No hijackers on the passenger manifests

From 911myths

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The <u>FBI</u> told us that the 9/11 flights were taken over by 19 hijackers, each group having a replacement pilot, who then aimed to fly their plane into a given target. But one common objection to this is that the hijackers didn't appear on the passenger manifests for those flights, and therefore weren't on the planes at all. There are several arguments put forward to support this, and we'll examine the main ones here.

The CNN passenger lists

Soon after 9/11 CNN published lists of the passengers on each of the 9/11 flights. <u>David Ray Griffin</u> comments on them here:

Another problem in the official account is that, although we are told that four or five of the alleged hijackers were on each of the four flights, no proof of this claim has been provided. The story, of course, is that they did not force their way onto the planes but were regular, ticketed passengers. If so, their names should be on the flight manifests. But the flight manifests that have been released contain neither the names of the alleged hijackers nor any other Arab names...

[Support for his claim is provided in this footnote]

The flight manifest for AA 11 that was published by CNN can be seen at www.cnn.com/SPECIALS/2001/trade.center/victims/AA11.victims.html. The manifests for the other flights can be located by simply changing that part of the URL. The manifest for UA 93, for example, is at www.cnn.com/SPECIALS/2001/trade.center/victims/ua93.victims.html

http://www.mindfully.org/Reform/2006/911-Myth-Reality-Griffin30mar06.htm

The problem here is that the CNN lists were not a manifest. The can be seen from the URL used by <u>Dr Griffin</u>, which tells us it's a "victims" list (that URL is now dead, <u>web archive</u> <u>version here</u>). Is it really surprising that suspected hijackers wouldn't be included? We'd say not, and a moment spent at the CNN site confirms this as true. Visit <u>the main Memorial page</u>, click "about this site", and on 11th July 2007 we read this text:

This memorial lists those who died in New York City, Washington, D.C. and Pennsylvania when terrorists hijacked four U.S. planes on September 11, 2001. The list includes those listed as "confirmed dead" and "reported dead" by the Associated Press which defines the terms as follows:

CONFIRMED DEAD Includes victims who have been confirmed dead by a coroner's office or the Defense Department. It also includes those a court has declared legally dead, even if no body has been recovered. Once the court has made such a finding, a death certificate can be issued. REPORTED DEAD Includes those whose deaths have been reported by family, employers, mortuaries, places of worship or by the airlines that listed them as aboard one of the four flights. Includes people for whom memorial services have been held, even if their bodies have not been recovered or positively identified. (Those identified by federal authorities as the hijackers are not included).

Personal information accompanying the individual records comes from CNN reports, newspaper obituaries and information submitted by friends and family. The photos were submitted to CNN by friends or family of the victims or used with permission from media partners as noted on each photo. The site was archived in August 2004.

So "those identified by federal authorities as the hijackers are not included". Note also that the list came from press reports, not directly from the airlines. This is not an official manifest.

Partial lists

When pointing out the unofficial nature of the CNN list we've frequently been asked how this came about. Why did CNN have to cobble together a list in this way, rather than get the details direct from the airlines?

Of course this is just an attempt to shift the goalposts. The reality is that the CNN lists are not official manifests, as claimed by Dr Griffin and many others, and so cannot be used to support the "no hijackers on the manifests" claims. Our ability to explain this (or not) doesn't affect that point.

Still, look at what the airlines say and there's an obvious answer. Here's a UAL press release:

September 12, 2001

01:03PM, EST

With deep sadness, United Airlines now is confirming a partial list of the names of passengers and a full list of crew members onboard UA Flights 93 and 175. Both aircraft were confirmed to have crashed in yesterday's unprecedented acts of terrorism. At the request of the victims' families, a number of names have been withheld from release. Out of respect for the families and in line with sentiments expressed to the airline by the families, United yesterday decided not to release this partial list until this morning...

The passenger and crew member names for each flight are as follows:

NOTE: The list of our passengers' and crew members' names has been updated with additional information on September 13, 14, 15, 17 and 18, in accordance with the requests of the families...

http://www.united.com/press/detail/0,1442,10454-1,00.html

And this is what American Airlines had to say:

September 12, 2001, 11:55 a.m. CST

AMERICAN RELEASES PRELIMINARY PASSENGER LISTS FOR FLIGHTS INVOLVED IN YESTERDAY'S TERRORIST ATTACKS

FORT WORTH, Texas

American Airlines is releasing a preliminary, partial passenger list and a crew list for its flights involved in yesterday's terrorist attacks.

The following is a list of passengers whose next-of-kin have been notified. American has honored the requests of those families who have asked that their loved ones' names not be included.

www.amrcorp.com/passlist.htm

It seems that both airlines were contacting the families of people on their flights, and not releasing names of passengers until the families gave permission. This might be quickly given for their own staff and passengers who were US citizens, for instance, but locating the family of alleged Flight 175 pilot Marwan al-Shehhi, for instance, wasn't going to be nearly as easy. Not least because the hijackers seemed to use each others details as contact numbers and addresses, meaning these couldn't be used to get in touch with relatives. And so the hijackers were always less likely to appear in the early lists.

Boston Globe list

It's rarely mentioned by 9/11 truthers, but one newspaper did obtain and reproduce what they said was the manifest of Flight 11.

The Boston Globe reported on its web site Thursday that it had obtained a copy of the complete manifest list of the planes hijacked from Boston.

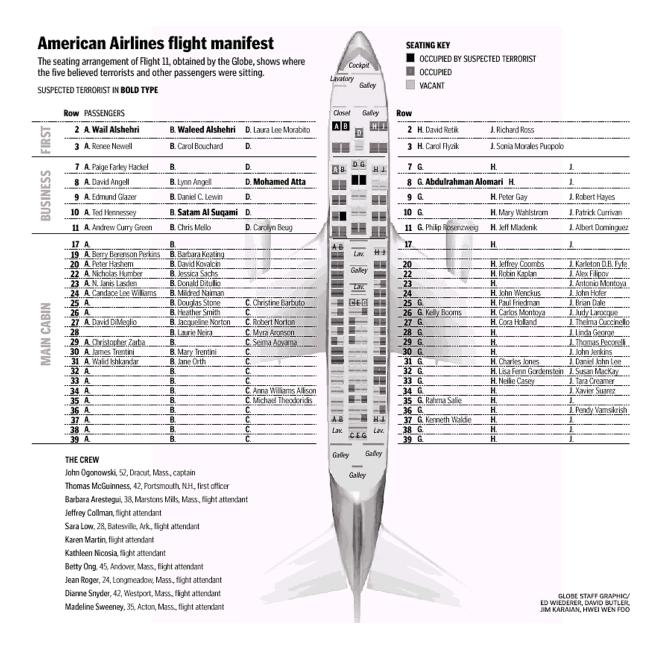
The Globe said according to the manifest, <u>Mohamed Atta</u>, one of the suspected terrorists, was assigned seat 8D in business class on American Airlines Flight 11, directly across the aisle from Hollywood producer David Angell and his wife, Lynn, who were in seats 8A and 8B, respectively. Seated next to Atta in seat 8G was Abdul Alomari. FBI investigators have searched Alomari's home in Vero Beach.

The Globe reported the passenger list for United Air Lines Flight 175 shows that Marwan Alshehri got on the plane that left Boston and slammed into one of the Manhattan skyscrapers 15 minutes after Flight 11...

http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2001/09/14/national/main311268.shtml

Text of that Boston Globe article here.

And here is that manifest, which does indeed show the hijackers:



The only issue we noticed here is the image refers to Abdulraham Alomari, rather than Abdulaziz. However we discovered an article showing this as a middle name, so perhaps that's where the confusion has arisen.

AbdulAziz AbdulRahman AlOmari (AlZahrani) 23, married with one daughter 28 months. He was born in Hawran village at AlMakhawa County in AlBaha region (south west) one of the poorest regions in the country.

He is s a graduate of Imam Mohamed Bin Saud University, Qaseem branch, where he met and befriended several clerics such as Suliman AlAlwan who was mentioned in Osama Ben Laden's tape. He also studied at the hand of senior official cleric Shaikh Saleh Al-Fawzan.

He left to Afghanistan in December 2000. He was trained in AlFarooq camp in Qandahar and was appointed its religious leader due to his education. During his stay in Afghanistan he joined Taliban forces in their attacks on Afghani towns, according to several of his friends.

Later he was appointed a military trainer at the same camp. He along with several hijackers left to US from Dubai. His nickname in Afghanistan was Abu AlAbbas Al-Janoubi. He was on American Airlines #11 that crashed into North Tower of World Trade Center. http://web.archive.org/web/20031026101720/http://www.arabianews.org/english/article.cfm?qid=12&sid=6

Terry McDermott

The Boston Globe published the only complete manifest of which we're aware, however journalist and author Terry McDermott reports that he obtained passenger lists from the <u>FBI</u> while researching a book, and they did contain the hijackers names. We obtained copies, and while the names are abbreviated, and 6 passenger names are curiously missing, all the hijackers appear to be included (<u>see this page for more</u>).



Flight 11 1/3



Flight 11 2/3



Flight 11 3/3



Flight 77 1/2



Flight 77 2/2



Flight 93 1/1



Flight 175 1/1

David Ray Griffin has commented on these documents:

A photocopy of a portion of an apparent passenger manifest for American Flight 11, with the names of three of the alleged hijackers, was published in a 2005 book by Terry McDermott, Perfect Soldiers: The 9/11 Hijackers.86 McDermott reportedly said that he received these manifests from the FBI.87 But the idea that these were the original manifests is problematic.

For one thing, they were not included in the evidence presented by the FBI to the Moussaoui trial in 2006.88 If even the FBI will not cite them as evidence, why should anyone think they are genuine?

Another problem with these purported manifests, copies of which can be viewed on the Internet,89 is that they show signs of being late creations. One such sign is that Ziad Jarrah's last name is spelled correctly, whereas in the early days after 9/11, the FBI was referring to him as "Jarrahi," as news reports from the time show.90 A second sign is that the manifest for American Flight 77 contains Hani Hanjour's name, even though its absence from the original list of hijackers had led the Washington Post to wonder why Hanjour's "name was not on the American Airlines manifest for the flight."91 A third sign is that the purported manifest for American Flight 11 contains the names of Wail al-Shehri, Waleed al-Shehri, Satam al-Suqami, and Abdul al-Omari, all of whom were added some days after 9/11.

In sum, no credible evidence that al-Qaeda operatives were on the flights is provided by the passenger manifests.

OpEnd News

So why didn't the FBI cite them as evidence? They already produced a Flash applet containing the full passenger lists. Where's the need for anything more? And does anyone really believe that if they did, those arguing this point would suddenly change their minds?

Why did the documents use Jarrah instead of Jarrahi? Dr Griffin is presumably referring to this Boston Globe comment:

Jarrah emerged as a suspect in that hijacking when FBI agents, reviewing flight manifests, found a Ziad Jarrahi - the *i* in the last name a possible misspelling - on United Airlines Flight 93.

Boston Globe

But this is oddly qualified - "a possible misspelling" - and we were unable to find any other stories saying a Jarrahi was on the manifest. In fact a story a week earlier in the Boston Herald, said the precise opposite: that Jarrahi was the name given by the FBI, but Jarrah was how he appeared on the passenger list:

U.S. authorities say one of the hijackers was Ziad Jarrahi while aviation officials list Ziad Jarrah as a passenger on the flight.

Boston Herald

.

Two contradictory reports. On what basis can anyone choose the first, over the second?

Why the confusion, then? It's certainly true that the FBI used the name Jarrahi in their first hijacker list on September 14, but that doesn't mean it appeared on the manifest. The September 27th list described him like this:

4) Ziad Samir Jarrah

-Believed to be a pilot

-Alias: Zaid Jarrahi; Zaid Samr Jarrah; Ziad S. Jarrah; Ziad Jarrah Jarrat, Ziad Samir Jarrahi http://web.archive.org/web/20011001123059/http://www.fbi.gov/pressrel/pressrel01/092 701hjpic.htm

The FBI found several possible spellings of his name. Who's to say they would definitely choose the manifest version in the list of the 14th? Perhaps they sourced the name from some other document. In any event, the press reports conflict here and do not clearly indicate that Jarrah appeared as Jarrahi on the manifest, therefore they cannot be used to invalidate Terry McDermott's passenger lists.

9-11 Commission records

The 2009 release of the 9/11 Commission records has so far produced the manifests for Flight 175 and Flight 93. These appear to be the same lists that Terry McDermott passed to us, only with the previously missing passengers included, and so that's a strong indication that his lists for Flight 11 and Flight 77 are also correct.



Flight 93 1/1



Flight 175 1/2



Flight 175 2/2

Both include the hijackers.

Moussaoui exhibits

<u>A Moussaoui trial exhibit in the form of a Flash applet</u> provided the passenger names and seats for all four flights. The source file is 27 MB in size, but we've taken screen grabs of the relevant sections here:



Flight 11



Flight 77



Flight 93



Flight 175

The names and seating positions match with the earlier documentation, and once again the hijackers are included.

Teresa E. Rizzuto

An FBI document found in the 9/11 Commission's files reports that "United Airlines General Manager of Customer Service Teresa A. Rizzuto" gave an FBI agent "Thirty-eight 38 airline boarding passes used by passengers to board United Airlines flight ninety-three 93 on 09/11/2001". The names on those boarding passes are listed, and they include the hijackers.

265A-NY-280350-NK-744

09/12/2001

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION Date of transcription 09/12/2001

On 09/11/2001 United Airlines General Manager of Customer Service Teresa A. Rizzuto. provided the below listed Special Agent SA of the Federal Bureau of Investigation FBI with the following items:

1. Thirty-eight 38 airline boarding passes used by passengers to board United Airlines flight ninety-three 93 on 09/11/2001 at Gate seventeen 17 of terminal A at Newark International Airport.

The following 38 names appear on the boarding passes:

Ahmed Alnami

Ahmad Alhaznawi

Ziad Jarrah

Saeed Alghamdi

William Caghman

Mark Bingham

Edward Felt

Mark Rothenberg

Linda Gronlund

Thomas Burnett

Georgine Corrigan

Andrew Garcia

Jeremy Glick

Richard Guadagno

Honor Wainio

Patrick Driscoll

Marion itton partial last name

Waleska Martinez

Christian Adams

First Name Unknown Britton

Donald Greene

Christine nyder partial last name

Todd Beamer

TMR Kuge

Kristin Gould

Nicole Miller

John Talignani

Louis Nacke

Lauren Grandcolas

Joseph Deluca

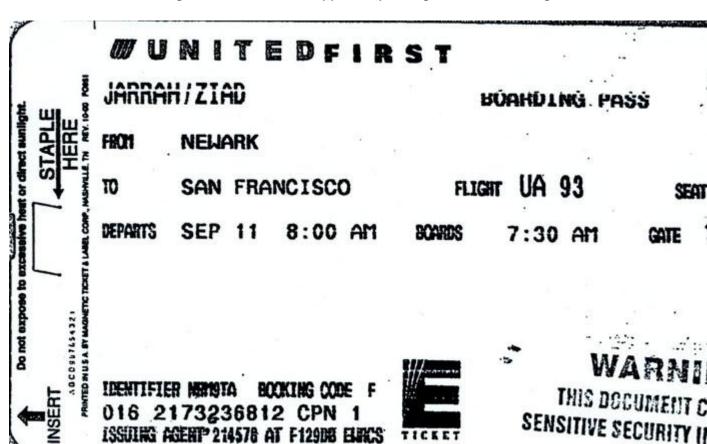
Patricia Cushing

Alan Beaven
Jean Peterson
Colleen Fraser
Hilda Marcin
Jane Folger
Donald Peterson
Deora Bodiey

2. Forty 40 airline ticket coupons and discarded parts of airline tickets from various flights.

These items are being maintained as evidence at the Newark office of the FBI. Team7 Box17 FBI302sOfInterest Flight93

One of these, the boarding card of Ziad Jarrah, apparently emerged on a NARA blog:



Apparent photocopies/ faxes of the full set are available here.

Thomas Olmsted

The one remaining substantive objection to the hijackers actually being on the planes comes from Thomas Olmsted, "an ex Naval line officer and a psychiatrist in private practice in New Orleans". The first part of his article explains.

Autopsy: No Arabs on Flight 77

I am an ex Naval line officer and a psychiatrist in private practice in New Orleans, a Christian and homeschool dad. It troubled me a great deal that we rushed off to war on the flimsiest of evidence. I considered various ways to provide a smoking gun of who and why Sept 11th happened. Astute observers noticed right away that there were no Arabic sounding names on any of the flight manifests of the planes that "crashed" on that day.

A list of names on a piece of paper is not evidence, but an autopsy by a pathologist, is. I undertook by FOIA request, to obtain that autopsy list and you are invited to view it below. Guess what? Still no Arabs on the list. In my opinion the monsters who planned this crime made a mistake by not including Arabic names on the original list to make the ruse seem more believable.

When airline disasters occur, airlines will routinely provide a manifest list for anxious families. You may have noticed that even before Sep 11th, airlines are pretty meticulous about getting an accurate headcount before takeoff. It seems very unlikely to me, that five Arabs sneaked onto a flight with weapons. This is the list provided by American of the 56 passengers. On September 27th, the FBI published photos of the "hijackers" of Flight 77.

Meanwhile, back at the ranch, the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology (AFIP), does a miraculous job and identifies nearly all the bodies on November 16th 2001.

The AFIP suggest these numbers; 189 killed, 125 worked at the Pentagon and 64 were "passengers" on the plane. The AA list only had 56 and the list just obtained has 58. They did not explain how they were able to tell "victims" bodies from "hijacker" bodies. In fact, from the beginning NO explanation has been given for the extra five suggested in news reports except that the FBI showed us the pictures to make up the difference, and that makes it so.

Now, being the trusting sort, I figured that the government would want to quickly dispel any rumors so we could get on with the chore of kicking Osama/Sadaam's butt (weren't these originally two different people?). It seemed simple to me. . .produce the names of all the bodies identified by the AFIP and compare it with the publicized list of passengers. So, I sent a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request to the AFIP and asked for an expedited response, because we were getting ready to send our boys to war on the pretext that Osama/Saddam had done the deed. Fourteen months later, a few US soldiers dead, many Iraqi civilians pushing up daisies, and I finally get the list. Believe me that they weren't a bit happy to give it up, and I really have no idea why they choose now to release it.

No Arabs wound up on the morgue slab; however, three ADDITIONAL people not listed by American Airlines sneaked in. I have seen no explanation for these extras. I did American the opportunity to "revise" their original list, but they have not responded. The new names are: Robert Ploger, Zandra Ploger, and Sandra Teague. The AFIP claims that the only "passenger"

body that they were not able to identify is the toddler, Dana Falkenberg, whose parents and young sister are on the list of those identified. The satanic masterminds behind this caper may be feeling pretty smug about the perfect crime, but they have left a raft of clues tying these unfortunates together.

http://www.physics911.net/olmsted

This article has been frequently quoted as evidence that the named hijackers were not on Flight 77, however closer examination shows it does nothing of the kind. The problems start with Olmsted's apparent assumption that his "autopsy list" is somehow equivalent to a passenger manifest, a complete list of everyone onboard. The cover letter Olmsted receives tells us exactly what it is: "the names of 58 victims of AA Flight 77 that were identified here at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology" (AFIP). That is all.



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE ARMED FORCES INSTITUTE OF PATHOLOGY WASHINGTON, DC 20306-6000 June 20, 2003



FOIA/Privacy Act Officer

Thomas R. Olmsted, MD 101 Glenwood Avenue Harahan, LA 70123

Dear Dr. Olmsted:

This is in response to your Freedom of Information Act request, dated April 3, 2002, in which you requested copies of the final list of bodies identified by the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, at the Pentagon crash of Flight 77 on September 11, 2001.

Attached file contains the names of the 58 victims of AA flight 77 that were identified here at the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology.

I trust this will be of assistance to you.

Sincerely,

BONNIE S. SHORT FOIA/Privacy Act Officer

Encl



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15/09/1335 16:58

And of course once you read that sentence, it's also obvious that Olmsted's claim that "no Arabs wound up on the morgue slab" is also entirely unsupported. All the document tells us is that these are the people who were identified by the AFIP. It doesn't discuss people who were not identified, or might have been identified elsewhere. By way of an example, 2-year-old Dana Falkenberg is also not included on Olmsted's list. Does this show she wasn't on the

plane? No, just that no identifiable remains were recovered. Therefore the list is demonstrably incomplete, even without the issue of the hijackers.

What's more, accounts elsewhere explain that the hijackers bodies were recovered, and provide details on why they weren't on the list.

"Families of the airplanes' passengers and crews and those who died within the Pentagon provided DNA samples, typically on toothbrushes or hairbrushes, to aid with identification. The remains that didn't match any of the samples were ruled to be the terrorists, said Chris Kelly, spokesman for the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, which did the DNA work. The nine sets of remains matched the number of hijackers believed to be on the two planes..." http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2002/08/17/attack/main519033.shtml

The bodies were identified through DNA samples, and only the passengers relatives came forward to provide them (at least, initially). Obviously, this means the list of people identified by this process will contain the passengers only, no hijackers, and there's nothing mysterious about that at all.

Olmsted's other issues are based mainly around online victim lists. He tells us that "there were no Arabic sounding names on any of the flight manifests of the planes that "crashed" on that day", for instance: this is true of the CNN victims list, but as we've seen, that's not a manifest and CNN said the alleged hijackers were left off. It also ignores the real manifest published by the Boston Globe that did include their names.

We're also told that "three ADDITIONAL people not listed by American Airlines sneaked in". All Olmsted does here is show that the CNN victim list contained some errors, something we knew already. His own list does not conflict with any aspect of the official account, and isn't in any sense evidence that the alleged hijackers weren't on board Flight 77.

David Ray Griffin

<u>Dr Griffin</u> has recently introduced further arguments in an article titled "Was America Attacked by Muslims on 9/11?"

What about the passenger manifests, which list all the passengers on the flights? If the alleged hijackers purchased tickets and boarded the flights, their names would have been on the manifests for these flights. And we were told that they were. According to counterterrorism coordinator Richard Clarke, the FBI told him at about 10:00 that morning that it recognized the names of some al-Qaeda operatives on passenger manifests it had received from the airlines.77 As to how the FBI itself acquired its list, Robert Bonner, the head of Customs and Border Protection, said to the 9/11 Commission in 2004:

On the morning of 9/11, through an evaluation of data related to the passenger manifest for the four terrorist hijacked aircraft, Customs Office of Intelligence was able to identify the likely terrorist hijackers. Within 45 minutes of the attacks, Customs forwarded the

passenger lists with the names of the victims and 19 probable hijackers to the FBI and the intelligence community.78

Under questioning, Bonner added:

We were able to pull from the airlines the passenger manifest for each of the four flights. We ran the manifest through [our lookout] system. . . . [B]y 11:00 AM, I'd seen a sheet that essentially identified the 19 probable hijackers. And in fact, they turned out to be, based upon further follow-up in detailed investigation, to be the 19.79

Bonner's statement, however, is doubly problematic. In the first place, the initial FBI list, as reported by CNN on September 13 and 14, contained only 18 names.80 Why would that be if 19 men had already been identified on 9/11?

Second, several of the names on the FBI's first list, having quickly become problematic, were replaced by other names. For example, the previously discussed men named Bukhari, thought to be brothers, were replaced on American 11's list of hijackers by brothers named Waleed and Wail al-Shehri. Two other replacements for this flight were Satam al-Suqami, whose passport was allegedly found at Ground Zero, and Abdul al-Omari, who allegedly went to Portland with Atta the day before 9/11. Also, the initial list for American 77 did not include the name of Hani Hanjour, who would later be called the pilot of this flight. Rather, it contained a name that, after being read aloud by a CNN correspondent, was transcribed "Mosear Caned."81 All in all, the final list of 19 hijackers contained six names that were not on the original list of 18---a fact that contradicts Bonner's claim that by 11:00 AM on 9/11 his agency had identified 19 probable hijackers who, in fact, "turned out to be. . . the 19."

These replacements to the initial list also undermine the claim that Amy Sweeney, by giving the seat numbers of three of the hijackers to Michael Woodward of American Airlines, allowed him to identify Atta and two others. This second claim is impossible because the two others were Abdul al-Omari and Satam al-Suqami,82 and they were replacements for two men on the original list---who, like Adnan Bukhari, turned up alive after 9/11.83 Woodward could not possibly have identified men who were not added to the list until several days later.84

For all these reasons, the claim that the names of the 19 alleged hijackers were on the airlines' passenger manifests must be considered false.

This conclusion is supported by the fact that the passenger manifests that were released to the public included no names of any of the 19 alleged hijackers and, in fact, no Middle Eastern names whatsoever.85 These manifests, therefore, support the suspicion that there were no al-Qaeda hijackers on the planes.

http://www.opednews.com/articles/6/Was-America-Attacked-by-Mu-by-David-Ray-Griffin-080909-536.html

Let's consider each of these in turn.

The CNN list

Robert Bonner, Dr Griffin points out, told the 9/11 Commission that he'd seen a list "that essentially identified the 19 probable hijackers" by 11:00 AM on 9/11. Dr Griffin questions this because "the initial FBI list, as reported by CNN on September 13 and 14, contained only 18 names.80 Why would that be if 19 men had already been identified on 9/11?".

But Dr Griffin has already answered this point in Bonner's quotes. He says the initial list identified "probable" hijackers only. Bonner tells us that "in fact, they turned out to be, based upon further follow-up in detailed investigation, to be the 19" - further investigations were carried out to determine how many hijackers there were, and so it's no surprise that an accurate figure couldn't be provided until these were complete. But when they were finished, on September 14th, a full list of 19 was released. There's no contradiction here, and no evidence that hijackers weren't on the manifests.

Names were replaced

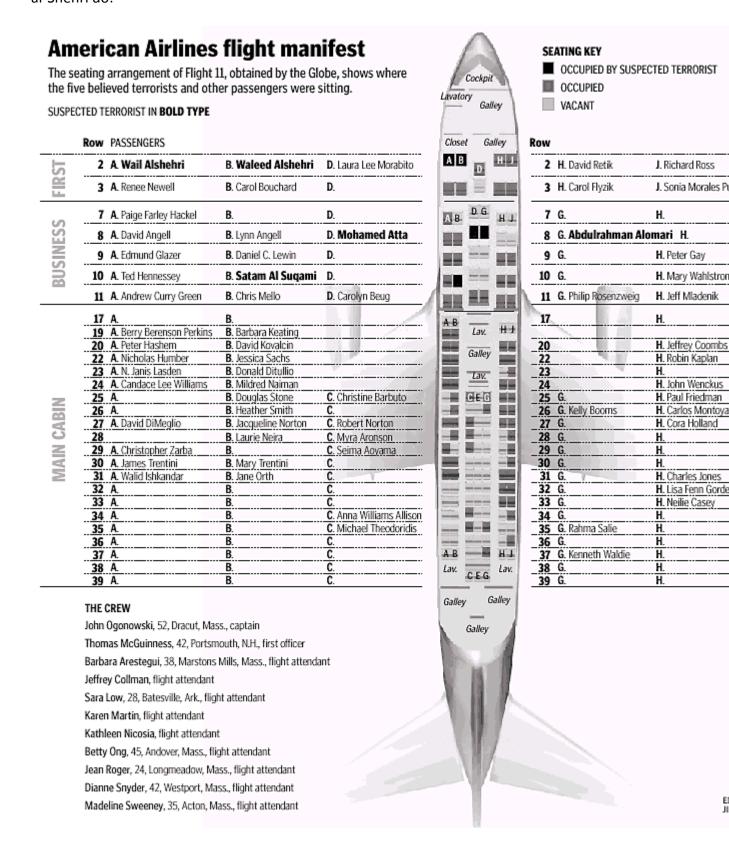
Dr Griffin next tells us that hijacker names were "replaced" from the original list, and this means therefore that they cannot have been identified from the manifest:

Second, several of the names on the FBI's first list, having quickly become problematic, were replaced by other names. For example, the previously discussed men named Bukhari, thought to be brothers, were replaced on American 11's list of hijackers by brothers named Waleed and Wail al-Shehri. Two other replacements for this flight were Satam al-Suqami, whose passport was allegedly found at Ground Zero, and Abdul al-Omari, who allegedly went to Portland with Atta the day before 9/11. Also, the initial list for American 77 did not include the name of Hani Hanjour, who would later be called the pilot of this flight. Rather, it contained a name that, after being read aloud by a CNN correspondent, was transcribed "Mosear Caned."81 All in all, the final list of 19 hijackers contained six names that were not on the original list of 18---a fact that contradicts Bonner's claim that by 11:00 AM on 9/11 his agency had identified 19 probable hijackers who, in fact, "turned out to be. . . the 19." http://www.opednews.com/articles/6/Was-America-Attacked-by-Mu-by-David-Ray-Griffin-080909-536.html

The argument appears to run something like this. The FBI briefly investigated the Bukharis (for example), suspecting their involvement. This means the Bukhari's must have been on the manifest, nor Waleed and Wail al-Shehri. Therefore the claim that the hijackers had been correctly identified by 11:00 AM on 9/11 must be incorrect.

If we're reading that properly, then the flaw is obvious. The fact that the Bukharis were investigated doesn't mean their name appeared on the manifest. Why could they not have briefly considered the possibility that the passengers booked as Waleed and Wail al-Shehri were actually the Bukharis? The FBI couldn't immediately be sure that the names provided by the hijackers were their real ones, and so would follow whatever lines of enquiry that came up. It's no surprise that there were initial mistakes (in fact this supports the idea that it was a real investigation, rather than simply everyone following a preplanned script).

Further, we've already seen the manifest for Flight 11, as published in the Boston Globe. This was reportedly obtained on September 13th, while the Bukhari's were under investigation, yet as we can see they don't appear on the manifest, while Wail and Waleed al-Shehri do:



Dr Griffin's reasoning is no more convincing elsewhere. The "Mosear Caned" name come from "a list of the names of the 18 suspected hijackers" that they "managed to grab", for instance, then read out. It wasn't an official FBI release. And even if they considered a "Mosear Caned" as a possible suspect, that isn't evidence that the name appeared on a passenger manifest, and it does not contradict Robert Bonner's statement.

Publicly released manifests

Dr Griffin concludes with the old argument that "the passenger manifests that were released to the public included no names of any of the 19 alleged hijackers and, in fact, no Middle Eastern names whatsoever". He refers his readers to the CNN lists formerly at www.cnn.com/SPECIALS/2001/trade.center/victims/AA11.victims.html (link now dead, web archive version here), but as we've seen above, these are victims lists compiled from press reports. They are not official manifests, and CNN themselves say the suspected hijackers have been intentionally omitted: the absence of their names is evidence of CNN's editorial policy and nothing more.

Conclusion

The argument that there were no hijackers on the passenger manifests relies primarily on misrepresenting partial lists of victims as complete manifests, then, while ignoring the actual manifests that are out there (or just claiming that "they're all faked").

For example, the Boston Globe said they obtained manifests for Flight 11 and 175 within a few days of the attacks. Only one was published, but this did include the hijackers.

Subsequently passenger lists were passed to Terry McDermott. These contained some anomalies (missing passengers on the UAL flights) but the hijackers once again appeared.

The manifests were released publicly at the Moussaoui trials. These matched the previous copies, and included the hijackers.

The 2008 release of the 9/11 Commission records has produced their copies of two of the manifests, which again match previous versions, and have the hijackers present.

And we also have a record showing that "United Airlines General Manager of Customer Service Teresa A. Rizzuto" passed the Flight 93 boarding passes to the FBI. The list in the FBI report shows the hijackers present, as do copies of the passes themselves.

In reality, then, there's not a single manifest that excludes the hijackers. Not one. And we have real manifests and passenger lists from more than one source that do include the hijackers. It could be argued that the manifests were hacked, and names on a list don't really prove that those people got on the plane, but the idea that "the hijackers don't appear on the passenger manifests" simply doesn't stand up to scrutiny. They do: it's time to move on to more important arguments.

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