTRACT WHICH WAS ADVERTISED BY THE LOCAL NASA FACILITY. NASA RETAINED THE BLUEPRINTS FOR DISPOSITION. [REDACTED] IS NOT CONSIDERED

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(c)

PAGE THREE TP 98-99 UNCLAS

A THREAT TO NASA OR A FACTOR IN CAPTIONED TRAGEDY.

CLAIRVOYANT [REDACTED]

BASED ON THE FACT THAT THE INFORMATION FROM [REDACTED] WAS FURNISHED THROUGH [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] AND IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT [REDACTED] INFORMATION WAS SPECIFIC REGARDING THE LOCAL ADDRESS OF THOSE SHE CLAIMED TO BE THE LOCAL CONSPIRATORS, TAMPA CONDUCTED SOME LIMITED INVESTIGATION SO THAT THE BUREAU WOULD BE IN A POSITION TO RESPOND SHOULD ANY FOLLOW-UP INQUIRIES BE FORTHCOMING FROM [REDACTED]

THE EXACT LOCATION SPECIFIED ON THE TOPOGRAPHICAL MAP FURNISHED BY WFO WAS PINPOINTED AND THE RESIDENCE IN THAT AREA WERE IDENTIFIED THROUGH A BRIEF FISUR AND SUBSEQUENT CHECKING OF LOCAL CROSS DIRECTORIES. THE IDENTITIES DEVELOPED WERE CHECKED THROUGH LOCAL NASA EMPLOYMENT RECORDS, NONE OF THOSE IDENTIFIED WERE EMPLOYED BY NASA AT THE LOCAL FACILITY. ALSO, NASA SECURITY INDEPENDENTLY CHECKED THEIR SECURITY GUARD FORCE PERSONNEL RECORDS AND DETERMINED THAT NONE OF THE CURRENT SECURITY EMPLOYEES, OR RECENT DISMISSALS, RESIDED IN THE GENERAL AREA PINPOINTED BY [REDACTED]

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TAMPA IS CONTINUING TO KEEP THE LOCAL NASA FACILITY ADVISED OF DEVELOPMENTS BY THE FBI, AND TAMPA REVIEWS THAT INFORMATION DEVELOPED

PAGE FOUR TP 98-99 UNCLAS

BY NASA SECURITY IN COORDINATING THIS MATTER, TAMPA FOLLOWING.

BT

June 12, 1986

MEMORANDUM TO MR. CLARKE

RE: ~~X~~ NATIONAL SPACE COMMISSION

SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER  
INFORMATION CONCERNING  
LAUNCH EXPLOSION  
KENNEDY SPACE CENTER  
FLOR. DA. 1/28/86

<sup>100</sup>  
William P. Rogers, Chairman of the Commission, called to express his thanks and appreciation for the services of our four Special Agents who were detailed to the Commission. He remarked that they were exceptionally fine individuals, did a thorough and imaginative job, performed yeoman service, were tremendously good for morale for the other staff members and the members of the Commission, and that he was deeply appreciative for all that they had done. I would appreciate it if you would communicate the substance of this telephone conversation to the detail through Mr. Caro.

William H. Webster  
Director

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-26-99 BY SP10/AM

11

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V-133

98-47051-15

SENT FROM D. O.  
TIME 4:00  
DATE 6/13/86  
BY [signature]

AUG 14 1986



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PERM. REC. UNIT FBI/DOJ

Exec AD Adm. WHW:mf  
Exec AD Inv.  
Exec AD LES  
Asst. Dir.:  
Adm. Servs.  
Crim. Inv.  
Ident.  
Insp.  
Intell.  
Lab.  
Legal Coun.  
Off.

FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

April 18, 1986

Chairman  
Presidential Commission on the  
Space Shuttle Challenger Accident  
Suite 760  
600 Maryland Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20024

*YS/ACC Shuttle CHALLENGER,  
Information CONCERNING LAUNCH EXPLOSION  
KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FLORIDA,  
1/28/86*

Attention Mr. John Chase

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The enclosed summary of FBI investigations into the Challenger accident is being provided to your commission at the request of Mr. Patrick J. Maley.

The FBI does not have any reliable information which would reasonably indicate that sabotage was the cause of the space shuttle Challenger explosion.

The overall FBI investigation of the Challenger explosion is being coordinated by our Tampa Office. The Tampa Office has maintained a close liaison with the NASA Mishap Investigation Board through the NASA Security Office.

If the FBI can be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to call upon me.

Sincerely yours,

*92-11-1-16*

Stanley Klein, Chief  
Terrorism Section  
Criminal Investigative Division

Enclosure

- AD Adm. \_\_\_\_\_
- AD Inv. \_\_\_\_\_
- AD LES \_\_\_\_\_
- Asst. Dir.:
- Adm. Servs. \_\_\_\_\_
- Ident. \_\_\_\_\_
- Insp. \_\_\_\_\_
- Intell. \_\_\_\_\_
- Lab. \_\_\_\_\_
- Legal Coun. \_\_\_\_\_
- Off. Cong. & Public Affs. \_\_\_\_\_
- Rec. Mgmt. \_\_\_\_\_
- Tech. Servs. \_\_\_\_\_
- Training \_\_\_\_\_
- Off. Liaison & Int. Affs. \_\_\_\_\_
- Director's Sec'y \_\_\_\_\_

Mr. Klein

MAY 12 1986

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-26-89 BY SP1AL66m

*MW  
ENCLOSURE*

*Hand delivered*

*WFO  
4/18/86*

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*4886 SA [redacted] WFO  
Furnish to Pres. Commission  
4/18/86 [redacted]*

Chairman  
Presidential Commission on the  
Space Shuttle Challenger Accident

**NOTE:** This communication is in response to a note from Patrick J. ~~Malley~~, Presidential Commission on the Space Shuttle Challenger Accident, to Terrorism Section Chief Stanley Klein, requesting a summary of the FBI's investigation into the Challenger accident. John Chase, a staff investigator for the Commission, advised the Terrorism Section that the FBI summary would be used in the Commission's final report.

April 18, 1986

SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER,  
INFORMATION CONCERNING LAUNCH EXPLOSION,  
KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FLORIDA  
JANUARY 28, 1986

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) has conducted numerous investigations regarding information received, subsequent to the shuttle Challenger explosion, concerning possible sabotage of the space craft. These investigations are synopsized as follows:

On January 27, 1986, an anonymous caller made a telephone call to Channel 7 News, a CBS-TV affiliate, Boston, Massachusetts, and stated "some horrible, horrible things were going to happen tomorrow, at least five people are going to be killed." The caller indicated he was one of a group of three that was going to sabotage NASA. The caller further indicated that if the shuttle did blow up he would recontact the news station. On January 28, 1986, at approximately 3:25 p.m. the anonymous caller made a telephone call to Channel 7 News and advised that he intended to make a telephone call to the Governor at 5:00 p.m. During a briefing of Agents in the Boston Office of the FBI, it was recalled that in September, 1985, a "walk in" complainant, of questionable mental capacity, had indicated he had been responsible for the delay of previous shuttle flights, plane crashes, and other catastrophic events. It was determined that the complainant's name was [REDACTED]. The anonymous caller made a telephone call to [REDACTED] residence at 5:00 p.m., as previously indicated, and gave the name of a restaurant where [REDACTED] was to meet him. FBI Agents and local police proceeded to the restaurant where they identified [REDACTED] girlfriend who was waiting at the restaurant to take [REDACTED] to meet with [REDACTED] was interviewed and he admitted making the telephone calls to Channel 7 News. A local arrest warrant was issued and [REDACTED] was arrested and incarcerated for a five-day mental evaluation. No further FBI investigation was conducted in this matter.

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On January 28, 1986, [REDACTED] telephonically contacted the FBI Office in New Orleans and advised that in 1985, while he was stationed with the U.S. Army in Giessen, West Germany,

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DATE 1-26-87 BY SP1A/C/6cm

- Mr. AD Adm.
- Mr. AD Inv.
- Mr. AD LES
- Mr. Dir.
- Mr. Adm. Servs.
- Mr. Crim. Inv.
- Mr. Ident.
- Mr. Insp.
- Mr. Intell.
- Mr. Lab.
- Mr. Legal Coun.
- Mr. Off. Cong. & Public Affs.
- Mr. Rec. Mgnt.
- Mr. Tech. Servs.
- Mr. Training
- Mr. Telephone Rm.
- Mr. Director's Sec'y

MAIL ROOM

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency

ENCLOSURE

16

SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER,  
INFORMATION CONCERNING LAUNCH EXPLOSION,  
KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FLORIDA  
JANUARY 28, 1986

He learned of a letter sent by [redacted] to [redacted], in which [redacted] stated he had obtained blueprints to NASA and would do a job on them. Both [redacted] and [redacted] had been stationed together in Giessen, West Germany.

[redacted] was located and interviewed and he stated that he and [redacted] were assigned to the same unit in Germany [redacted], at which time [redacted] was sent back to the United States for discharge. [redacted] received two letters from [redacted] after his discharge and because of the wording of the letters, [redacted] felt that [redacted] did not sound stable. [redacted] provided the FBI with the first [redacted] letter in which [redacted] states, "My friend has a gold mine (Mercenary) tell um to write me. I want them to go on leave and don't never come back. I am on a secret mission (I've got the blueprints to "NASA" I've got in touch with [redacted] he's coming to help." [redacted] was located and interviewed by the FBI. He stated the letter in question was primarily a joke. The reference to "blueprints to NASA" was in reference to some old blueprints that [redacted] found [redacted]

The blueprints concerned construction at a local NASA center. [redacted] gave the FBI the blueprints and they were subsequently returned to NASA Security at Kennedy Space Center. The blueprints were examined by NASA and found to be nonsensitive, routine construction blueprints which were routinely sent to contractors who were bidding on a contract. No further FBI investigation was conducted in this matter.

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On January 29, 1986, the FBI Resident Agency, Bridgeport, Connecticut, received information from [redacted] Connecticut, that [redacted] made a statement in December, 1985, that he was going to sabotage the Orbital Display Unit (ODU), [redacted] to see if [redacted] an environment engineer [redacted], could "capture the failures." Investigation at [redacted] determined that the ODU, a system placed in each shuttle to provide the commander and copilot with flight information and to inform them of any malfunction so the flight may be aborted if necessary, is environmentally tested [redacted] [redacted] was interviewed regarding his alleged statement and [redacted]

SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER,  
INFORMATION CONCERNING LAUNCH EXPLOSION,  
KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FLORIDA  
JANUARY 28, 1986

he indicated he felt [REDACTED] was incompetent. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Further investigation by the FBI reflected that tamper-proof seals are placed on the ODU prior to being sent to the environmental laboratory for testing. Examination of the seals determined that tampering with the ODU once it left the production area would be noticed immediately because of the placement of the seals. No further investigation was conducted in this matter.

On January 30, 1986, the FBI Office in Cleveland, Ohio, was telephonically contacted by [REDACTED], who advised that on October 18, 1985, he had a casual conversation with [REDACTED], a former NASA [REDACTED] at Cape Canaveral [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] During their conversation about the shuttle craft propulsion system solid fuel booster rockets, [REDACTED] described the working conditions at NASA in Florida as "bad," which generated pressures on the NASA staff. [REDACTED] stated that if something went wrong with the shuttle while it was in the air, NASA could destroy it, and it's going to happen in the near future.

[REDACTED] related to [REDACTED] that someone at NASA in Florida had a bad attitude, but was smart with computers. [REDACTED] didn't elaborate on this statement. [REDACTED] was interviewed by the FBI and he stated he recalled saying something to friends in Cleveland about his concern for safety at Kennedy Space Center, and his personal opinion that a tragedy could occur. He explained he was never comfortable working around the fuel cells for the solid rocket boosters, and he was concerned that one of the cells might ignite and melt down the Vertical Assembly Building. [REDACTED] was never aware of any specific violations, shortcuts, negligence, or misconduct by NASA employees. He stated that type of conduct would not have been tolerated. [REDACTED] did not have any information regarding sabotage or potential sabotage at NASA. No further FBI investigation is being conducted regarding this matter.

The FBI received information regarding reports by two psychics who reported the shuttle exploded because of sabotage.

SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER,  
INFORMATION CONCERNING LAUNCH EXPLOSION,  
KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FLORIDA  
JANUARY 28, 1986

One of these psychic reports was specific enough to allow for limited FBI investigation, which met with negative results.

On January 31, 1986, the FBI Resident Agency in Santa Ana, California, was advised by [REDACTED] that he believes the Challenger exploded due to its being struck by laser beams fired from either Cuba or an aircraft. [REDACTED] stated that a review of film footage of the explosion revealed brown puffs of smoke coming from the space shuttle just prior to the explosion. He stated leaks from the fuel tanks would produce white smoke, not brown smoke. [REDACTED] stated that the brown smoke would be produced each time the craft took a "hit" by the laser beam, and the explosion occurred when the laser beam penetrated the skin of the craft. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] FBI investigation reflected that [REDACTED] is an engineer who is familiar with laser technology. [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] laser theory is plausible, but not probable.

FORME, TEXT HAS 1 DOCUMENT

INECK, 00 (#6937)

TEXT:

MXIDOLE 108 0697Z

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FM MIAMI (98-709) (C-4) (RUC)

TO DIRECTOR ROUTINE

TAMPA ROUTINE

BT

UNCLAS

SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER, INFORMATION CONCERNING LAUNCH EXPLOSION

KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FLORIDA, JANUARY 28, 1986; SABOTAGE; NASA

ACT: 00; TAMPA

RE TAMPA TELETYPE TO ALL FIELD OFFICE, DATED JANUARY 29, 1986.

IN REFERENCED TELETYPE THE TAMPA DIVISION ADVISED ALL FIELD OFFICES OF THE EXPLOSION OF THE CHALLENGER SPACE SHUTTLE, SHORTLY AFTER THE LAUNCH ON JANUARY 28, 1986.

INVESTIGATION, CONDUCTED TO DATE, BY THE MIAMI DIVISION, HAS BEEN NEGATIVE CONCERNING ANY POSSIBLE SABOTAGE OR OTHER ACTS

OF VIOLENCE TOWARDS THE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER, PRIOR TO TAKEOFF MAY 12 1986

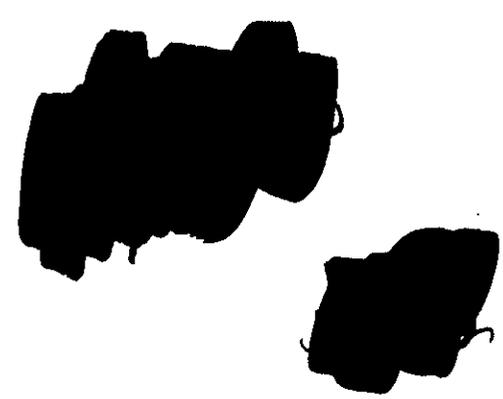
IN VIEW OF THE ABOVE, THE MIAMI DIVISION IS PLACING THIS MATTER IN AN RUC STATUS.

BT

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-26-89 BY SP10/um

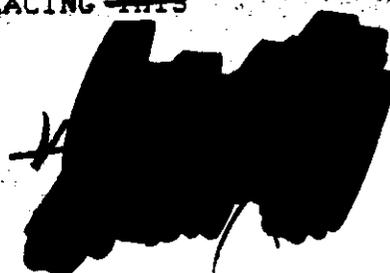
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see 4251



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Off. Cong. & Public Affs.	
Rec. Mgmt.	
Tech. Serv.	
Training	
Director's Sec'y	

FM CINCINNATI (93-1492) (RUC)

TO DIRECTOR ROUTINE

TAMPA ROUTINE

BT

UNCLAS

ATTENTION: SUPERVISOR JOHN SCHIMM

SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER, INFORMATION CONCERNING LAUNCH EXPLOSION,

KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FLORIDA, JANUARY 28, 1986, SABOTAGE, WABA

ACT, OO:TAMPA

RE TELCALL BETWEEN BUREAU SUPERVISOR [REDACTED] AND

SA [REDACTED] CINCINNATI DIVISION, MAY 7, 1986.

IN REFERENCED TELCALL DETAILS RE [REDACTED]

AND HIS ALLEGATIONS OF SABOTAGE WERE DISCUSSED. IDENTIFICATION

OF [REDACTED] AND FOLLOWING DETAILS RE [REDACTED] WERE DETERMINED BY

REVIEW OF CINCINNATI FBI RECORDS AND INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED

AT CINCINNATI, OHIO, MAY 9, 1986.

*98-47051-17X* (5)  
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*see 4251*

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DATE *1-26-89* BY *SP1/AG/COM*



FREE, CI 93-1492  
IN MARCH, 1935, IDENTIFYING INFORMATION RE [REDACTED]  
ISHED TO U. S. SECRET SERVICE, AT CINCINNATI, OHIO.  
[REDACTED] MANAGER OF [REDACTED], UPON  
EING SPECIAL AGENT, FBI IDENTIFICATION, STATED "YOU MUST BE  
HER TO ASK ABOUT MR. [REDACTED] SHE ADVISED THE APARTMENTS ARE  
SUBSIDIZED HOUSING FOR ABOUT 200 RESIDENCES WITH [REDACTED] AS

ELIGIBLE [REDACTED] DESCRIBED [REDACTED] AS  
"VERY UNUSUAL" AND UPSETTING TO OTHER RESIDENTS. SHE SAID  
[REDACTED] TRAVELLED TO WASHINGTON, D. C. ABOUT CHRISTMAS, 1935; TO  
TALK TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES. SHORTLY THEREAFTER,  
U. S. SECRET SERVICE MADE INQUIRY RE [REDACTED] AT THE APARTMENTS.  
[REDACTED] ADVISED THAT [REDACTED] "UNUSUAL" BEHAVIOR INCLUDED:  
1. REFUSAL TO GET IN ELEVATOR WHEN ANOTHER PERSON IS IN IT; 2.  
CONTINUALLY WRITING IN A NOTEBOOK AND RECORDING LICENSE NUMBERS  
OF CARS DRIVING BY; 3. STRAPPING A SUITCASE TO A BOARD WITH  
TWO WHEELS AND PULLING IT ALONG WHEN HE LEAVES HIS APARTMENT, AND  
4. DELIVERING TO HER NOTARIZED LETTERS OF NO APPARENT PURPOSE.  
CINCINNATI DIVISION HAS NOT AND UACB, WILL NOT INTERVIEW  
[REDACTED] RE CAPTIONED MATTER.

b7c

**BEST COPY AVAILABLE**

BT

FORMS.TEXT HAS 1 DOCUMENT

INBOX.18 (#4343)

TEXT:

TP0004 1672236Z

PP 'HQ LA

DE TP

P 162229Z JUN 86

FM TAMPA (98-99) (ORA-C) (P)

TO DIRECTOR PRIORITY

LOS ANGELES PRIORITY

BT

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*DE-068 pg. 2* *(JH)*

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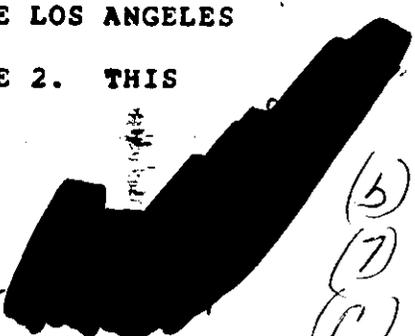
SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER, INFORMATION CONCERNING LAUNCH EXPLOSION,  
KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FLORIDA-JANUARY 28, 1986; SABOTAGE; NASA  
ACT; OO: TAMPA

AS LOS ANGELES IS AWARE, TAMPA HAS BEEN UTILIZING CAPTIONED  
INVESTIGATION AS A VEHICLE TO ASSIST NASA IN THE INVESTIGATION  
REGARDING CAPTIONED ACCIDENT, AND TAMPA WAS IN THE PROCESS OF  
RECOMMENDING THIS MATTER BE CLOSED TO FBIHQ WHEN WE RECEIVED ONE  
ADDITIONAL REQUEST THROUGH NASA'S KENNEDY SPACE CENTER ON JUNE 12,  
1986.

*DE-058 48-47051-18*  
JUL 1 1986

THE LOCAL KENNEDY SPACE CENTER RECEIVED A LETTER FROM  
CALIFORNIA RE A CLASSIFIED AD WHICH APPEARED IN THE LOS ANGELES  
TIMES, JUNE 1, 1986 ISSUE, CLASSIFIED SECTION, PAGE 2. THIS

419

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PAGE TWO TP 98-99 UNCLAS

CLASSIFIED AD OFFERS SPACE SHUTTLE FRAGMENTS FOR SALE AND THE ADVERTISEMENT READS AS FOLLOWS:

BELIEVED TO BE ALL THAT'S LEFT FROM TRAGIC CHALLENGER DISASTER RECOVERED FROM OCEAN FLOOR AND THE IMMEDIATE AREA OF EXPLOSION. FRAGMENTS SOLD SEPARATELY OR BEAUTIFULLY FRAMED. ALL TESTED NON-TOXIC, NON-RADIOACTIVE. FOR INFORMATION, WRITE: ~~HOUSE OF HISTORY,~~ P.O. BOX 30623, LOS ANGELES, CA 90030-0623.

TAMPA'S IMMEDIATE IMPRESSION IS THAT THIS IS PROBABLY NOTHING MORE THAN A SCHEME BY THROUGH WHICH SOME INDIVIDUAL HOPES TO REAP A HANDSOME PROFIT BY SELLING BITS AND PIECES OF MATERIAL WHICH IN ALL LIKELIHOOD IS NOT IDENTIFIABLE WITH ANY OF THE MISSING FRAGMENTS FROM THE SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER. LOS ANGELES IS BEING REQUESTED TO COORDINATE AN INQUIRY THROUGH THE POSTAL INSPECTOR'S OFFICE FOR LOS ANGELES IN AN ATTEMPT TO TRACE THE PROPRIETORS OF THE HOUSE OF HISTORY AND THEREAFTER, ATTEMPT TO DETERMINE IF ANY OF THE ITEMS ARE IDENTIFIABLE WITH THE CHALLENGER AND THE MANNER THROUGH WHICH THESE ITEMS WERE OBTAINED.

TAMPA NOTES THAT NASA'S LEGAL COUNSEL RENDERED AN INTERPRETATION OF SALVAGE RULES WHICH ESTABLISHES ANY SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER FRAGMENTS AS GOVERNMENT PROPERTY AND THE PROPRIETORS FOR THE HOUSE

PAGE THREE TP 98-99 UNCLAS

OF HISTORY SHOULD BE APPRISED OF SAME. TAMPA NOTES THAT THIS IS A GREY LEGAL AREA AT PRESENT, BUT SHOULD ANY ITEMS BE LOCATED WHICH APPEAR TO BE IDENTIFIABLE WITH THE CHALLENGER AND RESISTANCE IS ENCOUNTERED FROM THE PROPRIETORS OF THE HOUSE OF HISTORY IN THE RETRIEVAL OF SAME, TAMPA AND FBIHQ SHOULD BE NOTIFIED PROMPTLY SO THAT A RESOLUTION OF ANY QUESTIONS CAN BE PROMPTLY OBTAINED.

LOS ANGELES IS REQUESTED TO COORDINAE AN INQUIRY IN LINE WITH ABOVE AND FURNISH APPLICABLE DETAILS TO FBIHQ AND TAMPA.

BT

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7/10/86 UNCLAS E F T O ROUTINE

FM DIRECTOR FBI

TO FBI SAN ANTONIO (98-459) ROUTINE

FBI TAMPA (98-99) (ORA-C) (INFO) ROUTINE

BT

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DATE 1-26-99 BY SP1286000

UNCLAS E F T O

SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER INFORMATION CONCERNING LAUNCH  
EXPLOSION, KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FLORIDA - JANUARY 28, 1986;

SABOTAGE; NASA ACT; OO: TAMPA

RE SAN ANTONIO TELETYPE TO BUREAU, APRIL 5, 1986,  
CAPTIONED APOLLO MISSION EXPLOSION; POSSIBLE SABOTAGE.

REFERENCED SAN ANTONIO TELETYPE, WHICH WAS RELAYED TO  
TAMPA, INDICATED [REDACTED]  
HAD INFORMATION CONCERNING THE SABOTAGE OF THE APOLLO ROCKET  
FIFTEEN YEARS AGO, AND POSSIBLE SABOTAGE OF THE SHUTTLE  
CHALLENGER.

FOR INFORMATION OF SAN ANTONIO, THE REPORT OF THE  
PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION ON THE SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER

DO NOT TYPE MESSAGE BELOW THIS LINE

APPROVED BY <i>AP/MS</i>	DRAFTED BY [REDACTED] (4)	DATE 7/10/86	ROOM 4251	TELETYPE 4651
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1 - [REDACTED]  
1 - [REDACTED]  
- CASE FILE

(b) tlf  
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98-47051-19  
4 JUL 22 1986

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
COMMUNICATIONS CENTER  
1501/SM  
JUL 14 1986

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DO NOT TYPE PAST THIS LINE

(b)  
(c)

ACCIDENT, ISSUED JUNE 6, 1986, STATES THAT THE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER ACCIDENT WAS CAUSED BY A FAILURE IN THE JOINT BETWEEN THE TWO LOWER SEGMENTS OF THE RIGHT SOLID ROCKET MOTOR. FBI INVESTIGATION HAS NOT DISCLOSED SABOTAGE AS A REASON FOR THE CHALLENGER ACCIDENT.

SAN ANTONIO SHOULD INTERVIEW [REDACTED] AND OBTAIN DETAILS OF (b)(7)(C) HIS ALLEGATIONS CONCERNING SABOTAGE OF THE APOLLO ROCKET {15 YEARS AGO} AND THE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER.

BT

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AIRTEL

7/16/86

Director, FBI  
SAC, Tampa (98-99)

WT  
Handwritten notes

SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER,  
INFORMATION CONCERNING LAUNCH EXPLOSION,  
KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FLORIDA,  
JANUARY 28, 1986;  
SABOTAGE; NASA ACT  
OO: TAMPA

Re Cincinnati teletype to the Bureau and Tampa; May 9, 1986.

Enclosed for Tampa is a tape recording concerning a message from [redacted], a copy of a transcript of the recording, and copies of six documents relating to [redacted]

For information of Tampa, the enclosures were received at FBIHQ on May 8, 1986, from SA [redacted] a Washington Field Agent temporarily assigned to the Presidential Commission investigating the Shuttle Challenger accident.

Referenced Cincinnati teletype discloses Cincinnati investigation conducted concerning [redacted] telcall (recorded) to the NASA Office of Inspector General on May 2, 1986.

(b)  
(c)

Enclosure

- 1 - [redacted]
- 1 - [redacted]
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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-26-87 BY SP1A-26km

98-47051-20

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tlf

- Exec AD Adm. \_\_\_\_\_
- Exec AD Inv. \_\_\_\_\_
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- Asst. Dir.:
- Adm. Servs. \_\_\_\_\_
- Crim. Inv. \_\_\_\_\_
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- Legal Coun. \_\_\_\_\_
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- Tech. Servs. \_\_\_\_\_
- Training \_\_\_\_\_
- Telephone Rm. \_\_\_\_\_
- Director's Sec'y \_\_\_\_\_

1 - ENCLOSURE

FEB 4 1987

MAIL ROOM

SP/SEN

JUL 24 1986

6 - [redacted]

JUL 16 1986

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

8 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- Deleted under exemption(s) \_\_\_\_\_ with no segregable material available for release to you.
- Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

\_\_\_\_\_ Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

\_\_\_\_\_ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):  
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For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
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FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:

- Teletype
- Facsimile
- AIRTEL

PRECEDENCE:

- Immediate
- Priority
- Routine

CLASSIFICATION:

- TOP SECRET
- SECRET
- CONFIDENTIAL
- UNCLAS E F T O
- UNCLAS

Date 12/2/86

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM : SAC, LOS ANGELES (98-2210) (IT-1) (RUC)

SUBJECT: SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER,  
 INFORMATION CONCERNING LAUNCH  
 EXPLOSION, KENNEDY SPACE CENTER,  
 FLORIDA - 1/28/86; SABOTAGE; NASA ACT;  
 OO: Tampa

mal  
SD

Reference Tampa teletype to Bureau, 6/16/86.

Based on information furnished in referenced teletype Los Angeles established liaison with Inspector POSTAL INSPECTORS OFFICE, Pasadena, California. [redacted] advised P.O. BOX 30623, Los Angeles, California, 90030-0623 is rented by [redacted] who resides at [redacted] California.

[redacted] further advised that he had interviewed [redacted] regarding this matter and that [redacted] denied ever having possessed parts of the space shuttle. He was advised to discontinue use of the P.O. BOX and also advised of the federal laws as applicable to mail fraud.

On 8/7/86, [redacted] was interviewed by a Special Agent of the Los Angeles office. [redacted] was apologetic concerning all the problems has ad has caused. He was extremely cooperative to the interviewing agent and furnished the following explanation concerning the ad he had placed in the LA TIMES:

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 (3)  
 (12)  
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- ② - Bureau
- 2 - Tampa (98-99) (ORA-C)
- 1 - Los Angeles

98-47051-21

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
 HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
 DATE 1-26-99 BY SP11A/GJM

DEC 15 1986

Approved: [Signature] Transmitted \_\_\_\_\_ (Number) \_\_\_\_\_ (Time) Per \_\_\_\_\_

NOV 04 1987

LA 98-2210

[redacted] advised the ad was initiated by him in an effort to determine if there would be any interest by people to obtain pieces of the space shuttle. He placed the ad, because several days prior he was approached by an individual who advised he could furnish [redacted] with fragments of the shuttle. This occurred outside the LOS ANGELES TRAIN STATION which was undergoing restoration. At that time, [redacted] who is an amateur treasure hunter was searching for collectibles in an area which had been cleared prior to new construction.

This individual was described as follows:

Name:  
Height:  
Weight:  
Age:  
Hair:  
Scars and Marks:

Vehicle:



[redacted] advised that based on his conversation with [redacted] he put an ad in the paper to see what kind of response he would get. Upon being contacted by the Postal Authorities he decided to not have any further contact with [redacted] whom he had given his home phone number to called a day or two later and [redacted] advised him that he was not interested in obtaining any fragments of the shuttle.

[redacted] advised that he had no further contact with [redacted] and could not furnish any additional information as to the whereabouts or how to locate [redacted] at this time.

The following is descriptive background regarding [redacted]

Name:  
Date of Birth:  
Race:  
Sex:  
Height:  
Weight:  
Hair:  
Eyes:



(b)  
(7)  
(c)

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LA (98-22110)

California Driver's  
License #:

Social Security #:

CII #:

Criminal History:

[REDACTED] further advised interviewing agent that he was no longer utilizing the above P.O. BOX and is no longer involved in advertising for space shuttle parts under the name of "HOUSE OF HISTORY". [REDACTED] was very apologetic regarding this matter and advised that he was thinking of leaving town for awhile. *polac*

It was the impression of the interviewing agent that the information provided regarding [REDACTED] may have been furnished simply as an alibi for [REDACTED] actions.

Inasmuch as all logical investigation has been completed in Los Angeles and it has been determined that [REDACTED] is not in possession of any shuttle parts nor does he have access to any shuttle parts, LA anticipates no further investigation at this time.

*[Handwritten scribbles]*

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Memorandum



To : DIRECTOR, FBI

Date 12/30/86

From : SAC, TAMPA (98-99) (SQ 6) (C)

Subject : SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER,  
INFORMATION CONCERNING LAUNCH EXPLOSION,  
KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FLORIDA  
JANUARY 28, 1986;  
SABOTAGE; NASA ACT  
(OO: TAMPA)

Re Los Angeles airtel to Director, 12/12/86.

Referenced communication furnished the results of the last outstanding lead in captioned matter and pertinent information from that communication was furnished to Tampa's counterparts at NASA Security at the KENNEDY SPACE CENTER on 12/17/86.

(2)

Tampa placing captioned matter in a closed status at the present time.

1-ee 4/25/

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-26-89 BY sp102/cum

98-47051-22

2 JAN 7 1987

2 Bureau  
1 Tampa  
11s\*  
(3)

1\*

Close  
1/26/87

(6)  
(7)  
(C)

1/26/87

AUG 31 1987