

The Insurrection of United Airlines Flight 93

A PRELIMINARY FACT-FINDING REPORT FOR USE IN DRAMATIZATION

Traffic at Newark International Airport was heavy at 7:00am. United Airlines Flight 93 was being fuelled with 11,000lbs for her cross country flight to San Francisco, her scheduled normal ETD was 8:00am arriving in San Francisco at 11:14am, by the West Coast Clock, 5 hours later. The 180 seat Boeing 757-200 was only 20% booked, with a crew of 7, and 37 passengers, 4 of which were terrorists of The al Qaeda arm of Osama Bin Laden, on a covert suicide mission. All in their 20's, Ahmed Al Hazani, Ahmed Alnami, Saeed Alghamdi, listed their homes at Del Ray Florida. Zihad Jarrahi, was the likely leader and one of the pilots, probably trained at USA Air Schools. All were disciplined, prepared, and had trained by lifting weights, and studying the martial arts. All were dedicated, and would surely have followed the El Qaeda's hand written letter of final instructions. They would fast, read the Koran, and meditate all night before their mission, focusing on the hijacking of Flight 93, and crashing it into The White House, Camp David, The Washington Monument or some other national landmark, according to FBI reports. While the three other flights hijacked each had 5 terrorists on board, Flight 93 only had four. It is possible that a fifth man failed to turn up, thereby confusing those on board so much that they delayed the hijack, as speculated by the FBI. Gaining access to the United States on Visas as students or businessmen would allow them to get by the USINS. Somehow, they would get their weapons, plastic handled knives, and a red box they said contained a bomb through security, and onboard the aircraft. Being careful not to fraternize before boarding, they probably used cell phones to communicate between each other while on the aircraft, coordinating the moment at which they would attack. Captain James Dahl, (43, Denver, Colorado) didn't receive a reply to his E-mail request for another pilot to take the flight. He had wanted to spend the day with his wife and young son, and had learned to fly before he could drive. While he and 1st Officer Leroy Homer, (36, Marlton, New Jersey) who had a wife and daughter, ran through their pre-flight, Chief Flight Attendant Sandy Bradshaw (38, Greensboro, NC) directed her crew, (Lorraine Bay, Wanda Green, Cee Cee Ross-Lyles and Deborah Welsh,) towards the boarding of passengers, 27 in Economy and 10 in 1st class, waiting to embark at Course A Gate 17. Deborah Welsh had been a flight attendant for 25 years, and despite her husbands pleadings, agreed to trade shifts. Cee-Cee Ross Lyles had just left 6 years of work as a police officer, while Sandy Bradshaw had worked so she could stay home later that month and attend her school reunion. None of them would ever go home again. It was fate or chance that put almost a third of the passengers on Flight 93 on board that clear and sunny morning in Newark. Todd Beamer (Cranbury, NJ) had decided to spend an extra night with his wife and two sons, he taught Sunday school on weekends. Boarding began early when he took his seat in First Class, headed to San Francisco to attend a business meeting as an executive for Oracle, Corporation. Mark Bingham, (San Francisco, CA), CEO of the Bingham Group, a public relations firm also buckled in nearby. The CEO of Thoratech Corporation, manufacturer of medical devices, Thomas