

*Need to add:
more protection
focus on a/c
info per 93
focus on
93*

~~TOP SECRET~~

DJH Notes
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Air Threat Conference Call

Capt. Leidig

Starts as Significant Event Conference; convened in response to 2 aircraft hitting WTC

0930 (1) DDO: Summary: 2 aircraft into WTC; also been 1 aircraft confirmed hijacking - AA11; "It's just been confirmed that the aircraft is still airborne and heading to DC." Is FAA in the conference?
Other Updates:

0933 (4) NORAD: "Norad Proceeding w/ air threat conference." Two Otis Fighters airborne and awaiting tasking; concern that hijacked is still airborne heading toward DC.

Transition to ATC

Vice Chairman in Conference

0939 (10) NORAD: (Initial Update) We are receiving conflicting reports regarding the hijack. Latest information possible hijacked aircraft taking off out of JFK en-route to DC. No assessment given for this event. No assessment for overall air situation. CINC NORAD not declaring air defense emergency at this point.

*Working
phones
w/Norad?*

DDO: Report of crash into small side of Pentagon

0941 (12) DDO: Confirms crash, "You can now see smoke emitting from the Pentagon."

0942 (13) PEOC: POTUS not yet left FLA; planning to depart and head to DC.
0944 (15) NORAD Update: Possible fourth hijacking in progress - Delta 89
Still trying to track down the SecDef

think it was a/c?

(17)
0946 NORAD: Please confirm FAA on line - No (from EA)
Get them on

0948 (19) NORAD Drop off

0948 (19) DDO: Summarizing for PEOC: NORAD just reported possible Delta hijack that would be fourth

0949 (20) NORAD: Ret 89 again + CINC NORAD directed all air sovereignty aircraft to go to battle stations fully armed

0952 (23) NORAD: Suggest to DDO aircraft S out of Cleveland heading west may have as an objective Sears Tower in Chicago - prudent to take measures to evacuate

*1989 or
93*

* Different voice?

(Separate?) NORAD Command Center: Please confirm FAA is in

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CLASSIFIED
DATE 5/12/92
BY NARA Date 5/12/92

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- 0953 (24) conference and request that FAA poll all airborne air craft to determine if hijack is underway.
- 0954 (25) DDO: Attempting to get FAA in –
“we just got a phone call”
- 0955 (26) AF: White House is requesting fighter coverage for protection over White House
- 0956 (27) NORAD: We’ll process that request
- 0958 (29) NORAD: No update at this time – we’ll provide an ETA when fighters will be on CAP over WH
- 0958 (29) FEMA: In conference
- 0958 (29) DDO: to FEMA, Vice Chairman recommends evacuating Chicago Tower
FEMA: Copy
- 0959 (30) WHSR: Lt. Rancher
- 0959 (30) PEOC: Col Irwin just talked to Hadley couple of requests:
1. Execute continuity of government
2. Request fighter escort for AF1
3. Sit Room any possibility of getting any kind of fighter CAP over DC?
- 0959 (30) DDO: NORAD already taken CAP issue
- 1001 (32) NORAD: Update. At this time CINC NORAD has declared “concern” – asking concern
- 1002 (33) NORAD: Please confirm FAA on and polling aircraft
DDO: Still trying to get them in conference
- 1002 (33) (* No. 34) PEOC: Understand we have inbound 25 minutes out – we have assets at Andrews. Anybody contacted?
DDO: Say again?
- 1004 (35) *Right above PEOC: From the JOC we had inbound 25 minutes out – assets at Andrews. Have we given the word?
- 1004 (35) DDO: AF provide update – still in conference? Recap to AF
- 1004 (35) AF: Is that confirmed? Type?

*inbound
25 min*

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- 1005 (36) We understand 767 from United, but can't confirm. NORAD?
(Back and forth on subject between AF, DOD, NORAD)
- 1007 (38) NORAD: No indication of hijack heading to DC at this time
P: Update on CAP?
- 1008 (39) (*Right before No 40) NORAD - AF: No further info
- 1009 (40) PEOC: Word from JOC is UAL 93 out of Pitt about 20 minutes out. FAA
has not made contact with it yet but has tried.
- 1009 (40) AF: Destination or heading?
- 1009 (40) PEOC: Repeats above - that's why I am asking about Andrews

(* No 41 entry probably at 41)
- 1009 (40) DDO to AF: Have any aircraft been scrambled in response to UAL 93
and what is status of CAP? **93**
- AF: Stand by.
- 1011 (42) NORAD: Currently have 2 aircraft airborne out of Atlantic City.
Additional scramble ... stand by for ETI (?) to DC
- 1011 (42) PEOC: FAA in conference?
- 1011 (42) DDO: No, we've been unable to get them. We have them on separate line
in NMCC.
- PEOC: Can you clarify with them information on UAL 93? **93**
- 1012 (43) DDO: We're doing it.
- 1013 (44) PEOC: We've got confirmation of a plane 60 miles out. WE think its 93.
Apparently we're hearing weapons freeze right now. Status of Atlantic
City? **93**
- NORAD: We have confirmation that Atlantic City aircraft are airborne
we're querying destination.
- 1014 (45) DDO: Assets out of Andrews launched?
- 1014 (45) NORAD: No info on that
- 1014 (45) DDO: Any RSN we can't?

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- 1014 (45) PEOC: The VP has just confirmed fighters are cleared to engage the aircraft inbound if we can verify they are hijacked. Can you confirm with FAA?
- DDO: Checking with FAA
- 1014 (45) PEOC: Irwine – just talked to mil aide – (AF1) we'd like AWACS over Louisiana. We'd like fighter escort
- 1015 (46) DDO: FAA report of aircraft down in PA
- 1016 (47) AF: Question: confirm that aircraft that crashed was 60 miles away from Jonestown, PA
Confusion whether asking or feeding info
- 1017 (48) NMCC: FAA are you in conference?
- 1017 (48) FAA: Yes
- 1017 (48) DDO: Vice Chairman would like to know who's controlling aircraft over DC
- 1018 (49) FAA: The Washington Center if any. FAA has implemented nationwide ground stop to DC and NY. If any aircraft cover DC being controlled by Wash Center. We understand that there are some and fighters launched to patrol the DC area.
- 1018 (49) DDO: Yes. "WE have reports of two aircraft currently over DC."
- 1019 (50) PEOC: The VP has cleared fighter aircraft to engage any aircraft inbound to Washington, DC. Without authority
- 1019 (50) DDO: Roger understood. It can engage without authority
- 1019 (50) PEOC: understand. Unconfirmed we have an aircraft ten miles out from DC right now? FAA can you confirm?
- 1019 (50) FAA: That I don't know. I'm back in secure area in Command Center. I'd have to go out on the floor to find out which is out there at this time. It would probably be as far as I know Washington Center controlling all the aircraft in DC area at this time.
- 1020 (51) AFOPS: General Fogelsong - Questions about escort of AF1

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1020 (51) PEOC: Confirmed (escort req). Pat in via the president ad also Dr. Rice is
in the PEOC now. We'd like an update on aircraft that's supposedly ten
miles out

1020 (51) DDO: What type?

1020 (51) PEOC: No confirmation. Airline from JOC

1020 (51) DDO: If you mean 93, FAA reported unidentified aircraft crashed 60
miles south of PA – we think that is 93

93

PEOC: Yes. We know about that one – our question from the VP is
whether that was the result of the fighters

1021 (52) NORAD: No info on that

1021 (52) DDO: FAA, any info

1021 (52) FAA: No, we're sending somebody out to the floor to find out

1022 (53) DDO: AF, who has tactical control of the fighter aircraft flying over DC?
Also questions to NORAD

1023 (54) AF: We assumed NORAD

1023 (54) NORAD: confirmed, CONR has control

1023 (54) DDO: Spell it

1024 (55) AF: Any info on aircraft 10 miles out?

1024 (55) NORAD: No

1024 (55) PEOC: Unofficial word from JOC is that aircraft is down

1025 (56) Stratcom: DOD has directed force protection delta

1025 (56) DDO: Have fighters intercepted AF1?

1027 (58) NORAD: No indication

CONR: We just got a call from Cleveland Center. That the aircraft that
went down in PA was they believe to be a military aircraft. Call sign
Gopher 06

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- 1029 (1:00) PEOC: Latest update on escort for AF1? Be aware we have received threats
- 1029 (1:00) DDO: Understand we have received threats?
- 1029 (1:00) PEOC: That's correct. But we cannot confirm where they came from. It was a telcon
- 1030 (1:01) CONR: Re Gopher 06 – he reported the crash north east of Camp David. And it appears to be an airliner
- 1030 (1:01) DDO: Repeat – N/E of Camp David
- 1031 (1:02) CONR: Yes, I have that lat longs for the crash site -- 3951 North 7846 West
- 1031 (1:02) PEOC: Are those coordinates for UAL 93?
- 1032 (1:03) DDO: Were not sure of the identification of airliner, but we know it was a civilian aircraft
- 1032 (1:03) DDO – NORAD: Vice Chair has req you facilitate the Chairman's return to U.S. airspace
- (PEOC?) DEPNSA: Myers this is Hadley. I need to get word to Dick Myers that our reports are there's an inbound aircraft flying low 5 miles out. The VPs guidance was we need to take them out.
- 1033 (1:04) DDO: Repeats and asks NORAD to acknowledge
- 1033 (1:04) DEPNSA: Confirms what VP said
- 1033 (1:04) PEOC: PEOC once again – is FAA tracking that inbound?
- 1034 (1:05) FAA: Say again?
- 1034 (1:05) DEPNSA: Hadley again. I've just confirmed from the VP if the inbound aircraft looks threatening his instruction was to take it out.
- 1034 (1:05) DDO: repeats
- 1035 (1:06) DEPNSA: Confirms and adds, "any additional info you can get about that aircraft, obviously is useful before you get the point where you have to make a take out decision."
- 1035 (1:06) DDO: Person relaying message from the VP – identify yourself –

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- Hadley: Is Myers on conference?
- 1035 (1:06) SECDEF: Steve, General Myers and I are here. (This is Don Rumsfeld)
- 1035 (1:06) Hadley: Good. I talked briefly with the VP and his guidance was if there was an aircraft inbound that close and it looked threatening his guidance was to take it out. Do you copy?
- 1036 (1:07) VCJCS: Yes
- 1036 (1:07) Hadley: Want to speak to the VP?
VCJCS: Sec Rumsfeld would like to speak to the VP
- 1036 (1:07) PEOC: Understand status of fighter cap is just still 2 assets?
- 1037 (1:08) VPOTUS: Hello. Cheney here.
- 1037 (1:08) Sec Def responds: he and Myers in NMCC
- 1037 (1:08) VP: Talked to POTUS I know he is trying to reach you? Have you spoken to him?
- 1037 (1:08) SECDEF: Yes but early. Right after Pentagon was hit.

VPOTUS: OK – he's going to relocate to another site. We received an anonymous call over here that Angel i.e. air force one was the next target and I assume he thought steps had been taken to provide protection for AF1.

(stopped at p.38)

ATC

- 1037 (1:08) SECDEF: Correct. That's been ordered
- 1037 (1:08) VPOTUS: Forces on Heightened alert?
- 1038 (1:09) SECDEF: Yes. Threat con delta
- 1038 (1:09) VPOTUS: "There's been at least 3 instances here where we've had reports of aircraft approaching Washington – a couple were confirmed hijack – and pursuant to the President's instructions I gave authorization for them to be taken out. Hello?"
- 1038 (1:09) SECDEF: "Yes. I understand. Who did you give that direction to?"

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1038 (1:09) VPOTUS: "It was passed from here through the OP Center at the WH, from the PEOC."

1038 (1:09) SECDEF: Ok. Let me ask the question here, has that directive been transmitted to the aircraft?

1038 (1:09) VPOTUS: "Yes, it has."

1038 (1:09) SECDEF: "So we have a couple of aircraft up there that have those instructions at this present time?"

1038 (1:09) VPOTUS: "That is correct. And it's my understanding they've already taken a couple of aircraft out."

1039 (1:10) SECDEF: "We can't confirm that. We're told that one aircraft is down but we do not have a pilot report that did it."

1039 (1:10) VPOTUS: Okay. Well as soon as you get more info let me know we're because we're getting fragments here as well

President called VP.

1039 (1:10) FAA: Just talked to Jacksonville Center. The aircraft that is apparently close to AF1 is a primary target. Jacksonville Center is not working the aircraft. He's not under ATC control.

We have confirmation currently of

1040 (1:11) NORAD: Update: 2 fighters, a single E-3 as well as a tanker currently inbound. Estimate time 10 minutes overhead at CAP pt North of Langley Field for protection of Washington DC area.
* no 1:11-1:13

1040 (1:11) (discussion among staff about preparing a 222 to Ch Detour (??))

1043 (1:14) DDO: SECDEF has directed that we go to Def Con 3 and be prepared to go to 2.

Acknowledgements

1043 (1:14) VP to SECDEF: Spoke to POTUS. He'd like to hear from you and he's still trying to decide where to locate – brief him on status of forces, he may want to consult w/ you about locations. And any information about the interception of aircraft would be helpful

1044 (1:15) SECDEF: Ok you're on a video conference that doesn't come to NORAD

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- 1044 (1:15) VPOTUS: I can't believe it
" We think we are recommending to go to Def Con 3"
- 1044 (1:15) SECDEF: We're going to Def Con three
- 1044 (1:15) VP: I'll have to run that by him and let him make the call. I think that's a good idea
- 1044 (1:15) SECDEF: I'll pull notes together and call him shortly

MISC back and forth
End convo

- 1045 (1:16) DDO: hold off on DEFCON 3 – need to go to POTUS before we can execute

Acknowledgements
AF
NORAD
Night Hawk
Norad Spacecom
FAA
FEMA

- 1046 (1:17) DDO: Override last instructions – the Vice Chairman is directing we go to Def Con 3 – Time 10:46 all stations acknowledge

AF
Marine
NORAD
STRATCOM
PEOC
Night Hawk
USCINC PAC
NMJIC

- 1048 (1:19) NORAD: Update: Verification scrambled 2 fighters out of Ellington Field to escort AF1 – stand by for intercept time
- 1048 (1:19) DDO: No one is covering AF1 now?
- 1048 (1:19) NORAD: Can't verify
- 1048 (1:19) PEOC: Ordered to divert to Barksdale
- 1049 (1:20) DDO: Emergency Actions message relearned at 1452 (z) re Def Con 3 Acknowledgements

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- (1:22) FAA (asks what that means and acknowledges)
- 1052 (1:23) PEOC: Able to confirm final status of UAL 93? Plane that went down North? Was it the result of a fighter engagement?
- 1052 (1:23) DDO: Can't confirm
- 1053 (1:24) NORAD: No reports of intercept on civilian aircraft
- 1053 (1:24) NORAD: 2 fighters out of Ellington to escort AF1 – Ellington also ordered 4 aircraft as backup- Also we have 2 F-16s scrambling out of Andrews AFB. "No airborne cap at this time."
- 1053 (1:24) PEOC: Understand 2 out of Ellington; 2 out of Andrews and that will make the total cap over Washington at 4 right now or 6?
- 1053 (1:24) DDO: My count is a total of 8 once we get them all – 2 Andrews, 4 addition aircraft coming in and there are 2 out of Ellington. NORAD if that is wrong, tell me.
- 1053 (1:24) NORAD: That is the correct number
- 1053 (1:24) PEOC: Again, 2 out of Ellington for AF1; 2 preparing to depart Andrews. And four currently airborne for DC
- 1055 (1:26) NORAD: Negative. We have a report of 2 fighters airborne over DC, 4 being generated out of Andrews. At Ellington, 2 for AF1 and 4 as back up for AF1
- 1055 (1:26) PEOC: Air refueling capability?
- 1055 (1:26) NORAD: Yes. For DC
PEOC: AWACS?
- 1056 (1:27) NORAD: Yes a single E-3 on location over DC
FAA/DOD: conversation about aircraft in Jacksonville req clearance
- 1058 (1:29) P/DDO/NORAD: Conversation about current location of AF1
- 1100 (1:31) NORAD: Unknown track of the east coast – not threat to DC
- 1101 (1:32) AF: asks for coordinates
- 1103 (1:34) FAA: Do you have an aircraft circling over DC at flight level 230?
NORAD: yes

(confusion back and forth summarizing info)

- 1104 (1:35) PEOC: Let us know intercept time for Ellington fighters - also from Dr. Rice, for NATO make sure we maintain a good log of disposition of assets
- 1105 (1:36-1:37) Conversation re unidentified track off east coast
DDO: Plan to lay eyes on it?
- 1106 (1:37) NORAD: Yes - Otis fighters are in route
- 1107 (1:38) FAA: Do you guys have a scramble code for your fighter aircraft?
- 1108 (1:39) NORAD: Need to confirm the ROE On unidentified track in vicinity of mass
NORAD: stand by
FAA: (asks again NORAD and AF about scramble code)
- 1109 (1:40) NORAD: Don't understand your term scramble code. Are you looking for mode 3s or call signs?
FAA: Say that again
NORAD: repeats
FAA: I need a beacon code. Do you have a beacon code for your scrambled aircraft that tends to separate them from other aircrafts?
- 1110 (1:41) NORAD: Stand by
MAOC: I have a disposition of NAOC assets where you need them
DDO: Roger. Please send them. Also, we need the ROE for aircraft in vicinity of MASS. "Again, it is important that we just escort it to the ground but not fire on it."
NORAD: Acknowledges
- 1113 (1:44) DDO: SECDEF interested in getting situation as to where there is worldwide. We need to know the status on any events that are going on and also whether we have a CAP over sensitive areas such as Saudi and others.

N/Spacecom acknowledges
Stratcom

End p.58 (Bates 3045)

