#### DID THE SALOMON BUILDING COLLAPSE FROM FIRE?



This collapse should have changed everything for High Rise Fire Operations, Safety and Construction. Has it?

3:50 PM

5:20 PM first ever collapse of a Type 1 fire-resistive building from fire.



The Salomon building collapsed in under 7 seconds. NIST claims ordinary office fires were responsible and called it a "new phenomenon" of fire creating thermal expansion inducing progressive collapse.

## WHEN NONE OF THESE DID?



Grenfell

London











Madrid

1st InterstateAbbco Tower 1 Meridian Mandarin Dubai Philadelphia Beijing

## WHY IT MATTERS...

- NIST claims that ordinary office fires brought down a Type 1 high-rise building for the first time. If this is true, it means we as fire professionals must learn from this building collapse to understand how to prevent and survive it.
- The history and evolution of firefighting has relied on proper investigations and reviews of critical incidents using physical evidence. NIST did not: use physical evidence, critical firefighter and witness testimonies, video & audio recordings of explosions, nor follow the NFPA 921 Guide for Investigations.
- NIST claims, from computer modeling, a Single Point of Failure (column 79 on floor 12/13) brought the entire building down in free fall.

If NIST is right, then NFPA needs to RADICALLY change the **National Standards for High-Rises!!** 

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# DID THE SALOMON BUILDING COLLAPSE DUE TO FIRE?

#### NIST INVESTIGATION

The investigation authority of the Salomon Brothers Building was delegated to the National Institute of Standards & Technology (NIST). The investigation was not released until 7 years after the collapse.

- NIST admits they used NO PHYSICAL EVIDENCE for their investigation
- NIST ignored the basic NFPA 921 Fire & Explosion Investigation Guide Book including:
  - NFPA 921 9.3.6 Spoliation of Evidence
    - NIST allowed the destruction of evidence
  - NFPA 921 14.3 Preservation of the Fire Scene
  - NFPA 921 18.3.2 High Order Damage
  - NFPA 921 18.12.2 High Explosives
  - NFPA 921 18.15 Analyze Fuel Source
  - NFPA 19.2.4 Exotic Accelerants (including Thermite)
  - NFPA 19.4.8.2.6 Extremism ("Terrorists may use fire..along with explosives...")
- NIST did not test for any exotic accelerants/explosives
- NIST rejected witness testimony including audio and video recordings of firefighters seeing, hearing and experiencing explosions.

## P.A.P.A. | WHO WE ARE

We are an international alliance of firefighters, first responders, building professionals, fire protection engineers, organizations and people committed to protecting protectors.

## HOW YOU CAN HELP

## Add your name to "NFPA TAKES A STAND!"

The NFPA must either:

1. Change the National Standards to reflect the new critical danger of "Fire Induced Progressive Collapse" as claimed by NIST

OR

2. Add a statement on the NFPA website and all NFPA guide books related to Type I high-rise national standards to **reject the NIST Investigation** of the Salomon Brothers building.





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