



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**Federal Aviation  
Administration**

# Memorandum

Subject: **INFORMATION:** Partial Transcript;  
Aircraft Accident; AAL77; Pentagon  
Building, Arlington, VA; September  
11, 2001  
From: Dulles ATCT

Date: September 26, 2001

Reply to  
Attn. of:

To: Aircraft Accident File

This transcription covers the Dulles ATCT Arrival Data/Departure  
Data position for the period from September 11, 2001, 1329 UTC,  
to September 11, 2001, 1348 UTC.

Agencies Making Transmissions

Abbreviations

Dulles ATCT, Arrival Data/Departure Data	AD
Dulles ATCT, Arrival Data/Departure Data Background	IAD
Eastern Region Quality Assurance	AEA
Eastern Region Quality Assurance, Background	AEAB
Dulles ATCT, Traffic Management Coordinator	TMC

I hereby certify that the following is a true transcription of  
the recorded conversations pertaining to the subject aircraft  
accident involving AAL77:

Maureen A. Zwirble  
Support Specialist  
Dulles ATCT

1329  
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2

1333  
1334:00 AD dulles approach

1334:01 AEA yeah dulles this ron ruggeri from five oh five

1334:03 AD say again

1334:04 AEA this ron ruggeri from five oh five

1334:07 AD say again

1334:07 AEA hello

1334:08 AD yes

1334:08 AEA this is ron ruggeri from quality assurance five oh five

1334:12 AD yeah hold on a second i'll get you a supervisor

1334:13 AEA yeah please

1334:15 AEAB oh one thirty one oh

1334:23 AEAB where's ronny

1334:24 IADB john i can't understand the guy he says five oh five

1334:28 AD john henderson speaking

1334:29 AEA yeah john ron ruggeri how you doin

1334:31 AD good

3

1334:31 AEA listen united one seventy five i need you to stop all your departures until you can account for united one seventy five

1334:37 AD we have no info

1334:37 AEA disregard hold that disregard he's out of boston disregard he's out of boston we just found out

1334:42 AD everything here leaving dulles has already been stopped

1334:45 AEA okay

1334:45 AD and arrivals to ah the washington metro area have been ground stopped

1334:49 AEA okay so all dulles departures stopped

1334:51 AD that's correct as well as v f r's at this point

1334:56 AEA yeah

1334:56 AD if there's any suspected terrorist activity could be originating from v f r's as well

1335

1335:01 AEA right we got cha

1335:02 AD we tracked a fast moving primary heading toward the white house we've notified national approach we've notified the white house

1335:08 AEA wait a minute there's a fast moving v f r toward the white house

1335:11 AD primary only target heading toward the white house we have no idea what altitude what type could be fighter

1335:18 AEA wait a wait a wait a hold on a minute john hold on a minute hold on i'm talking

1335:20 AEAB passing the info

1335:20 AEA get if from john henderson at dulles

1335:22 AEAB a fast moving v f r aircraft moving right for the white house

1335:28 AEA right now you've passed that to national

1335:30 AD we passed that the white house

1335:21 AEA good

1335:32 AD we passed that to national

1335:32 AEA ah

1335:33 AD it could obviously it could be military in support of the white house

1335:36 AEA what's its position right now john

1335:38 AD our position

1335:38 AEA no what's its position right now

1335:39 AD stand by

5

1335:41 AEA they passed it to the military

1335:43 AEAB they passed it on to the military james

1335:51 AD six miles southwest of the white house

1335:54 AEA six miles southwest

1335:54 AD making a right turn back south west bound  
fast moving

1335:56 AEA six miles southwest of the white house south  
west bound fast moving

1336:00 AEAB six miles south west of the white house fast  
moving

1336:03 AEA alright stand by i want to stay on the line

1336:06 AEAB i got a fast hang on i got got a fst moving v f  
r aircraft heading right for the white house

1336:10 AD now it's moving away from the white house right  
now

1336:12 AEA it's moving away john says it's moving away from  
the white house

1336:16 AEA alright stand by

1336:17 AD kay it's maneuvering it's turning north

1336:19 AEAB they told me it's moving away from the white

house now

1336:22 AD it's maneuvering it's turning north could be

1336:25 AEA it's now turning north

1336:27 AD turning north back toward the white house

1336:28 AEA now it's turning north back toward the white  
house white house

1336:32 AEAB any chance it's mmilitary

1336:33 AEA is there any chance it's military

1336:34 AD conceivable we have no knowledge

1336:36 AEA they have no knowledge

1336:37 AEAB they have no knowledge of it dave

1336:40 AEA stay on the line john and let me know its  
position

1336:42 AD okay and you probably want to bring national  
up they eh they

1336:44 AEA well i can't i can't get can you can you tie  
us in to national

1336:48 AD i can't

1336:48 AEA hold on a minute

7

1336:49 AEAB do me a favor

1336:50 AEA yeah

1336:50 AEAB get to get to national alright and activate that hot line that they got

1336:54 AEA get to national and activate the hot line

1336:58 AEAB dave  
1337

1337:02 AD he's five miles from the white house

1337:03 AEA he's five miles from the white house

1337:03 AD closing on the white house

1337:05 AEA can ya have you notified national

1337:07 AD we have notified national we notified the white house

1337:09 AEA okay the white house and national have both been notified have you activated the hot line

1337:14 AD uh which hot line are you uh

1337:16 AEA national has a direct hot line to the white house whatever

1337:18 AD okay well ah i will ah i will call national i'm sure national has it we notified both but i'll follow up and call national and make sure they're on the hot line to the white house

8

1337:27 AEA sigh

1337:28 AD alright stand by

1337:29 AEA okay let me stand by john

1337:32 AD call national make sure they're on the hot line  
to the white house

1337:39 AD okay we're notify we're verifying at this time  
that national is on a hot line to the white  
house

1337:42 AEA thank you i'll stand by he's verifying

1337:45 AD it's ah ducharme

1337:49 AD do i hear ducharme in the background

1337:50 AEA yeah he's right here do you want him

1337:51 AD no i just want to know who's

1337:52 AEA yeah

1337:52 AD giving the orders here

1337:53 AEA you remember me john don't you

1337:55 AD who's this

1337:55 AEA this is ron ruggeri

1337:57 AD oh ron how you doing



1337:58 AEA yeah good thank you

1338:00 AD now the primary has disappeared

1338:04 AEA national ah

1338:06 AEAB okay

1338:08 AEA alright hey rodney you hear a phone it's mike

1338:10 IAD tell national he disappeared

1338:15 AD okay the primary disappeared three miles from national three miles ah south west of national

1338:19 AEA three miles southwest what happened

1338:20 AD the primary disappeared

1338:22 AEA the primary disappeared three miles south west of national

1338:24 AD okay picked it up a miles from the er white house

1338:26 AEA now he's a mile from the white house

1338:32 AEA do we have a different t v station you keyed up there on the other side

1338:37 AD okay national is on a hot line with the white house that's confirmed

10

1338:40 AEA okay national's on the hot line to the white house

1338:43 AEA it's confirmed

1338:43 AEAB national's on the hot line to the white house and three south fast moving v f r

1338:47 AEA now he's a mile south

1338:53 AEA john hendershot the gillam on the desk at ah dulles

1339

1339:02 IAD two primaries one mile west of the white house

1339:04 AD two primaries one mile west of the white house now

1339:07 AEA one mile west of the white house primaries

1339:08 AD it it ya know you have a line to the military to find out if they're military aircraft

1339:12 AEA no we i

1339:16 AEA you were the first guys i could get through i was trying to check on the united one seventy

1339:20 AEAB hitting the west side of the pentagon

1339:33 AD we're contacting h m x one now that ah marine helicopter squadron to see what they know about any possible escort aircraft

1339:42 AEA somebody's just what they say just happened hold on a minute

11

1339:44 AEA they just hit the west check around the pentagon  
can you see down that low

1339:48 AD no we can't

1339:51 AEA he just went into the pentagon the west side  
1340

1340:01 AEA john who'd you get that from john

1340:03 AD what's that

1340:04 AEA oh no disregard that ah rick they got it

1340:48 IAD we're doing that right now  
1341

1341:14 AD hello

1341:18 IAD hey john

1341:27 IAD put everybody on the ground who ever where ever  
you have get em on the ground

1341:38 IAD we're bringing them here

1341:52 AEA john anything else movin around there

1341:54 AD this is jaime

1341:55 AEA jaime ronny

1341:56 AD yeah what we're doing is we're taking everybody  
we had in our airspace and making them land here  
getting them out of getting out of the air

12

1342:00 AEA every you're getting everybody out of the air

1342:02 AD that's what we're doing

1342:03 AEA alright jaime thanks if you need me just page me  
you got my number and i'll get back to you okay

1342:07 AD are you going to stay on this line

1342:09 AEA ah well i'm in the com center we're all over

1342:11 AD okay we gonna keep this gonna keep this line  
open

1342:13 AEA what line is it

1342:15 AD ah i don't know what line i'm talking on right  
now should we should we have a ah bridge open  
so we can communicate all of us

1342:22 AEA nah ah we'll call you back on that you're in the  
operations area right

1342:25 AD yeah

1342:25 AEA okay

1342:26 AD will you do that and we'll call up and we keep  
a bridge open best thing to do alright

1342:29 AEA you're you're putting everybody on the ground in  
your airspace

1342:31 AD what we're doing we're taking everybody i don't

care where they're going if they're in our  
airspace we're putting them on the ground

1342:35 AEA      okay you got it

1342:35 AD      alright

1342:36 AEA      okay thanks

1342:36 AD      thanks

1342:37 AEA      right

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End of Transcript