

Three Strikes Against the Official Account of 9/11
Vermonters for a Real 9/11 Investigation – 8/31/09

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Strike One: Collapse at Free fall Speed

At 5:20 p.m. on 9/11/2001, World Trade Center Building 7, a modern, 47-story, steel-framed skyscraper collapsed into its own footprint. No aircraft had struck this building. Scattered fires burned on a few floors of this building prior to its collapse. The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), the federal agency charged with determining what caused this collapse, admitted in its final report issued on November 20, 2008, that WTC 7 collapsed at free fall acceleration during a significant portion of its collapseⁱ. NIST was forced to make this admission after being confronted with clear evidence of this fact during the period of public comment on its draft report -- the video footage of the collapse of WTC 7 quite clearly and undeniably establishes free fall acceleration.

Basic physics tells us that a falling object can achieve an acceleration rate equal to that of gravity (i.e., free fall) only when there is nothing beneath the object to impede the fall. No building, nor a portion of a building, can collapse through itself at free fall acceleration unless the supporting columns are removed simultaneously, as happens in a successful controlled demolition. If the columns are not removed simultaneously, the collapse (if there is oneⁱⁱ), is slower. Prior to NIST's admission of the free fall collapse, Dr. Shyam Sunder, NIST's lead WTC 7 investigator, alluded to this reality, saying that the collapse of 17 floors took roughly 40% more time than free fall, which was "not at all unusual because there was structural resistance that was provided in this particular case. And you had...you had a sequence of structural failures that had to take place and everything was not instantaneous."ⁱⁱⁱ

NIST has not reconciled -- and cannot reconcile -- its admission of free fall acceleration during WTC 7's collapse with Dr. Sunder's acknowledgment that NIST's own explanation for the collapse allows for no mechanism for the instantaneous column failures needed to enable free fall acceleration.

Strike Two: Molten Metal

Molten metal (including dripping steel girders) was observed under the collapsed remains of the twin towers and WTC 7 by countless credible witnesses, including firefighters and official investigators.^{iv} NIST and other defenders of the official account of 9/11 agree that the fires in the towers were not hot enough to melt the steel in the towers.^v This is because the melting point of steel is far higher than the temperatures at which office contents or jet fuel can burn in a diffuse flame (i.e. ordinary open-air) fire.

When confronted during a public presentation in February, 2007 with the fact that molten metal was observed beneath the rubble of the towers, NIST engineer Dr. John Gross responded by saying that he was unaware of any evidence that such molten metal existed.^{vi} In October, 2008, Dr. Sunder was asked about the molten metal. Instead of denying the existence of the molten metal, Dr. Sunder said that there could have been molten steel because the rubble pile would have contained the radiation from the office contents fires, creating much higher temperatures than those prior to the collapses.^{vii}

Physicists have disputed Dr. Sunder's implication that insulation can result in temperatures hotter than a heat source itself.^{viii} In addition, Dr. Sunder has admitted that prior to the collapse, "the fires moved from location to location, meaning that at any given location the combustibles needed about 20 minutes to be consumed"^{ix}, and testimony of individuals inside the towers, and photographs, confirm that the

fires were dying out prior to the collapses.^x Combustibles that completely burn out in 20 minutes could not possibly produce steel-melting temperatures after being buried haphazardly under a pile of rubble.

Strike Three: Explosive Material Found in WTC Dust

In a peer-reviewed study published in 2009 in an established, on-line scientific journal, an international group of respected scientists concluded that dust from the WTC collapses contains high concentrations of unexploded super-thermite, a high-tech explosive material.^{xi} When ignited, this composite produces an extremely high-temperature, high-energy chemical reaction that would account for the observed characteristics of the destruction of the twin towers and WTC 7, including the molten metal. NIST has refused to consider this evidence or interview the scientists who performed the study.^{xii}

Conclusion: The Official Account of 9/11 is Struck Out

The only plausible explanation that has been advanced to explain the three WTC collapses on 9/11, including all of the anomalous observations (of which free fall, molten metal, and residual explosive material are only three of a much larger number^{xiii}), is controlled demolition. More than 800 licensed Architects and Engineers (and counting) are now challenging the official account and demanding a real investigation, as are thousands of professionals and scholars of all relevant backgrounds^{xiv}.

Al Qaeda did not have the motive to conduct the perfect controlled demolitions that are shown to have happened at the World Trade Center. Far more death and destruction would have resulted if the WTC towers that collapsed straight down into their footprints had instead toppled over. Nor did Al Qaeda have the means or the opportunity to set up controlled demolitions in the WTC. But if Al Qaeda did not carry out the attacks of 9/11 unassisted by insiders (or if the alleged attackers were only patsies), as the evidence indicates, then the premise for the War on Terror is false. Exposing the truth may be the only way to put an end to the War on Terror, which has killed and maimed thousands of Americans and hundreds of thousands of others, has bankrupted the United States, and has no end in sight.

The impossibilities, inconsistencies, and unanswered questions in the official account of 9/11 extend far beyond the scope of this review. Educate yourself about the facts. Employ your own intelligence and reasoning skills. Then Find your local 9/11 Truth organization and become involved in the effort to discover and disseminate the truth about 9/11.^{xv} As Albert Einstein said, “The world is a dangerous place, not because of those who do evil, but because of those who look on and do nothing.”

ⁱ <http://wtc.nist.gov/NCSTAR1/PDF/NCSTAR%201A.pdf> – see page 45.

ⁱⁱ Evidence indicates that no collapses should have occurred. E.g., p.7 of <http://www.vt911.org/Introduction%20to%20Evidence.htm>

ⁱⁱⁱ NIST Technical Briefing, 8/26/08. For a video of this briefing, with analysis, see <http://www.ae911truth.org/flashmov13.htm>

^{iv} See [http://0x1a.com/#\[World%20Trade%20Center%20Hot%20Spots\]](http://0x1a.com/#[World%20Trade%20Center%20Hot%20Spots])

^v see page 5 of the compilation at <http://www.vt911.org/Introduction%20to%20Evidence.htm> Dr. Sunder admits this in vii, below.

^{vi} This exchange can be viewed at <http://www.prisonplanet.com/articles/february2007/260207NIST.htm>

^{vii} Interview by Allan Rees of NoLiesRadio.org, October 15, 2008 <http://www.ae911truth.org/info/39>

^{viii} Allan Rees reports in his interview, above, that he consulted with physicists on this issue prior to his speaking with Dr. Sunder.

^{ix} NIST Advisory Committee meeting minutes, December 18th, 2007, <http://wtc.nist.gov/media/NCSTACMeetingMinutes121807.pdf>

^x http://whatreallyhappened.com/WRHARTICLES/wtc1_woman.html,

http://whatreallyhappened.com/WRHARTICLES/wtc2_fire.html?q=wtc2_fire.html

^{xi} <http://www.bentham-open.org/pages/content.php?TOCPJ/2009/00000002/00000001/7TOCPJ.SGM>

^{xii} In the Allan Rees interview, above, Dr. Sunder admitted that NIST did not and will not interview these scientists.

^{xiii} See, e.g., <http://www.ae911truth.org/info/75>, http://www.911truth.org/article_for_printing.php?story=20080911073516447

^{xiv} See, e.g., www.ae911truth.org, www.patriotsquestion911.org, <http://www.journalof911studies.com/>

^{xv} http://911truth.org/page.php?page=grassroots_contacts