11 SEPTEMBER 2001
INTEGRATED CHRONOLOGY

This document is a compilation of events, logs and transcripts from the initial telephone conferences that occurred on 11 Sep. 2001. While times are accurate for most items, entries from the Air Threat Conference (ATC) should be considered accurate within a matter of minutes. Please note this a chronology, not a transcription. In many cases the comments from the ATC are paraphrased, not verbatim.

RED     EVENTS FROM NORAD CHRONOLOGY
BLUE    OTHER EVENTS
BLACK   NMCC ATC CONFERENCES

1159Z  AA FLIGHT 11 TAKES OFF FROM BOSTON ENROUTE TO LA
1214Z  1 A FLIGHT 175 TAKES OFF FROM BOSTON ENROUTE TO LA
1220Z  AA 11 STOPS TRANSPONDER SQUARE OVER HUDSON RIVER
       AA FLIGHT 175 TAKES OFF FROM BURLINGTON
1238Z  BOSTON CENTER NOTIFIES NORTHEAST AIR DEFENSE SECTOR OF HIJACK OF AA11
1242Z  1 A FLIGHT 93 TAKES OFF FROM NEWARK
1243Z  BOSTON CENTER NOTIFIES NORTHEAST AIR DEFENSE SECTOR OF HIJACK OF 1 A175
1244Z  2 X F-15 SCRAMBLED FROM OTIS AFB, MA
1246Z  AA11 IMPACTS THE WORLD TRADE CENTER
1247Z  NORAD COMMAND CENTER NOTIFIES AND AUTHORIZES INTERCEPT
1248Z  CNN REPORTS FIRST AIRPLANE STRIKE AT WORLD TRADE CENTER
1250Z  1 A FLIGHT 175 DIVIATES SOUTHWARD TOWARDS NEW YORK CITY.
       AA FLIGHT 175 TRANSPONDER IS TURNED OFF.
       DDO ADDO BEGIN JOINT STAFF NOTIFICATION
1252Z  2 X F-15 SCRAMBLED FROM OTIS AFB TAKE-OFF.
1300Z  NMCC CALLS FAA; FAA PROVIDES BRIEF OF EXPLOSION AT WORLD TRADE CENTER POSSIBLY FROM AIRCRAFT CRASH. ALSO, HIJACKING OF AMERICAN FLIGHT 11 FROM BOSTON TO LA, NOW ENROUTE TO JFK AIRPORT

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NCT0010914
1302Z CNN REPORTS SECOND EXPLOSION AT WORLD TRADE CENTER
J34 REPORTS INITIATING ANTI-TERRORIST TEAM RECALL
1307Z ADDO, SOO, EA AND DDO CONFER ON NEED FOR SIGNIFICANT EVENT CONFERENCE. DDO DIRECTS CONFERENCE BE CONVENEED
1315Z CIA CONVENES NOIWAN CONFERENCE; 767 CONFIRMED HIJACKED. DDO DELAYS SIGNIFICANT CONFERENCE.
1320Z ADDO DIRECTS INITIATION OF SIGNIFICANT EVENT CONFERENCE WITH CINC'S AND SERVICES.
1321Z 2 X F15 FROM OTIS AFB ESTABLISH AIR CAP OVER NEW YORK CITY
1325Z DDO ENTERS SIGNIFICANT EVENT CONFERENCE.
   DDO ASKS FOR FAA (NOT IN CONFERENCE)
   JFCOM REPORTS CAT TEAM IS STOOD UP
   AF REPORTS CAT TEAM IS STOOD UP
1333Z EA RELAYS NORAD REQUEST FOR AIR THREAT CONFERENCE TO DDO
   NORAD PROVIDES UPDATE - 2 FIGHTERS AIRBORNE WITH 2 TANKERS
   DDO CONCURS WITH NORAD REQUEST, DIRECTS TRANSITION TO ATC
   NORAD REPORTS 1 MORE AIRCRAFT ENROUTE TO DC
1334Z SIGNIFICANT EVENT CONFERENCE DROPPED
1337Z NEADS LOSES RADAR CONTACT WITH AA77 AS IT IMPACTS THE PENTAGON
   AIR THREAT CONFERENCE INITIATED
1338Z EA POLLS CONFEREES - VCJCS EXEC Responds FOR VCJCS
1339Z DDO ENTERS ATC AND PROVIDES UPDATE OF AIR ATTACK ON US. POSSIBLE THREAT TO CONUS
1340Z NORAD UPDATE - CONFLICTING REPORTS FROM FAA ON HIJACKS.
   ONE HIJACK A C OUT OF JFK ENROUTE TO DC
   2 FIGHTERS SCRAMBLED FROM OTIS, AFB
   NO ASSESSMENT; CINC/NORAD NOT DECLARING ADE
   NORAD RECOMMENDS RECONVENING WHEN MORE INFO IS AVAILABLE
1340Z 1 A FLIGHT 93 TRANSPONDER TURNED OFF
1341Z DDO BRIEFS EXPLOSION AT 5TH CORRIDOR OF THE PENTAGON
   DDO DIRECTS CONFERENCE REMAIN UP, DIRECTS EA TO ADD SEC DEF TO CONFERENCE
   EA CONTACTS OSD CABLES: REQUESTS IMMEDIATE CONTACT WITH SECDEF

SECRET
1342Z VCICS EXEC ASKS FOR CONFIRMATION ON PENTAGON EXPLOSION
EA REPORTS STILL WAITING ON SEC DEF

1343Z Nighthawk asks PEOC for instructions
PEOC instructs Nighthawk to prepare to evacuate vice potus to naval observatory
NAOC secondary reports initiating emergency take-off from Andrews AFB

1344Z VCICS EXEC reports having briefed the CJCS via phone
PEOC instructs Nighthawk to remain on alert posture
NORAD update - possible 4th hijack in progress
delta flight 89 from Boston to Las Vegas
indications from CON-R
no response from DDO - NORAD repeats
EA responds for DDO

1345Z 14(g)

1346Z VCICS arrives in DDO's office
EA reports no contact with SEC DEF, queries DDO on adding dep sec def.
DDO concurs
EA contacts OSD cables and requests immediate contact with dep sec def
NORAD requests FAA be added to conference

1347Z DDO directs adding FAA to conference
PEOC asks if there are any indications of other hijacks in progress

1348Z NORAD drops from conference and is re-added
NORAD update (same as 1344Z)

1349Z FAA reports delta flight 89 not following its flight plan route
cincinnati norad directs all air sovereignty aircraft to battle stations - fully armed

24 east from angle eye will establish air cap over Washington, DC

1350Z Cincinnati repeats - directs all air sovereignty aircraft to battle stations - fully armed
AFOPS ASKS FOR DIRECTION AND HEADING OF FLIGHT 89

1351Z CENTCOM REPORTS CAT TEAM IS STOOD UP

1352Z NORAD UPDATE - FLIGHT 89 MIGHT BE HEADING WEST TOWARD CHICAGO
RECOMMENDS SEARS TOWER BE EVACUATED
REPORTS ONLY LIMITED INFORMATION ON FLIGHT 89 IS AVAILABLE

1353Z NORAD REQUESTS FAA POLL ALL AC TO CONFIRM IF HIJACK IS IN PROGRESS AND
TO HALT ALL FAA FLIGHT ACTIVITY

EA ATTEMPTING TO BRING FAA BACK INTO CONFERENCE

DDO ASKS IF FEMA IS IN THE CONFERENCE

1354Z 14(g)
EA ATTEMPTING TO BRING FEMA BACK INTO THE CONFERENCE

1355Z AFOPS REPORTS WHITE HOUSE HAS REQUESTED FIGHTER COVERAGE

NORAD REPORTS THEY WILL PROCESS WHITE HOUSE REQUEST AND PROVIDE ETA

1356Z EA CONFIRMS FEMA IS IN CONFERENCE

DDO RECOMMENDS FEMA EVACUATE CHICAGO [SEARS] TOWER

1358Z WHCA BREAKS INTO CONFERENCE TELLS DDO TO STAND-BY...

COL. "I" FROM PEOC RELAYS REQUEST FROM STEVE HADLEY
- 14(g)
- FIGHTER ESCORTS FOR PRESIDENT
- FIGHTER CAP OVER DC

DDO REPORTS NORAD IS WORKING FIGHTER CAP AND NMCC IS WORKING COOP
DDO ASK FOR COORDINATION FOR AIR FORCE ONE FIGHTERS IN THIS
CONFERENCE

1359Z NORAD UPDATE - CINC NORAD ASSESSMENT OF CONCERN

FA GOES TO BOX, ADDO CONFIRMS, THEN HOLDS. BOX IS NOT OPENED

1400Z NORAD REQUESTS CONFIRMATION THAT FAA IS IN THE CONFERENCE AND IS
POLLING ALL AIRCRAFT TO TERMINAL POINT. WANTS LOCATION OF ALL
AIRCRAFT THAT DO NOT RESPOND

DDO SAYS WE ARE ATTEMPTING TO GET FAA ON A SECOND LINE

PEOC UNDERSTANDS THERE IS A POSSIBLE INBOUND 25 MINUTES OUT; ASKS
ABOUT ASSETS FROM ANDREWS AFB

DDO ASKS AFOPS FOR AN UPDATE

PEOC STATES A C IS A POSSIBLE UA FLIGHT

1402Z 1 402 CRASHES NEAR SHANKSVILLE, PA

SECRET

NCT0010917
AFOPS ASKS FOR AN UPDATE - NO RESPONSE IN CONFERENCE

NORAD HAS NO INDICATIONS OF ANY HIJACK A C INBOUND TO DC

PEOC ASKS FOR UPDATE ON FIGHTER CAP FOR DC - DDO PASSES TO AFOPS - AFOPS PASSES TO NORAD

NORAD STATES THERE IS NO FURTHER UPDATE ON FIGHTERS FOR DC

AFOPS ASKS NORAD FOR AN UPDATE ON FIGHTERS FOR AIR FORCE

PEOC REPORTS THE JOC REPORTED A FLIGHT 93 OUT OF PITTSBURG IS 20 MINUTES OUT

DDO ASKS AF FOR STATUS OF FIGHTERS

NORAD UPDATE: 2 FIGHTERS AIRBORNE FROM ATLANTIC CITY ENROUTE TO DC

PEOC ASKS DDO TO CONFIRM INFORMATION ON FLIGHT 93

PEOC DIRECTS NAOC AIRBORNE

PEOC COL 2 STATES VICE POTUS HAS DIRECTED THAT FIGHTERS CAN CONFIRM A C IS HIJACKED A C THEY ARE CLEARED TO TAKE IT OUT

NAOC PRIMARY AND SECONDARY REPORT THEY ARE AIRBORNE AND IN CONFERENCE

AFOPS ASKS FOR CONFIRMATION THAT AN A C HAS CRASHED SOUTH OF JONES TOWN, PA

FAA CONFIRMS FAA IS IN CONFERENCE:

DDO STATES VCJCS WANTS TO KNOW WHO IS CONTROLLING FIGHTER A C OVER DC

FAA RESPONDS - WASHINGTON CENTER SHOULD BE CONTROLLING FIGHTER A C

PEOC CONFIRMS AGAIN THAT VICE POTUS HAS CLEARED A C TO ENGAGE ANY A C INBOUND TO DC WITHOUT AUTHORIZATION

PEOC ASKS TO CONFIRM A C IS 10 MILES OUT - NO RESPONSE

AFOPS ASKED TO DETERMINE IF THEY SHOULD PROVIDE ESCORT FOR AIR FORCE

DDO TELLS PEOC U A93 IS REPORTED CRASHED IN PA. PEOC STATES VICE POTUS WANTS TO KNOW IF IT IS A RESULT OF FIGHTER ENGAGEMENT

DDO ASKS NORAD TO CONFIRM HOW A C WENT DOWN

NORAD HAS NO INFO ON ENGAGEMENT

FAA HAS NO INFO

DDO ASKS AFOPS TO CONFIRM WHO HAS CONTROL OF A C OVER DC
NORAD states CON-R has control over a C over DC

1423Z PEOC asks for confirmation of escort intercept of Air Force 1.

SR controller states DOD has directed force protection level D.

1424Z DDO asks again if fighters have intercepted Air Force 1 - NORAD says stand by.

1425Z NORAD asks for clarification on force protection level D.

DDO confirms force protection level D world-wide.

1426Z FAA reports they think a C that crashed in PA is a military A C call sign Gopher 06.

1427Z PEOC asks for update on fighters

PEOC reports receiving threats against Air Force 1.

DDO confirms nature of threat with PEOC.

FAA clarifies earlier report on Gopher 06: FAA reports Gopher 06 is the A C that reported the crash of what appears to be a commercial airliner near Camp David.

1428Z FAA passes lat long of for crash of 3951N 7886W. Adds that Gopher 06 will remain on station for 30 minutes.

1430Z PEOC asks if airliner is UA93.

DDO breaks in passes to NORAD that the VCJCS wants them to facilitate the CJCS's return to DC.

PEOC asks if the VCJCS in in the conference.

Steve Hadley asks for Gen Meyers - DDO replies for VCJCS.

Hadley wants to get word to VCJCS that there is an aircraft 5 miles out and that the VP's guidance is to take it out.

1431Z PEOC asks if the FAA is tracking that aircraft.

DDO asks FAA if they are tracking that aircraft.

Hadley confirms again that the VP has directed that if the aircraft looks threatening it needs to be taken out.

DDO confirms message.

Hadley adds that any information about the A C that can be gathered before you have to take it out, would be useful.

1432Z DDO asks Hadley to confirm his ID.
PEOC CONFIRMS THE CALLER IS MR HADLEY FROM THE NSC

PEOC ASKS IF THE VCJCS IS IN THE CONFERENCE. DDO CONFIRMS HE IS

SEC DEF JOINS CONFERENCE - HADLEY REPEATS THE VP's GUIDANCE THEN ASKS IF THE VCJCS WANTS TO SPEAK WITH THE VP

1433Z VCJCS TELLS HADLEY THAT THE SEC DEF WOULD LIKE TO SPEAK WITH THE VP

FAA ATTEMPTS TO PASS COORDINATE FOR THE CRASH SITE AGAIN - NO RESPONSE

PEOC SAYS STAND BY FOR THE VP

1434Z VP TELLS SEC DEF HE HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH THE PRESIDENT AND ASKS THE SEC DEF IF HE HAS SPOKEN WITH HIM

SEC DEF SAYS HE HAS NOT SPOKEN WITH HIM SINCE JUST AFTER THE PLANE CRASHED INTO THE PENTAGON

VP SAYS THE PRESIDENT IS GOING TO RELOCATE. STATES THEY HAVE RECEIVED AN ANONYMOUS PHONE CALL THAT ANGEL (AF1) IS THE NEXT TARGET. VP SAYS HE ASSUMES THE APPROPRIATE STEPS HAVE BEEN TAKEN TO PROVIDE PROTECTION FOR AF1

SEC DEF STATES THAT IS TRUE

VP ASKS IF FORCES ARE ON A HEIGHTENED STATE OF ALERT - SEC DEF CONFIRMS

1435Z VP CONFIRMS HE HAS HAD THREE REPORTS OF A/C APPROACHING DC AND REITERATES HIS INSTRUCTIONS TO TAKE THEM OUT

SEC DEF ASKS WHO THOSE INSTRUCTIONS WERE GIVEN TO (SEC DEF ENTERED THE CONFERENCE PRIOR TO GETTING A BRIEF FROM THE DDO)

VP SAYS INSTRUCTIONS WERE RELAYED FROM PEOC TO THE OPERATIONS CENTER AND AIR FORCE

SEC DEF ASKS VP IF WE HAVE AIRCRAFT UP THAT HAVE THOSE INSTRUCTIONS

VP SAYS HE UNDERSTANDS WE DO, AND THAT THEY HAVE ALREADY TAKEN OUT A COUPLE A/C

1436Z SEC DEF SAYS WE CANNOT CONFIRM THAT. ADDS THAT WE KNOW AN AIRCRAFT IS DOWN, BUT THERE IS NO PILOT REPORT THAT THEY DID IT

SEC DEF ADDS THAT THE ONE IS DOWN NE OF CAMP DAVID

VP BREAKS CONVERSATION TO TALK TO POTUS...

FAA PASSES THAT AN AIRCRAFT THAT IS SUPPOSED TO LINK UP WITH AF1 IS NOT UNDER ATC CONTROL FROM JACKSONVILLE CONTROL

1438Z NORAD UPDATE - CONFIRMS 2 FIGHTERS, E3 AND TANKER ARE OVERHEAD OF DC
PHONE CUTS OVER TO ADDO LINE - DISCUSSION ON PREPPING 222 FOR DEFCON CHANGE

1440Z DDO INJECTS SEC DEF DECISION TO GO TO WORLDWIDE DEFCON 3. PREPARED TO GO TO 2. ASKS FOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.
AF OPS ACKS. THEN EA BREAKS IN TO BEGIN POLLING
VP RE-ENTERS CONFERENCE

1441Z VP TELLS SEC DEF THE PRESIDENT WOULD LIKE TO HEAR FROM HIM. WANTS STATUS OF FORCES. LOCATION HE CAN GO TO. AND INFORMATION ON A/C INTERCEPTS
SEC DEF STATES VP IS APPARENTLY IN A SVTC THAT DOES NOT COME INTO THE NMCC
VP EXPRESSses HIS DISBELIEF
SEC DEF TELLS VP HE IS RECOMMENDING DEFCON 3
VP TELLS SEC DEF HE SHOULD CONFER WITH POTUS AND LET HIM MAKE DECISION. ADDS THAT HE AGREES
SEC DEF TELLS VP HE WILL PUT SOME NOTES TOGETHER AND CALL THE POTUS SHORTLY. THEN ASKS THE VP WHERE HE IS
VP STATES HE IS IN THE PEOC
SEC DEF SAYS HE IS ASKING DEP SEC DEF TO GO TO AN ALTERNATE SITE

1443Z DDO DIRECTS CONFEREES TO WAIT ON IMPLEMENTING DEFCON 3

1446Z DDO RE-ISSUES DEFCON 3 DECLARATION. DEFCON 3 IS DECLARED BY THE VCJCS AT 1046 EDT.

1447Z NORAD UPDATE: 2 FIGHTERS OUT OF ELLINGTON FIELD. TX ENROUTE TO ESCORT AFI. ETA PENDING.

1449Z PEOC DIRECTS VENUS 7 TO DIVERT TO BARKSDALE AFB.

1452Z DDO INFORMS CONFEREES THAT EAM CHANGING THE DEFCON LEVEL WAS JUST RELEASED.
DDO REPEATS DEFCON INFORMATION

1453Z FAA ASKS DDO TO REPEAT DEFCON INFORMATION.

1455Z PEOC ASKS FOR CONFIRMATION ON THE FINAL STATUS OF UA93. NEED TO KNOW IF IT IS THE RESULT OF A FIGHTER ENGAGEMENT.
DDO STATES HE CANNOT CONFIRM. ASKS NORAD.
NORAD STATES THERE IS NO PILOT REPORT OF AN ENGAGEMENT. NORAD CONTINUES ON TO PROVIDE AN UPDATE ON FIGHTERS FOR DC AIRCAP AND AFI ESCORT.
1458Z FAA STATES THEY HAVE AN A/C CALLSIGN VENUS 7 [SENEX] REQUESTING CLEARANCE.

DDO STATES IF THE AIRCRAFT IS VENUS 7 IT IS CLEARED.

1459Z PEOC ASKS FOR FIGHTER INTERCEPT TIME WITH AF1.

NORAD STATES TIME IS UNAVAILABLE.

DDO ASKS FOR LOCATION OF AF1

1500Z NORAD PROVIDES A LAT LONG FOR AF1 [311°N 088°W].

1501Z FAA STATES SAM 500049 DEPARTED WITHOUT AUTHORIZATION

VENUS CONTROL CONFIRMS FLIGHT IS VENUS 7

DDO ASKS IF THERE ARE ANY UNKNOWN TRACKS IN VICINITY OF DC.

NORAD STATES THEY ARE TRACKING ONE A/C OFF THE EAST COAST NOT APPROACHING DC. OTIS FIGHTERS ARE MOVING TO INTERCEPT.

1502Z NORAD PROVIDES AT LAT LONG FOR THE TRACK [410°N 067°W] OFF THE COAST OF MA.

FAA ASKS NORAD TO CONFIRM THEY HAVE AIRCRAFT CIRCLING DC AT A FLIGHT LEVEL OF 2300 FT.

NORAD CONFIRMS THEY HAVE A/C CIRCLING DC AT 2200 FT.

NORAD PROVIDES HEADING DISTANCE OF A/C 070 120 MILES FROM CAPE COD.

DDO ASK NORAD TO CONFIRM THERE IS STILL AN AIRCAP OVER DC.

NORAD Confirms

DDO ASK NORAD FOR AN ESTIMATED TIME THAT A/C WILL PUT EYES ON THE LAT TRACK

NORAD STATES THEY ARE WORKING ON AN ETA.

NORAD ASKS IF THERE IS A SCRAMBLE CODE FOR NORAD A/C.

NORAD STAYS STAND-BY.

FAA ASKS AFOPS IF THERE IS A SCRAMBLE CODE FOR THEIR A/C.

AFOPS PASSES TO NORAD.

NORAD ASKS FAA TO EXPLAIN WHAT A SCRAMBLE CODE IS.

FAA CLARIFIES THAT THEY NEED A BEACON CODE FOR AF A/C.

NORAD STATES THEY WILL QUERY FOR THE MODE III CODES.
DDO GIVES NORAD THE ROE FOR THE A/C APPROACHING CAPE COD. YOU ARE TO ESCORT IT TO GROUND. DO NOT FIRE.

NORAD ACKNOWLEDGES.

NORAD STATES 10 MINUTES TO FIGHTER INTERCEPT WITH AF1.

NAOC PRIMARY PROVIDES DISPOSITION OF NAOC A/C. PRIMARY IN SURVIVAL ORBIT IN NAOC TIMING AREA. SECONDARY DROPPING TO OFFUT. THEN GOING TO NORTH TIMING AREA. TERTIARY IN NAOC TIMING AREA.

NORAD CALLS FOR FAA - NO RESPONSE.

DDO STATES SEC DEF WANTS AWARENESS OF EVENTS WORLD-WIDE. ALSO WANTS TO KNOW IF A CAP IS OVER SENSITIVE AREAS LIKE SAUDI.

NORAD AND STRATCOM ACKNOWLEDGE.

1.4(g)

HOT MIKE

FAA ASKS AFOPS IF THEY ARE HAVING TROUBLE GETTING A/C OFF THE GROUND AT LANGLEY AND INTO ANDREWS.