

10/28/03 Interview master Sgt. Joe McCain  
McCain

- Historical interview

- Media interviews

- After action reports

- Hyack exercises

- Tracking - 1984-86. →

- I.D.

needs. ← 1990-

- I.D. Tech ✓

- MCC Techn Position 1988-99

- EA. Coordinator

- Air movement identification service -  
N.Y. AMIS → They have flight  
plans for ALC traveling over the ocean.

- Pre 9-11 needs had a hot-line  
to N.Y. basis

- Pre 9-11 > He worked the  
Suftansa hijack out of Paris France  
to JFK (1993).

- Canadian fighters F-18<sup>s</sup> tracked  
A/C to Burlington VT. when  
NEADS' fighters picked up  
Suftansa A/C. => Lt Jundel  
at JFK.

- He was not aware of hijackers'  
intentions.

- Hijack exercises occurred  
weekly ("fertile Rice") pre 9-11.

- Rice designates ~~a~~ > 7 targets  
minimum in the exercise.

- Hijack scenarios varied ->  
- Some over land.  
- Some over water.

- Some simulated hijacks originated  
over land.

2.9c - A/C leaves Chicago -> Approaches 7500  
Altitude



- hijack exercises → they never tracked a primary only target.
- Multiple hijack scenarios → were part of pre 9-11 hijack exercises.
- Drug interdiction work post Cold war era → it added certain responsibilities to certain positions.

- MCC Technician - duties and respon.  
↳ a coordinator
- gather information from multiple sources and give it to whoever needs to know it.
- eyes and ears of MCC -  
→ help give the MCC situational awareness.
- MCC tech - sits next to I.D. section. → takes input from I.D. section.
- MCC tech → has to send reports to CONR thru "NAS" = ~~...~~

word alerting system.

9/11 - Major Fox - S.D. - Senior Director

- MCC Tech → primarily responsible for entries in CONR Chat logs.

- Battle Ceb on 9-11 was in constant communication with CONR, NORAD, etc.

- 9-11 Events → Battle Ceb was full.

- Exercises scheduled to begin at @ 9:00 A.M.

- Major Steve Owens (Lead Controller) was the training MCC on 9-11.

- He doesn't think anyone on the NEADS floor believed AAL 11 was still airborne after 9:00 A.M.

- He believes the FAA reported that AAL 11 was still airborne after 9:00 A.M.



- They heard about hijack of UAL 175 but never saw it on scope before he saw or heard about second crash into WTC 2.
- When did you believe this was a terrorist activity? - After WTC 2 was hit.
- Deductions from size of hole in WTC 1?
- He ~~is~~ remembers people writing down lessons learned on the ops. floor → and folders being distributed to floor for input of floor positions as to lessons learned from 9-11.
- Tech positions = enlisted people
- Leslie LVO - interviewed McLean for a book on history of 9-11
  - ↳ Prior to this Col. ~~Blaney~~ Blaney told him what he could talk about and what he could not talk about.

- Clark Speicher says the WD people on duty on 9-11-01 were:

(AWO)

① Air Weapons Officers → they are the controllers who talk to pilots

② Weapons Directors → (WD) controlling A/C just like # 1 above

③ Weapons Director Technicians

Embodied people who sit next to AWO's or WD's and they push the buttons.

→ These 3 positions work for the Senior Director (SD) and the Senior Director Technician (SDT).



# Interview 1/20/04 NEADS Sgt. Joseph McCain

- Fred Davies -
- Sgt. Bianchi made entry  
1240Z - AAL II possible hijack
- Sgt. McCain does not make  
an entry in MCC Tech. log book  
until 1834 - "Penta 45/46 landed  
@ FMH @ 1824"
- Sgt. Bianchi made most  
entries b/w 1240Z and 1824Z
- Master Sgt Perry - made some  
entries during this time
- Staff Sgt. Jerry Thornton - he  
was a tracker on duty on  
morning of 9-11.
- 9/11/01 AST - Sgt. <sup>Steve</sup> Richmond
- 1 or 2 TT would have been  
on duty on 9/11 -> others would  
have been available to rotate

- "J50" Radar site ~~may~~ would have picked up AA 77 as it approached Wash. D.C.

- 84th RADES at NEADS would have performed DATA radar reductions re: tracks on 4 ~~by~~ hijacked A/C on 9/11.

\* - they found D 1989 on their radar scopes and made the A/C a "Special 15"

- Special 15 = NORAD code for a hijacked A/C

- "B 089" forward told

↓  
Computer symbology assigned to Δ 1989

forward told → all NEADS to send the symbology to CONR and NORAD. (not the radar data)

- I.D. section keeps paper logs. →



Raymond La Blance → ID Tech on duty on 9/11 - he may have kept log sheets

- 1407 - 15022 entries in log book made by Sgt. Perry

- Chat logs at NEADS.

- ① - MCC
- ② - MCC Tech
- ③ - ID Tech
- ④ - Weapons Section
- ⑤ - AST
- ⑥ - ICT

have access to Chat logs →

↓  
90% of entries are made by MCC and MCC Tech

- NEADS talks to CONR and ~~can~~ CONR tells AWC

MSG Joe McCain

Type of msg?

Apr 84 → 276 WADS  
Trucker - ID Section → Houston TX  
flight op

1990

ID Tech NEADS 7-8 years  
MCCIT '98 or '99 since

Special 15  
Friendly  
Unknown

AMIS system  
no message  
80% of time

External  
info  
gather  
no the  
FAA  
lingo

RCC - MCCIT

- Ranger
- USAF
- Coast Guard
- FAA
- 9 Centers
- mos
- Estations
- Toronto

The Default  
hot line  
My Center  
is water-based

If they have  
a message a/c  
they will call

He worked  
Hijacked Luftwaffe ID Tech

Canadian F-182

Burlington F-162

FAA Control - NEADS Special 15  
followed to JFK

It was an easy scenario what we got  
Every Monday morning → Fertile Rice

← Large Scale Simulation  
Exercise - more than  
7 targets



Lufthansa  
Pilot  
Controller  
→ Tech

narrows hijack scenarios  
some originated over land  
a/c out of Ohio

always squawk

→ 7500  
wants to go somewhere else

90-95% slow moving less nonresponding

events of 9/11 no  
multiple no

Drug interdiction  
added some responsibilities

Special 15

radar flight follow  
or intercept

mcc/T Higher HQ Coord → NORAD  
↳ CONR  
Coordinators Primary input  
to Chat Log  
Gather tons of info  
multiple services  
Dissem to who needs to know  
Passes on orders  
Eyes & Ears of the MCC  
Keep him out of trouble  
Keep him informed

FO  
DO

mcc  
↑  
Sur  
weapons

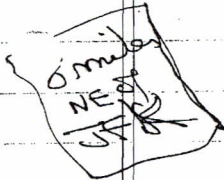
mcc T  
↑  
ID

9/11 0840 Log entry was at conclusion

BC in constant comm w/ CONR

9/11 0730  
 middle of exercise to start at 0900  
 Talking to Dorley  
 Sgt Powell come up - we have a  
 real world hijack - Boston  
 "exercise starting early"  
 made a PA call MCC was in  
 bathroom  
 Normal hr on hr off  
 May Owens was training MCC  
 Can remember desperately <sup>try</sup> to find AA11

Found AA11 AA11  
 Honestly, think he saw it just  
 over 5-6 hits  
 Boston Center



Heard an a/c hit trade center  
 → from break room  
 Some confusion between us & FAA  
 10 minutes  
 until 12:57:04 Entry

Didn't believe anyone on the floor  
 didn't believe it wasn't AA11  
 zoomed in - only thing pulling up  
 was clutter around NY

~~Red 0900~~  
 remembers FAA saying it was  
 still airborne

Gut feeling → thinking going to JFK  
 unexperienced pilot could have  
 gotten too low



Remembers 2d Tower

Deep down this is not unintentional

we had heard but never saw the  
second plane

Doesn't recall anyone seeing it

Folders on Ops Floor

In house type thing

DOC

Col Sanderson

2 towers 2 hijacks

Believe word on 175 came from the  
floor

Notified of 4 others

- Pentagon

- Shanksville

- Delta 89

- a/c down in Kentucky

equates to 93 today

Mystery of AA11

He would look at ID Tech transcripts

Got a report "bomb on board" thru FAA channels

Pentagon Hid

~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

Cap NY

Landing to DC ASAP

Landing

Fighters in W72

Authorization for

Intercept Operations

Stay under Neals

97777

Pushing FAA out of the loop

WD world control

"Leslie" see Lt Col Blaney

AWO

WD

WD/T