An inspection by city and fire officials late in the morning of 9/11 documented extensive damage to the lower floors in the interior of WTC 7 that could not have been reasonably explained by the fall of WTC 1 & 2. There is video evidence of this inspection narrated by Richard Rotanz of the Emergency Operation Center (See Decision # 2).

In addition, there was the eyewitness account of Barry Jennings (**POI # 199**), who described explosions in the lower floors of WTC 7 early that morning before either of the Twin Towers had collapsed. That information would have been fatal to the NIST account of the WTC 7 collapse. Jennings, who was deputy director of the Emergency Services Department of the New York City Housing Authority, died in 2008, just two days before the NIST Report on Building 7 was to be released.

He reported to the Emergency Operations Center on the 23rd floor of WTC 7 shortly after the first plane hit WTC 1. The office had already been evacuated and as Jennings, and New York City corporation counsel Michael Hess (**POI # 199A**) attempted to leave they were trapped by explosions inside the building. They were rescued by the fire department about two hours later after both Twin Towers had come down. Jennings gave an interview on video just after he was rescued and another several months later in which he recounted his experiences.

Additional video evidence and eyewitness reports documenting the sounds of explosions were ignored or attributed by NIST to "boiler explosions" in the building.

Decision #14: The thermal loads applied to the steel frame of WTC 7 were exaggerated and distorted to provide credible cover for the claim that office fires brought the buildings down.

Normal office fires do not burn hot enough to produce temperatures in the steel frame of the buildings that are high enough to justify the claim that office fires caused the destruction. This is the fundamental reason steel is used to frame high-rise buildings. There had never been the complete collapse of a steel-framed high-rise building due to fire prior to 9/11. Thus, the duration of the fires, their location at the time of "collapse," and the steel temperatures attained during the fires all had to be input into the NIST models in a way that made the analysis seem plausible.

Office fires burn out a location in 20-30 minutes and move on in search of fuel. NIST developed its own fire simulation model to provide the erroneous input data regarding the location and intensity of the fires that they needed for inputs into their modeling of the Twin Towers and WTC 7.

Decision #15: NIST claimed that the east wall of WTC 7 at the 13th floor did not expand outward during the office fires.

The NIST analysis of the "collapse" mechanism claimed that all five beams framing into girder A2001 in the northeast corner of the building on the 13th floor expanded exclusively to the west when heated. This means that the east perimeter of the building must have remained stationary during the fire — a physical impossibility. The UAF Report analyzed the movement of the floor framing on the 13th floor and concluded that girder A2001 would have been displaced less than two inches relative to column 79 and thus could not have moved far enough to fall off of its seat at the column.

Decision #16: NIST claimed there were no shear studs on the girders in the northeast corner of WTC 7.

The NIST analysis of the collapse mechanism of WTC 7 would not be plausible if the concrete floor and steel pan in the northeast corner of WTC 7 on the 13th floor acted in concert with the steel frame under a thermal load, as it was designed to do. To cover up this design feature, NIST simply left the shear studs on top of girder A2001 out of their model, though studs were shown to have been installed in the construction drawings.

Decision #17: NIST omitted the side plates on column 79 at the 13th floor.

The side plates on column 79 would have prevented the walk-off of girder A2001, but NIST omitted them from their model. The UAF study showed that the girder would have been trapped by the side plates and couldn't have fallen off the seat on the column.

Decision #18: NIST omitted the stiffener plates on the end of girder A2001 at the column 79 connection.

NIST admitted to this omission of the plates in their model, but in a letter signed by NIST employee Michael Newman (**POI # 193**), NIST claimed that the omission of the stiffeners would not have affected the stiffness of the bottom flange of the girder. This is not true, and Newman, a publicist, did not have the credentials or the knowledge to make such a claim.

The stiffener plates were welded to the web and bottom flange of the I-beam girder at the column connection. Even if the girder had been forced far enough for the lower flange of the girder to bear all of the weight of the floor load (which it wasn't, as detailed in Decisions #15 and #17), the stiffener plates would have made the lower flange so strong that the flange would have remained rigid and the girder couldn't have fallen. This can be easily proved by elementary calculations, and that is undoubtedly why no engineer signed the letter that Newman sent.

Decision #19: NIST manufactured the claim that the collapse of the northeast corner of the 13th floor would cause the collapse of the northeast corner of the 12th floor beneath it and, subsequently, the collapse of the northeast corner floors all the way down to the 5th floor.

When confronted by mechanical engineer Tony Szamboti with the fact that the NIST calculation of the impact of the 13th floor on the 12th floor was in error and too small to cause the 12th floor to fall, NIST subcontractor Guy Nordenson (**POI # 161**), whose firm was responsible for the calculation, replied, "You're boring me." He did not respond to the analysis. The collapse mechanism was one of the elements in the chain reaction essential to make it appear as if the NIST model was plausible.

Decision #20: NIST manufactured the claim that column 79 would buckle once the northeast corner of the floors collapsed from the 13th floor all the way down to the 5th floor.

The NIST data showed that there were sufficient connections to column 79 between the 5th and 13th floors to prevent the buckling of the column, even if the northeast corners of the floors had collapsed between the 13th and 5th floors. NIST ignored its own data.

Decision #21: The claim was manufactured that the collapse of column 79 would lead to the collapse, in turn, of core columns 80 and 81, then to the remainder of the core columns from east to west, and then to the collapse of all perimeter columns and the collapse of the building straight down into its own footprint.

The University of Alaska Fairbanks replication of the NIST analysis showed that if this sequence of column failures had occurred, the building would have fallen over to the southeast, not symmetrically straight down.

Decision #22: NIST published a computer simulation of the collapse of WTC 7 that is not similar to the actual event.

After stretching the input values in its model to the extreme in an effort to come up with a model that resembled the actual failure, NIST published its computer simulation but stopped the simulation several seconds after the building began to descend due to the simulation's non-conformity with the video of the collapse. If an engineering computer model does not replicate the essential aspects of the actual event, the model must be rejected.

Decision #23: No response was given to the findings of the University of Alaska Fairbanks study on the collapse of WTC 7.

In a violation of the scientific method and all accepted practice within the engineering profession, NIST made a conscious decision not to respond to the UAF study. This decision exposes the fatal errors contained in the NIST WTC 7 Report. If NIST had credible responses to the questions raised by the UAF Report, they would have made them known.

Decision #24: All the evidence presented in AE911Truth's Request for Correction to NIST was denied.

NIST has relied on the courts in an effort to rescue the agency from its untenable situation. AE911Truth has challenged the lower courts' ruling that protected NIST. (The court ruled that AE911Truth "lacked standing" to contest the NIST WTC 7 Report – thus avoiding an analysis of the evidence). That process in the courts is still in progress, having gone from:

- the District Court for the District of Columbia;
- to the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit;
- to a Petition for Rehearing *En Banc* before the United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit (Case Number 22-5267);

- to a Petition to the Supreme Court, to be submitted by March 6, 2024.

Conclusion

Taken together, the decisions listed above have consistently been made to support the NIST theory that fires brought down all three buildings. The combination of these physically impossible mechanisms and the refusal by NIST to deal with evidence that doesn't fit its analyses confirm the suspicion that there were people within NIST and FEMA and their contractors who seized control of the investigative processes at critical junctures and prevented the investigators from reaching conclusions that were consistent with the evidence. These POIs and/or their successors continue to control the subsequent process that maintains the cover-up.

CHAPTER 4 (part 1)

Persons of Interest

"Where there's smoke there's fire." **– Proverb**

It is not difficult to find the names of those who helped construct the official narrative of 9/11 and to decipher the role they played. The reports by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) list the organizations and individuals who were part of the process. This chapter is an attempt to uncover the backgrounds of those persons and agencies and to assemble the information in one location.

This, I hope, will lead to a real investigation of the crime – something that is beyond my capabilities and beyond the scope of engineering in general. Whether law enforcement steps up to this challenge remains to be seen.

Building professionals, because of their unique expertise in the design of buildings and the ways they can fail, have been at the forefront of the attempt to expose the 9/11 cover-up. This is because they have the knowledge to discern the false narrative within the official story. The public depends upon the building community to explain the mechanism of building failures, but the professional building associations, working hand-in-hand with government agencies and the media, have been instrumental in keeping this information from the public.

This was an essential aspect of the cover-up. But how was it managed?

To briefly recap chapters 1-3:

Immediately after the attacks, FEMA was tasked by the executive branch of the federal government (a principal actor in the 9/11 event) to initiate an investigation of the crime scene. Among its first actions, FEMA called in the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) and the Structural Engineering Association of New York (SEAoNY) to provide personnel to participate in the investigation of the damage at

the WTC complex. The leadership of those organizations readily agreed and sent volunteers to the site as the cleanup began within hours of the building failures.

The selection of those volunteers was of critical importance to the perpetrators. It had to be assured that among the volunteers were individuals at key posts who could be counted on to make operational decisions that would derail the investigation and point it towards conclusions that are not consistent with the evidence.

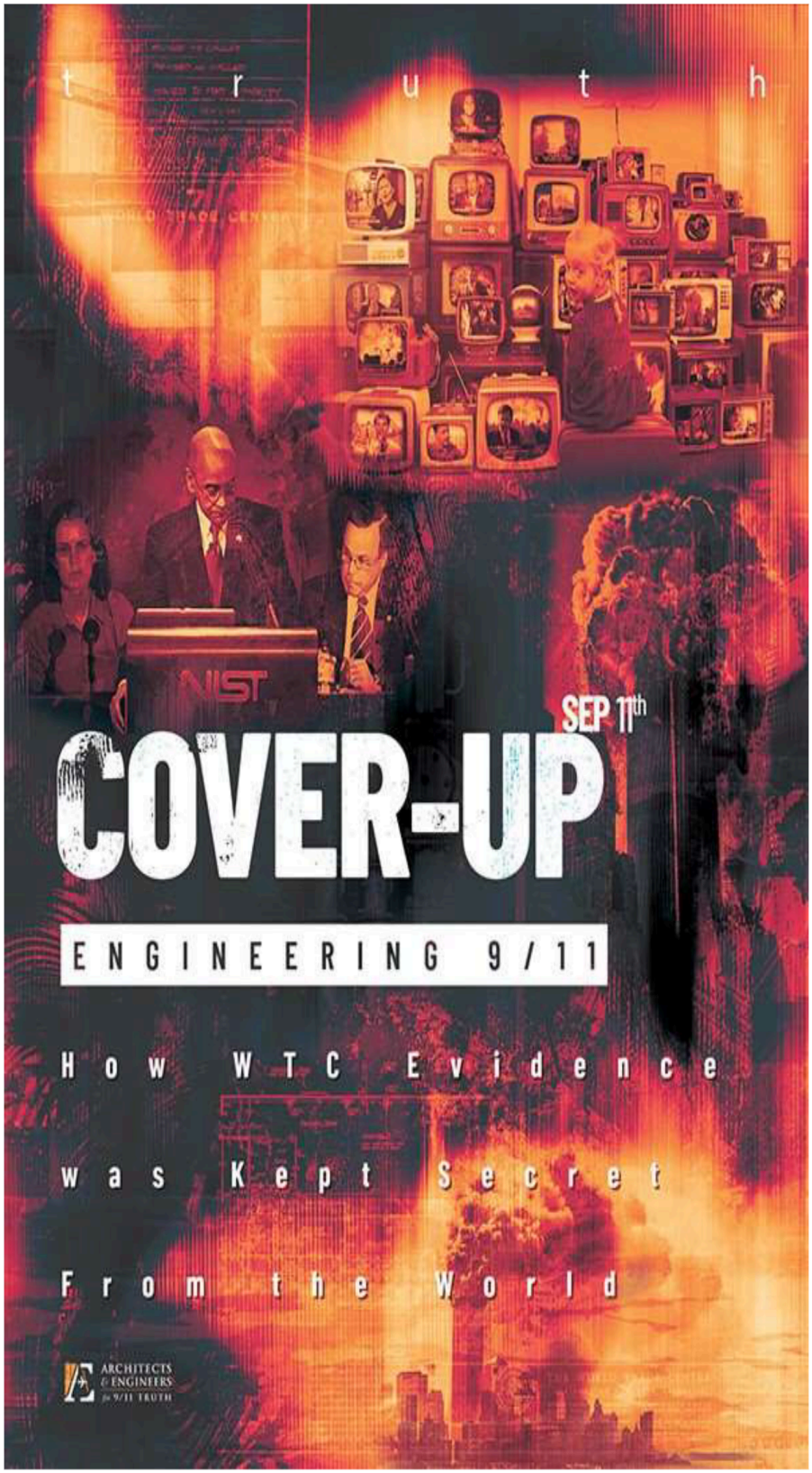
It has not yet been revealed whether participation in the illegal cleanup of a crime scene, and the effect such activity might have on the ASCE and SEAoNY, were considered by their leaders. Neither organization has revealed publicly why they chose to be part of tampering with the evidence at a crime scene. To date, there is no evidence that they were promised to arrange for either organization to get immunity from prosecution for being an accessory to a crime after the fact. However, subsequent to the event, Appendix F of the FEMA Report is a recommendation for a Structural Engineers Emergency Response Plan put forward by SEAoNY. This is an admission that there was no protocol in place to provide for this legal circumstance.

It appears to be obvious that the primary purpose of the rapid cleanup of the debris was disposal of the evidence. Within eight months, the entire scene had been scrubbed, and most of the steel from the buildings had been hauled off under strict security and shipped to China for recycling.

NIST, another arm of the executive branch of the federal government under the Department of Commerce, was authorized by Congress to conduct an evaluation of the building failures to find out what happened. NIST claims only 236 pieces of steel were saved for the purpose of investigation, and the earlier FEMA Report puts the number at 156, of which 10 were “accidently” disposed of during processing.

ASCE and SEAoNY volunteers worked closely with NIST and FEMA throughout the early phases of the cover-up. In addition, UC Berkeley Professor Abolhassan Astaneh-Asl obtained a National Science Foundation (NSF) grant to study “Progressive Failures” just 10 days before the attack. The NSF grant enabled him to be first on the scene and to be put in charge of collection of the evidence for further forensic study.

As the experts on the scene, these engineers should have exercised control of the process and ensured that an effective and thorough investigation was conducted. But they failed to exercise this duty. Instead, they continue to vigorously defend their role and to maintain the myth that they exercised their responsibility faithfully and that their reports are consistent with the evidence.


t r u t h
NIST
SEP 11th
COVER-UP
ENGINEERING 9/11
How WTC Evidence
was Kept Secret
From the World
ARCHITECTS & ENGINEERS for 9/11 TRUTH

ABOUT THIS BOOK

The information in this book comes primarily from government reports and public records. Among these are:

The Federal Emergency Management Agency publication World Trade Center Building Performance Study: Data Collection, Preliminary Observations, and Recommendations (FEMA 403/September 2002, Second Printing) x Final Report on the Collapse of the World Trade Center Building 7 (NIST NCSTAR 1A) and NIST's Fire Response and Probable Collapse Sequence of World Trade Center Building 7 (NIST NCSTAR 1-9), collectively referred to herein as the NIST WTC 7 Report, as well as FAQs – NIST WTC 7 Investigation (referred to herein as the NIST WTC 7 FAQs) x The National Institute of Standards and Technology publications on the destruction of the Twin Towers and NIST NCSTAR 1: Federal Building and Fire Safety Investigation of the World Trade Center Disaster: Final Report of the National Construction Safety Team on the Collapses of the World Trade Center Tower NCSTAR 1, September 2005. Gaithersburg, MD: National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST).

Other sources came from research performed by volunteers working in conjunction with Architects & Engineers for 9/11 Truth, Freedom of Information requests, and various analyses performed by engineers and academics. The most prominent of these is A Structural Reevaluation of the Collapse of World Trade Center 7 by Professor J. Leroy Hulsey, Ph.D., P.E., S.E., and two graduate students – Zhili Quan, Ph.D and Feng Xiao, Ph.D – at the University of Alaska Fairbranks. This study was published on March 1, 2020.

Internet biographies of the Persons of Interest were the source of most of the background information on the individuals who had some connection to the engineering aspects of the government reports.

Other sources, when used, are noted.

It is my hope that this book will be useful for those who wish to follow the evidence that will ultimately lead to the identities of the perpetrators of this crime, which changed world history.

Engineering the 9/11 Cover-Up: How the WTC Evidence was Kept Secret from the World

By Roland Angle, P.E.

93rd to 97th floors. Only the tip of the airplane's wing touched the 98th floor, meaning that no significant amount of fireproofing on that floor could have been knocked off by the airplane's impact.

Without the fireproofing being removed on the initiating floor, and without the trusses being left exposed to the fires below them, by NIST's own acknowledgement above, its entire collapse process couldn't have happened.

To date, NIST has ignored this critical flaw in its analysis, a decision that continues to undermine the legitimacy of its conclusions.

Decision #8: Professor Zdenek Bazant's incorrect "crush down/crush up" theory was relied on by NIST to explain the destruction of WTC 1 & 2.

It was impossible for NIST to fake a rigorous analysis capable of "proving" that the Twin Towers failed due to the plane impacts and fires. Instead, NIST deceptively relied on the theoretical analysis provided by Professor Zdenek Bazant of Northwestern University (which had been published by the ASCE *Journal of Engineering Mechanics* in January 2002) and on its own report's three-word observation: "Global collapse ensued."

Once again, NIST avoided the task given to it by Congress to describe the cause of the destruction of the buildings. To provide cover for this decision, NIST relied on Bazant, a prominent authority in the engineering profession, and his ties to the ASCE. I have reviewed Professor Bazant's analysis, "Why Did the World Trade Center Collapse – Simple Analysis?" with mechanical engineer Tony Szamboti. We found that both Bazant's concept of the towers' destruction and the mathematical analysis used in his model were flawed.

(See Appendix C – "Professor Bazant's incorrect conception of the destruction of the WTC Twin Towers on 9/11 and errors in his mathematical analysis invalidate his theory and the NIST Report.") Thus, the "explanation" of the event provided by NIST is incorrect.

Decision #9: Evidence of extremely high temperatures sufficient to cause pools of molten metal in the debris was ignored.

Data was either ignored or explained away by NIST using patently incorrect assertions – for example, the claim that molten metal, captured on video pouring from the South

These engineers hold the key to unearthing evidence that could lead us to the perpetrators of the crime. Only this strategy offers any hope that we will ever expose the full truth about this event. We must undertake this monumental task for the sake of our profession and for the sake of our entire society.

We call upon all of our engineering colleagues to join us in this effort. We need you to do whatever you can, individually and collectively, to either persuade or replace the leaders of our profession who are turning a blind eye to this existential threat to our continued relevance as a profession.

The lies of 9/11 have done profound harm to our world. We need your help to expose them.

Greening is listed as one of the co-authors of the Bazant paper, *"What Did and Did Not Cause Collapse of World Trade Center Twin Towers in New York?"* published in the ASCE Journal of Engineering Mechanics in October 2008. This paper, which had four listed co-authors, Zdenek Bazant (**POI # 1**), Jia-Liang Le (**POI # 9**), David B. (sic) Benson (**POI # 10**), and Greening, was a declared attempt to put to rest all the questions that had arisen within the engineering community regarding Bazant's theory of how the Twin Towers were brought down, which had originally been published by the JEM in January 2002.

Greening has a BS in chemistry issued from Kings College in London in 1968. He claims to be a convert to the Bazant theory after initially being skeptical of the 9/11 official story. He took it upon himself to perform a private study of a dust sample he said he obtained from the clothing of a first responder near WTC 2. His paper was published privately. He found that 0.1% of the sample consisted of iron/iron oxide spherules that he concluded must have been caused by welding operations during construction of the building. He found no evidence of explosive residue. There is no date on his study, the chain of custody was not confirmed, and peer publishing (or any publishing) of his paper did not occur.

Greening was interviewed by the BBC and given a prominent place in publicity mounted in Canada in December 2013 in reaction to the AE911Truth campaign that publicized the collapse of WTC 7.

To further complicate Greening's background, in 2015 he co-authored a paper with Robert Korol and Paul Heerema, "Performance-based fire protection of office buildings: A case study based on the collapse of WTC 7," which disputed the collapse initiation event in the NIST Report. This means Greening had changed sides again.

It would be interesting to interview Greening and determine exactly how he came to be involved in the supposed co-authorship of the important JEM article of October 2008, and what his explanation is for changing sides twice in the debate over the validity of the Bazant/NIST theories of collapse.

POI # 13: James W. Feuerborn, Jr. [THORNTON THOMASETTI]

P.E. Managing Principal & New York Region Co-Leader

James Feuerborn, co-leader of our Forensics practice, has an extensive background in structural analysis and design, peer review, due diligence and condition assessments, failure and forensic investigations, emergency response, renovations, litigation support and common and complex property loss scenarios. He has worked on a variety of building types involving a wide range of construction materials, including reinforced concrete, steel, aluminum, cast iron, masonry and

them were providing hidden guidance for the nefarious purpose of derailing the efforts of their colleagues.

These few POIs hold the key to finding the perpetrators.

All credit for this book should go to the hundreds of volunteers and staff, both past and present, of AE911Truth who have dedicated their efforts to unraveling this unsolved crime. They have performed their services without expecting any recognition in the hope that by uncovering the true story behind this dark chapter they might help us all to attain a higher level of human civilization.

A note on "Persons of Interest"

According to Wikipedia, "'person of interest' is a term used by law enforcement in the United States, Canada, and other countries when identifying someone possibly involved in a criminal investigation who has not been arrested or formally accused of a crime. It has no legal meaning but refers to someone in whom the police are 'interested,' because the person is cooperating with the investigation, may have information that would assist the investigation, or possesses certain characteristics that merit further attention."

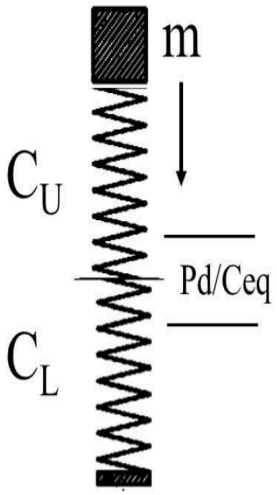
One of the main purposes of this book is to identify those individuals who, because of their participation in the FEMA and NIST investigations, may have information that could lead to those responsible for derailing the investigations that led to false explanations of how the buildings were destroyed.

The persons of interest (POI) I have identified through public records are listed in Chapter 4, and wherever their names are listed in the text, their POI number is also shown for reference purposes.

Internet biographies were the source of most of the background information on the POIs.

By following the chain of decisions described in Chapter 3, and then going to Chapter 4 where the POIs are listed, the reader will find a list of all the decisions and the POIs that I have been able to identify who were connected with that decision. This opens the door to further investigation into the POIs for the purpose of identifying those who may have knowledge of the background surrounding those decisions which, in turn, could lead to a narrowing of the significant POI pool and help direct further enquiries in the future, with the goal of identifying those POIs who were acting on behalf of the criminal perpetrators.

I would like to emphasize that most of the POIs were just doing their jobs and were sincerely trying to contribute to an understanding of an apparent engineering catastrophe in hopes of preventing a further such occurrence. Unfortunately, a few of



WHAT BAZANT'S FIGURE 2(a) SHOULD HAVE BEEN

- As noted above, the elastic interaction of the two parts of the building could not involve the descent of the upper portion for a full story, h, of the building. The actual distance could only be the distance due to the compression of the two parts of the building, Pd/Ceq, calculated below, which only amounts to a small fraction of the distance of a full story that Bazant used.

Bazant's second error was his estimate of the stiffness, C, of the lower part of the building (which is re-labeled CL in the calculations below to correct his equation). Without giving us the details of his calculation for the stiffness of the lower part of the building, he asserted it has an estimated value of 71 GN/m (Giga Newtons per meter). Upon checking this calculation, which Tony Szamboti and Graeme MacQueen performed in their paper "The Missing Jolt,"[3] the actual estimated value of CL was found to be 7.1 GN/m. Thus, Bazant overestimated the stiffness of the lower part of the building by 10 times.

The third error was his claim that the downward elastic displacement from the initial equilibrium position to the point of maximum deflection of the lower part of the building was (h + Pd/C). According to Bazant, this would have been a distance of (3.7m + Pd/C). In actuality, in an elastic collision, the deflection would only be Pd/Ceq, and Ceq must be calculated as the equivalent stiffness of the upper and lower springs acting in series, as explained above. Using Szamboti and MacQueen's method,

decision was made to prevent them from entering the building and putting the fires out.

Shortly after WTC 1 came down at 10:29 a.m., causing some damage to WTC 7, an inspection of the latter building was made by officials from the FDNY and the New York City Office of Emergency Management (OEM). Among them was Richard Rotanz (**POI # 240**), a captain with FDNY and deputy commissioner with the OEM. Rotanz has given more than one interview, testifying that he saw extensive damage to the lower floors of WTC 7 during that inspection. He said he saw severed beams and an elevator car that had been blown completely out of the elevator shaft on the 8th floor.

Based on this evidence, Rotanz ordered the FDNY not to fight the fires due to the extensive structural damage and the threat that the building was going to collapse. NIST, however, made the claim in its report that the decision not to fight the fires was based on the fact that there was no water available to fight the fires, a claim that has been effectively refuted by evidence cited in the documentary *Calling Out Bravo-7* [2020 edition].

Some of the points raised in that important film include:

- The fact that there is indeed video evidence of firefighters on the morning of 9/11 operating water hoses *after* the fall of both Twin Towers. In the video, one of the hoses is swollen, meaning it was filled with water. One of the firefighters is even seen operating a hose to put out a car fire as a result of the Twin Tower disaster.
- There is also video evidence of firefighters battling the fires inside Building 5 with fully functioning water hoses seen. Again, this was after both Twin Towers had already come down.
- New York Harbor fire boats were positioned in the Hudson River and laid large diameter delivery hoses to the intersections of Vessey and West streets and to West and Liberty streets. These hoses were capable of delivering tens of thousands of gallons of water minute into the main system and to pumps on the ground.
- When asked about water availability to Building 7, FDNY Chief Peter Hayden (**POI # 199C**) testified under oath that water *was* available and that standpipes needed to deliver water were in operation.
- NIST claims that the collapse of WTC 7 started on the 13th floor where unfought fires generated the heat that caused the thermal expansion of beams

- The planes crashed into the towers, severing some of the steel columns and damaging others in the zone of the aircraft impacts;
- The debris from the planes tore the fireproofing from some of the steel floor trusses in the impact zones;
- Fires caused by the explosion of the jet fuel erupted in the impact zones;
- The floor trusses were weakened by the fires and sagged, pulling in the perimeter columns.

The remainder of NIST's position comes from Bazant's CDCU theory:

- After burning for the next hour or so, the heat from the fires weakened the structure, and the weight of the building above the fire and impact-damaged zone overcame the ability of the damaged zone to bear the weight of the upper part of the building. This part of the building then fell through the damaged zone and collided with the lower part of the building;
- The force of the collision was sufficient to overcome the ability of the columns in the lower part of the building to withstand the impact;
- The impact caused the lower part of the building to give way;
- The destruction of the building continued all the way from the impact zone to the ground, driven by the falling weight of the upper part of the building, the mass of the damaged zone, and the accumulating mass of the destroyed lower part of the building;
- When the upper part of the building hit the debris on the ground, it was also destroyed.

Bazant derived a number of mathematical equations in an attempt to prove his theory. This is a standard method in the engineering profession for asserting that a theory is valid. It consists of starting with known and accepted mathematical concepts and manipulating them, using logic, to arrive at mathematical statements that confirm the theory's assertions.

Bazant began by describing his conception of the failure mechanism of the buildings. He started with what is known about the behavior of steel columns under vertical load. First, an elastic stage occurs wherein the columns bear the load but can recover their original configuration; second, if the elastic reaction of the columns is overcome by the load, a plastic axial strain stage occurs in which the columns give way to a permanent deformation; and third, if the load is great enough to overcome the

incendiaries to bring down the building and to covering up that crucial piece of evidence.

He also is on video at a NIST press conference denying that there was any evidence of the molten steel found in the basements of WTC 1, 2 and 7 during the clean-up of the building debris. He seems to enjoy his fame as a 9/11 hero. Whatever methods were used to convince him to play this crucial role, he seems to be thriving in the spotlight and continues to play a central role in spinning the tale of the cover-up.

POI # 103: Dr. Therese McAllister, P.E. [NIST]

Therese McAllister was the co-leader of the NIST reports on the collapse of the Twin Towers and WTC 7 along with Dr. John L. Gross (**POI # 102**). As of 2020 she is the Community Resilience Group Leader and Program Manager at NIST.

She graduated from Florida Atlantic University with a BS in Ocean Engineering in 1979. She then got her MS in Ocean Engineering from Oregon State University in 1986. Twelve years later she got an MS (Ph.D.) in Structural Engineering from Johns Hopkins University where she would have crossed paths with Ross Corotis (**POI # 5**). We have been unable to locate information on where she received her Ph.D. Also missing is any information on her family, upbringing, or periods in her early career between her stints at university.

At the time of 9/11, McAllister was working at Greenhorne and O'Mara (G&O) in Greenbelt, Maryland, a mid-sized engineering firm later bought by Stantec of Canada. G&O worked on a broad variety of engineering projects. Some of this work was done for the Department of Defense and other U.S. federal agencies.

She is definitely a person with inside knowledge of the process of producing the NIST reports, and it is hard to believe she was unaware of the cover-up process, which involved suppressing certain facts and making certain unsupportable assumptions regarding the building failures.

Interestingly, unlike some of the other engineers who produced the NIST reports, she has moved away from her identity and the role she played during the 9/11 investigation, instead taking on her current role focusing on community resilience for the past 10 years, in which the structural response of buildings plays only a small part. She does, however, continue to publish some papers that relate directly to 9/11 [see, e.g., (Dr. Fahim H. Sadek, **POI # 111**)], and she was one of the keynote speakers at the SEAoNY convention in February 2022 reflecting on the "lessons learned" from

POI # 108: Dr. Kevin B. McGrattan [NIST]

Dr. Kevin McGrattan is a mathematician in the Engineered Fire Safety Group of the Fire Research Division of the Engineering Laboratory at NIST. His early work in fire modeling led him to develop the Fire Dynamics Simulator in 2000, which was then used to investigate the fires at the WTC. It is currently used worldwide. He received his BS in Applied Mathematics for Columbia University and his MS and Ph.D. in Mathematics from the Courant Institute at New York University.

Since the input data of the fire modeling used in WTC 7 is suspect, it is improbable that McGrattan is unaware of the many problems regarding the reports. At the very least, he must know that the fire model for WTC 7 was greatly exaggerated in its effect on the floor framing in the northeast corner of the WTC 7 where the collapse initiation event supposedly took place, according to the NIST model.

POI # 109: Dr. William M. Pitts [NIST]

Dr. William Pitts is a research chemist in the Flammability Reduction Group of the Fire Research Division of the Engineering Laboratory at NIST. He directed the project on "Visual Evidence, Damage Estimates, and Timeline Analysis," which was part of the NIST Investigation of the WTC disaster. While at NIST, he has worked on projects for the Department of Defense and the Naval Research Laboratory, where he worked for two years before joining NIST. He received a special NIST BFRL award for his work on the NIST WTC 7 Investigation.

Pitts received a BS degree in Chemistry from the University of Virginia in 1973 and his Ph.D. in Physical Chemistry from UCLA in 1978.

Since the assumptions of the fire thermal load on WTC 7 are suspect, it is difficult to believe that Pitts is unaware of the disconnect between the fires and the thermal inputs that were used to analyze the structural damage to WTC 7 in the NIST Report.

POI # 110: Dr. Kuldeep R. Prasad [NIST]

Dr. Kuldeep R. Prasad is a mechanical engineer in the Engineered Fire Safety Group of the Fire Research Division of the Engineering Laboratory at NIST. He developed finite element models for heat transfer and coupling of fire models with structural analysis software. He received a BT degree from the Indian Institute of Technology in 1986 and a Ph.D. in Aerospace Engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology in 1991.

FEMA Report, which, among other things, described the fire protection system of the towers. He worked on the chapter with Ronald Hamburger (**POI # 133**), William Baker (**POI # 135**), Jonathan Barnett (**POI # 124**), Christopher Marrion (**POI # 125**), and Harold Nelson (**POI # 112**).

He received a BA degree from Ursinus College in Physics in 1974. He then went on to get a BS in Fire Protection Engineering from University of Maryland in 1976 and an MS in Mechanical Engineering from UMD in 1981. He then received his Ph.D. from UMD in Aerospace Engineering in 1991. He has been a member of the faculty at UMD since 1977.

The information Milke has regarding the fire response of the towers is of particular interest since the NIST Report claims extensive damage was done to the fireproofing of the floor trusses and columns due to the impact of the planes. NIST only performed a very rudimentary experiment involving shooting shotgun pellets at fireproofed steel members, an experiment that actually disproved their theory of widespread dislodging of the fireproofing.

POI # 137: Richard Gewain [HUGHES ASSOCIATES, INC.] (DECEASED, 2003)

Richard Gewain was a fire protection engineer and building code expert who worked for Hughes Associates, Inc. He was the chief fire protection engineer for the American Iron and Steel Institute (AISI) from 1965 to 1986. In 1986 he went to Hughes Associates, Inc. in Baltimore and finished his career there.

Gewain co-authored the chapter in the FEMA Report on WTC 4, 5, and 6. He died in 2003. In 2012, an architect named Dave Sisson (no relation to Richard Sisson **POI # 127**) wrote an article quoting a paper by Gewain that he co-authored, along with Emile W. J. Troup, P.E., that claimed many steel-framed buildings were being overdesigned with too much fireproofing. Troup graduated with an MS in SE from University of Illinois Urbana Champaign in 1964 and is a member of the Boston Section of ASCE, but no further information on him has been found to date. Contacting Dave Sisson could yield important information on the fire analysis used in the buildings.

POI # 138: Edward M. Depaola, PE [SEVERUD ASSOCIATES CONSULTING ENGINEERS, PC]

Edward DePaola is president and CEO of Severud Associates Consulting Engineers and one of the authors of the chapter in the FEMA Report on WTC 7, along with Ramon Gilsanz (**POI # 137**), Christopher Marrion (**POI # 125**), and Harold Nelson (**POI # 112**) (deceased).

Brian Peterson was a senior engineer at ARA. He provided expertise in nonlinear dynamic finite element analysis, impact and penetration mechanics, solid mechanics, materials constitutive modeling, fracture mechanics, and failure analysis for the ARA WTC 7 study. Peterson has experience in the testing of materials and structures and has extensive experience with advanced features of LS-DYNA. He has a MS degree in Mechanical Engineering from Stanford University.

His work on the FEA of the WTC 7 study would have given him access to the input data that led to the false conclusions reached by the NIST report.

POI # 124: Dr. Jonathan Barnett [WORCESTER POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTE (WPI)]

Dr. Jonathan Barnett is a Professor of Fire Protection Engineering at Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) in Boston, MA. He was invited to join the Building Performance Assessment Team (BPAT) on October 5, 2011, and was the lead author on the section of the FEMA Report describing the metallurgy work done by WPI professors Ronald Biederman (**POI # 126**) and Richard Sisson (**POI # 127**). He was also co-author on the chapters about the collapse of the Twin Towers.

He spent weeks traveling back and forth to NYC selecting the steel to be removed for testing. Along with BPAT team leader W. Gene Corley, he testified before the House Committee on Science on the findings of the FEMA Report on May 1, 2002.

It was the examination by Biederman and Sisson that a eutectic reaction on one of the steel beams had taken place that is included in the FEMA Report as Appendix C, a finding that was never followed up on or mentioned in the NIST reports. Barnett, Biederman and Sisson al made statements calling on more funding from NIST so that they could conduct further studies on the steel, and assigned graduate students Jeremy Bernier (**POI # 128**), Marco Fontecchio (**POI # 129**), and Erin Sullivan (**POI # 130**) to continue studying the steel sample.

Barnett is a graduate of WPI, holding a BS and MS in Civil Engineering, and a Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering. He joined WPI in 1979 as the first assistant director of the Center for Fire Safety Studies, and in 1989 became a tenure-track assistant professor in the discipline he helped create.

Barnett has not publicly pursued the evidence of the high-temperature attack on the WTC steel that was called, "perhaps the deepest mystery uncovered in the investigation" by the *New York Times*. Instead, he has taken the position that the sulfur found in the residue that could indicate the presence of thermate was instead due to

As the years passed, despite the efforts of the perpetrators, a core of building professionals inevitably emerged questioning the official narrative. Bazant responded by publishing three more articles in the JEM and a fourth article in the ASCE publication Journal of Structural Engineering (JSE) "clarifying" his original paper. However, by 2009, he had worked himself into a corner: His original paper contained input values to his equations that were clearly wrong. When corrected, his equations showed that the towers wouldn't collapse, thus disproving his theory. In addition, the most damning proof was an analysis of the video taken of the collapse of the North Tower, which showed that there was no jolt, or deceleration, of the top portion of the tower when it impacted the lower part of the building. Without this jolt, which Bazant himself admitted had to have occurred for his theory to be correct, his theory fails.

In 2011, with no other option open to them, JEM editors Kaspar Willam and Roberto Ballarini, who both had long relationships with Bazant, denied the publication of a paper by Tony Szamboti and Richard Johns that exposed Bazant's errors. When Szamboti and Johns appealed that decision, the ASCE leadership delayed the appeal process that allowed Willam and Ballarini's unethical actions to be contested according to the publication rules of the JEM. Only in August 2023, 10 years after Szamboti and Johns filed their appeal, did the ASCE Governing Board rule that the editors of the JEM had acted properly.

During that period, the ASCE national office issued an anonymous letter to its local branches (See Appendix B), warning them that further discussion of the WTC building failures is not advisable and that the ASCE stands behind the NIST reports. The same letter has also been adopted, word for word, as the official position of the National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE) and the National Academy of Forensic Engineers (NAFE). Thus, the major engineering professions, led by the ASCE, are serving as a shield, providing cover for NIST in their refusal to address legitimate criticisms of their reports.

5) **Shutting out opposing views:**
Today, the leaders of professional engineering organizations continue to defend the official narrative contained in NIST's reports. Papers challenging the NIST reports, when submitted to professional conferences for inclusion in their programs, are routinely denied. Trade journals and popular media outlets continue to publish articles dismissing opposition professionals as "conspiracy theorists" or "outsiders." All attempts to bring research on the question to

hidden event in his past? Unfortunately, we do not know enough about Ballarini's past or personal life to speculate about what motivated him to endanger his legacy this way.

POI # 3: Kaspar Willam [JEM]

Kaspar Willam was born in Vienna in 1940, and he graduated from Vienna University of Technology as a civil engineer in 1964. He continued his studies at the University of California, Berkeley, where he received his Ph.D. in 1969. He then joined the Institute for Statics and Dynamics of the University of Stuttgart in 1970, where he remained until 1981 when he moved to Colorado and joined the University of Colorado, Boulder.

Except for 1988-1990, when he was professor at the Institute of Mechanics at the University of Karlsruhe in Germany, he remained at U. of Colorado Boulder until 2010 when he joined the faculty at the University of Houston. He remained there until retiring in 2019. His field has been structural mechanics and mechanics of materials, generally, with a lot of concrete studies. He is credited with publishing more than 150 professionally reviewed publications, delivering more than 100 invited lectures, and receiving a great many awards for his work.

Along with Roberto Ballarini (**POI # 2**), Kaspar Willam was co-editor of the JEM beginning in the fall of 2010. This time period is critical as it was in January 2011 when Bazant and Le published their defense of Bazant's collapse theory in JEM: *"Why the Observed Motion History of the World Trade Center is Smooth."* When Szamboti and Johns submitted their discussion paper challenging the Bazant/Le analysis, it was Willam and Ballarini who sat on the paper for a year until May 2012 and then notified Szamboti/Johns that their paper had been rejected on the basis of one peer review.

Szamboti and Johns rebutted the criticisms raised by the reviewer, and Willam and Ballarini responded that the paper would be published after another review by the editors (themselves). However, it wasn't until August of 2013 that Willam and Ballarini responded that the paper had again been rejected, this time for being "out of scope." This decision was the subject of a complaint to the ASCE board of governors, which was resolved in August 2023 when the board ruled in favor of the editors.

Aside from the fact that Willam was instrumental in the unethical suppression the Szamboti/Johns paper on spurious grounds, he is guilty of an additional ethical violation: he should have recused himself from the evaluation of their paper because he is a long-time friend and colleague of Bazant. They both are ski enthusiasts and enjoyed skiing together at the mountain resorts where their professional conferences were often scheduled.

Division. From 2005 to 2007 he served as BFRL deputy director, and from 2007 to 2010 he was BFRL director. He led the U.S. federal investigation of the World Trade Center disaster from 2002 to 2008 along with Dr. William L. Grosshandler (**POI # 106**).

Sunder has received numerous honors, including the Gold Medal Award for distinguished leadership from the U.S. Department of Commerce in 2005. He sits on several boards, including the International Council for Research and Innovation in Building and Construction, the advisory board for the Building Seismic Safety Council, and the National Research Council of Canada's Institute for Research and Construction.

His wife works for the World Bank Group. They have one daughter and live in Bethesda, MD.

Sunder appears to be the archetypical academic-based government bureaucrat who was probably coerced or bribed into accepting the unenviable position of being the face of the cover-up of the 9/11 crime. In that position, which he must know will be revealed in time for its perfidious role in history, he has proven to be a diligent agent for the criminals, giving numerous presentations to various venues and testifying before congress on important findings and conclusions from the reports on the WTC buildings.

His background appears to be squeaky clean from the bare bones of what we know at this point. He doesn't appear to have had any contact with the ASCE academic POIs who primarily came out of Northwestern University and the University of Colorado at Boulder. At any rate, it is hard to conceive of any development that is going to change his entrenched position about the events of that day. He is wedded to the false narrative after 20 years and has to have a relationship with all the POIs from NIST.

POI # 102: Dr. John L. Gross, P.E. [NIST]

Dr. John L. Gross is a research structural engineer in the National Fire Research Laboratory (NFRL) of the Fire Research Division (FRD) of the Engineering Laboratory (EL) at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). He attended Cornell University and received Bachelor of Science and Master of Engineering (Civil) degrees in 1969 and 1970 respectively. Upon receiving his master's degree, he joined Pittsburgh-Des Moines Steel Company, where he worked on various projects, including the analysis and design of an ocean-going LNG containment system, the design of an offshore oil storage facility, and the design of a nuclear containment vessel.

Ruben M. Zallen, Zallen Engineering

Council of American Structural Engineers

Joseph C. Gehlen, Kramer Gehlen & Associates
Ronald J. LaMere, BKBM Engineers
Raymond F. Messer, Walter P. Moore & Associates, Inc.
Antranig (Andy) M. Ouzoonian, Weidlinger Associates, Inc.

National Council of Structural Engineer Associations

August Domel, Engineering Systems, Inc.
Kurt Gustafson, Tylk Gustafson Reckers Wilson Andrews, LLC Socrates
Ioannides, Structural Affiliates International, Inc.
John Ruddy, Structural Affiliates International, Inc.
Michael J. Tylk, Tylk Gustafson Reckers Wilson Andrews, LLC

National Fire Protection Association

Guy Colonna
Gary Keith
Bonnie Manley
Robert Solomon Gary
Tokle

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION REVIEWERS Abolhassan Astaneh-Asl, University of California, Berkeley
Lawrence C. Bank, University of Wisconsin-Madison
J. David Frost, Georgia Institute of Technology
Theodore Krauthammer, Penn State University
Antoine (Tony) E. Naaman, University of Michigan
Chief Edward Stinnette, Fairfax County Fire Department

SOCIETY OF FIRE PROTECTION ENGINEERS

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STRUCTURAL ENGINEERING INSTITUTE, TECHNICAL ACTIVITIES DIVISION

Reidar Bjorhovde, The Bjorhovde Group

The following excerpt from the report that FEMA published a year later summarizes what transpired:

> "Following the September 11, 2001, attacks on the New York City's World Trade Center (WTC), the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Structural Engineering Institute of the American Society of Civil Engineers (SEI/ASCE), in association with New York City and several other Federal agencies and professional organizations, deployed a team of civil, structural, and fire protection engineers to study the performance of buildings at the WTC site." – World Trade Center Building Performance Study, Executive Summary, FEMA Publication 403, September 2002.

The actual FEMA Report was produced by Greenhorne & O'Mara, Inc. (G&O). Other organizations that were part of the team that prepared the report are listed in Appendix A.

The New York City Department of Design and Construction (NYCDDC) was placed in charge of the operation at the World Trade Center and brought in several construction companies for their expertise and support: Bovis/Lend-Lease, AMEC, Turner-Plaza, and Tully. They also asked the engineering firm LZA Technology/Thornton-Tomasetti (LZA) to assist in the search and rescue effort. The first reconnaissance inspection was conducted by NYCDDC and LZA on the afternoon of September 11, and the first round of building inspections was conducted by NYCDDC, the NYC Department of Buildings (DoB), and LZA on September 12. In the days that followed, the team was joined by personnel from the Port Authority, SEAoNY, Mueser Rutledge Consulting Engineers, Leslie E. Robertson Associates, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, FEMA Urban Search and Rescue, and various other New York City departments.

The FEMA Report was an examination of the damage to the 10 major buildings that were either partially or totally destroyed on 9/11. The purpose of the study was to:

> "…examine the damage caused by these events, collect data, develop an understanding of the response of each affected building, identify the causes of observed behavior, and identify studies that should be performed." – World Trade Center Building Performance Study, Executive Summary, FEMA Publication 403, September 2002

Elements of the fifth stage of the cover-up

purposely ignored. The principal investigator among these, Dr. Steven Jones of Brigham Young University, was also forced to retire from his university professor position.

Eyewitness reports and auditory recordings of explosions were also ignored or attributed to non-explosive events. Also, the existence and significance of molten metal in the Ground Zero debris for months afterwards was denied. The FEMA Report stated that no effort was made to fight the fires in WTC 7 because of the damage to the building caused by the destruction of the Twin Towers. NIST, however, later changed that explanation, replacing it with a claim that no water was available to fight the fires because of damage to the water mains. This false claim was maintained despite records and testimony to the contrary. [See, e.g., the video "Calling OUT BRAVO-7," www.ff911truth.org, produced by Firefighters for The People, 2020 Edition]. Academic experts were put in place to take charge of the collection of evidence, ensuring that most of it was destroyed or siloed. The most prominent example of this tactic was the awarding of a contract by the National Science Foundation (NSF) to University of California professor Astaneh-Asl Abolhassan (**POI # 160**) on September 1, 2001 (10 days before 9/11) to study progressive collapses in buildings. This put him in the ideal position to be sent to the WTC site within days of 9/11. There, he took charge of collecting steel from the buildings for the purpose of forensic study. Only 156 steel specimens were collected from the debris, according to the FEMA Report, Appendix D. Much of this steel was later donated to various agencies and individuals to be used for public 9/11 memorials.

The leaders of ASCE and SEAoNY were instrumental in selecting the investigators who were charged with evaluating the evidence. Personnel who they selected wrote reports that ignored evidence and pursued false leads crucial to misdirecting the investigation. A huge amount of material was produced, much of it repetitive. This had the effect of hiding the omissions and the real clues that exposed the official narrative in a mountain of paperwork.

Almost four years went by while the world waited for NIST's official verdict on how the Twin Towers were destroyed. In the case of WTC 7 the delay was six years. Meanwhile, the key people planted to guide the process made decisions at critical junctures that formed the basis of the official version of events. It would also appear to "prove" that Bazant's theory, as published in the JEM, was valid.

POI # 134: Jon Magnusson [MAGNUSSON KLEMENCIC ASSOCIATES (MKA)]

Jon Magnusson is an SE senior principal in the firm Magnusson Klemencic Associates (MKA), the firm that designed the WTC Twin Towers in the 1980s under its former chairman, John Skilling. In 2001, Magnusson was CEO of the firm, then known as Skilling Ward Magnusson Barkshire. He was appointed by FEMA to be a member of the Building Performance Assessment Team, in what was clearly a conflict of interest that was challenged by Charlie Thornton (**POI # 162**) and Abolhassan Astaneh-Asl (**POI # 160**), both of whom resigned from the team as a result. At one time, Leslie Robertson (**POI # 326**), the architect who designed the towers was a principal in MKA but left in 1983 to form his own firm in NYC, Leslie Robertson Associates (now LERA).

As the CEO of the company that designed the structure, Magnusson was in the spotlight as soon as the buildings came down. And he has since made many statements and presentations regarding his opinion as to why the buildings collapsed. He admits that, as he watched the buildings after the planes hit with his staff of engineers, "Nobody predicted that the buildings would collapse." His stated position on the design of the buildings is that the federal government should focus on airplane security measures, because it isn't feasible to design buildings to withstand aircraft impacts.

When asked a direct question about how the towers failed, he gives an answer that doesn't correspond to the facts: "This case involved the failure of the vertical load-carrying capacity of entire floors. If all the columns have failed, it is impossible to shed load to columns that no longer exist." He does not attempt to give any explanation as to why the lower portion of the building would fail, even if impacted by the portion of the building above the impact zone, and this is consistent with the NIST Report, which gives an explanation in three words, "Global collapse ensued."

In contrast, after the 1993 bomb attack on the World Trade Center, the SE tower designer, John Skilling (deceased, 1997), said that the towers would withstand the impact of a Boeing 707. But, he added, "I'm not saying that properly applied explosives – shaped explosives – of that magnitude could not do a tremendous amount of damage…. There are people who do know enough about building demolition to bring a structure like the Trade Center down…. I would imagine that if you took the top expert in that type of work and gave him the assignment of bringing these buildings down with explosives, I would bet that he could do it."

It is not reasonable to assume that any of the individuals who misdirected the reports were among the criminals who planned the crime, since they had nothing to gain and everything to lose. However, due to their position within the organizations that had been brought in to conduct the "investigation," some of them *were enticed or coerced into playing roles and making crucial decisions that were necessary to make the cover-up succeed.* It is these individuals who we must now attempt to identify.

No sector of the investigation was overlooked. Leadership in support of the cover-up story was necessary on all fronts upon execution of the 9/11 crime to establish the cover-up narrative. It was also essential that no counter-narrative be permitted to gain credibility. As the crucial few days after the event passed, it was necessary to continue to provide corrective actions to keep the cover-up on track.

People who spoke out of line had to be silenced (e.g., the suspicious death of Dutch demolition expert Danny Jowenko, who had observed a video of the collapse of WTC 7 and declared, unequivocally, that it was a controlled demolition). Public figures who unwittingly challenged the cover-up had to be disciplined (e.g., the demotion of Dan Rather, who had remarked on 9/11 that the collapse of WTC 7 looked like a controlled demolition).

Other crises had to be staged to quickly distract the public (e.g., the anthrax attacks that began a week after 9/11). Quick and credible explanations of the official narrative had to be provided (e.g., the paper by Professor Zdenek Bazant that purported to explain the collapse of the towers – submitted two days after the event to the ASCE's *Journal of Engineering Mechanics*). Engineers who proposed alternative theories to the official narrative had to be convinced to reverse themselves and become converts to the official story (some of these conversions may have been part of the cover-up).

Planning and positioning for some aspects of the cover-up had to take place before the execution (e.g., the NSF grant to Professor Astaneh-Asl to study "progressive collapse mechanisms" on September 1, 2001, setting the stage for sending him to the WTC crime scene immediately after 9/11 to be in charge of collecting the evidence). Certain operational arms of the crime had to be created for the event and then dismantled (e.g., the creation of Ace Elevator that was given access to the towers for an "elevator renovation" in the period before 9/11 and then disappeared shortly afterwards). These actions had the dual purpose of reinforcing the cover story while at the same time warning observers to stand back and not question the myth that was being created.

The process of selecting these individuals must have taken place well before 9/11 so that they would be in place and ready to act when the event occurred. It is not credible to believe that the perpetrators of the crime would have waited until after the event to get these critical operatives in place.

The methods by which these persons of influence were "incentivized" to play their roles is unknown; they would undoubtedly have been tailored to fit the individuals. It is important to note that the selected persons were just a part of a much larger group that worked on the investigations and subsequent reports. As noted in Chapter 2, I am referring to this larger group as Persons of Interest (POIs). The actual agents for the perpetrators are a small sub-group of this larger group.

The POIs were not, for the most part, the criminals who planned the attacks. They were simply people put into positions within the investigation who could be used to produce the desired outcome – the official narrative.

Some of them must have been playing their role consciously. Others were simply being used unwittingly during various stages of the investigations to accomplish the goals of the cover-up. I think it's extremely likely that, as the process developed, many POIs became aware of what was really happening.

POIs within FEMA and NIST worked closely with leading engineering professional organizations, engineering corporations, and prominent academic institutions throughout the process of the investigations. Most prominent among these organizations were the ASCE, SEAoNY, well-known engineering firms, and a number of prominent universities. Persons within other government agencies, such as the National Science Foundation (NSF), must have been involved in this process, along with covert operatives from intelligence agencies.

See Appendix A for a list of the organizations known to have been involved in the investigations and the compilation of the official reports that followed. Chapter 4 is a compilation of the POIs that my research has uncovered to date and what is known about their personal histories as well as their involvement with the investigations.

Decision #2: No attempt was made to put out the fires in WTC 7 based on two conflicting claims: one that the building was on the verge of imminent collapse and the other that no water was available to fight the fires.

On the afternoon of 9/11, isolated office fires were burning on some of the floors in WTC 7. Although firefighters were on the scene with their equipment and water, the

Report. He is currently the George F. Fuller Professor of Mechanical Engineering at Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) and also director of the Manufacturing and Materials Science and Engineering programs. He has also worked for Du Pont and Exxon Chemical Company. Sisson is also the principal investigator for a multi-million-dollar multi-institutional project funded by the U.S. Army aimed at developing new metallurgical methods and new lightweight alloys for more effective and durable vehicles and systems.

He received his BS in metallurgical engineering from Virginia Tech in 1969, and his MS in 1971. In 1975 he received his PH.D. from Purdue University in Materials Science and Engineering. His main research interest is the application of the fundamentals of diffusion kinetics, modeling, and thermodynamics to the solution of materials problems.

He has been highly decorated in his field and has authored more than 500 technical and other publications. He is a Fellow of the American Society for Metals International (ASM International).

It would be extremely interesting to ask Sisson what he remembers about the steel samples from WTC and if he knows if further information has resulted from subsequent studies, if any.

POI # 128: Jeremy Bernier [WPI]

Jeremy Bernier was a graduate student at Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) in 2001-2002. He worked on the study of the steel samples conducted by Barnett, Biederman, and Sisson (**POI # 124, 126 & 127**). He graduated from WPI with a BS in Mechanical Engineering in 2001, got his MS there in 2002, and went on to get an MBA from Tulane University in Finance in 2006. Since then, he has been working in the oil industry for ExxonMobil, Valero, and Hess Corporation, where he is presently a power generation development manager in their NYC office.

Bernier knew all the POIs who worked at WPI on the melted steel samples from WTC 7 and the towers and may have some background information that is important.

POI # 129: Marco Fontecchio [WPI]

Marco Fontecchio was also a graduate student along with Jeremy Bernier (**POI # 128**) at WPI in 2001-2002 and worked on the study of the steel samples from WTC 7 and the towers.

Also, explosives and nano-thermite —not fire followed by a gravitational collapse — explain the many isolated ejections of debris from each of the towers as many as 60 floors below the "collapse" front as well as reports of explosions from 118 firefighters who were on the scene that day.

There were also many problems with the incredible destruction of the third tower, WTC Building 7, which was *not* hit by any plane. This 47-story office tower came down in about seven seconds. It fell at free fall acceleration for approximately the first 2.25 seconds of its descent, dropping a distance of about eight stories without the 40,000 tons of steel structure below offering even the slightest resistance. NIST has admitted that free fall occurred yet it sticks to its claim that the building suffered a progressive collapse (the term NIST uses has since been changed to "disproportionate collapse"). But this violates the laws of physics.

Each of Building 7's 82 support columns would have had to fail at nearly the same moment to precipitate the symmetrical collapse we see in video footage shot that day. This has been confirmed by a four-year study published in 2020 by Professor Leroy Hulsey and his team of researchers at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. The study concluded, in fact, that fire could *not* have brought Building 7 down.

Hints about controlled demolition

One questionable alleged "witness" to the destruction of the Twin Towers was interviewed on the street by Fox News that day. He was identified as Mark Walsh, a freelancer for Fox. Dubbed "Harley guy" because he wore a Harley Davidson t-shirt, Walsh told the Fox interviewer on the scene:

"Dude, I witnessed the entire thing from beginning to end. I was watching with my roommate; it was practically several minutes after the first plane was hit. I saw this plane come out of nowhere and just ream into the side of the Twin Tower, exploding through the other side. And then I witnessed both towers collapse, one first and then the second, mostly due to structural failure because the fire was just too intense."
(https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hxQ2-DcZuR4)

…mostly due to structural failure…the fire was just too intense.

Why would a genuine witness talk this way? How would he know whether the fire was "too intense"? And how would he know how this would affect the structural integrity of the building? His delivery sounded rehearsed and prepared in advance, and his apparent certainty about what caused the two buildings to fail sounded contrived. This caused some to wonder whether he had been placed there to reinforce the emerging narrative.

Andrew Miller-Lust, Associate Principal Bill
Yun, Associate

Skidmore, Owings & Merrill LLP

Brian McElhatten, Structural Engineer
Juan Paulo Morla, Structural Engineer
Lawrence Novak, Associate Partner
Dean Riviere, Associate
Robert Sinn, Associate Partner
Heiko Sprenger, Structural Engineering Intern Skilling

Ward Magnussen Barkshire, Inc.

Donald Barg, Senior Associate
John Hooper, Principal
Ron Klemencic, Principal

United States Fire Administration

Robert Neale, Training Specialist

Weidlinger Associates

Michael Dallal, Research Engineer
Mohammed Ettouney, Principal
David Ranlet, Senior Scientist
Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Jeremy Bernier, Graduate Student, Mechanical Engineering
Marco Fontecchio, Graduate Student, Mechanical Engineering
Jay Ierardi, Doctoral Candidate, Fire Protection Engineering
Patrick Spencer, Undergraduate Student, Mechanical Engineering/Fire Protection Engineering

WTC EVENT DATA AND SUMMARIES

Consolidated Edison

David Davidowitz, Vice President
Stuart C. Hanebuth, Senior Environmental Specialist
Daniel Simon, Manager
Gerard Toto, Field Planner
FEMA Search and Rescue Team

Gilsanz was born in Madrid, Spain, in 1954. He studied engineering at the Polytechnic University of Madrid. The degrees he received are not listed on the internet. He traveled and worked in South Africa and Japan before coming to the U.S. in 1979, where he says he contacted his brother at MIT and studied there for the next two years, but there is no mention of him receiving any degree.

Given his public statements, it is not credible that Gilsanz is unaware of the inconsistencies in the official narrative of 9/11. In addition, he is clearly an adventurous and sophisticated individual with influential friends and some questionable aspects to his past.

POI # 132: Dr. Venkatesh Kodur [NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL, CANADA]

Dr. Venkatesh Kodur was one of the experts called by the FEMA/ASCE leadership to investigate the collapse of the buildings on the BPAT. He is an expert in the structural fire safety field and has maximized his professional advancement based upon his experience in the 9/11 catastrophe. At the time of the attack, he was a scientist at the National Research Council in Canada.

He graduated with a BS in Civil Engineering from the University Visveswaraya College of Engineering in Bangalore, India in 1984. He received his MS and Ph.D. from Queens University in Canada in 1988 and 1992, respectively (field of study not specified in his publicly available bio). He spent some time as a Post-doctoral Fellow at the Royal Military College in Kingston, Canada. In 2005 he joined the faculty at Michigan State University (MSU) where he is currently a University Distinguished Professor in the Department of Civil & Environmental Engineering. He established fire test facilities and a highly acclaimed research program in structural fire engineering at MSU. Most of his work is focused on the effect of fire on concrete structures.

Kodur has information about the building failures at WTC that could clearly be helpful, if known. He has benefited from his participation on the BPAT and has never taken issue publicly with the findings of the FEMA or the NIST reports.

POI # 133: Ronald Hamburger [EQE CONSULTING/ABS GROUP]

Ronald Hamburger is the self-described "lead investigator into the collapse of New York's twin World Trade Center towers on behalf of the Structural Engineering Institute of the American Society of Civil Engineers (SEI/ASCE) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency." He is listed as the co-author of the Executive Summary to the FEMA Report along with Gene Corley (**POI # 325**) and Therese

so, the heat from the fires weakened the damaged columns in the impact zone, causing the upper part of the buildings to fall through the impact zones and collide with the lower part of the buildings with sufficient force to cause the failure of the columns in the lower part, resulting in the buildings collapsing to the ground. The upper part of the buildings was destroyed when it hit the debris on the ground.

After a review of the paper, the JEM published it in January 2002 with an addendum published two months later. Bazant's theory remains the official explanation for how and why the Twin Towers came down. It is cited by the official government report on the towers' failures published by NIST in 2005. In fact, the NIST report on the tower failures did not provide an analysis of the failure mechanism of the buildings. Instead, it relied entirely on the Bazant theory.

2) **Creating credible evidence to certify the official narrative:**
FEMA was immediately brought in to manage the crime scene. In turn, FEMA brought in professional experts from major engineering and construction organizations as well as academia. ASCE and SEAoNY were the two professional engineering societies that provided the bulk of the engineering expertise. The selection of these organizations and individuals associated with them was crucial for establishing the protocols and personnel used in the investigation of the evidence at the scene. Therefore, it is reasonable to conclude that this selection of personnel was not left to chance but must have been in place prior to the event, at least in the case of key personnel.

According to FEMA:
"Immediately after the attacks, it became apparent to the City of New York that there was an enormous need for structural engineering and construction expertise and support. Within hours the DDC [Department of Design and Construction] appealed to several construction companies (Bovis Lend-Lease, AMEC, Turner-Plaza, and Tully) and the engineering firm LZA Technology/Thornton-Tomasetti (LZA) to assist in the search and rescue effort. Mobilization began immediately. A reconnaissance inspection by DDC and LZA took place on the afternoon of September 11. A first round of building inspections was performed on September 12 by engineers from DDC, the NYX Department of Buildings (DoB), and LZA.

DDC, the agency that had responsibility for managing all construction and engineering at the site, was joined by engineers and construction managers from

Bettina Hutchings, FEMA Region IV, Disaster Assistance Specialist

Here is New York Gallery Photograph Collection

Paul Constantine
Val Junker
Susan Luciano
Jay Manis
Michael Shulan Charles
Traub

Mobius Communications, Inc.

Val Junker, President, Technical Consultant

WCMH

Shannon Harris, Executive Producer

WNBC

Burton Kravitz, Graphic Artist
Dennis Swanson, Vice President/General Manager

STEEL SURVEYING IN SALVAGE YARDS

Salvage Yards:

Blanford & Co., Keasbey

Lisa Lickman Ron
Lickman, Jr.
Ron Lickman, Sr. John
Sandy

Fresh Kills Landfill
Mark Kucera, USACE
David Leach, USACE
Hugo Neu Schnitzer East
Robert Kelman, General Manager
Frank Manzo, Transportation Manager
Danny Nunes, Heavy Melting Steel Manager
L. Steven Shinn, Operations Manager Metal

Management Northeast, Inc.

Afghanistan's then deputy prime minister, Haji Abdul Kabir, demanded proof of bin Laden's guilt as well as an end to bombing raids against his country before his government would turn bin Laden over. Even then, they would only give him to a third country not under the direct influence of the United States. Bush refused, saying, "There's no need to discuss innocence or guilt. We know he's guilty."

UK Prime Minister Tony Blair was even bolder than Bush in proclaiming that his government had evidence leaving "absolutely no doubt" that bin Laden was behind 9/11. Blair's government did release a dossier it claimed offered proof that bin Laden was responsible, but it came with this disclaimer: "This document does not purport to provide a prosecutable case against Osama bin Laden in a court of law."

It *was*, however, considered sufficient justification for launching a war.

While it is beyond the scope of this book to evaluate the details of the case that was being claimed against bin Laden, it is worth noting that in 2006 the FBI's chief of investigative publicity, Rex Tomb, was asked why bin Laden was on the agency's "most wanted" page for other terrorist acts but not for 9/11. Tomb responded:

"The reason why 9/11 is not mentioned on Usama Bin Laden's Most Wanted page is because the FBI has no hard evidence connecting Bin Laden to 9/11."

This statement was not widely reported by the mainstream media then and hasn't been since.

Even as the finger was being pointed at bin Laden on the morning of September 11, a traumatized public was absorbing another major element of the cover-up: the visual record of the impacts of the two planes themselves. Having heard about the impact of the first plane, alleged to be American Airlines Flight 11, with the North Tower at 8:46 a.m., EST, people all over the world crowded around their television sets to find out what had happened (footage of the, first strike, would only emerge hours later). The shocking news was followed by the impact of a second plane – later claimed to be United Airlines Flight 175 – that penetrated the South Tower.

The crashes and resulting fires were presented as being the sole reasons for the towers' later destruction.

The world watched as the second impact was played over and over, hour after hour, on television screens. This left the world, and especially New Yorkers, stunned and horrified, with the idea that planes brought the towers down being reinforced with every viewing.

The coverage was accompanied by commentary that implanted the idea that external terrorists, specifically Muslim extremists, had carried out this devastating attack

Prior to his employment at NIST, he worked as a senior scientist at the Naval Research Laboratory.

His work on the WTC building failures was focused on development of the fire-structure interface. Particularly in the case of WTC 7, it is hard to believe that the model NIST used for the thermal load on the structure could be consistent with Prasad's experience and education in the field.

POI # 111: Dr. Fahim H. Sadek [NIST]

Dr. Fahim Sadek is the leader of the Structures Research Group of the Materials and Structural systems Division of the Engineering Lab at NIST. He was a participant in both the Twin Towers and WTC 7 NIST reports. He must have played a major role in the analyses since he is very experienced in finite element modeling and computer simulation of linear and nonlinear, static, and dynamic structural response of structures subjected to extreme loads.

Since the publication of those reports, he has continued working with McAllister (**POI # 103**), Gross (**POI # 102**), Erbay (**POI # 117**), Zarghamee (**POI # 119**), and Sarawit (**POI # 118**) publishing at least one important paper ("Structural response of the world trade center buildings 1, 2 and 7 to impact and fire damage" [2012]) that goes into detail regarding the shear stud connectors to the concrete floor and the steel floor framing connections subject to fire conditions in those buildings.

Sadek got his BS in Civil Engineering at Cairo University in 1987, his MS in Structural Engineering also at Cairo University in 1991, and his Ph.D. in Structural Engineering from Southern Methodist University in Dallas in 1996.

His close connection and work with so many of the other NIST POIs makes it a certainty that he was involved in the formulation and decisions regarding the construction of the false narrative of the cover-up. His continued prominent participation in defending the NIST reports makes it undeniable that he has a vested interest in the role he played. He has been heavily honored for his role in both NIST reports.

POI # 112: Harold E. Nelson [HUGHES ASSOCIATES]

DECEASED 2013. Fire protection expert. Worked at NIST and Hughes Associates. Provided input to fire study on WTC buildings.

POI # 113: Richard W. Bukowski [NIST]

through this full story height (h) as the elastic deformation. The correct distance for the elastic deformation is only a small fraction of the height of one story;

- The factor of "2" was apparently inserted under the radical to represent the two springs in the upper and lower parts of the building acting together when the upper part hit the lower part, which would be incorrect, since springs acting in series produce an equivalent stiffness, where 1/Ceq = 1/Cu + 1/CL, [not Cu + CL]. The insertion of the factor "2" in the equation is incorrect;

- Bazant also underestimated the design load capacity of the lower part of the building, Po, as mg. However, mg is only the static weight of the previously supported structure above the impact. The columns in the building had safety factors included in their design load capacities. For the perimeter columns it was 5 to 1 and for the core columns it was 3 to 1. Therefore, since the perimeter and core columns essentially shared the static load, Bazant should have used the average of these safety factors, (5 + 3)/2 = 4, for the design load capacity Po = 4mg.

- There is no basis for the inclusion of both factors "1" inside and outside the radical, nor is there a basis for taking the square root of a portion of the quantity, as the ratio is simply the elastically generated force (C times the elastic deformation) divided by the design load capacity, (Po = 4mg).

- Therefore, the correct form of Equation 1 is:

Pd/Po = (Ceq) X (elastic deformation)/4mg

Using his version of Equation 1, Bazant claimed that the ratio of the force applied by the upper part of the building to the ability of the lower part of the building to sustain that force was approximately 31. This result forms the essential basis for Bazant's theory, since, according to him, the elastic force that the lower part of the building sustained from the upper part was, theoretically, enormously greater than its ability to withstand it. This meant that the columns in the lower part of the building must have then gone into inelastic deformation and buckled under the applied load.

He then went on to analyze the inelastic energy dissipation of the collapse mechanism.

But first, his elastic analysis must be corrected. The corrected Equation 1 must be used, and the correct values of the variables must be inserted into it. If the result doesn't provide a ratio of Pd to Po greater than one, his later inelastic analyses and defenses of his theory are moot, because his theory has failed to prove that an inelastic event took place.

He is a member of ASCE and served on the International Code Council's Means of Egress Committee. He received awards for his work on the WTC building failures. In 2021, he gave a presentation at the SFPE Annual Conference on the standards and codes that were developed as a result of the WTC investigation.

POI # 106: Dr. William L. Grosshandler [NIST]

Dr. William Grosshandler retired in 2012 from his position as deputy director of the Building and Fire Research of the Engineering Laboratory (EL) at NIST. After 9/11, he was appointed associate lead investigator of the National Building and Fire Safety Investigation into the collapse of all three WTC buildings, along with Shyam Sunder (**POI # 101**). From that position, it is not credible to believe he is unaware of the problems with the NIST reports. It is possible that his retirement in 2012 was caused by the increasingly accurate and focused critiques of the NIST reports.

Grosshandler received his Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of California, Berkeley. Before coming to NIST, he worked for the National Science Foundation (NSF) as director of their Thermal Systems Program. Among his past activities, he served on the advisory boards to the Fire Protection Engineering Departments at the University of Maryland and Worcester Polytechnic Institute. He also sat on the Fire Council for Underwriters Laboratory. He is a Fellow of the ASME.

After he retired, Grosshandler made the rounds of seminars and conferences lecturing on his experiences at NIST conducting the reports on the WTC building failures.

POI # 107: J. Randall Lawson [NIST]

J. Randall Lawson has no formal title listed for his work at NIST, where he is a specialist in emergency response operations, protective equipment, and fire testing. That is undoubtedly the expertise he brought to the NIST WTC building studies where he is listed as one of the authors. He is considered an authority in those fields and is the author of a popular NIST publication, *The History of Fire Testing*.

It seems probable that he did much of the actual research and studies on the subjects that comprised those parts of the NIST reports. Although the subjects of the reports were compartmentalized, it is hard to believe that he wasn't aware that the reports fell far short of their goal of making a convincing argument that fires brought the buildings down.

I was unable to find any information about his education, age or work experience history.

examination of that evidence. POIs placed in critical positions ensured that the decision to remove and destroy most of the evidence was not challenged.

Decision #4: The investigation was placed under the authority of NIST.

It took more than a year for Congress, acting under great public pressure, to initiate an investigation into the cause of the destruction of the three WTC skyscrapers. Congress chose NIST to oversee the investigation, which ran against all established practice for selecting the authority to oversee such an investigation.

There is also important history that relates to this decision. For example, a 1931 plane crash killed Knute Rockne, coach of the Notre Dame football team, and another killed Senator Bronson Cutting in 1935. These crashes led to government investigations by the Civil Aviation Authority, an arm of the Department of Commerce, which was in charge of air safety at that time.

Public dissatisfaction with the corruption associated with these investigations eventually led to the formation of the National Transportation Safety Board, an agency of the U.S. government that is fully independent of political influence. It was thus established that independence is essential for the investigation of any catastrophe.

By placing one agency of the executive branch of the government (once again, the Department of Commerce) in charge of investigating an event in which another agency of the executive branch played a central part (i.e., the Department of Defense), Congress was derelict in its duty to credibly attempt to produce a truthful account of the destruction of the World Trade Center. Later events proved that the selection of NIST to oversee the task was at the heart of the misdirection of the investigations.

Decision #5: Tests for incendiaries were not done and misdirection was provided for evidence of explosions going off as the towers came down.

The decision not to test for incendiaries was a violation of the law, since the World Trade Center had been the object of a previous "terrorist attack" in 1993, and the Fire Code explicitly called for such tests (National Fire Protection Association 921, Guide for Fire and Explosion Investigations) given the specific circumstances of the attack.

The evidence of explosive "squibs" below the collapse zone as the Twin Towers fell was explained away by NIST using the claim that air inside the building was compressed by the falling structure and was forced out through window openings.

He is also the author of Appendix F of the FEMA Report, a STRUCTURAL ENGINEERS EMERGENCY RESPONSE PLAN, which is a recommendation for future responses, largely taken from a proposed Structural Engineering Association of New York (SEAoNY) plan developed because of the 9/11 attacks. The existence of APPENDIX F is proof that there was no plan for an emergency response involving engineers prior to Sept. 11, 2001, and thus no discussion (prior to beginning the response) of the potential conflict between rescue/clean-up operations and the legal requirement to preserve evidence at a crime scene.

DePaola has a BS and MS in Civil Engineering from Notre Dame University and a Juris Doctorate from Seton Hall School of Law. As such, he should have been fully aware of the criminal statute against the destruction of evidence at a crime scene, and it may have been at his initiation that Appendix F was included in the report.

He is licensed as a PE in 21 states and has worked at Severud for the past 38 years. He has joined many professional organizations (ASCE, AISC, SEAoNY, ASCE/SEI), and he sits on the board of the Structural Engineering Certification Board [SECB]).

POI # 139: ADAM HAPIJ, PE [WEIDLINGER ASSOCIATES]

Adam Hapij is a principal at Thornton Tomasetti but was working at Weidlinger Associates in 2001. Weidlinger was absorbed by Thornton Tomasetti in 2015. Both firms were involved in various WTC building failure studies, and Hapij was one of the authors – along with Robert Smilowitz (**POI # 153**) and Jeffrey Smilow (**POI # 140**) – of the chapter in the FEMA Report that examined the Bankers Trust building damage.

Weidlinger was the firm that provided evidence for the defendants in the lawsuit brought by Con Edison against WTC 7 Properties, claiming that the building design was deficient, and therefore their engineers studied the NIST Report and the Nordenson Report for ARUP (the defendants in the lawsuit) and have knowledge of the elements of both these reports.

Hapij is also an adjunct professor at The Cooper Union, along with Robert Smilowitz (**POI # 153**).

POI # 140: Jeffrey Smilow, PE [WSP]

Jeffrey Smilow is an executive vice-president at WSP, a large professional services firm employing about 50,000 people. WSP has grown by acquiring other companies, one of which was Cantor Seinuk in 2000, the structural firm that designed WTC 7 in the 1980s. He has been at WSP since 1984, having graduated from City College of New York Engineering School. He is one of the authors of the chapter in the FEMA

Report that covers the Bankers Trust Building damage along with Adam Hapij (**POI # 139**) and Robert Smilowitz (**POI # 153**).

Given the fact that certain documents have never been provided regarding the WTC 7 construction – documents that are now presumed to be in the possession of WSP – it seems reasonable to ask what Smilow might know about the information contained in those documents.

ultimate carrying capacity of the columns, a bending and buckling phase then occurs in which the columns fail and form plastic hinges as they are crushed by the load.

The first section of Bazant's analysis examined the initial elastic response of the columns in the lower part of the building to the impact of the falling upper part of the building.

For this all-important analysis, Bazant produced an equation, identified as Equation 1, which he claimed could be used to prove that the buildings would not survive the elastic impact of the descent of the upper part of the building onto the lower part of the building. He identified the following entities that he claimed were necessary and essential elements of the elastic impact process:

- The stiffness of the lower part of the building, represented as a spring, he called C;
- The height of one story of the building, which he called h [this was an error, as this entity does not enter into the elastic analysis, as explained below];
- The mass of the upper part of the building, which he called m;
- The acceleration at which bodies fall due to gravity, which he called g;
- The force with which the upper part of the building hit the lower part of the building he called Pd;
- The force that the lower part of the building could sustain before collapsing he called Po, and claimed it was equal to mg (This is incorrect, as explained below).

Using these entities, he produced Equation 1:

Pd/Po = 1 + the square root of the quantity [1 + (2Ch/mg)] ≈ 31

However, Bazant did not explain the process by which he derived this equation, which is an inexplicable omission in a matter of this importance. It also raises further questions regarding his theory.

Furthermore, there are problems with this equation:

- The equation guarantees that Pd was at least twice Po, no matter what the values of the stiffness, mass, and height of one story were. This is counterintuitive. How can his equation guarantee this minimum ratio, no matter what the dimensions and properties of the building itself were?
- While Bazant's analysis requires that the upper part of the building fell through one collapsed story prior to the elastic phase of the impact, he uses the fall

In the case of WTC 7, an unprecedented new theory of progressive collapse (later re-framed as "disproportionate collapse") of a high-rise steel-framed skyscraper due to office fires was created and proclaimed by the engineers at NIST and the agency's contractors.

3) **Providing the imprimatur of the experts:**

At first, a few professors at important universities offered tentative theories on how the buildings had collapsed. In cases where these statements conflicted with the already-established official narrative, these authoritative voices were convinced to change their minds. They issued retractions, which may have been a planned tactic to give the illusion that academics were "reaching a consensus."

No real debate or meaningful discussion was tolerated. Physical evidence that might have supported alternative theories disappeared when it was shipped to China to be re-cycled. Or it was sent to academic or other "safe' repositories where it was sequestered from outside examination.

The academic world, for its part, quickly adapted to the developing narrative, meekly shrinking back into the safety of its ivory towers. Later, when a report by the structural engineering department of the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) was issued in 2018 – challenging the NIST report on WTC 7 – the response was silence from the entire U.S. engineering academic world. They refused to comment or engage in a discussion with the author, Professor Leroy Hulsey.

Meanwhile, the designers of the Twin Towers did not respond to the suggestion that their structures had failed because they could not handle loads they were designed to carry (the Twin Towers had been designed to survive the impact of commercial jet airplanes). Instead, these prominent and influential engineers passively accepted the implication that they had been responsible, through incompetence, for the death of thousands of innocent victims. Jon Magnusson (POI #134), head of the firm that designed the Twin Towers, even attended conferences and explained how the buildings had failed as claimed in the official narrative.

4) **Minding the narrative:**

by Dr. Therese McAllister **(POI # 103)**. Prior to that, he was the program manager for the NIST study of the WTC Disaster.

CISA works in partnership with several universities, one of the most active of which is University of Colorado Boulder, through the Natural Hazards Center located on the campus.

Cauffman holds a BS in Physics from George Mason University.

As program manager for the NIST WTC building studies, he was in a position to influence the decisions that were central to the cover-up.

POI # 116: Robert MacNeill [APPLIED RESEARCH ASSOCIATES]

Robert MacNeill is an associate principal at Simpson Gumpertz & Heger (SGH). Prior to joining their firm, he spent 19 years at Applied Research Associates (ARA), where, after the 9/11 event, he served as the technical lead in support of the NIST investigation into the collapse of WTC 7. As such, he oversaw the building of the complex, detailed, nonlinear FEA model of the full WTC 7 tower from the architectural drawings. He also performed collapse analysis investigations. His title at ARA was Senior Mechanical Engineer. Since joining SGH in 2019 he has passed his PE in Massachusetts.

MacNeill received his BS and MS in Mechanical Engineering from Rochester Institute of Technology in 1994 and 1995. He attended Stanford University in 1995-1996 in their Aeronautical Engineering program but did not receive a degree. He had further training from 1997 to 2000 before joining ARA shortly before the destruction of the WTC. He took courses on LS-DYNA in 2001 and 2003 from Livermore Software Technology Corporation at the same time he was working with NIST on their WTC 7 Report.

Robert MacNeill was on the front lines of the NIST WTC 7 Report and would have to have been aware of the problems that were buried in the details of the report. His transition to SGH in 2019 would have been based on his association with the SGH during the WTC investigations since SGH worked on the Twin Towers in the same capacity that ARA had worked on WTC 7.

POI # 117: Dr. Omer Erbay [UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGNE]

Dr. Omer Erbay received his BS and MSCE degrees from Middle East Technical University and Ph.D. from University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign in 2004 and is

APPENDIX B

Anonymous letter from ASCE national office to ASCE local branches in an effort to discourage them from scheduling a Project Due Diligence presentation

(Earliest known date September 2018)

In the aftermath of the 9-11 terrorist attacks, the Structural Engineering Institute (SEI) of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) formed expert teams comprised of more than 30 leading civil, structural, fire protection and forensic engineers to conduct studies of the structural performance of the buildings at the World Trade Center (WTC) and Pentagon. In addition, the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) conducted an extensive analysis, which cost in excess of $16 million, to determine the probable cause of the building collapses. Both the ASCE and NIST studies included analysis of potential collapse mechanisms and sequences.

ASCE and other professional and technical organizations provide a variety of forums for research to be presented, reviewed, discussed, and debated in a continual effort to advance the practice of civil engineering and these forums have been used extensively to explore the civil engineering issues associated with September 11th.

ASCE has publicly shared our reports and we stand by the conclusions of the reports, which are supported by the facts and sound engineering analysis.

The NIST findings can be found at http://wtc.nist.gov/pubs/factsheets/faqs_8_2006.htm.

The ASCE/FEMA World Trade Center Building Performance Study can be found at

https://www.fema.gov/media-library/assets/documents/3544

The Pentagon Building Performance Report can be found at

http://ascelibrary.org/doi/book/10.1061/9780784406380

The first four elements of the cover-up listed above have been well established by the historical record. But the fifth aspect of the cover-up has gone completely unexplored. Here are the details of that crucial, long-term feature of the cover-up:

1) The catastrophic destruction of the Twin Towers and WTC Building 7 would have to be explained by an authoritative, seemingly rational, theory that, coupled with the tainted evidence, would form the basis of the official narrative.
2) Leaders from the engineering profession would have to be brought into the investigation immediately and placed in charge of "examining the evidence" to "provide facts" that would verify the contrived theory being used to explain the destruction of the buildings.
3) Authoritative scholars and practicing structural engineers would have to weigh in with their opinions backing up the official theory that resulted from the controlled investigation. These figures would provide a bulwark against competing theories that might arise over time.
4) Censorship of the academic and professional literature discussing the structural failures would have to be established quickly and maintained for many years following the event to suppress opposing theories.
5) Members of the engineering profession and academics who insisted on examining competing narratives would have to be ignored, ostracized, and stigmatized.

Briefly, here is how each of these five elements of the cover-up have been accomplished:

1) **Providing the theoretical explanation for the official narrative:**
This element would have been necessary to organize before the date of the event so that the plan could immediately swing into action. Looking for this development, we find that on September 13, two days after the event, Professor Zdenek Bazant from Northwestern University, a long-time contributor to the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) professional journals, submitted a paper to the ASCE Journal of Engineering Mechanics (JEM). His paper put forth a theory that purported to show how the Twin Towers collapsed due to the airplane impacts and fires.

   Briefly, his analysis put forward the following theory: Planes hit the towers and created damage to the impact zones. The debris from the planes also removed fireproofing material from the columns in the impact zones. The fuel from the planes ignited office fires to furnishings in the impact zone. After an hour or

JEM editors in preventing publication of further discussion of his theory, are suspicious and unethical.

It is therefore logical to surmise that some entity from within the circle of the perpetrators knew that Bazant had the credentials and could be persuaded to come up with a theory that would seem plausible. This was not a tactic that the perpetrators came up with on the fly – it had to have been planned. Bazant was central to that plan (they had backup professors and professionals ready to bolster his explanation, e.g., Astaneh (**POI # 160**), Hamburger (**POI # 133**), Mark Loizeaux (**POI # 331**), etc. It is not plausible that this conceptualization and defense of the false narrative was left to chance.

Bazant fits our profile for a Person of Interest because:

1) He has the credibility as an academic to speak with authority on the subject of the towers' destruction;
2) He came forward immediately with a narrative that is the backbone of the cover-up;
3) He is an immigrant from a dissident family in Eastern Europe, which suggests the possibility that he could have been pressured by governmental forces to concoct his theory and seek recognition for doing so;
4) Despite information that has since been developed that destroys his theory, he has clung to it and defended it;
5) He had a relationship with the JEM (where he was editor-in-chief from 1984 to 1993) that facilitated the protection of his theory by subsequent JEM editors (with whom he had extensive and long-standing professional relationships);
6) His continued lionization by ASCE, academia, official organizations, engineering professionals and civic bastions indicate that there is a great deal of effort being made to establish him as an iconic figure whose reputation is beyond reproach;
7) And lastly, it is very curious that current biographies of Bazant make no mention his theory, which purports to explain the most devastating failure in the history of engineering. Is his monumental feat not worthy of mention?

POI # 2: Roberto Ballarini [JEM]

Roberto Ballarini is currently chair of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering at the University of Houston, a position he has occupied since 2014. Prior to that, he was chair of the CEE department at the University of Minnesota from 2006 to 2014, and before that he worked his way up from assistant professor to full

INTRODUCTION

"The greatest obstacle to discovery is not ignorance – it is the illusion of knowledge."

-Daniel J. Boorstin

Engineering is applied science. It relies on facts that can be verified.

Our profession comes with enormous responsibilities, the most important of which is ensuring public safety. Our contract with the public is both social and legal – it isn't negotiable. When we fail to perform our duties faithfully and ethically, the consequences can be devastating.

On September 11, 2001, planes crashed into the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center in New York City. Less than two hours later, both 110-story skyscrapers had been turned into piles of rubble and broken steel columns. Tens of thousands of tons of pulverized concrete filled the air of lower Manhattan like a dense fog.

The official "investigation" into what happened in New York that day would unfold over a period of years. It would involve engineers working for government agencies like the Federal
Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the National
Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST), along with those hired as contractors. These engineers conducted forensic examinations of the evidence in an ostensible effort to find out why the buildings failed. But they didn't find the cause.

They covered it up.

The destruction of the Twin Towers on 9/11 is at the heart of a division between the titular leaders of the engineering profession and their members. Normally, after an engineering catastrophe, whether caused by natural disaster or human error, forensic studies are conducted and a vigorous discussion within the profession leads to a consensus in rather short order on what caused the disaster and what needs to be done to make sure it doesn't occur again. But this hasn't happened in the case of the World Trade Center buildings.

CHAPTER 2

The strategic cover-up plan

"It's easier to deceive than to undeceive."

– Napoleon

The 9/11 false flag was carefully planned and carried out to inflict maximum trauma on the world. But the horrifying memories of this "attack" – supposedly carried out by Muslim terrorists – were just the beginning of this deception. For the plan to fully succeed, the truth had to be hidden for the long term.

That meant a massive cover-up orchestrated by the same criminals who carried out the "attack." It meant a cover-up that, in some ways, was (and is) just as elaborate as the event itself.

There were numerous elements to this cover-up. Government officials, elected and otherwise, including prominent members of the U.S. military, had to be on board. So did the mainstream media, which did almost nothing to challenge official pronouncements.

Another, little-discussed, group that was used to sell the official narrative was the engineering community. It was the stamp of approval given to the official account by various engineering organizations that has been used to block further inquiry into the technical evidence that emerged from September 11.

The five essential elements of the cover-up

1. A false "official" narrative had to be created starting the very moment the first plane hit the North Tower. This process was briefly outlined in Chapter 1 and involved political figures who immediately suggested that al-Qaeda was involved. This was followed by media talking heads who continued to keep the narrative on this path, ignoring other possible culprits.
2. The identification of the individual suspects closely followed the accusations that al-Qaeda was responsible. Within a few hours of the beginning of the event, this was accomplished by the release of airport security video footage

His familiarity with the details of the collapse study and the fact that NIST refuses to release the results of the collapse analysis makes his selection as a Person of Interest obvious.

POI # 120: Dr. Stephen Kirkpatrick [ARA]

Dr. Steven W. Kirkpatrick was the program manager for the project awarded to Applied Research Associates (ARA) in 2006 to determine the WTC 7 collapse hypothesis. He was the principal engineer and had, at that point, 21 years of experience in structural dynamics, failure analysis, finite element analysis, impact and penetration mechanics, and vehicle crashworthiness. He has published more than 40 papers in these areas. His research experience included government and commercial projects for civil, military, and aerospace applications. He had been a program leader for many studies requiring close collaboration between experimental and computational efforts with emphasis on model validation. He was previously the PI for the ARA participation in the NIST WTC investigation in performing the aircraft impact analyses on the WTC Twin Towers.

Kirkpatrick graduated from University of California San Diego with a BS in Mechanical Engineering in 1983. He then went on to UC Berkeley and received an MS in Mechanical Engineering in 1984. He then went to work for SRI (formerly known as Stanford Research Institute) and received his Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering from Stanford in 1999. He then went to work for ARA where he continues to work.

Kirkpatrick was in a position to know all the problems with both the Twin Towers report and the WTC 7 report published by NIST. The distortions of input to the WTC 7 report would be well known to him, and the results of the ARA study of the impact of the planes on the Twin Towers were never incorporated by NIST into a published analysis of the subsequent global collapse of the buildings.

POI # 121: Dr. Robert Bocchieri [ARA]

Dr. Robert Bocchieri was the principal engineer at Applied Research Associates (ARA) on the study of the WTC 7 collapse hypothesis in 2006. He had expertise in nonlinear dynamic finite element analysis, solid mechanics, materials constitutive modeling, rate-dependent material behavior, fracture mechanics and failure analysis, mechanics of composite materials, and structural dynamics.

Bocchieri received a BS in aerospace engineering from Syracuse University in 1993, an MS in aerospace engineering from the University of Texas at Austin in 1994, and a

Third, correcting the actual working load of the upper part of WTC 1: m = 33 X 10^6 kg

And fourth, correcting the capacity of the lower part of the building to withstand the actual design load capacity with factors of safety incorporated,

Po = 4mg (approximately, for perimeter and core columns combined)

Putting these corrected values into Bazant's Corrected Equation 1 (correcting C by replacing it with Ceq, dropping the 2 under the radical, replacing h with Pd/Ceq and dropping both 1's and the square root radical):

Pd/Po = Ceq times the elastic deformation divided by 4mg

Pd/Po = (5.14 GN/m)(0.183 m)/(4)(33 X 10^6 kg)(9.81 m/sec^2)

= 0.73

This is significantly below 1.

Therefore, using Bazant's corrected Equation 1:

- The CDCU theory does not provide a load amplification factor of 31. It actually doesn't even provide an overload, as the ratio is less than one and not large enough to overcome the design load capacity of the lower part of the building to resist collapse;
- Collapse would not be initiated and could not occur;
- Bazant's theoretical proof that the elastic response of the lower part of the building cannot withstand the impact of the upper portion of the building is not valid;
- Bazant's theory, when corrected, does not explain the destruction of the Twin Towers.

The remainder of Bazant's first paper is an analysis of the inelastic energy dissipation caused by the collapse, which is now irrelevant since the design load capacity of the lower part of the building could not have been overcome by the impact.

The subsequent four papers by Bazant are in defense of his first paper, which has been shown to be incorrect. There is no need to review his subsequent defenses of his theory, as they failed to address his fundamental misconception of the process and the errors noted in his initial analysis. In fact, those efforts specifically reinforced the analysis put forward in the first paper.

For example, in the second paper (*JEM* March 2007), the following statement is made:

NIST explicitly stated that audio recordings of explosions could not have been the result of demolition charges.

Decision #6: Release of the findings of the WTC 1 & 2 forensic structural analyses was refused by NIST on the grounds of "protecting public safety."

This decision by NIST executive director Patrick Gallagher (**POI # 194**) was not logical but was necessary for maintaining the official narrative due to the incriminating nature of much of the evidence and analyses. The findings of the NIST structural analyses were based on the known laws of physical science and contained no information that could have aided future terrorists. Releasing that information would have had no impact whatsoever on public safety. This decision revealed the problems that came with putting NIST in charge of the investigation, as discussed above in Decision #4.

Decision #7: Weakened steel was blamed by NIST, which claimed that the plane impacts removed fireproofing material from the columns and floor trusses in the Twin Towers, initiating the collapse of both.

NIST claims that when the airplanes hit the Twin Towers, the fireproofing on the trusses was knocked off, leaving them exposed to the jet fuel fires raging inside. It then claims that the heat from the fires caused the trusses to sag, pulling the buildings' exterior columns inward and eventually buckling them, initiating the failures.

The dislodging of the fireproofing is a critical first step in this scenario. It is *so* critical that NIST acknowledged the significance of the fireproofing's absence in its report:

"The towers likely would not have collapsed under the combined effects of aircraft impact and subsequent multi-floor fires encountered on September 11, 2001, if the insulation had not been widely dislodged or had been only minimally dislodged by the aircraft impact." — NCSTAR 1-6, p. 283

While NIST focused on the question of whether the fireproofing could be dislodged by the impact of the airplanes by conducting an amateurish "test" that involved firing a shotgun blast at a steel member covered in the same kind of fireproofing, they overlooked another more critical detail in their analysis.

In the case of the North Tower, NIST acknowledges that the collapse initiated on the 98th floor. However, the damage from the airplane impact occurred mostly from the

David Hammond, Lead Structural Engineer

Fire Department of New York (FDNY)

Robert Brugger, Deputy Commissioner
Michael Butler, Chief
Sam Melisi, Firefighter
Daniel A. Nigro, Chief of Department

New York City Department of Design and Construction (DOC)

Michael Burton, Executive Deputy Commissioner Ken
Holden, Commissioner

New York City Office of Emergency Management (OEM)

MaryAnn Marrocolo, Director of Recovery and Mitigation
Liam O'Keefe, Emergency Preparedness Specialst Richard
Rotanz, Deputy Director

The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey

Ralph D'Apuzo, Principal Engineer
Joseph Englot, Chief Structural Engineer
Frank Lombardi, Chief Engineer
Dharam Pal, Chief Mechanical Engineer
Jack Spencer, Deputy Chief Engineer
Salomon smith Barney
James Carney, Vice President
John V. Glass, First Vice President

Verizon

Glen Moyer, Specialist, Design and Construction
Dominic Veltri, Manager, Design and Construction

PHOTOGRAPHIC AND VIDEO SUPPORT

American Society of Media Photographers, Inc. (ASMP)
Victor S. Perlman, Managing Director and General Counsel
Peter Skinner, Communications Director Dick
Weisgrau, Executive Director

Federal Emergency Management Agency

We have taken our criticisms of the NIST reports to more than a thousand rank-and-file engineers across the country and they unanimously agree with us that these reports are flawed and that a new investigation is needed. Instead of a consensus emerging over time, the engineers have been unable to agree with their own leaders, leaving a sharp division between the members who have unanswered questions and the leadership which supports the official narrative. The reports that NIST produced are simply unconvincing to most engineers who have taken the time to study them.

We are being told that the analysis of the destruction of the buildings has been completed and the questions answered. But here is the heart of the problem: *The buildings were designed to withstand the impact of a commercial airliner, but they failed to do so!*

Adding further complexity to the situation, a third high-rise building failed later that day – the 47-story World Trade Center Building 7. This tower did have office fires on a few floors, but these should have been easily handled by the fire suppressant systems in the building and the fire-resistant capabilities of the steel frame. Yet WTC 7, which was *not* hit by a plane, failed suddenly, descending into its own footprint in about seven seconds. This presented another enigma for the engineering profession to explain. Once again, the official account offered by NIST and the engineering establishment failed to pass muster. In fact, it defies credulity.

The way the buildings came down was compared on the day of the event by newscasters and observers (among them, Dan Rather and Peter Jennings) to controlled demolitions, a well-established practice in the building community whereby explosives are used to remove key structural components of the building in such a way as to use the weight of the building itself to bring the structure straight down and avoid damage to nearby properties.

Despite the appearance that the destruction of all three buildings were controlled demolitions, NIST quickly scrubbed this possibility from consideration. Instead, their studies focused entirely on the notion that design defects had brought the buildings down.

Strangely, the engineering community was silent when it came to defending the competence of the profession. Instead of rationally standing behind the worthiness of the building designs, engineers meekly accepted the verdict that they had failed in their mission to protect public safety.

A suspicious silence has enshrouded this world-changing tragedy since the official reports were released several years after the event. NIST has refused to release the raw data that it used in its analyses, claiming that these details could be used by potential terrorists to conduct future attacks. The normal back and forth of debates

Delbert F. Boring, American Iron and Steel Institute
Theodore V. Galambos, University of Minnesota Lawrence
G. Griffis, Walter P. Moore & Associates, Inc.
John M. Hanson, Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. William
McGuire, Cornell University
Robert J. McNamara, McNamara/Salvia, Inc. R.
Shankar Nair, Teng Associates, Inc.
David g. Peraza, LZA Technology
Robert T. Ratay, Consulting Engineer

OTHER SELECTED REVIEWERS

David Cooper, Flack and Kurtz Inc.
Daniel A. Cuoco, LAZ Technology
David Davidowitz, Con Edison
William Grosshandler, National Institute of Standards and Technology John
Healy, Greenhorne & O'Mara, Inc.
Francis J. Lombardi, Port Authority of New York and New Jersey
John Odermatt, New York City Office of Emergency Management
John Sonny Scarff, Marriott Corporation

currently working as a Senior Project Manager at Simpson Gumpertz & Heger (SGH). He is experienced in linear and nonlinear structural analysis of wide range of systems, including towers. He has a strong background in, and understanding of, structural dynamic collapse analysis, finite element modeling with nonlinear and temperature-dependent materials. As a Ph.D. right out of college, he was one of the key engineers who performed the nonlinear structural collapse analysis of World Trade Center Towers 1 and 2 and World Trade Center Building 7 as part of the investigation by NIST.

He is therefore privy to the problems with the NIST reports on the building failures.

POI # 118: Dr. Andrew Sarawit [SIMPSON GUMPERTZ HEGER (SGH)]

Dr. Andrew Sarawit received his B.S. in Civil Engineering from Chiang Mai University, Thailand and both his M.Eng. and Ph.D. in Structural Engineering from Cornell University. In 2003, he joined SGH, where he specializes in designing and analyzing precision structures. Some of his more notable projects include analysis of the World Trade Center Towers as part of the collapse investigation.

Since the collapse mechanism of the towers was not included in the final NIST Report, there is reason to believe that Dr. Sarawit has information that would help us to understand the problems with their analysis.

POI # 119: Dr. Mehdi Zarghamee [SGH]

Dr. Mehdi Zarghamee is a Senior Principle at SGH. He was the Senior Principal investigator for the structural modeling of the collapse of the Towers at the WTC. He was born in Iran in 1941. He came to the U.S. and received his BS in Civil Engineering from Georgia Tech in 1962, his MS in Mathematics from MIT in 1963, and his Ph.D. in Structural Engineering from the University of Illinois in 1965.

Zarghamee returned to Iran in 1969 and shortly thereafter became chancellor of Aryamehr University charged with construction of a new campus in Esfahan. He was also involved as managerial director of the National Iranian Copper Industry. His father and grandfather were powerful Army officers and had differences with the religious figures who held power within the church. He became embroiled in the political and religious strife that swept through the universities in the 1970s and was imprisoned for several months after the revolution of 1979. He was released and returned to the U.S., where he became employed by SGH.

The majority of his research papers concern the structural mechanics of pipelines, so his selection as PI for the collapse of the towers is somewhat strange.

Although the seeds of the official story were being planted that day, there were a number of comments and accounts by journalists that did not align with the soon-to-be-established narrative. We had comments about how the destruction resembled controlled demolitions by CBS's Dan Rather (As seen at the top of this chapter, Rather said: "It's reminiscent of those pictures we've all seen too many times of buildings that are deliberately destroyed by well-placed dynamite.")

This was echoed by ABC co-anchors Peter Jennings and Don Dahler. In an on-air exchange between the two, Dahler commented: "The entire building has just collapsed, as if a demolition team set off, when you see the old demolitions of these old buildings, it folded down on itself, and it is not there anymore." (https://www.911research.wtc7.net/~nin11evi/911research/disinfo/retractions/jennings.html)

Jennings, who was just finding out about the destruction of the South Tower, added this a few moments later: "…anybody who ever watched a building being demolished on purpose knows that if you're going to do this you have to get at the ... under-infrastructure of a building and bring it down."

This statement appeared to prompt Dahler to walk his earlier observation back. In fact, he seemed to be attempting to correct Jennings when he said: "What appeared to happen from my vantage point ... the top part of the building was totally involved in fire, and there was ... there appeared to be no effort possible to put that fire out. It looked like the top part of the building was so weakened by the fire that it just ... the weight of it just collapsed the rest of the building. That's what appeared to happen."

After September 11, you didn't hear further comments in the media about the towers' destruction resembling controlled demolitions. It was as if the official narrative had been locked in by then, and questions about whether explosive demolitions had taken place disappeared down the memory hole.

Long before the 9/11 Commission was even created, the official narrative had been introduced. But it needed more authority to withstand the challenges it would face in the years to come. It needed a "scientific" stamp of approval.

That's where the engineers came i

Pd/Ceq = 7.21 in. = 0.183m.[4] According to Bazant, the elastic deflection would have been a distance of (3.7m + 0.183m) = 3.883m, but this is incorrect. The height of one story of the building should not have been added to the elastic deformation, Pd/Ceq, because any potential overload causing the complete failure of the columns would only be due to the elastic interaction. Thus, Bazant has overestimated the elastic deformation of the lower part of the building by a factor of 3.883/0.183 = 21.2X.

His fourth error was his estimation of the mass of the upper part of the North Tower as 58 X 10^6 kg, whereas the actual in-service load of the upper part of the building (in WTC 1) was 33 X 10^6 kg.[5]

His fifth error was representing the value of Po = mg as the design load capacity of the lower part of the building. As explained above, mg, the static load, should be increased by the average factor of safety, 4, in order to represent the true design load capacity.

Correcting these errors in Equation 1

First, finding the equivalent stiffness, Ceq, for the two springs acting in series:

1/Ceq = 1/CL + 1/Cu where CL = stiffness of lower part of the building and Cu = stiffness of upper part of the building

Cu = AE/L where A = approximate cross-section area of columns of upper section (take 97th floor)

= Core A + Perimeter A = 2,622 in^2 + 3,726 in^2 = 6,348 in^2

E = 30 X 10^6 psi and L = height of 12 stories above 97th floor = 149.24 in X 12 stories = 1,791 in.

Therefore, Cu = 6,348 in^2 X 30 X 10^6 psi/1,791 in. = 106.3 X10^6 lb/in

Converting lb/in to GN/m: 106.3 X 10^6 lb/in X 4.44 N/lb X 39.37 in/m

Cu = 18.6 GN/m

CL = 7.1 GN/m

1/Ceq = 1/7.1 GN/m + 1/18.6 GN/m And Ceq = 5.14 GN/m

Second, correcting the distance of the elastic deformation by replacing h with the elastic deformation: Pd/Ceq = 7.21 in

Converting 7.21 in to meters: 7.21 in X 1 m/39.37 in = 0.183 m

geotechnical engineering. He has authored or co-authored 320 peer reviewed papers and 90 research reports.

It is undoubtedly at the University of Colorado Boulder where Sture met Willam (**POI # 3**) and Professor Ross Corotis (**POI # 5**), since they all held positions there for decades. In his tenure at Boulder, Sture has also served as consultant to oil companies, the FAA, Lockheed-Martin, and the United Nations, among others.

Sture fits the profile of the other candidates for inclusion as a POI: Foreign born and educated, highly educated and decorated lifetime academic career; connected to other POIs both through the academic institutions where they worked and the ASCE JEM editorships; and potential ties to the intelligence/military/industrial communities in their past.

The question of how he was incentivized remains to be uncovered, but the possibilities listed for the POI candidates above also apply to him.

POI # 5: Professor Ross B. Corotis [JEM]

Ross Corotis took over the editor-in-chief position at JEM from Stein Sture (**POI # 4**) when Sture left in 2002, shortly after Bazant's original paper was published. Corotis remained in that position until 2010, during the period in which Bazant's theory began to be challenged in various papers published on the internet, and to which Bazant responded with rebuttals published in JEM in 2007 ("Mechanics of Progressive Collapse: Learning from World Trade Center and Building Demolitions") and 2008 ("What Did and Did Not Cause Collapse of World Trade Center Twin Towers in New York?"). JEM listed Corotis as the associate editor of the 2007 paper by Bazant, so he has direct knowledge of the dispute between Bazant and those who questioned his analysis. He left the JEM editor-in-chief position in 2010

Corotis is a graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he was a National Science Foundation Graduate Scholar. From 1970 to 1981 he was on the faculty of Northwestern University, where he would have known Bazant. In 1981 he went to Johns Hopkins University and established their Department of Civil Engineering, becoming associate dean in 1990. In 1994, he accepted the position of Dean of the College of Engineering and Applied Science at the University of Colorado Boulder. In 2001 he returned to the Department of Civil, Environmental and Architectural Engineering. His background is structural mechanics and he has been the director of eleven NSF projects. He is a past chair of both the ASCE Structural Division Technical Committee on the Safety of Buildings and the American Concrete Institute's Committee on Structural Safety. He is a past president of the ASCE

In fact, one of the reasons that he and Ballarini took so long to reach their decision regarding the Szamboti/Johns paper in 2012-2013 was because they both went to a Conference of the ASCE Engineering Mechanics Institute in the summer of 2013 where they met Bazant. Shortly thereafter, after a fifteen-month delay, they issued their unethical solution, calling the paper "out of scope." According to JEM publishing guidelines, a paper cannot be "out of scope" when it is a response to a paper that has been previously published in the journal.

As in the case of Ballarini, the question arises: Why would a distinguished professor and researcher become involved in what he had to have known was the cover-up of a mass murder? It could be that he felt the ominous repercussions of such an action, because he resigned from his position as co-editor of the JEM shortly thereafter and turned over all the duties to Ballarini.

His past yields a few clues. It is known that he performed some engineering work (testing East German concrete) for the U.S. intelligence service, so he had some connection in his past to agencies that could have incentivized him to play the role he did. Certainly, his comfortable position in academia was something he would not have wanted to lose (when he retired from the University of Houston in 2019, his annual salary was almost $200,000). Like Bazant, he moved from Eastern Europe to a secure professorship at a University in the U.S. (the University of Colorado Boulder) that has strong and long-standing ties to the U.S. government, the military-industrial complex, and the CIA. Somewhere in that history, whether willingly or unwillingly, he made the connection that led to his involvement in the cover-up.

POI # 4: Stein Sture [JEM]

Stein Sture was the editor-in-chief of the JEM from 1993 to 2002, and thus was in charge when Bazant's paper, "Why Did the World Trade Center Collapse – Simple Analysis," was submitted to the journal two days after 9/11. Sture was then responsible for the process that led to the publication of the paper in the January 2002 issue of the journal. The import of such publication cannot have been lost on him, and perhaps that is why he left the editorship post later that year.

Born in Norway, Sture began his education there, graduating from Schous Institute Technology in Oslo in 1970. He then moved to Colorado where he received his BS, MS, and Ph.D. from the University of Colorado Boulder in 1976. He has remained at that institution ever since, serving in various positions on the faculty and administration. His fields of expertise are experimental and analytical modeling in solid mechanics, geomechanics, structural mechanics, computational mechanics, and

PERSONS OF INTEREST

POIs 1-100: **Persons who were involved in the process of the creation of what became the official government narrative concerning the destruction of the Twin Towers and/or WTC 7.**

POI # 1: Zdenek Bazant [*Journal of Engineering Mechanics* (JEM) and Northwestern University]

The first person to surface in the cover-up operation was Professor Zdneck Bazant. He submitted a paper to the *JEM* two days after the attacks that put forth a theory of why the Twin Towers had come down. That theory remains the official explanation for the destruction of the Twin Towers to this day, despite the fact that his theory has been shown to be wrong [see Appendix C, "Why the Claim by Professor Zdenek Bazant and the NIST that Complete Collapse of the Twin Towers was Inevitable Once Initiated does not Conform to Reality"].

Bazant was born in the former Czechoslovakia. His father and grandfather were well-known engineers who were not on good terms with the Soviets after they took over the country at the end of WWII. Bazant says he was denied entry into graduate school in Czechoslovakia because he had refused to join the Communist Party. In 1968, Czech citizens rose up against the Soviets, and Bazant, who apparently was in Canada at the time and who had expressed sympathy for the uprising, decided not to return to his native country.

Instead, with the assistance of the Ford Foundation, he quickly obtained a professorship at Northwestern University in the Civil Engineering Department, where he has remained ever since. He is a longtime contributor to ASCE publications and has received numerous awards from them and many other organizations. His specialty is generally in concrete, ceramics and solid mechanics. He is licensed as a Structural Engineer in Illinois. He is a former editor of JEM.

Because of his background as an immigrant from Eastern Europe – and given what we now know of the activities of the CIA in Eastern Europe after WWII – it is possible that Bazant was incentivized by the intelligence community to concoct the official narrative for the destruction of the Twin Towers. It is not credible that his analysis was put together and submitted to the JEM within two days of the event. Furthermore, when problems arose with his theory, his defense, and the role of the

NOTES:

- Zdenek P. Bazant and Mathieu Verdure, "Mechanics of Progressive Collapse: Learning from World Trade Center and Building Demolitions," Zdenek P., *Journal of Engineering Mechanics*, March 2007; "What Did and Did Not Cause Collapse of World Trade Center Twin Towers in New York?," Zdenek P. Bazant, Jia-Liang Le, Frank R. Greening, and David B. Jenson, *Journal of Engineering Mechanics*, October 2008; "Why the Observed Motion History of World Trade Center Towers is Smooth," Zdenek P. Bazant and Jia-Liang Le, *Journal of Engineering Mechanics*, January 2011; "Spontaneous Collapse Mechanism of World Trade Center Twin Towers and Progressive Collapse in General," Zdenek P. Bazant and Jia-Liang Le, *Journal of Structural Engineering*, April 8, 2022.

- National Institute of Standards and Technology, "Federal Building and Fire Safety Investigation of the World Trade Center Disaster: Final Report on the Collapse of the World Trade Center Towers," 2005, NIST NCSTAR 1-6 "Structural Fire Response and Probable Collapse Sequence of the World Trade Center Towers" (authored by John L. Gross and Therese P. McAllister), paragraph 9.4.4, p. 323, wherein they explicitly state, referring to Bazant's theory:
  "NIST agrees with the assessment of the tower's required structural capacity to absorb the released energy of the upper building section as it began to fall as an approximate lower bound."

  NIST also references other studies: Weidlinger Associates, Inc., with Hughes Associates and ArupFire (2002 & 2003); University of Maryland and Israel Institute of Technology (2002); University of Edinburgh (2003 & 2005); and ARUP (2005). However, none of these other reports posited the collapse mechanism of the lower part of the buildings – only Bazant's paper put forward a theory purporting to explain why the lower part of the buildings failed. Furthermore, in other parts of the NIST Report, references are made to the failure of the lower part of the building for the reasons given in the Bazant theory, e.g., NIST NCSTAR 1, Abstract, p. iii:
  "Global collapse occurred as potential energy of the falling upper structure exceeded the strain energy capacity of the deforming structural members."

- Tony Szamboti & Graeme MacQueen, "The Missing Jolt: A Simple Refutation of the NIST-Bazant Collapse Hypothesis," *Journal of 9/11 Studies*, January 2009, Appendix C.

PARTICIPATION IN A KEY ACTIVITY OF THE COVER-UP (KNOWINGLY OR NOT)

A. YES
B. MAYBE
C. NO

ESTIMATED APPROACHABILITY

I. GOOD
II. UNKNOWN
III. POOR

IN ADDITION, AN ESTIMATE OF THE BIRTH YEAR OF EACH INDIVIDUAL IS SHOWN IN THE COLUMN TO THE FAR RIGHT.

The paper he is credited with co-authoring defends the Bazant Crush Down/Crush Up (CDCU) theory by citing evidence related to the particle size of the crushed concrete, the expelled air as the cause of the sound of explosions, and the interpretation of the seismic record for the destruction of the towers. Since none of these subjects relates to his field of expertise, it is cause for speculation that his inclusion as one of the authors may relate to Bazant's need to broaden his connections to other authors and thus deflect attention from himself.

Since this paper is an indirect defense of Bazant's original paper, it is important to discern not only the nature of his connection to Bazant but also the depth of Professor Benson's understanding and commitment to Bazant's theory.

POI # 11: Attorney Arthur Edward Schwartz [NATIONAL SOCIETY OF PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERS (NSPE)]

Arthur Schwartz, recently retired, was the chief executive officer and general counsel of the NSPE and also executive director of the National Academy of Forensic Engineers (NAFE), an NSPE affinity group. He graduated from State University of NY Buffalo in 1977 and got his law degree from the American University/Washington College of Law in 1980.

Before his retirement, Schwartz was the NSPE expert on ethics, writing a column for the NSPE monthly publication, *PE Magazine*. Although each NSPE chapter is supposed to have an ethics officer to handle ethics issues that may arise for its members, it has recently come to light that the system is not functioning as designed, and that the issues that Schwartz wrote about in his column were entirely fictional.

More importantly, it is known that it was Schwartz who wrote the position paper that NSPE and NAFE subsequently endorsed on the WTC building failures, i.e., that the study had been done by NIST and was therefore beyond further investigation. The statement was identical to the anonymous statement issued by ASCE (See Appendix A) in an effort to discourage its branches from inviting Project Due Diligence (Architects & Engineers for 9/11 Truth) to make presentations on the subject to its members.

It would therefore be of great interest to know who convinced Schwartz that such a position was necessary for the national leadership of NSPE and NAFE to take, and why he wrote the letter anonymously.

POI # 12: Frank R. Greening [ENGINEERING CONSULTANT, ONTARIO, CANADA]

CHAPTER 3

Critical decisions that derailed the investigations

"We are oftener deceived by being told some truth than no truth."

– Fulke Greville

Critical decisions were made during the preparation of the FEMA and NIST reports that directed the investigations away from the evidence and to conclusions that are inconsistent with the facts. A chronological list of these major strategic decisions is as follows:

Decision #1: Pliable agents were planted among the appointed investigators.

It was inevitable that there would be investigations into the event, including one or more into the dramatic failures of the three high-rise buildings at the World Trade Center. It was therefore critical for the criminals who carried out the attacks to have operational control over the investigations, beginning on September 11, 2001.

Political control was essential but would only come into play after the investigations were well under way. Congressional passage of the National Construction Team Safety Act on October 1, 2002, would establish the authority necessary to control the investigations by putting NIST in charge of the process after the FEMA Report had laid the deceptive foundation.

It was absolutely essential for the plotters to have persons placed in charge of the incipient investigations from the outset so that the strategic direction of the process could be controlled. These persons of influence were selected due to their standing, credibility, and positions within the engineering profession. This was done so that they could provide not only daily operational control but "unassailable" authority to back up the "veracity" and "integrity" of the official reports that would ultimately come out of the investigations.

that had been raked to the perimeters of the roof of the condemned Deutsche Bank building, officials said.

"Of the 2,749 people who were killed in the trade center attack, the remains of 1,151 have never been identified, despite advanced DNA testing. To date, the chief medical examiner's office has been unable to identify more than 9,000 fragments taken from the attack site."

The crushing mechanism of tons of concrete and steel could not produce tiny bone fragments deposited hundreds of feet from the buildings, much less completely obliterate the remains of more than a thousand victims. Only an explosive event could produce such forensic results.

This evidence and the obvious conclusion to be drawn from it have been ignored.

Physical evidence of high-impact damage from explosions in the lobbies was destroyed when the debris was quickly removed, as noted in Decision #3. Video evidence documenting the damage was ignored.

Decision #11: Evidence was ignored that the failure of the WTC 1 & 2 core columns initiated the destruction of the buildings.

Since the NIST Report on the destruction of the Twin Towers depended on the assertion that their collapses began with the failure of some of the perimeter columns, NIST had to ignore evidence that the core columns failed first. (This was documented by video evidence of the descent of the antenna on WTC 1 before the roofline fell, which NIST principal investigator, Gene Corley pointed out). This important contradiction is fatal to NIST's destruction theory.

Decision #12: Seismic evidence was incorrectly analyzed.

The seismic evidence of the destruction of the buildings had to be "interpreted" in such a way as to explain away the explosions and the lack of impact of the upper parts of the towers on the lower parts — both of which would expose fatal contradictions within the NIST theory.

Decision #13: Evidence of explosions in the lower floors of WTC 7 at the approximate time of the destruction of WTC 1 was ignored

To succeed, the cover-up had to create a false narrative that led away from the evidence. It had to have credibility for long enough to prevent attention from returning to the actual evidence itself. Over time, the perpetrators planned for the myth to solidify with the help of increasing levels of mutually reinforcing myths built upon the original misdirection.

The story would then be established and would be strong enough to withstand any future challenges to its validity. We can observe this process unfolding with the ASCE/SEI publishing Standard 76-23 in 2023, a new proposed standard for protecting structures based on the findings of the official narrative, with companies offering professional development credits for taking courses with content that mirrors the NIST reports.

More than 20 years after the execution of the crime, we now have reached the stage where the myth, though still vulnerable, could become a "historical truth" (i.e., a story that, though disbelieved by many, is still the official account of an event that changed history in a significant way). Though the efforts of architects, engineers, and researchers working with Architects & Engineers for 9/11 Truth have completely discredited the narrative, efforts to bring these truths to the public consciousness have not been strong enough to shake the foundations of the myth. And there is a real possibility that our efforts will become a fading footnote to history absent some dramatic event that creates the basis for a new appraisal of the evidence. In addition, the Persons of Interest (POIs) themselves are aging and beginning to die off.

Therefore, it is time to begin a deeper investigation of the evidence by examining those who may have had a role in carrying out the cover-up. An incomplete list of those persons of interest follows. Others will be added as they are uncovered through further investigation. Since the POIs are aging, now is the time to begin asking them pertinent questions about what they saw and learned during the FEMA and NIST investigations of the destruction of the WTC high-rise buildings.

McAllister (**POI # 103**). He is also listed as one of the five authors of the FEMA report in the introduction to the report, along with Therese McAllister (**POI # 103**), Jonathan Barnett (**POI # 124**), John Gross (**POI # 102**), and Jon Magnusson (**POI # 134**), and as the lead author on the chapter on Twin Towers, along with authors William Baker (**POI # 135**), Jonathan Barnett (**POI # 124**), Christopher Marrion (**POI # 125**), James Milke (**POI # 136**), and Harold "Bud" Nelson (**POI # 112**).

Hamburger got his BS and MS in Civil Engineering from New York University. He is listed as having graduated with both degrees in 1974 after four years of attendance. He is listed as having received an MBA in Construction Project Management from Golden Gate University in 1985 after four years of attendance. There is no information listed on his CV for the years between 1974 and 1980.

The company he worked for until 2000, EQE Consulting, specialized in risk management assessment relative to disasters. It did work for the World Bank, the National Science Foundation, FEMA, and the U.S. Department of State, among others. In 2000, EQE was sold to ABS Group, a firm that has extensive ties to the petroleum industry based in Texas. Shortly afterwards, in 2002, he changed employment to Simpson Gumpertz & Heger (SGH), where he would have known Robert MacNeill (**POI # 116**), Omer Erbay (**POI # 117**), Andrew Sarawit (**POI # 118**) and Mehdi Zarghamee (**POI # 119**).

On September 19, eight days after the attack, Hamburger is quoted in the *Wall Street Journal* (WSJ) as having said, "It appeared to me that charges had been placed in the building…. I was very surprised," because the buildings "certainly did not do as well as I would have hoped." He subsequently changed his story and attributed the failure of the towers to vulnerabilities in the design, failure of the fireproofing, and a "flimsy" design of the floor trusses.

Hamburger is a person of great interest in this investigation. His background is suspiciously sketchy for a person to be entrusted with the responsibilities he was given. His education is lightweight, and there is a five-year hole in his official resume. Coupled with his high public exposure as an expert on the WTC building failures, the major role he was given in the BPAT study, his early speculation on explosives that might have been used to bring the building down (and subsequent reversal on that premise), all taken together with his quick subsequent elevation to a senior position at SGH where other POIs are clustered, (**POIs 116, 117, 118, & 119**) all make for an extremely prominent and suspicious role in the cover-up. He is definitely one of the prominent POIs.

- Tony Szamboti & Graeme MacQueen, "The Missing Jolt: A Simple Refutation of the NIST-Bazant Collapse Hypothesis," *Journal of 9/11 Studies*, January 2009, Appendix D.
- Gregory H. Urich, "Analysis of the Mass and Potential Energy of World Trade Center Tower 1," *Journal of 9/11 Studies*, December 2007, available at http://www.journalof911studies.com/volume/200703/GUrich/MassAndPeWtc.pdf

CHAPTER 1
Implanting the official narrative

"It's reminiscent of those pictures we've all seen too many times of buildings that are deliberately destroyed by well-placed dynamite."

– Dan Rather, CBS Evening News, September 11, 2001

Within minutes of the impact of a large aircraft with the North Tower of the World Trade Center, the official narrative was being implanted in the public psyche. Even as the destruction of that morning was still playing out, the cover-up had already begun.

And it continues to this day.

The first element of the false narrative had Osama bin Laden and al-Qaeda being linked to the "attacks" even before any definitive information could have been gathered or any investigation begun. Within minutes of the first strike, Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak appeared on BBC World to say:

"The world will not be the same. This is an attack against our whole civilization. I do not know who is responsible; I believe we will know within 12 hours. If it is a kind of bin Laden organization, and even if it's something else, I believe it's time to deploy a globally concerted effort – led by the United States, the UK, Europe, and Russia – against all sources of terror."

While he didn't say it definitely was bin Laden (after all, how could he know?), he did indicate, curiously, that the truth would likely come to light "within 12 hours." It could be asserted that this statement reinforced the notion that it would not take long for bin Laden's guilt to be confirmed.

Both the American and British governments claimed to have evidence of bin Laden's involvement when they demanded that Afghanistan hand over the alleged mastermind. In early October of 2001, the U.S. launched air strikes against Afghanistan, which U.S. President George W. Bush said would only stop once the Taliban government had transferred bin Laden into U.S. custody.

In 1975, he returned to Cornell University as a doctoral candidate. He received a Ph.D. in Structural Engineering with a minor in Theoretical and Applied Mechanics in May 1980. His research involved the development of an analytical method for evaluating a building's resistance to progressive collapse.

Gross joined the faculty at the University of Colorado, Boulder in August 1979, where he would have met Kaspar Willam (**POI # 3**) and Stein Sture (**POI # 4**). He held the rank of assistant professor in the Department of Civil, Environmental, and Architectural Engineering. In this capacity, he taught both undergraduate and graduate courses in Structural Engineering and conducted research in the area of analysis of partially erected structures.

In July 1983, Gross joined NIST as a research structural engineer. His research interests include computer analysis and design of structures, structural steel, fracture mechanics, nonlinear mechanics and stability. He participated in the collapse investigation of L'Ambiance Plaza and led the Ashland Oil tank failure investigation. Gross conducted an analytical investigation of the Cypress Viaduct elevated highway structure that failed in the Loma Prieta earthquake of October 1989, and research into the failure of steel beam-to-column connections in the January 1994 Northridge earthquake. He was responsible for the Structural Fire Response and Collapse aspects of the NIST World Trade Center investigation.

Gross is a registered professional engineer in the State of Pennsylvania. He is a Fellow of the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) and serves on the ASCE Committee on Design of Steel Building Structures. He also is a member of the American Institute of Steel Construction (AISC) Specifications Committee. Dr. Gross is a member of Sigma Xi Scientific Research Society, Chi Epsilon Honorary Civil Engineering Fraternity and Phi Kappa Phi Honor Society.

In 1988, he received the ACI Wason Medal for Most Meritorious Paper and the CBT Communicator Award. He was named among the "Top Ten Federal Engineers of the Year" by the National Society of Professional Engineers (NSPE) for 2001. In 2001, Dr. Gross received the Raymond C. Reese Research Prize awarded by the American Society of Civil Engineers, and the U.S. Department of Commerce Bronze Medal Award. Gross was awarded the Department of Commerce Gold Medal in 2005 and Special Act Award in 2008 for his contributions to the World Trade Center failure investigation.

John Gross has been a kingpin in the 9/11 false narrative. The awards heaped upon him for his efforts and his central role in many of the key events mark him as a person central to the cover-up. The widely distributed photo taken of him inspecting the severely eroded steel beam from WTC 7 ties him physically to knowledge of the use of

Northwestern University for at least another five years, as he is listed as co-author with Bazant on other papers published until 2006. I was unable to find further information about his personal background.

It is probable that Bazant cited Zhou primarily to give his paper a broader technical base and avoid the appearance that he was alone in this endeavor. Zhou probably did do some work on the paper and may know some background information that would be helpful in a deeper investigation.

POI # 8: Mathieu Verdure [NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY]

Mathieu Verdure is listed as co-author of Bazant's (**POI # 1**) second WTC paper published by JEM in March 2007. At that time, he was listed as a Visiting Fellow at Northwestern University from Ecole Polytechnique in Palaiseau, France. An internet search fails to provide any further information on Verdure.

POI # 9: Professor Jia-Liang Le [NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY]

Le was one of the co-authors of Bazant's 2008 paper, "What Did and Did Not Cause Collapse of World Trade Center Twin Towers in New York?" Again, Bazant enlisted one of his graduate research assistants at Northwestern University to co-author this critical paper.

But Le's involvement in the WTC issue runs deeper. He went on to become an associate professor at the University of Minnesota after receiving his Ph.D. from Northwestern University in 2010. While at the University of Minnesota he met Roberto Ballarini (**POI # 2**) (chair of the CEE Department) and later authored at least one paper with him.

He also worked as a structural engineer at ARUP for a year in 2005 at a time when the firm provided expert opinion for the Con Edison lawsuit against World Trade Center 7. Therefore, he has multiple ties to the cover-up and must be familiar with the problems associated with it.

POI # 10: Professor David B. Benson [WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY]

Professor Benson is one of the co-authors of Bazant's 2008 paper "What Did and Did Not Cause Collapse of World Trade Center Twin Towers in New York?" so he is connected to Bazant (**POI # 1**), Le (**POI # 9**), and Greening (**POI # 12**). He is a professor of electrical Engineering and computer science at Washington State University. He graduated from Cal Tech in 1968 and was an assistant professor at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill from 1968 to 1970.

the sulfur found in the gypsum wallboard in the building. It would be most informative to ask him some deeper questions about this clearly false position that he has taken and to uncover some of the connections he made with other engineers on the BPAT.

POI # 125: Christopher Marrion, PE [WPI]

Christopher Marrion was on the BPAT formed by FEMA and ASCE that investigated the evidence at the WTC. He is a graduate of Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) where he received his MS in Fire Protection Engineering after graduating with a BS from the State University of New York Buffalo (SUNY) in Electrical/Computer Engineering.

He is personally acquainted with Professor Jonathan Barnett. After working with BPAT, he went to work for ARUP Group, where he joined the effort to establish ARUP Fire Protection Engineering.

In 2010 he went on to form his own company, Marrion Fire & Risk Consulting PE LLC.

Marrion may have inside knowledge of the mechanisms by which the members of the BPAT were selected, and who made those selections. The selection of the members of BPAT had strategic importance for the perpetrators of the crime and the cover-up.

POI # 126: Ronald R. Biederman [WPI]

Along with Dr. Jonathan Barnett **(POI # 124)** and Richard D. Sisson Jr. (**POI # 127**), Biederman was one of the co-authors of Appendix C of the FEMA WTC 7 Report that identified unusual erosion patterns in steel structural members taken from WTC 7 and one of the Twin Towers.

He was an employee of Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) at the time. He most probably is retired or deceased by this time, as there is no current information on him available on the internet.

One of the recommendations of the FEMA study was for further study of the steel to determine more precisely the mechanisms of what was observed, i.e., the possible source of the sulfur, the rate of corrosion, etc., to determine what caused the erosion.

POI # 127: Dr. Richard D. Sisson Jr. [WPI]

Along with Dr. Jonathan Barnett (**POI # 124**) and Ronald R. Biederman (**POI # 126**), Dr. Richard Sisson was one of the authors of Appendix C of the FEMA WTC 7

Ph.D. in aerospace engineering from the University of Texas at Austin in 2001. He has been at the Silicon Valley office of ARA since July of 2001.

Bocchieri has been responsible for managing and developing research projects in the field of solids and structural mechanics. Research topics include advanced materials testing and analysis, full-scale crash and blast testing, large-scale finite element simulations, nonlinear dynamic structural behavior, and fracture and failure of materials. Applications include blast effects on structures. Many projects have included large-scale modeling using the explicit finite element code LS-DYNA.

The ARA studies reconstructed the impact damage to each of the WTC buildings and conducted analytical studies related to the WTC building collapses. In addition, data and evidence was collected, tests of the floor truss systems in the WTC towers were conducted, the overall structural analysis approach, and the development of the collapse hypotheses was studied to provide a basis for the impact analyses and the fire and structural response analyses. The primary structural systems of the WTC towers and WTC 7, the effects of fire on the three buildings, and how these events contributed to building collapse Were also examined.

Like his colleagues at ARA, Bocchieri knows the problems with the NIST reports and his involvement in those issues is indisputable.

POI # 122: James Brokaw, PE [ARA]

James Brokaw is senior security engineer and director of the Security Engineering Group at ARA, where he has worked since 1993. He provided expertise in the analysis of progressive collapse in the WTC buildings. He served as the lead consultant for numerous projects of national significance subject to terrorist threats and assisted in the development of the General Service Administration's (GSA) progressive collapse analysis and design guidelines.

Brokaw received a BS in Civil Engineering from West Virginia University in 1990 and an MS in Civil Engineering from the same school in 1992.

He is a registered professional engineer and senior blast engineering consultant. He has served as the lead blast consultant for numerous projects of national significance.

Like his fellow engineers at ARA, Brokaw has intimate knowledge of the contradictions that are found in the NIST reports on the WTC building failures.

POI # 123: Brian Peterson [ARA]

Maryland Section and is a registered Professional Engineer in Colorado, Maryland, and Illinois and a structural engineer in Illinois. He is author of more than 200 publications and has given more than 100 presentations at professional meetings and symposia.

We see in his background the connections with Bazant **(POI # 1)** and Ballarini **(POI # 2)** at Northwestern University and with Willam **(POI # 3)** and Sture **(POI # 4)** at the University of Colorado Boulder. He should have recused himself from editing Bazant's 2007 JEM paper due to his prior 11-year position with Bazant on the faculty at Northwestern University.

POI # 6: Professor George Z. Voyiadjis [JEM]

Professor Voyiadjis was the associate editor of JEM in October 2008, and he was involved in the publishing of Bazant's third paper on the WTC failures, "What Did and Did Not Cause Collapse of World Trade Center Towers in New York?" He may have been brought in specifically to oversee the publication of the Bazant paper as he has no other connection to ASCE or JEM that I have found. Nevertheless, he has the credentials and the experience to know that he was participating in a professional debate that had explosive potential.

Born in Cairo in 1946, Voyiadjis received his BS from Ain Shams University in Cairo, and once in the U.S. he received his MS from the California Institute of Technology before going on to Columbia University to receive his doctorate in Engineering Science in 1973. His specialty is applied mechanics. After receiving his Ph. D., he worked on nuclear power plant research in New York for two years and then moved back to Cairo as a professor in the Department of Civil Engineering at the King Fahd University of Petroleum and Minerals. He remained there until 1980 and then went to Louisiana State University, where he remains at the time of the writing of this book. Voyiadjis has risen to the level of Boyd Professor and Bingham C. Stewart Distinguished Professor and is chairman of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. During his tenure at LSU, he has taken sabbaticals and leaves, and in 1986 he worked at the Naval Research Laboratory in Washington, D.C. He has published numerous books, including on the subject of damage mechanics, and he has written hundreds of papers that have been cited thousands of times. He is a member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME).

POI # 7: Yong Zhou [NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY]

Yong Zhou was a graduate research assistant at Northwestern University and is listed as the co-author of Bazant's (**POI # 1**) first paper submitted to the JEM two days after 9/11 and published in January 2002. Zhou apparently remained in his position at

9/11, along with James Feuerborn (**POI # 13**), Victoria Arbitrio (**POI # 205**), and Dan Eschenasy (**POI # 142**).

POI # 104: Richard G. Gann [NIST]

Richard G. Gann is a general physical scientist at NIST. His specialty is fire science, and he is the author of various papers and books on fires, including, Principles of Fire Behavior and Combustion. As such, he would have been intimately involved in modeling the fires that occurred in the Twin Towers and WTC 7.

The fires in WTC 7 were greatly distorted in the NIST model, since the analysis they used indicated that the damage that caused girder A2001 to fail on the 13th floor did not cause the failure until four hours of fire had weakened the girder and caused a maximum temperature of 600^0 C in the beams in the northeast corner of the building, an unrealistic assumption. The NIST model also showed the fires reaching maximum temperature in the northeast corner of the building at least two hours after the fires on the 12th and 13th floors had burned out in that area. It is well known in the fire science field that normal office fires will burn out due to lack of fuel in 30-45 minutes, and this anomaly between that time period and the four-hour exposure used in the WTC 7 report has never been explained. As such, Gann must have known that there was something going on with the model assumptions that was not justified.

POI # 105: Jason D. Averill [NIST]

Jason D. Averill is chief of the Materials and Structural Systems Division (MSSD) of the Engineering Laboratory (EL) at NIST. As such, he is the current boss of Therese McAllister (**POI # 103**) in the Community Resilience Group, one of four divisions within the MSSD.

Averill joined NIST in 1997, one year after graduating from Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI) with a BS in Civil Engineering. A year later, he received his MS from Worcester in Fire Protection Engineering. Worcester later came into the 9/11 narrative because Professor Jonathon R. Barnett (**POI # 124**) obtained a steel beam from WTC 7 that he examined and found to have been exposed to incendiaries and experienced severe corrosion at temperatures greater than office fires could produce.

Averill led the study of the occupant egress project at NIST, "Occupant Egress, Human Behavior, and Emergency Communication in the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001." As such, he does not appear to have been involved in either the fire analysis or the structural analysis of the building failures.

Persons of Interest

The following working list of Persons of Interest (POIs) has been separated into four groups according to how they may have become involved in the cover-up:

POIs 1-100: Persons who were either involved in the creation of the NIST Report explaining the collapse of the Twin Towers published in 2005, or the paper published by the Journal of Engineering Mechanics (JEM) in January 2002, or those who were involved in the creation of the NIST Report on the destruction of WTC 7 in 2008.

POIs 101-199*: Persons who may have become involved through their participation in the compilation and publishing of the official government reports.

POIs 200-350: Persons who may have become involved through participation in:

A) the planting of the incendiaries;
B) the clean-up and disposal of the evidence;
C) the original design & construction of the buildings;
D) the documentation of the official evidence on 9/11.

POIs 351-400: Persons involved in researching the development and production of nano-thermite.

(*Note: POIs 141-400 will follow in part 2 of this chapter.)

FURTHER, IN THE NUMERICAL TABLE OF THE POIs AT THE END OF THE LISTING, THE FOLLOWING CATAGORIES OF FACTORS ARE SHOWN FOR THE INDIVIDUALS WHERE THE FOLLOWING CAN BE ESTIMATED:

KNOWLEDGE OF THE COVER-UP

1. POSITIVE
2. VERY PROBABLE
3. POSSIBLY
4. PROBABLY NOT

Magnusson has had numerous awards heaped on himself and his company since 2001. He has served on the board of governors of ASCE/SEI and is currently the president of the ASCE Foundation. He graduated from the University of Washington with a BS in Civil Engineering in 1975 and received an MS in Structural Engineering from UC Berkeley in 1976. He immediately went to work for the firm where he now is a senior partner that bears his name. By 1988, he had risen to be CEO.

The conduct of the entire engineering profession and the government with regards to the collapse of the towers is suspicious, exhibiting an eagerness to accept early explanations without data and a lack of curiosity about the actual mechanisms of the failure. Magnusson and his company were never held to account, and he was allowed to be anointed as a hero instead of being required to answer critical questions regarding the performance of the buildings.

POI # 135: William Baker, SE [SKIDMORE OWINGS & MERRILL LLP (SOM)]

Baker was selected to be a member of the BPAT group that performed the investigation that became the basis for the 2002 FEMA Report on the building failures. He has been a partner at the firm of Skidmore Owings & Merrill in Chicago since 1996. He had graduated with a BS from the University of Missouri in 1975 and an MS from the University of Illinois Champagne Urbana in 1980. He is a world-renowned structural engineer who is responsible for the design of the tallest building in the world in Dubai. He has received many honors from the structural engineering profession.

Baker is listed as one of the authors of Chapter 2 on WTC 1 & 2 in the FEMA Report along with Christopher Marrion (**POI # 125**), Jonathan Barnett (**POI # 124**), James Milke (**POI # 136**), Harold "Bud" Nelson (**POI # 112**), and Ronald Hamburger (**POI # 133**). He is also the sole author of Chapter 3 on the issue of the structural response of WTC 3, the Marriott Hotel.

It is hard to believe that Baker, with his background in high-rise steel-framed buildings, is unaware of the deficiencies in the NIST reports on the Twin Towers and WTC 7. Curiously, none of the information readily available on the internet concerning Baker mentions his involvement with the 9/11 reports, perhaps indicating his reluctance to be associated with them.

POI # 136: James Milke [UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND]

Professor James Milke is chair of the Department of Fire Protection at the University of Maryland (UMD). He is one of the authors of the Chapter on WTC 1 & 2 in the

> that, in turn, pushed the girder off its seat. But the first 20 floors had water supplied from the street main system. There is video evidence of the sprinklers running on the lower floors of the building.

NIST claimed that the damage caused to WTC 7 by the collapse of WTC 1 wasn't sufficient to cause the building to collapse. This conflicts with the report by Rotanz. NIST did not want to give credence to any claim that there was significant damage to the lower floors of WTC 7, because this could lead investigators to examine that evidence, which could not have been caused by the collapse of WTC 1. That explains why NIST chose to go with the story that there was no water to fight the fires.

It is reasonable to speculate that WTC 7 was intended to come down at the time of the "collapse" of WTC 1 earlier that day. However, there must have been a glitch in setting off the explosives within the building that required a "work around," i.e., relying on fires within the building to explain its collapse due to explosives later that afternoon. (See Decision #13 for further evidence of this hypothesis).

At any rate, potential action to fight the fires had to be prevented.

Decision #3: Much of the physical evidence was quickly destroyed.

After WTC 1 and WTC 2 were destroyed, search-and-rescue operations began immediately, since there might still have been survivors under the wreckage. This required a temporary delay in the rapid removal and destruction of the evidence from the two structures. However, once a week or two had passed and no further survivors could be expected to be found, the cleanup operation was accelerated.

No restrictions were placed on the hauling off of the WTC 7 debris, since the building had been evacuated before it collapsed. Removal of the evidence began immediately.

Clearing the way for the rapid removal and destruction of the evidence was a critical decision that required both the authority to order the removal and the means to carry it out. This decision has been attributed to Michael Burton (**POI # 236**), head of the NYC Design and Construction Department, and was in clear violation of the law that prohibits tampering with evidence at a crime scene.

Although the rapid clearing of the crime scene may have been justified in the early phase of the operation because the search for survivors from WTC 1 and WTC 2 was still under way, it could not have been justified after the first few days. In the case of WTC 7, there was no justification for the decision to remove and destroy the evidence. Such action could not be reconciled with the need for a thorough forensic

against the United States. (The trauma of that day was further reinforced by the alleged plane crashes at the Pentagon and in Shanksville, Pennsylvania.)

If watching the second impact and hearing about the first weren't already horrifying enough, the world then watched as both towers appeared to disintegrate before our eyes. The South Tower, which had been hit second, came down first, at 9:56 a.m., EST, and the North Tower followed at 10:28 a.m.

As I'll show in future chapters, the initial investigation by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) posited that the impacts and resultant fires had initiated "pancake collapses," meaning that as each floor collapsed its weight was added to the mass of material crushing the building below. This hypothesis would later be abandoned when the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) published its findings. NIST, in fact, would only address the *initiation* of "collapse" and not what occurred once the complete destruction of the towers was under way.

Problems with the official story

Even on September 11, there were elements of the official narrative that didn't make sense. This led to later challenges to the story from researchers, including those working with Architects & Engineers for 9/11
Truth. The government's claim that "gravitational collapses" of the Twin Towers had occurred was impossible for a number of reasons. For example, a gravitational collapse could not account for the almost complete pulverization of 110 acre-size concrete floors, with fine concrete powder being dispersed across Lower Manhattan.

It also could not explain the almost complete dismemberment of 90,000 tons of steel frame in each structure or the ejection of sections of the steel columns weighing several tons each more than 600 feet (two football fields). Such pulverization and dismemberment require the use of explosives and/or nano-thermite, a high-tech incendiary with explosive properties that are well documented.

On the other hand, nano-thermite, not fire, can explain the presence in the WTC dust of billions of previously molten iron microspheres. Nanothermite, not fire, can explain the molten metal present in the debris of all three towers, which was acknowledged by Leslie Robertson, one of the chief structural engineers who worked on the design of the Twin Towers; New York Fire Department Captain Philip Ruvolo; and many others. Molten metal, evidently iron, also poured from the South Tower for seven minutes prior to the building's destruction, as captured in numerous videos and photographs.

Alan Ratner, President
Michael Henderson, General Manager
John Silva, Terminal Manager

Structural Engineers Association of New York – Salvage Yard Volunteers

Amit Bandyopadhyay
Anamaria Bonilla
Peter Chipchase
Anthony W. Chuliver
Edward DePaola
Louis Errichiello
James H. Fahey
Ramon Gilsanz
Jeffrey Hartmen
David Hoy
Dean Koutsoubis
Andrew McConnell
Rajani Nair
Alan Rosa
David Sharp
Gary Steficek
Kevin Terry

REPORT REVIEWERS

American Institute of Steel Construction
Farid Alfawakhiri
Charles J. Carter
Christopher M. Hewitt
Harry Martin
Thomas Schlafly Robert
Wills

ASCE Technical Council of Forensic Engineering

Paul A. Bosela, Cleveland State University
Merle E. Brander, Brander Construction Technology, Inc.
Leonard M. Joseph, Thornton=Tomasetti Engineers Robin
Shepherd, Earthquake Damage Analysis Co.

The correction of Bazant's conception and the errors in Equation 1

As enumerated above, there are unanswered questions regarding Bazant's Equation 1 to represent the elastic interaction between the upper part of the building and the lower part during his depiction of what caused the buildings to be destroyed.

Bazant's first error was his conceptualization of the process of destruction. He posited that the upper part of the building acted as a solid body impacting the lower part of the building with the lower part of the building acting as a spring during the initial elastic impact. He illustrated this conception in Figure 2(a) of his paper [reproduced below], in which the upper part of the building with mass m falls through a distance of one story, h, and impacts the lower part of the building acting as a spring with stiffness C. There are two problems with this concept.

- In reality, since for every action there is an equal and opposite reaction, in an elastic reaction the upper part of the building is also acting as a spring under the force of the collision between the two bodies. Therefore, the correct conception of the interaction must include two springs acting in series, each with their own stiffness, whereas Bazant only theorizes one spring – that of the lower part of the building. Correction of his error can be done by calculating the equivalent stiffness of the two springs acting in series, and this conception is also compared to Bazant's conceptualization below. Bazant's error affects his mathematical model of the event.

BAZANT'S FIGURE 2(a)

the Port Authority on the following days. Beginning on September 13, consulting support was provided by SEAoNY, Mueser Rutledge Consulting Engineers, Leslie E. Robertson Associates, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, FEMA, Urban Search and Rescue, and various other New York City departments." – World Trade Center Building Performance Study, Introduction, FEMA Publication 403, September 2002.

The introduction to the FEMA Report, partially quoted above, was authored by the following individuals: Therese McAllister (**POI # 103**), Jonathan Barnett (**POI # 124**), John Gross (**POI # 102**), Ronald Hamburger (**POI # 133**), and Jon Magnusson (**POI # 134**). [See ABOUT THIS BOOK in the Preface for the explanation and use of the term Persons of Interest (POI)]. Each played a critical role in the investigations performed by FEMA and/or, later, by NIST. Significantly, there is no mention in either report as to who made the decision to immediately begin hauling off the debris or any information on how that important decision was made. The action was taken to haul off and destroy most of the buildings' steel frames under tight security, disregarding laws prohibiting tampering with evidence at a crime scene.
It was not until more than a year after 9/11 – on October 1, 2002, and only after Congress faced strong public pressure to investigate – that Congress appointed NIST, an agency under the Department of Commerce, to conduct a more detailed analysis of the buildings' collapses. The legislation executing this decision was Public Law 107-231, otherwise known as The National Construction Safety Team Act. This law empowered an agency of the executive branch of the federal government to investigate an event that involved the potential culpability of another agency of the executive branch (the Department of Defense). It also ensured political control of the entire investigation process. This was a violation of the fundamental premise that no party with ties to a potential suspect in a crime should be in control of the investigation.

This was an all-important aspect of the cover-up.

The key personnel that were chosen and placed in critical positions within the administration of the investigation dutifully made decisions to avoid addressing any evidence that would challenge the pre-determined conclusion of the official narrative (that aircraft impacts and the resultant fires brought the buildings down).

No analysis of the dust in the debris was performed to determine whether the residue of incendiaries was present. When independent investigators performed this analysis, their findings that evidence of incendiary residue was present were

"Up to the moment of collapse trigger, the foregoing scenario (impact, removal of fireproofing, heating of members, collapse of floor trusses) was identified by meticulous, exhaustive, and very realistic computer simulations of unprecedented detail, conducted by S. Shyam Sunder's team at NIST. ***The subsequent progressive collapse was not simulated at NIST because its inevitability, once triggered by impact after column buckling, had already been proven by Bazant and Zhou's (2002A) comparison of kinetic energy to energy absorption capability. The elastically calculated stresses caused by impact of the upper part of the tower onto the lower part were found to be 31 times greater than the design stresses…. (…. Eq. 1, rather than 2, is decisive)."***

(Emphasis added)

In conclusion: the NIST Report, which purports to explain the complete collapse of the Twin Towers on 9/11, fails. This is the case because it relies on Bazant's CDCU theory to accurately portray the event, and that theory has been shown to be invalid.

and papers attempting to understand and explain what happened has been censored. Those engineers who question the NIST reports are labeled "conspiracy theorists" and subjected to ad hominem attacks and threats to their livelihoods.

As part of my ongoing work as chairman of the board of Architects & Engineers for 9/11 Truth (AE911Truth), I've decided to write this book to chronicle the attempts by some of us in the engineering community to challenge both the NIST reports and the leaders of the engineering profession who support them. In the book, I'll be revealing the ongoing efforts of the leadership of all the major engineering organizations to hide the truth about the WTC destruction and to block any potential future investigations.

Since AE911Truth was founded by architect Richard Gage in 2006, more than 3,600 building professionals have signed our petition calling for a new, impartial investigation into the cause of the destruction of the three buildings. Our outreach to the engineering community at the grass roots level has confirmed our belief that when engineers are confronted with the contradictions contained in the NIST reports, they unanimously agree that the reports are flawed and that the investigations should be re-opened, free from political interference.

Some within the 9/11 Truth Movement claim that since the NIST reports have been discredited, it is now time to focus our efforts on finding the perpetrators of the crime. They justify their strategy by asserting that only overwhelming public support will force a new investigation. They claim that accusing various individuals, corporations, and government agencies will create the necessary public pressure to force a new investigation.

AE911Truth strongly disagrees with this strategy, which ignores the fact that NIST completely relies on our profession to provide the expert opinion it uses to validate its narrative. We believe that only by removing the engineering profession's seal of approval from their reports will NIST be forced to admit that a new investigation by an impartial agency is needed. Without this step, no amount of public opinion will win the day.

The only way we can achieve a new, unbiased investigation is to unmask the "experts" who have forsworn their duty to the public and sold out our profession. The list of Persons of Interest at the end of this book is a preliminary look at many of the engineers, professors, and building professionals who were involved in compiling what became the official story as reported by NIST. Somewhere within that group are hidden the individuals who guided the investigation towards this false narrative.

rank-and-file engineers are met with stony silence or a repetition of the official narrative.

Summary

The cover-up of what really destroyed the three World Trade Center towers was executed by a few carefully chosen individuals within the leadership of the engineering and academic fields. The betrayal of these "experts" has had profound negative consequences, both for the integrity of the engineering profession and for the safety and well-being of Americans and the rest of the world. Until a new, impartial investigation is conducted, the official narrative of this event will continue to prevent the prosecution of the real criminals.

Senior Consultant with Rolf Jensen & Associates, Inc. since 2009. Worked for NIST as a research fire protection engineer on WTC investigation and received Commerce Department Gold Medal Award for his work. Was employed by NIST for 35 years.

He received his BS degree in Electrical Engineering for the Illinois Institute of Technology. He also worked with Jonathan Barnett (**POI # 121**) and Jason D. Averill (**POI # 105**) at Worcester Polytechnique Institute in the 1990s.

He is an expert in fire alarm systems. He is knowledgeable about the fire analysis in the WTC buildings and may know something about the corroded steel sample taken from WTC 7.

POI # 114: Dr. Hai S. Lew [NIST]

Dr. Hai Lew is a research structural engineer in the Structures Group of the Materials and Structural Systems Division of the Engineering Laboratory at NIST. He joined the National Bureau of Standards back in 1968, 20 years before it was renamed and repurposed as NIST. He received his BS in Architectural Engineering from Washington University in 1960, his MS in Civil Engineering from Lehigh University in 1963, and his Ph.D. in Civil Engineering from the University of Texas in 1967. He is an honorary member of the Architectural Institute of Korea and a member of the National Academy of Engineering of Korea. He was a member of the ASCE/SEI board of directors and serves on the executive committee of their Codes and Standards Activities Division and their Standard Committee on Blast Load Resistance of Structures. He has held several positions in the American Concrete Institute (ACI). He is a registered PE in the District of Columbia, Maryland, and New York.

Lew is mentioned in several reports as co-author having to do with the WTC building failures, and received the Gold Medal from NIST in 2005, which was connected to his work on the study of the Twin Towers. It is inconceivable that Lew is not cognizant of the problems with the structural engineering study of the NIST failure of the Twin Towers, which has never been released to explain the collapse of the structures after the initiating event.

POI # 115: Stephen A. Cauffman [NIST]

Stephen Cauffman works for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) as the section chief of Infrastructure and Development and Recovery in the Infrastructure Security Division, Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA).

Prior to going to work for DHS, he worked at NIST for 19 years, where he wrote the program plan for NIST's Community Resilience Program in 2013, a program now led

APPENDIX A

Persons and organizations contributing to the FEMA Report
(taken from Appendix G, Acknowledgments, FEMA Report)

REPORT ANALYSIS and GRAPHIC SUPPORT

ABS Consulting

Karen Damianick, Project Engineer
Jacques Grandino, Senior Project Manager
Mark Pierepiekarz, Group Manager
Andre Sidler, Lead Engineer
Daniel Symonds, Senior Project Manager

Arup Fire

James Lord, Fire Strategist

Federal Emergency Management Agency

Arlan Dobson, FEMA Region II, Disaster Assistance Specialist
Gary Sepulvado, FEMA Headquarters, Policy Analyst
Gilsanz Murray Steficek, LLP
Victoria Arbitrio, Associate
Christopher M. Hewitt, Structural Engineer Intern
Joo-Eun Lee, Structural Engineer
Raul Maestre, Structural Engineer
Phillip Murray, Partner
Willa Ng, Structural Engineer Intern Gary
Ray Steficek, Partner

National Institute of Standards and Technology

Ronald Rehm, NIST Fellow, Building and Fire Research Laboratory

Ryan Biggs Associates

Mathew G. Yerkey, Structural Engineer
Severud Associates Consulting Engineers, PC

professor at Case Western Reserve University from 1986 to 2006. He also served as professor of Mechanical Engineering at Olin College of Engineering for one year in 2003-2004 and assistant professor of Civil Engineering at Cleveland State University in 1985-86. He got his bachelor's degree in civil engineering at City College of New York in 1980, his master's from Northwestern University in 1981, and his Ph.D. from Northwestern University in 1985, at the same time that Bazant (**POI # 1**) was teaching there. A major aspect of Ballarini's endeavors is failure analysis. We know from photographs taken at professional events that Ballarini is acquainted with Bazant.

Like Bazant, Ballarini is a powerful figure in his field, both as a researcher and as a professor. His work has been published in many academic journals as well as in the mainstream media (*New York Times, Science Times, American Scientist, Business Week, Financial Times, Geo*). Like Bazant, he fits the profile of an authoritative figure in the field of engineering that would make his judgement hard to challenge with any credibility within the profession.

Nevertheless, it is indisputable that Ballarini played a crucial role in the suppression of professional inquiry into the failure of the Twin Towers. He was appointed as co-editor of JEM, joining Kaspar Willam (**POI # 3**) sometime in 2012. During the crucial time of 2012-2013 it was Ballarini and Willam who were responsible for the decision to turn down the Szamboti/Johns paper for publication by the JEM. After Szamboti and Johns submitted a discussion paper to JEM in May 2011 pointing out problems with the Le/Bazant paper, Ballarini and Willam sat on the Szamboti/Johns paper for 27 months before refusing to publish it in August 2013, declaring that it was "out of scope." This ruling is in violation of the JEM publishing protocols.

An appeal of that ruling and an ethics complaint against Ballarini and Willam were filed with the ASCE board of governors, and that body ruled in favor of the editors in August 2023. Part of the ethics complaint alleged that Ballarini should have recused himself from ruling on the paper, since he had professional relationships to Bazant and at least one of Bazant's co-authors [see, e.g., Jia-Liang Le, (**POI # 9**), below].

When asked directly whether he would publish at least an erratum for the Le and Bazant paper, Ballarini replied, *"I am not an expert in forensics and therefore do not plan to perform an analysis of the WTC collapse myself."* By that refusal, he took a deliberate action to protect the cover-up narrative, an action he could not have taken out of ignorance or lack of information.

The question remains, what could have motivated Ballarini to make such an unethical action? A threat to his career? An enticement of future rewards? Blackmail over some

APPENDIX C

Professor Zdenek Bazant's incorrect conception of the destruction of the WTC Twin Towers on 9/11 and errors in his mathematical analysis invalidate his theory and the NIST Report

Tony Szamboti, M.E. and Roland Angle, P.E.

Two days after September 11, 2001, Professor Zdenek Bazant of Northwestern University submitted a paper to the American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) publication, the *Journal of Engineering Mechanics* (*JEM*). His paper was titled, "Why did the World Trade Center Collapse? – Simple Analysis" and was co-authored with one of his graduate students, Yong Zhou. This technical paper put forward a theory, which came to be known as the "crush down/crush up" (CDCU) theory, that attempted to explain the mechanics of the destruction of the Twin Towers of the World Trade Center on 9/11. The *JEM* published his paper in January 2002 after some additions were made. Since then, the CDCU theory has been adopted by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) as the official U.S. government explanation for the complete "collapse" of the Twin Towers.

This was the first of five papers[1] that Bazant and various co-authors produced between 2001 and 2022 to describe and defend his theory. As such, it is the foundation that establishes the NIST narrative of the event, and it provides a mathematical analysis that attempts to prove its validity.

An examination of Bazant's first paper shows that the CDCU theory is not valid and that the mathematical analysis he presented as proof is flawed.

A close look at Bazant's "Why did the World Trade Center Collapse? – Simple Analysis"

The official government report on the destruction of the Twin Towers, published in 2005 by NIST, gave only a hypothetical explanation for the initiation of the failure of the towers. The NIST Report did not describe the mechanics of the "collapse" and specifically endorsed Bazant's theory.[2]

According to NIST, the destruction of the Twin Towers can be explained as follows:

timber. James has considerable experience in complex deconstruction projects, such as 130 Liberty St. (Deutsche Bank Building) and 680 Madison Ave. in New York City, and investigations involving crane collapses and roof and foundation failures. His project credits include emergency response services following the 2001 World Trade Center disaster and Superstorm Sandy in 2012, World Trade Center, New York, NY. Immediate damage assessment of buildings in the collapse area, assistance with demolition and temporary stabilization procedures, coordination of the survey monitoring of existing damaged structures, and subsequent inspection of hundreds of buildings in the area surrounding the collapse site.

EDUCATION

M.S., Engineering Mechanics, Columbia University

B.S., Civil Engineering, Columbia University

B.A., Humanities, Columbia University

Feuerborn was one of the keynote speakers at the SEAoNY Convention held in February, 2022 commemorating the 20th anniversary of 9/11. He shared the speaker honors with Therese McAllister (**POI # 103**), Victoria Arbitrio (**POI # 205**), and Dan Eschenasy (**POI # 142**).

POIs 101-199 (101-140 in this half of the chapter):

Persons who may have become involved through their participation in the compilation and publishing of the official government reports.

POI # 101: Dr. Shyam Sunder [NIST]

Dr. Shyam Sunder was the lead technical investigator at NIST for the reports on the failure of the Twin Towers and WTC 7. His current title is chief of the Materials and Construction Research Division in the Building and Fire Research Laboratory (BFRL) at NIST.

He graduated with a Bachelor of Technology in civil engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi before moving on to the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) to get his master's degree in civil engineering and Ph.D. in structural engineering in 1981. He began his career as a research assistant at MIT and worked there for 16 years, rising to the position of associate professor and senior research scientist. He then joined NIST as manager of the BFRL High Performance Materials and Systems Program. In 1998 he was named chief of BFRL's Structures Division, and in 2002 he became chief of the Materials and Construction Research

alleged to identify the suspects boarding the planes that were reputedly hijacked. This was followed by the supposed "miraculous" recovery of four passports belonging to the alleged hijackers.

"Four of the hijackers' passports have survived in whole or in part. Two were recovered from the crash site of United Airlines flight 93 in Pennsylvania. These are the passports of Ziad Jarrah and Saeed al Ghamdi. One belonged to a hijacker on American Airlines flight 11. This is the passport of Satam al Suqami. A passerby picked it up and gave it to a NYPD detective shortly before the World Trade Center towers collapsed. A fourth passport was recovered from luggage that did not make it from a Portland flight to Boston on to the connecting flight which was American Airlines Flight 11. This is the passport of Abdulaziz alOmari." – Wikipedia, retrieved 10-18-23

3. The official narrative was reinforced by continual repetition. This was regularly supplemented by fresh details to feed the news cycle. Biographies and histories of the al-Qaeda leaders ran continuously, together with breathless tales of the search for their whereabouts along with the endless repetition of the videos of the planes hitting the towers. Any information that could have raised skepticism about the official narrative was systematically removed from the news cycle.
4. The crime scenes were quickly secured and sealed off from public view. At the WTC, strict perimeters were quickly established, and the removal of the building debris began within days. This process, which was apparently controlled by the New York City Department of Design and Construction (NYCDDC), was conducted in direct violation of the laws regarding the destruction of evidence at a crime scene. The vast majority of the physical evidence was thus removed and destroyed, making it extremely difficult to conduct a forensic examination of the scene.
5. Most important for the long-term viability of the official narrative, the titular leaders of the engineering profession were immediately brought in and put in charge of evaluating the evidence at the scene.

FEMA: the initial stage of the investigation

The first wave of the "investigation" was carried out under the guidance of the Federal Emergency Management Agency. FEMA hired contractors because the agency lacked the necessary staff to do much of the work.

Tower, was "molten aluminum from the planes." This is an unfounded assumption, as the molten metal in question was glowing bright orange as it streamed out of the tower in the video, and molten aluminum is silver in daylight conditions.

Among the data that NIST refused to deal with honestly were: molten metal in the rubble for months afterwards, evidence of high-temperature erosion of the steel documented in Appendix C of the FEMA Report, and evidence of both thermite residue and iron spherules found in the dust, documented by independent investigators.

The presence of molten metal in the debris is significant because, according to NIST, only jet fuel and office fires were burning in the buildings. Neither fuel source burns at temperatures high enough to melt steel. Therefore, there must have been some incendiary capable of melting steel present during the destruction process. Iron granules are a combustion product of nano-thermite, and these, together with the thermite residue, are proof that this incendiary was involved in the towers' destruction.

Decision #10: All evidence of explosions in the basements and lobbies of the Twin Towers before the buildings came down was ignored.

Eyewitness accounts and video and photographic evidence of the explosions were all ignored by NIST, along with autopsy evidence indicating that the death of Bobby McIlvaine – a 26-year-old who was killed as he was entering the lobby of WTC 1 – was caused by high-impact debris.

According to Bobby's father, Bob McIlvaine Sr., who spoke with the coroner who performed his son's autopsy, Bobby's wounds indicated that he had been hit by flying glass from a blast. His face was severely damaged, and there were lacerations all over his chest, as well as post-mortem burns.

In fact, the blast that killed him was strong enough blow him out of his shoes, which were missing when his body was brought in.

Even more compelling is the evidence of tiny fragments of victim remains found at great distances from the towers, even years after 9/11. As reported in the *New York Times* on April 6, 2006, "A crew of demolition workers discovered 74 bone fragments near the World Trade Center site over the weekend, the largest number of remains found since the end of recovery operations nearly three years ago and a sign that significant quantities of human remains may have gone unnoticed in sporadic searches over the years. Most of the fragments were found mixed among roof ballast – gravel –

Biederman (**POI # 126**) and Sisson (**POI # 127**) were his advisors for his master's thesis at WPI in 2002, the same time that the research on the steel sample was being conducted.

POI # 130: Erin M. Sullivan [WPI]

Erin Sullivan was a Stoddard Fellow at WCI in 2002 and is listed as one of the authors, along with Biederman (**POI # 126**) and Sisson (**POI # 127**) of their study of the steel taken from WTC 7 that showed evidence of high temperature erosion.

She graduated with a MS in Materials Science and Engineering from WCI in 2010, so she was probably a freshman at the time she worked on the study of the steel. She should have anecdotal information about the study, Biederman, and Sisson.

POI # 131: Ramon Gilsanz SE [GILSANZ MURRAY STEFICEK]

Ramon Gilsanz is listed as the lead author of the chapter in the FEMA Report that covers WTC 7, heading up the team made up of Edward M. DePaola (**POI # 138**), Christopher Marrion (**POI # 125**), and Harold Nelson (**POI # 112**). He is a principal and was one of the founders of Gilsanz Murray Steficek in 1988. He claims to have volunteered to lead the investigation into WTC 7 because there had been no loss of life when the building collapsed and because he had worked on the building in the past.

Gilsanz is recorded on video describing the WTC 7 collapse as "an implosion" while pointing to the east penthouse disappearing through the roof before the building came down. Yet later he dismisses "conspiracy theories" as the explanation for the collapse of the buildings. He is one of the few people to claim to have known that the towers would collapse as soon as he saw the plane impacts.

He was on site the day after the attack, working with the NYC Department of Buildings and the engineers from the Structural Engineers Association of New York (SEAoNY) who volunteered to examine the debris for about two months after the event. In 2004, he was appointed chairman of the Structural Technical Committee of the Building Department in charge of managing the new building codes that the city implemented because of the attack.

Gilsanz is also the author of Appendix D of the FEMA Report, which covers the WTC Steel Data Collection. This is an extremely important subject of the report, since most of the steel evidence was destroyed. He worked with Audrey Massa (**POI # 144**) from FEMA on the collection and cataloguing of the steel samples.