

DRAFT 2

but never finalized

17 March 1998

Analysis of Radar Tracking of the TWA 800 Disaster on July 17, 1996

Summary and Conclusions



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Background

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Description of Radar Data

[Redacted]

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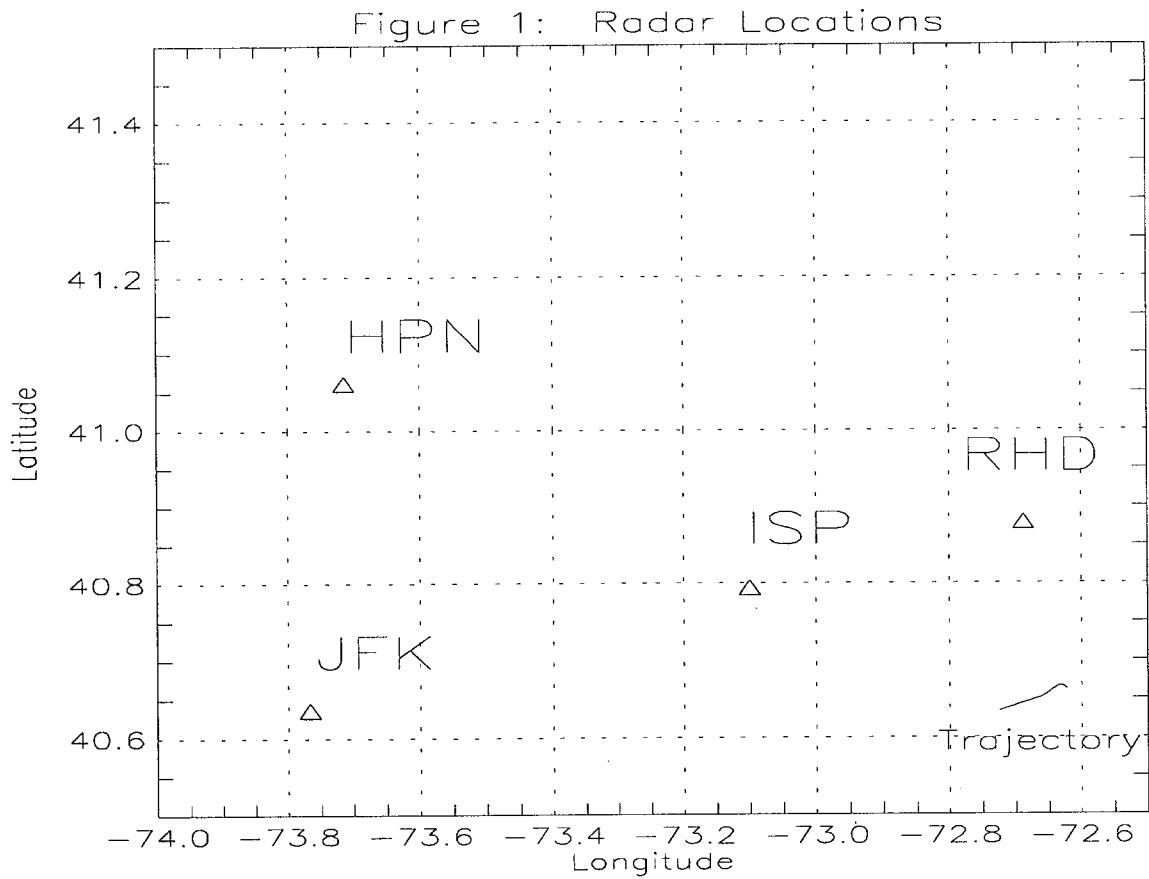
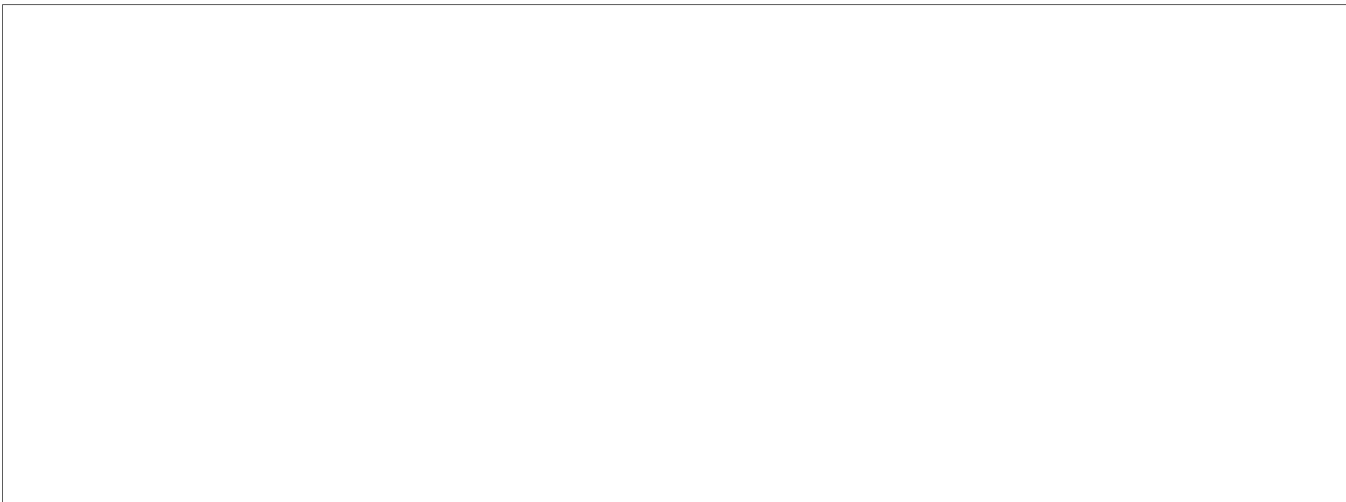


Figure 1: Locations of the four radars used in this analysis. TWA Flight 800 took off from JFK International, exploded about 50 nm east of JFK, and impacted in the water after flying about 2.5 nm farther. A segment of the flight path from 24 seconds before the explosion to impact is shown in the lower right of the map.

Main Object Identification

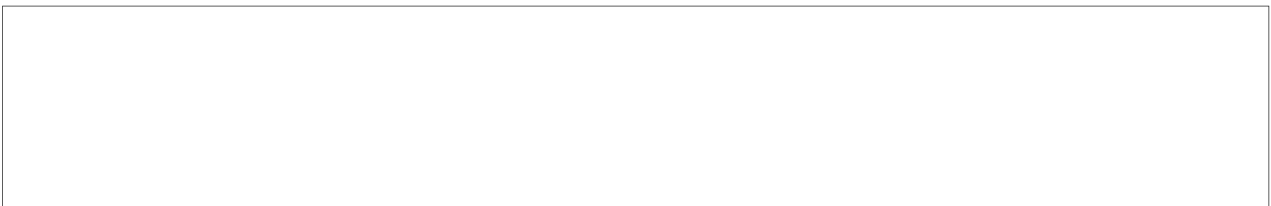


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Data Adjustments

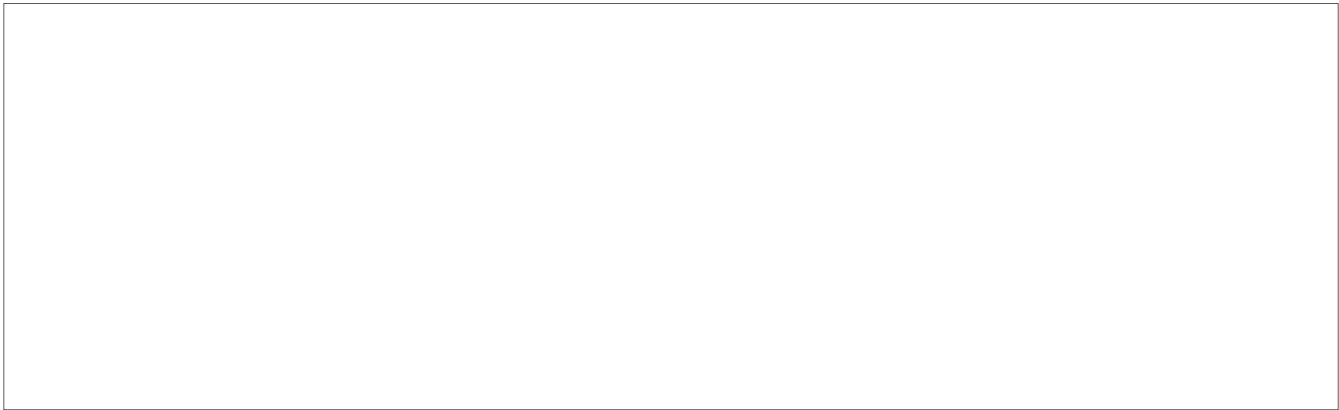


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Possible Data Corruption



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Description of Fitting Algorithm



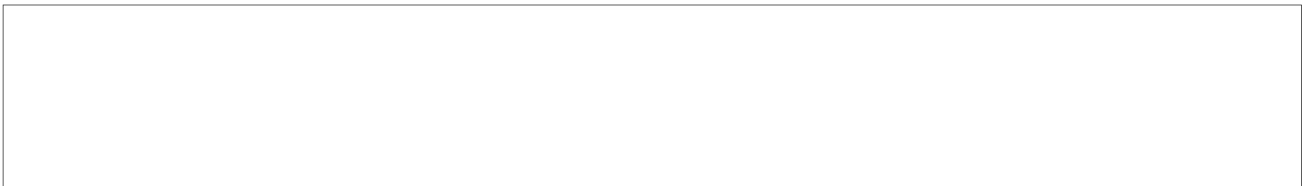
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Accuracy of the Fit To the Data

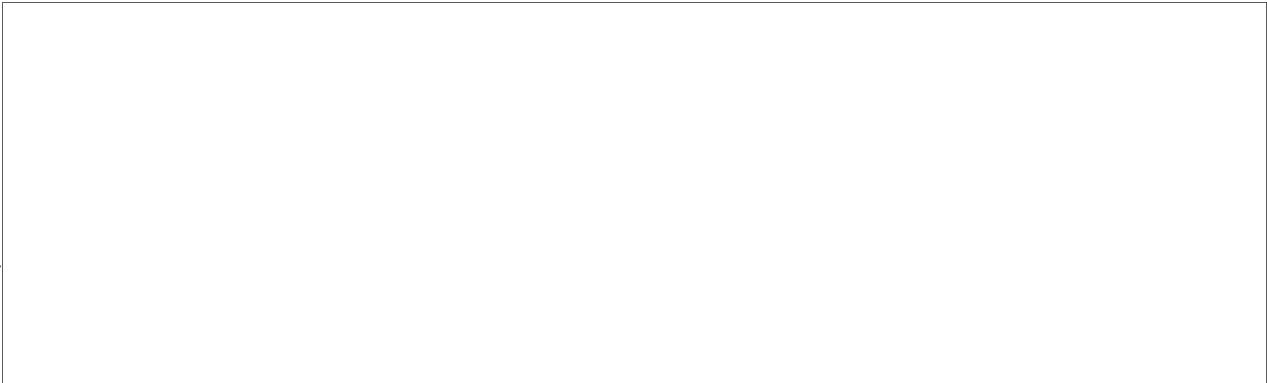
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Data Editing



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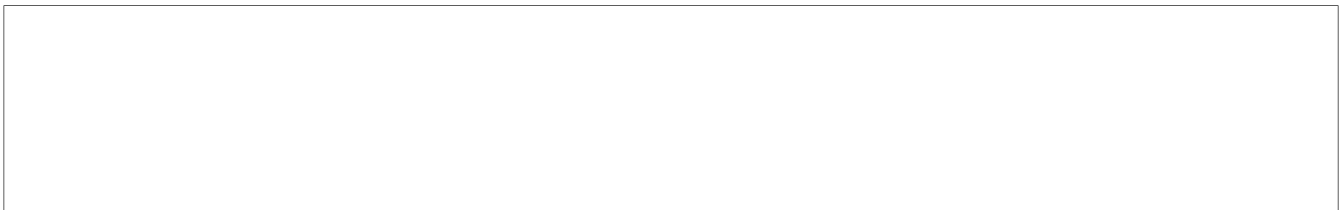
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Calculated Flight Path



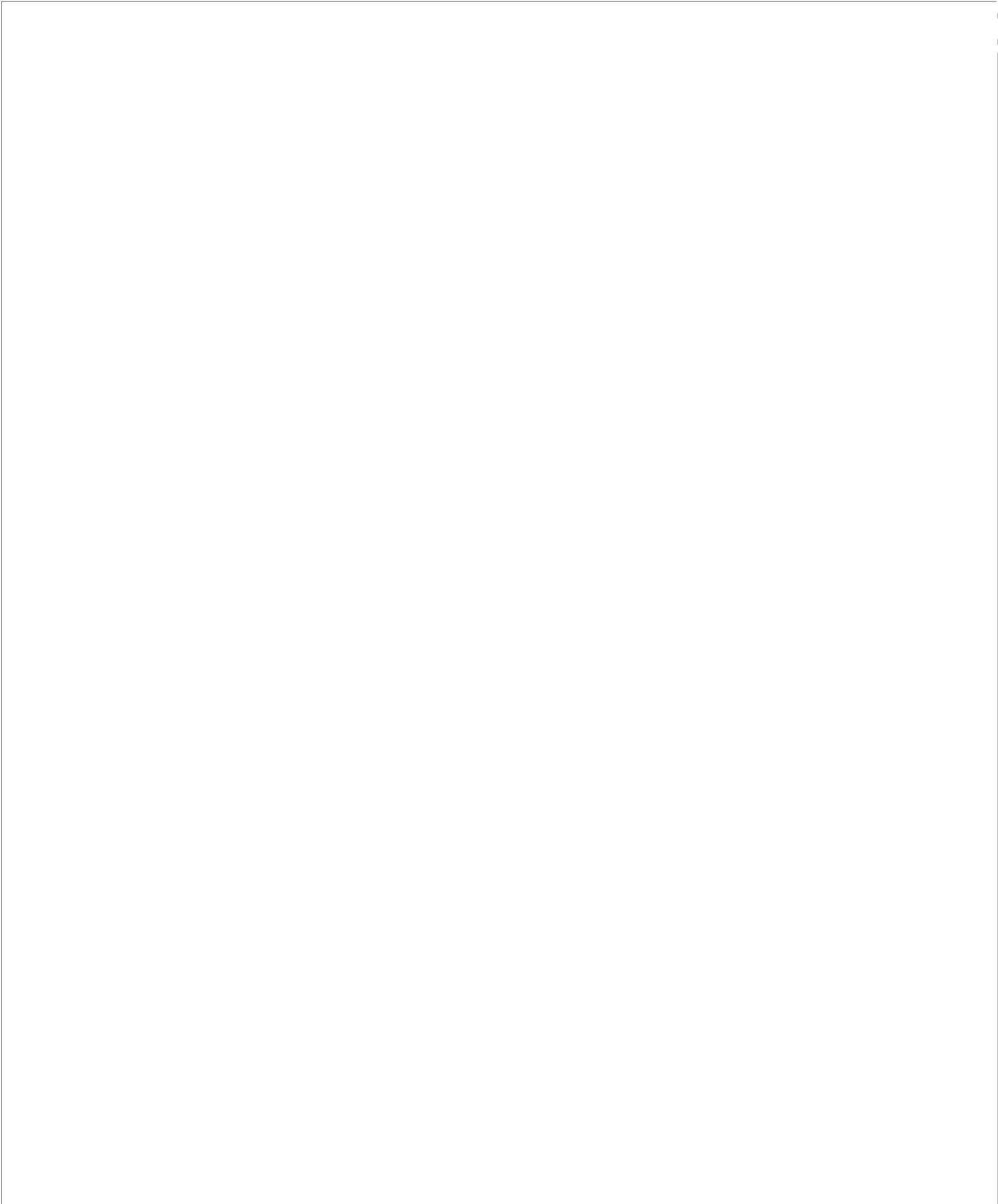
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Discussion of the Results



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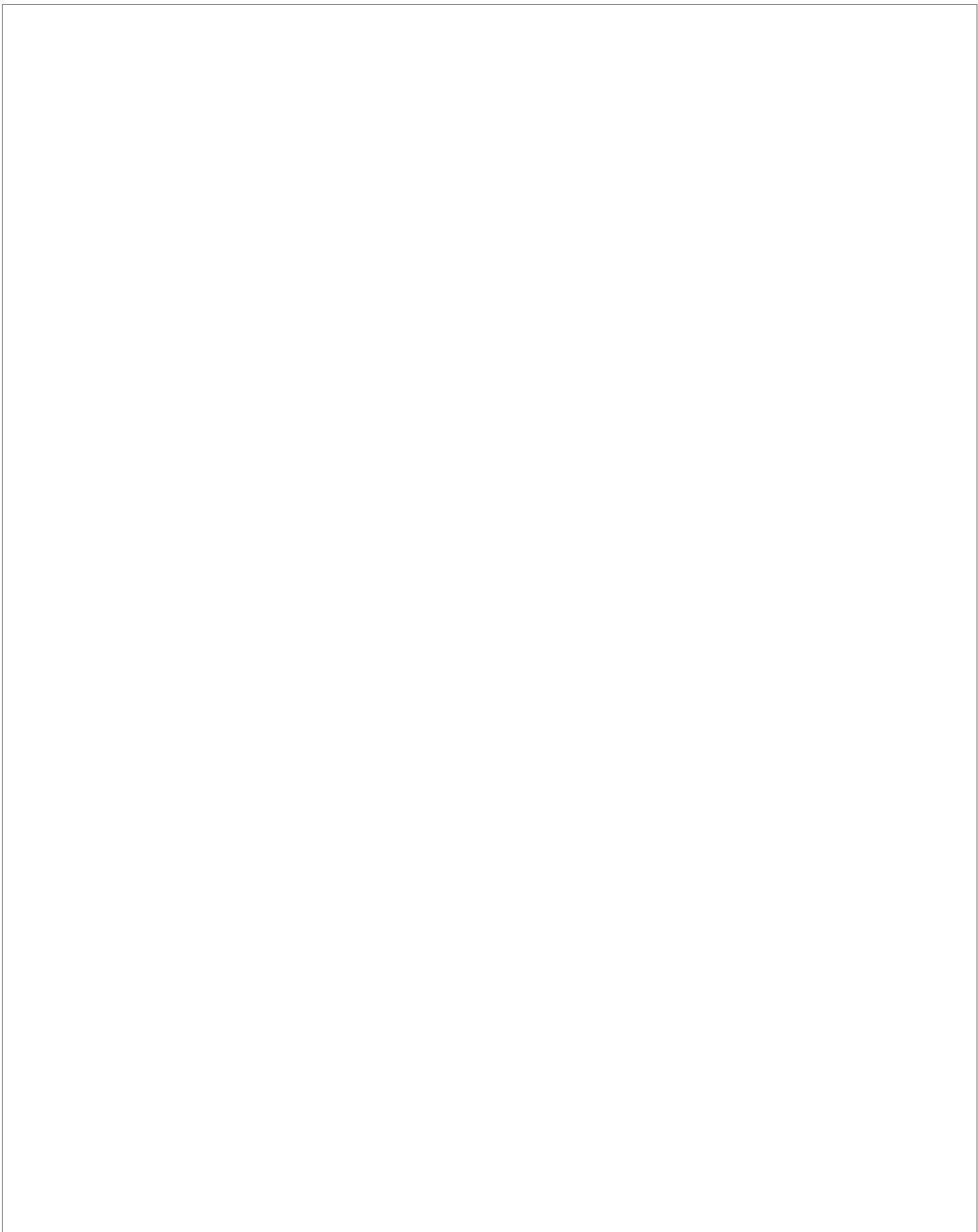


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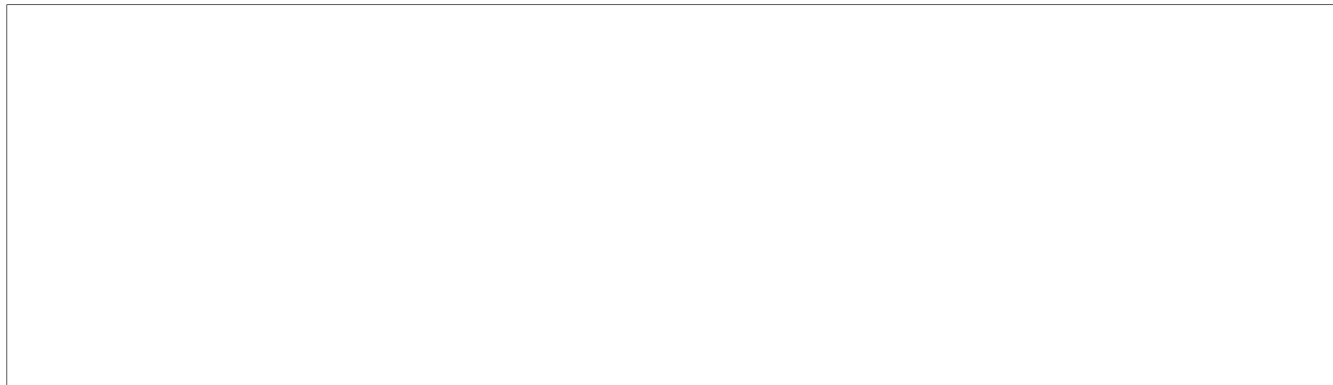


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Concluding Remarks

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References



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Appendix: Radar Hits After the Explosion

Table A1
Radar Hits After Explosion: JFK

Time(s)	Range	Azimuth(mag)
16.75	50.250	102.041
16.75	50.469	101.865
21.35	50.875	101.602
21.35	50.688	102.041
21.35	50.406	101.953
21.35	50.313	102.129
25.98	50.250	101.602
25.98	50.813	101.777
25.98	51.250	101.602
25.98	50.625	102.129
25.98	50.438	102.217
30.59	51.500	101.250
30.59	50.688	101.689
30.59	51.094	102.041
30.59	50.375	102.041
35.07	51.656	100.898
35.22	51.188	101.602
35.22	50.500	102.129
39.71	51.750	101.162
39.71	51.688	101.074
39.83	51.219	101.602
44.31	51.781	100.459
44.31	51.938	101.074
44.46	50.563	102.129
44.46	51.250	101.689
48.92	51.938	100.986
49.07	52.063	101.250
49.07	50.531	101.777
49.07	50.906	101.865
53.56	52.000	100.898
53.56	52.094	101.074
53.71	50.563	102.305
58.17	52.156	100.898
58.17	52.063	100.986
58.31	51.250	101.865
62.95	51.281	101.602
62.8	52.125	100.986
62.95	50.438	102.129

Table A4
Radar Hits After Explosion: RHD

Time(s)	Range	Azimuth
21.4	13.75	175.25
31.9	14.13	128.76
33.3	13.25	170.33
33.6	14.00	182.46
43.9	14.25	128.67
45.2	13.13	168.84
49.6	12.75	247.06
55.7	14.25	128.85
57.1	13.25	168.05
69.0	13.25	168.31

Table A2
Radar Hits After Explosion: ISP

Time(s)	Range	Azimuth(mag)
16.22	21.516	126.914
16.22	21.609	126.387
20.91	21.609	127.969
20.91	21.516	127.705
20.91	22.016	124.189
25.61	21.563	127.881
25.46	22.266	123.574
30.30	21.563	127.266
30.15	22.422	123.223
35.02	22.266	124.805
34.87	22.469	122.695
39.56	22.578	122.520
39.56	22.469	122.520
44.26	22.734	122.520
48.96	22.875	122.432
53.80	21.859	125.947
58.50	22.328	125.156
63.19	22.375	124.980

Table A3
Radar Hits After Explosion: HPN

Time(s)	Range	Azimuth(mag)
14.64	53.609	129.990
24.04	54.203	128.408
24.04	53.703	130.430
28.75	54.359	128.320
28.75	53.656	131.045
28.75	53.906	130.342
33.44	54.469	128.057
33.44	53.703	130.957
33.44	53.813	130.342
33.44	53.953	129.639
38.13	54.516	127.969
38.13	53.703	130.781
38.13	53.906	129.727
38.13	54.109	129.639
42.83	54.406	128.936
42.83	54.563	128.232
42.83	54.609	127.705
42.83	53.750	130.781
47.52	54.766	127.969
47.52	54.563	128.057
47.52	53.750	130.254
52.22	54.109	128.936
52.22	54.563	128.145
52.22	53.813	130.693
52.22	53.859	129.463
75.71	53.859	130.254

Note: Times are relative to 20:31 EDT