

# New Paper on WTC ‘Collapses’ Adds to Literature Refuting Progressive Collapse Theory

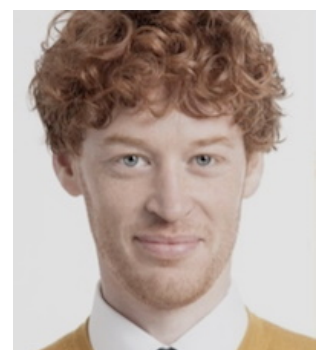
by [Ted Walter, Architects & Engineers for 9/11 Truth](#)

November 2, 2019

[Source](#)

Few people know that the official account of the Twin Towers’ destruction relies entirely on just four journal papers. All four papers were coauthored by Northwestern University engineering professor Zdeněk Bažant, and all four were published in the ASCE’s *Journal of Engineering Mechanics* between 2002 and 2011 (Bažant submitted the first paper a mere two days after 9/11). <sup>1 2 3 4</sup>

This may come as a surprise to many people, since one would assume that the government itself fully investigated the Twin Towers’ destruction and offered a complete theory explaining these catastrophic building failures. But that assumption is wide of the mark.



As it happens, the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) limited the scope of its investigation to “the sequence of events from the instant of aircraft impact to the initiation of collapse.” Stunningly, NIST admitted that it

conducted “little analysis of the structural behavior of the tower after the conditions for collapse initiation were reached” and that it was “unable to provide a full explanation of the total collapse.”<sup>5 6</sup>

In other words, the government did not explain how the tops of the Twin Towers were able to crush through the enormous steel structures below them “essentially in free fall.”<sup>7</sup> The only analysis ever produced in support of this notion was by Bažant and his various coauthors.

This past September, the most recent paper refuting Bažant’s theory was presented by German mathematician and physicist Ansgar Schneider at the annual congress of the International Association for Bridge and Structural Engineering (IABSE) in New York City. Schneider’s paper, “The Structural Dynamics of the World Trade Center Catastrophe,” can now be found in the [conference proceedings](#) and is also available for free on [arXiv, the e-print server of the Cornell University Library](#).<sup>8</sup>



#### The Structural Dynamics of the World Trade Center Catastrophe

Ansgar Schneider  
Dr. rer. nat.  
Bonn, Germany



#### 1. Abstract

Bažant et al. have proposed a model of a gravity-driven collapse of a tall building which collapses in a progressive-floor collapse after the failure of a single storey. The model allows the re-computation of the structural resistance of the building once the downward movement of the building has been quantified. We give a physically more sound version of the collapse model, and determine the downward movement of the North Tower of the World Trade Center. Thereby we reproduce a value for the upward resisting force during the collapse that is similar to what has been achieved by Bažant et al. for the first three seconds of the collapse. However, our method of measurement also includes data up to 9 seconds after collapse initiation. These data show a much bigger upward resistance force between 4 and 7 seconds after collapse initiation.

**Keywords:** World Trade Center, North Tower, Progressive Floor Collapse, Crush-Down Equation, Energy Dissipation, Structural Dynamics, High-Rise Buildings, New York City, Terrorism.

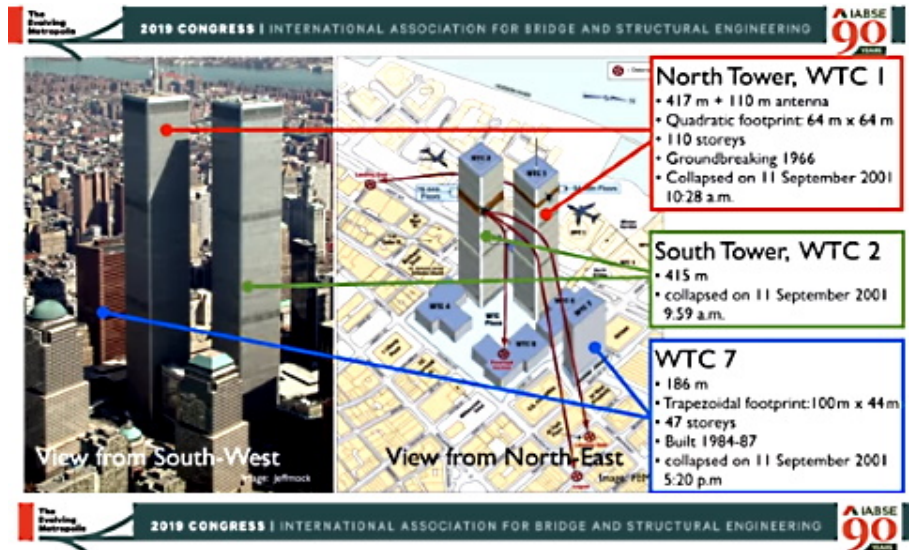
Appeared in:  
IABSE 2019 New York City, The Evolving Metropolis,  
Congress Report, Vol. 114, pp. 2151 - 2156,  
Available at:  
[https://www.iabse.org/IABSE/publications/Shop/IABSE\\_Reports.aspx](https://www.iabse.org/IABSE/publications/Shop/IABSE_Reports.aspx)

Complementing earlier research, Schneider's paper offers a new and unique approach to falsifying Bažant's theory. Previous papers showed that Bažant [hugely underestimated the ability](#) of WTC 1's lower section to resist the fall of the upper section and pointed out that [there would have been a large, observable deceleration](#) of the upper section's downward movement – which there was not – if it had impacted the intact lower section. <sup>9</sup>

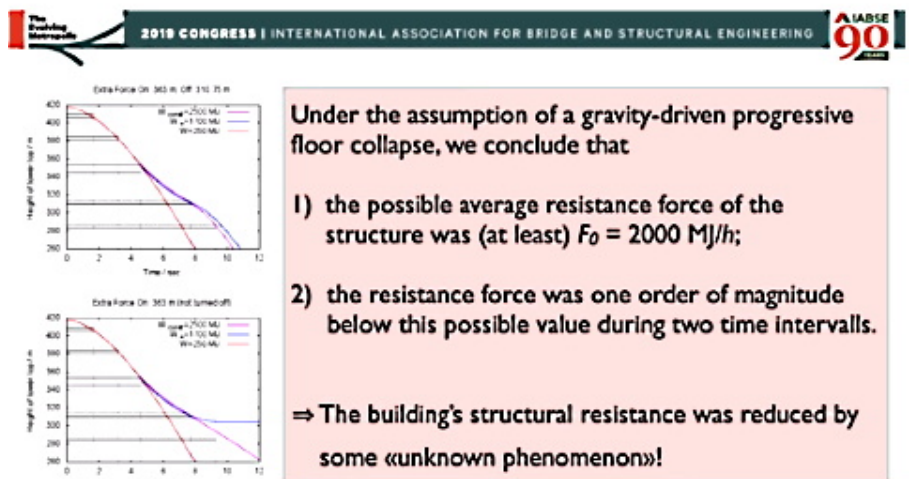
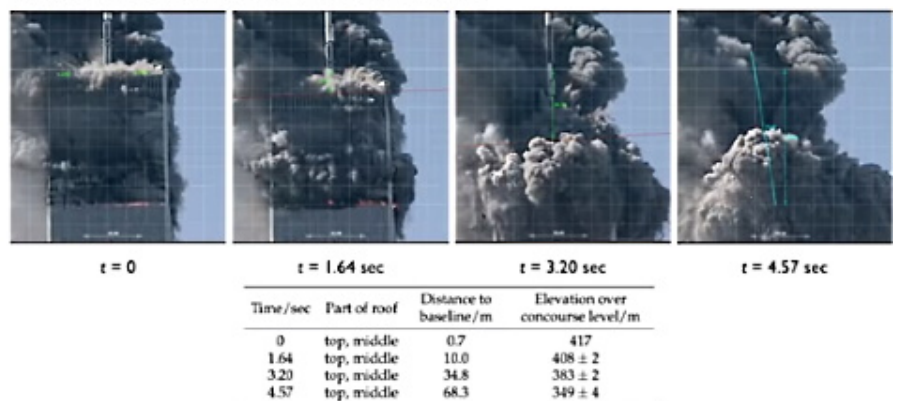
10 11

Schneider's approach is to assume that Bažant's mathematical model of a progressive collapse is valid. Then, by plugging into the model the actual data related to the fall of the upper section, he calculates the upward resistance provided by the lower section. Perhaps surprisingly, Schneider finds that, from 4.6 seconds until 7.7 seconds into the collapse, the computed upward resistance of the lower section is so great that the collapse would have been arrested if the upward resistance were consistent throughout the vertical length of the building.

Yet Schneider also finds that the upward resistance during the first 4.6 seconds and after 7.7 seconds is almost as low as one-tenth of the possible average upward resistance over the vertical length of the building – specifically, 66 meganewtons versus 500 meganewtons. This finding is consistent with David Chandler's estimate that, based on the upper section accelerating constantly at 64% of free fall for the first four seconds of the collapse, "close to 90% of the strength of the lower section of the building must have been eliminated."<sup>12</sup>



Evaluation of Etienne Sauret's Video Record:



Schneider thus arrives at the question: What mechanism so dramatically reduced the resistance of the building structure at the beginning and the end of the collapse? The obvious answer, in light of all of the evidence ignored by NIST but known to the public for many years, is that explosives and

incendiaries were used to destroy the structure. Regrettably, Schneider was not allowed to give his presentation at the 2019 IABSE Congress in the format he would have hoped. In August, he was denied entry to the United States because his two previous trips to Iran to teach courses and speak at math conferences made him ineligible for the [Visa Waiver Program](#) available to most Europeans – and then he was denied a normal visa, despite having an invitation from IABSE. Unable to attend the conference in person, Schneider recorded a 15-minute presentation that the organizers kindly played at his session. A revised version of that presentation is available below.

Schneider and AE911Truth are grateful to the many people who donated so that he could register for the 2019 IABSE Congress, which enabled him to present this important paper and have it published in the conference proceedings.

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**Ole Dammegard Warns of Possible False Flag, Fake**

# Terror Event in Europe Within Next 24 Hours

*“So I think we have a possibility here to, instead of being one step behind, here we have 24 hours to get the information out there – saying we see you, we know what you’re up to. So I’m so grateful Chris that you were so fast to react because I’m pumping this out internationally to as many as I can.*

*So if we can go live with this, and everyone that sees this please just share it, share it, share it.*

*So maybe nothing is gonna happen. I will look like an absolute idiot. I have no problem with that at all because if it doesn’t go down at least no one gets hurt, and maybe we stopped it.*

*And should it go down then this is bulletproof proof that this is an inside job, it has nothing to do with terrorism, and it’s just one of so many there to try to put us into slavery – to the old Roman template: problem, reaction, solution.*

*You know they create the problem to get reaction from us: ‘Oh my god we need more protection’. We turn to the ones we think are there to protect us, not understanding that it’s them who have done it, and saying ‘Please, please help us.’ And then they will put .. a steel cage around us... So this is a fantastic opportunity...*

*Please, please share this and get it out there so that we see them.*

*And also people that are on location, because they will I’m sure there will be drills in the cities of **London, Barcelona, Paris, Rotterdam and Manchester** and also ... in **Sweden** – it’s up in the north of Sweden where this **nuclear power plant** is –*



*that people that are there and see drills or suspicious activity please film it and make it very obvious to the people that are there doing it that they are being observed..”*

*~ Ole Dammegard*

## **MCFILES SPECIAL REPORT – Ole Dammagard From Sweden – 9-11 PLOT Over Europe Exposed**

by [The McFiles Network With Host Christopher McDonald](#)

October 21, 2019

<https://youtu.be/ql2icV0sL0A>

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## **America: A Land Without Truth**

by [Paul Craig Roberts](#)

September 20, 2019

[Source](#)

It has been 17 days since a four-year study of the collapse of World Trade Center Building 7 by civil engineers was made available to the media. The study concluded that fire was not the cause of the collapse of the 47-story building. The study also concluded that “the collapse of WTC 7 was a global failure involving the near-simultaneous failure of every column in the building.” <https://www.paulcraigroberts.org/2019/09/04/the-of>



[ficial-story-of-the-collapse-of-wtc-building-7-lies-in-ruins/](#)

In other words, the study concludes that the building was intentionally destroyed by controlled demolition. Controlled demolition means that there was a plan to destroy the building and that access to the building inhabited by a number of US security agencies was permitted in order to wire the building for demolition. This finding is consistent with what the owner of the World Trade Center, Silverstein, said on television, that the decision was made “to pull” the building.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WlE8iIa50Us>

To pull a building means to bring it down by controlled demolition. Later, Silverstein tried to retract his admission and claimed that he meant the decision was made to pull the firemen out of the building, but according to reports no firemen were in the building as the fires were not regarded as of any consequence.

After 17 days, the report of the civil engineering team remains unmentioned in the American media except for a local Alaska TV station and a local Alaska newspaper. The report went straight into the Memory Hole. The vast majority of the American people will never know that the information has been kept from them.

The pile of lies that constitutes American awareness is very high. Indeed, it is as high as the hundred-story twin towers: the lies about Gaddafi and Libya, Saddam Hussein’s “weapons of mass destruction,” “Assad’s use of chemical weapons,” the Taliban, Osama bin Laden, Yemen, Pakistan, China, Russian invasions, World War II, World War I, Vietnam War, overthrows of Latin American governments, Ukraine, Spanish/American war, and on, and on.

All of these lies have been exposed, but the facts have been kept from the vast majority of Americans. Historians such as

Howard Zinn in his book, *A People's History of the United States*, and Oliver Stone and Peter Kuznick in their book, *The Untold History of the United States*, attempted to make Americans more aware of the false reality in which they live, but the small number of voices on the side of truth are simply overwhelmed by a massive propaganda machine.

The reason for the dim future that the United States faces is that explanations are controlled by elites in the interest of their agendas. There is no independent media except on the Internet, and that media is being overwhelmed by the numerous elite-sponsored websites.

Many Americans are too mentally and emotionally weak to come to grips with the possibility that the events of September 11, 2001, were a false flag attack orchestrated in order to serve agendas hidden from the American people. They are much more comfortable not to look at the evidence and simply dismiss it as a "conspiracy theory."

The families of those killed in the twin towers made a stink about the unexplained total failure of US national security. No one was held accountable for the amazing security breaches and dysfunction of the national security state. Washington tried to buy off the families with money, but only partially succeeded. The "Jersey Girls" helped to rally impacted families. After one year of stonewalling their demands for an investigation, the White House finally agreed to a political investigation and appointed the 9/11 Commission, which avoided a forensic investigation.

In contrast to the families who lost members in the twin towers, I have never heard anything about a similar organization of families of those who died in the hijacked airliners. Perhaps they are included in the 9/11 Family Steering Committee. If so, they must have been silent members. I have not come across any sign of them demanding explanations. It is almost as if they don't exist.

Those who know that they have been lied to about September 11, 2001, are still trying to get truthful answers. A report on their latest efforts can be found here: <https://www.globalresearch.ca/911-truth-justice-18-years-after-the-attacks/5689203>

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# 9/11: The Gold and The Minders

by [Jon Rappoport](#)

September 16, 2019

[Source](#)

Searching through the archive of my past articles, I've come up with two 9/11 stories that have been largely ignored—left to gather dust as they fade from memory. Here they are:

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## ***Flashback: 9/11 and the gold in the NY Federal Reserve***

January 30, 2014

With reports that Germany can't get back much of its gold stored in the NY Federal Reserve, I remembered what I was writing just after 9/11.

Here are a few quotes. Most are from my posts on 9/11 and 9/12, 2001:

"Still no word on the condition of the NY Federal Reserve Bank, which is 2.5 blocks away from the destroyed WTC. This

bank, underground, holds \$75 billion in gold from [about five] dozen countries.”

“CNN has a large map posted today, which shows the condition of a number of buildings by name in the area, but, curiously, the NY Fed Reserve is not one of them.”

“And now that workers are going down underneath the remains of the WTC, where \$100 million in gold is admittedly stored (Reuters), we have no word on the condition of that gold, either.”

“Yesterday, I brought up the issue of the gigantic fed gold reserve stashed underground 2.5 blocks from the WTC. And mentioned that no press accounts were covering damage to nearby buildings. Which I find odd.”

“Here is an account from [a reader] on the ground in NYC, as of an hour ago. ‘It seems like we are getting the same limited [TV] shot on all networks...kind of a tight angle shot of damage of the base of the towers...no shots of damage to nearby buildings, including the gold reserve building. No one knows anything because the whole island [of Manhattan] has been shut down below 14th St. Camera crews not allowed to wander. If you live below 14th St. and you leave your apartment you need identification in order to get back in.’”

“The WTC took up several blocks in lower Manhattan. From the Liberty Street side, it is about 2 blocks to the Fed Reserve Bank of NY, at 33 Liberty St. Under the Bank, 5 levels down, in bedrock, is the \$75 billion in gold.”

“The NY Federal Reserve keeps a facility for storing gold in NYC. It handles the gold reserves of about five dozen countries. \$75 billion in a vault. About 1/4 of the world’s gold supply. At least, that’s the Fed Reserve press release on this, from 1999. This vault is located close to the WTC, where the towers fell. Is it [the vault] buried? Is the vault open? Anyone see Die Hard 3? A gigantic terrorist ‘diversion’

leading to the theft of all the gold in the vault.”

In the days following 9/11, I also wrote that there were no reports or video of troops guarding the NY Federal Reserve building. This was very curious. 75 billion in gold and no troops present? Nor have I found any video from that time, later posted on YouTube, showing troops around the Fed Reserve.

There is debate about whether a tunnel existed connecting the basement of the old WTC and the basement of the Federal Reserve. [A 2010 piece at Cryptome](#) indicates (with photos) that, during the post-9/11 WTC cleanup, an old railroad tunnel between the WTC and Fed Reserve basements was uncovered. (Diehard 3 featured such a tunnel and track.)

Was the Fed Reserve gold taken away after 9/11?

Or had it been taken before 9/11? Perhaps long before.

Clearly, in the immediate wake of 9/11, there was a concerted press effort to omit or limit mention of the Federal Reserve building.

On March 2, 2013, Tyler Durden, writing at [zerohedge.com](#), in [Why Is JPMorgan's Gold Vault, The Largest In The World, Located Next To The New York Fed's?](#), reported his finding that “the de facto largest private gold vault in the world [is] located across the street [from the NY Federal Reserve building] 90 feet below 1 Chase Manhattan Plaza.”

This private vault, at the same level as the NY Fed Reserve vault, could front right up against it.

The private vault belongs to JP Morgan Chase. It is larger than a football field.

Under circumstances deemed “essential,” it would appear to be easy to transfer an enormous amount of gold from the Fed Reserve to JP Morgan Chase.

[Silverdoctors.com reports](#) that a US Treasury Dept. audit of all US gold reserves inadvertently exposed a total figure of 466 tons, far less than previous claims of 8,133 tons.

Anyone trusting that US-held gold reserves are safe and sound needs to examine his own head.

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HERE IS THE SECOND STORY—

***Intimidation of 9/11 Commission witnesses: the “minders”***

September 15, 2017

Let's say you work for a large corporation, which is undertaking an internal investigation of possible corruption and fraud within the company.

You're sitting in a room, and an employee of the company is interviewing you.

But next to you sits your boss. He hears all the questions, and he hears your answers. He takes notes on the interview. He answers questions you are supposed to answer. He is your “minder.”

Getting the picture?

On October 2, 2003, during the 9/11 Commission investigation into what happened on September 11, 2001, a memo was sent to two Commission attorneys, Daniel Marcus and Steven Dunne. It was ominously titled:

**[“Executive Branch Minders’ Intimidation of Witnesses.”](#)**

The memo was written by members of the 9/11 Commission's Team 2: Kevin Scheid, Lorry Fenner, and Gordon Lederman. There is no indication that any official subsequently acted on their highly serious charges:

“When we have asked witnesses [in interviews] about certain roles and responsibilities within the intelligence community, minders [in the room] have preempted witnesses’ responses by referencing formal policies and procedures. As a result, witnesses have not responded to our questions and have deprived us from understanding the intelligence community’s actual functioning and witnesses’ view of their roles and responsibilities.”

“[M]inders have positioned themselves physically and have conducted themselves in a manner that we believe intimidates witnesses from giving full and candid responses to our questions. Minders generally have sat next to witnesses at the table and across from Commission staff, [falsely] conveying to witnesses that minders are participants in interviews and are of equal status to witnesses.”

“[Minders now and then] answer questions directed at witnesses.”

“[Minders write] verbatim notes of witnesses’ statements [which] conveys to witnesses that their superiors will review their statements and may engage in retribution.”

“[Minders making notes] facilitates [government] agencies in alerting future witnesses to the Commission’s lines of inquiry and permits agencies to prepare future witnesses either explicitly or implicitly.”

“[T]he net effect of minders’ conduct, whether intentionally or not, is to intimidate witnesses and to interfere with witnesses providing full and candid responses.”

This key memo defines the term “cover-up.”

Take it even further. This Commission “minder procedure” would be analogous to you sitting in the witness box at a criminal trial of a mob boss. You’re testifying for the prosecution against the boss. But in the box, next to you, sits a mob



assassin.

So you say: “I may have implied I was there on the night the defendant was planning...whatever it was. But I didn’t really say that. I was misinterpreted. I don’t recall being there. I’ve never met the defendant. I’m a retired investor living on a pension. I’m receiving treatment for early-onset dementia...”

Granted, the 9/11 Commission interviewers were certainly asking superficial questions of witnesses from the get-go. But if a government witness by chance saw something or heard something or knew something that would have exploded the official 9/11 story, with his minder there he was in a straitjacket.

And he’ll stay in a straitjacket.

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# The Trigger: The Lie That Changed the World – Who Really Did It and Why

by [David Icke](#)

September 11, 2019

[Source](#)

<https://youtu.be/SnIZpSE9e0k>



*David Icke discusses his new book, [The Trigger](#), exposing hidden details around the events of 9/11.*

He wrote in the 90's about the 2008 Banking Crash, The War on Terror, Transhumanist Agenda, Microchipping, the Cashless Society and more. In this Book he takes a look back at the event that shook the World in 2001, the September 11th attacks in New York. He looks at who was really behind it and why, what has happened in the years following 911, the increasing evidence to show the official story doesn't stand up to research and what has happened in the World since that day. This is one of the most controversial books ever written.

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# **Secret Weapons & Space Elevators: Building 7 and the 9/11 Event Revisited**

by [Dr. Richard Alan Miller](#)

*Make a donation in support Dr. Richard Alan Miller's current writing projects at [GoFundMe](#).*

Excerpt from  
**The More Sinister Direction of Carbon Nanotubes (as weapons of war)**

by Dr. Richard Alan Miller  
copyright 2015

(see PDF booklet of full article below)

### **Part 3 – Building 7, and the 9/11 Event Revisited**

At 5:20 PM, September 11th, 2001, a 47 story steel frame skyscraper in Manhattan underwent a swift, systematic, straight-down collapse. In a matter of seconds, the immense 600-foot tall structure was transformed into a small pile of rubble (and slag) lying almost entirely within the building's original footprint.

The building is variously known as Building 7, WTC 7, or 7 World Trade Center. Despite its address, it was across the street from the superblock containing the rest of the World TradeCenter, and was of a different architectural style and newer than the 6 other WTC buildings.



The cause of the collapse has never been determined. FEMA's Building Performance Study , the only government document that addressed the collapse of Building 7 in any detail, stated:

*The specifics of the fires in WTC 7 and how they caused the building to collapse remain unknown at this time. ... Further research, investigation, and analyses are needed to resolve this issue.*

By the time FEMA's report was published, the remains of Building 7 had been almost entirely destroyed, nearly all of the structural steel having been expeditiously removed and shipped to blast furnaces overseas. Without the physical evidence of the structural steel, such research, investigation, and analyses was impossible.

The Collapse of Building 7 was the third largest structural

failure in World history, surpassed only by the collapses of the Twin Towers earlier that day. Fires are blamed for leveling Building 7, but fires have never caused the total or even partial collapse of a steel-frame high-rise, before or since September 11th.



Why, then, was there no serious investigation of the collapse of this building, and why does it remain virtually unknown to the American public? The most prominent [9/11 conspiracy theory](#) today is that the [collapse of the Twin Towers](#) and [7 World Trade Center](#) were the result of a controlled demolition rather than structural failure due to impact and fire.

Possible motives claimed by conspiracy theorists for such actions include justifying the invasions of [Afghanistan](#) and [Iraq](#) as well as [geostrategic](#) interests in the Middle East, such as [pipeline plans launched in the early 1990s](#) by [Unocal](#) and other oil companies.

***Or, to get a terrorism bill through congress...?***



**What was in Building 7?** – Building 7 was one of New York City's larger buildings. A sleek bronze-colored skyscraper with a trapezoidal footprint, it occupied an entire city block and rose over 600 feet above street level.

Built in 1985, it was formerly the headquarters of the junk-bond firm Drexel Burnham Lambert, which contributed to the Savings and Loans collapse, prompting the \$500-billion taxpayer-underwritten bailout of the latter 1980s. At the time of its destruction, it exclusively housed government agencies

and financial institutions. It contained offices of the IRS, Secret Service, and SEC.

One of the most interesting tenants was then-Mayor Giuliani's Office of Emergency Management, and its emergency command center on the 23rd floor. This floor received 15 million dollars worth of renovations, including independent and secure air and water supplies, and bullet and bomb resistant windows designed to withstand 200 MPH winds.

**The Vertical Collapse of Building 7** – Building 7 collapsed in a nearly perfectly vertical motion at near the rate of free-fall. The first sign of the collapse is the falling of the penthouse, immediately followed by the falling of the whole facade, as seen from both the north and south. The middle of the building's north wall fell slightly faster than its edges.

In short, Building 7 imploded. Buildings are not designed to implode. They are designed to remain standing. To achieve a precisely vertical collapse, in which the remains of the building fall inward, is the objective of controlled demolition. What was strange was that neither thermite nor excess jet engine fuel can actually get hot enough to slag concrete, found at the bottom of the debris.



After the building itself fell, there remained a single steel girder, some 617 feet high. Then it also began to fall, with video showing the steel vaporizing as it fell onto itself. Less than seven seconds after Building 7 began to implode, all that was left of the steel skyscraper was a rubble pile and concrete slag.

**The Destruction of Building 7's Remains** – Engineering is a science that melds theory and experience to create robust structures. Unintended structural failures are rare events that warrant the most careful scrutiny, since they test

engineering theory.

That is why the NTSB carefully documents aircraft crash scenes, and preserves the aircraft remains, frequently creating partial reconstructions in hangars. If an investigation reveals a mechanical or design fault, the FAA usually mandates specific modifications of equipment or maintenance procedures system-wide, and future aircraft are designed to avoid the fault.

Building 7's rubble pile was at least as important as any archeological dig. It contained all the clues to one of the largest structural failures in history. Without understanding the cause of the collapse, all skyscrapers become suspect, with profound implications for the safety of occupants and for the ethics of sending emergency personnel into burning buildings to save people and fight fires.

There was no legitimate reason not to dismantle the rubble pile carefully, documenting the position of each piece of steel and moving it to a warehouse for further study. No one was thought buried in the pile, since, unlike the Twin Towers, Building 7 had been evacuated hours before the collapse. The pile was so well confined to the building's footprint that the adjacent streets could have been cleared without disturbing it.

Yet, despite the paramount importance of the remains, they were hauled away and melted down as quickly as possible. The steel was sold to scrap metal vendors and most of it was soon on ships bound for China and India. Some of the smaller pieces and a few token large pieces of steel marked 'save' were allowed to be inspected at Fresh Kills landfill by FEMA's BPAT volunteers.

Dr. Frederick W. Mowrer, an associate professor in the Fire Protection Engineering Department at the University of Maryland, was quoted in the New York Times as saying:

*I find the speed with which potentially important evidence has been removed and recycled to be appalling.*

What Caused Building 7's Collapse? – Upon watching any of the many available videos, that Building 7's collapse showed all of the essential features of a controlled demolition. WTC 7 collapsed approximately 7 hours after the collapse of WTC 1. Preliminary indications were that, due to lack of water, no manual firefighting actions were taken by FDNY.

*There is only one thing known in nature that can vaporize steel or slag concrete, that is a plasma.*



If the steel were reinforced with fullerene carbon fibers, and the fullerenes contained deuterium, a controlled demolition could be orchestrated using laser triggering mechanisms (outlined earlier).

*So now we have a new conspiracy theory, where this new weapon was experimentally deployed.*

*With the way media is controlled today we will likely never know the truth.*





## A Space Elevator by 2050, using Carbon Nanotubes

by [Dr. Richard Alan Miller](#)

copyright 2015

Obayashi, a Japanese company, has announced they will have a space elevator up and running by the year 2050. If successful it would revolutionize space travel and potentially transform the global economy.

The Japanese construction giant says they will build a space elevator that will reach 96,000 kilometers into space.

The company said the fantasy can now become a reality because of the development of carbon nanotechnology.



“The tensile strength is almost a hundred times stronger than steel cable so it’s possible,” Mr Yoji Ishikawa, a research and development manager at Obayashi, said. “Right now we can’t make the cable long enough. We can only make 3- centimetre-long nanotubes but we need much more... we think by 2030 we’ll be able to do it.”



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## 9/11 Whistleblowers: Michael Springmann

by [James Corbett](#)

September 9, 2019

## [Source](#)

Podcast: [Play in new window](#) | [Download](#) | [Embed](#)

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*That so many of the 9/11 visas were issued from a single office—the US Consulate in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia—may seem like a minor footnote at first glance, but it is not. In fact, the Jeddah Consulate is not just another US Consular Office. It has a history of issuing visas to terrorists at the request of the CIA. Just ask Michael Springmann. This is his story.*

To watch the full 9/11 Whistleblowers series, please [CLICK HERE](#).

## TRANSCRIPT

In the days after September 11th, 2001, while the toxic dust was still settling on Lower Manhattan, details began to emerge about the terrorists who had allegedly hijacked the fateful 9/11 flights. Names and pictures were released to the public and broadcast around the world. Ziad Jarrah. Hani Hanjour. Marwan al Shehhi. Mohammad Atta. Even before the official story had begun to coalesce, the foreign faces and unfamiliar names flashing across the screens seared themselves into the consciousness of a traumatized public and left little doubt: This attack was the work of Muslim terrorists.

But at the same time, information began to come out that created problems for this narrative. Reports of these devout Muslim fundamentalists [drinking alcohol and partying in strip clubs](#). Revelations that two of the suspects had been [allowed](#)

[into the US](#) after being identified as Al Qaeda agents. Confirmation that these same agents [lived with an FBI asset](#) while in the US. And even the testimony of a senior military intelligence official that a counter-terror program had been specifically warned not to investigate Mohammad Atta in the lead up to 9/11.

**WYATT ANDREWS:** According to Congressman Kurt Weldon, it was a secret Pentagon intelligence unit code named Able Danger that knew a year before 9/11 that lead hijacker Mohammed Atta was in the United States and connected to Al Qaeda.

**CONGRESSMAN KURT WELDON:** And as you can see, they identified Mohamed Atta's cell.

**ANDREWS:** In the summer of 2000, he says, the Pentagon's special ops command had identified two terrorist cells inside the US, and knew of the connection between Atta and three other men who became hijackers. When the agents recommended telling the FBI, Weldon says Clinton administration lawyers said "No," because Atta was in the country legally and could not be targeted by military intelligence.

**WELDON:** And their recommendation to bring the FBI in, to take that cell out, which was ignored, and they were told you can't do that.

**ANDREWS:** So a year before 9/11 they had their picture—they had the picture of Mohamed Atta—

**WELDON:** Yes.

**ANDREWS:** And they knew roughly where he was?

**WELDON:** Yes.

**SOURCE:** [Able Danger – CBS, CNN News, August 9, 2005](#)

But of the many bizarre pieces of the alleged 9/11 hijacker

puzzle, none gets closer to the heart of the mystery than the seemingly innocuous revelation that 14 of the alleged hijackers' visas to enter the United States had been issued at the same office: the US Consulate in Jeddah. That so many of the visas were issued from a single office may seem like a minor footnote at first glance, but it is not. In fact, the Jeddah Consulate is not just another US Consular Office. It has a history of issuing visas to terrorists at the request of the CIA.

Just ask Michael Springmann.

J. Michael Springmann was a graduate of the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service who joined the Commerce Department's International Trade Administration, serving as an economic/commercial officer in Stuttgart from 1977 to 1980 and as a commercial attache in New Delhi from 1980 to 1982. In 1987, having passed the foreign service exam and gone through an orientation program, Springmann was assigned to the Jeddah consulate in Saudi Arabia.

Whatever he was expecting to find awaiting him in his new office, it's safe to say that it didn't take long for Springmann to find that the reality was going to be very different. As he writes in his expose of his time at the Jeddah consulate, *Visas for Al Qaeda: CIA Handout That Rocked the World*, "the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia was a mysterious and exotic place, but it was nowhere near as exotic and mysterious as the American consulate general on Palestine Road."

*J. MICHAEL SPRINGMANN: Well, when I got to Saudi Arabia I began hearing all kinds of strange things about the problems my predecessor had made for me. I heard this in fact from Walter Cutler, the American ambassador, just before I left. He spent 45 minutes telling me about all the problems that my predecessor Greta Holtz had created, and I thought, "Gee, she's going to make my career for me!"*

*And I get to Jeddah and I'm being requested: "It's your decision of course, Mike, but we have this problem here with this visa and we have an especially good contact and we'd like to have the person get a visa to come to the United States. Can you do it?" And I'd interview them and I'd give them the visa.*

*And after a while, these people began to be really strange characters that had no ties to either Saudi Arabia or to their own country and I would refuse them. And I would get a rocket from the Consul General Jay Freres, who's dead now, about "Why didn't you issue the visa? This guy is a good contact."*

*I said, "Well, he couldn't prove he had any ties either to Saudi Arabia or to his own country that was strong enough to make him return from the United States to Saudi Arabia or to his own country." There's no set list of contacts and connections, but it's things like having a job, having businesses, having property, having family, something that would prevent you from staying in the United States and disappearing into the woodwork.*

*And it got to the point where it was "Either issue the visa or you're not going to work for the State Department anymore." And as time went by I found out that of some 20 Americans there were only three including myself that I knew for a certainty to work for the Department of State. The rest worked for the CIA or the National Security Agency.*

Eventually reassigned as a political/economic officer in Stuttgart and, finally, as an economic analyst for the State Department's Bureau of Intelligence and Research, it took years for Springmann to fully comprehend the story that he had found himself in the middle of during his time at the Jeddah Consulate. A key piece of that puzzle was provided when Springmann returned to the US and talked to journalist Joseph

Trento, who informed him that the Jeddah office was being used by the CIA to ship in Osama Bin Laden's associates for training in the US.

*SPRINGMANN: So I came across Joe Trento, the journalist, in the middle of all of this, and he said, "Well, what you were doing in Saudi Arabia was issuing visas to the Mujahedin who were being recruited for Afghanistan to fight the Soviets." And then the penny dropped and my eyes were opened and I said "Yeah! That explains why they got so ferocious when I said no to these visas and why they stonewalled me when I tried to find out what was going on."*

*I was talking formally to people. I talked formally to the Bureau of Consular Affairs when I was in Washington on the advice of the council for consular affairs in Riyadh. And then I talked to the Congressional Committee on Foreign Affairs for the House of Representatives. I talked to the the Government Accountability Office, which is a watchdog for Congress on the executive branch and got nowhere. People just didn't want to talk to me. And I said "Well this is really strange."*

*And it bears out exactly what Trento had said that they had an intelligence operation going on. And according to Joe the reason they didn't tell people in Jeddah about this was they wanted plausible deniability. They wanted to be at arm's length from what people were saying and saying "Well oh, gee. We didn't know anything about that. He made a mistake. He didn't get with the program. He didn't know what was going on. He was violating the law. Put him in jail. Fine him." Whatever.*

Although the idea seems outlandish from a post-9/11 perspective, at the time it was not particularly surprising. The CIA had worked with Osama Bin Laden and other so-called "Mujahedin," including many Saudis who had been drawn to

Afghanistan to fight America's arch-enemy, the Soviets, during the Afghan War. There were [glowing articles](#) framing Bin Laden as an "[Anti-Soviet Warrior](#)" who was "On the Road to Peace" in mainstream publications well into the 1990s. And in the weeks after 9/11 it was even [reported](#) in the pages of *Newsweek* that in the late 1980s—precisely at the time that Springmann was stationed at the Jeddah consulate—"the veterans of the [Mujahedin's] holy war against the Soviets began arriving in the United States—many with passports arranged by the CIA."

One infamous example of an intelligence agency helping a known terrorist to enter the United States in this period came in the case of Omar Abdel Rahman, better known as the "Blind Sheik." In December 1990 it was [revealed](#) that the Blind Sheik had "slipped into the United States" despite being on a State Department terrorist watchlist. At the time, the State Department insisted "[t]hey made a mistake" by issuing him a tourist visa from the United States Embassy in Khartoum. But three years later, the truth finally came out. As *The New York Times* [reported](#) in 1993 after a State Department inspector general investigation: "Central Intelligence Agency officers reviewed all seven applications made by Sheik Omar Abdel Rahman to enter the United States between 1986 and 1990 and only once turned him down because of his connections to terrorism."

In this context, the revelation that Springmann was being directed by the CIA to let Mujahedin into the US for training was not unthinkable or outlandish conspiracy conjecture. On the contrary, it was practically expected.

As Springmann himself admits, if he had simply been informed at the time that the CIA was helping to facilitate such an operation in support of their foreign policy goals against the Soviet Union, he probably would have went along with it.

*SPRINGMANN: And you know it goes back to Trento saying "Well, they wanted somebody—some schlub is his word—to be there and*



*take the heat if something went wrong. And at the time I was dumb enough that if they'd explained it to me, "Yes, we're recruiting the Mujahedin" I would have said "Well, yeah, OK, this is an important foreign policy goal. I hate those godless communist bastards! So yeah, I'll go with this." But they never did.*

*And it would have saved a lot of effort on my part and saved a lot of embarrassment on their part, because I've been writing and talking about this for the last 25 years.*

Springmann's attitude is reflective of much of the American public's perception of Muslim terrorists in the late 1980s. As tools of US foreign policy—convenient pawns to be wielded on the global chessboard against America's enemies—they were not regarded as enemies themselves, but embraced as "freedom fighters" and "anti-Communist warriors."

**KENNETH BRANAGH:** *US National Security Adviser Brzezinski flew to Pakistan to set about rallying resistance. He wanted to arm the Mujahedin without revealing America's role. On the Afghan border near the Khyber Pass, he urged the Soldiers of God to redouble their efforts.*

**ZBIGNIEW BRZEZINSKI:** *We know of their deep belief in God, and we are confident that their struggle will succeed. That land over there is yours. You will go back to it one day, because your fight will prevail and you'll have your homes and your mosques back again, because your cause is right and God is on your side.*

**SOURCE:** [Soldiers of God](#)

**PRESIDENT RONALD REAGAN:** *The goal of the United States remains a genuinely independent Afghanistan, free from external interference, an Afghanistan whose people choose the type of government they wish, an Afghanistan to which the*

*four million refugees from Soviet aggression may return in safety and, yes, in honor.*

*On behalf of the American people, I salute Chairman Khalis, his delegation, and the people of Afghanistan themselves. You are a nation of heroes. God bless you.*

**SOURCE: [Remarks Following a Meeting With Afghan Resistance Leaders and Members of Congress](#)**

But that was before “the day that changed everything.”

After the FBI released [their list](#) of suspected 9/11 hijackers, it didn’t take long for questions to emerge about these men, their background, and their travels. What paper trail and travel documents had been left in their wake? How did they obtain their visas to enter the US? Where did they obtain them? When? Which consular officers were in charge of issuing the visas, and were there any irregularities in the process?

It took years for these questions to be answered, but when they were the results were scarcely believable. Not only had 14 of the alleged hijackers’ visas been obtained from the same Jeddah consulate that the CIA had used to funnel terrorists to the US during Springmann’s tenure, but 12 of those visas were issued by a single consular officer: Shayna Steinger.

A Columbia University graduate with no apparent foreign service background, Steinger was [appointed as a consular officer in 1999](#) and arrived in Jeddah for her first foreign service assignment on July 1, 2000. From that point on, she proceeded to issue the visas to more than half of the alleged hijackers, many of them based on incomplete applications and fraudulent documents.

Saeed al Ghamdi [received two visas](#), one in September, 2000, and the other in June, 2001. His second application was incomplete, lied about his earlier visa and was linked to a

different passport with fraudulent features. Both visa requests were approved by Shayna Steinger.

Hani Hanjour [received a visa from Steinger](#) in September, 2000, just two weeks after she rejected his first application. In subsequent investigations, she gave [conflicting accounts](#) of why she denied Hanjour's visa the first time and why she issued it the second time.

Despite numerous errors on their applications which normally would have gotten them rejected, on October 24, 2000, Steinger [issued visas to both Waleed and Wail Alshehri](#).

And, later that week, despite an incomplete application and suspicious indicators in his passport, Steinger [issued a visa to Ahmed Alnami](#).

From the time of her arrival at Jeddah until just weeks before the attacks, the pattern continued: Men with incomplete, error-ridden applications and fraudulent or suspicious documents had their visas rubber stamped by Steinger and, in September, their names and faces ended up on the FBI's hijack suspect list.

In researching his book, Springmann tracked down and confronted Steinger about her time at Jeddah and her role in issuing these visas.

***SPRINGMANN:** So in the course of doing more research I ran across Jon Gold who was a 9/11 researcher and an activist, and he came up with Shayna Steinger's name. She was my successor several times removed who was in Jeddah and who would issued visas to 11 of the 15 Saudis who got the visas in Saudi Arabia to go fly airplanes into American buildings. I said "Wait a minute. What is this?"*

*And she went on—She was hired out of Columbia University with no real background in foreign affairs that I could see at a very high "GS" or foreign service level of about an FS0-4*

*which is maybe a GS-13 I can guess in the civil service. And she went on for a full 20 years with the State Department and retired, if she in fact worked for State. And after a bit I came across or actually a journalist came across me and said, "Look I found Shayna Steinger out in Iowa. Do you want to talk to her about your experience and her experience and compare them?"*

*So I did. I called her up. I found her phone number and she was living with her mother. And we had a bit of a fight to get her to talk to me, and I said, "Look, you either talk to me or I'll write an article about it." So she finally broke down and we talked, but only in general terms, saying, "Well, yes, I did the right thing. I did what I was told. They did an investigation. They cleared me."*

*And I said "Well, what was the story? You know, my understanding was they were recruiting terrorists for the Mujahedin to come to the US for training at US military facilities, generally on the East Coast. And they even had recruiting offices in the United States, including one in Washington, DC, but I could never find any background exactly where they were located."*

*And she said, "I didn't do anything wrong. I just did what I was told." And it was kind of like talking to my cats sometimes. They were there and they knew you were talking to them but they didn't give you any real good answers. So the book went out. It's never been challenged by the government, but it's gotten me interviewed such as with you and with a lot of September 11th people.*

Like so many of the 9/11 whistleblowers, Springmann paid a heavy price for his desire to tell the truth. His refusal to bow to the CIA and issue visas to unqualified applicants during his time at Jeddah, his refusal to stop asking questions about the operation he had been involved in after he

was transferred elsewhere, and his refusal to stop speaking about the visas for Al Qaeda long after he left the State Department have had drastic repercussions on his career and his personal life.

*SPRINGMANN: Once I was out of state I found I couldn't get a job anywhere. I mean I spoke several languages to a greater or lesser extent, I had experience working on three continents, I knew how to manage offices. I couldn't get a job and I got the impression after a bit that I was being blacklisted.*

*So I hired one of these resume checking services over in California and asked them to ask around so they they called up Day Mount and pretended to be someone hiring me and wanted to know how I was as an employee in Jeddah, and what he thought of me and could he think of anything that special that I had done. And he said, "Well, I can't think of anything anything really right off the bat," and he came up with these weasel worded responses to their questions, which gave the impression that, no, you shouldn't hire this guy. But he didn't come out and say that, but it was by implication very very clear that Mike Springmann is not to be touched.*

*So then I went to law school and worked at getting a job after law school. I started asking around when I was in law school. I interned in various organizations like the American Civil Liberties Union. I talked to various national security organizations and found out that I couldn't get a job again to save my soul.*

*[. . .]*

*I tried writing I tried everything I could think of. And while collecting unemployment I was told to issue them reports on how many people I talk to during the week, and I would send page after page after page in of companies I*

*applied to that I had hoped would fit my talents and abilities but got nowhere.*

*So I figured, you know, the government is still in there, pitching, trying to keep me out of any kind of a gainful employment because that's how you get rid of people permanently. They don't have any money, they can take your house, you have no money to do anything except put food on the table, which you can. So it was a very nasty few years.*

And for all of this sacrifice, we are still no closer to learning the truth about the Jeddah consulate and the CIA operations there then we were two decades ago. That 14 of the 19 alleged hijackers received their visas from the same office—12 from the same consular officer—is just the start of a deep and largely unexplored rabbit hole that brings not just the travel patterns or the intelligence connections but the very identity of those suspects into question.

Biographical details and pictures of [two separate Ziad Jarrahs](#) have been released to the public, and in fact multiple photographs of a number of the alleged hijackers appear to be pictures of entirely different people. A Waleed al-Shehri appeared [alive and well in Morocco](#) after 9/11 to protest the use of his name and photograph in stories about the supposed hijackers, and he was joined by an [Abdulrahman al-Omari in Jeddah](#), who [the FBI were forced to apologize to](#) for falsely naming as a suspect. *Newsweek* [reported](#) that five of the alleged hijackers received training at secure U.S. military installations in the 1990s. Amidst the confusion, FBI Director Robert Mueller was [forced to admit](#) that the Bureau was “not certain” as to the identity of several of the men on their suspect list.

These issues remain untouched and largely forgotten by a public that, through a process of suggestion and association, have come to believe largely without question that the 19

faces in the iconic “hijacker line up” are the perpetrators of 9/11. It is only through the story of people like Mike Springmann that we can begin removing those layers of lies and obfuscations from the story of 9/11, and come to a better understanding of the truth.

And, in the end, that idea—that we *can* get closer to the truth, that wrongs *can* be righted and lies exposed—is the idea that motivates whistleblowers like Mike Springmann. Whistleblowers who have come forward at great personal expense to shine light on these long-buried and inconvenient truths.

*SPRINGMANN: I think, you know, I have to look at what I did and look at myself, and as the story goes look at your face in the mirror every morning. But I’ve been reading some emails sent to me by a good lawyer contact, lobbyist and attorney, on stoicism. And there have been things from Marcus Aurelius, Epictetus and other folks. And one of the things that I saw was their comment that—memento mori—that you expect to die and you don’t fear death. You don’t look forward to death, but at the end of the day you think “what have I done this day, the last day that might be the rest of my life? I may not wake up tomorrow morning. Have I balanced the accounts? Have I done something of substance? Have I tried to rectify a wrong and have I tried to do something good to balance out the evil in the world?”*

*[. . .]*

*So that’s one of the reasons why I keep doing this. I figure if I’ve got nothing else to do for the rest of my life I’ve got to square the balance, and, regrettably, I’ve got to say educate the ignorant if I can.*

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# 9/11 Whistleblowers: Barry Jennings

by [James Corbett](#)

September 8, 2019

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*In 2001, Barry Jennings was the Deputy Director of Emergency Services for the New York City Housing Authority. After being called to World Trade Center Building 7 to help coordinate the emergency response on the morning of 9/11, he was trapped in the building for hours by a series of explosions that—according to the official government conspiracy theory—never happened. This is his story.*

To watch the full 9/11 Whistleblowers series, please [DTube](#).

## TRANSCRIPT

*JEFF ROSSEN: So now they're walking back toward the World Trade Center and as we keep letting you hear the personal stories the survivor stories of exactly what happened inside the World Trade Center on that first plane went in and of course the collapses since then. We're going to bring more of those to you now. Barry Jennings, you were on the eighth*

*floor. You work for the City housing department. Explain to me the moment of impact.*

*BARRY JENNINGS: Well, me and Hess, the Corporation Counsel, were on the 23rd floor. I told him, 'We gotta get out of here.' We started walking down the stairs. We made it to the eighth floor [later clarified to be the sixth floor]. Big explosion! Blew us back into the eighth floor. And I turned to Hess and I said, 'This is it, we're dead. We're not gonna make it outta here...*

*I took a fire extinguisher and I bust the window out. This gentlemen, he heard my cries for help. This gentleman right here. And he said kept saying stand by somebody's coming to get you they could they couldn't get to us for now because they couldn't find us you thought that was it I thought I go we're dead I thought that was it I started praying to allies that that's it we're going*

*SOURCE: [Barry Jennings – 9/11 Early Afternoon ABC7 Interview](#)*

In 2001, Barry Jennings was the Deputy Director of Emergency Services for the New York City Housing Authority. After the first plane hit the North Tower at 8:46 AM on the morning of 9/11, Jennings was called to the city's Office of Emergency Management in World Trade Center Building 7 (WTC 7) along with Corporation Counsel Michael Hess to help coordinate the emergency response. Entering Building 7 together before the strike on the South Tower at 9:03 AM, Jennings and Hess were surprised to discover that the office had been abandoned. Receiving a phone call from his superior, Jennings was warned to leave the building immediately. Descending via the stairwell, Jennings and Hess reached the sixth floor before an explosion blew them back up to the eighth floor, trapping them inside the building. After hours of chaos and confusion, including the collapse of the Twin Towers and repeated attempts to draw the attention of first responders, the pair

were finally rescued by firefighters.

Hours later, World Trade Center Building 7, also known as the Salomon Brothers building, collapsed at freefall acceleration directly into the path of most resistance. After seven years of investigation, the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) determined that the building had not come down due to explosives or controlled demolition, as many alleged, or due to structural damage from the collapse of the Twin Towers, an explosion in the building's fuel oil systems, or any of the other suggestions that had been put forward and retracted by NIST over the course of its investigation. Instead, NIST spokesman Shyam Sunder insisted that the building had collapsed due to ordinary office fires.

*SHYAM SUNDER: The collapse of WTC 7 on 9/11 was a rare event. Our study has identified thermal expansion as a new phenomenon that can cause the collapse of the structure. For the first time we have shown that fire can induce a progressive collapse.*

*SOURCE: [Investigation of World Trade Center Building 7](#)*

Jennings' remarkable story was captured by Jeff Rossen, reporting on the ground for WABC TV, just moments after he and Hess had been rescued from the building. But it wasn't until several years later that Dylan Avery and Jason Bermas, the creators of Loose Change—the first viral internet documentary—discovered the clip of that interview from the day of 9/11 and realized that Jennings' testimony was one of the few eyewitness accounts of one of the deepest mysteries of that day: The destruction of WTC 7.

*JASON BERMAS: So while we were doing research for, obviously, our next cut of the film, Loose Change: Final Cut—you know, Loose Change Second Edition gave us a real opportunity to go around doing investigation. And we had had so much archived footage sent to us, because this was long before the days of*

*the internet where you get something high-quality on the spot. And Dylan found footage of Barry Jennings that had been unedited that we had not seen that really suggested that he was absolutely in Building Seven.*

*And we also correlated that with him being with Michael Hess. And Michael Hess was the right-hand man of Giuliani. He was the city corporation counsel. Here's a still shot of him behind me. And then you can see him here sitting next to Giuliani, so pretty much as close as it gets. And, you know, we made this connection. And actually I had reached out to Hess via email. I heard nothing back—and to, you know, the proper parties, nothing back.*

*But Dylan tracked down Barry Jennings in his city office and Barry did respond. And Barry said, "Come on down!" So me and Dylan went down with the camera, and once we got in there and started talking to him I remember like the first thing that I saw—you know, he was obviously, I'd say, not the highest up guy, but very—you know, he had his own office, he was well respected. He had the key to the city. You know, he had talked about the key to the city after this event and he even told us how he had seen Loose Change Second Edition. Basically, what I can remember: He was pretty sympathetic to our cause. He talked to us about Fahrenheit 9/11.*

*And from there we tried to find a spot to get him, and I remember he drove us out there. We were in the back, one of his suits hanging up. I remember we even talked about his family, you know, being out in Long Island. Very friendly guy. And we got him on the pier.*

*And listen: The interview is what it is. We've released it in full. We didn't add anything. We didn't coherse the guy. And I think what he says is about as telling as it gets.*

**"As telling as it gets."**

Indeed, Barry Jennings' story is telling. As the only documented eyewitness testimony of the events taking place inside World Trade Center 7 during the hours of the attack, the accounts of Barry Jennings and Michael Hess are essential to coming to an understanding of the destruction of the building. And, most telling of all, it contradicts the official, government-approved story of Building 7's destruction in many important ways.

*BARRY JENNINGS: As I told you guys before it was very, very funny. I was on my way to work and the traffic was excellent, I received a call that a small Cessna had hit the World Trade Center. I was asked to go and man the Office of Emergency Management (OEM) at World Trade Center 7 on the 23rd floor.*

*As I arrived there, there were police all in the lobby. They showed me the way to the elevator. We got up to the 23rd floor, me and Mr. Hess, who I didn't know was Mr. Hess at the time. We got to the 23rd floor. We couldn't get in. We had to go back down. Then security and the police took us to the freight elevators where they took us back up and we did get in.*

*Upon arriving into the OEM EOC [Emergency Operations Center] we noticed that everybody was gone. I saw coffee that was on the desk. Still. The smoke was still coming off the coffee. I saw half eaten sandwiches. And only me and Mr. Hess were up there.*

*After I called several individuals, one individual told me to leave, and leave right away. Mr. Hess came running back in. He said, "we're the only ones up here, we gotta get out of here." He found the stairwell. So we subsequently went to the stairwell and were going down the stairs.*

*When we reached the 6th floor, the landing that we were standing on gave way. There was an explosion and the landing gave way. And I was left there, hanging. I had to climb back*

up. And now I had to walk back up to the 8th floor. After getting to the 8th floor, everything was dark. It was dark and it was very, very hot. Very hot.

I asked Mr. Hess to test the phones as I took a fire extinguisher and broke out the windows. Once I broke out the windows, I could see outside below me. I saw police cars on fire. Buses on fire. I looked one way, the building was there. I looked the other way, it was gone.

I was trapped in there for several hours. I was trapped in there when both buildings came down.

The firefighters came. They came to the window. And they . . . Because I was going to come out on the fire hose. I didn't want to stay any longer. It was too hot. I was gonna come out on the fire hose. They came to the window and they started yelling, "Do not do that. It won't hold you." And then they ran away.

See, I didn't know what was going on. That's when the first tower fell. When they started running, the first tower was coming down. I had no way of knowing that.

Then I saw them come back. Now I saw them come back with more concern on their faces. And then they ran away again. The second tower fell. So as they turned and ran the second time, the guy said, "Don't worry, we'll be back for you." And they did come back.

This time they came back with 10 firefighters. And they kept asking, "Where are you? We don't know where you are?" I said, "I'm on the north side of the building." Because when I was on the stairs, I saw "North Side".

All this time, I'm hearing all types of explosions. All this time I'm hearing explosions. And I'm thinking that maybe it's the buses around me that were on fire, the cars that were on fire. I don't see no . . . you know? But I'm still hearing

*these explosions.*

*When they finally got to us and they took us down to what they called the lobby . . . Because I asked them when we got down there. I said, "Where are we?" He said, "This was the lobby." And I said, "You gotta be kidding me." It was total ruins. Total ruins. Now keep in mind: When I came in there, the lobby had nice escalators. It was a huge lobby. And for me to see what I saw was unbelievable.*

*And the firefighter that took us down kept saying, "Do not look down!" And I kept saying, "Why?" He said, "Do not look down." And we were stepping over people. And you know you can feel when you're stepping over people.*

*They took us out through a hole, that . . . I don't know who made this hole in this wall. That's how they got us out. They took us out through a hole through the wall to safety.*

*As they were taking me out, one firefighter had fallen. I believe he was having a heart attack. But before that, this big giant police officer came to me. And he said, "You have to run!" I said, "I can't run my knees are swollen." He said, "You'll have to get on your knees and crawl, then!" He said, "Because we have reports of more explosions." And that's when I started crawling and I saw this guy fall behind me. His comrades came to his aid and they dragged him to safety.*

*I was looking for an ambulance for my knees, and at that time they told me we gotta walk 20 blocks to a refuge. Before I got there, Eyewitness News grabbed me and started interviewing me.*

*And that's basically it.*

*SOURCE: [Barry Jennings Uncut](#)*

To those unfamiliar with the official story of WTC 7, this might seem like just another account of the terror, confusion

and heroism that the victims of that day faced during their harrowing ordeal.

But this is not the case. Jennings' story is in fact full of details that directly contradict NIST's pronouncements on the destruction of the building.

Most notably, Jennings' vivid description of the explosions that were taking place in the building during his ordeal is in direct contradiction to NIST's assertion in its [FAQ on WTC 7](#) that, although NIST "investigated the possibility" of explosions contributing to the building's demolition, "NIST concluded that blast events inside the building did not occur and found no evidence supporting the existence of a blast event."

In fact, not only is there ample evidence, available to anyone interested, that there were explosions going on in the building shortly before it went down.

But Jennings' personal account confirms that there were numerous explosions taking place inside WTC 7 in the morning, hours before the building was destroyed.

The BBC in its "Conspiracy Files" program on "[The Third Tower](#)" tries to muddy the waters by implying that the explosions that Jennings testified to were in fact the dust and debris from the Twin Towers' demolitions impacting Building 7.

*JENNINGS: I received a phone call from one of my higher-ups and he said, "Where are you?" and I said, you know, "The emergency command center, of course. And then he came back, he said, "Get out of here get out of the area."*

*NARRATOR: At 9:59 the 1300 foot South Tower collapses.*

*[...]*

*JENNINGS: I wanted to get out of that building in a hurry so I started—instead of taking one step at a time, I'm jumping*



*landings. When I reach down to the sixth floor, with this eerie sound the whole building went dark and the staircase that I was standing on just gave way.*

*NARRATOR: At 10:28 the North Tower collapses in just 11 seconds.*

*SOURCE: [BBC Conspiracy Files: The Third Tower](#)*

With their editing and narrative intrusions, the BBC makes it seem that the explosions that Jennings and Hess experienced were just remnants of the Twin Towers hitting WTC 7. But in his interview with Dylan Avery and Jason Bermas, Jennings was completely adamant that he could still see both towers standing after the explosions happened.

*JENNINGS: What happened was, when we made it back to the 8th floor—as I told you earlier, both buildings were still standing, because I looked. [Pointing] Two. [pauses] I look one way, look the other way—now there's nothing there.*

*When I got to the 6th floor there was an explosion that forced us back to the 8th floor. Both buildings were still standing.*

*Keep in mind, I told you the fire department came..and ran. They came twice. Why? Because building tower 1 fell and then tower 2 fell. And then when they came back, they came back, they came back all concerned like to get me the hell out of there. And, and they did. And we got out of there.*

*I got into the building a little before nine . . . A little after nine. I didn't get out of there until, like, 1:00 PM.*

It is important to note that Jennings' story does not present a different view of the official story of 9/11; it undermines that story entirely. Multiple explosions taking place in the lower floors of Building 7 *before* the Twin Towers' destruction

shows that NIST was wrong to dismiss the possibility of explosive demolition of WTC 7. Given that the explosions that trapped Jennings and Hess *was not* falling debris from the Twin Towers and *was not* a fuel oil tank explosion—a point stressed by Jennings and confirmed by NIST—then the most likely possibility—pre-planted explosives that were timed to go off during the attacks—remains not only uncontested, but unconsidered by NIST or any other investigative agency.

Indeed, the 9/11 Commission—which called Jennings in to question him about his story in one closed-door meeting that was never followed up—did not even mention the stunning, symmetrical, free fall demolition of World Trade Center Building 7 in its final report on the attacks. The BBC, as we have seen, attempted to bring Jennings' story in line with the official story by purposely misleading its viewers about the timeline that Jennings himself insisted on. And NIST, infamously, took seven years to finally offer an account of Building 7's collapse; an account so absurd as to be self-refuting:

Most remarkable of all, and conveniently left out of the account of every so-called “debunker” of Jennings' testimony, is what Jennings himself felt about the destruction of Building 7.

*JENNINGS: Well, I'm just confused about one thing and one thing only. Why WTC7 went down in the first place? I'm very confused about that. I know what I heard. I heard explosions.*

*The explanation that I got was that it was the fuel oil tank. I'm an old boiler guy. If it was a fuel oil tank, it would have been one side of the building. When I got to that lobby, the lobby was totally destroyed. It looked like King Kong had came through it and stepped on it. It was so destroyed, I didn't know where I was. And it was so destroyed, they had to take me out through a hole in the wall. A makeshift hole that I believe the fire department made to get me out.*

Given Barry Jennings' personal experience, what did he make of the BBC's attempts to alter the timeline of his story? How did he react to the official government viewpoint that no explosions took place in the building that day? What did he think of NIST's refusal to even examine the evidence of controlled demolition of WTC 7 or their own computer-generated model of how "thermal expansion" and regular office fires brought down a 47-story steel-framed office tower?

Sadly, we will never know. When Dylan Avery and Jason Bermas released a small clip of their interview, Jennings' job was threatened and he asked that the interview not be included in *Loose Change Final Cut*. The full interview was not released until after the BBC released their *Third Tower* documentary in which Jennings claimed to be unhappy with how his testimony was "portrayed" by Avery and Bermas.

No further interview or follow up with Jennings about his comments or about the way the BBC portrayed his story was possible. In September 2008, just as NIST was presenting its final report concluding that WTC 7 had spontaneously collapsed from ordinary office fires, it was [reported](#) that Barry Jennings had passed away in hospital the month before. No further details of his death were offered.

Dylan Avery, seeking to bring closure to Barry Jennings' life, answer questions about his death, and honor the bravery of a 9/11 survivor who spoke the truth even when it was unpopular, hired a private investigator to determine the circumstances of Jennings' death. In a remarkable and [bizarre turn of events](#), however, after pursuing the case, the investigator referred the matter to the police, refunded his fee, and told Avery never to contact him again. To this day, no time or cause of death of Barry Jennings has ever been publicly announced or confirmed.

Despite the sad and confused ending of this tale, there is still hope. Hope that the courage Jennings had in standing up

and telling the truth—even though it was not what the government, NIST, or the promoters of the official 9/11 story wanted to hear—will not be wasted. Hope that, ultimately, the historical record, and the truth itself, will out.

*BERMAS: I think the strongest lesson to be learned about Barry Jennings is that the historical record is the historical record, no matter how hard you try to spin it. For instance, you know, now with these Dark Overlord documents leaking, there's litigation talking about the transformers being blown up in the bottom of the building. OK, now if that had happened we would have had a visual event much like what happened with the Con Edison transformer blowing less than six months ago. It did not happen. And yet on paper and litigation and in official documents it does again and again. Well, it's a cover-up.*

*The man stepped over bodies. We know that happened. He and Hess both talked about internal explosions. That building housed the CIA, the Secret Service, the SEC. I mean, I could go on. It's unbelievable.*

*And I really hope with this latest litigation we finally get to the truth, no matter what. And I would hope that Barry would want the truth, no matter what he may have said in that BBC documentary. Because I spent time with the man. I was in his back seat, and he sure as hell wanted the truth then.*

And so now, all these years later, those who are still seeking the truth are left in the same position as Barry Jennings himself was when he first talked to Dylan Avery and Jason Bermas: Looking at his own experience inside WTC 7 on 9/11 and the government's official explanation of those experiences, and realizing that the two do not add up. Jennings and the other 9/11 whistleblowers are those special few who can stand up and say that the emperor is not wearing any clothes.

*JENNINGS: Well, I'm just confused about one thing and one*

*thing only. Why WTC7 went down in the first place? I'm very confused about that. I know what I heard. I heard explosions.*

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# 9/11 Whistleblowers: Kevin Ryan

by [James Corbett](#)

September 6, 2019

[Source](#)

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*In the early 2000s, Kevin Ryan was the site manager at Environmental Health Laboratories. On November 11, 2004, he wrote directly to Frank Gayle, the director of NIST's Twin Towers investigation. The following week, he was fired. This is his story.*

## TRANSCRIPT

"But someone would have talked" say the self-styled skeptics that believe the government's official conspiracy theory of 9/11." After all, every major conspiracy has its whistleblowers, doesn't it?"

But there's a problem with this logically fallacious non-argument. "Someone" *did* talk. In fact, numerous people have come out to blow the whistle on the events of September 11, 2001, and the cover up that surrounds those events.

These are the stories of the **9/11 Whistleblowers**.

You're tuned in to [The Corbett Report](#).

In 2001, Kevin Ryan was the site manager at Environmental Health Laboratories (EHL) in South Bend, Indiana. At the time, EHL was a subsidiary of Underwriters Laboratories (UL), a global safety consulting and certification corporation that tests a range of consumer and industrial products for compliance with government safety standards. Among many other things, UL provides fire resistance ratings for structural steel components to insure compliance with New York City building codes.

Just weeks after the events of September 11, 2001, UL's then-CEO, Loring Knoblauch, visited Ryan's EHL lab in South Bend. During his speech there, Knoblauch [assured the lab's workers](#) that UL "had certified the steel in the World Trade Center buildings" and "that we should all be proud that the buildings had stood for so long under such intense conditions." Knowing UL's role in producing a fire resistance directory and providing ratings for steel components, Ryan thought little of the statement at the time.

But Ryan's curiosity about UL's role in the certification of the World Trade Center steel was piqued when, in 2003, he began to question the lies that the Bush administration had used to justify the invasion of Iraq, and, eventually, to question the official story of September 11th itself. Recalling Knoblauch's comments about UL's role in certifying the Trade Center steel shortly after 9/11, Ryan began to take a professional interest in the official investigation into the Twin Towers' destruction, an investigation in which UL itself

was to play a part.

As Ryan began to learn more about the issues involved with the destruction of the towers and the ongoing investigation into that destruction, his concerns only grew. Why had the actual steel evidence of the towers's destruction been [illegally removed and disposed of](#) before a proper investigation could take place? Why did not one or two, but *three* modern, steel-frame buildings completely collapse due to fire on 9/11 given that such an event had never taken place before? Why did the towers fail at all when John Skilling, the structural engineer responsible for designing the towers, [claimed in 1993](#)—just five years before his death—that his own analysis of jet plane crashes and ensuing fires in the towers had concluded that “the building structure would still be there”? And why had Knoblauch himself bragged about UL's role in testing the trade center steel—a test that would have rated the floor components for two hours of fire resistance and the building columns for three hours—when the North Tower “failed” in 102 minutes and the South Tower came down in just 56 minutes?

These concerns prompted Ryan, in October 2003, to write directly to Loring Knoblauch, outlining his thoughts and “asking what [Knoblauch] was doing to protect our reputation.” But if Ryan was expecting Knoblauch to put his mind at ease about these issues, he was sorely disappointed. Instead, Knoblauch—who included [Tom Chapin](#), then the head of UL's fire resistance division, in the email chain—wrote a response that only raised more questions than it answered.

*KEVIN RYAN: Knoblauch copied Tom Chapin on his response to me, because it was Tom's job as the leader of the fire resistance division to really address these kinds of things. And interestingly, Tom Chapin had written [a letter to the editors](#) at The New York Times in 2002 where he basically admitted, again, that UL's testing had been behind the fire resistance of the World Trade Center towers. And so I've written about that a little bit, but he was very clear that*

*the World Trade Center stood for as long as it did because of UL's testing. And the problem of course with that is that that the south tower lasted for only 56 minutes after it was hit, and the testing that was required by New York City code was three hours of fire resistance for the columns and two hours for the floor assemblies. So 56 minutes and those ratings do not add up. That's just not something that should go unquestioned.*

*So Loring Knoblauch wrote back to me after my questions in—it must have been October 2003 when I wrote to him. He wrote back to me a month later and he said all these things about how the company had tested the steel components used to build the World Trade Center towers. What he meant is he we had tested samples of those and provided ratings for fire resistance to the New York City Code—again, three hours for columns and two hours for floor assemblies. And that information established the confidence that the buildings would stand in those fire durations. And the test that was used was ASTM E119, which is the standard test used for this purpose. And UL is the leader in doing that testing, so it wasn't a surprise.*

*And not only that but NIST—the government agency NIST [the National Institute of Standards and Technology]—had made clear in some of their progress reports that UL had consulted with the construction companies for the World Trade Center towers, and throughout the building of the buildings that UL had provided that information. So it's really not a surprise at all.*

*And Tom Chapin replied further to me that the NIST agency was doing an investigation and asked me, basically, to have patience. And I did for maybe the next year.*

**In 2002, NIST began its three-year, \$16 million study of the Twin Towers' "failure." Tom Chapin had assured Ryan that UL**



was cooperating with this investigation, and that his concerns would be allayed once the [final report](#) was released. But by 2004, it was already clear that there were serious problems with that report and its preliminary findings, including findings from [tests conducted by UL](#) on mock-ups of the WTC floor assemblies that contradicted NIST's own conclusions about the buildings' destruction.

*RYAN: Well, it's very important to understand that with the official accounts for the World Trade Center, there were a number of explanations given in the early years. And for the towers the one that was settled upon and that lasted for three years was the pancake theory.*

*And the pancake theory was this concept where the floor assemblies had heated up and sagged and this steel had softened or weakened and then they started to collapse upon each other in a pancake fashion. And then the the columns basically just folded inward. So that was the official account, really. It was given by the FEMA investigators [Corley and Thornton](#) and others—who coincidentally had also given us the official account for the Oklahoma City bombing. But in [this video](#) from the television program Nova it was captured for everyone's benefit in little videos . . . animations. And so the pancake theory was the official account.*

*And [UL tested the floor assemblies](#) basically for the possibility of this in August 2004. So this was, again, nine months or ten months after I had asked my original questions. And they did so by using different assemblies with varying amounts of fireproofing. One of the assemblies had basically no fire proofing on it at all and they ran it through this furnace in this ASTM E119 test and concluded in the end that there would be no collapse. That the floors would not collapse even at temperatures and times greater than what we're seeing at the World Trade Center.*

*And they made that clear. NIST made this clear, that the pancake theory was not supported. So that left us all at that time with no explanation, in 2004, three years later. Having invaded Iraq, having done so much to invest in the official account that the World Trade Center had been destroyed by these planes. And that was a difficult situation for NIST and for everyone.*

Realizing that UL was not pressing NIST on the discrepancies in its findings, Kevin Ryan took matters into his own hands and, on November 11, 2004, [wrote directly to Frank Gayle](#), the director of NIST's Twin Towers investigation. That email began:

*"As I'm sure you know, the company I work for certified the steel components used in the construction of the WTC buildings. In requesting information from both our CEO and Fire Protection business manager last year, I learned that they did not agree on the essential aspects of the story, except for one thing—that the samples we certified met all requirements. They suggested we all be patient and understand that UL was working with your team, and that tests would continue through this year. I'm aware of UL's attempts to help, including performing tests on models of the floor assemblies. But the results of these tests appear to indicate that the buildings should have easily withstood the thermal stress caused by pools of burning jet fuel."*

After pointing out the problems raised by NIST's own investigation—including the tests that disproved claims that the steel in the floor area simply "melted"—Ryan got to the heart of the matter:

*"This story just does not add up. If steel from those buildings did soften or melt, I'm sure we can all agree that this was certainly not due to jet fuel fires of any kind, let alone the briefly burning fires in those towers. That fact*

*should be of great concern to all Americans. Alternatively, the contention that this steel did fail at temperatures around 250C suggests that the majority of deaths on 9/11 were due to a safety-related failure. That suggestion should be of great concern to my company.*

*“There is no question that the events of 9/11 are the emotional driving force behind the War on Terror. And the issue of the WTC collapse is at the crux of the story of 9/11. My feeling is that your metallurgical tests are at the crux of the crux of the crux. Either you can make sense of what really happened to those buildings, and communicate this quickly, or we all face the same destruction and despair that come from global decisions based on disinformation and ‘chatter.’”*

Predictably, if unfortunately, Gayle never responded to the email. However, Ryan made the important decision to share the email, and his concerns, with the broader public:

**RYAN:** *Frank did not respond, no. Actually, that letter was sent to him and then also copied to a couple of people who were trying to find more information. Trying to find the truth about what happened on 9/11. Those two included David Griffin, who had just recently written a book, and Catherine Austin Fitz, the director of [911Truth.org](http://911Truth.org).*

*Dr. Griffin asked me almost immediately if he could share it publicly. And, of course, with some hesitation, but knowing the importance in believing what I wrote, I told him it was OK. And overnight there must have been tens of thousands of people reading this letter on the web and people calling our offices in South Bend at UL constantly, and calling me at home constantly. I think a lot of people were feeling the same—they were thinking the same thing: That clearly there was something wrong here and the story was not explaining what we needed to know.*

*So Dr. Gayle did not respond. He's never responded. Maybe one day I will talk to him personally and find out what he thinks. But, you know, these things are clear in terms of job—this is not really just a career decision, although it is. It's a career decision. It's more than that, it's a decision about, you know, what kind of world we want to live in, and at a time where that kind of decision is really important. Because, you know, the book Nineteen Eighty-Four was supposed to be a fiction and it's evolving into reality.*

Ryan did not engage in these actions naively. He knew that allowing his concerns to go public would focus public attention on himself and on UL, and that such actions would have ramifications for his employment.

But if he was bracing himself for those ramifications, he didn't have long to wait. His email to Frank Gayle was sent on Thursday, November 11, 2004. It was published on the web the following day. Immediately, Ryan's phone was ringing off the hook and UL was being contacted for comment. That weekend, the company reached out to him to let him know the consequences of his actions.

***RYAN:** The Human Resources folks called me that weekend and asked if I would contact the people on the web who had published it and asked that it be taken down. And I refused to do that and told them that I didn't think that was the right thing to do. And I think it was at that very point then they started making the plans to terminate me.*

*So I had actually taken the next Monday off of work and that was convenient. It allowed me to get my thoughts together. And then on Tuesday when I came in—which I believe was the 16th—the leaders from the Northbrook, Chicago office were there, and they had told me they would be: "Please make sure you're there." They brought a letter on UL letterhead and*

*made it clear that, you know, they felt that I had practiced poor judgment in writing this letter and sending it to their client NIST. It had harmed their relationship with NIST, and thereby I was terminated.*

*So, yeah, that was a tough spot for my family and I. But my wife has been supportive. She knows the idealistic nature of her husband, I think, and she knew why it was important. And we've done fine, we've gotten by and gotten other jobs. And that's—I believe people should recognize that it's not the end of the world to lose your job. Sometimes it's a new beginning that was useful.*

Not for courting controversy, but merely for pointing out the glaring truth, Ryan was fired from his job. Like so many other whistleblowers in so many other stories, Ryan paid a price for doing what his conscience demanded.

Also like many other brave men and women who have been thrust into the position of blowing the whistle, Ryan has found a way to thrive despite the setbacks. Rather than keeping quiet and moving on with his life, Ryan has doubled down on his efforts, founding several action groups, editing the [Journal of 9/11 Studies](#), writing articles and books on the subject of 9/11, volunteering on the board of directors of [Architects & Engineers for 9/11 Truth](#), delivering lectures on the destruction of the World Trade Center, and continuing to raise public awareness of the problems with the official story of the founding event of the “War on Terror.”

In the end, despite the high price he paid career-wise, Ryan feels that his decision to blow the whistle and call out the self-contradictions of the NIST investigation was worth it. After all, it is only when those who know the truth are unafraid to step up and speak it, regardless of the personal consequences, that we will ever hope to achieve true justice.

**RYAN:** *What I've been able to benefit from is understanding a*

*lot more about society, history, politics, being better at communicating myself. And I've met a lot of great people. We've worked together to raise awareness and try to bring justice for 9/11. You know, I've met and presented with 9/11 victims' family members. I've met 9/11 Commission leaders and other people who were very central to this story. So many great researchers. So many great people. So overall it was definitely worth it for me.*

*It's a personal decision, of course, and it has to be motivated by trying to do some good. If it's not motivated by trying to do some good then you're doing the wrong thing.*

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# James Corbett Offers His Take on Assange

by James Corbett

April 19, 2019

[Source](#)

This is a presentation of Questions for Corbett. The question about Julian Assange appears at approximately 16:09. (Video link starts at that point.) Hint: He's skeptical about many things surrounding Assange.

<https://youtu.be/0Zd3j5lZTMg?t=969>

What's your take on Assange? Have you heard of Unit 731? And just who is Percy Corbett, anyway? Get James' answer to these and other important questions in this edition of Questions For Corbett.

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# **Solving 9-11 and Other False Flags: Conversation between Christopher Bollyn and Jason Goodman**

by [Jason Goodman](#)

<https://youtu.be/yg1aPUtgf4Y>

Christopher Bollyn has pointed out remarkable connections to elements of Israeli intelligence involvement in 9/11.

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## **“Let’s Keep On”: 9/11 Family**



# Member Matt Campbell at the U.S. Capitol, September 11, 2018

*"Whenever the authorities are involved in murder and its subsequent cover up, it's only through the determination and perseverance of family members and individuals, that truth and justice can have any chance of prevailing – even with the chances of succeeding appear so slim..."*

Source: [AE911Truth](https://AE911Truth.org)

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