

[REDACTED]

U.S.A. CENTER FOR MILITARY HISTORY

CMH CATALOG NO. NEIT-420

Interview with [REDACTED]

Interviewer: [REDACTED]

Interview Date: 13 December 2001

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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY WITHOUT THE APPROVAL OF THE ORIGINATING
AGENCY.

[BEGIN SIDE ONE, TAPE ONE.]

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[REDACTED]

(NOTE: Inaudible portions of this recording have been reviewed, and they completely inaudible.)

[REDACTED]: This is [REDACTED] I'm here with?
[REDACTED] interment foreman. I was
at the cemetery.

[REDACTED]: This tape is unclassified, are you doing this voluntarily?

[REDACTED]: Yes, I am.

[REDACTED]: And do you give the Center of Military History full access to this tape?

[REDACTED]: Yes, I do.

[REDACTED]: _____+?

[REDACTED]: _____+ probably about 8:30, no, no, 9:00, a little after 9:00, one of my guys turned this corner here and pulled up in his work van with the radio going and said that there had been a crash at the Trade Center in New York, a plane had hit the Trade Center and he heard it on the radio.

So we went into one of the shop areas and they had a television, so we turned on the TV to see this, to see if there was news on it and it showed the image of the building burning and people were standing out and police cars and sirens and everybody coming and basically, we were in awe, looking at this, unbelievable.

[REDACTED]

And as the television played, one of the, I guess, reporter people said, wow, here's another plane and the plane went by the Trade Center and then it turned and slammed into the Trade Center and were all amazed that we were seeing this on television. This was probably after 9:00, maybe five, eight minutes after 9:00 or whatever time it happened and we were all stunned.

We were talking about it and it's like, wow, this is unbelievable, unbelievable. So we were in the shop maybe another 10 to 15 minutes, 20 minutes. We come out of the shop area to do our duty and this thing is still on our minds and it's like, how could one accidentally hit it, but two accidents, this is bizarre, something is going on.

And then talk on the television and on the radios as we stood out and talked, this might be terrorism or something's going on. This is no accident after we saw the second plane.

So in the same conversation, some of the guys, said, well, if there's an attack, watch our Pentagon. We've got to be careful around the Pentagon. Kind of jokingly and kind of thinking about it too and I, myself, saying, well, I better get me another Metro stop because I come and go through the Pentagon station.

Well, anyway, it might have been another ten minutes, we were all about to go back to work and do some of the duties

[REDACTED]

right in this area and we were kind of facing this way and I'm walking in this direction and _____. . . (20 seconds) and this is just about on top of the building, scraping the building it's like, no, this isn't right, basically and in that second, I was telling the guys, look out, look out, I think he's coming in.

And as he _____ the building, he appeared that _____+ direction _____ . . . (95 seconds) and it went by, right passed out and went over there and I guess a lot of, maybe, my mind was thinking it's really huge. I guess it was pretty big to be on top of you.

[REDACTED] Right.

[REDACTED] The wing span was out here somewhere. I imagine the main part of plane might have been _____+ passing us and went straight into that building and there was huge explosion. It was terrible.

[REDACTED] Did you feel it?

[REDACTED] Yes. It shook everything. You could actually feel the heat on your, say you turned on a heat lamp and somebody turned it on right behind you and pushed it up. You could feel the heat on your back and it was terrible and I wasn't sure how soon to turn around because it went boom, boom and I was still kind of covered up and then I started to peek

[REDACTED]

back and there was this huge ball of fire and it was really high in the air, huge ball of fire and there was a second aircraft behind it.

[REDACTED] There was a second aircraft?

[REDACTED] Yes.

[REDACTED] What kind of plane _____+ or was it different?

[REDACTED] It appeared to be a cargo plane or something.

[REDACTED] A C130, like a military plane?

[REDACTED] Well, it could have been. Some of the guys, one guy said he saw _____+ like the Air Force on the back, on the tail of it. It was white or either gray. It was all white or either gray, a light gray, eggshell or something like that.

It was mostly white and it wasn't as big, but I'm guessing if he was here to be with that one, then he would have done it. I think it was somebody who observed him and was following him and saw where he was going or what was going on and when this thing hit here, he was probably behind that far and when he saw, he banked it back hard and went back the other way.

[REDACTED] So it wasn't a small plane like a commuter

[REDACTED]

plane, it was a big plane?

[REDACTED]: It appeared to be smaller than the first one.

[REDACTED]: Than the one that came in?

[REDACTED]: But it might have been a cargo plane or something.

[REDACTED]: Right, that's amazing. So you're here, did you go up to the top of the ramp, is that what you said?

[REDACTED]: Yes, when the plane was coming in, we ran, we ran away and ran up the ramp.

[RECORDING INTERRUPTED, RECORDER NOT CAPTURING CONVERSATION.]

[NO ADDITIONAL INFORMATION RECORDED ON TAPE.]