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INTERAGENCY SECURITY CLASSIFICATION APPEALS PANEL,
E.O. 13526, SECTION 5.3(b)(3)

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Commander Gardner ~~April~~ may 5, 2004

1984 through an reserve officer program
naval flight officer
Flew the 6-E & the "Prowler"
~~OA~~ left the SQUAD in May of 1999
for the NMCC tour of the JCS
left of April 2002
tour on the USS carl ~~[illegible]~~ vincent
COMBAT Director of Operations

the assignment on
OT-2 [Junior emergency Action officer;
Senior Operation office;
Surveillance officer;
Asst DDO sitting to the right of
Winfield. That is where he
was on 9-11. He was there for
a while on 9-11. ~~Doesn't remember~~
thinks it was early ~~19~~ 2001.

EA positions you hold EA cell -
the team handles comms production
and dessimination of action messages

they are responsible to set up telecons
2 forms of comms → [DRSN switch
Black phones (unclass)

Communications capabilities of the EA room

And up
run conferences preprogrammed +
to add other agencies as required
by the DPO.

missile event, air event, etc.

FAA Requirement to set up 1) TAC 2) Primary
"when one of them was activated, by the FAA the
SOO position & DDI as well
were made aware."
normally would not be hosted in
the conference room

The call would not come in the EA room
It may have — SOO has responsibility
for those sort of operations

If the call was to establish a phone bridge
it might ring it in TO EA — it would be
transferred out to SOO —

OBS II team - 0500 Knecht / Montagne Winfield /
Gardner / Gonzalez, R / Dell Nor / John Simm
Junior EA

surveillance NCO

Chuck Chambers / Dawn Harrison

Lt. Col John Brunderman leading the ADD Air position - working w/ the SDO.

nominated to replace him as ADDO

they were training for that

Gonzalez was US Army. Ft. Hood TX right now.

DDO shack:

0500 same windfield / him / with Brunderman / Gonzalez / That was it

early the morning winfield went to meeting about officer ranking board w/ others

Charles Leidig assumed duties as DDO for winfield - heading into 0800 hour.

He had a defense red switch network

service ops

operations

theatre commanders

principles / EAs on JS

any red switch operator w/ DRS capability

WH SIT room by Direct Dial

DOJ was on there

DIWAN

Staff sargeant Harrison

Staff sargeant Lindsay was on the black switch side. He does not remember the req. for an unclass phone conference.

we started out at a sig event conference
→ Eberhardt moved it to Air threat conf.

9-11

PASS DOWN logs - his log

830 it was quiet morning briefing old over.
Lindig was DDO

the Screens - NORAD view of the world
that would indicate missile events

CNN/CNN international

1st indication - view of lower manhattan
and WTC
when did that happen - LIVE - sig Event

made voice notification through JS.
calls he made ~~FE~~ J34 "terrorism folks"
he told him an aircraft or a bomb

SOO - was to call FAA WASH center
was it an scheduled flight ? International

VFR - visual flight rules - flying

National level call. Scripted - set list
we modified it later

View of the world - Nordd - what is it?
theater - ballistic event activity -

couldn't pull up the aircrafts over the
continental USA

Strat nuclear watch for the nation
Strategic world view.

1. TV; 1st source of info
2. Notifications - shared responsibility -
DDO & Him - T2 - principles - chairman
vChair - the 3 himself - the J31, 33,
OSD cables, JCS
3. asked to SOO to call the FAA - Ryan Gonzalez
[Did you speak to any of the principles?
list of notifications - to noted the times &
who he talked to
-

He reached the FAA. He was made aware there were hijackings in progress.

He remembers the report as there was more than one. All he remember is that clear told him there multi. hijackings going on.

There was no mention of request for assistance

Protocols: Yes, he was familiar w/ what the convene a concern at the agency lead the event for that. NMCC role is facilitate - start conference - take reports whatever agency had the lead (FAA or FBI).

asked to call FAA before the 2nd strike doesn't remember if he got the report from Gonzalez before or after the 2nd hit.

He said Gonzalez talked to HEADQUARTERS not; WASH CENTER.

UNQUESTIONABLY a terrorist act after 2nd hit.

Then what?
Signif Event conf → Air Threat conf.
(9:25-9:30)

9:03 - 9:25 : what was happening

alot of people were flowing in.
They were struggling to get the conference
call up asap NOT as fast as we hoped

The people that came in -
" MAJ ~~Sen~~ General Kip Ward
~~B~~ SCOTT CROWLEY - Director of JCS

2 towers hit; other hijackings in progress

NORAD comms were over Sig event conference

Why converse significant event conf?
specific actions for an air threat conference
that we did not consider
It was only at req of NORAD that it
changed

other comms w/ FAA? NO. ~~WASH CENTER~~
hijackings" in the system?
The report came in when we had the conference

up. Doesn't remember when the
SOO report to him FAA info.
The info was reported on the
Sig Ev Conf.

NOIWAN - conference
General Seip ↔ WH

he answered it b/c Seip wasn't there
yet

Seip took the NOIWAN & was ~~th~~
intermediary between NMCC + Sit room

he doesn't remember w/ he heard on the
NOIWAN. The sit room was on -
It was a brief - recap of what had
already transpired

was it sit room or CIA initiated? no.

NOIWAN had lit off
There were alot of distractors in there;
preventing the sig ev conf from going up.

the 1st building was urgent sure what it was
probably never the second but they figured it
out..

(1) Notification list w/ notations
(2) Faster after action procedures and

Dana Sum:
Dont recall if before the cont anyone was talking to FAA except the SOO call.

Doesnot recall other conversations w/ NORAD

He knows how the OTIS fighters got scrambled
NO - he doesn't know how they knew that
The SOO came in to report other hijacking in progress

Also one of the 1st things,
Hijacked aircraft is still airborne + heading to Washington - recommend switch to

No knowledge of plane headt to DC b/fore the call took place

Brenderman came in - took seat across from DDO he and winfield
(→ his recollections would be relevant to details from other conversations

1 Commander Gardner cont. 5/12/04

He was on the NORAD conference b/c ship wasn't there yet.

He was passing info to the WH Sit room

MAJOR MEYERS / Counsel.

Dana
Gonsalves reported call ~~from~~ to from in which he learned of hijacks.

Gardner does not remember the info.

NORAD was underway doesn't remember who initiated it. It was a source of info & a distractor as well.

It kept G. engaged on his side of the room while hijacks was on the other side

G has sat & thought about what he specifically learned on the NORAD

2 Does not know how DDO shack learned of multiple aircrafts
SOO?
NOIWAN? was FAA on it?

~~Leid~~ Leidig – logs reflect that he was informed of care sign
Flight 11 BOS – LAX

FAA – mil comms about getting involved?
Leidig recalled that the offer was made – asked if FAA needed assistance
The FAA commed that the plane would land at JFK?

G. does not remember that specifically

he was pretty good about revisiting pass down logs true out the day
what he knew & when he sat back down to quickly recap

3 Do you remember the conversation?

What type of conference should be convened.

National? S:S event conference was arrived at. after some debate

There was frustration that the SFEC was established sooner

Harrison was working to bring it up. Some of the conferees were not coming up. Finally it was initiated and they brought people at it.

Following the record strike

There was a wait time.

General awareness went to THREAT that necessitated a higher level of participation.

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Think that the Air Threat conference conveys SIOC overtones
specific levels of conferences
specific actions must be taken
at least to start out at event conferences
their recommendation to move to a Threat conference
Threat conference were for potential nuclear adversary a international incident.
Didnt seem like the appropriate tool at the time

Other hijackings after 2nd strike did you think they were heading toward WASH DC?

It wasnt til the Dulles aircraft was heading back to the cap region that we knew something was coming back our way.
Fairly certain FAA was in ATCont

" at the time. That's how we know about it.

Flt threat info was getting started as Pent was hit.

There is no indication from the AT cont that they knew plane was heading to DC

"It was merged chaos At that time."

no clear recollection of how information was coming in & from what source. too many sources of info.

The Pentagon hit.
Remembers seeing the building from A TV monitor. Someone came in from the floor & said they felt the shake & the heard the woosh
Couldn't feel it from the DDO shop

Doesn't remember what channels were on the display.
It was a local news channel that he 1st saw the Pentagon on fire

Threat of conferees list includes the highest level principles working to get them in the conf.
Meyers Acting JCS was in the room. Shelton was in the air.

Many requests for phone connection people calling in.
alot of conferencing going on

Winfield returned & took over from Leidig. Brunerman took notes.

Who also was helping w/ decision
MAJOR General
Kip Ward - J-31 - Acting for J-3
Vice Admiral Scott Frye
General Myers.

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We lost principles flew out the day to the SVTS going on the move.
Rumsfeld came in to the DDO shack carrying Wolfowitz + associates.
Rumsfeld entered the AF conf as well

aware the WH SVTS?
when they left to go to the SVTS they went to the one in the NMCC of the green binder w/ tied to the secom phone.

Receiving info from the SVTS?

No. other than what direction was received from principles upon return from the SVTS.

Frustration b/c at Decision pts in the conference they would leave

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lost principles. ~~For~~ Parallel channels going on competing venues for ~~&~~ control & positioning.

Place in time when Myers came in?

Remember watching when the towers collapsed?

Hopes that he noted in his logs ~~when~~ what was going on at the times.

Awareness of other aircrafts once the conference gets up

DELTA Flight 1989:

Gardner was on mother phone line.

Brandenburg came in early w/

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Leidig & he continued w/ Winfield. He was administering the conference

Myers & Rumsfeld wanted a Quick review of the alerting levels. Defense conditions & ~~Force~~ Force protection — arrived at a level. So he worked w/ the EA cell to get "running team actions"
FAA getting in the conference - Anecdotally, at the time, there was one secure line @ ~~to~~ ~~FAA~~

* Val Harrison friction pt

(~~I~~ FAA
They repeatedly dropped out
& she was working it.

~~He was~~ The DDO & him would agree on who the approp conferees were. FAA was one of them to get in.

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The person that ultimately came on was from Command Center not FAA Head Quarters.

He was not aware of that

Getting FAA on a separate line?

Doesn't remember what actions he was taking to get them in.

No - he did not call them on his phone The DDO did not no one in the shack dialed the FAA

NORAD - A rep was on the conference
NEADS - SEADS } other entities
CONR -

Path CMOC to NORAD. Talking - was the line to the command / mission director

they never talked to the regional command centers.

"

The Mtn conferenced in the region
that is the way he remembers

"Brothers to the rescue"
they watched that pretty
carefully.

"10:17 FAA (DANA) enters NMRC conference"

Awareness there were other
hijackings unaccounting for.

His recollection is he heard that
early. It was more that
one single event in NYC
we knew it was coming back to
Nat Cap Region.
that
Generated another evacuation of
the Pentagon

Running the team;
not monitoring the threat conf.
Norman Seip stands behind him

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b/c the NOIWAN - HADLEY
is on the line -
Seip is on the line

Oardner is relieved of that
duty.
Seip & Brunderman
were spanning gap b/w
the Air Threat cont & the
NOIWAN.

VICE CHAIR MYERS before the
sec Def was there a
conversation about defense
levels?

His recollection -
He knows when they asked
him to get the manual
down. Does not recall
mention of it before Rumsfeld
arrived

Remember defense condition being made

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& then the Force Protection issue after.

Were you listening to the net when info was conveyed to engage incoming aircraft

He remembers the order. Remembers the plane from Otis

Remembers being asked 12 times if the Gofer flight had engaged the plane

1st time order was given, he remembers hearing of it through Brenneman or through Scip. Did not hear Cheney saying it after hearing down, he helped that was the

to aircraft was find out if case.

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No – he was using the established conferences – we had enough people on that no new dive up was necessary

Info was passed that Gofer had been smoke
→ Thinks it was the NORWAN.
crews were the conference.

frustrating that principles were pulled away to SVTS
COOG was going on outside the threat.

OPS team wasn't making calls out. Principles may have made them

Myers called Eberhardt early on Director of TS to the crews, to the threes.

Tremendous number of hi level calls outside of the conference

QA call. he talk helped

Gardner
ADDO * remained at his desk.
SOP - that is the place to be
↳ books all tools are there
↳ doesn't remember leaving it at all

The individual from NORAD on the call? Doesn't remember who he is.

who was on from Air Force Ops from Headquarters? Doesn't remember.

Remembers the call signs of the Otis Fighter
Bofer 55 + 56

correct: Panda 45 + 46

Bofer 06 C-130 observed the

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"Tail chase"

as the sit developed he remembers the OTIS Planes being directed to ~~Intercept~~.

he can't say why or what he has the picture of the OTIS fighters

He remembers that Langley fighters were also up.

General Winfield & Brunderman could add more detail to that

DefCON issues:

Someone had completely taken him away from that at all

Secr Rumsfeld & Myers mutually arrived @ that decision

unequivocal decision

made by Rumsfeld

After Action: we all took notes pass down logs put time & effort into it.

Brennerman - he took the lead on that. Everyone collaborated

Happy w/ the product that came out

In his mind, the idea that something was coming back to the national cap region was before that

UA 93 event.
The PEOC - VP (was in the phone conference - he learned the before they knew it the plane was on the ground already

gave ~~to~~ the order
it was

deciminated to the Otis Fighters

Leidig & himself made decision to do event conference

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Didn't have the luxury of the single Integrated operations plan Doomsday

SIOP overtones for air or threat missile issues.

no one postulated a nuclear response to what was going on

That was a Threshold that had not yet been crossed

The who what when wasn't est.

Have bringing the President in, we wanted to get the CINCs assessment.

Now the THRIPICKS? have tools available better tailored for conferencing capabilities.

1 NCAP
2 NAOC
3 PRESIDential support

} same thing old terminology

} understanding of what the planes are and what they were supposed for?