

**FREEDOM OF INFORMATION  
AND  
PRIVACY ACTS**

**SUBJECT: SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER  
EXPLOSION**



**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

## **NOTICE**

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**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS SECTION**

**COVER SHEET**

**SUBJECT:**

**SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER EXPLOSION**

# **SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER EXPLOSION**

NOC 224 229 2039Z

03 HQ CE SL TP

DE NO

0 20 29 2025Z JAN 86

FM NEW ORLEANS (98-NEW) (RUC)

TO DIRECTOR IMMEDIATE

CHARLOTTE IMMEDIATE

S. LOUIS IMMEDIATE

TAMPA IMMEDIATE

REC'D  
TEL

U.S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

DECLASSIFIED BY SP1A666m

~~SECRET~~

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS, SHUTTLE MISSION CHALLENGER, CAPE CANAVERAL,  
FLORIDA: SABOTAGE-II.

MARKINGS, NOTATIONS AND OTHER ITEMS OF INFORMATION CONTAINED  
IN THIS COMMUNICATION ARE CLASSIFIED "SECRET" UNLESS OTHERWISE  
NOTED.

ON JANUARY 28, 1986, [REDACTED]

TELEPHONICALLY

CONTACTED THE OFFICE OF THE NEW ORLEANS FBI WITH INFORMATION THAT

DE 25

98-47051-A

FEB 5 1986

073 BON

1/29/86

1-CC Pm. 4251

2 JUL 15 1986

PAGE TWO. NO 98-NEW ~~SECRET~~

MIGHT RELATE TO THE LOSS OF THE SPACE SHUTTLE.

[REDACTED] ADVISED AS FOLLOWS: IN 1985, WHILE HE WAS STATIONED AT GIESSEN, GERMANY, [REDACTED] HE HAD LEARNED OF A LETTER SENT BY A [REDACTED] TO A [REDACTED] WHICH TO HIS RECOLLECTION STATED THAT [REDACTED] HAD OBTAINED SOME "BLUEPRINTS TO NASA AND WOULD DO A JOB ON THEM."

(b)(7)(C)

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]. SOMETIME IN 1985, [REDACTED] RECEIVED THE LETTER ALLUDED TO ABOVE.

[REDACTED] STATE THAT THE BASE CID IN GIESSEN WAS APPRISED OF THIS MATTER AND [REDACTED] LETTER WAS FURNISHED TO THEM. HE RECALLS THAT AN INVESTIGATION WAS CONDUCTED, HOWEVER, HE DID NOT LEARN OF THE RESULTS. [REDACTED] ALSO RECALLED THAT THE LETTER DREW SUSPICION BECAUSE IT HAD BEEN HAND PRINTED. [REDACTED] HAD ALSO HAND PRINTED HIS SIGNATURE INSTEAD OF NORMALLY SIGNING IT.

THE PRESENT DETACHMENT COMMANDER IN GIESSEN IS A CAPTAIN LEE JORDE. THE CAPTAIN IS AWARE OF THE LETTER AND THE RESULTS OF THE CID INVESTIGATION. [REDACTED] DOES NOT KNOW CURRENT WHEREABOUTS OF EITHER [REDACTED] OR [REDACTED] AT THIS TIME NOR CAN HE ADD ANYTHING TO WHAT HE STATED ABOVE. (b)(2)(c)

THE BUREAU IS REQUESTED TO FORWARD ABOVE INFORMATION TO LEGAT BORN SO THAT CID AT GIESSEN AND CAPTAIN [REDACTED] MIGHT BE CONTACTED AND INTERVIEWED REGARDING THIS INCIDENT.

ST. LOUIS AT ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI. WILL REVIEW U.S. ARMY RECORDS TO IDENTIFY AND DETERMINE CURRENT WHEREABOUTS OF [REDACTED]





005

MESSAGE RELAY VIA TELETYPE  
(RESTRICTED USE)Date: 1/29/86

PRECEDENCE:

☐ IMMEDIATE☒ PRIORITY☐ ROUTINE

FM: DIRECTOR, FBI

TO:

Legat BonnDECLASSIFIED BY SP1ACG/ML  
ON 1-25-892-P.2  
9-P.2☐ White House/WH/☐ Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco Firearms/BATF/☐ Central Intelligence Agency/CIA/☐ CIA DCD/DCD/☐ Dept. of Energy HQS/DOEHQ/☐ Dept. of Energy Germantown DN/DOE/☐ Dept. of Justice/DOJ/☐ Dept. of State/DOS/☐ Dept. of the Army/DA/☐ Dept. of Treasury/DOT/☐ Defense Intelligence Agency/DIA/☐ Director National Security Agency/NSA/☐ Director Naval Investigative Service/DIRNAVINSERV/☐ Drug Enforcement Admin./DEA/☐ FAA Washington HQ/FAA/☐ HQ AFOSI Bolling AFBDC/AFOSB/☐ INSCOM Ft. Meade/INSCOM/☐ Nuclear Regulatory Commission/NRC/☐ U.S. Customs Service/UCS/☐ U.S. Immigration & Naturalization Service/INS/☐ U.S. Secret Service/USSS/☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

BT

Classification: Secret

Addressee Internal Distribution

For: \_\_\_\_\_

98-417051-A

Subject: \_\_\_\_\_

2 FEB 6 1986

☒ See AlsoApproved By: FM/DMOriginator: [Redacted]Tele Ext. 2805Room/Div. 5027/6FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

JAN 31 1986

2 APR 28 1986

DO NOT FILE WITHOUT COMMUNICATIONS STAMP

100 224 229 2239Z

03 HQ CE SL TF

DE NO

O 22 29 2225Z JAN 86

FM NEW ORLEANS (98-NEW) (RUC)

TO DIRECTOR IMMEDIATE

CHARLOTTE IMMEDIATE

ST. LOUIS IMMEDIATE

TAMPA IMMEDIATE

B

~~SECRET~~

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS, SHUTTLE MISSION CHALLENGER, CAPE CANAVERAL,

FLORIDA; SABOTAGE-IT.

*By teletype dated 1/29/86 FBI New Orleans advised:*

MARKINGS, NOTATIONS AND OTHER ITEMS OF INFORMATION CONTAINED

IN THIS COMMUNICATION ARE CLASSIFIED "SECRET" UNLESS OTHERWISE NOTED.

ON JANUARY 28, 1986, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] TELEPHONICALLY

CONTACTED THE OFFICE OF THE NEW ORLEANS FBI WITH INFORMATION THAT

(b)  
(7)  
(C)

073 BON  
1/29/86 6

PAGE TWO NO 98-NEW ~~SECRET~~

MIGHT RELATE TO THE LOSS OF THE SPACE SHUTTLE.

[REDACTED] ADVISED AS FOLLOWS: IN 1985, WHILE HE WAS STATIONED  
AT GIESSEN, GERMANY, [REDACTED]

HE HAD LEARNED OF A LETTER SENT BY A [REDACTED] TO A

[REDACTED] WHICH TO HIS RECOLLECTION STATED THAT [REDACTED]

HAD OBTAINED SOME "BLUEPRINTS TO NASA AND WOULD DO A JOB ON THEM."

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

(b)  
(7)  
(C)

PAGE THREE NO 98-NEW ~~SECRET~~

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] SOMETIME IN 1985, [REDACTED] RECEIVED THE LETTER ALLUDED  
TO ABOVE.

[REDACTED] STATE THAT THE BASE CID IN GIESSEN WAS APPRISED  
OF THIS MATTER AND [REDACTED] LETTER WAS FURNISHED TO THEM. [REDACTED]  
RECALLS THAT AN INVESTIGATION WAS CONDUCTED, HOWEVER, HE DID  
NOT LEARN OF THE RESULTS. [REDACTED] ALSO RECALLED THAT THE LETTER  
DREW SUSPICION BECAUSE IT HAD BEEN HAND PRINTED. [REDACTED] HAD ALSO  
HAND PRINTED HIS SIGNATURE INSTEAD OF NORMALLY SIGNING IT. (b)  
(7)  
(C)

THE PRESENT DETACHMENT COMMANDER IN GIESSEN IS A CAPTAIN LEE  
JORDE. THE CAPTAIN IS AWARE OF THE LETTER AND THE RESULTS OF THE  
CID INVESTIGATION. [REDACTED] DOES NOT KNOW CURRENT WHEREABOUTS  
OF EITHER [REDACTED] OR [REDACTED] AT THIS TIME NOR CAN HE ADD ANYTHING  
TO WHAT HE STATED ABOVE.

~~THE BUREAU IS REQUESTED TO FORWARD ABOVE INFORMATION TO LEGAT~~  
BONN SO THAT CID AT GIESSEN AND CAPTAIN [REDACTED] MIGHT BE  
CONTACTED AND INTERVIEWED REGARDING THIS INCIDENT.

ST. LOUIS AT ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI. WILL REVIEW U.S. ARMY  
RECORDS TO IDENTIFY AND DETERMINE CURRENT WHEREABOUTS OF [REDACTED]

~~FOUR~~

~~38-NEW~~

~~SECRET~~

[REDACTED] AND [REDACTED] OBTAIN ANY INFORMATION  
OF A MEDICAL NATURE WHICH MIGHT SHED SOME LIGHT RE [REDACTED] STATE  
OF MIND.

CHARLOTTE AT FORT BRAGG, NORTH CAROLINA. WILL, THROUGH THE  
BASE LOCATER, DETERMINE WHETHER [REDACTED] IS STATIONED  
THERE AND INTERVIEW [REDACTED] REGARDING THE ABOVE INCIDENT. IF NOT  
AT FT. BRAGG AND WHEREABOUTS ARE ASCERTAINED, SET OUT LEAD TO  
INTERVIEW. SUTEL.

~~SECRET~~

BT

FORMS.TEXT HAS 1 DOCUMENT

INBOX.102 (#1926)

TEXT:

00009 0290026Z

00 HQ AFO

DE TP

0 280023Z JAN 86

FM TAMPA (98-NEW) (P)

TO DIRECTOR IMMEDIATE

ALL FIELD OFFICES PRIORITY

BT

UNCLAS

SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER, INFORMATION CONCERNING LAUNCH EXPLOSION.

KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FLORIDA, JANUARY 28, 1986; SABOTAGE; NASA ACT;

OO: TAMPA

ON JANUARY 28, 1986, AT 11:39 A.M., NASA SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER EXPLODED FOLLOWING LAUNCH LIFTOFF AT 1 MINUTE 12 SECONDS IN FLIGHT, AT KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FLORIDA. DEBRIS SCATTERED OVER 3 TO 18 MILES IN ATLANTIC OCEAN OFF CAPE CANAVERAL, FLORIDA. INITIAL NASA RESPONSE WAS THAT A "MAJOR MALFUNCTION" RESULTED IN LOSS OF THE SHUTTLE.

THE CHALLENGER CREW CONSISTED OF SEVEN PERSONNEL, INCLUDING A CONCORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE, SCHOOLTEACHER.

FBI, TAMPA DIVISION, AND NASA IC AND SECURITY STAFF MAINTAIN

FEB 5 1986

RELAYED TO:

AFO

20 JUN 12 1986

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-24-89 BY SP-1000

Exec. AD-Adm.	
Exec. AD-Inv.	
Exec. AD-LES	
Asst. Dir.:	
Adm. Servs.	
Crim. Inv.	
Ident.	
Inspection	
Intell.	
Laboratory	
Legal Coun.	
Off. of Cong. & Public Affs.	
Rec. Mgmt.	
Tech. Servs.	
Training	

Challenger

98-47051-X2

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13-New  
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PAGE TWO TP 98-NEW UNCLAS

CLOSE LIAISON RE INVESTIGATIVE RESPONSIBILITY AND ASSISTANCE.

AS OF YET, THERE IS NO INDICATION OF SABOTAGE OR PRIOR THREATS CONCERNING SHUTTLE LAUNCH.

ALL LAUNCH MATERIAL BEING SECURED BY NASA AND IT IS ANTICIPATED THAT A BOARD OF INVESTIGATIVE INQUIRY WILL BE FORMED TO REVIEW THE DETAILS OF THE SHUTTLE LOSS.

NO INDICATION OF A SECURITY CRITICAL PAYLOAD ON SHUTTLE AT THIS TIME, OTHER THAN CRYPTO MATERIAL.

FBI INVESTIGATIVE, LAB, AND DISASTER SERVICES OFFERED.

NUMEROUS PUBLIC CALLS TO FBI, NASA, AND OTHER LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL HAVE BEEN RECEIVED, HOWEVER, NONE HAVE DEVELOPED ANY SUBSTANCE CONCERNING EXPLANATION FOR EXPLOSION.

FBIHQ WILL BE EXPEDITIOUSLY ADVISED OF ANY DEVELOPMENTS CONCERNING THIS MATTER.

3 APR 15 1986





XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET2 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- ☐
- Deletions were made pursuant to the exemptions indicated below with no segregable material available for release to you.

Section 552Section 552a☐ (b)(1)☐ (b)(7)(A)☐ (d)(5)☐ (b)(2)☐ (b)(7)(B)☐ (j)(2)☐ (b)(3)☐ (b)(7)(C)☐ (k)(1)☐ (b)(7)(D)☐ (k)(2)☐ (b)(7)(E)☐ (k)(3)☐ (b)(7)(F)☐ (k)(4)☐ (b)(4)☐ (b)(8)☐ (k)(5)☐ (b)(5)☐ (b)(9)☐ (k)(6)☒ (b)(6)☐ (k)(7)

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98-47051- dated 2/5/86

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X  
X FOR THIS PAGE X  
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TELETYPE UNIT

31 JAN 86 23 48z

FEDERAL BUREAU  
OF INVESTIGATION

Exec. AD-Adm.	
Exec. AD-LES	
Asst. Dir.:	
Adm. Serv.	
Crim. Inv.	
Ident.	
Insp.	
Intell.	
Laboratory	
Legal Coun.	
Off. of Cong. & Public Affs.	
Rec. Mgnt.	
Tech. Servs.	
Training	
Telephone Rm.	
Director's	

AMS.TEXT HAS 1 DOCUMENT

BOX.38 (#8899)

EXT:

NH0004 0311628Z

OO HQ TP

DE NH

O 311502Z JAN 86

FM NEW HAVEN (98-NEW) (P)

TO DIRECTOR IMMEDIATE

TAMPA (98-NEW) IMMEDIATE

BT

UNCLAS

SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER, INFORMATION CONCERNING LAUNCH

EXPLOSION, KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FLORIDA, 1/28/86; SABOTAGE;

NASA ACT; OO: TAMPA.

RE TELCALL FROM SA [REDACTED] NH DIVISION, TO SA [REDACTED]  
TAMPA DIVISION, ON 1/31/86.

ON 1/29/86 A TELEPHONE CALL WAS RECEIVED AT BRIDGEPORT  
RESIDENT AGENCY, FBI, AT APPROXIMATELY 3:05 P.M. FROM [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] ADVISED THAT  
[REDACTED] HAD STATED IN DEC. 1985 THAT  
HE WAS GOING TO SABOTAGE ORBITAL DISPLAY UNIT [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] FOR SPACE SHUTTLES TO SEE IF THE FAILURES

57 MAY 15 1986

1-CC fm 4251

PAGE TWO NH 98-NEW UNCLAS

IN THE SYSTEM COULD BE CAPTURED.

[REDACTED] WAS SUBSEQUENTLY INTERVIEWED AT LENGTH [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

IN DEC. 1985, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] MADE A STATEMENT TO [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] THAT HE WAS GOING TO "SABOTAGE" ODU TO SEE IF  
[REDACTED] COULD "CAPTURE THE FAILURES". [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] EXPLAINED THAT ODU IS A SYSTEM PLACED IN EACH  
SHUTTLE TO PROVIDE THE COMMANDER AND CO-PILOT WITH FLIGHT  
INFORMATION AND TO INFORM THEM OF ANY MALFUNCTIONS SO THAT  
FLIGHT MAY BE ABORTED IF NECESSARY. [REDACTED] REPORTED [REDACTED]  
STATEMENTS TO [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

QUESTIONS

(b)  
(7)  
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PAGE THREE NH 98-NEW

[REDACTED] AND HE ADMITTED MAKING THE STATEMENTS.

ACCORDING TO [REDACTED] NO FURTHER ACTION WAS TAKEN.

[REDACTED] REPORTED THE MATTER TO [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] STATED THAT [REDACTED] DID NOT ACT ON THIS INFORMATION  
AND NO FURTHER ACTION WAS TAKEN TOWARDS [REDACTED]

ON 1/30/86 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED], ADVISED THAT [REDACTED] WAS ASKED TO PREPARE A WRITTEN  
STATEMENT WHICH HE NEVER DID. [REDACTED] ADVISED THAT

[REDACTED] HAVE HAD A HISTORY OF MAKING COMPLAINTS  
ABOUT OTHER EMPLOYEES WHICH, AFTER INTERNAL INVESTIGATION,  
WERE DEEMED TO BE UNFOUNDED.

INVESTIGATION IN THIS MATTER CONTINUING BY NEW HAVEN  
DIVISION IN AN EXPEDITIOUS FASHION.

BT

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FORMS.TEXT HAS 1 DOCUMENT

INBOX.1 (#8980)

TEXT:

BS000116 0312047Z

RR HQ TP

DE BS

R 311745Z JAN 86

FM BOSTON (98-1968) (RUC)

TO DIRECTOR (ROUTINE)

TAMPA (98-NEW) (ROUTINE)

BT

UNCLAS

SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER, INFORMATION CONCERNING LAUNCH

EXPLOSION, KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FLORIDA, JANUARY 28, 1986,

SABOTAGE; NASA ACT, OO:TP

RE BOSTON TELETYPE DATED JANUARY 29, 1986 CAPTIONED AS  
ABOVE.

FOR INFORMATION RECIPIENTS, ON JANUARY 30, 1986, SPECIAL  
AGENTS-FBI, MASSACHUSETTS STATE POLICE, AND CAMBRIDGE POLICE  
DEPARTMENT (CPD) PRESENTED FACTS OF SCENARIO SET FORTH IN RETEL  
TO ASSISTANT DISTRICT ATTORNEY MICHAEL FABBRI, MIDDLESEX COUNTY  
DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, MASSACHUSETTS.

2 FEB 5 1986

2 JUL 15 1986

1-CC Rm. 4251

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-20-81 BY [signature]

PAGE TWO 198-1968 UNCLAS

THAT [REDACTED] COULD BE INCARCERATED UNDER  
MASSACHUSETTS GENERAL LAW, CHAPTER 123, SECTION 12E, WHICH  
PROVIDES FOR INCARCERATION FOR A PSYCHIATRIC  
OBSERVATION.

THEREAFTER, MASSACHUSETTS STATE POLICE AND CAMBRIDGE POLICE  
DEPARTMENT RECEIVED WARRANT FOR [REDACTED] AND EXECUTED SAME.

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
THIS MATTER IS CONSIDERED RUC.

BT

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(C)

INDIANAPOLIS 882-0235Z

P. 00 17

IP

3 FEB 86 20 22

RECEIVED  
TELETYPE

3 FEB 86 20 22

FEDERAL BUREAU  
OF INVESTIGATION

INDIANAPOLIS (98-1594) (RUD)

TO INDIANAPOLIS PRIORITY

FROM INDIANAPOLIS

RE

INFO

SUBJECT: SHUTTLE MISSION CHALLENGER, O-RCA CHALLENGER, FLORIDA:

SABOTAGE-IT.

THIS COMMUNICATION IS CLASSIFIED SECRET. IT'S BEEN  
CLASSIFIED SECRET BY SP1/HG/600 ON 1-25-85  
AND INDIANAPOLIS TELETYPE TO TEL. DIV. AND TAMPA, 1/30/86,  
AND INDIANAPOLIS TELCALL 2/3/86, OF SP1/HG/600  
TO SP1/HG/600, TAMPA DIVISION.

ON 1/31/86, SERGEANT MAJOR SP1/HG/600 CENTER SERGEANT  
MAJOR, ELISTED RECORDS AND EVALUATION CENTER, U.S. ARMY  
MILITARY PERSONNEL CENTER, WASHINGTON, D.C., DETACHED TO  
FT. BENJAMIN HARRISON, INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA, TELEPHONE NUMBER  
548-3622, ADVISED THAT THE ONLY SP1/HG/600 WHICH HE HAD

DECLASSIFIED BY SP1/HG/600  
ON 1-25-85

1-CCRM.4251

093 BOW

2/3/86 br

2 JUL 15 1986



PAGE TWO IP 91-1564 [REDACTED]

TO LOCATED U.S. ARMY RECORDS, IS STATIONED IN GIESSEN, GERMANY, AND WOULD APPEAR TO BE IDENTICAL WITH THE [REDACTED] [REDACTED] ALLUDED TO IN REFERENCE IP TELETYPE, 1/31/61.

REGARDING [REDACTED] INDICATED THAT [REDACTED] WAS CURRENTLY A [REDACTED], [REDACTED] [REDACTED] ATTACHED TO THE [REDACTED] [REDACTED] HOWEVER, THERE IS NO INDICATION THAT THIS [REDACTED] WAS STATIONED IN GIESSEN, GERMANY.

[REDACTED] HAS RECORD REGARDING A [REDACTED] WHO WAS A RECENT RECRUIT, NOT STATIONED IN GIESSEN, WEST GERMANY, AND STATED THAT SAID INDIVIDUAL WOULD BE IN CONTACT WITH [REDACTED] IN GIESSEN.

[REDACTED] STATED THE THIRD POSSIBILITY WAS THAT THE [REDACTED] OF INTEREST TO THE FBI HAD BEEN RECHARGED WITH THE ARMY AND WITHOUT MORE DETAILED RECORDS WOULD BE DIFFICULT TO DETERMINE HIS IDENTITY.

IN VIEW OF THE FACT THAT CID AT GIESSEN, WEST GERMANY, AND CAPTAIN [REDACTED] ARE AWARE OF THE LETTER ALLEGEDLY WRITTEN BY [REDACTED] TO [REDACTED] AS INDICATED

(b)  
(7)  
(c)

NY 100-1564 ~~SECRET~~

1. RE: GOOD ST. LOUIS TELETYPE TO THE BUREAU AND INDIANAPOLIS,  
THE HAVE ALREADY CONDUCTED INVESTIGATION IN GIBSON, ALTHOUGH  
IN GIBSON, THE INDIANAPOLIS DIVISION IS CONDUCTING  
AN INVESTIGATION AT THE SAME TIME AND PLACE IN,  
ST. JOHNSBURGH, INDIANAPOLIS, IN 1944.

THE BUREAU IS REQUESTING THAT YOU AND YOUR APOLOGUE TO  
 TRAVELING OUT OF COUNTRY, WITH ONE WAY, AND CAPTION  
 [REDACTED] THAT MORE SPECIFIC INFORMATION FROM [REDACTED]  
 [REDACTED], SUCH AS FBI'S, SSAN'S, WILL ENABLE THE [REDACTED] POLICE  
 DIVISION TO MORE QUICKLY AND PRECISELY IDENTIFY AND LOCATE

FROM CLEVELAND (98-1588)  
TO DIRECTOR, FBI (98-1588)  
PRIORITY

① SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER, IMPROPER LAUNCH SEQUENCE,  
KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FLORIDA, JANUARY 28, 1986. SABOTAGE: NASA ACT:  
004 TAMPA

REFERENCE CLEVELAND TELETYPE TO DIRECTOR, DATED JANUARY 30, 1986.

[REDACTED] WAS INTERVIEWED SEPARATELY BY BUREAU AGENTS. [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED] OF THE SAME INFORMATION IS BEING RELAYED TO BUREAU  
[REDACTED] REMAINS TO HIS CURRENT EMPLOYMENT BY NASA.  
ON FEBRUARY 3, 1986, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] WHEN CONTACTED. [REDACTED] BEEN ADVISED  
[REDACTED] IN CONNECTION WITH THE CHALLENGER SHUTTLE AT CDDCA.

2 FEB 5 1986

1-ccfm 4251

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 7-24-99 BY 9803

2 JUL 15 1986

[illegible]

WIFE, [REDACTED] IS CURRENTLY EMPLOYED  
[REDACTED] COULD BE REACHED

7-10-68 DIVISION [REDACTED] LOCATE AND INTERVIEW  
[REDACTED] REGARDING HIS BUSINESS.

2 JUL 15 1986

FORMS TEXT HAS 1 DOCUMENT  
INBOX.6 (#9342)

TEXT:

NH0002 0341712Z

RR HQ TP

DE NH

R 031105Z FEB 86

FM NEW HAVEN (98-1229) (C)

TO DIRECTOR ROUTINE

TAMPA (98-NEW) ROUTINE

BT

UNCLAS

SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER INFORMATION CONCERNING LAUNCH

EXPLOSION, KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FLORIDA, 1/28/86; SABOTAGE;

NASA ACT; OO:TAMPA

RE NH TEL, 1/31/86.

UPON COMPLETION OF EXTENSIVE INTERVIEWS REGARDING  
MATTER DISCUSSED IN PREVIOUS TELETYPE, IT WAS DETERMINED  
THAT [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] BELIEVES [REDACTED]

TO BE INCOMPETENT. [REDACTED] ADVISED DURING INTERVIEW THAT  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]


ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-27-87 BY 6112/AM

2 JUL 15 1986

1-CC [REDACTED]

Exec. AD-Adm.	
Exec. AD-Inv.	
Exec. AD-LES	
Asst. Dir.	
Adm. Serv.	
Crim. Inv.	
Ident.	
Inspection	
Intell.	
Laboratory	
Legal Coun.	
Off. of Cong. & Public Affs.	
Rec. Mgmt.	
Tech. Servs.	
Training	
Telephone Rm.	
Director's Sec'y	

PAGE TWO NH 98-1229 UNCLAS



(b)(7)(C)

BASED ON THE ABOVE, AS WELL AS OTHER INFORMATION  
DEVELOPED DURING INTERVIEWS, THIS MATTER IS CONSIDERED  
CLOSED BY NEW HAVEN.

BT

FORMS.TEXT HAS 1 DOCUMENT

INBOX.19 (#8214)

TEXT:

BS0001-02921122

RECEIVED  
TELETYPE UNIT

30 JAN 86 13 26

FEDERAL BUREAU  
OF INVESTIGATION

PP HQ TP

DE BS

P 291900Z JAN 86

FM BOSTON (98-NEW)

TO DIRECTOR (PRIORITY)

ATTENTION: SSA PROSSER, TS/CID

TAMPA (PRIORITY)

BT

UNCLAS

SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER, INFORMATION CONCERNING LAUNCH EXPLOSION.

KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FLORIDA, 1-18-86; SABOTAGE; NASA ACT, OO: TP.

RE BOSTON TEL CALLS TO TERRORISM SECTION AND CID DUTY DESK  
JANUARY 28, 1986.

AT APPROXIMATELY 1:50 P.M. ON JANUARY 28, 1986, SEVERAL HOURS  
AFTER THE EXPLOSION OF THE SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER, BOSTON FBI  
RECEIVED A TELEPHONE CALL AT THE COMPLAINT DESK FROM [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] CHANNEL 7, A CBS-TV AFFILIATE. [REDACTED]

2 FEB 6 1986

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-24-89 BY SP10

2 APR 8 1986

DECLINE

PAGE TWO BS 98-NEW UNCLAS

INDICATED THAT THE NEWSROOM AT CHANNEL 7 RECEIVED AN ANONYMOUS TELEPHONE CALL AT 8:35 P.M. ON JANUARY 26, 1986, THE NIGHT BEFORE THE SCHEDULED LAUNCH OF THE CHALLENGER, IN WHICH THE CALLER INDICATED THAT HE WAS PART OF A GROUP OF THREE PEOPLE WHO WERE GOING TO SABOTAGE THE SHUTTLE, CAUSING IT TO BLOW UP AND KILL ALL ABOARD.

AGENTS WERE IMMEDIATELY DISPATCHED TO CHANNEL 7 TO INTERVIEW THE RECIPIENT OF THE CALL, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] THEREAFTER VOLUNTARILY PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION.

AT APPROXIMATELY 8:35 P.M., [REDACTED] RECEIVED A CALL AT THE NEWSDESK, A LISTED PHONE NUMBER, AT WHICH TIME THE CALLER IMMEDIATELY WANTED TO MAKE IT CLEAR TO [REDACTED] THAT HE WAS NOT CRAZY. THE CALLER, A MALE WITH NO DISCERNIBLE ACCENT BUT WITH A SHAKY, "ON THE VERGE OF CRYING" VOICE ASKED [REDACTED] IF SHE KNEW WHAT NASA WAS. [REDACTED] IN A JOKING FASHION RESPONDED THAT SHE DID AND WAS AGAIN WARNED BY THE CALLER THAT THIS WAS A SERIOUS MATTER AND HE WAS NOT KIDDING.

THE CALLER WENT ON TO STATE THAT SOME "HORRIBLE, HORRIBLE THINGS WERE GOING TO HAPPEN TOMORROW, AT LEAST FIVE PEOPLE ARE

(b)(7)(c)



PAGE THREE BS 98-NEW UNCLAS

GOING TO BE KILLED". [REDACTED] AT THIS POINT SIGNALLED [REDACTED] [REDACTED] TO PICK UP ON THE CALL, WHICH HE DID. THE CALLER WENT ON TO STATE THAT THE SPACE SHUTTLE WAS GOING TO BLOW UP WITH THE CREW ABOARD. CALLER INDICATED HE WAS PART OF A GROUP OF "3" THAT WAS GOING TO SABOTAGE NASA BUT HE COULDN'T TELL HER ANYMORE. HE INDICATED HE WANTED TO GIVE [REDACTED] HIS NAME BUT COULD NOT DO SO, AS IF THE SHUTTLE DID NOT BLOW UP, HE WOULD BE IN TROUBLE WITH THE OTHER TWO PEOPLE IN THE GROUP.

THE CALLER WENT ON TO STATE, THAT IF THE SHUTTLE DID BLOW UP, HE INTENDD TO RELEASE ALL THE INFORMATION EVEN THOUGH IT WOULD INCRIMINATE HIM. CALLER ASKED [REDACTED] HER NAME WHICH SHE FURNISHED AND CALLER INDICATED HE WOULD CALL HER BACK AT 10:00 P.M. IF THE SHUTTLE BLEW UP. CALLER REITERATED HE WAS NOT CRAZY AND HUNG UP. (b)(7)(C)

[REDACTED] TOOK NOTES DURING CONVERSATION BUT AFTER DISCUSSION WITH OTHER NEWS PERSONNEL THREW THE NOTES AWAY AND DID NOT FILE THE STORY ON THE ASSIGNMENT SHEET. IT WAS NOTED THAT THE CALL WAS NOT RECORDED. NEAR THE END OF INTERVIEW OF [REDACTED] AT APPROXIMATELY 3:25 P.M., SAME CALLER CALLED, AND WITH PERMISSION OF [REDACTED] [REDACTED] SA LISTENED IN ON CALL. DURING THIS CALL, MALE CALLER INDICATED HE WAS SAME CALLER FROM PREVIOUS NIGHT AND ASKED

PAGE FOUR BS 98-NEW UNCLAS

[REDACTED] IF SHE HAD CALLED [REDACTED] OFFICE. [REDACTED] ACTED  
CONFUSED AND INDICATED THAT SHE DID NOT RECALL SUCH INSTRUCTIONS.  
CALLER TOLD [REDACTED] TO CALL [REDACTED] AND TELL HIM TO  
EXPECT A CALL AT 5:00 P.M. [REDACTED] CONCERNED FOR SAFETY OF [REDACTED]  
ASKED CALLER IF MEETING WAS TO BE FRIENDLY. CALLER INDICATED IT  
WAS, AS HE WAS A "FRIEND" OF [REDACTED] CALLER THEN HUNG UP.

DURING BRIEFING OF SAC, ASAC, AND APPROPRIATE SUPERVISORY  
PERSONNEL RELATIVE TO AFOREMENTIONED AND EMPLOYMENT OF AGENT  
PERSONNEL, IT WAS RECALLED THAT IN SEPTEMBER OF 1985, A WALK IN  
COMPLAINANT, OF QUESTIONABLE MENTAL CAPACITY, HAD INTIMATED  
THAT HE HAD BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR THE DELAY OF PREVIOUS SHUTTLES,  
PLANE CRASHES AND OTHER CATASTROPHIC EVENTS. INDICES SEARCHED AND  
THIS COMPLAINANT IDENTIFIED AND THEREAFTER CONSIDERED PRIME SUSPECT.

SA'S WERE DISPATCHED TO [REDACTED] OFFICE AND  
WITH THE FULL COOPERATION OF [REDACTED] AND HIS STAFF AND WITH  
THEIR CONSENT AN SA, [REDACTED] RECEIVED  
TELAL AT 5:00 P.M. FROM SAME CALLER. CALLER STATED "BPM FRANKS  
STEAK HOUSE, MASS AVENUE, CAMBRIDGE." CALL RECORDED [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

(b)(7)(C)

(b)(7)(D)  
(b)(7)(E)

PAGE FIVE BS 98-NEW UNCLAS

MASS. STATE PLICE, CAMBRIDGE PD OFFICERS AND SA'S INCLUDING TWO SA'S WHO HAD PREVIOUSLY INTERVIEWED COMPLAINANT DESCRIBED ABOVE, PROCEEDED TO FRANK'S STEAK HOUSE,

AT APPROXIMATELY 8:00 P.M., [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] AND [REDACTED]

WERE OBSERVED AT FRANK'S EATING AND WERE CONFRONTED. BOTH ADMITTED THEY WERE THERE TO MEET [REDACTED] AND TAKE HIM TO MEET PREVIOUSLY MENTIONED COMPLAINANT WHOSE DESCRIPTION IS SET FORTH:(X)

[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]

IMMEDIATELY SA'S AND OTHER LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL WERE DISPATCHED TO INTERVIEW [REDACTED] ADMITTED TELCAL TO CHANNEL 7. THEREAFTER AUSA RALPH GANTS, BOSTON, CONTACTED, APPRISED OF ABOVE FACTS AND ADVISED NO CLEAR VIOLATION EXISTED, HENCE DECLINED PROSECUTION. [REDACTED] APPEARS NOT IN POSSESSION OF FULL FACULTIES, WAS RELEASED TO CUSTODY OF [REDACTED]

MIDDLESEX DISTRICT ATTORNEY'S OFFICE TO BE CONTACTED THIS DATE RE POSSIBLE COMMITAL.

ABOVE BEING FURNISHED TO BUREAU AND TAMPA FOR INFORMATION AS

(b)  
(7)  
(c)

PAGE SIX BS 98-NEW UNCLAS

IT IS ENTIRELY FEASIBLE, AND IN ALL PROBABILITY LIKELY, THAT

██████████ WILL MAKE SIMILAR CALLS PRIOR TO DEPARTURE OF FUTURE SPACE  
SHUTTLES.

(S)(2)(C)

BT

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BEST COPY AVAILABLE

028

MESSAGE RELAY VIA TELETYPE  
(RESTRICTED INFO)Date: 1-30-86

PRECEDENCE:

☐ IMMEDIATE☒ PRIORITY☐ ROUTINE

FM: DIRECTOR, FBI

TO:

Legat, Bonn

☐ White House/WH/☐ Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco Firearms/BATF/☐ Central Intelligence Agency/CIA/☐ CIA DCD/DCD/☐ Dept. of Energy HOS/DOEHQ/☐ Dept. of Energy Germantown DW/DOE/☐ Dept. of Justice/DOJ/☐ Dept. of State/DOS/☐ Dept. of the Army/DA/☐ Dept. of Treasury/DOT/☐ Defense Intelligence Agency/DIA/☐ Director National Security Agency/NSA/☐ Director Naval Investigative Service/DINAVINSEV/☐ Drug Enforcement Admin./DEA/☐ FBI Washington HQ/FAM/☐ HQ AFOSI Bolling AFBOC/AFOSI/☐ INSCOM Ft. Meade/INSCOM/☐ Nuclear Regulatory Commission/NRC/☐ U.S. Customs Service/UCS/☐ U.S. Immigration & Naturalization Service/INS/☐ U.S. Secret Service/USSS/☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

BT

DECLASSIFIED BY SP1A/Con 1-25-99

Classification:

SECRET

Addresses Internal Distribution

Subject

Approved By:

Name: [Signature]

Date:

1

Restrictions on use:

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
COMMUNICATIONS CENTER

57 MAY 15 1986

DO NOT FILE WITHOUT COMMUNICATIONS STAMP

(b)(7)(C)

NEW MAIL JUST ARRIVED: ENDOX-03  
FORMS-TEXT-MSG-1 DOCUMENT

02028

TELETYPE

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00-00-00 (00-00) (00-00)

TO DIRECTOR PRIORITY

INDIANAPOLIS IMMEDIATE

RECEIVED  
30 JAN 1986 3 51z  
FBI INVESTIGATION

Exec AD-Adm.	
Exec AD-Inv.	
Exec AD-LES	
Asst. Dir.:	
Adm. Serv.	
Crim. Inv.	
Ident.	
Insp.	
Intell.	
Lab.	
Legal Coun.	
Off. Cong. & Public Affs.	
Rec. Mgmt.	
Tech. Serv.	
Training	
Telephone Rm.	
Director's Sec'y	

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS. SHUTTLE MISSION CHALLENGER, CAPE CANAVERAL, FLORIDA:

SABOTAGE - IT.

T. LOUIS OFFICE ADVISED BY TELETYPE JANUARY 30, 1986, AS FOLLOWS:

THIS COMMUNICATION IS CLASSIFIED SECRET IN ITS ENTIRETY.

RE NEW ORLEANS TELETYPE TO BUREAU, JANUARY 28, 1986.

FOR INFORMATION OF INDIANAPOLIS, ON JANUARY 28, 1986.

[REDACTED] TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED THE OFFICE OF THE NEW ORLEANS FBI WITH INFORMATION THAT MIGHT RELATE TO THE LOSS OF THE SPACE SHUTTLE.

[REDACTED] ADVISED AS FOLLOWS: IN 1985, WHILE HE WAS STATIONED AT GIESSEN, GERMANY. [REDACTED] HE HAD

LEARNED OF A LETTER SENT BY [REDACTED] TO [REDACTED]

WHICH TO HIS RECOLLECTION STATED THAT [REDACTED] HAD

CLASSIFIED BY [REDACTED] DECLASSIFY ON ORDER.

2

OBTAINED SOME "BLUEPRINTS TO NASA AND WOULD DO A JOB ON THEM." BOTH [REDACTED] AND [REDACTED] HAD BEEN ASSIGNED TO ABOVE UNIT.

AND [REDACTED] HAD BEEN ASSIGNED TO ABOVE UNIT.

SOMETIME IN 1985, [REDACTED] RECEIVED THE LETTER ALLUDED TO

STATED THAT THE BASE CID IN GIESSEN WAS APPRISED OF

~~PAGE THREE 01 08 14 02 07 07~~

THIS MATTER AND [REDACTED] LETTER WAS FURNISHED TO THEM. HE RECALLS THAT AN INVESTIGATION WAS CONDUCTED, HOWEVER, HE DID NOT LEARN OF THE RESULTS. [REDACTED] ALSO RECALLED THAT THE LETTER DREW SUSPICION BECAUSE IT HAD BEEN HAND PRINTED. [REDACTED] HAD ALSO HAND PRINTED HIS SIGNATURE INSTEAD OF NORMALLY SIGNING IT.

THE PRESENT DETACHMENT COMMANDER IN GIESSEN IS A CAPTAIN [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] THE CAPTAIN IS AWARE OF THE LETTER AND THE RESULTS OF THE CID INVESTIGATION. [REDACTED] DOES NOT KNOW CURRENT WHEREABOUTS OF EITHER [REDACTED] OR [REDACTED] AT THIS TIME, NOR CAN HE ADD ANYTHING TO WHAT HE STATED ABOVE.

~~THIS BUREAU IS REQUESTED TO FORWARD ABOVE INFORMATION TO LEGAT~~  
~~-BONN SO THAT CID AT GIESSEN AND CAPTAIN [REDACTED] MIGHT BE CONTACTED~~  
~~AND INTERVIEWED REGARDING THIS INCIDENT.~~

ON JANUARY 29, 1985, PERSONNEL, ARMY RESERVE PERSONNEL CENTER, ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI, ADVISED ARMY MILITARY RECORDS FOR [REDACTED] AND [REDACTED] NOT LOCATED THIS CENTER. THEY ADVISED RECORDS ARE LOCATED AT FORT BENJAMIN HARRISON, INDIANA.

INDIANAPOLIS, REVIEW ARMY RECORDS TO IDENTIFY AND DETERMINE CURRENT LOCATIONS OF [REDACTED] AND [REDACTED] OBTAIN ANY INFORMATION OF A MEDICAL NATURE WHICH MIGHT SHED SOME LIGHT REGARDING [REDACTED] STATE OF

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~~PAGE FOUR OF SECRET~~

MIND.

~~CLASSIFIED BY 607 DECLASSIFY ON OADR.~~

BT



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30 JAN 86 18 10z  
30 JAN 86 18 10z

FMHOMACLOTTE (984672) (P) R. I.  
U.S. DEPT OF JUSTICE

TP DIRECTOR IMMEDIATE

NEW ORLEANS PRIORITY

TAMPA PRIORITY

BT

UNCLAS

SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER, INFORMATION CONCERNING LAUNCH EXPLOSION,

KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FLA., JANUARY 28, 1986 SABOTAGE; NASA ACT;

OO: TAMPA

RE NEW ORLEANS TELETYPE TO BUREAU, JANUARY 29, 1986, CAPTIONED  
UNKNOWN SUBJECT, SHUTTLE MISSION CHALLENGER, CAPE CANAVERAL, FLA.

SABOTAGE AT 1130/86 [redacted] Charlotte advised  
[redacted] lead was set forth in RETEL TO ATTEMPT TO LOCATE [redacted]

[redacted] AT FT. BRAGG, N. C., WHO ALLEGEDLY RECEIVED A

LETTER WHO'S STATIONED WITH U. S. ARMY IN GERMANY, GERMANY, [redacted]

[redacted] CONCERNING "DOING A JOB ON BANG"

EXTENSIVE INVESTIGATION CONDUCTED AT FT. BRAGG, N. C., [redacted]

THE AIR [redacted] DURING PERIOD JANUARY 20-25, 1986, [redacted] TO [redacted]

U.S. DEPT OF JUSTICE



FORMS.TEXT HAS 1 DOCUMENT

INBOX.9 (#1141)

TEXT:

TP0004 012057Z

FM TAMPA (98-99) (ORA/C) (P)

TO DIRECTOR

P 101616Z FEB 86

FM TAMPA (98-99) (ORA/C) (P)

TO DIRECTOR PRIORITY

CHARLOTTE PRIORITY (INFO)

INDIANAPOLIS (98-1564) PRIORITY (INFO)

LOUISVILLE PRIORITY

NEW ORLEANS PRIORITY (INFO)

BT

UNCLAS

SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER, INFORMATION CONCERNING LAUNCH EXPLOSION

KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FLORIDA, JANUARY 28, 1986. SABOTAGE; NASA ACT

OO: TAMPA

RE TAMPA TELCALL TO LOUISVILLE, FEBRUARY 7, 1986 AND RETURN

CALL SAME DATE; INDIANAPOLIS TELETYPE TO BUREAU, JANUARY 30, 1986

CAPTIONED, "UNKNOWN SUBJECT, SHUTTLE MISSION CHALLENGER, CAPE

CANAVERAL, FLORIDA; SABOTAGE; IT."

TAMPA HAS NOTED IN REVIEW OF RE TELETYPE THAT

DEPARTED GIESSEN, GERMANY,

RECEIVED  
TELETYPE UNIT

11 FEB 86 09 05 2

FEDERAL BUREAU  
OF INVESTIGATION

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-24-89 BY SP1AG/um

CHALLENGER

FEB 13 1986

108 JUN 3 1986

PAGE 98-99 UNCLAS

ARRIVED AT HIS NEW U.S. ARMY UNIT OF ASSIGNMENT, FORT CAMPBELL, KENTUCKY, IN JANUARY, 1986. VIA TELCALL, LOUISVILLE ADVISED [REDACTED] MENTIONED ABOVE IS CURRENTLY ASSIGNED TO [REDACTED]

FORT CAMPBELL, KENTUCKY.

FOR INFO LOUISVILLE, ON JANUARY 28, 1986, [REDACTED] TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED THE NEW ORLEANS OFFICE WITH INFORMATION INDICATING THAT WHILE HE WAS STATIONED IN GIESSEN, GERMANY, [REDACTED] HE LEARNED OF A LETTER SENT BY [REDACTED] TO [REDACTED], AND TO HIS RECOLLECTION, THE LETTER STATED IN EFFECT THAT [REDACTED] HAD OBTAINED SOME BLUEPRINTS FROM NASA AND WOULD DO A JOB ON THEM. BOTH [REDACTED] AND [REDACTED] WERE ASSIGNED TO THE ABOVE UNIT, THE SAME ONE TO WHICH COMPLAINANT WAS ASSIGNED..

(b)  
(7)  
(C)

PAGE THREE TP 98-99 UNCLAS

[REDACTED] SOMETIME DURING  
1985, [REDACTED] RECEIVED THE AFOREMENTIONED LETTER FROM [REDACTED]

LEAD:

LOUISVILLE DIVISION AT FORT CAMPBELL, KENTUCKY: LOCATE AND  
INTERVIEW [REDACTED] AND ATTEMPT TO DETERMINE IF IDENTICAL TO  
RECIPIENT OF LETTER MENTIONED BY COMPLAINANT. IF IDENTICAL,  
DETERMINE SUBSTANCE OF LETTER, WHETHER LETTER IS STILL AVAILABLE,  
[REDACTED] IMPRESSION OF WHAT [REDACTED] ACTUALLY MEANT IN THE LETTER,  
CURRENT AND/OR LAST KNOWN ADDRESS FOR [REDACTED] AND AVAILABLE  
IDENTIFYING BACKGROUND ON [REDACTED] ADDITIONALLY, INVESTIGATION  
TO DATE HAS LOCATED SEVERAL [REDACTED] IN THE U.S. ARMY,  
BUT NONE OF THEM HAVE A RECORD OF SERVICE IN THE AFOREMENTIONED  
GERMAN VICINITY AND APPEAR NOT TO BE IDENTICAL TO [REDACTED] FURNISH  
RESULTS TO HQ AND TAMPA.

BT

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OMG 005

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RECEIVED  
TELETYPE UNIT

JAN 20 04 58

FEDERAL BUREAU  
OF INVESTIGATION

OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

FILE (92-NEW) (P)

RE DIRECTOR IMMEDIATE

BT

UNCLAS

ATTENTION: DAD WAYNE R. GILBERD, CID

ATTENTION: TERRORISM SECTION, CID

URGENT: TELEPHONE THREAT TO BLOW UP SPACE SHUTTLE,

JANUARY 1, 1986, SABOTAGE. OO: OMAHA.

RE OMAHA TELECALL TO THE BUREAU INSTANT ADVICE.

ON JANUARY 29, 1986, [REDACTED]

DOUGLAS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE, OMAHA, NEBRASKA, ADVISED  
OF THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

ON JANUARY 17, 1986, AT 4:04 A.M., 911 EMERGENCY SERVICE  
FOR THE METROPOLITAN OMAHA AREA RECEIVED A CALL FROM A MALE  
INDIVIDUAL WHO THREATENED TO BLOW UP THE THEN INCOMING SPACE  
SHUTTLE.

[REDACTED] ADVISED THAT THE THREAT DID NOT SPECIFICALLY  
INCLUDE THE JANUARY 29, 1986, LAUNCH OF THE SPACE SHUTTLE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 12-15-85 BY 1043

1043

53 MAY 16 1986

cc  
Challenger

[REDACTED]

td (b) (7) (c)

98-47051-1x10

FEB 13 1986

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]



PAGE TWO OM 95-NEW UNCLAS

CHALLENGER, BUT THAT DUE TO THE SEQUENCE OF EVENTS OF  
MAY 15, 1966, THERE MUST BE A CONNECTION BETWEEN  
AND THE EXPLOSION.

ADVISED THAT THE CALL WAS RECORDED AND THAT THE  
RECORDING AND THE POLICE REPORT ARE BEING MAINTAINED BY  
DOUGLAS COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE. ADVISED THAT  
THE CALLER'S VOICE WAS DISTINGUISHED BY A MIDDLE EAST ACCENT.

OMAHA AWARE THAT TIMELINESS PORTING ABOVE INFORMATION  
NOT SATISFACTORY. OMAHA WILL ENSURE THAT CURRENT LIAISON  
CONTACTS WITH LOCAL AUTHORITIES WILL BE MADE TO ASSURE THAT  
SUCH INFORMATION FOR BUREAU INTERESTS ARE BROUGHT TO THE  
ATTENTION OF OMAHA ON A MORE TIMELY BASIS. SAC, OMAHA ALSO  
CONDUCTING INQUIRY TO DETERMINE FACTS SURROUNDING SLOWNESS  
IN REPORTING CAPTIONED MATTER TO HIM.

INVESTIGATION CONTINUING.

BT

NEW MAIL JUST ARRIVED: INBOX.89  
FORMS.TEXT HAS 1 DOCUMENT

#2029

TEXT:

SLO0008 0300023

OO HQ IP

DE SL

O 292356Z JAN 86

FM ST. LOUIS (98-M) (RUC)

TO DIRECTOR PRIORITY

INDIANAPOLIS IMMEDIATE

BT

DECLASSIFIED BY SP1A66CM  
ON 1-25-89

*1 Xerox copy was  
sent by O-1440  
Tampa, Charlotte  
New Orleans  
1/21/86*

UNKNOWN SUBJECTS. SHUTTLE MISSION CHALLENGER. CAPE CANAVERAL, FLORIDA:

SABOTAGE - IT.

THIS COMMUNICATION IS CLASSIFIED SECRET IN ITS ENTIRETY.

RE NEW ORLEANS TELETYPE TO BUREAU, JANUARY 29, 1986.

FOR INFORMATION OF INDIANAPOLIS, ON JANUARY 28, 1986.

TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED THE OFFICE OF THE NEW ORLEANS FBI  
WITH INFORMATION THAT MIGHT RELATE TO THE LOSS OF THE SPACE SHUTTLE.

ADVISED AS FOLLOWS: IN 1985, WHILE HE WAS STATIONED AT  
GIESSEN, GERMANY. HE HAD

LEARNED OF A LETTER SENT BY  
WHICH TO HIS RECOLLECTION STATED THAT HAD

CLASSIFIED BY C-2; DECLASSIFY ON OADR.

2 FEB 5 1986

*Relayed to Legat, Bonn  
108 JUN 3 1986  
Gim. 1-30-86*

PAGE TWO SL 98-M ~~SECRET~~

OBTAINED SOME "BLUEPRINTS TO NASA AND WOULD DO A JOB ON THEM." BOTH

AND [REDACTED] HAD BEEN ASSIGNED TO ABOVE UNIT.

SOMETIME IN 1965,

RECEIVED THE LETTER ALLANED TO

ABOVE.

STATED THAT THE BASE CTD IN GIESSEN WAS APPRISHD OF

(b)  
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PAGE THREE OF 88-4-2-2-2-2-2

THIS MATTER AND [REDACTED] LETTER WAS FINISHED TO THEM. HE RECALLS THAT AN INVESTIGATION WAS CONDUCTED, HOWEVER, HE DID NOT LEARN OF THE RESULTS. [REDACTED] ALSO RECALLED THAT THE LETTER DREW SUSPECTION BECAUSE IT HAD BEEN HAND PRINTED. [REDACTED] HAD ALSO HAND PRINTED HIS SIGNATURE INSTEAD OF NORMALLY SIGNING IT.

[REDACTED] COMMANDER IN GIESSEN IS A CAPTAIN [REDACTED] OF THE [REDACTED] AND THE RESULTS OF THE CID INVESTIGATION [REDACTED] DOES NOT KNOW CURRENT WHEREABOUTS OF EITHER [REDACTED] OR [REDACTED] AT THIS TIME, NOR CAN HE ADD ANYTHING TO WHAT HE STATED ABOVE.

THE BUREAU IS REQUESTED TO FORWARD ABOVE INFORMATION TO LEGAT BOMB DO THAT [REDACTED] AND CAPTAIN [REDACTED] MIGHT BE CONTACTED AND INTERVIEWED REGARDING THIS INCIDENT.

THE PERSONNEL, ARMY RESERVE PERSONNEL CENTER, [REDACTED]

ARMY MILITARY RECORDS [REDACTED]

ARMY [REDACTED]

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PAGE FOUR SL 88-M-S-E-C-R-E-T

MIND.

~~CLASSIFIED BY G-6. DECLASSIFY ON OADR.~~

BT

CVO 0010 030 2340Z

31 Jan 86 00 05

PP HQ

**FEDERAL BUREAU  
OF INVESTIGATION**

DE CV

30 2145Z JAN 86

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-24-89 BY SP1116

FM CLEVELAND (98-NEW) (P)

~~TO DIRECTOR~~ PRIORITY

TAMPA 98-NE-1107

BT  
UNCLAS

SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER, INFORMATION CONCERNING LAUNCH EXPLOSION,  
KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FLORIDA, JANUARY 28, 1986; SABOTAGE; NASA  
ACT; OO: TAMPA

RE TAMPA TELETYPE TO ALL FIELD OFFICES, JANUARY 28, 1986.

ON JANUARY 30, 1986, THE FBI OFFICE, CLEVELAND, OHIO,  
TELEPHONICALLY CONTACTED BY [REDACTED]

ADVISED AS FOLLOWS

1985 JAN 06 10 00 AM

IT'S NAME IS SHARON. SHE'S A WHITE GIRL.

**THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO**

**THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO**

\_\_\_\_\_

26 MAY 1964

\_\_\_\_\_



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PAGE TWO CV 98-NEW UNCLAS

[REDACTED] HAD DISCUSSED THE SHUTTLE CRAFT PROPULSION SYSTEM AND THE SOLID FUEL BOOSTER ROCKETS AND THEIR OPERATION. HE ALSO DESCRIBED THE WORKING CONDITIONS AT NASA IN FLORIDA AS "BAD", WHICH HAD GENERATED NUMEROUS PRESSURES ON THE NASA STAFF.

IN REPLY TO [REDACTED] QUESTION AS TO "WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF A SHUTTLE CRAFT BLEW UP?", [REDACTED] ALLEGEDLY REPLIED THAT IF SOMETHING WERE TO GO WRONG IN FLORIDA, NASA COULD SELF-DESTROY THE SHUTTLE [REDACTED] UPON [REDACTED] ASKED [REDACTED] IF HE COULD "KEEP A SECRET", THEN SAID, "IT'S GOING TO HAPPEN IN THE VERY NEAR FUTURE."

[REDACTED] ASKED [REDACTED] WHAT HE MEANT. [REDACTED] REPLIED THAT HE KNEW SOMEONE AT NASA IN FLORIDA WHO "HAD A BAD ATTITUDE" BUT WAS "SMART WITH COMPUTERS." WHEN ASKED IF THERE WAS SOMETHING [REDACTED] COULD DO ABOUT IT, [REDACTED] REPLIED THAT HE COULD NOT. [REDACTED] ALLEGEDLY TOOK LONG BICYCLE RIDES BECAUSE THE SITUATION TROUBLED HIS MIND.

[REDACTED] SAID HE HAD

[REDACTED] SAID HE HAD

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PAGE THREE CV 98-NEW UNCLAS

"DISCONNECT" RECORDING.

[REDACTED] ADVISED HE IS STAYING WITH [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] AGE AND CREDIBILITY OF [REDACTED] HAS NOT BEEN

ESTABLISHED.

CLEVELAND, [REDACTED] WILL CONTACT [REDACTED]

AT ABOVE ADDRESS TO DETERMINE CREDIBILITY AND FURTHER DETAILS.

TAMPA, [REDACTED] CAPE CANAVERAL: WILL DETERMINE FROM PERSONNEL  
RECORDS IDENTIFY WHEN [REDACTED] OF [REDACTED] AND SET LEADS TO [REDACTED]  
INTERVIEW SAME. (b)(7)(C)

BT



FORMS.TEXT HAS 1 DOCUMENT

INBOX.17 (#2781)

TEXT:

TPOC13 0381922Z

PP HQ BA BH HO LA WF

DE TP

P 062200Z FEB 86

FM TAMPA (98-99) (ORA/C) (P)

TO DIRECTOR PRIORITY

BALTIMORE ROUTINE

BIRMINGHAM ROUTINE

HOUSTON ROUTINE

LOS ANGELES ROUTINE

WFO ROUTINE

BT

CL 47

SPACE SHUTTLE CHALLENGER, INFORMATION CONCERNING LAUNCH EXPLOSION,

KENNEDY SPACE CENTER, FLORIDA JANUARY 28, 1986; SABOTAGE;

NASA ACT; OO: TAMPA.

THE NASA MISHAP INVESTIGATION BOARD (MIB), THE BOARD WHICH IS HANDLING THE LOCAL NASA INQUIRY, HAS RELAYED A REQUEST THROUGH THE

NASA SECURITY OFFICE AT KENNEDY SPACE CENTER (KSC), FLORIDA, FOR

COORDINATION OF FBI AND NASA SPIN-OFF INVESTIGATIONS RELATED TO

CHALLENGER TRAGEDY. THE NASA SECURITY OFFICE ALSO INDICATED

RECEIVED  
TELETYPE UNIT  
8 FEB 86 232  
FEDERAL BUREAU  
OF INVESTIGATION

Exec AD-Adm.	
Exec AD-Inv.	
Asst. Dir.:	
Adm. Serv.	
Crim. Inv.	
Ident.	
Insp.	
Intell.	
Lab.	
Legal Coun.	
Off. Cong. & Public Aff.	
Rec. Mgmt.	
Tech. Serv.	
Training	
Telephone Rm.	
Director's Sec'y	

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED  
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED  
DATE 1-24-84 BY SP100

1-CC Pm. 4251

08 JUN 3 1986

98-47051-1X13

FEB 28 1986

(dupl. TV)

PAGE TWO TP 98-99 UNCLAS

DESIRE THAT ANY FBI INQUIRIES WITH CURRENT/FORMER NASA AND CONTRACTOR EMPLOYEES AT THE MAJOR NASA CENTERS REGARDING CAPTIONED MATTER BE COORDINATED AS FEASIBLE WITH THE NASA SECURITY REPRESENTATIVE AND INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR THE MAJOR NASA CENTERS.

THE VAST MAJORITY OF THESE MATTERS WILL PROBABLY INITIATE FROM CALLS AND LETTERS FROM THE PUBLIC WITH ALLEGATIONS REGARDING EMPLOYEES INVOLVED IN SOME PHASE OF THE SPACE SHUTTLE PROGRAM OR THE SHUTTLE SUPPORT PROGRAM.

TAMPA ANTICIPATES THAT SIMILAR SPIN-OFF MATTERS WILL BE SURFACING IN THE COMING WEEKS AND MONTHS AND WILL NATURALLY OCCUR AT THE MAJOR NASA CENTERS AS WELL AS AT KSC, FLORIDA. FOR THAT REASON, TAMPA HAS FURNISHED INFORMATION COPIES OF THIS COMMUNICATION TO OFFICES COVERING OTHER MAJOR NASA CENTERS.

TAMPA ANTICIPATES COMPLYING WITH THE REQUEST OF THE MISHAP INVESTIGATION BOARD IN THE FOLLOWING MATTER:

THOSE NAMES OF INDIVIDUALS OF INTEREST IN CAPTIONED MATTER DEVELOPED BY THE FBI WILL BE FURNISHED TO NASA SECURITY FOR PRELIMINARY CHECKS TO DETERMINE IF ANY ALLEGED AFFILIATION OR FORMER AFFILIATION WITH NASA OR A NASA CONTRACTOR CAN BE VERIFIED. THEREAFTER, THE NECESSARY FOLLOW-UP INVESTIGATION WILL BE COORDINATED WITH NASA

PAGE THREE TP 98-99 UNCLAS

SECURITY THROUGH THE CONCLUSION OF THE SPECIFIC INQUIRY. THE ONLY EXCEPTION TAMPA CAN VISUALIZE AT PRESENT, WOULD BE INFORMATION FROM A CONFIDENTIAL SOURCE OR INFORMANT IN A SITUATION WHERE THE NAME OF THE INDIVIDUAL WOULD LIKELY JEOPARDIZE THE IDENTITY OF THE SOURCE.

NASA SECURITY HAS ADVISED THAT INFORMATION DEVELOPED BY NASA THROUGH EMPLOYEE TIPS, THE NASA COMPLAINT HOTLINE AT KSC, FLORIDA, ET CETERA, WILL BE MADE AVAILABLE FOR REVIEW BY THE FBI SO THAT ANY FOLLOWING INVESTIGATION NECESSARY BY THE FBI MAY BE ADDRESSED.

FBI, TAMPA, WILL ALSO COORDINATE THESE INQUIRIES WITH THE NASA INSPECTOR GENERAL WHERE NECESSARY. SUCH AS IN THE AREA OF ALLEGATIONS OF GROSS NEGLIGENCE OR IMPROPER PERFORMANCE BY A NASA OR GOVERNMENT CONTRACT EMPLOYEE.

MAJOR NASA CENTERS WHICH WILL LIKELY RECEIVE COMPLAINTS ADDRESSED ABOVE INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING:

LOS ANGELES

DRYDEN FLIGHT RESEARCH FACILITY

EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE, CALIFORNIA

HOUSTON

JOHNSON SPACE CENTER

HOUSTON, TEXAS

BIRMINGHAM

MARSHALL SPACE FLIGHT CENTER

HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA

PAGE FOUR

TP 98-99

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BALTIMORE

GODDARD SPACE FLIGHT CENTER

GREENBELT, MARYLAND

FBIHQ/WFO

NASA HEADQUARTERS,

WASHINGTON, D.C.

REQUEST OF THE BUREAU:

FBIHQ IS REQUESTED TO CONSIDER ABOVE RECOMMENDATION. IF

APPROVED, HEADQUARTERS IS REQUESTED TO FURNISH A COPY OF APPROVAL  
TO RECIPIENTS OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

BT