

[Received October 02, 2001]

I was outside walking northward in Crystal City on South Clark St. at approximately 18th Street when I heard a muffled explosive sound. I thought nothing of it as there are several buildings under construction in that area of Crystal City. About a minute later I noticed a large plume of black smoke rising from behind a building being constructed in Crystal City which stood between me and the Pentagon. It was at that point that I made the connection between the news I just heard in the office of the attacks in the World Trade Center and the smoke rising from the direction of the Pentagon. I continued to walk northward on South Clark St and then noticed debris was falling from the sky presumably from the blast at the Pentagon. I picked up a piece of this material which had fallen in the street near me. It was 3 to 4 inches across, was made of very light composite like black material. About two minutes later people began to stream out of Crystal Mall 1 and other buildings along South Clark St. At 1010, I heard a secondary explosion. I walked to the north end of Crystal City, crossed under the highway to find an old friend, CAPT Pat Mills, USN, who was on duty walking the perimeter of the crowd now gathered on the north side of the highway adjacent to south parking canvassing for medically EMT trained personnel. I offered assistance but was turned down and returned to my office in Presidential Towers (NC-1).

Sincerely,

Commander Steve Mackie, U.S. Navy  
Navy Marine Corps Intranet (NMCI) Action Officer  
Navy CIO Support Division (N6K4)