

**Naval Historical Center  
Oral Interview Summary Form**

**Interviewers:**

Capt Gary Hall  
CDR Carol O'Hagan

**Interviewer's Organization:**

Naval Historical Center  
Naval Historical Center

**Interviewee:**

Laura C. Stanley

**Current Address:**

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

(w) CNO N2

**Date of Interview:**

17 APR 02

**Place of Interview:**

Navy Annex

**Number of Cassettes:**

One

**Security Classification:**

Unclassified

**Name of Project:** Pentagon Terrorist Attack Incident

**Subject Terms/Key Words:** Navy Command Center; CNO IP; Reconstitution; N2; Recovery of Classified Material; Pentagon; Terrorist Attack; 11 September 2001

**Abstract of Interview:**

**Interviewee Information:**

Ms. Stanley's father was a sonar tech in the Navy during World War II. After the war he taught at the Naval Academy as a Chief Petty Officer. After that he became a commercial airline pilot. She started her civilian career in 1980 working in security for the Defense Mapping Agency. In 1984 she transitioned to the Navy working for the Navy Security Group Command. She worked in a variety of positions including physical, information, and personnel security. She eventually became the Deputy Assistant Chief of Staff for one of the departments. She then transitioned to Technical Policy representing the Navy Security Group in the Cryptologic Community. In 1997 she was selected to represent to Director of Naval Intelligence at the Central Adjudication Facility for security policy and serve as the advocate for SCI matters for the SCI community. In 1999 she went back to the N2 staff serving as the Senior Security Policy Advisor to the Director of Naval Intelligence.

**Topics Discussed:**

On 11 Sep Ms. Stanley was in the front office, located between the third and fourth corridor on the fourth deck, overlooking South Parking. She was waiting for Miss Long, the Deputy DNI. It was about 0820. As she had come down from her office, 5D660, in the third corridor, she met with an N2 Administrative Assistant who told her a plane had hit the World Trade Center. There were no televisions in the front office because they had just moved in. At between 0932 and 0934 Miss Long walked in, coming from the morning staff meeting in CNO IP. She had led the meeting because the Admiral was heading off to the Hill to testify. Two or three minutes after

Miss Long came in they heard an incredible explosion. Ms. Stanley felt a change in air pressure like everything was sucked out for a moment. Everyone was quiet and then looked at each other, then ran to the windows. They could see people running to the right, heading to the crash site. They didn't know what had happened, but thought it was a truck bomb.

The alarms went off. They started running out. Everyone was calm; it was a controlled evacuation with a few pockets of military and civilians who were falling apart. She ran out of the front office and turned right towards the third corridor. She could smell the smoke, but not see it.

If the Admiral (Porterfield) had not gone to the Hill and had been leading the meeting in IP she is convinced that the Admiral would have kept people over and the meeting would have continued on. If that had been the case in all likelihood they would have lost all the senior leadership in Navy Intel at the Pentagon. Instead Miss Long ended the meeting for everyone to go try to gather intel about what was happening, and actually left the Navy Command Center within 5 minutes of the plane hitting.

People were walking quickly but not running. People didn't really know what had happened. They all converged at the escalators. As she came down and looked to her right down the A ring she saw the steel fire doors were shut. Security was yelling at people to evacuate. On the second deck she could start to see the smoke. When she got to the first floor she looked to her left down the fourth corridor and the doors were shut and the smoke was coming through.

They were forced out to the courtyard. She looked up at the sky towards where the plane hit. The sky was full of black, oily smoke. At that point she realized how bad it was. She didn't want to be in the courtyard so she went down the first and second corridor. As they tried to find their way to the outside of the building a uniformed security person turned them back.

Back in the courtyard she continued to look for other options to get outside the building. Finally some MP's came out and started directing people out the same corridor she had been turned back in. They ended up out in South Parking. She continued to find people that she worked with.

The rumors started about another plane inbound. They decided to try to get away from the building. They went over towards Crystal City where Captain Moore, the EA for Admiral Porterfield, lived. They found her recall roster at her condo. They contacted Miss Long to find out where the Admiral was and what was going on as well as contacted their families.

Miss Stanley was tasked to track the recall list. Capt Moore had contacted Miss Long who told them they were creating a crisis center in South Parking, which was where the DNI was headed. Capt Moore and CDR Solburg went down to the parking area to find the DNI while Ms. Stanley stayed in the condo to continue the recall effort. When Capt Moore got to the crisis center in South Parking she found out where the plane hit. At that point they were certain they had lost everyone in CNO IP. Capt Moore called Miss Long to let her know.

Miss Stanley continued to do the recall along with a CDR and Ms. Flattery. The fire alarm went off. She grabbed the recall roster and Miss Stanley left. In the parking lot someone had started a fire in the dumpster so the fire department was having to tend to that rather than be at the Pentagon. She was now locked out of the condo. She found a woman in an Explorer who lent her a cell phone to call Capt Moore. She couldn't get through on the cell phone so the woman

drove them towards the Pentagon as far as they were allowed. While in the Explorer they got a cell call from CDR Solburg who told them to report to the Navy Annex. The woman in the Explorer then drove them towards the Navy Annex as close as she could get them.

The Director of Intelligence for the Marine Corps had opened his spaces at the Navy Annex, so the N2 reconstituted there. She briefed them on her recall efforts thus far, and then she continued to make more phone calls. By 1930 they were down to having 9 people unaccounted for, all the people in CNO IP, CDR Devine (the Director for the Policy Branch who was in IP that morning) and a civilian who worked for SSO. CDR Devine had recently reported on board and was not on the recall roster. They eventually found CDR Devine and the civilian SSO worker. The DNI told them nobody would call any family member from IP except himself or Miss Long.

At some point during the day LT Humbert and SN Cole had come up to the Annex to tell about their escape from CNO IP. They also drew a diagram of the CNO IP spaces and where they thought people were. Any family members of the missing who called in would speak to Miss Long and Admiral Porterfield. About 2030 the Admiral ordered her to go home. She ended up getting a ride to a friend's house where she spent the night glued to the television.

The next morning the DNI told her she would be taking the lead for the OPNAV recovery of classified because she was the security person on the OPNAV staff. The crash site quickly became a little town with organization and points of contact. She coordinated with the OPNAV staff about where the most sensitive material was located that had to come out. The criteria was if the material had a significant impact on national security (such as a SCIOP) or it is enough to shut down the search and rescue operation. For Navy it involved a couple pouches in the N2 office containing DNI and DDNI access only, N3/N5 had special access information, and N89 (SAP) had a lot (their office collapsed into the crash site). She coordinated with N89 as the Navy's OPNAV rep, but N89 was responsible for their SAPs.

On the first day the process was FBI and others who found things outside would pick things up and bring them to a central point. As they would get bodies out FBI would go in behind and bring out any classified that was found. They would put it in a huge, plastic-lined box in a truck. When the truck was full it was taken to the DIA SCIF at Bolling. On 13 Sep they decided the material coming out was hazardous and couldn't be sent to DIA. They arranged for everything to go to the incinerator at the Pentagon. Over the next week people (everyone had SCI tickets and signed inadvertent disclosure forms) in white suits from Navy, Army, and DIA would sift through the bins of material. They would segregate what could be saved and what had to be destroyed. She was disturbed by what came out of IP. There was material that had been burned and was soaking wet and then there was other material that was in pristine condition. She went through CDR Dan Shanower's desk drawer (he was killed). She had help from the Office of Navy Intelligence people working in 12-hour shifts as well as the Navy SAP people.

One day they got word from an N2 watchstander at the Annex that the Pontell family had received a call from Lt Pont ell's cell phone. Within an hour Mr. Chuck Briant (the NCIS special agent assigned to the N2 staff) suited up and went into the crash site to look for Lt Pontell to no avail.

The challenge the FBI faced was the volume of debris being pulled out. They had set up a fenced off area in North Parking where truckloads of stuff was being dumped. It would be

spread out, and then FBI and NCIS agents would go through looking for evidence. They also looked for paper and put it in boxes. The paper again was filtered for evidence and classified. The classified and nonclassified was separated. They couldn't keep up with the volume so they asked her for help. She called the ONI reserves. They activated a couple of reservists who did help out on 12-hour shifts around the clock. They also got people from Naval Security Group and the Marine Corps. The next day she was told they needed more people, 6-10 people per shift for 24 hours a day for the next 10 days. She asked what the other services were doing. She was told the Army had shut down and weren't doing anything. The DIA and Air Force were only putting a couple people toward the effort. She got Marines from Fort Meade, the Navy SAP, ONI and the reserves and was able to get 6-10 people per shift, to get the job done.

She had to provide a list of all the SCIFs in the Pentagon to the FBI. At one point there was some confusion about room numbers because so many offices had just moved.

Before they could get into the spaces where they needed to recover the priority-classified material they had to get it blessed by the Fire Marshall. They were finally able to get into Admiral Porterfield's office the Saturday following the attack. They had to have FBI escorts because it was still a crime scene. All the power was out; it was dark, smoky and full of water. She had the NCIS agent (Mr. Decker) and an N3/5 CDR with her. She was able to get the pouches out of the Admiral's office and noticed what good condition the space was in. The following Wednesday they released more spaces to the Pentagon. Their SSO went into the spaces and because of the lack of air conditioning, and water where the condition had been excellent it was now a mess with mold growing everywhere.

After about 2 weeks they stood down the 24 hour watches and recovery of the sensitive material. They then had to recover material from the new N2 spaces. The rules were if there was mold or it was exposed or damp the material couldn't come out. For five days they had teams working to get the classified out, certify a space was clean of classified and then the space would be demolished. She counted 90 burn bags of stuff they had to destroy. Anything that had personally identifying information on it they destroyed. With each day they were in there the mold became exponentially worse until by the last day it was up to the ceiling and looked like expanded shaving cream. They couldn't even let the boxes touch any of the surfaces and had to lay the boxes on plastic. The first priority was to get all the classified including classified computers. Next they focused on all the personal information stuff and unclassified computers. Next they took all the flat screens, leaving the monitors behind. They took out the brand new VTC equipment. They saved all the photographs of the Directors of Naval Intelligence going back to the first one, including the frame, except for about five where they saved only the photo,. They were outfitted in the white suits with the respirators while they did this work. They would take breaks at the 2 ½ hour point or when needed. Everyone who worked that got sick with coughs and respiratory issues.

The building was becoming unstable so they were told they had one day to get the rest of what they wanted. They got the combinations for the safes and started emptying the safes. In the Staff Judge Advocate's office they couldn't get one safe open. The engineers didn't want any safes moved for fear of shifting the weight balance and causing vibration. They were given special permission to move this safe carefully to a safe location. When they were finished a team of contractors would wipe everything down and vacuum it then they would take the suits off and dispose of them prior to getting out to the courtyard. All of the people doing the cleaning were uncleared so they couldn't allow them to vacuum their boxes. They recovered only about 30

boxes of material, some of it one of a kind. In the old days they would have an off-site to store stuff, but they don't do that anymore. One of the last things they brought out were nice things to have like the DNI's gifts he gives to visitors. They only recovered the personal items of the DNI and the Deputy.

On 18 April Ms. Stanley received the Department of Navy Superior Civilian Service Award for her work done after 11 September at the Pentagon.

The CNO IP people were all around CDR Shanower's desk doing a debrief when the plane hit. When LCDR Tolbert and Angie Houtz were found they could read their badges and identify them, so they were not burned. The condition of CDR Shanower's drawer that Ms. Stanley went through tells her the fire did not burn them. The drawer was in pristine condition. CDR Solburg told Ms. Stanley that she had talked to a chief from Metoc (also located in the Navy Command Center). One of the two people killed from Metoc was sitting underneath a mounted television and when the plane hit it fell on him. It looked like the people in CDR Shanower's office were killed by blunt force trauma or jet fuel inhalation. The people at ONI activated the VTC after they heard the Pentagon was hit. They could see the VTC was intact and then saw the smoke come in, then lost the signal.

The N20 office was scheduled to move to Crystal City at the end of September as part of the planned renovation. Their move was accelerated because of 11 Sep. They had 36-hour notice that they were moving. The Tuesday or Wednesday following 11 Sep a team of five was allowed to go into their office space and gather up personal belongings. They are not scheduled to move back to the Pentagon for 18 months when the renovation is totally finished. The DNI has been temporarily relocated to the N20 area. The old N20 office space was turned into the Navy Command Center and the CNO IP.

Abstracted by:  
CDR Carol O'Hagan  
26 APR 02

**Naval Historical Center  
Oral Interview Transcript**

**Interviewers:**

CAPT Gary Hall  
CDR Carol O'Hagen

**Interviewer's Organization:**

Navy Historical Center  
Navy Historical Center

**Interviewee:**

Laura C. Stanley

**Current Address:**

CNO N2 Organization

**Date of Interview:**

17 April 2002

**Place of Interview:**

Navy Annex

**Number of Cassettes:**

Two

**Security Classification:**

Unclassified

**Name of Project:** Pentagon Terrorist Attack Incident

**Subject Terms/Key Words:** Document Retrieval; Reconstitution; Pentagon; Terrorist Attack; 11 September 2001; Carnage; Navy Command Center

**Transcript of Interview:**

**Interviewee Information:**

Father was in WWII with the Navy, Sonar Tech, and then Chief Petty Officer instructor at the Naval Academy. Started her civilian career in 1980 Working for Defense Mapping Agency, started in security and worked up until 1984, when she transitioned over to Navy working for The Naval Security for Command in Wash DC. Subsequently moved to NSA complex in Fort Mead. In charge of numerous security areas, and eventually became Deputy Assistant Chief of Staff for one of the departments; then transitioned to Technical Director focusing on security policy. In 1997 selected to represent the Director of Naval Intelligence at the Central Adjudication Facility for security police and served as Advocate for FCI matters in adjudication issues. Left to work in Navy staff world, and in 1999 received a permanent billet with the N2 staff as Senior Security Policy Advisor to the Director of Naval Intelligence.

**Topics Discussed:**

A. As far as September 11<sup>th</sup> goes I found that having that title resulted in me being tagged up to do certain things for the entire OPNAV staff which certainly presented a challenge, because having something like this happen, you're certainly never trained for it. I mean you talk about

doing things on the slide. Probably the advantage I had was being in the Navy for so many years, I'd developed many contacts which served the Navy well and served the recovery effort well. That day I was down in the front office waiting to have a meeting with MISS LONG who is the Deputy Director of Naval Intelligence.

Q. Where is the front office that you were in?

A. The front office just recently moved within the previous two weeks, the beginning of September, latter part of I guess August, 4<sup>th</sup> deck between the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> corridor. What the room is I don't have a clue, but it overlooked South Parking towards the corner which you turn over towards where the crash site was.

Q. (047) So on the E ring are you?

A. Yes, on the E ring. Overlooked the parking lot which turned out to be somewhat interesting as the day progressed. So I was down there about 8:20, waiting to meet with MISS LONG. We were scheduled to go in and meet with the VCNO on a security issue involving an individual. I recall having my cup of Starbucks coffee talking with the EA about a variety of issues and policy and just the politics of life in the Pentagon, when - actually, let me back up a little bit. As I was coming down from our office, which was located up on the 5<sup>th</sup> deck off of the 6<sup>th</sup> corridor, 5D660, I think the room was, as I was coming down the 3<sup>rd</sup> corridor, JOAN BRYANT who is one of the administrative assistants for the N2 flew by me and she said, "A plane just hit the World Trade Center!"

My first thought was, "My God," you know, thinking a Cessna, a small plane. That was about 8:20, 8:15 or 8:20. That right? Yeah. When did the plane hit here, 9:49, right?

Q. (060) 9:38.

A. OK, so that must have been 9:20 when I came down. Flew by and said, “a plane just hit the World Trade Center!”

So I went in and we were talking a little bit about it. Unfortunately, because they just moved into the front office, there were no TVs. There was no CNN, nothing. So we were somewhat in a vacuum.

Then at 9:32, give or take, between 9:32 and 9:34, MISS LONG walked in. She had just come from CNOIP, from the morning staff meeting. She was leading the meeting that morning because the Admiral at about 9:15, I saw him, he and his aide, were heading off to the hill to testify. So they were in their dress blues, the whole bit. They had their satchel classified, so they leave.

I remember the DNI was commenting to his EA, “Get me as much information as you can on what’s going on at the Trade Center, the Intel, what do you know. We need to be briefing this up.”

So he leaves. So we’re just chitchatting and then MISS LONG comes in and not two or three minutes later we hear this incredible explosion, this concussion. I remember what was so noticeable about it, is that it was very loud, but there was a change, I felt a change in air pressure.

I mean there was this visceral reaction. There was this like everything was sucked out for a moment. Then everyone was just quiet. I mean it seemed like it last for an hour, but just for a split second and then we just kind of stop and you know everyone looked at each other and we immediately ran for the windows to look out. MISS LONG and I went to the window out in the outer office, and I remember her Deputy EA yelled at us, “Get away from the window!” So what



do we do? We run into the Admiral's office and look out his window. (everyone chuckles)

Curiosity got the best of us.

I remember looking out and seeing just these people running to the right, heading over toward the crash site, which at the time I didn't know what had happened. I thought it was a truck bomb.

I mean clearly it was an incredible explosion, but not in my wildest dreams did I think it was an airplane. Although in talking with folks afterwards who are Intel officers, of course, once they saw the World Trade Center, the first plane and then the second plane, immediately they said, "We're not in a good place." You know, "We think we're next."

Well, I'm not an Intel officer you know. At that time I didn't know about the second plane and still thought the first one was a Cessna. I mean you know, what in the world's going on here. So we come back out of the Admiral's office, confused, wondering what in the world's going on and the Secretary screamed. The phone just rang, and then the secretary screams, "It's a bomb! A bomb has exploded!" Then just right after that the alarms went off.

I remember thinking, "My God!" It's amazing the emotions that you go through when that happens. One, the adrenaline just spikes. You start running out. I remember, I had my stuff, I remember thinking, "Oh my God! What? Just something terrible is happening here." Just the energy and I think the fear, but the interesting thing that I found throughout this whole experience that morning, the energy, the adrenaline, you could feel it. You could see it on people's faces, but everyone was calm. It was controlled, it was a controlled evacuation with the exception there were a few pockets of both military and civilian who were falling apart, and that I really saw out in the North Parking. I'm sorry, South Parking.

But as I ran out of the front office, I turned right. I don't even remember if I looked left. I just knew that my fastest way out was to go right down the 3<sup>rd</sup> corridor which was good because I couldn't have gone down the 4<sup>th</sup>. I mean it was, that was right toward the crash site.

Q. (105) Was there smoke in the corridor at that time?

A. Not at that time, although when I walked out I could smell it, but I didn't visually see it at that point.

Right here I want to stop though and make an observation about the DNI being out of the Pentagon and the potential for what could have happened. If the Admiral had not gone to the hill, and if he had been onboard and he had been down leading that meeting in IP, I am convinced, as are all of the other folks I've spoken with in Intel that the Admiral would have kept people over. The meeting would have continued on and had that been the case in all likelihood, the odds are that we would have lost all the senior leadership in Navy Intel at the Pentagon. Because that just would have been his way. He would have wanted more information, so why he had the testimony that day. I mean we can get into all of these interesting conversations about that.

In fact, MISS LONG I understand made the decision, "Let's end this meeting. Let's try to get Intel. Let's see what we can find out." So fortunately she ended that meeting and probably left IP within five minutes of the plane hitting. So again, why? You know the timing, just for some it was bad, for others it –

So anyway as I was running down the corridor I remember – the odd things you remember – I remember having my Starbucks coffee and I'm holding it. Why I just didn't put it down.

Q. (125) You did bring your coffee (laugh).

A. Oh, I had that old coffee cup and I'm running down with this background stuff for the VCNO meeting, my book and my coffee, and in fact I was wearing this suit as a matter of fact.

(there's a brief pause in the tape)

I remember people were just walking as fast as they can. No one was running. They were just walking very, very quickly because no one really knew what had happened yet. We all converged at the apex and went down the escalators and I remember coming down the 4<sup>th</sup> deck, wrapping around and as we got – I remember the eeriest feeling - the construction has steel doors and I remember coming down and looking to my right down the A ring and the steel door was shut and I thought, "Oh my God." I felt a sense of just foreboding. Something very, very, very bad was happening.

At that point security was there. They were yelling for people to get out to evacuate and I remember coming down and hitting the second deck and I could start to see the smoke and once I got down to the first floor where we evacuated into the courtyard - that's a whole other story - I looked to my left down the 4<sup>th</sup> corridor and the doors were shut and the smoke was coming through. At that point, that's when I got really scared.

I mean up until this point I knew something very, very bad had happened. I didn't know to what degree, what damage had been done, but when I saw that smoke coming down, it was like a cloud.

I thought "Oh my God." You know, what? You don't know what to think.

Q. (142) Even though the doors were closed?

A. Yes, I remember seeing that smoke. I remember seeing that smoke. Thought, “Oh my God.”

So they force us out to the corridor. I mean out to the courtyard and this was at the third and fourth apex. I remember walking out and I looked over my left shoulder up at the sky and that would have been right where the plane hit and the sky was just this black oily stuff. I mean it just filled the entire sky and I thought, “Oh my God!”

Then I realized how bad it was. Anything that is going to create that much smoke and that much fire I couldn’t even imagine what was there. I was a little bit disoriented when I came out and I was thinking, “My God where did this thing hit? Where was the explosion?” And as we came out thinking, “I do not want to be here. I do not want to be in this courtyard.” I remember just looking around at what my options were and I ran to the right, well walked very quickly, as quickly as you can in high heels, walked to the right with some other people and shot down I guess it would have been the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> corridor. I remember being down on ground level, and going underneath the building thinking, “I do not want to be here. I don’t want this building on top of me. I want to get out. I just want to get out of here.”

I remember looking to my left and there was an Army person who was being assisted and the person was all bloody and just clearly severely injured. I’m all the way down, I guess I don’t know how far we went, maybe about a hundred feet and someone turned us around. I was so angry. I said, ““What are you doing? Don’t send us back that way.”

They wouldn’t let us go out.

Q. (164) You were in the open-air alleyway that runs –

A. Yeah we were trying to find our way to the outside of the building and they turned us back.

Q. (165) Who was they?

A. As I recall it was someone in uniform. I want to say like an MP. Clearly someone who we all thought had some authority to do this, but they said, “No, don’t come this way. Head back.”

So I remember thinking “Oh my God,” and again just wanting to get out from underneath that building, because I didn’t know what was going to happen next. At this point I think I started making connections. World Trade Center, this and then at that point we started, there was talk amongst people in the courtyard of the planes and that someone said they had heard that a plane hit the Pentagon. So I remember getting back out into the courtyard and always looking up at the sky just waiting for the next strike. Just not knowing, anticipating the worst. I remember - amazing the people you meet walking out - and obviously people were using their cell phones and this woman after she, I think she was successful in getting through. I said “Can I please borrow your cell phone? I need to call my parents, need to call my husband.”

So she said, “Yes, here,” and at that point no one could get signals. But I could remember people I would just see with cell phones and I’d ask if I could borrow it. I mean people were “Yeah here whatever you need.”

So I came back out to the courtyard and I’m looking around thinking “OK, what is my next option to get out of here?” Because again at this point everything is just getting worse and worse looking back at the building where I just came out of. It just looked like, it’s just so hard to describe, just the sky filled with this thick, black smoke.

So when I came back out to the courtyard, looked around for my options and then I started heading over to the next point that I could go out and I remember in between that, gosh probably five minutes, all in the space of five minutes, someone said they thought it hit over at the 6<sup>th</sup>,

over near the 6<sup>th</sup> corridor. At that point I thought, "Oh my God," because there's where my office is. I'm thinking my entire office has been hit, not knowing. So I start walking around to go up to the next point to get out and I saw people I work with. I go "Oh, my God." Then they saw me and they knew that I was en route down to the front office, so they didn't know where I was in between all this, because I would have had to go right through that area to get to it. So we were obviously very pleased to see each other and at this point finally there was some coordination and the MPs were coming out and directing people back out the same corridor I had tried to get out the first time. They popped us out the South into yeah, South Parking.

Q. (200) So you came out at the second corridor?

A. No, ground level, we popped out South Parking, gosh it was so bizarre. There is a, the first walkway where the buses drop you off. If you're looking at it just to the right as I recall that's where we popped out. We came out there. Oddly enough I was running into people I work with. I mean there are thousands of people but N2 seemed to just kind of like find themselves. You know, groups of people. I saw MISS LONG and I saw the EA. Checked to see that they were OK. They were fine. MISS LONG was actually standing back in the parking lot with VICE ADMIRAL KEATING. He was there as were a couple of other admirals. She was staying with them to make sure that they were all right. Then we congregated at that point, someone in uniform was saying "Get as far back from the building as possible." So we went all the way back to the farthest point of the parking lot right underneath 395. You know there's that grassy knoll right there that goes up to 295. So we were all right along there.

That's the point where I saw, just a few people, not many just losing it, military and civilian. But still the amazing thing and I do attribute this to being principally a military compound is that

everyone was calm. I mean clearly there's this heightened sense about everybody and you could see it on the expressions on their face that they were concerned. There was fear, confusion, but everyone was calm. They were taking orders as they were given. I remember the N2 folks congregating and we were up on the grass and I remember the sirens. Just constant sirens and then the fire trucks were starting to arrive. All the emergency equipment was starting to arrive. I remember at one point everyone had to kind of jump back on the grass because this fire truck was coming off of the exit from 395 to get into the parking lot. People were talking and they were saying, at this point the rumors were going that there was another plane inbound. So of course everyone's looking up at the sky waiting for the next plane to hit.

Then we heard the rumor that State Department had been hit. At the point, where we heard another plane was inbound the decisions was made at least with the N2 folks, we don't care where you go just get as far away from this place as you can. So I left with, let's see was myself CAPT PAULA MOORE, who was the Executive Assistant to the DNI. She has since left the Pentagon and is the CO out at FISPAC (phonetic). CDR ONA SOLEBERG. I gave you her name as someone you may want to talk to. KATHERINE FLATTERY who heads up the budget for N20, for the N2 organization. CDR, Oh what was her name. I can't remember her name I'm going blank. Another commander and we went over - DWIGHT PETTY was with us, actually the Commander showed up later.

We left the Pentagon and started walking over towards CAPT MOORE's condo that she was renting during her tour in Crystal City. I remember this strange thing. Walking through everyone was on foot. People were trying to get out of the area. Everything was just at a standstill. The traffic it just wasn't moving and I remember people's expression. Everyone was shell-shocked. Really just the confusion of actually having someone do this to us. You know no one expected it.

No one, we were still processing, you know, but everyone was still focused. We were just like OK we need to get to this point.

So we finally get over to her condo and unfortunately because we evacuated so quickly we didn't grab recall rosters. Which was a lesson learned. Didn't help us much anyway, but didn't grab a recall roster, but because CAPT MOORE was the EA she had one at home, albeit it was out of date, several months out of date. And as we found the entire N2's recall roster was terribly out of date, which slowed things down.

Once we got there, CAPT MOORE I think, called the cell phone I think of MISS LONG to try to track down where the DNI was, where she was, what was going on and then at that point, after about five minutes, oh and I remember we get there and we turned the TV on. Everyone just sat and we're just, our mouths were hanging open. We couldn't believe it, what we were seeing on TV. I mean it was just beyond comprehension.

We started using her phone to finally try to get in touch with family members, because up to this point none of the cell phones were working. So at that point we started calling family members and I remember KATHERINE FLATTERY was able to get through with her significant other, and in fact I had used her cell phone to continue to try to call my parents, call my husband, and the last time I used it it was to try to call my parents. Couldn't get through, but once I got to the house I tried, got on the phone, called my parents and I remember the phone was busy and I'm like, "What in the world are you, what are you doing?" They were in fact probably trying to call my cell phone not realizing I didn't have it.

Finally I get through to them. No actually, I called my husband's cell phone when their phone was busy. He was over there and it was kind of interesting how he got there. Once I heard his voice I remember, you know I kept it together up until that point and once I heard his voice and



talked to my parents, just completely lost it. But talked to them just for a short period letting them know I was OK and whatnot because other people had to use the phone. So it was later he told me he was at work. He's a, he has his own business, does home improvement kinds of things and he was busy working. Didn't have the radio on. He didn't know anything had happened and he gets a phone call on his cell phone from a friend of ours who asked him, "Where is your wife?"

He said, "What? What are you talking about? She's at work. Why are you asking this?"

She said, "The Pentagon's been hit."

He said, "What, Oh my God." So he gets on the radio (\_\_\_\_\_ Inaudible).

And then she calls him back and I didn't realize it, but it took two and a half hours before I was able to get to a phone that worked. To me it seemed like, you know, forty-five minutes. You know just time, you lost all sense of time. So by that time it was probably about noon, 12:30 by the time I was able to get through.

But then he said he got another phone call from her and she said, "I'm not one hundred percent certain, but I'm ninety-five percent certain she's OK, because I think I saw her on the news."

There had been footage of folks coming out of the Pentagon and she said, "I'm ninety-five percent certain and I saw her and ONA," who is CDR SOLBERG. We all walked out at the same time.

Obviously it was confirmed when I called but KATHERINE FLATTERY who was there told me she had tried calling her significant other and she just hit redial, thinking that that was the last number. Well she ended up calling my father, because that was the last number that was in there. She said somehow they got onto the topic, "Oh I was trying to call. I work at the Pentagon," and she said my father said, "My daughter does too, and we just heard from here, and she's OK, and

I hope you get through,” or whatever. It was kind of interesting and she recounts that often but anyway.

So after everyone made their phone calls and in fact CDR SOLBERG, she has an interesting story. She finally got through to her parents who live out, at the time were out in Washington State where they reside and she had spoke to her father that morning probably at 9:15, 9:20. She has just seen on CNN the World Trade Center, so she calls him out there. Of course the time difference. She wakes them up out of dead sleep. She said, “Dad, I don’t feel good about this.” She usually has a sense about things, which sometimes is good and sometimes bad. (chuckle) She says, “I don’t feel good about this, I don’t feel safe here. I think something’s going to happen. I don’t’ feel good.”

That was the last time they heard from her. The next thing they know the Pentagon’s been hit. So of course they’re in a panic, but when you talk to her she can retell it. So everyone made contact with their loved ones and immediately started a recall list, and that’s what I was tasked to do.

At that time, CAPT MOORE had made contact with I think MISS LONG and she said that they were creating a crisis center down in the parking, South Parking over near the crash site and the DNI was headed that way, and get down there. So at that point CAPT MOORE and CDR SOLBERG decided to head down there. I said, “Ok I’ll go. You know I’ll go down there and help do whatever needs to be done.”

KATHERINE FLATTERY said, "I really don’t want to. There’s nothing I can do. I don’t want to go down there. I’ll just stay here,” and KATHERINE said, "Can you stay with me?" At this point the other CDR hadn’t shown up.

So I said, "I'll do whatever needs to be done." So they agreed, "Yeah you stay here. Continue to recall, stay with KATHERINE."

CAPT MOORE and CDR SOLBERG went down to the parking area to try and find the DNI and try to find MISS LONG. Hearing their story of what they saw down there, right, I mean they were there, obviously, as people were still coming out and the rescues were still going on so they have some pretty vivid stories to tell.

It was at that point, unbeknownst to us at the time, it was at that point that they found out where the plane hit and it was at that point, that early in the day, that they were certain that we had lost everyone in IP. They didn't tell anybody because obviously they didn't want that to get out until it was confirmed but it was at that point that they, CDR SOLBERG told me following the conversation that CAPT MOORE had, she said, after she found out she said, "I need to call MISS LONG," who is the Deputy DNI. She said, "This is going to be the hardest call I've ever made."

So she called MISS LONG and let her know. So back at Crystal City I'm going through what recall roster I have. Trying to get in touch with people, leaving messages. The way that I did it was, if I was able to get through with somebody I said, "Who did you see outside that building?" Who can you confirm to me made it out, and so I started checking off those names.

Then probably at that point, at some point in there the other commander showed up because she didn't have anywhere to go. She finally got through on a cell phone she came up and I must admit we had a couple beers right when we got there, you know, ten o'clock, eleven o'clock in the morning, you know pass out the beers, and we had a couple of beers.

We were right in the throes of making the phone calls trying to do the recall and the fire alarm in the building goes off. I think, "Shit! This day is just going from bad to worse." And I said, "I'm

out of here." I didn't even hesitate. You know the other folks were like well you know, dilly-dally. I said, "Now we are out of here. We are not staying. We are out of here." I grabbed the recall roster, I grabbed a couple of other papers and I was out of there. I just hightailed it down all the way down those stairs and popped out and I came out in the parking area, and some fool had started a fire in the dippy dumpster. So as a result the fire department that should have been over fighting the Pentagon had to come over and take care of this. I was so furious.

Well I couldn't get back up because I didn't have a key. I'm like, "OK, Let's see what to do now," I saw this and at that point (\_\_\_\_ Inaudible 382) and I saw a woman sitting in an explorer and she was on a cell phone. She finished her calls and I went over to her and I said, "I came over from the Pentagon you know we're trying to attract folks down," etc. "Can I borrow your cell phone?" Because I had given the cell phone to CAPT MOORE.

So she said, "Sure not a problem."

So I'm trying to get in touch with CAPT MOORE, I can't get through you know it's catch as catch can with the circuits. I said, "Damn." I said you know, "We've got to find these folks."

That is my first priority to link back up with them, and I said, "Hey can you give us a ride over as close as you can get us to the Pentagon?"

She said, "Sure whatever you need."

I didn't know this person from Adam. She didn't know me. I mean she was there for us, she said whatever you need. So we all climb into her Explorer. She gets us down to oh heck what is the name of that road, darn it. It's the road that runs parallel to 395 and you can go under the underpass to get into the Pentagon. I don't recall the name of it.

Q. (402) Clark Street.

A. Yeah I think it's Clark Street, yeah, so we get to that point and we can't go any further.

They're diverting traffic and I said this is great and we're getting ready to get out, then I finally - then KATHERINE's phone rings and it was CDR SOLBERG and they had finally gotten through. So I said, "OK here's what's going on. Here's where we're at," because they had been trying to call the condo, obviously no answer because we had to evacuate it.

So I said, "This is what's going on. This is where we're at." CDR SOLBREG said, "OK, they need you up at the Annex."

I said, "Fine, what's going on?"

"No time. Just get up, they need you up there."

"Fine not a problem." So I said to the woman, again this perfect stranger – I wish I had gotten her name. I said, "Can you get us up to the Annex?"

"Sure, wherever you need to go."

So she gets us up as close to the annex as she could. Obviously they weren't letting anyone on that road that runs adjacent to it. So we get out at the exit that will take you up to Glep (phonetic) Road I think. I'm so bad with roads. Anyway pull up to the side of the road, we all clamor out and we get up to the Annex and at that time the Director of Intelligence for the Marine Corps had opened up his spaces up at the Annex and that is where the N2 reconstituted.

So when I got up there the first thing they wanted to know was who were you able to contact.

The focus was on the recall. So I told them and we broke out in, couple of us broke out and split the list, but principally I was tagged up to try to find as many people as I could.

When I got the phone call from CDR SOLBERG that was when I found out that we had probably lost IP. She said, "Don't you dare say this to anyone. No one else knows. It's not time, but this is what's going on." The reason why she told me that is because BRADY HOWELL who was a

Presidential Management intern actually started his rotation in N2 in the policy branch that I work with. I became, just as all of us did, we became good friends with BRADY.

“Crap, oh my God.” We lost an amazing person. Incredible potential and a good person. So she told me that in all likelihood Brady had been killed along with the others in IP.

Q. (444) Had you tried to contact anybody from the CNOIP?

A. No.

Q. On the list –

A. No, I had –

Q. (446) I mean were they on the list or they –

A. Some were, but I had not gotten to that point yet. I mean we were, it was and keep in mind that at this time it was only two and a half hours after the attack so a lot of people weren't at a point where I could even contact them. They weren't home yet or whatever. Although I was able to get a couple folks.

So at that point I knew things were bad. We had probably lost the folks, just absolutely devastated about BRADY, because he was such a good kid. There's a story about me getting his clearance that my name is known throughout the PMI community because of my ability to get their clearances accelerated and get them to work just because of what I do, where I've been. Get to the annex and the first thing they direct me into MR DECKER's office. They had just evacuated essentially and said, “This is yours. Do whatever you guys need to do.”

I remember sitting around the table. There was CAPT DORSETT. There was CAPT MOORE who had just come on board and a couple other folks. Interestingly it was predominantly military. I'm trying to think of any other civilians that were up there. It was me, TOM WITTLES (phonetic), who is a reservist, but works for N20 as a civilian. So there have been like three civilians really out of all of N2 that were there.

So we go over where we were at as far as who we'd been able to contact and they said, "OK you just start trying to call folks."

At that point, we had through our memories recreated the entire N2 staff. The entire N2 office to include N20, N23, the whole N2 directorate from memory. So we started working our way down the list and I remember how nice it was when I finally got someone on the other end, or someone said, "I saw this person," or this person or this person. "I know they're OK."

OK, so by seven thirty that night, I guess we were down to having I think nine people unaccounted for. All the ones at IP plus CDR DIVINE who is the Deputy in the policy branch, he's my next in line, who was down at IP for the morning brief, and this kid who worked in SSO, which was another interesting story. Anyway I'll get to that.

The interesting thing is we couldn't, MIKE DEVINE had recently reported on board and as I mentioned the recall roster was out of date. He's got five kids; his wife was pregnant at the time. I'm, thinking, "Oh my God. This can't be happening. He could not be one of those." I remember being (\_\_\_\_ Inaudible 498) for fear that he wasn't going to be there. What in the hell was I going to say?

So didn't have his number, didn't know where he lived other than the boonies out toward Frederick. He and his wife have a farm out there. So my boss who was out of town visiting his

sister, I called his home. Talked to his wife and said, "Hey I need MIKE's number, we still can't find him."

So she called [REDACTED] in New York and we had these, amazing the extent that we went to to try to find these folks. Finally got his phone number. In the meantime, once [REDACTED] knew that we were unable to find him, he was already calling Mike's house. Literally once we heard that Mike was OK, there was this collective sigh and this you know "Thank God." I mean everyone just about the same time. "Thank God, " you know I mean just everyone from the Admiral because you know just very, very concerned.

The kid from SSO who was missing. He does the courier. He carries the classified pouches from the SSO to the CNOIP, to the N3/N5. You know all the morning traffic, all departmented. So I was talking to his chief and we were trying to figure out where he would have been on his route that day not know if he had been caught up at IP.

Well turns out, oh shit, he decided to go home. Now this was, he was a civilian, decided to go home. Take a leisurely route to get home. Finally showed up around six o'clock. His wife told him that we had been trying to find him and he took his sweet time about checking back in. Ohhh!

So, and then there was some other security issues with him, which he subsequently is having his clearance reviewed. Not because of that, but related issues. So not a lot of common sense with that kid, but I mean it was just more than we needed to deal with that day.

At that point, when we realized that we were down, at about seven, seven-thirty that we were down to the IP folks, the DNI, MISS LONG had been talking with the group that was up there. It was a relatively small group that were doing this. Of course you had the folks doing recall. I was doing recall. Then you had others, the other Intel folks that were establishing a base of operations



there in the Marine spaces and they were starting to organize an Intel watch. So you had all these military things going on to reconstitute at the annex in addition to try and find folks. I remember the DNI said, “Nobody is going to call anyone from IP, any family member from IP, other than either myself, the Admiral, or MISS LONG.

Q. (558) At what point did you know that there were some survivors from IP?

A. They had actually, they were up at the Annex. In fact they were helpful they had, I'm glad you asked that question, because I forgot about this. They had some butcher paper and they had drawn out the floor plan of IP, and there was a Lieutenant, I remember seeing –

Q. HUMBERT –

A. Yeah, she had her t-shirt on, her eyebrows were singed.

Q. (566) Her hair.

A. Her hair was singed. Then there was a third class and I don't remember her name, but –

Q. (570) Wasn't it a seaman?

A. No, you're right it was a Seaman.

Q. SEAMAN COLE.

A. Seaman that's right SEAMAN COLE. I remember watching this kid, this Seaman who had been through this, because they described, I was sitting at the desk doing phone calls and I was listening to the conversations. They were describing, as they were recalling what had happened and how they escaped, and how they – the wall blew out and they tried to go back to open the

door to get to the other side of IP and it was so hot they couldn't touch it. And they got out, but I remember watching this kid, this Seaman who had been through hell and back again, and she was so calm and so composed. I don't know if she was in shock, but not once did she show that she was going to breakdown, to lose it. She was just a kid. She is a kid, but she showed amazing composure. Just, I remember describing her to a lot of people. How impressed I was with watching her.

(\_\_\_ Inaudible 595) They wanted to stay, as much as they had been through, and they were exhausted, they didn't want to go. Anyway throughout the day I remember LIZ HOWELL was calling in asking, "Where's BRADY?" I haven't heard from him. Of course at this point we have not confirmed anything. We had a good sense, but we hadn't confirmed. So MISS LONG always spoke with her. Any of the family members that called in it was either the Admiral or MISS LONG that spoke with them.

Then they started making the phone calls. I think they even went out to visit them, the ones that were close by. The DNI and Miss LONG went, and about eight-thirty, nine o'clock the Admiral ordered me out of there.

He said, "You're gone. I'm going to need you. You're security." I wasn't quite sure what all that meant, although he said, "Get out of here. I'm ordering you to go home."

I was, you know -

**Tape one, side one ends.**

**Tape 1 Side 2 starts**

(001 through (018) is a repeat of the last two paragraphs above from side 1.)

A. (0018) You get on such a rush that you know you just wanted to do something. They said, "No, get out of here." I remember making that long walk in my heels - the things we remember - down. TOM WHITTLES (phonetic), who works in N20, Navy reservist who was up there, who stood the watch for a few days, he gave me a ride to a friend's house where I kind of made a home base of operations there and got her car and went home.

Then the next day (\_\_\_ Inaudible 023) that night just glued to the TV. I just couldn't get enough of what was going on.

Q. (024) So you never made it home? You only made it to the friend's house? (\_\_\_ Inaudible (025), and obviously I'd been talking with my parents throughout the day and talking with my husband, you know, letting him know what was going on, and going on. So came back the next morning bright and early. At some point I got a change of clothes, because I was in jeans at this point, and I wore jeans for the next four weeks.

But I remember the DNI, at this point, no one, things were still haphazard. Things weren't organized yet. I was trying to get a sense of the damage. What was going on with the classified, obviously that being my area?

I think it was that morning after one of the early morning meetings that the DNI attended he told me (\_\_\_ Inaudible 034) tagged up to take a lead on the OPNAV recovery of classified, because I was the security person on the N2 staff. Roger that. Never had training to do something like this, but by God you know we'll give it a good shot.

Did a lot of coordination. Found out who the points of contact were. It was amazing to me how quickly the crash site became a little town and how it became organized and there were points of contact and the next few days after that really are just a blur as far as the sequence of how I

developed a contact list. Enough to say that I ended up going down to the crash site after having made contact with different people on the OPNAV staff to talk about number one, where was the most sensitive stuff they had in the building that was now shut down? What do we have to get out? It has to come out.

The criteria for that I mean obviously Navy Intel for example just has an enormous amount of classified. As I continue this story I decided that we definitely have too much classified because of what we ended up having to do.

What was the most sensitive information that you have that has got to come out? The criteria was it impacts, it has a significant impact on national security such as a SYOP (phonetic) that is out and sitting, or it is enough to shut down the recovery, the search and rescue operation. That was the criteria.

For Navy it involved a couple of pouches out of the N2 office that were, that contained extremely sensitive information that only the DNI, the Deputy DNI were authorized access to. It was DOD stuff. N3/N5 had some special access information and actually there were two areas in N3/N5. N89 who is the Navy SAP (phonetic) folks they obviously had a lot of stuff. They were on the fifth deck. The plane went in the first and second deck. They were on the fifth deck. They were able to get out and then twenty-five minutes later it collapsed and all of the Navy SAP stuff, the Navy's SAP central office comes crashing down into the crash site. So they obviously had stuff.

Because of the distribution of authorities, I coordinated closely with them as the Navy's OPNAV rep, but that was their area. I took care of all the sensitive compartmented information on behalf of the DNI and for the rest of the OPNAV staff and N89 was responsible for their SAPs, just because of how authorities line up.

So at some point, I made it down to the crash site, hooked up with the classified recovery truck.

There was some folks from the Defense Intelligence Agency, many of whom I've worked with in the past so we had an immediate rapport, and I remember my first day down there, talking about the process. What they were doing and the process at that point for the immediate crash site was FBI and others, MCIS, as they found things outside were picking them up and they were going to a central point.

For what was coming out of the crash site as they would get bodies out, FBI would go in behind that and just find whatever classified they could and bring it out. It went into a huge box, plastic lined. That went out to the truck. And I recall being down there, (\_\_\_ Inaudible 075) then after the truck was full take it out to their complex out at Bolling. Into the SCIF for secure storage and I was completely comfortable with that. I said on behalf of Navy, roger that, I mean that's perfect with us.

What was interesting was that I played the negotiator and the diplomat between N89, the folks who had lost their entire floor and all of the Navy SAP stuff in DIA, because they were extremely concerned about their material. They did not want it going anywhere. They wanted to try to capture it at the front door if you will and send it somewhere else. It became rather heated. Emotions were heated. Patients was running thin and I remember having to step in between the SAP folks and DIA and calm the SAP folks down and say, "Hey, storing it at DIA is a good plan. It's a reasonable plan. It's the best one that we have." These folks are, you know, accept it go with it and then we can make sure that all the stuff gets segregated at another point. So that calmed folks down.

I can understand their emotions because RICHARD O'HARA who I've known for some time and in particular when I worked with Navy SAPs for a while, the day I saw him, the first day I

saw him was the first day that he looked at that building and saw how close he was. He had no idea. And in fact when you looked at the crash site there was a sheared off left side and there was the office with the safe and the computer. That was their space. So I mean for them it was, there was a lot of things that they were dealing with in addition to trying to capture the material.

After about the second day, let's see 11<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> probably on the 13<sup>th</sup> it was decided that the material coming out was hazardous. We had medical issues. We had body parts, fuel and decided it could no longer, it was no longer safe to send it out to DIA. It certainly wasn't going to sit in the truck, so they arranged to have everything go out to the incinerator at the Pentagon. So we moved everything out there.

Then over the next week or so, material would come out. We had folks who all at a minimum had SCI tickets, everyone signed inadvertent disclosures for all the material that they were bound to see, that they weren't read in for, particular all of the Navy SAP stuff, and you know some CSI compartments that people were indoctrinated for.

We had representatives from Navy, the (\_\_\_ Inaudible) -(Army) collateral and SAP community, DIA. I don't recall anyone from Airforce. And the process was information would be brought out there, material. It would come out in bins and we all had our hazmat suits on, you know those white suits and we would go through it and segregate out what we could destroy right then. It wasn't recoverable and what we wanted to save.

For me the interesting thing really the disturbing thing was the stuff that came out of IP. There are a combination of things. There was material that had been burned and melted and it was soaking wet, and then there was other material that was in pristine condition. In fact the office where we lost our people DAN SHANOWER's desk, they had DAN's drawer, that was just pulled in two out of his desk. I remember going through that and I had a phone call on my cell

phone and I was in the process of going through his stuff and his personal effects and pictures and whatnot. I had a cell phone call from CDR SOLBERG who was calling on behalf of CAPT DORSETT who was the N20 who wanted me to come up and write a written report, status report for that day. At that point I lost it. I started screaming into the phone. Started crying and I said a few expletives deleted, and I said, "Are you crazy?" to paraphrase. "I am here. I'm going through this crap, you know I'm finding this stuff. What the hell does he want me to go up there and write a damn status report? The bottom line is this is what we're doing. This is what we found." I just, I lost it, and that was actually the first point where I had truly lost it. It was just anger really. I was just so, yes at what I had to do. The reason why I had to do it, not because I was doing it. Obviously it was my job, you know, if I could have done more I would of, but the reasons why I had to do it. I was furious.

Q. (126) Were you the only one from your organization that was –

A. No, actually I had, I had called up the folks over at Office of Naval Intelligence, because clearly I couldn't you know I had to be in other places as well. So I had arranged and folks were incredible, whatever they could do they did. I had a couple folks come over from the Office of Naval Intelligence who were working in twelve hour shifts and they were on site at the incinerator going through the stuff. There was Navy SAP folks they had their whole contingent of people going through. So for there it wasn't just me. We had a few people. But pretty much I was directing from the Navy's perspective how we were going to handle this. What we were going to do and the whole bit to include the SAP folks, which you know so long as I didn't step on the toes of "Well we're going to keep this piece of SAP or we aren't." I mean they were

pleased with that. They wanted some, you know a central point who was making phone calls and coordinating.

So anyway, so we worked the incinerator side. The real challenge came out in North Parking. As they were bringing stuff out, as they were getting more and more bodies out, oh let me back up, this is interesting. I just remembered this. Up at the Annex, I was up there one day. I was in in the morning giving them an update, MISS LONG and the Admiral, an update on what was going on. What the process was, and the Commander who was standing watch, he was on the Intel watch and he just received a phone call from PONTELZE family.

Q. (145) PONTELL?

A. PONTELL, thank you, PONTELL family. In fact I still have, this is my note in case I had any, had to refresh my memory, but I've got a handwritten note in there that they had received a call on his cell phone. So you've heard the whole cell phone story at the house. And DAN GRITTEN (phonetic) CDR. (\_\_\_ Inaudible )received the phone call and he looks to me and he says, "This is what I've got," and he and I go running down to the point, the communication point at the Annex that was theoretically supposed to have contact with the recovery teams down at the site. So we go running down there and tell them that we have this. That you know, the phone's going off. You know it's ringing, it's coming up with his cell phone number. We don't know if he's still alive down there.

So somehow I guess probably within an hour, CHUCK BRYANT, I want to say this is the sequence, Chuck Bryant who is the NCIS special Agent, he's the senior agent assigned to the N2 staff, actually suited up and went into the crash site and went into the IP spaces to see if in fact,



along with the other rescue folks, to see if in fact he was down there, and obviously there was no way. I mean, he wasn't.

CHUCK would be a good one to talk to if you haven't already. CHUCK BRYANT, because he went into the crash site. He has emotions and memories that –

Q. (162) Lieutenant Commander?

A. No, he's a civilian. He's a 15. Works for NCIS. He had to see things that fortunately, I didn't. So –

Q. (165) So you didn't, you did not get into the building yourself?

A. I was in the building. I was not in the crash site where the casualties were. There was no need for me to go in there.

Q. (166) Did you get back to your office?

A. Well, that's, oh yeah. Actually, well let me talk about North Parking and then I'll talk about what we faced dealing with the Admiral's new spaces, as well as our old spaces. The big challenge that the recovery team, the FBI faced was this volume of debris that was being pulled out. They were staging it out at North Parking. They had set up a huge fenced in area, and they would have dump truck loads of stuff brought out there. They would spread it out and FBI agents, NCIS and others would go through that looking for evidence, obvious evidence. They would also get paper, any paper and put it into boxes. Then that paper was then filtered again for any evidence of you know, phone number of Bin Laden, you know. That's the example they

always gave, you know, the guy on the airplane, but any evidence, anything of evidentiary value plus classified, and they would separate it, classified, unclass.

Well clearly the volume became such that the agents couldn't keep up with it. They weren't able to do their law enforcement side of this. They were busy sifting through stuff. Because of the material that came out of the crash site, clearly they needed folks that had the right tickets, because of the sensitivity. So the NCIS agent called me as the N2 point of contact and said, "Hey we need some help. We need some folks who are cleared, who can go through this stuff and sift through it (\_\_\_ Inaudible 188)." He said, "We're going to need initially a couple people around the clock for two days."

I said, "OK, all right. How am I going to do this one." You know this is one of those phone calls at home. OK how am I going to do this? This is where the benefit of being in the Navy for so long was helpful. I called up the Reserves over at ONI and I said, "This is my situation." This is after I got the green light that yes, go out and find the people. Do whatever it takes to get them. Called up the Reserves. "This is the situation I've got. What can you do to help me?"

So they said, "We'll do whatever we can."

So they activated, within twelve hours they activated a couple reservists who volunteered to do it. Twelve-hour shifts around the clock. If you can imagine being fully suited up with the rubber gloves, sealed boots, again because you've got body parts. You've got jet fuel. You've got asbestos. I mean it was, it was a very unhealthy situation. You're out in the heat. You're out in the rain. You're out in the cold, because it was all outdoors, for twelve hours. Just looking at this stuff, sifting.

So we got reservists and we had a couple folks from, at that time was it, I think it was, I would call up to Naval Security Group where I used to work and also the Marines and they brought some folks down.

Then I get the phone call the following day, “The job is growing. We need more people. We now need six to seven people per shift, 24 hours a day for at least the next ten days.”

“Are you nuts, where am I going to find these people?” I asked the NCIS guys. I said, “What are the other reservists doing?” We’re going to do everything we can and I will pull out every stop I can to get these folks, but what is everyone else doing?”

He said, “Quite frankly, Army has shut down they aren’t doing anything. I mean they are just moving forward. They aren’t putting anyone toward this effort. DIA’s putting a few people towards it and Air Force a couple people.”

So I said, “Fine, whatever,” and I started making phone calls. This is where everyone came together. I had the Marines from Fort Mead who are all NCI cleared, these young Marines. I had the Navy SAP community who mobilized an incredible amount of people. ONI, Office of Naval Intelligence and the Reserves. Somehow I was able to get six people per shift, 24 hours a day, working twelve hours each shift going through this stuff. We did it up until the point they said, “We no longer need you. You’ve done the job.”

The guy from NCIS told me that Navy had shined during that whole evolution. We were the only ones that had that kind of turn out and we were the ones that kept things going. So I was very pleased and the people did an incredible job. (\_\_\_ Inaudible 224)

I had, one of the things I had to do was provide a list of all of the SCIFs in the Pentagon to the FBI, because they were mapping out obviously, the affected area, the crime scene area which

obviously extended well beyond the crash site where all the SCIFs were. So I gave them all of that information.

Then I got a phone call from VICE ADMIRAL TRACEY, a phone call from her and she knew that I was the point of contact. I met her once up in MISS LONG's office. A very pleasant cordial conversation. Yes, this is what were doing, in a nutshell.

I'm down at the crash site, the cell phone rings and it's VICE ADMIRAL TRACEY, and she is livid. She is screaming in the phone. It turned out that there was a meeting with very, very senior people, like the Secretary of Defense, or the Deputy Secretary of Defense and Navy equivalents. I don't know who they were but the equivalent. And they were discussing where they needed to go to retrieve material. Where was the classified material that had to get out of there? Obviously, the Navy Command Center and IP were two of the locations. Well, when they gave the FBI the room number, it was the room number that they had moved out of, the old one. So VICE ADMIRAL TRACEY, I don't know any of this at this point when she calls screaming. "Did you give them this room number?"

"What room number?"

"Did you give them this room number?"

"Well what is the issue?"

"You don't even know what ...did you..." – I mean just on and on, and I'm trying to get a sense. Put it in context. Why is she asking me this? What happened?

"The FBI have been up there for an hour. They can't get in. They're ready to walk off because Navy doesn't know what the hell they're doing. Did you give them this room number?"

I said, "Well ma'am, I don't have my list of rooms with me, but let me get right on it."

"I want to know." Boom (Typist note: indication the phone was slammed down).

Oh, this is going to be a bad day. So I called up to the Annex where N2 had reconstituted, talked to the Deputy EA, LCDR DALE RIBLE. I said, "Dale, go in my backpack. In there you're going to see a list of room numbers. Those are our Navy SCIF. Tell me if this room number is on there." Please don't let it be on there.

He looks through it and he says, "No, it's not there."

I said, "Look again."

So he looks through it, says. "No it's not there."

"Thank you." So in the meantime Agent PERON, DON PERON from the FBI, who he and I got to know each other really well over the next two or three weeks. I saw him because I met him knowing that he was the one that was going to get me into the Admiral's space to get that pouch that I talked about earlier. At this point I still hadn't found my way into the space. I was still coordinating to get other people in.

So he tells me what's going on. I said, you know I ask him, "What's this all about?"

He tells me and I said, "Well it looks like it was the old space." So in the meantime MAJOR GENERAL JACKSON is calling me on the cell phone about the same situation. He's down at the crash site. So I'm talking with him and I told him what I knew. At this point I still hadn't spoken to TRACEY again because all these phone calls happened in succession and the face-to-face with the FBI guy. I explained what happened. FBI was not upset. You know DON said, "Hey no big deal. This is going to happen. There's going to be confusion."

So the General said, "Well where are you?"

"I'm at the crash site."

He said, "OK, stay where you are." So he comes over and I meet the General. So now I have on a first name basis, well at least he is with me, General for him. So I meet GENERAL JACKSON

who was leading the classified recovery for the Pentagon. So yes, everything's fine, you know. blah, blah, blah.

So I called back ADMIRAL TRACEY. Explained to her what happened. FBI is fine with it. I've spoken with GENERAL JACKSON. He's fine with it. Everything is OK, and I defuse it, and immediately she turned, "OK, that's great," blah, blah, blah.

So following that VICE ADMIRAL TRACEY was very comfortable in calling me whether it be at home or at the office asking for updates and anything that I needed to get the job done. So everything was fine after that.

So but I mean it just shows you that there was a lot of confusion. One of the lessons learned is that know exactly where your spaces are. Know exactly where your containers are, which we had a problem trying to identify some of these things.

So there was the whole issue with the North Parking that was running, that I was working. At the same time trying to get into the spaces. The NCIS agent I was working with, MR. DECKER, I'd have to look just to make sure. Great guy, he knows how to work the system you know, he's law enforcement. I had access to the crash site, I got badged up and we worked the system to be able to get into the spaces, because at this point everyone wanted to get into the spaces. People were saying that it was a crisis if they weren't in there. So the folks who were trying to manage all of this, were learning real quick, you need to prioritize. You need to have some methodology. Fortunately, we had a good working relationship with FBI. They really cut us some slack. I mean they kind of pushed us ahead of the line to go in and get some stuff. They really did help us out, but before we could go into our spaces, none of which at the time were down in IP, so it wasn't really a danger from a structural concern, but we had to get it blessed from the Fire Marshall because you also had all these fires that were still burning.

So anyway we finally were able to get into the Admiral's office the first Saturday following the attack. I remember going in and the Admiral said, "OK here are the pouches we need to get out and if you can, if you've got time, grab my brief case."

Of course everyone just left, wallets, purses, you know, My whole life was still up in the other spaces, which I couldn't get to.

Q. (312) But you did have your coffee.

A. I did have my coffee (laugh). That's the only thing I had was my coffee. So I went into the spaces and I remember well I remember coordinating with FBI. They had two escorts with us, because it was a crime scene we couldn't go in there alone. We had to have FBI escorts. So when we went in we accessed it through the, I guess, the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter main entrance from South Parking. It's that new crossover. They have an open jet, well they aren't going to for a while, but we went in there and I remember all the power was out and it was dark and there was smoke and water and it was so incredibly eerie. With me was MR. DECKER, the NCIS agent, CDR SCOFIELD who works for N3/N5, because she had to go in and get some SAP stuff out of her space. So we had flashlights and we were clamoring through and we made it down to the E ring and finally we could see some sunlight. But oh my God that was, had to go through the stairwells. That was just so eerie. It was quiet. It was dark and just the smell was just overwhelming.

Got down to the N2 corridor and had the combination to the front office. So I'm spinning it and it's one of those new combination locks. You know I like the old ones. You bomp, bomp, bomp and you open it. Well it's one of these new ones where you just turn it to the right, you never turn it to the left. Well I've worked in open storage areas for too long, I must admit. So I couldn't get the damn thing unlocked.

I'm like "Oh my God what are we going to do?"

So I finally went to one of the windows and I was finally able to get a signal and I'm calling, I had to call the Chief to get the Admiral's home phone number, and she didn't want to give it to me. You know, they never want to give that. I said, "Chief, this is the situation (\_\_\_ Inaudible 340)"

So I called, daughter answered I think. Spoke to the Admiral, explained what was going on. I said, "Do you want me to go through the wall? How important are these pouches? I'll go through the wall."

He said, "No," he says, "but you know, that's a new combination lock and they had to show me how to use it, because it's brand new. You just turn it to the right."

I'm like, "This is really embarrassing when a security person doesn't know about these new combinations." I'm at the policy point now, I've gotten away you know from a day-to-day pragmatic side of it.

So I said, "OK let me try that and I'll call you with the status. Let you know how." This is stupid.

So I go back over there tch, tch. tch, tch. Boom, bam, and I go, "OK, fine we've learned something today."

So go in, gather up the pouches. The spaces looked great. They look fantastic. They were dry.

This is key. They were dry. A slight layer of soot, but nothing real bad. But if you looked down the hallway to where it jogs, you could see where the flame, that heat had just came down and around the corner and the paint was orange from the heat, you know. Just ffooooo, so that was pretty close, because that was I guess about fifty feet down the passageway you could see the damage from the flame.



So I grabbed that stuff. Went and hit a couple of the spaces to check and see if they were secured. If they weren't, spin the dial. Actually I think all of them were secured. They were. All were secured. So I left.

We were successful there. Debriefed the Admiral on the condition of the spaces. He was pleased. Got the pouches where they needed to go. Everyone was happy. Everything was secure again and then, I guess the following Wednesday the crime scene, the area considered crime scene was shrinking. They were releasing more and more spaces back to the Pentagon. So our SSO went into the spaces to check some stuff, and by this point what had been excellent condition had deteriorated, because of the water, the lack of air-conditioning. He said that mold was starting to grow. Said things were really looking bad, there was water damage.

I thought, "My God, it's amazing what has happened." And it looked like someone had forced their way into one of the vaults.

So I get a phone call from MISS LONG who had found out about this. I think that was the sequence. Very concerned. "Find out what happened. Did someone get into our spaces? Did someone go into the SCIF?"

So I ended up calling FBI. Found out that what they had done was if there was a concern that there may have been someone in a space, they forcibly entered the space and they marked it with an orange X fluorescent paint and in fact those doors had been marked. So we know it was FBI. The fact that it was a crime scene, I was confident that no one else had gone in there that shouldn't have been in there. Because at that point, well before then you had soldiers with M-16 guarding areas that would access any of those passageways, and it was a crime scene. So I was confident, I really – (break in recording)

Then came, so we get all of the classified stuff squared away. I guess that took about two weeks. We stood down from the 24 hours watches. Got all the sensitive stuff out then we go onto recover the material out of the new N2 spaces that they had just moved into two weeks prior to the attack.

As I mentioned it was a lot of mold, fungus, a lot of water damage. So when I went up there, we set up teams and the rules were based upon the safety inspection that if there was mold on it, it couldn't come out. If it had been exposed; if it was damp it couldn't come out, because they just didn't know what that would end up doing to the people who were handling it.

So for three days, four days over a period of five days we had teams go up there. I was up for each one. We would work the first time about four hours to go in. The idea was get all your classified out. You're going to certify that it's clear classified and then the end result was we're going to just demolish the whole space.

Well, for most people they had just a couple hours to accomplish this. And too, being that it's all classified they really again were so, DPS were so supportive and really gave us all the help we needed and all the time we needed within certain parameters.

It took us two full days, two half days, to get the stuff out. We, I counted approximately ninety burn bags of stuff that we had to destroy (\_\_\_ Inaudible 424) personal information, travel orders, FITREPs, anything that had personally identifying information on it that we didn't want it to just get out to a landfill. But oh my God I mean just with each day that we were in there it became expediential, the mold became expedientially worse. It started out, it's just this stuff that would just kind of climb up the wall to the point, the last day we were in there it was pretty much up to the ceiling. There was every color of the rainbow - black, pink, blue, purple. There was mold that if you imagine spraying shaving cream on a wall, it expands. That's what this stuff was. We had

to lay plastic down, put boxes on it and put the stuff in the box. We couldn't let the boxes touch any of the surfaces.

The first priority that we set out was get all the classified out to include the classified computers. Once we got that out then we started focusing in on the Privacy Act, the personal stuff. Personal information and all of the unclassified computers. We were going to try to recover everything we could and then recycle it. Then we took out all the flat screens that we could. We left the monitors there, but we took out all the CPUs and the expensive flat screens. We were able to take out the brand new VTC equipment that cost a small fortune. Able to get that out.

Of utmost importance and of historical value and because it's so unique we have photographs of all of the Directors of Naval Intelligence going back to the first one. And we really (\_\_\_\_

Inaudible 450) The SSO when he told me that he saw them, he said, "They're sitting in water.

You can't salvage them."

So I took his word for it, OK. Well one day when I was up there I said I want to go look for myself. Thank God I did. They were in the conference room that was just black with smoke, because it was the closest to the crash site so just all that smoke and stuff had come in. There was water on the floor. The pictures were stored in this huge moving box and fortunately each one had been wrapped in plastic. So I went through and took them out of the plastic and was able to recover every photograph to include the frame with the exception of about five that were at the bottom. So I ended up taking the photographs out of the frame and I was able to recover the photographs. So we were very pleased with that.

Q. (467) What did you wear in there?

A. We were completely outfitted with the white suits.

Q. Kind of what you did out in North parking lot.

A. Exactly.

Q. (470) With the respirator and –

A. Yeah, we had the respirator, again because of the mold, we couldn't breathe in the air because of the mold. We still had a concern with asbestos, just an extremely hazardous area. The boots, the gloves, so we were completely decked out in that and I remember being up there for a few hours and we would come out and take breaks at like two and a half hour point or whenever anyone needed it. And for some they were slightly claustrophobic so you have all this stuff on your face. Some folks bear it better than others and if they couldn't do it, not a problem, I mean get out.

But I remember coming out at one point and stripping off all of these clothes and unfortunately that first time, I learned after that, I didn't bring a change of clothes. I was soaked. Absolutely drenched, as was everyone else. Everyone who worked that got sick. I was probably sick for a good two months, cough, a lot of folks experienced that. In fact CDR SOLBERG still has some lung issues that her brother is a doctor out in Washington State and he's wondering if there is some correlation between all that crap that she has to breath and this. May or may not be, but everyone got sick either with a cold, or this cough that seemed to prevail with anyone who was working around this material. Finally we got that.

The decision was made at one point to hold off on moving the safes out. Let's get all the loose stuff out. We'll attack the safes later. Well unfortunately the building was becoming unstable so we were told you've got one day left to get this stuff out. So I quickly got together a team. Got

the combinations to the safes. You would think were the right combinations. Go up there. Start emptying out safes. We get to the safe in the Staff Judge Advocates office. I'm trying and I'm trying and it's not working. So I'm calling the SSO, "Do you have any other combination?" They give me another one. Nothing is working.

I said, "Oh my God, we've got to get this stuff out of here."

So Again DPS was fabulous. Because of the structural, lack of structural integrity for that section, again because we were so close to the crash site, they didn't want these safes being moved, because that would actually shift the weight balance so they didn't want any safes moved. It also causes vibration. So they didn't want anyone taking the safes out.

I said, "Look I've tried everything I can. I need to get this safe out, because this is my last day." I mean after that they were going through and they were going to destroy it whether there was a safe in there or not.

(\_\_\_ Inaudible 522) "OK, I'm going to let you do this. Of course other people saw it and "Can we do this?"

"No, special situation."

So I remember at this point we could no longer come down the 3<sup>rd</sup> corridor because they had blocked that off. We had to come down the 4<sup>th</sup> corridor, and again that was right at that line of demarcation. I mean the 4<sup>th</sup> corridor and then a hole. So we came up the stairs and walked down that 4<sup>th</sup> corridor and I remember my first experience with that. Walking by and there was an elevator that was right at the 4<sup>th</sup> corridor and it was right at the point where the plane hit, and everything was just blown out. The steel was just blown out.

I said, "My God, was that from just the force of the explosion?" Obviously the answer was yes.

As we continued down toward the E ring there was plywood and I kind of peeked around and I remember just looking down into the hole with just all of this debris, everything collapsed.

I thought, "Oh my God, just get me away from this."

So we ended up going down and we brought out the safe and I remember the guy -

Tape 1 side 2 stops.

Tape 2, side 1 begins

A. ...bed, because we had a structural engineer with us before we could take it out to verify Ok it's stable right now, you can take it out. We had the safe and it was a five-drawer safe. We had it on a dolly. We had the moving guys come in. They were fantastic office movers. They were fabulous. They really helped a lot. Took it down, got to the 4<sup>th</sup> corridor and we had to stay as far to the inner hallway as we could and literally just take baby steps so as to not create any vibration getting that safe out. We get down to the temporary barrier they had set up made out of plywood, and some fool on the other side had locked it, padlock. And again you had, I had this - being trapped.

"I don't want to be here. This is structurally unsound. Get me out of here."

You know, it's just, I didn't have any problem being in there so long as I knew I could get out. But once I saw that was blocked. So they in short order unlocked the door and got us out.

That was an amazing experience. Folks volunteered to go up there and help. It was hard work, it was difficult work. LCDR RELAG (phonetic) came up because the Admiral was concerned about why we were destroying so much information and I explained to him what the conditions were. He wanted to go up himself and look. Well fortunately LCDR RELAG (phonetic), his

Deputy EA brought a camera up and he took some photographs and had them developed and of course it's us in our you know, our outfits, and the mold and just the disaster that the spaces were.

(\_\_\_ Inaudible 566) I was discussing, after he saw those pictures he said, "Well maybe I really don't need to go up. Yes, I think you probably did make the right decision to get rid of it."

Because he was hearing that everyone else was bringing their stuff out and that was true. A lot of people two corridors or two rings down or toward the inner, toward the interior of the building didn't have any damage. But where ours - our spaces they were just decimated and in fact the safety guys said that our space, that section was the one that the folks had to always wear the protective gear. Other folks were just going in with little booties and whatnot, but we were forced to wear this, because (\_\_\_ Inaudible 024) atmosphere.

Q. (025) Then there was a decon area when you came out.

A. Yeah.

Q Where was that?

A. Everything was staged in the center courtyard. That's where we would go and we would suit up. Go in and bring stuff out and as you came out there was a team of contractors who would wipe everything down to get all the soot off and any loose materials and vacuum it and then we would walk out. We would have to strip down out of our suits and they were disposed of. So you never went out into the courtyard exposed with this stuff on. Everything was destroyed, disposed of before you got outside.

It was a challenge with as much classified information as we had because all of these folks that were doing the cleaning obviously were uncleared. So as we were coming out in very short order we said, "Whatever's in that box, you don't open it up and vacuum," because as would everyone else they'd open it up and try to vacuum it. No, so. They did not. Took care of it that way.

We had again over ninety burn bags that were destroyed. My Gosh we had, and 4<sup>th</sup> corridor we had probably 30 boxes of material that we were able to recover. Some of it one of a kind. The lesson learned, the old days we would have an offsite where you would store stuff. We don't do that anymore. Well, (\_\_\_ Inaudible 041)

Finished with that.

Q. (042) When you say boxes of stuff, this was mainly paper, or was it also like disks or tapes or a combination of stuff?

A, Oh yeah, well yeah combination where we could recover disks yes, but in our environment we don't use disks that much. It's all just LAN work if you will. But principally paper. Some disks. One of the last things that we brought out after we got everything out that had to come out were nice things to have. Like the DNI's gifts that he gives to visitors or whatnot, but that was at the bottom of the priority list.

We were able to recover the personal items of the Admiral and the Deputy. We didn't do that for anyone else, but for obvious reasons we did it for them because for example the DNI I remember opening up his desk drawer and he had his personal notes for the 06 list. Well, you know his thoughts, you know who he wanted where and so obviously there were things that were unique that he really did need to have. So we gathered up all their stuff and MISS LONG'S. In fact MISS LONG just sent me a note a couple of weeks ago She had just been able to get to the boxes



of stuff that came out and she was very surprised at how much of her personal and professional belongings that we brought out. And she thanked me personally knowing as she said I had a million other things to do, but to get that out it meant a lot to her.

Of course, I like to share the limelight so I sent her back a note and said it wasn't just me. It was CDR SOLBERG my partner in crime on a lot of this. She and I took the DNI's and the Deputy DNIs office, we took care of getting their stuff out.

In fact tomorrow I will be receiving an award for what I did during 9-11.

Q. (063) What are you getting?

A. I believe it's going to be the Department of Navy Superior Civilian Service Award. It's like the second highest one. This will be my third received.

Q. Congratulations.

A. Thank you. But as I told everyone I will tell you I feel uncomfortable getting it, because when I talked to the SSA (phonetic), you know he couldn't thank me enough for organizing all of this stuff and getting people in there and just all the logistical stuff and calling up folks and calling neighbors and calling people I haven't spoken to in years. I said, "I've got the easy job. You guys have the hard job. I mean you're crawling through the crash site. You're dealing with bodies. You're dealing with (\_\_\_ Inaudible 070) and having to handle all that stuff." I said, "I've got an easy job."

So I almost, I do I feel uncomfortable getting it because as I kept telling MISS LONG because she kept telling "You know you did a great job."

I said, "I was just doing my job."

Somehow I, sometimes I wondered how I knew what to do because again you know how do you know how to organize seven people, 12 hours shifts for ten days. Where you going to pull these resources from? But again you know it's amazing what you can do when you're faced with a challenge. You know, you just think it through and you start making phone calls.

Again the thing that stands out so much out of this whole experience was how everyone came together. I didn't meet one person that would not do anything they could to help. Again these folks that worked twelve-hour shifts. That was a hard, I had an easy job compared to what they went through. They deserve a lot of credit.

The folks out there in South Parking, all the volunteers. Amazing, just couldn't provide enough support. The Marines up at Fort Mead, when I got the phone call from VICE ADMIRAL SWEENEY that said we need to get some experienced folks to go into the IP, the actually crash site to pull out the classified, "Who do you have."

My Marines, all SCI cleared, so I called up there. We arranged to have them come down one day that we thought they'd be able to go in there and pull the classified out. We had like 25 Marines come down, men and women. They came down, they had you know their flak jackets on. I said. "Wear whatever you need to to be safe in there because I have no idea you know, what's falling or whatever."

So they show up. Unfortunately that day while they were en route going down 95 (\_\_\_ Inaudible 090) the Pentagon evacuated everybody because the foundation was shifting. So they evacuated everybody out of there. So, my Marines got down there and I had to tell them "got to send you home." You know, "the foundation just shifted and cannot go in there. No one's going in there. It's just not safe." But I thanked them for volunteering and they were doing whatever it took. I mean these folks were just amazing. Just, they were there. They just wanted to do something. If

it's just stand around and you know, move a box, they just wanted to do something. Everybody did. Just anything they could do. It was a pretty amazing experience. I just wish the Navy could work that well all the time. It was great.

Q. (098) While this was going on at what point did you get better confirmation of who was lost or how they were doing in identifying folks?

A. Really by that, by the first evening we knew who was in there. We knew the extent of the damage and we knew that there was no way that they could have survived. Over the next 48 hours as people were coming, well actually it took a lot longer then that, but initially over the next 48 to 72 hours we were getting confirmation as people were coming out.

JERRY MORAN, who is former Navy, photomate. At the time a contract when he was working in IP, I guess it was where he was located because he was one of the last to be identified. I was told that the guys, the majority of guys that we lost, two of them TOLBERT and, I'm going blank on the name, when they pulled their bodies out they could see the badge.

Q. Oh Wow, Angie, or –

A. ANGIE HOUTZ, thank you. Apologize for going blank, but tend to do that. So they were able to see the badge so, they weren't obviously they weren't burned or whatever. And when I mentioned that I had DAN's desk, that's where they were sitting. They were doing a de-brief if you will, of the morning staff meeting. The morning brief to the DNI. So they were all in there. The condition of his safe drawer tells me that they weren't killed by the fire, because it wasn't, it just wasn't burned. It was in pristine condition. There was nothing wrong with any piece of paper in there.

Q. (118) Did you hear where they were found vis a vie that office?

A. They were, Dan's office –

Q. Can we get that chart. Get a little schematic, we're trying to help to pull this together for the author, too and from hearing a number of these we think we understand but since (\_\_\_ Inaudible 122)

A. What is interesting is that I did find out that you know that CNO IP (\_\_\_ Inaudible 123).

Q. What we think is that, show her where you think SHANOWER's -

Q. (Another) Now was this SHANOWER's office and this TOLBERT's. These were the two offices.

A. I think it was, this was probably SHANOWER's, because SHANOWER was the lead guy down there.

Q. (127) He was the OIC, right?

A. So it would stand to reason he was in there.

Q. (128) We thought he had the bigger office, but he

A. But see these are two folks,

Q. OK, All right.

A See those are 2 cubicles

Q. (129) All right, OK, thank you.

A. So this is where COLE, where was the Lieutenant?

Q. (130) She was here on the watch floor.

A. OK, so this is where it blew out then, back this way.

Q. (131) Right, here is where the hole went where they came out.

A. So the plane came in like this.

Q. Right exactly, yeah, here's METOC (phonetic) and the TOPHAND, all those folks were wiped out too.

Q. (Another) OK so they were in this space.

A. Yeah.

Q. (136) That makes more sense, because - good.

Q. (another) Yeah right, because we -

A. Yeah and what's interesting, CDR SOLBERG knows (\_\_\_ Inaudible) METOC, she's no longer there but they obviously they lost some folks.

Q. LTjg MC KEOWN?

A. I don't know the name but she said she talked to one of the Chiefs that she saw at a wine festival of all things and he said, he described the death of these folks that it was from blunt force

trauma. That one of the guys that was killed was sitting underneath one of these mounted TVs, and they think that when the plane hit, it fell on him. Someone who was like four feet away survived. I mean it's just, you know that close that they think it was blunt force trauma on that. Based upon some of the autopsy reports that we just through, talking with some of the CACOs it looks like these guys did not burn. It was either blunt force trauma, or as they said with that jet fuel all it takes is one inhalation (\_\_\_ Inaudible 146). That's what we were told it's that –

Q. (147) We had heard that particular Marines were outside of these spaces somewhere.

A. The Marines?

Q. The remains.

A. Oh the remains.

Q. (148) Over here I think DIA's over here.

Q. (another) DIA was here and there was a lot of bodies over here. We thought it was maybe them.

Q. That's what we had heard that, right, that they got blown out of the area.

A. No apparently according to CHUCK from what he described, CHUCK BRYAN where he went through, they were able, I guess they came in this way. Were able to crawl their way back and they saw the bodies in the office area.

Q. (159) OK, so they were right there in CDR SHANOWER's office still.

A. Yeah, that's where everyone saw them last. The other interesting thing that I found out just recently, wherever the briefing room is they have a VTC,

Q (160) Right here, this is where they were –

A. Ok, the VTC, OK the VTC, OK, the guys out at ONI, after they heard the Pentagon was hit, they activated the VTC.

Q. Oh.

A. And they have, they were able to watch, the VTC was in tact, but then they could see the smoke come in and then they lost the signal.

So but actually you know, if that staff meeting was still going on, depending upon where they were at, they may have survived it.

Q. (162) Yeah because PETTY OFFICER LHUILLIER and (\_\_\_ Inaudible 163) they were right up here, and they got out. And this is not a wall, it's just a series of desks so it's really a whole room.

Q. (another) That's good, that's interesting I'm glad you.

Q. Yeah, I'm glad you told us that, because we had the wrong area.

Q. Yeah, gives us some clarification.

A. Yeah, no it wouldn't make sense that SHANOWER would be there because he's the head. These would be the workers bees. He would have the private office.

Q. (167) OK, good thank you.

A. So, that's kind of four weeks.

Q. (169) Did you go to the services for the folks?

A. I went to BRADY's. The others I was still working recovery stuff, so I mean I was, like I said, the only pleasant thing about this was that I wore jeans and hiking boots for five weeks and I was outside, but. No I was caught up in the day-to-day recovery things.

BRADY's was in the evening. I did go to his and that was exceptionally difficult.

Q. (175) How long were you physically out of the building, I mean office-wise.

A. Actually the N20 office which is located up on the 5<sup>th</sup> deck was scheduled to move to Crystal City the end of September as part of the planned renovation. Because of this and because they were desperately trying to relocate folks within the Pentagon in the remaining space we were moved out. Our move was accelerated. So we had 36 hours notice that we were moving. I mean that's not a lot of time and we just moved everything out. But as far as actually getting back into the space to recover stuff, again keeping in mind everyone just evacuated and left much of their personal stuff, it was probably I would say, Tuesday, the following Wednesday, Tuesday or Wednesday that we were allowed just for a very brief period of time to go up into our spaces, even though they weren't considered crime scene, but it was close enough to the crime scene that they didn't want us there. We were able to go in and a team of five of us went in and we just went through and just gathered up brief cases and backpacks and purses and you know and anything else that we could find. You know just took it on out for the folks.

Q. (192) Were you allowed to take laptops at that point, or if you had laptops, no?



A. No. No, at that point it was just go in and get your personal items and get out. I remember going in and oh God the smell, I mean just this smoke. In fact I can still go to the Pentagon and still smell it. People who work there all the time obviously don't. You know, you get accustomed to it. But I can still go to it and smell the smoke.

Q. (197) So your office is now Crystal City?

A. It's at Crystal City. I overlook the airport.

Q. Oh, and when are you scheduled to move back to the Pentagon, are you on the map yet.

A. I (\_\_\_ Inaudible) tired, actually the original plan was eighteen years. I will have my feet up on the front porch somewhere by then.

Q. (202) DNI still have an office.

A. The DNI does have an office in fact they have been temporarily relocated back to their original office space. The N20 space on the 5<sup>th</sup> deck and then you have the corridor, I take that back. He didn't go back to his original space. He went into the N20 area. His office space was originally designated to be destroyed. As it turned out they didn't and they renovated it and it looks beautiful and some other (\_\_\_ Inaudible 208) got it.

So they have been really sitting on top of each other in very small quarters waiting for their spaces to become available again. Our old N20 space, the office space has been turned into the Navy Command Center and the CNOIP, Intel Plot.

Q. (216) Which was their old space. I thought they were going to go –

A. No, no, this was the old N20 office area, and the N23 office area. We're on the 5<sup>th</sup> deck.

Q. Where the new Command Center -?

A. Navy Command Center is and the IP and that was interesting getting that transitioned over.

Q. (216) And they're in?

A. They are in, yes, they are in. They did that in short order and again that was another one of those efforts where a lot of focus went into getting all these people the proper clearances because now the idea was the Navy Command Center would work closely with the IP. They would essentially not become one, but they would be integrated such that that you would require access equivalent to what the IP required. So I pretty much spearheaded that with our local SSO, Special Security Office, get all the paperwork done to get these folks in and working. They did an excellent job. I think they processed over sixty plus folks to get them the proper clearance and get them squared away.

So there was a lot of things that took place just to get things up and running. It took the effort of a lot of people. A lot of dedicated effort here on the OPNAV staff as well as elsewhere to get things rolling, and keep things going.

Again the Marines were fabulous, opening up their space at the Annex.

Q. (230) One team concept. Anything else we should have asked you that we didn't. You were really very complete. I appreciate your taking time to do that and if there's anything else you want to say for the historical record.

A. Really can't think of anything. I feel like I just rambled, it's sort of just reliving the whole thing, you kind of go off somewhere else. No, I think I've said (\_\_\_ Inaudible)

Q. (235) Well, thank you so much and let me add my congratulations on your award for tomorrow. Sounds like it's well deserved.

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