

A Response to Chris Mohr's Respectful Rebuttal of Richard Gage's *9/11 Blueprint for Truth*

by Adam Taylor

Since the tragic events of September 11th, 2001, there has been enormous controversial debate as to what truly happened that day. Many alternative theories have been proposed, most of which are in strong opposition of what is generally regarded as the “official narrative;” that 19 Islamic fundamentalists, under the orders of Osama bin Laden, hijacked four commercial airliners, crashing two of them into the WTC Twin Towers, one into the Pentagon, and one into an open field in Shanksville, Pennsylvania. The Twin Towers, as a result of being struck by the airplanes, completely collapsed to the ground.

Although just about every aspect of the attacks has been debated to an enormous extent, the one issue that may be the most disputed today is what truly caused the destruction of not only the two WTC Twin Towers, but also World Trade Center Building 7. Those offering alternative theories to the collapses of the buildings generally believe that the plane impacts and the fires were not the sole cause of the collapses, but that it is far more likely that some form of controlled demolition was used to destroy them. These theories have, unsurprisingly, been contested by numerous defenders of the official narrative. One of these individuals is a journalist and minister by the name of Chris Mohr, and his arguments are the main subject of this paper.

On March 6th, 2011, Mr. Mohr debated with architect Richard Gage on the WTC collapses. (See: <http://tinyurl.com/78kzs6>) Although the audio of the debate has been released, the group Architects and Engineers for 9/11 Truth has decided not to release the video of the debate. As a result, Mr. Mohr has recently uploaded a series of videos to YouTube which aim to rebut the claims made by Richard Gage in his video presentation *9/11 Blueprint for Truth*. (See: <http://www.youtube.com/user/chrismohr911>)

Mr. Mohr refers to these videos as “respectful rebuttals” and not “debunking.” Indeed, after reviewing Mr. Mohr’s videos myself, I find that he is very sincere about his concerns regarding the WTC demolition theory, and truly wants there to be a civil and respectful debate of the topic. However, I do not believe that Mr. Mohr’s rebuttals offer solid refutations of the points made in 911BT. In this paper, I will demonstrate why Mr. Mohr’s videos, while presenting some legitimate concerns of the controlled demolition theory, do not ultimately disprove the theory and do not support the theory of “natural collapse.”

[Note: A hyperlink is included to conveniently take the reader to a specific time in Mohr’s videos. Sections appearing in red are direct quotes from Mohr.]

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Introduction

In the introduction to Mr. Mohr's video series, he gives a brief overview of his position regarding the WTC controlled demolition theory. He makes it clear that, while feeling that the evidence being offered by the Truth Movement is compelling, he is not convinced the buildings were destroyed with explosives. At [4:22](#), Mr. Mohr states that he hopes that those watching his videos suspend their beliefs for the time being, and requests that the viewer "**listen to the person you most disagree with.**"

As someone who examines the claims of debunkers quite extensively, I have absolutely no problem doing this. It is something I do quite frequently. Indeed, when examining the claims of debunkers, I often times find myself agreeing with what they have to say. However, I maintain that although some of my beliefs are occasionally falsified by debunker arguments, this does not refute my belief in its entirety. As such, there are parts of Richard Gage's presentation that I do not completely agree with, but I still find the overall premise of his presentation to be correct.

At [6:12](#), Mohr discusses the fact that NIST never looked for evidence of explosives. He claims that the reason that NIST did not test for explosives is because there were no tell-tale signs of explosives in the debris, such as "**detonator materials or other physical evidence.**" He quotes NIST spokesperson Mike Newman as saying that if they had found these materials, then they would have looked for explosive residue. This excuse from NIST is illogical for several reasons. Firstly, this excuse goes against what is recommended by the NFPA 921 Guide when considering fuel sources. As stated in NFPA 18.15:

Chemical analysis of debris, soot, soil, or air samples can be helpful in identifying the fuel. With explosives or liquid fuels, gas chromatography, mass spectrography, or other chemical tests of properly collected samples may be able to identify their presence.¹

There is nothing in this section of NFPA 921 that discusses first looking for the possible devices used with the explosives. It is clear that chemical analysis is extremely important in determining if explosives were used. As a comparison, if the police investigate a crime and wish to know if guns were used in any way, they would obviously test for gunshot residue, and not simply wait to find a spent shell.

Moreover, the very characteristics of the collapses should have been reason enough to test for explosives. According to NFPA 18.3.2, explosives should be looked for whenever there is "high-order damage," which is defined as:

High-order damage is characterized by shattering of the structure, producing small, pulverized debris. Walls, roofs, and structural members are splintered or shattered, with the building completely demolished. Debris is thrown great distances, possibly hundreds of feet.²

¹ See: <http://firefightersfor911truth.org/?p=288>

² See: <http://firefightersfor911truth.org/?p=221>

The first two sentences of this description would apply to Building 7, and the entire description would apply to the Twin Towers.

The fact that NIST claims they never looked for explosive residues, while at the same time claiming that they found no evidence of explosives is completely self-contradictory. As pointed out in an appeal letter to NIST submitted by members of the Truth Movement:

NIST must reconcile its statement that it found “no corroborating evidence to suggest that explosives were used” with its statement that it did not test for explosive residue which, if found, would suggest explosives were used. This point was clearly made in the original Request, but was ignored in NIST’s Response. The fact therefore remains that it is extremely easy to “find no evidence” when one is not looking for evidence.³

At [6:34](#), Mohr points out that NIST also did not test for “mini-nukes, post-star wars energy rays, aliens, missiles, holograms or other alleged sources of the WTC collapses.” Firstly, these and other alleged sources have actually been critiqued by members of the Truth Movement.⁴ Secondly, the NFPA 921 Guide states that specific residues should be looked for in an investigation, including “thermite, magnesium, or other pyrotechnic materials.”⁵

Therefore, the standard guidelines dictate that NIST would be required to test for thermite residue. Although Mohr claims that NIST was simply “following the evidence,” they clearly were not following the standard guidelines for fire investigations. It is therefore still absurd that NIST simply refused to test for explosive residue in their investigation.

Mohr’s introduction video asks the viewers to suspend their beliefs regarding 9/11, and to listen to everything he has to say throughout the rest of his videos. Having done this extensively, I shall now move onto his main rebuttal videos and address where I find his points are strong and where his points are weak and/or false.

³ Quoted from: Appeal Filed with NIST, Pursuant to Earlier Request for Correction, pg. 14
<http://www.journalof911studies.com/volume/2007/AppealLetterToNISTGourleyEtAl.pdf>

⁴ The website 911research.wtc7.net has a section devoted to examining several alternative demolition theories, which are divided up as “Untenable theories,” “Exotic theories” and “Plausible theories.” See:
<http://911research.wtc7.net/wtc/analysis/theories/index.html>

⁵ See: http://www.interfire.org/res_file/92112m.asp

Part 1: What Initiated WTC Tower Collapses?

In part 1 of Mr. Mohr's "respectful rebuttal," he begins to list the numerous reasons he feels that the buildings came down due to natural causes, and not controlled demolition. Essentially, he gives a rehashing of all the points that NIST and other investigators have given that indicate the collapses were caused by the combined effects of the plane impacts and the ensuing fires. However, the reasons Mohr gives have all been highly disputed, as this is the other aspect of the Truth Movement's overall goal: to not only point out why the demolition theory is extremely likely, but also to point out why the reasons for "natural collapse" are very problematic.

Mohr states at [1:00](#) that the buildings were built to handle three times the static weight, "**but not five times as Richard Gage asserts.**" This claim is somewhat misleading. While it is true that there was a safety factor of 3 to 1 for the core columns in the Towers, there was actually a safety factor of 5 to 1 for the perimeter columns.⁶ This is one of many examples where Mohr makes a claim that is technically correct, but is also misleading due to the fact that he omits other details.

At [2:49](#), Mohr begins his list of reasons for "natural collapse." I should mention at this point that many of the issues Mohr discusses are also brought up in later videos and are discussed in more detail. As such, I will address certain points raised by Mohr more than once throughout this paper, with more and less detail depending on how much detail Mohr goes into. Throughout his videos, Mohr presents numerous slides to list his reasons for "natural collapse," like the one shown below.



Reasons for a Natural Collapse

- Reason #1.) Planes Hitting at 450-550 mph**
- #2.) Planes steeply banked, max damage**
- #3.) 282,000-lb Planes**
- #4.) 60% of columns on crash side destroyed**

⁶ See: The Sustainability of the Controlled Demolition Hypothesis for the destruction of the Twin Towers, by Tony Szamboti
<http://www.journalof911studies.com/volume/200704/SzambotiSustainabilityofControlledDemolitionHypothesisForDestructionofTwinTowers.pdf>

We note that the first point about the speed of the planes has long been addressed by members of the 9/11 Truth Movement. Documents predating the attacks indicate that the buildings were built to withstand the impact of an airplane travelling at 600 mph.⁷ Even NIST and the Port Authority has acknowledged this fact.⁸ The next two points are somewhat trivial. While the planes banking certainly caused them to damage multiple floors at the same time, it could be argued that the plane strikes might have been more damaging had the planes only impacted one floor. Since debunkers argue that one floor failing was all that was needed to cause total collapse, it is perhaps better that the plane debris was spread out on multiple floors and not concentrated on a single floor.

As for the weight of the planes, while they were obviously quite heavy, Jim Hoffman has noted that “the steel on a single floor of the tower weighed ten times as much as a 767.”⁹ The fourth point is misleading. While the planes did severe roughly 60% of the perimeter columns on the impacted sides, the overall perimeter column loss was only about 15%. Giving figures such as 60% seems to overstate the amount of damage the buildings actually sustained. As noted by Thomas Eagar:

While the aircraft impact undoubtedly destroyed several columns in the WTC perimeter wall, the number of columns lost on the initial impact was not large and the loads were shifted to remaining columns in this highly redundant structure.¹⁰

At [3:34](#) in the video, Mohr mentions the fact that the plane impacts had likely disabled the sprinkler systems and widely dislodged the fire proofing. It should first be noted that NIST itself has doubted that the sprinklers would have done very much to control the fires, stating on their FAQ page that:

Even if the automatic sprinklers had been operational, the sprinkler systems—which were installed in accordance with the prevailing fire safety code—were designed to suppress a fire that covered as much as 1,500 square feet on a given floor. This amount of coverage is capable of controlling almost all fires that are likely to occur in an office building. On Sept. 11, 2001, the jet-fuel ignited fires quickly spread over most of the 40,000 square feet on several floors in each tower. This created infernos that could not have been

⁷ “The buildings have been investigated and found to be safe in an assumed collision with a large jet airliner (Boeing 707—DC 8) traveling at 600 miles per hour. Analysis indicates that such collision would result in only local damage which could not cause collapse or substantial damage to the building and would not endanger the lives and safety of occupants not in the immediate area of impact.” Quoted from: *City in the Sky: The Rise and Fall of the World Trade Center*, by James Glanz and Eric Lipton, pg. 131

⁸ “An additional load stated by the Port Authority to have been considered in the design of the Towers, was the impact of a Boeing 707, the largest commercial airliner when the Towers were designed, hitting the building at its full speed of 600 mph.” Quoted from: NCSTAR1, pg. 6 http://www.nist.gov/manuscript-publication-search.cfm?pub_id=909017

⁹ Quoted from: A Reply to the National Institute for Standards and Technology's Answers to Frequently Asked Questions, by Jim Hoffman http://911research.wtc7.net/reviews/nist/WTC_FAQ_reply.html

¹⁰ Quoted from: Why Did the World Trade Center Collapse? Science, Engineering, and Speculation, by Thomas W. Eagar and Christopher Musso <http://www.tms.org/pubs/journals/jom/0112/eagar/eagar-0112.html>

suppressed even by an undamaged sprinkler system, much less one that had been appreciably degraded.¹¹

As for the fireproofing being dislodged, this topic is brought up constantly by defenders of the official story as a reason that the Towers collapsed. NIST itself has stated that the Towers would likely have remained standing had the fireproofing not been widely dislodged.¹² However, the extent of the fireproofing loss has been greatly disputed. Although the airplane impacts would have undoubtedly dislodged some of the fireproofing, it has been suggested that it was not as widely dislodged as some believe. Kevin Ryan has noted an essential problem with NIST's reasoning behind their assertions:

[NIST's] test for fireproofing loss, never inserted in the draft reports, involved shooting a total of fifteen rounds from a shotgun at non-representative samples in a plywood box. Flat steel plates were used instead of column samples, and no floor deck samples were tested at all. In the end, they slid the results into a 12 page appendix to the final report.

Unfortunately, it's not hard to see that these tests actually disproved their findings. One reason is that there is no evidence that a Boeing 767 could transform into any number of shotgun blasts. Nearly 100,000 blasts would be needed based on NIST's own damage estimates, and these would have to be directed in a very symmetrical fashion to strip the columns and floors from all sides. However, it is much more likely that the aircraft debris was a distribution of sizes from very large chunks to a few smaller ones, and that it was directed asymmetrically.¹³

Kevin Ryan's assertion that "it is much more likely that the aircraft debris was a distribution of sizes from very large chunks to a few smaller ones" is supported by the fact that people who escaped from the South Tower have testified that they saw intact portions of the airplane inside the building.

"The plane impacts. I try to get up and then I realize that I'm covered up to my shoulder in debris. And when I'm digging through under all this rubble, **I can see the bottom wing starting to burn, and that wing is wedged 20 feet in my office doorway.**" -Stanley Praimnath, who was on the 81st floor of the South Tower.¹⁴

But even if we assume NIST's estimates are correct, their own modeling appears to contradict their conclusions. The inward bowing of the perimeter columns, which Mohr will discuss later in

¹¹ Quoted from: NIST Answers to Frequently Asked Questions (August 30, 2006), question 8.

http://www.nist.gov/public_affairs/factsheet/wtc_faqs_082006.cfm

¹² "The WTC towers likely would not have collapsed under the combined effects of aircraft impact and damage and the extensive, multi-floor fires if the thermal insulation had not been widely dislodged or had been minimally dislodged by aircraft impact." Quoted from: NIST Final Report, page xxxviii

¹³ Quoted from: What is 9/11 Truth? – The First Steps, by Kevin Ryan, pg. 2-3

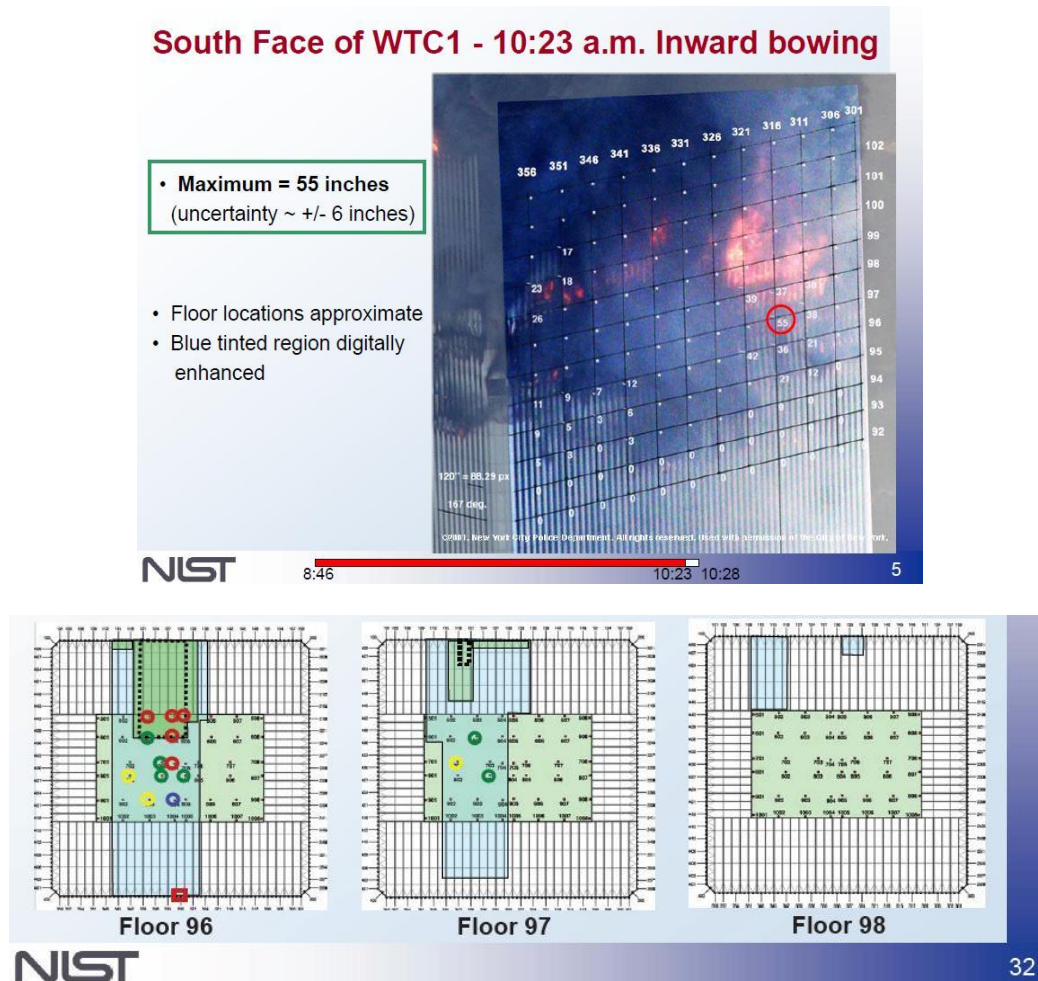
http://www.journalof911studies.com/articles/Article_1_Ryan5.pdf

¹⁴ Quoted from: Accounts From the South Tower,

<http://www.nytimes.com/2002/05/26/nyregion/26STOWER.html?pagewanted=13> (Emphasis added)

There is also a recorded phone interview with Stanley Praimnath available online where he discusses seeing intact portions of the plane: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GRwNJmQw1MY>

the video, was said to be the cause of the collapses. However, in the case of WTC1, the maximum inward bowing occurred in the area of the building where, according to NIST's estimates, *the fireproofing was completely untouched*.



Images from: Observations for Structural Response—Structural and Fire Protection Damage Due to Aircraft Impact, by Therese McAllister <http://www.nist.gov/el/disasterstudies/wtc/upload/6McAllister.pdf>
(Note: blue areas indicate dislodged fireproofing.)

As we can see, the maximum inward bowing appeared to occur on the southeast face of the building at floor 97, where NIST's diagrams indicate that virtually no fireproofing was dislodged. This clearly contradicts NIST's premise that the building would likely have remained standing had the fireproofing not been knocked off by the impact. This fact also damages Mohr's case for "natural collapse."

Mohr goes on to claim at [4:00](#) that the safety factors of the buildings were reduced significantly when the planes impacted. He cites Dr. Frank Greening's assertion that the safety factor was reduced from 3 to 2 in the Towers. However, calculations done by mechanical engineer Tony Szamboti demonstrate that the safety factor for the core columns was only reduced from 3 to

about 2.63 on average.¹⁵ Mohr also claims at [4:45](#) that the fires in the buildings had spread to all four faces in 15 minutes. However, this is apparently not true. According to NIST, it took 10-20 minutes for the fires to reach the failure zone in the South Tower, and 50-60 minutes for the fires to reach the failure zone in the North Tower.¹⁶ Also, the fires in the South Tower never reached the west face of the building, as confirmed by numerous videos, photographs and even NIST.



Images from: <http://911research.wtc7.net/wtc/evidence/photos/fires.html>

¹⁵ See: The Sustainability of the Controlled Demolition Hypothesis for the destruction of the Twin Towers, by Tony Szamboti, pg. 7-9

¹⁶ “The fires in WTC 2 reached the east side of the building more quickly, within 10 to 20 minutes, than the 50 to 60 minutes it took the fires in WTC 1 to reach the south side.” Quoted from NCSTAR 1-6, pg. 322 and 338
http://www.nist.gov/manuscript-publication-search.cfm?pub_id=101279

Visual Evidence of Fires in WTC 2, 9:04 a.m. to 9:58 a.m.

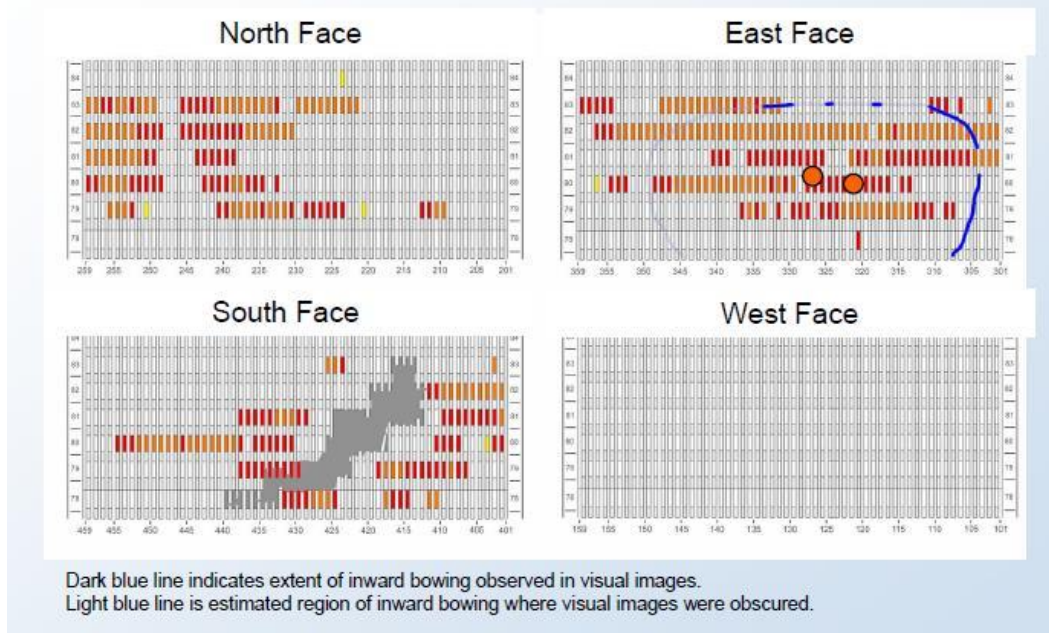


Image from: Observations for Structural Response—Structural and Fire Protection Damage Due to Aircraft Impact, by Therese McAllister

Mohr then cites Leslie Robertson at [5:23](#) as saying that the Towers were never designed for the fires that would be caused by the jet fuel from an impacting plane. However, this is contradicted by statements made by the original lead structural engineer for the WTC, John Skilling.

We looked at every possible thing we could think of that could happen to the buildings, even to the extent of an airplane hitting the side... Our analysis indicated the biggest problem would be the fact that all the fuel (from the airplane) would dump into the building. There would be a horrendous fire. A lot of people would be killed. [But] the building structure would still be there. —John Skilling, head WTC engineer¹⁷

It would of course make absolute sense for the original designers to take the fuel into account. As Gregg Roberts appropriately asks: “Who would design a building to be impacted by fuel-less aircraft? How would the aircraft *get* there?”¹⁸

¹⁷ Quoted from: Twin Towers Engineered To Withstand Jet Collision

<http://community.seattletimes.nwsources.com/archive/?date=19930227&slug=1687698#loop>

¹⁸ Quoted from: Jones v. Robertson, A Physicist and a Structural Engineer Debate the Controlled Demolition of the World Trade Center, by Gregg Roberts, pg. 3

http://www.journalof911studies.com/volume/200704/Roberts_AnnotatedJones-RobertsonTranscript.pdf

At [5:50](#) in the video, Mohr shows the Purdue University simulation and claims that “**it shows the plane’s destructive power and confirms the major findings of the NIST report.**” However, contrary to Mohr’s claim, nothing could be further from the truth. Kevin Ryan has noted numerous ways that the Purdue simulation actually *contradicts* the findings of the NIST report, including:

NIST reported that 9 core columns were severed or heavily damaged by aircraft impact, and this was in their “more severe” case. Purdue now says that 52 core columns were “destroyed or heavily damaged” over a height six floors (see Irfanoglu and Hoffman, table 1). First note that there was a total of 47 core columns in the building. Even if several of these were “destroyed” at multiple levels, Purdue is now asking us to accept a level of damage that is far greater than years of government research could support.

NIST reported that the damage done to the south face of WTC 1 was limited to one dislodged panel, encompassing three exterior columns (329,330 and 331), caused by whatever small amount of debris passed through and exited the far side of the building. Purdue’s team now wants us to believe that 12 exterior columns were severed on the south face of WTC 1.

NIST told us that the center fuel tank of the aircraft was completely empty when it struck WTC 1. But this new animation shows the center tank to be completely full. Additional comments from the animation’s creators indicate they have no idea how much jet fuel was available inside the building, or how this fuel played a part in the destruction.¹⁹

Also noted by Kevin Ryan is the way in which the Purdue simulation contradicts NIST’s assertions about the fireproofing dislodgement in the buildings. We previously noted that NIST’s scenario for the fireproofing being dislodged required the planes to be shredded into small, bullet-sized pieces. But as Kevin Ryan points out:

[F]rom Purdue’s new animation, we can clearly see that the aircraft that impacted the WTC tower could not have been instantly transformed into thousands of tiny pellets in the form of shotgun blasts. The animation more realistically displays the large fragments of debris from the fuselage clattering around in the skeletal framework of the tower. For this reason we must thank Purdue for this visualization that negates NIST’s primary explanation.²⁰

The Purdue simulation is a very poor source for discussing the alleged structural damage to the WTC. As noted by Jim Hoffman:

[T]he [Purdue simulation](#) was designed only to create a realistic visualization of the 767 colliding with the Tower, not to assess structural damage or model how it supposedly led to the total destruction of the building 102 minutes later.²¹

¹⁹ Quoted from: Letter to Purdue President France Córdova, by Kevin Ryan
<http://stj911.org/ryan/PurdueLetter.html>

²⁰ Ibid.

²¹ Quoted from: National Geographic Does 9/11: Another Icon Debased in Service of the Big Lie, by Jim Hoffman
<http://911research.wtc7.net/reviews/NationalGeographic/index.html>

Then, at [6:08](#), Mohr makes a surprising claim. He states that “90,850 liters of... burning jet fuel created massive conflagrations.” Why is this claim surprising? Simply because this figure of 90,850 liters is more than twice as much fuel that entered each of the buildings, according to official reports. According to NIST, approximately 8,684 gallons (approx. 32,868 liters) of fuel entered WTC1 and 7,415 gallons (approx. 28,067 liters) of fuel entered WTC2.

Table 5–3. Jet fuel distribution, WTC 1.

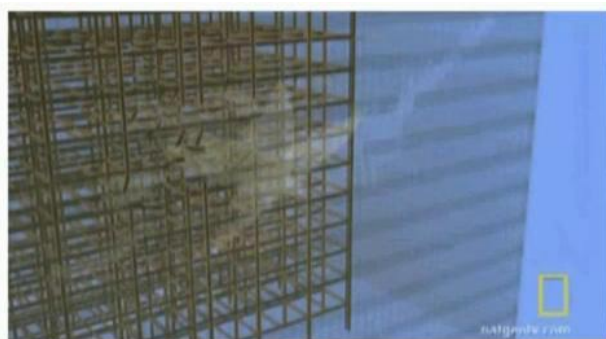
Floor	Liters	Gallons
92	739	195
93	1,531	405
94	8,864	2,342
95	7,216	1,906
96	7,500	1,982
97	5,853	1,546
98	909	240
99	256	68

Table 5–4. Jet fuel distribution, WTC 2.

Floor	Liters	Gallons
78	3,125	826
79	7,841	2,072
80	3,069	811
81	7,556	1,996
82	5,681	1,500
83	795	210

Fuel estimates from: NCSTAR 1-5F: Computer Simulation of the Fires in the World Trade Center Towers, pg. 56 http://www.nist.gov/manuscript-publication-search.cfm?pub_id=101420

A fuel load of 90,850 liters would be approximately 24,000 gallons of fuel. Now this is in fact approximately the maximum amount of fuel a 767 can hold,²² so this may have been where Mohr obtained this figure. However, it is generally common knowledge that the planes that struck the Towers were carrying far less than their maximum fuel load. Strangely, in a later video Mohr actually claims at [1:16](#) that 98,500 liters of fuel entered the buildings. This would of course be almost 8,000 liters more fuel than what a 767 can hold!



- #13.) Explosions Radiating Every Direction
- #14.) 90,000 Liters of Jet Fuel
- #15.) Fires Radiate to All Four Faces Within 15 Minutes
- #16.) Jet Fuel in Elevator Shafts

Image from: [5:05](#)

Two More Reasons for Natural Collapse

Reason #55.) There has never been a tall building where a large jet with 98,500 liters of exploding fuel hit at over 500 mph creating massive fires where softened steel has had to hold up 180,000,000 pounds above it.

Reason #56.) The World Trade Center Towers dispensed with heavy concrete reinforcement because its weight would have made a 110 story skyscraper unsound. Instead the builders used a spray on fire retardant.

Image from: [1:16](#)

²² Maximum Fuel Capacity for Boeing 767-200: 23,980 U.S. gal (90,770 L). See: http://www.boeing.com/commercial/767family/pf/pf_200prod.html

Being that his first figure was 90,850 and his second figure was 98,500, it is entirely possible that Mohr simply messed up the order of the digits. Regardless, Mohr's claim that over 90,000 liters of fuel entered the buildings is clearly incorrect.

It is important to assess how much fuel actually remained in each building after impact, and more importantly to assess how much fuel actually remained in the fires zones of the buildings. According to an anonymous author, the amount of fuel that actually remained in each building would have fit into a mid-sized U-Haul truck or an above ground swimming pool.²³ Already we can see how minimal the amount of fuel was in relation to each building. But as the author further points out:

If 900 cubic feet of fuel was spread evenly over just one 40,000 square feet floor of a Tower, it would result in a film 0.27 inches thick, about the thickness of a pencil.²⁴

Furthermore, NIST itself, in agreement with FEMA, believes that likely half of the fuel that remained in the buildings flowed away from the fires zones down the elevator shafts and stairs.²⁵ From this, the anonymous author states that:

NIST assumes that half of that jet fuel "flowed away" from the impact floors and did not contribute to the fires that initiated the building collapses. We are asked to believe that 2,966 gallons of jet fuel, essentially kerosene, caused the collapse of the South Tower. NIST apparently even has difficulty accepting its own conclusion and states in the passage quoted above, **"the simulations were insensitive to both the amount and distribution of the jet fuel. Sensitivity studies showed that the amount of fuel spilled in the simulation only influenced the results of the first few minutes; the long-term behavior of the simulated fires was unaffected."**²⁶

It is quite clear that Mohr's assertions about the amount of fuel that entered each building are, to say the least, enormous exaggerations. The amount of fuel that stayed in each building was significantly less than half of what the planes could have held.

²³ See: Non-animated Visualization Aids to Assist in Understanding the Demolitions of the World Trade Center Twin Towers, by Anon <http://www.journalof911studies.com/letters/e/VisualizationAidsWTCTowers.pdf>
After assessing that 929 cubic feet volume of fuel remained in WTC1 and 793 cubic feet volume of fuel remained in WTC2, the author points out that: "The 17' Easy Loading Mover rental truck has a box volume of 855 cubic feet. Total cab plus box volume is over 900 cubic feet... Volume of an 18' diameter, 4' tall pool is 1,017 cubic feet."
pg. 4

²⁴ Ibid. pg. 5

²⁵ "The authors of the FEMA report suggested that half of the fuel not consumed in the fireballs could have flowed away, presumably down the elevator shafts and stairwells based on eyewitness accounts... The jet fuel consumption estimate put forth by the FEMA team was used in the model because (1) no evidence or analysis emerged that significantly altered the FEMA estimate, and (2) the simulations were insensitive to both the amount and distribution of the jet fuel. Sensitivity studies showed that the amount of fuel spilled in the simulation only influenced the results of the first few minutes; the long-term behavior of the simulated fires was unaffected." Quoted from: NCSTAR 1-5F: Computer Simulation of the Fires in the World Trade Center Towers, pg. 56

²⁶ Quoted from: Non-animated Visualization Aids to Assist in Understanding the Demolitions of the World Trade Center Twin Towers, by Anon, pg. 3

At [6:53](#), Mohr discusses the properties of steel and how it reacts to different temperatures in a fire.

2750° Steel Melts
2012° Colin Bailey, max fire temperatures
1500° F max temp of hydrocarbon fires?
1800° max temp of WTC fires (NIST)
1400° max temp of WTC fires (Thomas Eagar)
800-1500° jet fuel burns
1100°-1200°, steel loses 50% of its integrity
1000° Steel begins to glow red
800-1000° steel girders are routinely bent
750° thermal limit of structural steel
572° steel loses resistance to distortion (creep strength)
300° steel will begin to expand in length

Mohr argues that the fires in the Towers “**may have gotten as high as 1900 degrees.**” However, it’s important to note that NIST, based on their own examination of the steel from the WTC, has no evidence that steel in the Towers was heated to temperatures above 600 °C (1100 °F). Dr. Frank Legge and an anonymous author have demonstrated why NIST’s examination of the steel from the Towers strongly contradicts their conclusions:

One might think the recovered steel would give the most substantial evidence to support the claim of heat-induced collapse. We are led to believe that NIST has recognized this and has collected the necessary samples for forensic analysis:

“The NIST inventory **included pieces from the impact and fire regions**, perimeter columns, core columns, floor trusses...” (NCSTAR 1.3, xxxvii)

However, on pages 180 and 181 of the Final Report NIST reveals that:

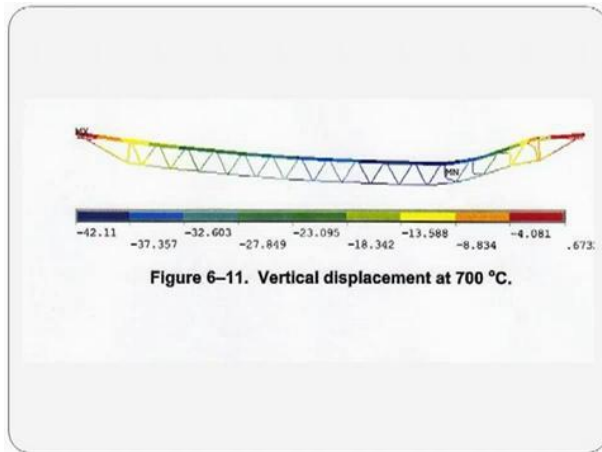
“**None of the recovered steel samples showed evidence of exposure to temperatures above 600 °C for as long as 15 min.** This was based on NIST annealing studies that established the set of time and temperature conditions necessary to alter the steel microstructure.”

As for the exterior columns, NIST reports that

“**Only three [out of 171] of the recovered samples of exterior panels reached temperatures in excess of 250 °C** during the fires or after the collapse. This was

based on a method developed by NIST to characterize maximum temperatures experienced by steel members through observations of paint cracking.” (NCSTAR 1, 181)²⁷

Despite the fact that NIST has no evidence for high temperatures in either of the Towers, Mohr continues his rebuttal at [8:43](#) by presenting a diagram from the NIST report suggesting that temperatures of 700 °C caused the sagging of the floor trusses, which ultimately caused the “inward bowing” of the Towers’ perimeter walls.



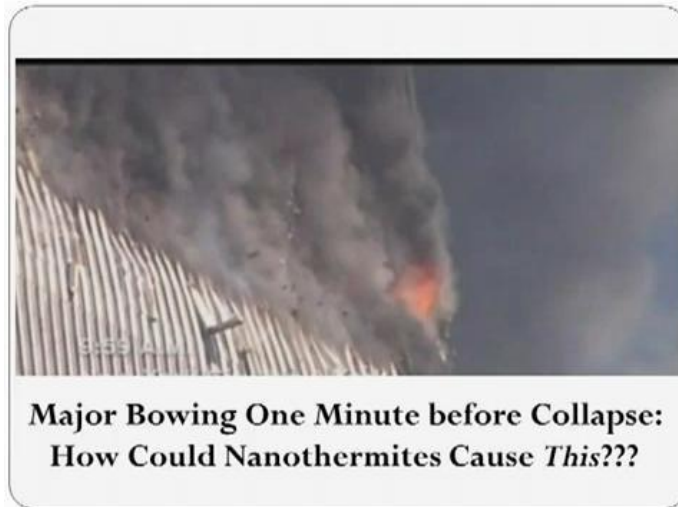
Noting the major discrepancy in NIST’s report regarding the alleged temperatures, Jim Hoffman points out that:

The highest temperatures estimated for the samples was 250 °C (482 °F). That’s consistent with the results of fire tests in uninsulated steel-framed parking garages, which showed maximum steel temperatures of 360 °C (680 °F). How interesting then, that NIST's sagging truss model has the truss heated to 700 °C (1292 °F).²⁸

The inward bowing has been the subject of much debate regarding the demolition of the Twin Towers. While many debunkers believe that it supports the theory of “natural collapse,” many in the Movement have suggested that it was part of the demolition scenario. Regardless, at [9:13](#) Mohr flashes a slide on the screen with the caption “Major Bowing One Minute before Collapse: How Could Nanothermites Cause *This*???”

²⁷ Quoted from: Falsifiability and the NIST WTC Report: A Study in Theoretical Adequacy, by Anonymous and F. Legge, pg. 6-7 <http://www.journalof911studies.com/volume/2010/Falsifiability.pdf>

²⁸ Quoted from: Building a Better Mirage: NIST's 3-Year \$20,000,000 Cover-Up of the Crime of the Century, by Jim Hoffman <http://911research.wtc7.net/essays/nist/index.html>



In fact, while nanothermite has generally been posited as what was used to explosively destroy the Towers, it has been suggested that thermate was used to cause the inward bowing of the Towers' perimeter columns. As Jim Hoffman outlines in his own hypothetical scenario:

Stage 1: Thermate Melts and Corrodes Core Steelwork

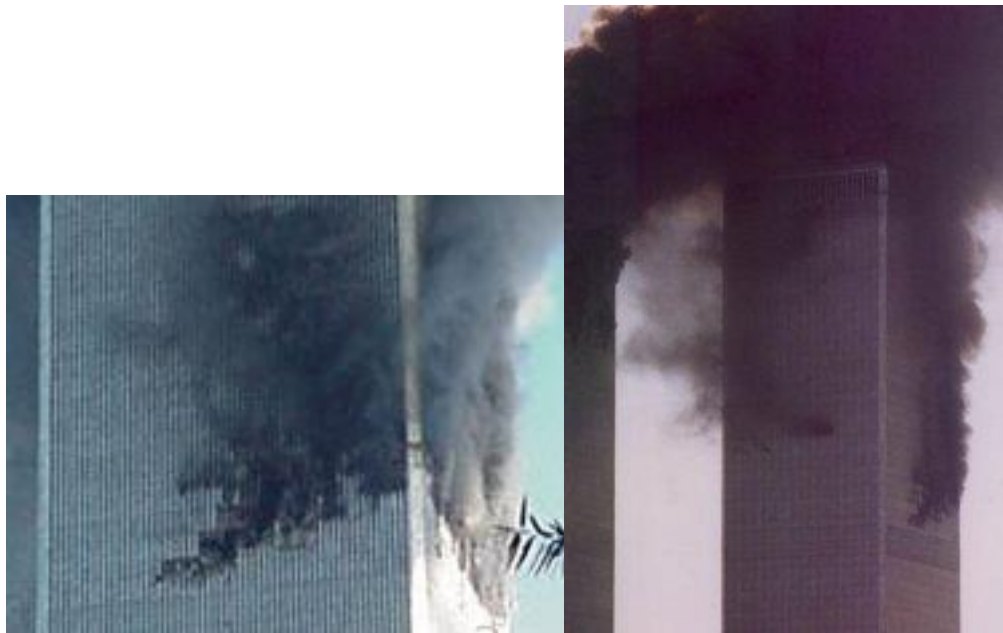
During Stage 1, extending from up to 10 minutes before T-0, thermate coatings on key parts of the core structure steelwork are ignited via the wireless ignition control system. The two areas attacked are: the core columns on a few floors below the crash zone, just above where most of the columns transition from box columns to wide-flange beams; and the inner portions of the [hat truss](#) that connect it to the core.

The thermal/corrosive attack on these two portions of the structure leaves the entire block of the core structure above the upper mechanical equipment floor "floating", with no major steel members to transfer its gravity loads to the lower portion of the core or to the perimeter walls: it is now supported by the [web-trussed floor diaphragms](#). The upper core block now exerts massive inward forces on the perimeter walls due to the high degree of leverage involved in the translation of the core block's gravity loads into pulling on the perimeter walls. It is these forces that produce the inward bowing of portions of perimeter walls that NIST claims are due merely to the sagging of floor diaphragms still supported by the core.²⁹

Hoffman therefore presents a plausible scenario for how a thermite-based demolition could account for the inward bowing we see in the videos. Given that, as we have already seen, the fireproofing was evidently not widely dislodged where the major inward bowing occurred in the North Tower and that NIST has no evidence for high temperatures in either building, the idea that fire caused this extreme warping of the steel is highly implausible.

²⁹ Quoted from: A Hypothetical Blasting Scenario: A Plausible Theory Explaining the Controlled Demolition of the Twin Towers Using Aluminothermic Incendiaries and Explosives with Wireless Detonation Means, by Jim Hoffman http://911research.wtc7.net/essays/thermite/blasting_scenario.html

Mohr then claims at [9:20](#) that the fires in the Towers were not diminishing and that “**they had grown from 3 floors to at least 14 floors in less than an hour.**” It is difficult to understand where Mohr gets this figure of 14 from. As we have already seen, NIST documented that six floors were on fire in WTC2 and eight floors were on fire in WTC1. If Mohr is trying to claim that 14 floors in total from both Towers were on fire, then he would be correct. But Mohr implies that 14 floors were on fire in just one building. And contrary to Mohr’s assertions, the fires in at least the South Tower were diminishing shortly before collapse. Videos and photos of the South Tower show very few flames visible in the moments before the building collapsed.



As pointed out at 911research.wtc7.net:

[T]here is no evidence that the fires on the floors at the impact zone even spread to the opposite side of the building. By the time the building collapsed, the fires appeared to be suffocating, as no flames were visible, and only black smoke was emerging. At that time the vast majority of smoke was coming from the North Tower.³⁰

Mohr then discusses at [9:35](#) the fall of the North Tower’s antenna. Interestingly, Mohr accepts that the antenna did fail first before the perimeter began to fall, instead of offering the often heard excuse by NIST and debunkers that the antenna drop as seen from the north was actually an optical illusion caused by the rotation of the antenna and hat truss to the south.³¹ His own explanation involves the idea that the hat truss “**buckled in the center first, causing the antenna drop seen by FEMA and others.**” However, any scenario involving the failure of the hat truss

³⁰ Quoted from: <http://911research.wtc7.net/wtc/attack/wtc2.html>

³¹ This explanation is contradicted by the fact that a wire connected from the antenna to the roof of the North Tower loses tension as the antenna begins to fall. This means that the antenna must be sinking into the roof of the building, and not simply rotating as a single unit with the upper section. This event can be seen in this GIF image: <http://i1199.photobucket.com/albums/aa476/adamtaylor132342/losttension.gif>

would have to involve the failure of the core first. Tony Szamboti notes a significant problem with this event in the Tower's collapse:

The downward movement of the antenna mast, before the perimeter roofline, certainly makes it appear that the central core failed first and that its failure is what caused the floor trusses to move downward and pull on the perimeter columns, causing them in turn to bow inwardly, buckle, and fail. The central core needed to have a loss of 67% of its original strength before any collapse initiation could begin to occur, and even then it could not be sudden, due to the strain hardening of the steel which would take place after initial yielding. Since the evidence for column damage, due to aircraft impact and fire, cannot account for more than a 20% loss of strength in the central core, it does not appear any collapse initiation, let alone a sudden initiation, can be accounted for without some form of artificial weakening process or controlled demolition being involved. By demolishing the central core, the destruction of the building could also be done with the added advantage of the demolition being mostly hidden from view.³²

While the motion of the antenna is not consistent with NIST's scenario of collapse, where the perimeter failed first, it is very consistent with a demolition scenario involving removal of the core columns.

At [10:40](#), Mohr claims that the South Tower collapsed first because it was hit lower down than the North Tower and therefore had more weight above the crash site. However, this argument is debatable. While the South Tower did have more weight acting on the damaged location, the columns at the South Tower's 80th floor impact zone were far stronger than the columns at the North Tower's 95th floor impact zone. Also, as we have already established, the fires were obviously less severe in the South Tower than in the North Tower.

Mohr spends the next two minutes of this video discussing the issues of collapse initiation, the rate of fall, eyewitness accounts of explosions and the pulverization of the buildings, all subjects that will be discussed in greater detail later on. At [12:40](#), Mohr claims that “**there has not been a single published peer-reviewed paper disputing the fundamentals of this collapse theory.**” As a matter of fact, this is not strictly true. There have actually been several papers published in peer-reviewed journals disputing the idea that the Towers could have completely collapsed in a natural collapse scenario.

For instance, a paper published in the Open Civil Engineering Journal by Dr. Steven Jones et al. shows fourteen points of agreement with the official reports, including the NIST report, that contradict the conclusion that the buildings could have been brought down by fire and gravity alone.³³ Also, a paper published by Dr. Crockett Grabbe in the Journal of Engineering

³² Quoted from: The Sustainability of the Controlled Demolition Hypothesis for the destruction of the Twin Towers, by Tony Szamboti, pg. 6

³³ See: Fourteen Points of Agreement with Official Government Reports on the World Trade Center Destruction, by Steven E. Jones, Frank M. Legge, Kevin R. Ryan, Anthony F. Szamboti, and James R. Gourley
<http://web.archive.org/web/20080610080428/http://www.bentham-open.org/pages/content.php?TOCIEJ/2008/00000002/00000001/35TOCIEJ.SGM>

Mechanics³⁴ addresses a paper written by mathematician Dr. Keith Seffen that endorses the natural collapse scenario. In his paper, Dr. Grabbe writes that:

[I]t has been “well-established” that the factors that caused the onset of collapse in the South Tower appear definitely to not have been the fires. The fires created from the plane impacts were not that intense just before the collapse initiation for either Tower, and for the South Tower the fires seemed close to being contained and put out by the firemen when suddenly rapidly horizontally-moving masses of material violently broke through walls of the floors below where the fires had been burning from the plane hit.³⁵

In 2013, a paper published in the International Journal of Protective Structures by Gregory Szuladzinski, Tony Szamboti and Richard Johns demonstrated that the Towers could not have collapsed in the manner asserted by NIST and civil engineering professor Zdenek Bažant. They conclude in their paper that:

A number of simple, transparent calculations of the North Tower collapse were presented... and the conclusion was that assuming even a modest resistance of columns during their destruction would cause an unacceptably long collapse time. It is only when perfectly frangible columns were adopted that the fall time was as low as 15.3 s. This removes the PCF [Progressive Column Failure] mode, as defined here, as a viable hypothesis of collapse.³⁶

This paper was published after Mohr’s video series was completed, so there is no fault of his found here. However, the fact remains that this is yet another peer-reviewed paper disputing the idea that the Towers could have collapsed the way they did in a natural way.

Furthermore, it needs to be pointed out that none of the NIST reports themselves were peer-reviewed. Dr. James Quintiere, the former Chief of the Fire Science Division of the National Institute of Standards and Technology, has called for an independent review of NIST’s investigation into the collapses of the World Trade Center Towers on 9/11, saying that:

I wish that there would be a peer review of this... I think all the records that NIST has assembled should be archived. I would really like to see someone else take a look at what they’ve done; both structurally and from a fire point of view.³⁷

I think there should be a full airing of the NIST analyses and results with questions raised by the public before an impartial panel judging the completeness and accuracy of their

³⁴ See: Discussion of “*Progressive Collapse of the World Trade Center: A Simple Analysis*” by K.A. Seffen, by Crockett Grabbe <http://www.sealane.org/writings/Seffenrevpub.pdf> (It should be noted too that Dr. Seffen never wrote a Closure article to Dr. Grabbe’s Discussion paper. Dr. Grabbe’s paper has therefore gone unchallenged in peer-reviewed literature.)

³⁵ Ibid. pg. 2

³⁶ Quoted from: Some Misunderstandings Related to WTC Collapse Analysis, by Gregory Szuladzinski, Anthony Szamboti and Richard Johns, pg. 123 (PDF pg. 8) <http://rethink911.org/wp-content/uploads/2013/07/Szuladzinski.Johns..Szamboti.pdf>

³⁷ Quoted from: Former Chief of NIST’s Fire Science Division Calls for Independent Review of World Trade Center Investigation, by Allen Miller <http://www.911truth.org/article.php?story=2007082201012280>

results. In other words, peer-review with accountability to a national body. That should determine whether further investigation is needed.³⁸

Noting that this call for peer-review came directly from a former scientist at NIST, David Ray Griffin writes:

But NIST did not take the advice of the former head of its Fire Science Division. There was no peer-review process, and NIST certainly did not submit its results to an impartial panel empowered to judge their “completeness and accuracy” and to decide, on the basis of that judgment, whether “further investigation [was] needed.”

NIST did, to be sure, meet from time to time with an advisory committee. But it evidently did not take any advice from its members or even answer their questions. Speaking directly to a NIST representative, Quintiere said:

I found that throughout your whole investigation it was very difficult to get a clear answer. And when anyone went to your advisory panel meetings or hearings, where they were given five minutes to make a statement; they could never ask any questions. And with all the commentary that I put in, and I spent many hours writing things..., I never received one formal reply.³⁹

Regardless of Mohr’s assertion that no peer-reviewed papers have challenged the idea that fire and gravity alone could have brought down the Towers, NIST has evidently not had their conclusions peer-reviewed. However, Mohr goes on to claim that there have been other papers published in peer-reviewed journals that support a “natural collapse” scenario and that “**this is part of the reason that NIST did not consider the entire duration of the collapse.**” First of all, several of the papers published in favor of a natural collapse scenario have been responded to by members of the Truth Movement. We have already seen such a paper published by Dr. Crockett Grabbe, and there are others as well, such as papers by chemical engineer James Gourley⁴⁰ and structural engineer Anders Björkman,⁴¹ both published in the Journal of Engineering Mechanics.

A second point that should be noted here is that, although there have been other papers published in support of a natural collapse scenario, the main reason NIST appears to have not explained the entire collapse of the WTC is simply because they were unable to. NIST was forced to admit this

³⁸ Quoted from: Facts against Facts/Theory against Theory – five years later (translated from Norwegian interviews with Dr. Steven Jones and Dr. James Quintiere) http://s15.invisionfree.com/Loose_Change_Forum/ar/t12263.htm

³⁹ Quoted from: The Mysterious Collapse of World Trade Center 7: Why the Final Official Report About 9/11 Is Unscientific and False, by David Ray Griffin, pg. 252 (the quote from Dr. Quintiere is from “Former Chief of NIST’s Fire Science Division”... by Allen Miller)

⁴⁰ See: Discussion of “*Mechanics of Progressive Collapse: Learning from World Trade Center and Building Demolitions*” by Zdenek P. Bazant and Mathieu Verdure, by James Gourley <http://www.civil.northwestern.edu/people/bazant/PDFs/Papers/D25%20WTC%20Discussions%20Replies.pdf>

Although Bazant did write a response to Gourley’s Discussion paper, Gourley has explained that the JEM seems to have shown a bias in favor of Bazant. Gourley explains this thoroughly here: <http://911blogger.com/node/18196>

⁴¹ See: Discussion of “*What did and did not Cause Collapse of WTC Twin Towers in New York*” by Bazant, Le, Greening and Benson, by Anders Björkman <http://heiwaco.tripod.com/JEMdiscussion.pdf>
Bazant replied to Björkman’s Discussion paper, but Björkman has written a critique of Bazant’s response, which can be read here: <http://heiwaco.tripod.com/blgbclose.htm>

in a response to a Request for Correction submitted by members of the Movement, saying that they are “unable to provide a full explanation of total collapse.”⁴² In response, members of the Movement wrote:

As noted in the original Request, NIST was under a mandate by the NCST Act to “establish the likely technical cause or causes of the building failure.” *See* 15 U.S.C. § 7301(b) (2) (A). Accordingly, one of the specific goals stated in the WTC Report was to “Determine why and how WTC 1 and WTC 2 collapsed following the initial impacts of the aircraft.” (NCSTAR 1, p. xxxv) Confusingly, in the Response, NIST states that “it did not analyze the collapse of the towers,” and that it is “unable to provide a full explanation of the total collapse.” There could not be any clearer evidence that NIST has failed to live up to its duties under the NCST Act, and failed to satisfy its stated goal of determining “why and how” the buildings collapsed. NIST admits that it didn’t even try to analyze the collapse of the towers, and that it is “unable” to explain the total collapses to the American people.⁴³

In part 1 of Mohr’s video series, he set out to explain the findings of the official reports and why they support a “natural collapse” scenario, rather than a “controlled demolition” scenario. However, as we have seen the conclusions drawn by the official investigators are strongly contradicted by known facts about the Towers and what supposedly happened to them. Numerous individuals have pointed out serious flaws in NIST’s investigation, but in most cases NIST simply ignored these criticisms. NIST’s reports are far from conclusive, and do not adequately explain away the evidence for controlled demolition. We shall now move onto Mohr’s analysis of Richard Gage’s list of controlled demolition features.

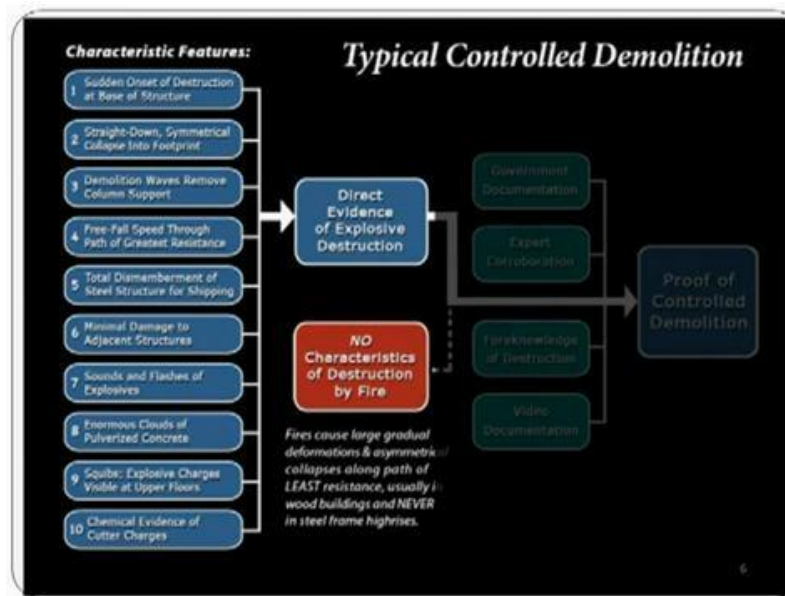
⁴² Quoted from: Sept. 2007 Response to April 2007 RFC, from NIST, pg. 4
<http://www.journalof911studies.com/volume/2007/NISTresponseToRequestForCorrectionGourleyEtal2.pdf>

⁴³ Quoted from: Appeal Filed with NIST, Pursuant to Earlier Request for Correction, pg. 13

Part 2: Gage's 10 Reasons

The second part of Mohr's 20-part video series addresses the 10 features of controlled demolition which are listed in 911BT. Mohr believes that each of the features Richard Gage cites has a natural explanation. From the beginning Mohr states that these issues will be addressed in more detail in later videos. Likewise, I shall offer brief rebuttals to each of Mohr's points for this video, and then expand on them further in later sections.

Mohr shows a slide from Richard Gage's presentation at [1:10](#) that shows the 10 features of controlled demolition. However, from the beginning we can see a glaring error in Mohr's rebuttal: he is showing the slide describing the characteristics of traditional demolitions while discussing the collapse of the Twin Towers, which Gage notes in his presentation were nonconventional.



By doing this, Mohr makes the viewer believe that the characteristics of the Towers' collapses that Richard Gage cites are less of a match to a demolition than they really are. For instance, at [1:26](#) Mohr claims that since the collapse of the Towers started at the point of plane impact, they were inconsistent with demolitions, which generally start at the base of a building. But again, he is using the traditional demolition features list instead of the features list for the Towers. The Twin Towers features list notes the few nonconventional characteristics that the buildings exhibited.

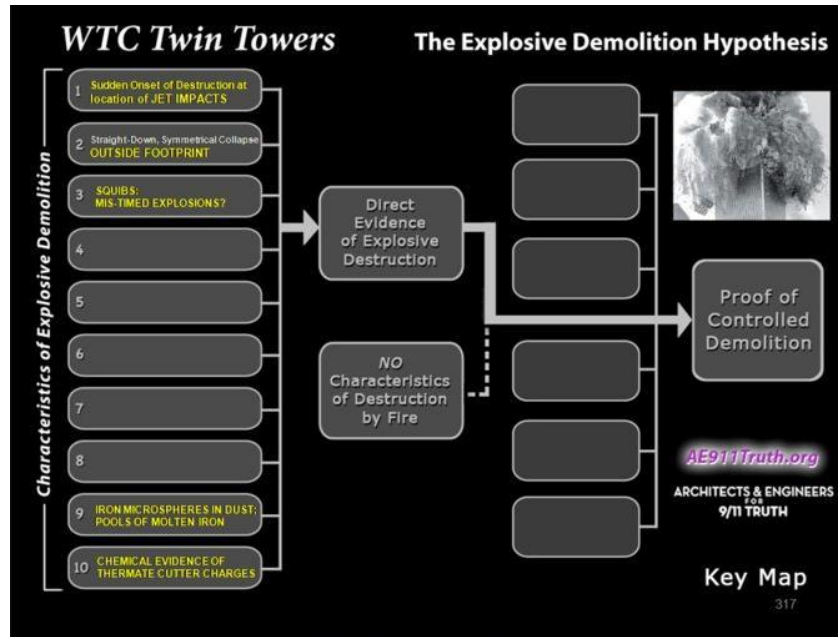


Image from: http://www.ae911truth.net/ppt_web/slideshow.php

For the sake of clarity, here are the features of demolition that are listed at ae911truth.org for the Twin Towers:

1. Destruction proceeds through the path of greatest resistance at nearly free-fall acceleration
2. Improbable symmetry of debris distribution
3. Extremely rapid onset of destruction
4. Over 100 first responders reported explosions and flashes
5. Multi-ton steel sections ejected laterally
6. Mid-air pulverization of 90,000 tons of concrete & metal decking
7. Massive volume of expanding pyroclastic-like clouds
8. 1200-foot-diameter debris field: no “pancaked” floors found
9. Isolated explosive ejections 20–40 stories below demolition front
10. Total building destruction: dismemberment of steel frame
11. Several tons of molten metal found under all 3 high-rises
12. Evidence of thermite incendiaries found by FEMA in steel samples
13. Evidence of explosives found in dust samples⁴⁴

While several of these features do not generally occur in traditional demolitions, this by no means rules out the possibility that the Towers were destroyed through controlled demolition. As noted by 911review.com:

⁴⁴ This list is featured on the front page of <http://www.ae911truth.org/>

Defenders of the [collapse story](#) have suggested that differences between the Twin Towers' destruction and conventional building demolitions weigh against controlled demolition being the cause of the former. Some critics of the official story have, perhaps inadvertently, helped to reinforce this straw man by giving undue credence to scenarios of the destruction of Twin Towers involving "miles of det chord", drilled columns, cutter charges in the Tower's bases, and other features of commercial demolitions that seem unlikely to have been involved in felling the Twin Towers.

The fact that the destruction of the WTC skyscrapers differed in certain ways from commercial demolitions has little to do with whether they were demolitions. A controlled demolition is the engineered destruction of a structure, and there are many ways to accomplish such, whatever the technical demands. For example, although aluminothermic energetic materials are not commonly used in commercial building demolitions, they are now well-represented in the US military's arsenal of tools for destroying equipment and structures.⁴⁵

Starting the demolitions near where the planes impacted would have been an essential element of their covert destruction. As pointed out by Jim Hoffman:

[A]s part of a psychological operation, the controlled demolition of the Twin Towers would be designed to support a false narrative of events (that the plane crashes caused the collapses) so of course the events were engineered to have the destruction start around the crash zones.⁴⁶

The next feature of demolition Mohr addresses at [1:35](#) is the straight-down symmetrical collapse of the buildings. He claims that "**all three buildings fell into their weakest points and scattered debris non-symmetrically over sixteen acres.**" This description, first of all, only applies to the Twin Towers and not Building 7. Had Mohr presented the correct slide from Richard Gage's presentation, viewers would be able to note this distinction.



As we have noted, the fact that the Towers' debris landed hundreds of feet outside their footprints, along with their other features, is consistent with an explosive event according to the NFPA 921 Guide.

As for Building 7, the majority of the building's debris clearly ended up in its footprint.

⁴⁵ Quoted from: <http://911review.com/means/demolition/covert.html>

⁴⁶ Quoted from: A Reply to the National Institute for Standards and Technology's Answers to Frequently Asked Questions, by Jim Hoffman



Image from: <http://www.wtc7.net/rubblepile.html>

At [1:46](#), Mohr discusses the feature of “**demolition waves remov[ing] column support.**” He claims that while removal of column support does happen in controlled demolitions, it could happen in a natural collapse as well, saying that “**the failure of one column shifts the loads to other columns at the speed of sound.**” Mohr makes this assertion without providing any direct analysis, but as we will see later on, there is direct analysis that has been done to demonstrate that the column support must have been removed in an unnatural way.

Mohr then discusses at [1:59](#) the issue of the buildings falling at free-fall through the path of greatest resistance. He points out that the Towers only collapsed at 2/3 the rate of free-fall and that they therefore encountered a large amount of resistance. He also points out that “**most buildings do not collapse in free-fall when they are demolished anyway.**” While it is true that the Tower’ collapses were slower than free-fall, the key thing that needs to be assessed is whether or not their collapse rates were consistent with controlled demolitions. He fails to mention Building 7, and that its overall collapse was extremely close to free-fall and that for 2.25 seconds it was in complete free-fall.

At [2:12](#) Mohr goes on to address the issue of how complete the destruction of the Towers really was. He claims that “**the debris pile does not show total dismemberment at all.**” While the buildings may not have suffered total dismemberment, the fact remains that the structures were clearly destroyed beyond repair.



Images from: <http://911research.wtc7.net/wtc/evidence/photos/groundzero.html>

Then, at [2:22](#), Mohr claims that the Towers' collapses damaged numerous surrounding buildings, something that generally does not happen in a controlled demolition. Again, this was merely due to the fact that the Towers' demolitions would needed to have been engineered to be non-conventional. Although he addresses this later in the video, Mohr should have made it clearer that Richard Gage fully acknowledges this difference.

Mohr next addresses at [2:30](#) the issue of sounds and flashes of light consistent with explosions. He states that this issue will be addressed in more detail later on in the video, so I shall deal with this issue later on as well.

At [2:40](#) Mohr discusses the enormous clouds of pulverized concrete from the collapse of the Towers. He claims that this happens in demolitions, but can also happen in natural collapses as well. While this is certainly true, he therefore is acknowledging that this feature is in no way inconsistent with demolition. And because all the other variables are present in the destruction of the Towers that are consistent with demolition, it makes it far more likely that the Towers really were felled by explosives.

Shortly after this at [2:48](#) Mohr talks about the explosive squibs from the Towers, saying that they were actually due to air pressure. He offers no proof of this and claims that the squibs are “random, unlike the pattern of squibs from controlled demolitions.” As we will see, the squibs from the Towers and Building 7 were almost certainly not due to air pressure and do in fact have a discernable pattern.

Finally, Mohr discusses at [3:00](#) the chemical evidence for explosives in the debris. He claims this assertion has “not been proven” and that this subject will be addressed in a later video.

Mohr spends the next few minutes of his video acknowledging that the collapse of the WTC buildings did resemble controlled demolitions in some ways, but in other ways they did not

resemble demolitions. He quotes Richard Gage from 911BT at [3:16](#) and claims that “**even he agrees that these collapses have only some of the tell-tale signs of controlled demolition.**” No, what Richard Gage is really saying is that the three WTC buildings had *all* the classic features of demolition, with a few non-standard features. But Mohr gives a list of reasons why he thinks the Towers could not possibly have been destroyed with explosives, saying that “**by definition, these were not controlled demolitions.**”

Mohr presents two of the most often heard objections from debunkers and other defenders of the official story at [3:52](#): that the explosives could not have been placed and detonated in the areas where the planes hit, and that the placement of the explosives could not have been kept a secret from those who worked in the buildings. Mohr discusses these two objections in much more detail in later videos, so we shall examine these arguments later on.

At [4:48](#), Mohr claims that “**a classic controlled demolition is usually preceded by very loud explosions and a logical pattern of squibs.**” He then plays a video of the collapse of the South Tower, followed by a video of the Landmark Tower demolition in order for the viewer to compare the sounds of the two events. Mohr asserts that the collapse of the Towers sounds nothing like a controlled demolition, and that the squibs from a demolition occur in “**a logical, organized pattern.**” The error in Mohr’s assertions about the sounds of the Towers’ collapses is due once again to his failure to understand how these buildings would have been set up in an unconventional manner. The explosives in the Towers would have to have been set off extremely rapidly in order to cause collapse, being that the demolitions started at the tops. As pointed out by 911review.com:

The towers’ destruction cannot be accurately described without the word “explosion”... Incredibly, this stark reality has and continues to be so consistently and widely denied in government, media, industry, and academia, that few Americans have even entertained the idea that the towers were intentionally demolished. One of the key underpinnings of that denial is the fact that the explosions were continuous, extending for the entire 15-second duration of each tower's collapse. Although [witnesses describe loud pops at their onsets](#), the extended duration and loud roar of the explosions apparently prevented most people from thinking of them as explosions. Also, the repeated description of the events as collapses by the broadcast networks must have had a powerful effect in shaping people's understanding of them, particularly given the heightened state of suggestibility induced by the profound state of shock and disbelief most of them were in.⁴⁷

The explosions were clearly happening, but with the explosives being set off in rapid succession it would have been nearly impossible to hear distinct explosions above the continuous roar. Also,

⁴⁷ Quoted from: <http://911review.com/attack/wtc/explosions.html>

Also, in a presentation titled *9/11 Guilt: The Proof is in Your Hands*, Jim Hoffman gives a detailed explanation as to how the explosives were likely set off in the Towers and how this may have masked the sounds of distinct explosions, saying that: “[T]he reason I think people don’t think of [the Towers’ collapses] as explosions is because they occurred over a period of fifteen seconds in either case... Normally people think of an explosion as you hear a loud crack, a bang, and then it’s just that one event. But if, in the case of a demolition where you might have thousands of explosions that are all blending in, then you get one, huge explosive event. But you don’t hear any distinct explosions because there’s so much above the roar of it.” Hoffman’s presentation is available to watch here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dvOQre3CTyo>

the sound level of the explosives could possibly have been reduced in some way. Regardless, at [5:57](#) Mohr argues that the explosives would have to have been extremely loud in order to eject pieces of steel great distances from the Towers. Firstly, we need to once again take a look at what the NFPA 921 Guide has to say about explosive investigations. In particular, in section 18.1 of the Guide, it discusses the issue of explosion sounds and how important they are in determining if an explosive event took place. This section states:

Although an explosion is almost always accompanied by the production of a loud noise, the noise itself is not an essential element in the definition of an explosion. The generation and violent escape of gases are the primary criteria of an explosion.⁴⁸

So, as stated by the official NFPA 921 Guide, the actual sound of an explosive is *not* essential in determining if an explosive event took place. Still, let's consider Mohr's premise that extremely loud explosives would have been needed to eject steel beams hundreds of feet. He claims that explosives of such power would create "**deafening 140db sounds a half mile away.**" First of all, witnesses did hear the sounds of the Towers' collapses miles away and described them as explosions.⁴⁹ But even if the sound level of the explosions was not the 140db Mohr claims they needed to be, does this mean they could not have been powerful explosives?

Mohr asserts that explosive sound levels cannot be decreased without lowering the power of the explosive itself. However, this is evidently untrue. One of the main explosives/incendiaries that is believed to have been used in the demolition of the Towers is nanothermite. The Active Thermic Material paper published in the Bentham Open Chemical Physics Journal by members of the Truth Movement discusses the properties of nanothermite,⁵⁰ and cites a report on the 221st National Meeting of the American Chemical Society. One section of the report states that:

At this point in time, all of the military services and some DOE and academic laboratories have active R&D programs aimed at exploiting the unique properties of nanomaterials that have potential to be used in energetic formulations for advanced explosives.... nanoenergetics hold promise as useful ingredients for the thermobaric (TBX) and TBX-like weapons, particularly due to their high degree of tailorability with regards to energy release and impulse management.⁵¹

From this, the authors of the ATM paper write that:

⁴⁸ Quoted from: <http://firefightersfor911truth.org/?p=841>

⁴⁹ Witnesses interviewed by Fox News described the sounds of the Towers' collapses as "explosions" and that they travelled far across the city: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uw7vaGYZKFk&t=3m16s>

⁵⁰ See: Active Thermic Material Discovered in Dust from the 9/11 World Trade Center Catastrophe, by Niels H. Harrit et al. <http://www.benthamscience.com/open/tocpj/articles/V002/7TOCPJ.htm?TOCPJ/2009/00000002/00000001/7TOCPJ.SGM>

⁵¹ Quoted from: Nanoenergetics: an emerging technology area of national importance, by Dr. Andrzej W. Miziolek, pg. 43-44 <http://www.p2pays.org/ref/34/33115.pdf>

The feature of “impulse management” may be significant. It is possible that formulations may be chosen to have just sufficient percussive effect to achieve the desired fragmentation while minimizing the noise level.⁵²

So, contrary to Mohr’s assertions, explosives using nanothermtic technology can be formulated to have extremely powerful properties while reducing the noise levels.

From [7:08](#) on, Mohr discusses several of the most controversial aspects of the destruction of the WTC, including: the sulfidized steel, the pools of molten metal, the iron microspheres, the red/gray chips of nanothermite and the symmetrical free-fall collapse of WTC7, all of which will be addressed in greater detail in later sections of this paper.

Mohr discusses in this video why he feels Richard Gage’s 10 reasons for demolition are not compelling and why it is more likely that the features are consistent with a “natural collapse.” However, his arguments are demonstrably false. While the Towers may have exhibited characteristics that can be seen as unconventional for demolition, it is quite obvious that they and Building 7 exhibited every feature that is entirely consistent with demolition, including:

- The collapses were very rapid
- The collapses were mostly symmetrical
- The collapses produced huge clouds of pulverized debris
- The structures were totally dismembered
- The collapses showed ejections of dust and debris
- Witnesses described explosions as the buildings collapsed
- The collapses produced chemical residues of explosives and/or incendiaries

There is not a single example of a building collapse that exhibited every one of these characteristics. As David Ray Griffin has accurately pointed out:

No building exhibiting all the characteristics of controlled demolition has ever not been a controlled demolition.⁵³

Mohr has evidently failed to cast doubt on Richard Gage’s arguments for controlled demolition. But as we shall see, Mohr provides more detailed arguments for his case for “natural collapse” in later videos. And his next video deals with one of the most fallacious arguments against the controlled demolition theory.

⁵² Quoted from: Active Thermite Material Discovered in Dust from the 9/11 World Trade Center Catastrophe, by Niels H. Harrit et al., pg. 26

⁵³ Quoted from: Review of ‘A New Standard For Deception: The NIST WTC Report’ A Presentation by Kevin Ryan, by Jim Hoffman http://911research.wtc7.net/reviews/kevin_ryan/newstandard.html

Part 3: Tall Steel Frame Building Fire Collapses

In part 3 of Chris Mohr's rebuttal, he discusses the fact that the Twin Towers and Building 7 were the first steel-framed high-rise skyscrapers in history to collapse because of fire. However, Mohr tries to make the case that this was not surprising for the WTC buildings by using two standard arguments: that the fires in the buildings were extremely severe and that other smaller steel-framed buildings have collapsed from fire.

Regarding the first argument, we have already seen that NIST has no evidence for high temperatures in either of the Twin Towers, and other skyscrapers have endured much more severe fires. Still, at [0:59](#) Mohr disregards this fact and claims that the conditions at the WTC were far worse than in other skyscrapers (once again claiming over 90,000 liters of fuel entered the Towers.)

Two More Reasons for Natural Collapse

Reason #55.) There has never been a tall building where a large jet with 98,500 liters of exploding fuel hit at over 500 mph creating massive fires where softened steel has had to hold up 180,000,000 pounds above it.

Reason #56.) The World Trade Center Towers dispensed with heavy concrete reinforcement because its weight would have made a 110 story skyscraper unsound. Instead the builders used a spray on fire retardant.

One of the main subjects Mohr discusses in this video is the partial collapse of the steel-framed TU Delft building in the Netherlands. He discusses this building beginning at [1:39](#) and believes its partial collapse adds validity to the idea the WTC could have collapsed from fire. He claims that the building had a “fast, all at once, almost symmetrical collapse pretty much straight into its own footprint.” Blogger “ScootleRoyale” at the Debunking the Debunkers blog notes a fundamental problem with Mohr's arguments regarding this building:

One minute in Mohr states that Gage does not acknowledge the differences in construction between the twin towers and the other skyscrapers he cites as examples of towers which burned more severely without collapse. Humorously, he then does what so many debunkers do and contradict his own criticism by citing the collapse of a building even less like the twin towers ... the TU Delft building.

Mohr characterized the TU Delft collapse as “very fast, almost symmetrical, and into its own footprint”. Really? It was about 1/4 of the height of WTC7, and 1/8 the height of the twin towers, and collapsed nowhere near a free fall rate, and it was only one wing of the building ... how exactly is this proof that a massive skyscraper can undergo a progressive, global collapse at basically free fall?⁵⁴

Indeed, in an article I myself wrote discussing other steel-framed building collapses, I noted several aspects of the building’s collapse that were in stark contrast to the characteristics of the WTC, including:

- The building burned much longer than either of the Towers
- The collapse was localized, leaving most of the main structure standing
- The building was constructed very differently from the Towers
- The collapse took approximately 10 seconds. Unlike many of the other structures referenced, we have several videos of this collapse, and they show that the collapse of the 13-story section took roughly 10 seconds from start to finish. However, the Twin Towers, which were each 110-stories tall, each collapsed in approximately 15 seconds. Building 7, a 47-story building, collapsed in less than seven seconds. This contrasts strongly with the collapse of the Faculty building. If the Towers and Building 7 were truly gravity driven collapses, as was the case for this incident, then we would expect them to have taken far longer to totally collapse than they actually did.⁵⁵

The last point in this list is what truly contradicts Mohr’s assertion that the collapse of the Delft building was “fast.” Certainly the collapse was “fast” in the sense that the building section fell in a manner most would characterize as quickly, but in comparison to the Towers and Building 7, its collapse was not fast at all.⁵⁶ At [2:59](#) Mohr claims that “Richard Gage’s researchers will no doubt come up with ways this collapse was different from the Twin Towers.” Indeed Mr. Mohr, as I wrote in my previously mentioned article:

Although there are undoubtedly similarities between the Faculty of Architecture Building collapse and the WTC collapses, it becomes quickly apparent that under careful examination, the differences obviously outweigh the similarities.⁵⁷

Beginning from [5:13](#), Mohr begins to discuss numerous smaller steel-framed buildings that have collapsed from fire.

⁵⁴ Quoted from: Chris Mohr's “respectful rebuttal” smells like debunking

<http://911debunkers.blogspot.com/2011/07/chris-mohrs-respectful-rebuttal-smells.html>

⁵⁵ Quoted from: Other Collapses in Perspective: An Examination of Steel Structures Collapsing due to Fire and their Relation to the WTC, by Adam Taylor, pg. 18

http://www.scientificmethod911.org/docs/Other_Collapses_Apr27_2013.pdf

⁵⁶ It is useful to watch the collapse of the 13-story Delft building being timed to show that its collapse took 10 seconds. An accurate timing of the building’s collapse can be seen here:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=c1SF3K5PaWI>

⁵⁷ Quoted from: Other Collapses in Perspective... by Adam Taylor, pg. 18

Reason #58.) Steel Frame Structures Collapse in Fire:

- In 1997 the large **Sound Theatre in Pennsylvania**
- In 1967, the very large steel-framed **McCormick Center in Chicago** collapsed in 30 minutes
- Three four-story-high steel framed buildings at the **Kadel Toy Factory in Singapore** collapsed in 1997
- The **Mumbai High North Oil Platform**, constructed of steel and seven stories high, completely collapsed after burning for two hours
- **Interstate 580 overpass near San Francisco**, supported only by steel beams, collapsed due to the heat of a gasoline fire after nineteen minutes
- **Sofa SuperStore Charleston SC**, long span roof trusses
- **WTC 5** had a partial collapse of four floors on 911.

Of course, I have addressed several of these structures in my previously mentioned article. While my entire article is recommended reading, here are my summarized reasons for why each of the structures Mohr cites are not valid comparisons to the Twin Towers and Building 7:

The Sight and Sound Theater

- Not a total building collapse, only a roof collapse
- The building did not have a sprinkler system
- Construction on the stage floor damaged the sprayed-on fire-resistant coating of steel structural members
- The building was under construction and fire doors were not yet installed, allowing the fires to pass through these openings freely⁵⁸

The McCormick Place exhibition hall

- Not a total building collapse, only a roof collapse
- Trusses failed in the building, but trusses are said to have not failed in the Towers
- The roof trusses were uninsulated
- The Towers' floor trusses spanned at most 60 feet, apparently much shorter than McCormick Place's roof trusses
- The Towers' floor trusses had to support the floor loads of the concrete slabs and office furniture, whereas the roof trusses of the McCormick Place only had to support snow loading⁵⁹

⁵⁸ Ibid. pg. 4-5

⁵⁹ These differences are noted at 911research.wtc7.net:

<http://911research.wtc7.net/wtc/analysis/compare/mccormick.html>

The Kader Toy Factory

- The factory was badly designed
- None of the steel had fireproofing
- The building had no sprinklers
- The building had been previously damaged by a series of smaller fires and was still being repaired from a fire that occurred earlier that same year⁶⁰

The Mumbai High North Platform

- Not a high-rise skyscraper, or even a building for that matter
- The fires were fueled by over a million gallons of oil
- The fires had an unlimited supply of air to fuel them⁶¹

Interstate 580

- Not a building, much less a high-rise skyscraper
- The fires were fueled by an open air source
- The fires were focused on a single section of the structure
- The steel from the interstate showed evidence of higher temperatures than the steel from the Towers
- The interstate's columns remained standing⁶²

World Trade Center 5

- Was not a total building collapse
- Had more severe fires than the Towers and Building 7
- Was constructed differently than the Towers and Building 7⁶³

The only building Mohr cites that my article does not address is the Sofa Superstore in Charleston, South Carolina. However, like so many of the other structures mentioned, this incident was not a total building collapse, but merely another roof collapse involving the failure of the trusses which, as we have already observed, did not occur in the Towers.

⁶⁰ See: Other Collapses in Perspective... by Adam Taylor, pg. 5-6

⁶¹ Ibid. pg. 6-7

⁶² Ibid. pg. 7-11

⁶³ Ibid. pg. 11-15 (see also: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FwXuagCxM-E>)



Images from:

<http://my.firefighternation.com/group/buildingconstructionfirefightersafety/forum/topics/889755:Topic:937376>

Chris Mohr claims that “**steel-framed buildings are not impervious to partial or total collapse.**” And I agree with him 100%. I have acknowledged this fact, but I have also made my case for why the WTC buildings should not have collapsed. As I explain in my article:

A common misconception about this argument regarding other steel skyscrapers not collapsing is that it implies that steel cannot under any circumstances fail from being weakened by fire. This idea is incorrect. Steel, while very strong, is not immune to the effects of fire, which is why fire-proofing is applied to many steel structures. The main argument that is really being presented is this: other steel-framed high-rise skyscrapers have never collapsed from fires that, upon careful examination, appear to be far more severe than the fires exhibited in the WTC buildings. Therefore, it is reasonable to assume that the WTC buildings should not have collapsed from the types of fires that were seen on 9/11.⁶⁴

I have also explained the fundamental error in citing these types of steel structures as comparisons to the WTC, writing that:

It’s interesting to note that critics are quick to point to these smaller and more poorly designed steel structures as valid comparisons to the WTC, while at the same time they have argued that other actual high-rises engulfed in fire are not comparable to the WTC due to “differences in design.” If we are to draw comparisons between the WTC skyscrapers and other structures, then we would logically want to compare them to other skyscrapers.⁶⁵

Similarly, ScootleRoyale notes that:

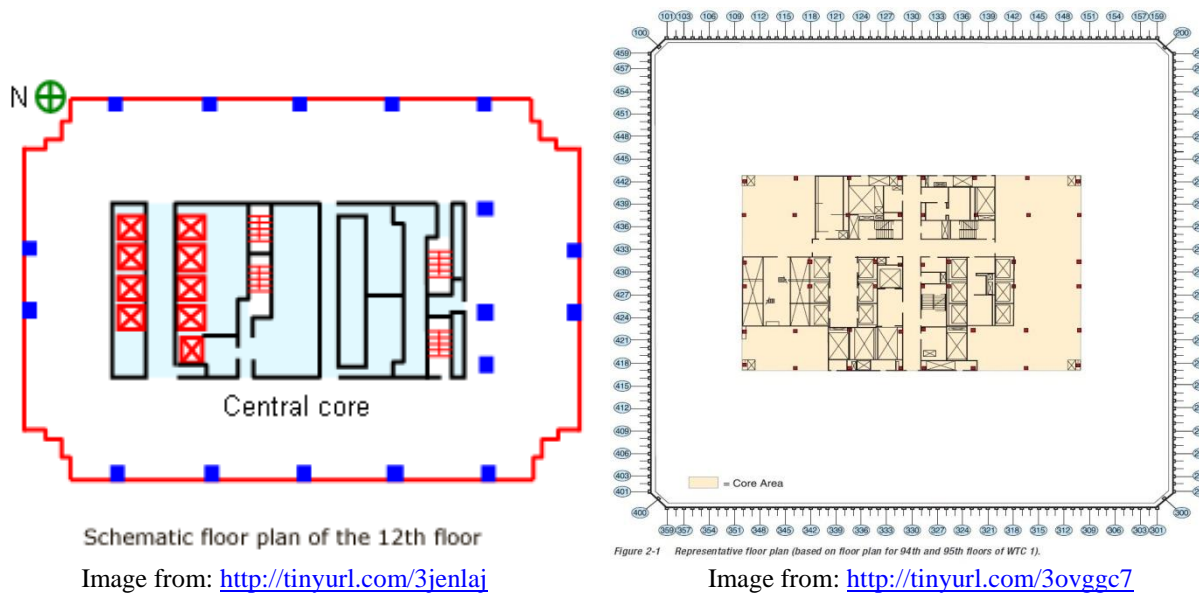
One minute in Mohr states that Gage does not acknowledge the differences in construction between the twin towers and the other skyscrapers he cites as examples of towers which burned more severely without collapse. Humorously, he then does what so

⁶⁴ Ibid. pg. 1-2

⁶⁵ Ibid. pg. 2-3

many debunkers do and contradict his own criticism by citing the collapse of a building even less like the twin towers ... the TU Delft building... After droning on about the TU Delft collapse for a full four minutes, he then cites other examples commonly cited by debunkers like the Kadel toy factory and the interstate 580 overpass - again contradicting his earlier criticism of comparisons to skyscrapers Gage cites. The doublethink here is astounding. If a university building, a toy factory and an overpass are relevant then so are the skyscrapers Gage cites.⁶⁶

Indeed, not only are the buildings cited by Gage skyscrapers like the Towers, but some of them even had a similar design to that of the Towers. For instance, the One Meridian Plaza⁶⁷ and the First Interstate Bank,⁶⁸ two buildings cited in Richard Gage's presentation, were core and perimeter structures like the Towers and Building 7, although not quite the same. Compare the construction of the First Interstate Bank to the construction of one of the Towers.



As we can see, the construction these buildings were similar in terms of the core and perimeter. But Mr. Mohr ignores these facts and prefers to compare the Towers to structures not even remotely comparable in terms of overall construction.

At 7:05, Mohr discusses NIST's sagging floor computer model compared to what their physical experiments showed. Mohr explains that fires can cause steel to sag and bend, and that this is apparently what happened in the Towers. However, physical experiments that were carried out by NIST showed that the steel evidently would not have sagged to the extent claimed by NIST. It should first be noted that these tests were initially supposed to determine if a "pancake collapse" scenario caused the initiation of the collapses. As explained by Jim Hoffman:

⁶⁶ Quoted from: Chris Mohr's "respectful rebuttal" smells like debunking, by ScootleRoyale

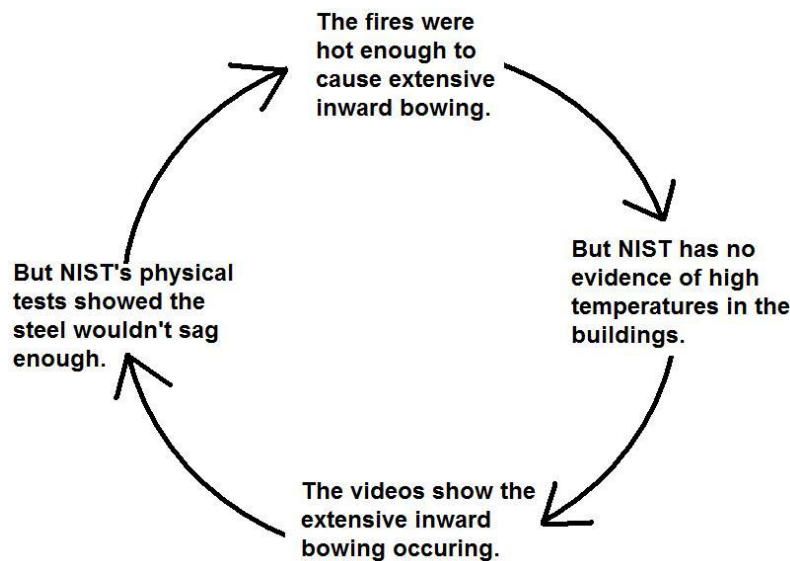
⁶⁷ See: <http://www.iklimnet.com/hotelfires/meridienplaza.html>

⁶⁸ See: http://www.iklimnet.com/hotelfires/big_fires1.html

The floor assemblies tests were important because they were supposed to prove the pancake theory. Yet, despite NIST using less fireproofing on the assemblies than was known to be on the steel in the Twin Towers, and despite their loading the floors with double the weight known to have been on the actual floors, it could not get an assembly to collapse. The tests showed:

- Minimal floor sagging
- No floor collapse
- “The results established that this type of assembly was capable of sustaining a large gravity load, without collapsing for a substantial period of time relative to the duration of the fires in any given location on September 11th.”⁶⁹

The floor models were also heated to higher temperatures and for longer periods of time than either of the Towers. Whereas WTC2 burned for 56 minutes and WTC1 burned for 102 minutes, and the maximum temperature the fires likely could have reached was 1800 °F, NIST’s tests had the fires burning for two hours at temperatures of about 2000 °F. Yet despite all this, Mohr still claims that the floors in the Towers must have sagged to the extent which NIST claims, because **“the 42 inch figure of steel sagging matched the photographic evidence.”** This is a clear example of circular logic on Mohr’s part. Although NIST has no evidence of high temperatures in either building, and their physical tests showed no major sagging, Mohr concludes that NIST’s conclusions must be right, since the videos match with their conclusions. However, this is precisely the point as to why NIST is believed to have falsified their data. They adjusted their computer models to match the videos and photos, but never got this result in any of their actual physical experiments!



Mohr claims that **“major steel sagging actually happens in regular fires,”** and shows a photo of sagging steel from the One Meridian Plaza building.

⁶⁹ Quoted from: Review of ‘A New Standard For Deception’ ... by Jim Hoffman



No one disputes that the inward bowing of the Towers' perimeter columns happened. What is disputed is what actually caused the inward bowing to occur. Since NIST's physical experiments indicated that fire alone could not have caused it, it is illogical of them to posit fire as the primary cause. As noted by Jim Hoffman:

The idea that fires could have caused floors to sag is not unreasonable, since it has been observed in fire tests and in cases of severe fires in steel-framed buildings, such as the [One Meridian Plaza fire](#). What is not reasonable is the degree of sagging NIST used in its computer models compared with the amounts its physical tests showed. Whereas the 35 foot floor model sagged only a few inches in the middle after two hours in a high-temperature furnace, NIST's computer model showed a sagging of 54 inches.⁷⁰

The One Meridian Plaza fire is if anything an indication that the type of sagging suggested by NIST could not have caused collapse, since the Plaza burned for 18 hours and produced no collapse. In any case, all NIST has is evidence that the perimeter columns bowed inward. But they do not have any credible evidence that fire alone is what caused them to bow inward. And as we have already seen, Jim Hoffman has provided a plausible scenario for how thermate could have been the prime cause.

At [7:52](#), Mohr discusses the issue of steel's heat conductivity and its role in the collapse of the buildings. He believes that the heat from the fires would not have been conducted quickly enough for the fire to have less effect on the steel. He also points out that steel doesn't immediately wick heat away and that "[NIST studied this question in their report, and they show heat applied to representative individual columns with and without fireproofing.](#)" Firstly, members of the Movement have acknowledged that steel does not almost immediately conduct heat. As David Ray Griffin has written:

Steel has somewhat low conductivity compared with many other metals. Compared with non-metallic substances, however, its conductivity is high: 46 W/m/K (see eFunda

⁷⁰ Ibid

[www.efunda.com/materials/alloys/carbon_steels/show_carbon.cfm?ID=AISI_1524&prop=all&Page_Title=AISI%201524]).⁷¹

Secondly, the fact that NIST only applied heat to individual columns is evidence itself that they misrepresented the conductivity of the steel in the Towers. As noted by Jim Hoffman:

NIST apparently ignored thermal conduction within its model of the steel structure. Since steel is a good conductor of heat, and the steel in the Twin Towers' structures was well connected, their massive steel structures would have drawn heat away from the parts that were exposed to fire. The Report describes a model of "The Fire-Structure Interface", and describes the computation of heat transfer between the air and the steel structure, but it does not mention the conduction of heat along spans of the steel structure. (p 131-2/181-2) The suspicion that NIST simply ignored the conduction of heat within the steel is corroborated by the Report's disclosure that they used heat transfer tests on isolated steel elements to calibrate their model. (p 134/184)⁷²

At [9:25](#), Mohr once again references the McCormick Place fire as evidence that fire can cause steel buildings to collapse. Again, the fact that fire can cause steel structures to collapse is not denied, but the structures often cited by defenders of the official story are simply not valid comparisons to the WTC buildings. As we have already seen, the McCormick Place collapse was not even a total collapse, but merely a roof collapse.

Mohr then spends the next few minutes discussing how Richard Gage and other members of the Movement are disliked by others in the scientific community. This of course has nothing to do with the evidence, and as noted by ScootleRoyale:

[H]e finishes this part of his rebuttal by comparing 9/11 truth to what I guess is called "titanic denialism," and saying lots of scientists don't like people like Gage for various reasons. One reason, he says, is they don't like being accused of being part of a conspiracy - an accusation Gage has never made - and another reason is we are apparently "unschooled in the scientific method" - even though Gage's presentations follow the scientific method.⁷³

It is quite apparent that Mohr's citation of these smaller steel structures collapsing due to fire is simply not valid in the debate regarding the collapse of the Twin Towers and Building 7. All he has managed to do is show that fire can cause steel to warp and fail from being exposed to fires, something that the Truth Movement accepts. What he has not shown, however, is that the fires in the Towers and Building 7 were sufficient to cause collapse. Other skyscrapers of similar design to the WTC have endured vastly more severe fires, and not one of them has totally collapsed. The website StopTheLie.com summarizes the Movement's position on the matter very nicely, so I shall finish this section with a quote from the site:

⁷¹ Quoted from: The Mysterious Collapse of World Trade Center 7... by David Ray Griffin, pg. 312 (ref. 73)

⁷² Quoted from: Building a Better Mirage... by Jim Hoffman

⁷³ Quoted from: Chris Mohr's "respectful rebuttal" smells like debunking, by ScootleRoyale

For the record, few in the scientific community doubt that it's *theoretically possible* for a building to experience failure if it is subjected to devastating heat for a sufficient period of time. And additional factors like no fire-proofing, no sprinkler systems, insufficient steel to "bleed off" heat or inferior construction greatly increase the possibility. However, what is "doubted" (or more accurately; considered downright impossible) is that such a failure would resemble anything like what was witnessed on 9/11. ...Gradual, isolated, asymmetrical failures spread out over time; perhaps. Simultaneous disintegration of all load bearing columns (leaving a pile of neatly folded rubble a few stories high) -no way.⁷⁴

⁷⁴ Quoted from: The 1-Hour Guide to 9/11 (Version 2.0), by J. Plummer http://stopthelie.com/1-hour_guide_to_911.html Also available in PDF format here: <http://tree3.com/1hr/1hr.pdf>, pg. 19

Part 4: Symmetrical, free fall collapse

In part 4 of Mohr's "respectful rebuttal," he addresses two of the strongest indications that the Towers were destroyed through controlled demolition: the rate of the collapses and the symmetry of the collapses. Mohr disputes these aspects of the Towers' collapses and continues to argue that these events are entirely consistent with a "natural collapse." As we shall see, this is simply untrue.

Beginning at [0:44](#), Mohr rehashes the fact that NIST did not study the entire collapse of the Towers, only the initiation of collapse. He also claims that the Towers did not fall at the rate of free fall, and that researchers on both sides of the argument have agreed that the Towers' fall time was approximately 15 seconds in either case, and that they fell at 2/3 the rate of free fall. From this, Mohr believes that "the slower collapse rate shows significant resistance to the momentum of the collapse." However, explosives generally do not cause a building to collapse in complete free fall in the first place.⁷⁵ What actually should be analyzed in the collapses of the Towers is not their overall fall time, but the *acceleration* of the buildings. Time and acceleration are two very different things. And the acceleration of the Towers' collapses has actually shown that they did *not* provide sufficient force to destroy the rest of the structures. Regardless, Mohr believes the force of the collapse of the upper sections of the Towers was great enough to cause the total collapse of the buildings, and quotes NIST from their WTC FAQ page as saying:

[T]he momentum (which equals mass times velocity) of the 12 to 28 stories (WTC 1 and WTC 2, respectively) falling on the supporting structure below (which was designed to support only the static weight of the floors above and not any dynamic effects due to the downward momentum) so greatly exceeded the strength capacity of the structure below that it (the structure below) was unable to stop or even to slow the falling mass. The downward momentum felt by each successive lower floor was even larger due to the increasing mass.⁷⁶

However, Jim Hoffman has responded to this weak explanation from NIST, writing that:

NIST's assertion that the Tower's intact structure was "unable to stop or even to slow the falling mass" is absurd:

- It requires us to believe that the massive steel frames of the towers provided no more resistance to falling rubble than air.
- It ignores the fact that most of the rubble fell outside the towers' footprints, and hence could not contribute to crushing.
- It is unsupported by any calculation or logical argument.⁷⁷

⁷⁵ This fact is well outlined in this video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CTAeKVul3uA>

⁷⁶ Quoted from: NIST Answers to Frequently Asked Questions (August 30, 2006), question 6.

⁷⁷ Quoted from: A Reply to the National Institute for Standards and Technology's Answers to Frequently Asked Questions, by Jim Hoffman

In regards to the second point raised by Hoffman, physicist David Chandler has also noted the absurdity of NIST's assertion that the mass at the collapse front increased as the collapse progressed:

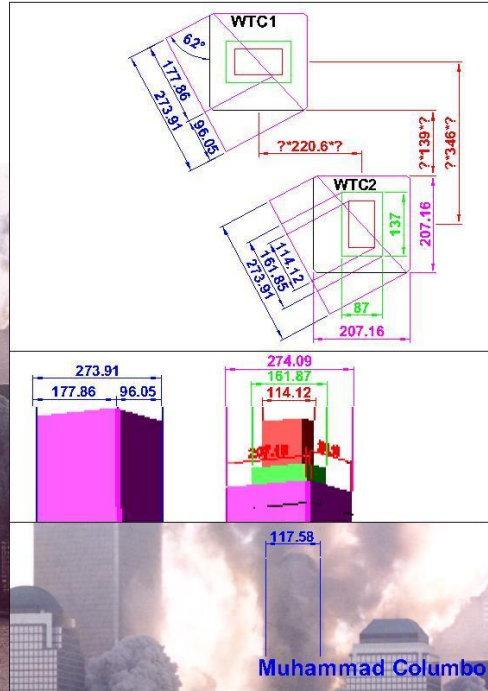
It has been argued that the crushed material at the interface of destruction is accreted to the upper section so the mass of the falling block grows as it falls, producing an avalanche effect. I would argue, from the fact that a major fraction of the mass landed outside the footprint of the building, that accretion was at most partial... any accreted material reduces the effectiveness of an assumed pile driver. This result may become reasonably intuitive once one recognizes that the falling block must transfer some of its momentum to the accreted mass to bring it up to speed.⁷⁸

At 2:28 in his video, Mohr points out that the core of each Tower came down last in the collapse of the buildings. From this he claims that “for any kind of controlled demolition, detonating the core structure and causing its collapse first would always be the priority, or the demolition would not work right at all.” However, it has been demonstrated that the core of each Tower was attacked first in the demolition of the buildings. Mechanical engineer Gordon Ross has analyzed the remaining portions of the Towers' cores, and has determined that the outer core columns were taken out in the beginning of each collapse, writing that:

The photograph by Aman Zafar... appears to show the lower core structure still upright after the floors and perimeter columns had collapsed to ground level. However, this is not the full story. Muhammad's analysis shows that the remaining core was too narrow to be the entire core, and was in fact, the inner 23 core columns. The 24 core columns which made up the outer perimeter of the core structure and to which the floors were connected are clearly absent from the photograph. Thus we can see that the outer core columns fell in the early stages of the collapse along with the floors and perimeter walls. For this to happen, the bracing which attaches these outer core columns, both to each other and to the inner core columns would have to be severed and each column broken into sections.⁷⁹

⁷⁸ Quoted from: Destruction of the World Trade Center North Tower and Fundamental Physics, by David Chandler, pg. 11-13 <http://www.journalof911studies.com/volume/2010/ChandlerDownwardAccelerationOfWTC1.pdf>

⁷⁹ Quoted from: How the Towers were Demolished, by Gordon Ross <http://gordonssite.tripod.com/id2.html>



Images from: <http://gordonssite.tripod.com/id2.html>

Similar analyzations of the core of the North Tower indicate the same thing. But why would these core columns be targeted in particular in the demolition of the Towers? Well, Gordon Ross also notes that the 24 outer core columns “made up the perimeter of the core and to which the floors were connected.”⁸⁰ Therefore, if one were going to destroy the internal stability of the Towers, these particular core columns would need to be demolished first. The fact that these columns did fail first in the collapses strongly contradicts the notion that the Towers were destroyed by some sort of “pile-driver,” as noted by Tony Szamboti:

The fact that 50 to 60 story high portions of the central core remain standing for several seconds, in the collapses of both twin towers, does pour cold water on the crush down (pile driver) theory of Bazant and the NIST. What many don’t know is that it was only the 23 inner core columns which remained standing, and none of the significantly larger outer 24 core columns. This was brought to light by Muhammad Columbo in 2007 and enabled mechanical engineer Gordon Ross... to be the first to fully dissect just how the towers were demolished. The reality is that the 24 outer core columns and the corners of the perimeters were taken out to effect the demolitions of the twin towers.⁸¹

We should note too that setting up only the outer core columns for demolition would have dramatically reduced the amount of work needed in planting explosives in each of the Towers.

At 3:45, Mohr discusses how the force of the upper section free falling onto the lower section of the building would have increased the force dramatically and allowed for a complete collapse.

⁸⁰ Ibid.

⁸¹ Quoted from: <http://911blogger.com/news/2009-05-14/steven-jones-and-frank-greening-and-others-correspond-april-may-2009#comment-208196>

He demonstrates this by showing a video of himself dropping a 25lb weight onto a bathroom scale and destroying the scale.



Demonstration of $f=ma$ (force=mass x acceleration)



Demonstration of $f=ma$ (force=mass x acceleration)



Demonstration of $f=ma$ (force=mass x acceleration)

Stills from: [4:27](#)

Mohr's first error is that he has no evidence that either of the upper sections initially fell at free fall in the first place. For the upper section to collapse in a natural way, this would require the columns to buckle, which would not cause the columns to lose all of their strength. But the greatest error Mohr makes is that he does not address the fact that the upper section of the Tower *never exerted massive forces on the lower section*, due to the fact that the upper section *accelerated* through the lower section. As explained by David Chandler:

The only two relevant forces acting on the falling block are gravity (mg) and an upward normal force (N) due to its interaction with the lower section of the building... Our data shows that from the sixth computed velocity data point onward, the upper block is accelerating uniformly (with an R^2 value of 0.997) at $a = -6.31 \text{ m/s}^2$, or in other words, 64% of the acceleration of gravity... Therefore the upward-acting normal force is 36% of the weight of the upper block... Explicitly invoking Newton's Third Law puts this result in another light. Since the forces in the interaction are equal and opposite, the falling block exerts a force of only 36% of its weight on the lower section of the building. In other words, as long as the falling block is accelerating downward we have the counter-intuitive result that the force it exerts on the lower section of the building is significantly less than its static weight. It is difficult to imagine how an upper block exerting a force of only 36% of its static weight could crush the larger, stronger, undamaged lower section of the building to the ground, when the building, at any level, was designed to support several times the weight above it. Assuming a safety factor of between 3 and 5, the observed acceleration implies that close to 90% of the strength of the lower section of the building must have been eliminated by forces other than the supposed "pile driver," suggesting that some sort of controlled demolition was at work.⁸²

The reason that Mohr's bathroom scale was crushed by the weight is because the energy built up in the accelerating weight was transferred into the scale when the two objects collided. In other words, the weight lost energy when it impacted the scale and no longer continued to accelerate. Instead, the weight began to decelerate once it impacted the scale, and a definite "jolt" was observable once the two objects met. However, it has been demonstrated that there was no "jolt"

⁸² Quoted from: Destruction of the World Trade Center North Tower and Fundamental Physics, by David Chandler, pg. 8-10 (David Chandler also outlines this point in this video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZjSd9wB55zk>)

when the upper section of the North Tower fell into the lower section.⁸³ In other words, the upper section of the North Tower fell through the lower section, and not only did the upper section not slow down, *it sped up*. This clearly shows that some sort of external force removed the column strength in the building. David Chandler, who was the first to actually measure the descent of the upper section of WTC1, shows what the real significance of all this truly is:

The significance is not that it shows there is resistance; the significance is that there is not enough resistance to cause it to decelerate, so there is not enough force of interaction to destroy the building.⁸⁴

Regardless of how much energy was built up in the upper section, the fact that it accelerated smoothly into the lower section shows that it did not give up any of its energy to do any crushing. This is a fundamental fact that Mohr completely ignores in his video.

At 5:52 in Mohr's video, he begins his discussion of the symmetry of the Towers' collapses. He shows a photograph of the collapse WTC2 and claims that this **"is the most dramatic proof that there was nothing symmetrical about the collapse of the South Tower."** He believes that because the upper section of WTC2 initially tilted, it proves that the collapse was not symmetrical.



The fact that the upper section of the building tilted actually does NOT show that the overall collapse was asymmetrical. The upper section of WTC2 may have tilted significantly, but the lower section of the Tower clearly collapsed in a symmetrical fashion, with all four sides being systematically wiped out from top to bottom. Basically, in the case of the South Tower, we have asymmetrical damage and an asymmetrical beginning of the collapse, but below we have a straight down progression through the lower portion of the building.

⁸³See: The Missing Jolt: A Simple Refutation of the NIST-Bazant Collapse Hypothesis, by Graeme MacQueen and Tony Szamboti <http://www.journalof911studies.com/volume/2008/TheMissingJolt7.pdf>

⁸⁴ Quoted from: Email correspondence with David Chandler

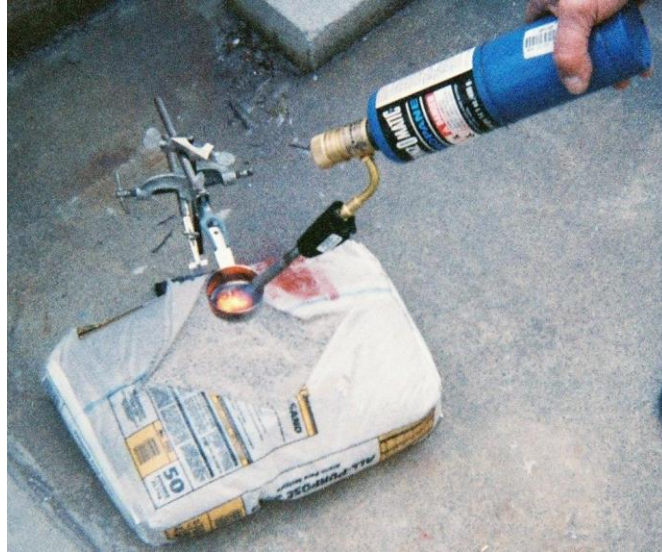


Stills from: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Kuw19eqfjlc>

At 6:30, Mohr claims that “all three of the buildings began their collapses into their weakest points,” and then gives a list of reasons why the demolitions could not have been started near where the planes impacted. His first point may not be entirely true, as the upper section of the North Tower initially tilted away from the face that Flight 11 crashed into. His second assertion that the explosives could not have been set up in the crash zones does not take into consideration the possible ways in which the explosives could have been covertly set up. The website 911research.wtc7.net, for example, lists numerous ways that the explosives could have been set up so that the plane crashes and fires wouldn't have set them off.⁸⁵ But as we have already seen, it is very likely that thermate was used to initiate the collapses, and thermate cannot be ignited by the types of fires that would have existed in the buildings, as pointed out by Dr. Steven Jones.

It is important to note that initiating the thermite reaction requires temperatures well above those achieved by burning jet fuel or office materials -- which is an advantage of using thermite charges over conventional monomolecular explosives such as TNT, RDX and PETN. Below is a photograph of an experiment performed by the author and colleagues at BYU in which a sample of thermite was heated to orange-hot temperature (about 1700 °F). We demonstrated that the thermite reaction would not ignite at this high temperature. Later, the thermite reaction was triggered by burning a magnesium strip in contact with the thermite. An electrical superthermite “match” could have been used and remotely triggered via radio signal.

⁸⁵ See: <http://911research.wtc7.net/faq/demolition.html#positioning>



Thermite did not ignite when heated with a propane torch.⁸⁶

Dr. Jones' point about triggering the thermite with electrical superthermite matches is noteworthy because, as pointed out by Los Alamos National Laboratory, these types of matches can be made to "resist friction, impact, heat, and static discharge through the composition, thereby minimizing accidental ignition."⁸⁷ The same article notes that one application of these matches can be to trigger explosives for demolition. So contrary to Mohr's assertions, there are in fact numerous ways the demolitions could have been set up so that the plane impacts and the fires would not have set them off.

From 7:26 on, Mohr argues that controlled demolition "**could not instantly right the 180,000,000 lb building on top,**" and that gravity is what caused the building to fall straight down without toppling over completely. From the videos and photographs it is quite apparent that what kept the upper section from toppling over was that the frame of the upper section was shattered.

⁸⁶ Quoted from: Why Indeed did the WTC Buildings Completely Collapse? by Dr. Steven Jones, pg. 16
http://www.journalof911studies.com/volume/200609/Why_Indeed_Did_the_WTC_Buildings_Completely_Collapse_Jones_Thermite_World_Trade_Center.pdf

⁸⁷ Quoted from: R&D Awards - Super-Thermite Electric Matches http://awards.lanl.gov/PDFfiles/Super-Thermite_Electric_Matches_2003.pdf



Images from: <http://911research.wtc7.net/wtc/evidence/photos/wtc2exp4.html> Note the curves in the edges of the walls above the zone of collapse.

Dr. Crockett Grabbe has shown evidence that some form of explosive energy had to account for the destruction of the South Tower's upper section.⁸⁸ The fact that the frame of the upper section of the building was shattered before it had fallen a significant distance indicates that some sort of external force was responsible. However, Mohr claims that the reason the Tower collapsed and did not topple over was due to the fact there were no lateral forces available to push it over and that gravity ultimately overcame the angular momentum. Gravity certainly played a part in the destruction of the building, but the idea that lateral forces were not available to cause the upper section to topple over is not necessarily true. The upper section had already toppled significantly before it began its vertical descent, and toppling itself can create a horizontal force which would only increase as the center of gravity is displaced laterally from the fulcrum. At an angle of around 22° to 25° , the center of mass would have been highly off-center, as much more weight would have been acting on one side compared to the other.

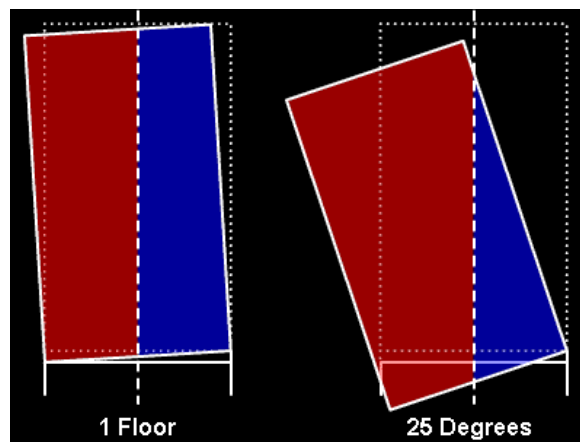


Image from: <http://911debunkers.blogspot.com/2009/08/conservation-of-angular-momentum-in.html>

⁸⁸ See: Collapse of the South Tower of the World Trade Center, by Dr. Crockett Grabbe <http://www.sealane.org/writings/STcollapse.html>

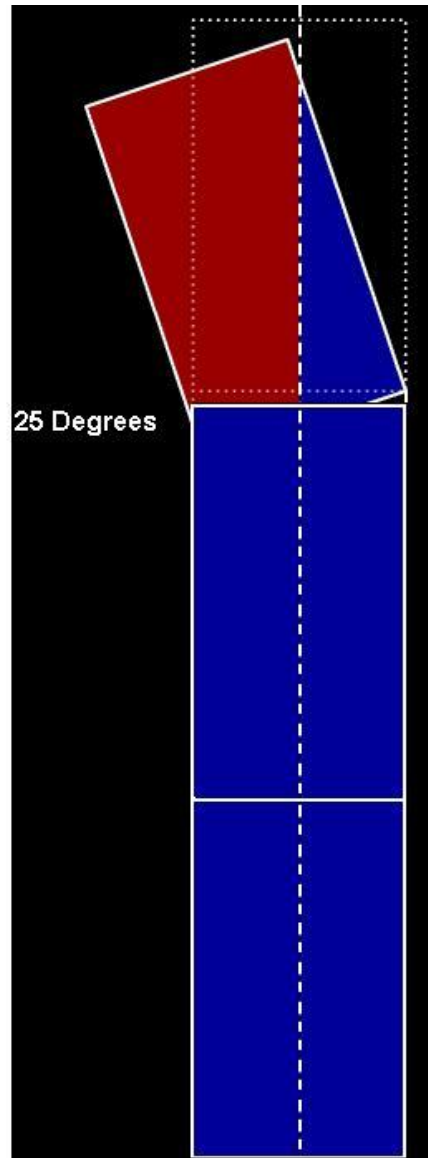
But at [7:47](#), Mohr attempts to show that gravity would have overcome the angular momentum by using a model consisting of two boxes duct taped together. It is of course quite apparent that Mohr's model is nowhere near an accurate representation of the South Tower.



For starters, the upper section of his model is wider than it is tall, unlike the upper section of WTC2, which was much taller than it was wide. Also, the South Tower's rotation was much different, as the top did not rotate about fulcrum, but rather rotated freely about a changing axis. (One might think debunkers would criticize Mohr severely for this demonstration, as many of them have leveled extreme ridicule at Richard Gage for demonstrations he has conducted with cardboard boxes.) Mohr talks quite a lot about how gravity was the key thing that caused the buildings to collapse, and this overcame much of the resistance the Towers would have provided. However, as we have already seen, when actual measurements are done for the collapses, we find that gravity cannot possibly be the only force at work.

Mohr claims at [8:25](#) that the initial tilt of both upper sections of the Towers indicates that they were natural collapses. His reasoning is that if all the supports were removed simultaneously, as in a traditional demolition, the upper sections would not have tilted. This however is not strictly true. Tilts actually occur quite often in controlled demolitions.⁸⁹ He also claims that “**the toppling collapse theory requires crushing to be asymmetrical, occurring only on one side, which is implausible.**” How does Mohr expect the upper section to crush the lower section in a symmetrical fashion when the upper section had already tilted over 20°? As we have already seen, far more force would have been acting on the east side of the building than the west side.

⁸⁹ Videos of controlled demolitions with tilts can be seen here:
<http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL4B4EE5DA2B118EAC>

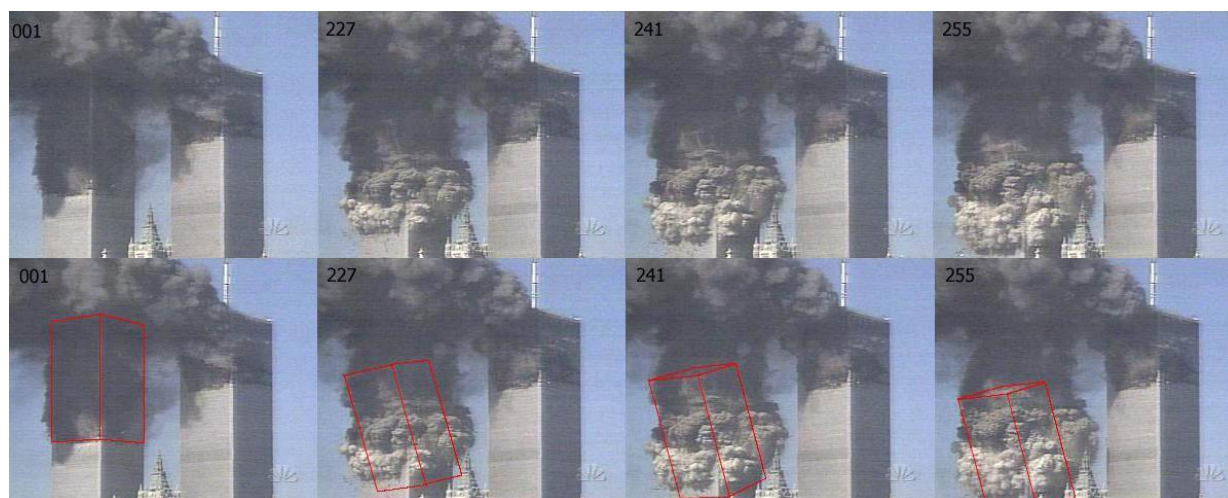


At [9:13](#), Mohr discusses how the upper sections of each Tower would have added falling mass as the collapses progressed. He correctly points out that the upper sections would have broken up and disintegrated as they fell, but that this does not change the fact that there still would have been an enormous amount of debris contributing to the collapse, and that the falling mass would have increased during the collapse. Again, David Chandler has addressed this point, noting that the debris was falling well outside the footprint of each building. In fact, Brent Blanchard, a noted defender of the official story and was on site at Ground Zero, noted that up to 95% of the debris from the Towers landed outside their footprints.⁹⁰ How is the falling mass supposed to contribute to the collapse if it's falling outside the building's footprint?

⁹⁰ See: A Critical Analysis of the Collapse of WTC Towers 1,2 & 7 From a Conventional Explosives and Demolitions Industry Viewpoint, by Brent Blanchard, pg. 5
<http://www.jod911.com/WTC%20COLLAPSE%20STUDY%20BBlanchard%208-06.pdf>



What's more, the upper section of each building appears to completely destroy itself *before* the lower section begins to give way. This is especially apparent in the collapse of the South Tower. Videos of the building's destruction show that the upper section must be disintegrating. Otherwise, the upper section would have extended far into parts of the lower section that were clearly not been affected by the collapse yet.



The upper sections would certainly have had a large amount of momentum as they fell, and conservation of momentum must be taken into account in the collapse of the buildings. But given the fact that both of the upper sections fell at rates faster than can be accounted for by gravity, and the fact that both sections disintegrated as they collapsed into the lower sections, it is difficult to imagine that there would have been very much momentum to transfer in the first place.

Mohr finishes up this video at [9:48](#) by naming off a long list of people and organizations that have studied the collapse of the WTC and believe the “natural collapse” scenario. He explains that none of them believe the Towers were destroyed with controlled demolition, and then asks “**are they part of a vast misinformation network?**” We first note that this is clearly a blatant appeal to majority, something that Mohr does quite a bit throughout his videos. Second, the Movement has in fact responded to several investigations and studies that have been carried out

by those within and outside the government. Here is a partial list of studies, both independent and government funded, that members of the Movement have addressed and/or refuted:

- The NIST investigation⁹¹
- The FEMA investigation⁹²
- MIT⁹³
- The Purdue study⁹⁴
- The Weidlinger Associates study⁹⁵
- Papers by Dr. Zdenek Bažant⁹⁶

It is also worth noting that, in terms of what these investigations studied, it is not so much what these researchers did, but what they didn't do. And one thing that none of the above mentioned studies did was measure the actual descent of the upper sections of each Tower. They had all just assumed that there was a dynamic load in the collapses. Members of the Movement, such as David Chandler, were the first to measure the actual descent of the structures and demonstrated that, because there was no deceleration and hence no "jolt," there was no dynamic load to cause the buildings to collapse.

Mohr claims that he aced physics and calculus in school, and I do believe him. But I also believe that he has still seriously misunderstood the physics of the Twin Towers' collapses. And I believe he has also seriously misunderstood the destruction of the three WTC buildings and what truly caused them to collapse.

⁹¹ See: The NIST WTC Investigation-- How Real Was The Simulation? by Eric Douglas
<http://journalof911studies.com/volume/200612/NIST-WTC-Investigation.pdf> (See also reference 30)

⁹² See: <http://911research.wtc7.net/wtc/official/fema.html>

⁹³ See: http://911research.wtc7.net/disinfo/experts/articles/eagar_jom/eagar_0112.html and
http://911research.wtc7.net/disinfo/experts/articles/eagar_nova/nova_eagar1.html

⁹⁴ See reference 21

⁹⁵ See: Report on Weidlinger Simulation, by Michael H.
http://journalof911studies.com/letters/h/Report_on_Weidlinger.pdf

⁹⁶ See: <http://911research.wtc7.net/disinfo/experts/comments/bazantzhou.html> (See also references 41, 42 and 85)

Part 5: Lateral Ejection of Steel and Squibs

We now come to one of the more obvious features of demolition exhibited from the Towers: the explosive ejection of dust and debris. Like the rest of the issues already discussed, Mohr believes that these phenomena have natural explanations and are inconsistent with controlled demolition. As we shall see, this is simply untrue.

At [0:32](#), Mohr once again discusses how the lateral ejection of steel is not a common feature of demolition, and that it wouldn't make sense in a covert demolition either. As Mohr himself even admits, this is all just conjecture, and ignores the physics of the matter. But we should again note that, according to the NFPA 921 Guide, the feature of debris being thrown out hundreds of feet is consistent with an explosive event. And this feature was evidently acknowledged by NIST. They wrote in their WTC7 report that:

[F]ragments [from WTC1] were forcibly ejected and traveled distances up to hundreds of meters. Pieces of WTC 1 hit WTC 7, severing six columns on Floors 7 through 17 on the south face and one column on the west face near the southwest corner. The debris also caused structural damage between Floor 44 and the roof.⁹⁷

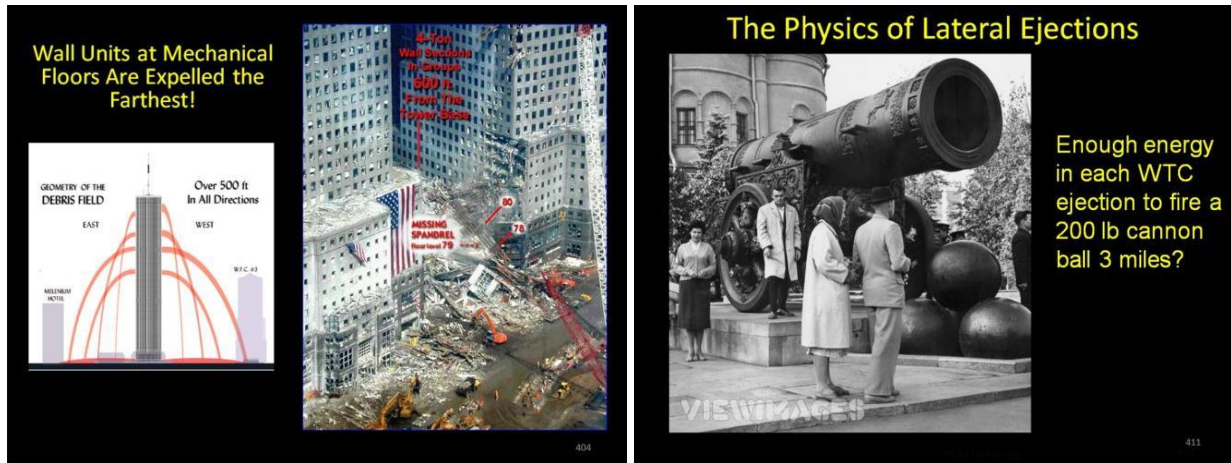
And as noted by David Ray Griffin:

Debris that caused such extensive damage, including the severing of seven steel columns, had to be quite heavy. NIST seemed implicitly to be admitting that sections of steel columns, after being forcibly ejected, had been hurled at least 650 feet (because “hundreds of meters” would mean at least 200 meters, which would be about 650 feet)... [E]normous force would be needed to eject large sections of steel that far out, so as to strike WTC 7. It would seem, therefore, that NIST's report on WTC 7, while explicitly denying that explosives were used to bring down this building, has implicitly admitted that they were used to demolish the Twin Towers.⁹⁸

This is yet another reason that NIST's refusal to test for explosives is truly illogical. Regardless of whether or not this event is consistent with traditional demolition, it is entirely consistent with an explosive event. But Mohr ignores this fact and goes onto discuss Richard Gage's assertion that the steel higher up in the Tower should have travelled further since it was higher up. Mohr argues at [1:12](#) that the lower steel sections would have travelled further because the pressure from the collapse would have increased as it progressed. However, the issue of air pressure will be discussed when we get to the squibs. But it should be noted that Gage's other point is that the sections of the Towers at the sky lobbies, which had much more reinforcement than other sections of the Towers, seemed to travel further. Mohr only shows half of Gage's slide that discusses this issue, and also omits the fact that the energy needed to eject the steel out as far as 600 feet would be comparable to the energy needed to shoot a 200 lb cannonball out three miles.

⁹⁷ Quoted from: NIST NCSTAR 1A, pg. 16 http://www.nist.gov/customcf/get_pdf.cfm?pub_id=861610

⁹⁸ Quoted from: The Mysterious Collapse of World Trade Center 7... by David Ray Griffin, pg. 143-144



Images from: http://www.ae911truth.net/ppt_web/slideshow.php

At [2:21](#), Mohr proposes two other scenarios for how the steel may have been ejected without explosives involved: that the steel columns were bent and snapped back up in the collapse, causing them to be flung out; and that the steel was deflected and went sideways when it struck other objects.

Reason #90 : $\frac{1}{2}$ million cubic feet of air per floor at 12 floors per second

Reason #91 : Bow-and-arrow effect when inward-bowing columns snap back and shoot “arrows” of steel

Reason #92 : “Pinball” effect when steel falling outside vertically hits another object and deflects horizontally

Reason #93: Loud Explosions can't be Masked

The first scenario Mohr suggests has actually been addressed by David Chandler, who says that:

Some people have suggested that the weight of the Tower crushing down on the girders caused them to flex, and they sprung sideways by a spring action. But we are not seeing isolated jumping girders. We are seeing a major fraction of the mass of the building. Steel, concrete, office furniture and remains of human beings reduced to small pieces of rubble and fine dust, and being explosively ejected in all directions.⁹⁹

⁹⁹ Quoted from: North Tower Exploding <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hSApOavkHg8>

Also, any sort of ejection caused by flexing would usually cause an object to spin and tumble in the air.¹⁰⁰ But many of the steel sections ejected from the Towers simply shot outwards without tumbling.



Stills from: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eHnLlwqiu0A>

Mohr's second scenario seems highly unlikely, as several of the steel sections were ejected well above the collapse front. What was there for them to strike and be deflected horizontally?



Stills from: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hSApOavkHg8>

¹⁰⁰ As this video shows, objects ejected through flexing generally cause the flung pieces to tumble while flying through the air: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jlDghGhVhWk>

Mohr claims that many scientists have suggested these scenarios, “**but no one outside the 9/11 Truth Movement has ever proposed explosives as an explanation.**” Note how fallacious this reasoning is. Mohr has classified “scientists” and “the Truth Movement” as if they two different types of people. There are now thousands of scientists who believe the Towers were destroyed with explosives and have cited the ejections of steel and debris as compelling evidence. One of these scientists is Dwain Deets, the former director of the research engineering division at NASA’s Dryden Flight Research Center. The “massive structural members being hurled horizontally,” he has said, is one of the factors that “leave no doubt” in his mind that “explosives were involved.”¹⁰¹ But Mohr disregards him and the many other scientists who believe this simply because they are members of the Truth Movement. What exactly would a scientist have to do to believe the Towers were destroyed with explosives and *not* be considered a member of the Truth Movement?

Update: At the time of writing this, Mohr has added a correction to his video description, which says:

CORRECTION? Since putting this video out, several scientists have told me that there was NO lateral ejection of steel beams, that parts of the outer perimeter of the Towers peeled off like a banana and fell 600 feet away from the core before hitting WFC3. They have pictures showing debris underneath the famous pictures of the steel beams sticking out of the buildings to back up this claim (see this video:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9GIxWjWA3Ec>

and this post and several after):

<http://forums.randi.org/showpost.php?p=7523908&postco...> (at the bottom of this post click “Close This Window” to get much more information and many more photos offering evidence of this claim).

This may well be the strongest argument against lateral ejection of steel beams: IT NEVER HAPPENED.

However, as we have already seen, NIST itself acknowledged in NCSTAR 1A that large sections of the North Tower “were forcibly ejected and traveled distances up to hundreds of meters,” and that this debris severed seven of Building 7’s steel columns. And as David Ray Griffin noted, debris capable of doing this “had to be quite heavy.” Mohr’s argument is clearly flawed, as there are videos and photos that undeniably show isolated sections of steel being ejected laterally hundreds of feet from the Towers. They are not simply “peeling” out.

¹⁰¹ See: <http://www2.ae911truth.org/profile.php?uid=998819>



Beginning from [4:19](#), Mohr moves on to discuss the squibs from the Towers. Like so many other defenders of the official explanations, Mohr argues that these ejections were due to air pressure from the collapses. Mohr counters Richard Gage's assertion that air pressure would break all the windows by suggesting that "the weakest window would be the first to break, and then the pressure drops so none of the other windows have to break." Let's consider Mohr's scenario. He is suggesting that, because one window breaks from the pressure, the other windows would not break because the air has a source to escape through, i.e. the now broken window. If that is the case, then we should not expect several ejections to be produced from one floor. However, we can see from the videos and photographs that ejections did shoot out of several windows on a floor even when one isolated window broke from an ejection.



Stills from: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p99IeIKSqnM>

Note that in the above picture we see an isolated ejection coming from what appears to be around the 55th floor on the north face of the Tower. At the same time, we see a wave of ejections racing down the west face of the building, and they appear to have also reached the same floor as the isolated ejection. Granted, the two areas are far from each other in terms of floor area. But we see that less than a second later, an isolated ejection is produced on the west face when the wave of ejections reaches that point.



If Mohr's scenario were correct, we should not see this isolated ejection, as the windows to the side of it have evidently already been broken by the pressure. Mohr talks a lot about how the Towers were 95% air and that the air had to go somewhere when the buildings collapsed. But as pointed out by Kevin Ryan, the air could not be contained on a single floor to produce these isolated ejections in the first place.

[T]he floors were not air tight, enclosed containers either, which means that, even if the falling mass could exert a uniform downward pressure, it would not be contained. There were eight large air supply and return ventilation shafts located in the core areas of each floor. There were also three stairwells running throughout the building, and over thirty elevator shafts at any given level. Any compressed air would have had to equilibrate with open stairwells and elevator shafts, and with any openings from these shafts to other parts of the building (i.e. vent ducts). Additionally, we know that the fire in the north tower in 1975 was spread by means of openings in the floor slabs, of more than one square foot area, used to transfer telephone cables. All of these facts indicate that any pressurized air would be forced to equilibrate over large sections of the building, if not the entire lower section, and could not be contained on one floor alone.¹⁰²

Mohr's reasoning that the air would have escaped out of the weakest window first is reasonable, but it also indicates that the air could easily escape through many different sources. And as Kevin Ryan also notes, one of those sources was likely up through the top of the Tower.

[T]o initiate the gas pressure below, we would need to imagine the falling mass as a flat plate, or a continuous sheet, exerting uniform pressure at all points. If discontinuous, the falling mass would allow pressure to be released upward. But we can infer that the falling mass was probably not a uniform flat plate or a continuous sheet because workers who cleaned up the site described how the debris at ground zero was all pulverized, except for the steel assemblies. Photographic evidence (as in Fig. 1 above) also indicates that the falling debris, which appeared to explode outward to some extent, was cloud-like. Such

¹⁰² Quoted from: High Velocity Bursts of Debris From Point-Like Sources in the WTC Towers, by Kevin Ryan, pg. 4 http://www.journalof911studies.com/volume/2007/Ryan_HVBD.pdf

cloud-like debris could not form the continuous falling surface that would be needed to create the downward pressure and compress the air below.¹⁰³

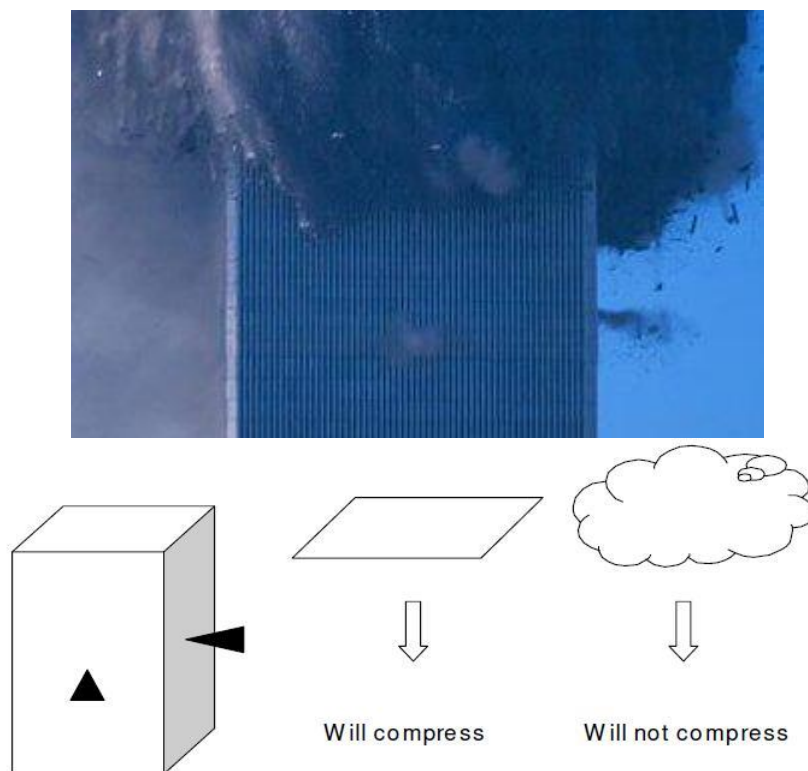
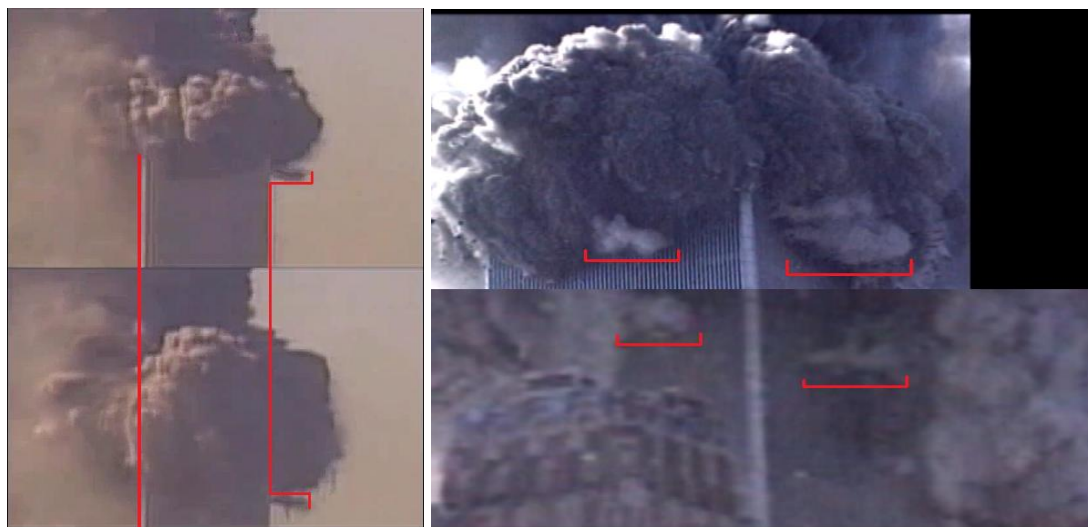


Figure 3 - Cloud-like debris would not create a continuous downward pressure

What is also striking about these ejections is how uniform they are in overall shape and size.



Stills from: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eIf6Qy1HNKA&t=51m22s> and <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p99IeIKSqnM>

¹⁰³ Ibid. pg. 3-4

As Kevin Ryan also notes:

From videos and photographs we can see that the bursts of debris ejected from the higher floors seem to be very similar in size, shape and velocity to those ejected lower in the building, and the frequency of bursts does not increase. If these bursts were the result of the pressurization of the lower section, how did the pressure remain so constant as the buildings fell? The pressure should have been much smaller at the top, creating a smaller force for ejection of debris than was seen near the end of the fall, and therefore smaller bursts near the top. But, if anything, the opposite is evident in the photographic evidence of those bursts emanating from the WTC towers – those ejecting at lower levels were smaller, or at best the same size.¹⁰⁴

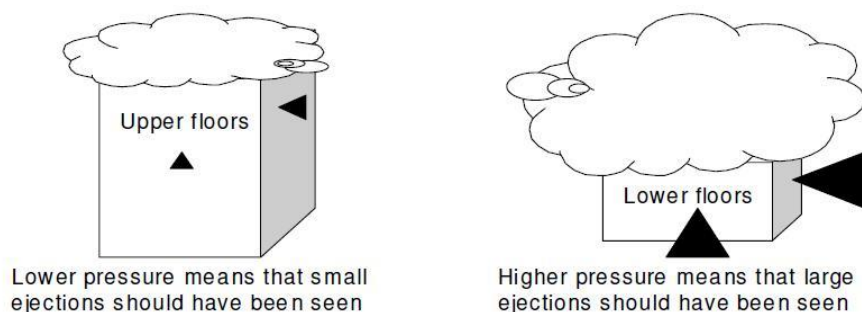


Figure 4 – Bursts from the sides of the WTC towers were not proportional to expected pressures

These facts, when taken together, show that the likelihood of the squibs being caused by air pressure to be infinitesimal. Regardless, Mohr insists that these squibs cannot be due to demolition because of how randomly they appear to eject from the buildings. But as many have suggested, this may have been due to the fact that they were mistimed in the demolition. And contrary to Mohr's assertions that these ejections have no pattern, close observation of the collapses shows this to be incorrect. We should first note that there is a difference between the wave of ejections that travelled down the face of each building and the isolated ejections that Mohr is discussing. One of the strongest indications that these ejections are not being done by the collapsing Tower is the fact that they evidently did not come from each floor progressively. The first row of ejections and the second row of ejections from the South Tower appear to be several floors apart from one another.



¹⁰⁴ Ibid. pg. 5



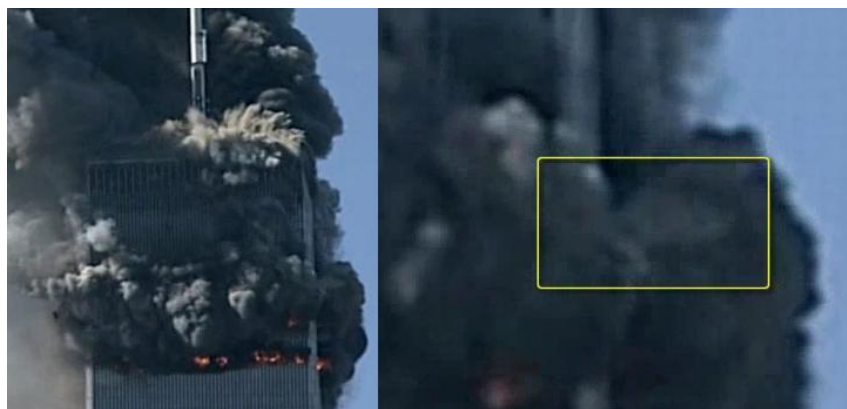
Stills from: http://911research.wtc7.net/wtc/evidence/videos/stc_frames.html

As we can see, the ejections seem to skip a few floors as they progress. Gordon Ross has explained the significance of this.

You would think that if the Tower was coming down one floor at a time, the dust and the expulsions would come out every floor. But that's not the case. They come out every third floor. Which, if we look at the core columns, we know that all the core columns were welded every third floor.¹⁰⁵

Mohr also notes that “a recent David Chandler video shows squibs coming out of the corners of the building as the columns broke apart.” This, he believes, is further evidence that the squibs had no discernible pattern. However, the video in question by David Chandler actually demonstrates that the squibs could not have been due to air pressure. As Chandler states in his video:

[T]hose who accept the official government story claim we are merely seeing dust and smoke being pushed out the windows as a result of collapsing floors... Nearly hidden by all the spectacular ejections, one small focused jet of material has special significance. This little puff is not coming out of the window at all, but out of the corner of the building.¹⁰⁶

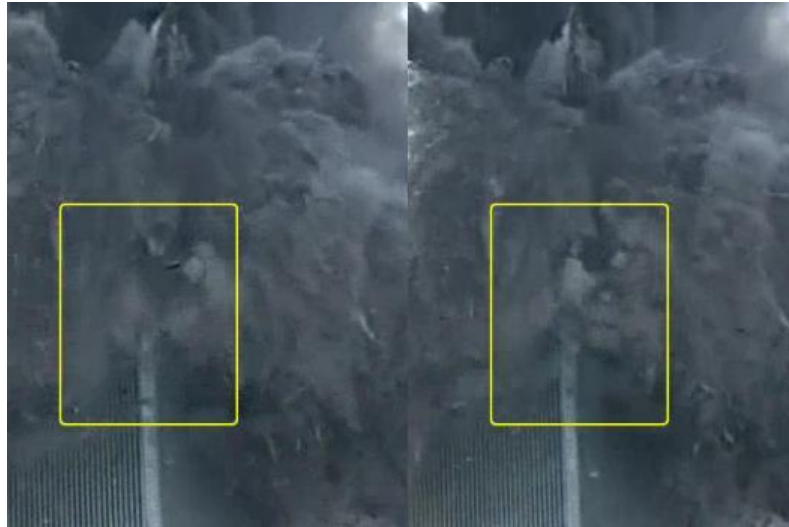


Stills from: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zoAD8HlrLZg>

¹⁰⁵ Quoted from: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CxFKbemENII>

¹⁰⁶ Quoted from: Cutter Charges in the North Tower of the World Trade Center
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zoAD8HlrLZg> (There is also a somewhat longer version of this video here:
http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=bfA_lawr8Zc)

If the ejections are actually coming out of the steel columns, then they cannot possibly be due to air pressure. But Mohr seems to imply that this was simply caused by the columns breaking during the collapse. Had it not occurred to Mohr that it is in fact the ejections themselves that caused the columns to break? As David Chandler also points out in his video, a portion of one of the corner columns begins to collapse only after an ejection shoots through a lower section of the corner.



The fact that we can see ejections shooting out of the steel corner columns and then causing the columns to collapse contradicts two of Mohr's assertions. The first is his assertion that the squibs have no discernable pattern. Gordon Ross has outlined how this process likely played a role in the demolition of the Towers:

[T]he corner columns below plane 2, unlike the mid wall columns, do not collapse with the collapse front, but remain standing for a period of time, before then falling inwards. These corners do fail at a slightly later stage and in at least some cases fall inwards after collapse has progressed below their level again showing the spacing and pattern of the planes under attack. It would not be necessary to continue these attacks all the way to ground level.

The survival of these corner sections of the perimeter structure, show the order of collapse. To allow this, two vertical lines of spandrel plates - the perimeter horizontal bracing - have to be disassociated at each corner. The mid wall columns disassociated from the floors can fall outwards, while the corners remain upright.¹⁰⁷

The pattern that is discernible in the demolition of the Towers is that the outer core columns were taken out first to destroy the buildings' internal stability, and then the corner perimeter columns were taken out to destroy the buildings' external stability.

¹⁰⁷ Quoted from: How the Towers were demolished, by Gordon Ross



Images from: <http://gordonssite.tripod.com/id2.html>

The second of Mohr's assertions that these corner ejections contradict is that the squibs "would have created structural deformations." We can quite clearly see that these corner ejections are cutting through the columns and causing them to collapse. There is even video evidence that appears to show one of the mid-face ejections cutting through the core columns.¹⁰⁸ So much for the squibs not causing "deformations."

These corner ejections are one of the strongest pieces of evidence that the squibs were not the result of air pressure. Why Mohr felt these particular ejections favor "natural collapse" is puzzling to me.

At 5:30 in the video, Mohr gives an often heard argument from debunkers; that the squibs should have appeared before the collapses began. However, Jim Hoffman has noted that the demolition of the Towers would have required "[getting] the top of the Tower to move before explosive action is clearly evident to onlookers outside the building."¹⁰⁹ As we have already seen, using thermate to weaken the upper structure and initiate the collapse would have served this purpose. Regardless, we do in fact have video evidence indicating that some squibs did shoot out of the Towers before collapse began.¹¹⁰

Mohr then claims at 5:52 that some of these squibs appear to shoot out of the Towers to slowly to be caused by explosives. He argues that ejections caused by explosives should start out very strong and then lose speed. We should first note that ejections produced by controlled

¹⁰⁸ This video shows a squib emerging from about the 53rd floor of the North Tower. Notice how the remaining portion of the core appears to be cut at about where this squib emerged.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t64rlnaCqY8>

¹⁰⁹ Quoted from: A Hypothetical Blasting Scenario... by Jim Hoffman

¹¹⁰ These two videos show what appear to be squibs shooting out before the collapse began:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Ne1FJBVkh4s> and <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oTuvo4b4E9Y&t=1m04s>

demolitions can have varying speeds depending on how the gases are expelled.¹¹¹ But the fact of the matter is that David Chandler has measured the velocity of some of these ejections and has shown that they shoot out of the building in the exact manner Mohr describes; starting out strong and then losing speed.¹¹² He calculates that these ejections are shooting out of the building at over 100 mph. Dr. Crockett Grabbe has also examined these squibs and has shown how they are explosively ejected from the Towers and shot out great distances.¹¹³ And Kevin Ryan has noted that the ejection speed of these squibs closely matches the speed recorded for debris ejected with explosives.

Research has shown that, for an experimental structure made of concrete and steel, debris launch velocities created by explosive charges are on the order of 50 m/s, or 164 fps. This corresponds well with the earlier estimate made from video evidence of the disintegrating towers (170 fps on average).¹¹⁴

There can be no doubt that these ejections were extremely explosive in nature. But Mohr then argues at 6:23 that if these ejections were caused by mistimed explosives going off, then other explosives would not have gone off and would have been found in the debris. He believes that ultimately some pieces of the explosives, such as the signal receivers, should have been found in the debris. I believe the first part of his argument is merely speculation, as we have no way of knowing whether or not some of the charges did not go off during the demolitions. His second point about finding parts of the explosives in the debris has merit only if we are discussing traditional demolition, but a deceptive covert demolition would not have left behind such evidence. As Gregg Roberts has noted, the signal receivers used for triggering the explosives “could have been made exceedingly small, as well as disguised.”¹¹⁵ And research shows that cutter charges, particularly thermite based cutter charges, can be made to be totally self consumed when they are set off.¹¹⁶

Contrary to Mohr’s repeated arguments that the collapse characteristics for the Towers were due to natural phenomena, the evidence clearly indicates that the features of the Towers destructions were most likely caused by explosives. And it is still an absolute absurdity that, with all of this evidence, controlled demolition was never considered a viable theory for what caused the Towers to collapse.

¹¹¹ This video shows squibs from demolitions that do resemble some of the squibs from the Towers: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xan1fW6sda0>

¹¹² See: South Tower: Explosive Reality http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N_UeLXf137s

¹¹³ See: Direct Evidence for Explosions: Flying Projectiles and Widespread Impact Damage, by Dr. Crockett Grabbe <http://www.journalof911studies.com/volume/200704/GrabbeExplosionsEvidence.pdf>

¹¹⁴ Quoted from: High Velocity Bursts of Debris From Point-Like Sources in the WTC Towers, by Kevin Ryan, pg. 7

¹¹⁵ Quoted from: Exchange of Emails (March 2009) with Robert Erickson, Producer of the National Geographic Special on 9/11, by Steven Jones http://911review.com/articles/jones/NGC_Emails.html

¹¹⁶ See: Correction and Clarification: Article: Explosive Evidence at WTC Cited by Former CDI Employee, by Darcy Wearing and Richard Gage <http://www.ae911truth.org/news/41-articles/317-correction-and-clarification-article-explosive-evidence-at-wtc-cited-by-former-cdi-employee.html>

Part 6: Pulverized Concrete

The sixth part of Mohr's video series deals one of the more disputed aspects of the Towers' collapse; the pulverization of the concrete and the expanding dust clouds. I will make it clear from the start that I feel that this aspect of the Towers' collapses has been exaggerated in the 9/11 controversy. It is my belief that the concrete pulverization, while a strong indication of demolition, is not the smoking gun evidence that some in the Movement believes it to be. But I also believe that a natural collapse alone cannot explain the features of the collapse of the Towers that we see in the videos.

At [1:29](#) in Mohr's video, he claims that “every physicist and engineer I have read of talked to except 9/11 activists like Gordon Ross and Jim Hoffman insist there was plenty of energy to gradually pulverize 3 to 4 inches of concrete.” Once again, Mohr uses the flawed reasoning of placing “physicists and engineers” and “9/11 activists” in two different categories. Mohr discusses Jim Hoffman's 2004 paper on the dust cloud expansion of the North Tower's collapse, and notes several problems he has with Hoffman's analysis.¹¹⁷ While Hoffman has acknowledged that his calculations are not perfect, he has nonetheless written that:

The examination of this issue in this and previous versions of this paper should not be construed as suggesting that there are not simple lines of analysis that strongly indicate or prove that controlled demolition induced the collapses of the Twin Towers. Arguments for controlled demolition can be divided into two categories:

- The many [features of the collapses](#) are never observed outside of controlled demolition, making it illogical to conclude that they could all be exhibited in an event other than a controlled demolition.
- Some of the features [cannot be explained as natural collapses](#) without defying basic physical principles.¹¹⁸

Beginning at [3:33](#), Mohr discusses how the concrete was not completely pulverized in the collapse of the Towers, and that in order for the concrete to be completely pulverized the explosives would need to “cover every inch of the building.” He also shows a picture of large chunks of concrete at Ground Zero to highlight this point.

¹¹⁷ Hoffman's paper can be read here: <http://911research.wtc7.net/papers/dustvolume/index.html>

¹¹⁸ Quoted from: Analysis of Energy Requirements for the Expansion of the Dust Cloud Following the Collapse of 1 World Trade Center, by Jim Hoffman [Version 4] <http://911research.wtc7.net/papers/dustvolume/volume4.html>



While it is true that the concrete was not completely pulverized, this does not by any means show that the Towers were not destroyed with explosives. After all, controlled demolitions rarely if ever pulverize all of the concrete in a building.



The fact that all of the concrete in the Towers was not completely pulverized is actually acknowledged by members of the Truth Movement. As Dr. Steven Jones has written:

As we examined the WTC-debris sample, we found large chunks of concrete (irregular in shape and size, one was approximately 5cm X 3 cm X 3cm) as well as medium-sized pieces of wall-board (with the binding paper still attached). Thus, the pulverization was in fact NOT to fine dust, and it is a false premise to start with near-complete pulverization to fine powder... It seems that the 9/11 truth community likewise “has been slow to understand” that the WTC dust particles in greatest abundance are the

“supercoarse” variety rather than “fine” particles, and that significant chunks of concrete were also found in the WTC rubble.¹¹⁹

At 4:09, Mohr discusses Richard Gage’s claims about how there were no pancaked floors found at Ground Zero. Mohr counters this assertion by quoting clean-up crew members as seeing floors pancaked together, and he also shows a photo of pancaked floors and claims that they are “20 pancaked stories.”



First of all, this photo does not appear to show 20 floors. The source of this photo¹²⁰ has a caption which reads: “Numerous floors from the south tower that have pancaked during the collapse on 9-11-01.” While Mohr does quote first responders as seeing 20 floors pancaked together, it is misleading to claim that this photo actually shows 20 stories.

The fact that some of the floors from the Towers survived the collapses is only evidence that the explosives did not completely pulverize the building contents. It is interesting to note that the only compacted floors found were located in the basement areas of the Towers. However, we see absolutely no pancaked floors on the top of the piles at Ground Zero

¹¹⁹ Quoted from: Hard Evidence Repudiates the Hypothesis that Mini-Nukes Were Used on the WTC Towers, by Dr. Steven Jones, pg. 8 <http://www.journalof911studies.com/letters/a/Hard-Evidence-Rebudiates-the-Hypothesis-that-Mini-Nukes-were-used-on-the-wtc-towers-by-steven-jones.pdf>

¹²⁰ This photo was taken by Steve Spak. It can be found here: <http://www.stevespak.com/fires/manhattan/wtc6.html>



Images from: <http://911research.wtc7.net/wtc/evidence/photos/groundzero.html>

But why would pancaked floors only be found in the basement areas and not on the top of the piles? Mohr suggests that because they were lower floors they “**didn’t have time in the collapse to be fully pulverized.**” However, what this feature may also be indicative of is that explosives simply were not placed on the lower floors of the buildings. After all, attacking the lower floors would not be necessary after the majority of the upper floors were attacked. This is also consistent with the fact that portions of the perimeter columns remained standing at the base after the collapses. The fact remains that no floors were found at the top of the rubble piles, something that Richard Gage has asked to see evidence of.¹²¹

At [5:40](#), Mohr claims that nanothermite explosives would have caused the dust clouds to be heated to 1400 °F, and that numerous people should have been badly burned by the dust clouds. However, these assertions are not strictly true. The nanothermite explosives themselves would have produced high temperatures, but the heat may have dissipated quickly, since the reaction rate of nanothermite is much faster than conventional thermite.¹²² People have certainly survived being caught in dust clouds produced by controlled demolitions.¹²³ And people who were caught in the Twin Towers’ dust clouds did describe them as being hot.¹²⁴

Mohr also questions at [6:49](#) why the paper that was seen flying in the dust clouds wasn’t burned by the nanothermite that pulverized the buildings’ concrete. Consider these accounts from eyewitnesses on 9/11:

¹²¹ In his debate with Mark Roberts, Richard Gage answered Roberts’ assertion that pancaked floors were found by saying: “[W]e had 110 floors, and the point is that most all of them are missing. If you look at the base of both of these Towers after they fall, there is only a pile of two to three story structural steel and aluminum cladding. All of the photos show that. **There are no floors found at the top or anywhere near that pile. Maybe down in the basement is what you’re referring to.** That’s not what I’m referring to.” Quoted from:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=45Imd5i7IGo&t=13m29s>

¹²² A detailed explanation of aluminothermic technology is given here:

<http://911research.wtc7.net/wtc/analysis/theories/thermitetech.html>

¹²³ Video of people being caught in dust clouds caused by a demolition can be seen here:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=N07a5hn-loc>

¹²⁴ Accounts of the dust clouds from 9/11 can be read here:

<http://911research.wtc7.net/wtc/evidence/oralhistories/dustcloud.html>

“There was mass hysteria, people were screaming... I heard a lady's voice saying ‘Go back! Go back! There's been an explosion!’ I smelled smoke and I saw a lot of paper flying like confetti.” -Richard Cruz¹²⁵

“I heard a low sound like a rocket, then a boom that shook my office. Through my window, I saw a fireball,” he said. “As I continued to stare out the window, I saw the plume of smoke and thousands of pieces of paper flying in the air - pieces of paper that should have been on someone's desk, in someone's file cabinet. I felt like the ground had been pulled out from underneath me.” –Brandon Baker¹²⁶

“I saw paper flying and I thought, ‘Wow, that must have been a big truck that hit that dumpster,’ because of all the paper that was flying.” A co-worker running past her office told her that a plane had hit one of the World Trade Center buildings. She joined him in a corner office on higher floor to watch what was happening.¹²⁷

As these accounts clearly demonstrate, a large amount of paper was already outside of the Towers, as it was blown out of the buildings when the planes first impacted them.



Images from: <http://911research.wtc7.net/wtc/evidence/photos/wtc2hit15.html> These photos were taken right after Flight 175 hit the South Tower. Note the large amount of paper that was expelled from the building.

¹²⁵ Quoted from: Survivors tell of escaping the World Trade Center

<http://community.seattletimes.nwsources.com/archive/?date=20010911&slug=survivors11>

¹²⁶ Quoted from: ACU alumni and NYC residents relay Sept. 11 experiences; faculty, staff, students gather for remembrance http://www.acu.edu/events/news/archives2002/020911_memorialfollow.html

¹²⁷ Quoted from: Five Years After 9/11, Experts Say We're Safer, But Not as Safe as We Should Be http://news.newamericamedia.org/news/view_article.html?article_id=c5166e84e7ebab2025c0d50901f3637d

Finally, at [7:11](#) Mohr asks “if the steel were torn apart by nanothermites, then why are the flying beams all gray colored? Wouldn’t they be red or even white hot on the edges, where a second below they were heated up to 4000 degrees?” Mohr’s premise is flawed to begin with. The sections of steel seen being ejected outward were not only beams, but sections of perimeter columns. It is believed that the perimeter columns were not loaded with explosives (except, as we have previously seen, the corner perimeter columns evidently did have some cutter charges placed on them), but that the force of the explosives attacking the core columns pushed the perimeter sections outward great distances.¹²⁸

Regardless, there is evidence that some of the columns apparently did have white hot colored ends in photographs of the collapses.



Image from: <http://911research.wtc7.net/wtc/evidence/photos/wtc1exp19.html>

¹²⁸ For example, 911research.wtc7.net has suggested that “[T]he demolitions may have been achieved without accessing the perimeter columns. The fact that the Twin Towers exploded into vast clouds of pulverized concrete, hurling steel assemblies up to 500 feet in all directions shows that they were destroyed with much more energy than a conventional demolition -- perhaps two orders of magnitude more. That gave the planners much more leeway in the placement of charges required to totally destroy the buildings.” Quoted from: <http://911research.wtc7.net/faq/demolition.html#access>

As Gordon Ross notes:

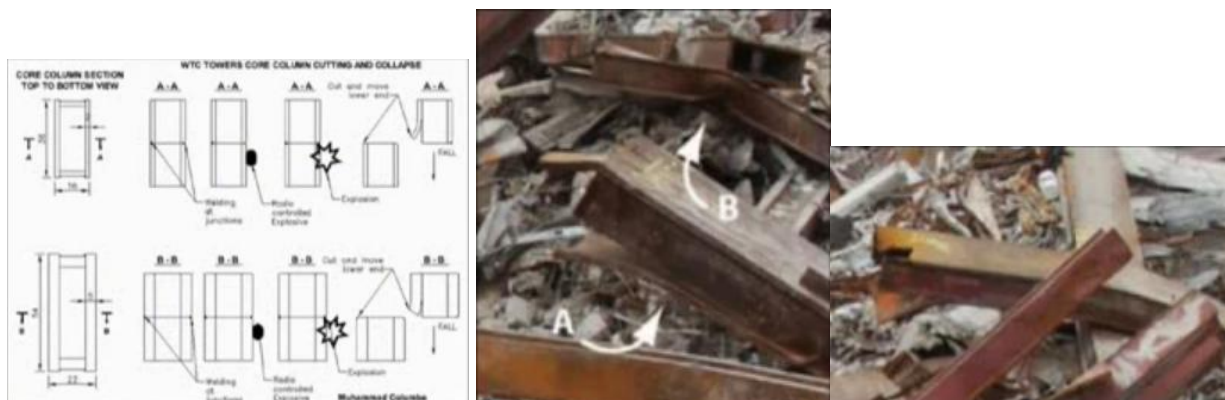
Note... the white smoke, the areas of white smoke trailing behind these columns as they fall... we see these distinct white ends on these columns. When you break a piece of steel, you don't get white ends. Something else caused that other than just a fracture.¹²⁹

Also, we do have evidence of the core columns being attacked in a specific manner that is unconventional for demolition, as noted by members of AE9/11Truth:

Many of the core box columns found in the WTC rubble had concave sides. Most were broken straight across at the weld points. Often, one side of the column's welds were deeply oxidized and even torn away. Explosions ripping across the weld points, as explained by [Gordon Ross](#), offer an explosive hypothesis that demonstrates a mechanism with results resembling observations in the WTC rubble.¹³⁰



Indeed, as Gordon Ross has shown in his online presentation, many of the core columns had this characteristic. This is indicative of the explosives attacking the weld connections of the columns.



Images from: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CxFKbemENII> (min. 8:43-10:42)

¹²⁹ Quoted from: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CxFKbemENII> (min. 21:11)

¹³⁰ Quoted from: AE911Truth FAQ #3: What's Your Assessment of the Directed Energy Weapon (DEW) Hypothesis?, by Jonathan Cole, Richard Gage, and Gregg Roberts <http://www.ae911truth.org/en/news-section/41-articles/505-ae911truth-faq-6-whats-your-assessment-of-the-directed-energy-weapon-dew-hypothesis.html>

Furthermore, attacking the core columns in this way also provides us with an explanation as to how the explosive sounds may have been decreased in the demolitions. As explained by Tony Szamboti:

The amount of explosive [energy] needed to provide a concussion powerful enough to break the welds on the core columns is significantly less than that needed to cut through them. These charges could have been tamped to cause most of the energy to go into the column and reduce the noise level... [I]t is feasible to minimize the percussive noise to a level consistent with that of the collapsing material, while still generating more than enough force to remove the column by breaking the weld.¹³¹

While Mohr has highlighted some of the problems surrounding the claims made by members of the Movement regarding the concrete pulverization, he has never the less still made many false assertions regarding the Towers' demolitions, and as not presented any strong evidence so far of "natural collapse."

¹³¹ Quoted from: <http://911blogger.com/news/2008-10-11/angled-cut-column-explained#comment-199053>

Part 7: Eyewitness Accounts of Explosions

Mohr's seventh video in his series deals with the eyewitness testimony of explosions that occurred on 9/11. Many in the Movement believe that the explosions reported on 9/11 add strong credibility to the theory that explosives were used to destroy the Towers. However, Mohr believes that these reports of explosions have prosaic explanations and are not evidence of explosives used on 9/11.

Mohr starts off his video at [0:22](#) by repeating the often heard arguments from debunkers; that none of the videos recorded loud explosions and that none of the witnesses heard “140db sounds a half a mile away.” Actually, Mohr does not state the first argument in his video, but he does show it on one of his slides.

More Reasons WTC Collapses Not Like Controlled Demolition

- #112.) no loud blasting sounds on videos
- #113.) No 140 db blasting sounds ½ mile away
- #114.) Masking explosive sounds by 8db max
- #115.) Nanothermites may be low explosive
- #116.) I read 50 firefighters' accounts of explosive sounds around collapse time, not before:
http://graphics8.nytimes.com/package...s_full_01.html
- #117.) Some explosions before from fuel in elevator shafts and in the basement, crashing freight elevator
- #118.) No seismic evidence of major explosions
- #119.) White smoke explosions in fires

Regardless, this argument is false. As we have already seen, the Towers' collapses produced sounds consistent with explosives being rapidly detonated; sounds that could be heard miles away (See reference 50). Also, there are videos from 9/11 where loud distinct explosions can be heard.¹³² Mohr also repeats his argument that the sounds of the explosives could not have been lowered without lowering the power of the explosive as well. We have already seen that these assertions are false (See pages 25-27).

Mohr places great emphasis on the loud sounds produced by explosives. He says “that's the point.” No Mr. Mohr, the noise is NOT the point, according to the NFPA 921 Guide. As we have already seen, NFPA 921 makes it clear that the noise “is not an essential element in the definition of an explosion.” This of course makes sense, as sound evidence would technically fall under the category of witness evidence, as sounds have to be attested to by witnesses in an investigation. What should be tested for is the forensic evidence for explosives. And as we have already seen, NIST completely and unjustifiably refused to do this.

¹³² See: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A9X_8fIGeM

At [1:11](#), Mohr begins to discuss the firefighter testimony of explosions in the Towers. He claims that he read 50 randomly selected accounts from the NYFD testimonies, and that none of them he read “**were explosions before the actual collapse.**” Mohr probably should have read more than just 50 accounts, because there were several firefighters who did report explosions occurring right before and during the collapses.

And while I was still in that immediate area, the south tower, 2 World Trade Center, there was what appeared to be at first an explosion. It appeared at the very top, simultaneously from all four sides, materials shot out horizontally. And then there seemed to be a **momentary delay before you could see the beginning of the collapse.** - Frank Cruthers¹³³

We started filling out and following the line of the building. I got just to underneath the north walkway. A guy started screaming to run. When I got underneath the north bridge I looked back and you heard it, I heard like every floor went chu-chu-chu. Looked back and from the pressure **everything was getting blown out of the floors before it actually collapsed.** - James Curran¹³⁴

At that time I started walking back up towards Vesey Street. **I heard three explosions, and then we heard like groaning and grinding, and tower two started to come down.** - Kevin Darnowski¹³⁵

Mohr also claims at [1:38](#) that the seismic data from 9/11 shows no evidence of explosives being used. It is debatable whether or not the seismic data does show evidence of explosives,¹³⁶ but seismic signals do not necessarily have to occur in a controlled demolition, because as Jim Hoffman points out:

[This] assertion contrasts with this description of the Aladdin Hotel demolition:

But with the charges positioned above ground instead of within the crust ... the Aladdin implosion didn't even register on the nearby seismograph at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas, according to geology professor Dave Weide.
www.reviewjournal.com/lvrj_home/1999/Apr-11-Sun-1999/news/10963838.html

Clearly, a demolition's seismic signature, like its other aspects, is a function of its design. Staggering the detonation of hundreds of charges over time would minimize explosives-

¹³³ Quoted from: http://graphics8.nytimes.com/packages/pdf/nyregion/20050812_WTC_GRAPHIC/9110179.PDF (pg. 4)

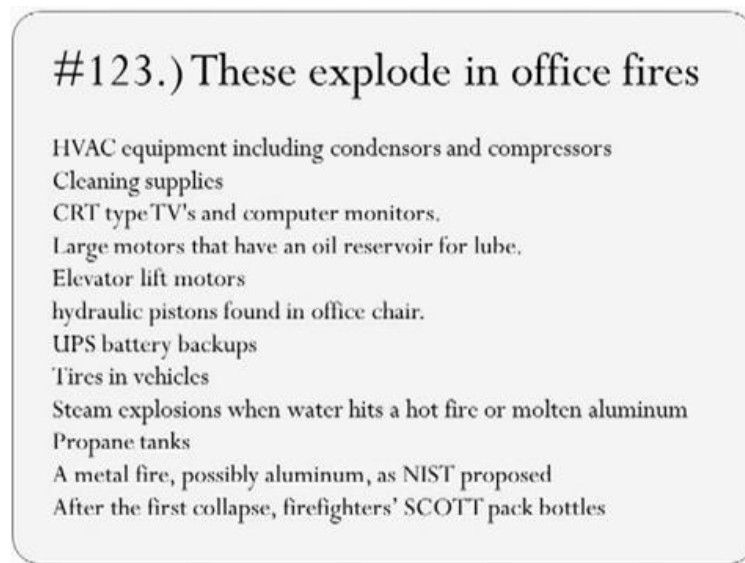
¹³⁴ Quoted from: http://graphics8.nytimes.com/packages/pdf/nyregion/20050812_WTC_GRAPHIC/9110412.PDF (pg. 10-11)

¹³⁵ Quoted from: http://graphics8.nytimes.com/packages/pdf/nyregion/20050812_WTC_GRAPHIC/9110202.PDF (pg. 8)

¹³⁶ Two articles in the Journal of 9/11 Studies make a strong case that seismic signals consistent with explosives were detected when the Towers collapsed. See: Did the Earth Shake Before the South Tower Hit the Ground?, by Graeme MacQueen http://www.journalof911studies.com/volume/2009/MacQueen_EarlyEarthShake.pdf and: Were Explosives the Source of the Seismic Signals Emitted from New York on September 11, 2001?, by Dr. André Rousseau <http://www.journalof911studies.com/resources/RousseauVol34November2012.pdf>

induced ground vibrations, which would probably be eclipsed in any case by the relief of strain as tens of thousands of tons of mass of the Towers' upper sections were severed from their bases, and by the much larger vibrations caused by rubble hitting the ground.¹³⁷

At 3:08, Mohr gives a long list items that existed naturally at the WTC that conceivably could have exploded from the fires in the buildings.



It is reasonable to assume that any number of these objects may have exploded from the fires in the buildings. However, these objects certainly would not have just happened to explode right as the Towers began to collapse. The main testimonies of explosions that are vital are the ones that discuss explosions happening right before and during the time of collapse.

At 4:17, Mohr claims that the explosions should have had a pattern, and that the “**eyewitness accounts of explosions are very random.**” Graeme MacQueen, in discussing these types of discrepancies, has written that:

[T]here are apparent inconsistencies: one person will refer to a single big explosion, another will say there were three explosions, while yet another will claim to have heard seven. I have made no attempt to sort out all these claims and cannot pretend to know if they are ultimately compatible. But, on the other hand, I cannot read this material without being struck by the ways in which the witnesses' testimony is not merely cumulative but complementary and multidimensional.¹³⁸

¹³⁷ Quoted from: Reply to Protec's *A Critical Analysis of the Collapse of WTC Towers 1, 2 & 7 from an Explosives and Conventional Demolition Industry Viewpoint*, by Jim Hoffman
<http://911research.wtc7.net/reviews/blanchard/index.html>

¹³⁸ Quoted from: 118 Witnesses: The Firefighters' Testimony to Explosions in the Twin Towers, by Graeme MacQueen, pg. 54 http://www.journalof911studies.com/articles/Article_5_118Witnesses_WorldTradeCenter.pdf

Although there appears to be some inconsistencies in the accounts of explosions, the fact that there exists this much testimony of explosions on 9/11 should have been reason enough to test for explosive residue at Ground Zero. If, in a murder investigation, an individual claims to have heard a single gunshot, but others claim to have heard three, and others claim to have heard seven, the police would still investigate if a gun was used.

Mohr discusses at [4:34](#) a scene from the film 9/11 Mysteries that features Phillip Morrell discussing explosions in the basements of the Towers. Mohr points out that the director of the film edited out the part of the video where Morrell explains that what he heard was actually the sound of a crashing freight elevator. While this may be true, Richard Gage's presentation does not feature this video. Mohr is supposed to be addressing 911BT, so it is somewhat erroneous of him to address something not featured in it.

Although Mohr makes a few valid points regarding the eyewitness testimony of explosions, it is obvious that this testimony is still very valid in the debate regarding the collapse of the Towers. As noted by firefightersfor911truth.org:

Explosion sounds can be explained away. But, only after a thorough investigation. When there is this much witness testimony, evidence, and explosive use by terrorists on this very same complex, there is no excuse for refusing to test for explosive residue.¹³⁹

¹³⁹ Quoted from: <http://firefightersfor911truth.org/?p=841>

Part 8: Molten Iron/Steel?

In part 8 of Mohr's video series, he tackles what is considered to be one of the strongest evidences for a thermite-based demolition: the pools of molten metal and the persistent high temperatures in the debris. While Mohr believes that these phenomenons have prosaic explanations, the evidence strongly indicates otherwise.

Beginning at [0:24](#), Mohr discusses the molten metal that was seen flowing out of the South Tower shortly before its collapse.



Mohr's explanation for this molten flow is that it was molten aluminum from flight 175. This is one of the oldest arguments brought up by debunkers and other defenders of the official story. Early on, several members of the Movement pointed out that molten aluminum is gray/silvery in color when it is melted, and does not glow this bright color. But Mohr counters this assertion by insisting that it is molten aluminum mixed with organic materials inside the building, such as "burnt paper, office furniture, and curtains." He claims that "aluminum soup like this, I think, would be discolored." However, experiments conducted by Dr. Steven Jones demonstrated that organic materials could NOT cause aluminum to be discolored in this manner.

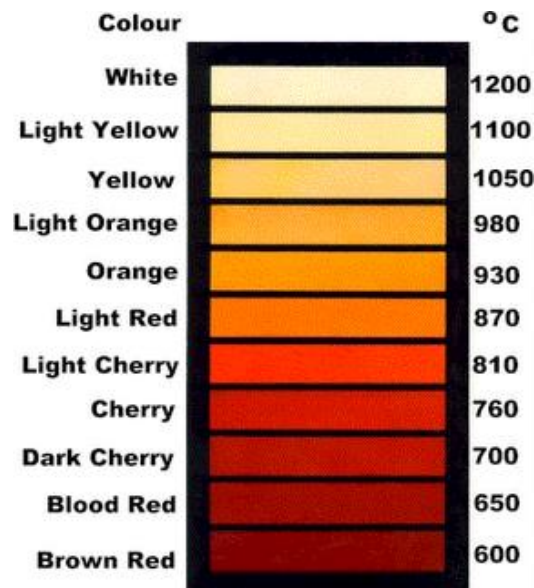
We melted aluminum in a steel pan using an oxy-acetylene torch. Then we added plastic shavings -- which immediately burned with a dark smoke, as the plastic floated on top of the hot molten aluminum. Next, we added wood chips (pine, oak and compressed fiber board chips) to the liquid aluminum. Again, we had fire and smoke, and again, the hydrocarbons floated on top as they burned. We poured out the aluminum and all three of us observed that it appeared silvery, not orange! ...Of course, we saw a few burning embers, but this did not alter the silvery appearance of the flowing, falling aluminum.

This is a key to understanding why the aluminum does not "glow orange" due to partially-burned organics "mixed" in (per NIST theory) - because they do NOT mix in! My colleague noted that it is like oil and water - organics and molten aluminum do not mix. The hydrocarbons float to the top, and there burn - and embers glow, yes, but just in

spots. The organics clearly do NOT impart to the hot liquid aluminum an “orange glow” when it falls, when you actually do the experiment!¹⁴⁰

There is simply no reason to believe that the molten flow could have been aluminum mixed with organic materials. Regardless of whatever Mohr “thinks,” no experiment that I am aware of has demonstrated that this phenomenon is possible. And the experiments that have been carried out do in fact show that it is not possible.¹⁴¹

Still, some would argue that the material was molten aluminum, and that it was heated to high enough temperatures to cause it to glow as brightly as it did. Below is a color chart showing the different colors molten aluminum gives off based on the temperature it is heated to.



At about 980 °C (1800 °F), aluminum begins to glow “light orange,” and Mohr asserts throughout his videos that this is how hot the fires could have gotten in the Towers. However, we previously noted that NIST has no evidence that the fires did reach these temperatures in the buildings. But even assuming the fires did reach those sorts of temperatures, it is still not possible that the material could have been aluminum because of how long the material glowed. As explained by Jerry Lobdill:

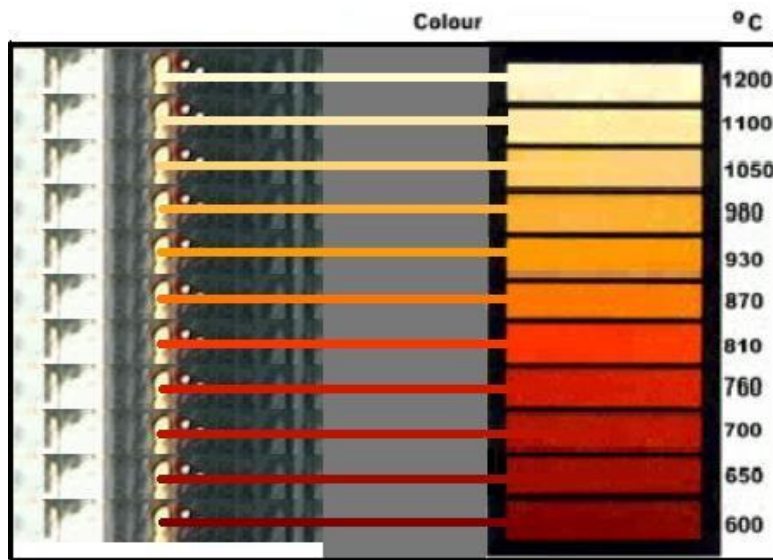
The problem with concluding that the liquid flowing from the tower’s 82nd floor could have been aluminum... is that the liquid in the tower was not confined in a container so that more heat could be applied to raise the temperature of the liquid above its melting point. Instead, as soon as the metal liquefied it flowed away from the heat source under the force of gravity. Therefore, the color of the liquid flowing from the 82nd floor was at

¹⁴⁰ Quoted from: Experiments to test NIST “orange glow” hypothesis..., by Dr. Steven Jones
http://stj911.org/jones/experiments_NIST_orange_glow_hypothesis.html

¹⁴¹ Video of one of Dr. Jones’ experiments can be seen here: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=j6Fid_b3_eQ

approximately the melting point of the metal. And therefore, it was molten iron from steel.¹⁴²

And perhaps one of the biggest problems with concluding that the material could have been heated molten aluminum is that the material glowed so bright that it essentially became white hot.



So even if this material was aluminum, it would still need to be explained what heated it to over 2000 °F to get it to glow that brightly.

Mohr also questions at [0:57](#) why this molten flow only occurred in one area of this one Tower. He asks “**why was this phenomenon so asymmetrical?**” However, Jim Hoffman has provided a plausible explanation for why this molten spout was seen only in that area of the South Tower.

In the South Tower, some thermate pushed by the plane crash from the building’s core to its corner generates an orange spout lasting from about T-7 to T-2 minutes [before initiation of collapse].¹⁴³

This flow of molten metal would be entirely consistent with a thermite-based demolition.

At [1:49](#), Mohr discusses WTC structural engineer Leslie Robertson’s testimony of seeing molten steel at Ground Zero. He claims that even though Leslie Robertson did claim to see molten steel, “**he is not qualified to proclaim such a thing.**” Regardless of whether or not Robertson was qualified to recognize molten steel, it is curious as to why Mohr so quickly brushes off the fact that Leslie Robertson apparently changed his story. In his 2006 debate with Dr. Steven Jones, Robertson claimed that he had “never run across anyone who said they had in fact seen molten

¹⁴² Quoted from: Molten What?, by Jerry Lobdill, pg. 2
<http://www.journalof911studies.com/letters/MoltenWhat2.pdf>

¹⁴³ Quoted from: A Hypothetical Blasting Scenario... by Jim Hoffman

metal.”¹⁴⁴ However, a video recently discovered by the International Center for 9/11 Studies shows Leslie Robertson in 2002 stating that “there was like a little river of steel flowing” at Ground Zero.¹⁴⁵ Why does Mohr brush off this contradiction so quickly? Why does he not find these contradictory statements from Robertson more suspicious?

Then at [2:19](#), Mohr argues that because the NASA thermal images only show temperatures up to 1400 °F, the molten metal in the debris was likely aluminum or other metals with lower melting points than steel or iron. However, the described characteristics of the molten metal from eyewitnesses are not consistent with the idea that the material was aluminum or other metals. As explained by Dr. Steven Jones:

[T]he observed surface of this metal is still reddish-orange some six weeks after 9-11. This implies a large quantity of a metal with fairly low heat conductivity and a relatively large heat capacity (e.g., iron is more likely than aluminum) even in an underground location.¹⁴⁶

At [3:27](#), Mohr claims that he has “not been able to find any metallurgic tests of this molten material or any evidence of thermite level temperatures anywhere.” Evidently, Mohr did not look very far, because there is abundant evidence provided by several scientific studies that shows both of these. For examples of metallurgical tests, we find that the USGS, RJ Lee group, and Dr. Steven Jones’ research group discovered numerous iron microspheres, which could only have been formed at extremely high temperatures. Of course, Mohr addresses these spheres in great detail in a later video, so we shall put them aside for now and examine other studies that show evidence of extremely high temperatures. Mohr discusses at [6:08](#) the report from the American Society of Safety Engineers that stated that the temperatures in the debris pile had reached 2800 °F.¹⁴⁷ He claims that the instrument used to measure this temperature was not calibrated to measure those sorts of temperatures, and therefore is not credible. However, there are other studies that Mohr does not discuss that show that the temperatures were even higher than 2800 degrees.

One of the sources Mohr could have cited was a paper written by Dr. Steven Jones and others, literally titled *Extremely high temperatures during the World Trade Center destruction*.¹⁴⁸ In this paper, the authors cite several studies which show evidence of “thermite level” temperatures in the debris.

One such study by the RJ Lee group showed that lead must have become hot enough to volatilize (boil) and hence to vaporize.

¹⁴⁴ Quoted from: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vMZ38mY31cM&t=4m29s>

¹⁴⁵ See: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IDnbfXLUyI4>

¹⁴⁶ Quoted from: Why Indeed did the WTC Buildings Completely Collapse? by Dr. Steven Jones, pg. 5

¹⁴⁷ See: http://911research.wtc7.net/cache/wtc/analysis/asse_groundzero1.htm

¹⁴⁸ The paper can be accessed here: <http://www.journalof911studies.com/articles/WTCHighTemp2.pdf>

The presence of lead oxide on the surface of mineral wool indicates the existence of extremely high temperatures during the collapse which caused metallic lead to volatilize, oxidize, and finally condense on the surface of the mineral wool.¹⁴⁹

Although the word “vaporize” was not used in the final version of report, the 2003 version of this passage explicitly referred to temperatures “at which lead would have undergone vaporization.”¹⁵⁰

Lead does not boil and vaporize until it reaches temperatures of 1749 °C (3180 °F). Therefore, the temperatures in the debris pile evidently did reach at least 3000 degrees. In the study conducted by Steven Jones’ research team, Dr. Jones and his co-authors learned that “the USGS team had observed and studied a molybdenum-rich spherule.”¹⁵¹ This is very significant, for molybdenum has a melting point of 2623 °C (4753 °F). Although the USGS had not published any data on this in their reports, they had studied it extensively, and Jones et al. noted that: “No explanation of the high temperature needed to form the observed Mo-rich spherule is given in the USGS material (either published or obtained by FOIA action).”¹⁵² Furthermore, Dr. Jones and his co-authors noted that:

The RJ Lee report provides an image of a “vesicular alumino-silicate particle” which exemplifies the “**round open porous structure having a Swiss cheese appearance as a result of boiling and evaporation**”... It is not clear to us that *boiling* of aluminosilicate is needed to produce the observed porous structure; melting and evaporation of some minor component may suffice. But if the “Swiss-cheese appearance” is indeed a result of “boiling and evaporation” of the material as the report suggests, we note the boiling temperature for aluminosilicate is approximately 2,760 °C.¹⁵³

Therefore, Dr. Jones et al. show that there is evidence of temperatures of 2760 °C (5000 °F) in the debris of Ground Zero. Below is a chart from page 8 of Dr. Jones’ paper which summarizes their findings.

¹⁴⁹ Quoted from: RJ Lee Group, “WTC Dust Signature,” Expert Report, May 2004, pg. 12

http://colorado911visibility.org/wp-content/uploads/2011/10/WTC_Dust_Signature_ExpertReport.051304.1646.mp_.pdf

¹⁵⁰ Quoted from: RJ Lee Group, “WTC Dust Signature Study: Composition and Morphology,” December 2003, pg. 21

http://911research.wtc7.net/essays/thermite/cache/nyenvirolaw_WTCDustSignatureCompositionAndMorphology.pdf

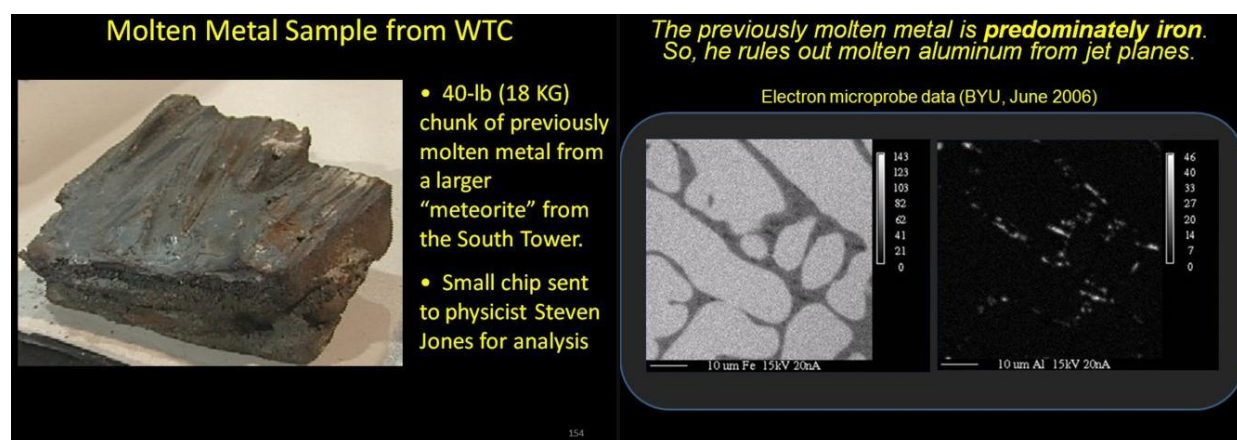
¹⁵¹ Quoted from: Extremely high temperatures during the World Trade Center destruction, by Steven Jones et al., pg. 5

¹⁵² Ibid. pg. 6

¹⁵³ Ibid. pg. 7

Table 1. Approximate Minimum Temperatures Required		
Process and material	°C	°F
To form Fe-O-S eutectic (with ~50 Mol % sulfur) in steel	1,000	1,832
To melt aluminosilicates (spherule formation)	1,450	2,652
To melt iron (spherule formation)	1,538	2,800
To melt iron (III) oxide (spherule formation)	1,565	2,849
To vaporize lead	1,740	3,164
To melt molybdenum (spherule formation)	2,623	4,753
To vaporize aluminosilicates	2,760	5,000

There is substantial evidence that “thermite-level” temperatures were present in the debris of Ground Zero. The debris may have had “**vast piles of aluminum**” and other metals, but clearly there were metals melted that required temperatures far greater than what could be produced by an open air fire. And some of the molten metal was definitely iron, as noted by Dr. Steven Jones, and shown in Richard Gage’s presentation.



Images from: http://www.ae911truth.net/ppt_web/slideshow.php?i=148&lores=1

Both of Mohr’s assertions, that he has “**not been able to find any metallurgic tests of this molten material or any evidence of thermite level temperatures anywhere**” are effectively refuted.

However, at [3:36](#) Mohr discusses the famous “crane shot” of molten metal and argues that it shows materials other than steel or iron. He quotes metallurgical professor Alan Pense as saying, “The photographs shown to support melting steel are, to me, either unconvincing... or show materials that appear to be other than steel. One of these photos appears to me to be mostly of glass with unmelted steel rods in it. Glass melts at much lower temperatures than steel.” This quote comes from the Popular Mechanics book *Debunking 9/11 Myths: Why Conspiracy Theories Can’t Stand Up to the Facts*. Firstly, it is not clear from this statement which photograph Alan Pense is referring to. He is referring to photos featured in Dr. Steven Jones’ paper *Why Indeed Did the WTC Buildings Completely Collapse?*, but it is not clear if he is

specifically talking about the crane shot Mohr shows. Second, we have already seen that there were metals that were either melted or evaporated at temperatures well above the melting point of steel and iron. Third, even if the crane photo did show molten glass, it would still need to have been heated to extremely high temperatures, since glass does not begin to give off any visible light until it approaches temperatures of 2240 °F.¹⁵⁴

Mohr continues his rebuttal by quoting several individuals who all claim that the crane photo does not show molten steel or iron. He does not say who these quotes are from, but does indicate that one of them is a technician who's worked with trucks and heavy equipment. This person's particular argument is that the claw would not have been able to pick up molten steel or iron without malfunctioning, and that special equipment would be needed. First of all, the claw does not appear to be directly grabbing the molten material. It is hanging off of other debris.



Second, special equipment evidently was requested at Ground Zero for fear that the machinery would malfunction.

As the huge cranes pulled steel beams from the pile, safety experts worried about the effects of the extreme heat on the crane rigging and the hazards of contact with the hot steel. And they were concerned that applying water to cool the steel could cause a steam explosion that would propel nearby objects with deadly force. Special expertise was needed. OSHA called in structural engineers from its national office to assess the situation. They recommended a special handling procedure, including the use of specialized rigging and instruments to reduce the hazards.¹⁵⁵

At 4:57, Mohr discusses the eyewitness testimony of molten metal at Ground Zero and claims that “no eyewitness can state with certainty what their looking at.” He also claims that a metallurgist personally told him that “even he cannot identify molten metal by looking at it.” However, Mohr should have questioned this person further about identifying molten metal. He

¹⁵⁴ See: http://wiki.naturalfrequency.com/wiki/Colour_temperature

¹⁵⁵ Quoted from: <http://www.gelmans.com/ReadingRoom/tabid/65/ctl/ArticleView/mid/372/articleId/159/OSHA-Identifies-Hazards-and-Risks-of-World-Trade-Center-911-Worksite.aspx>

should not have only asked if molten metal can be identified by looking at it, but also if certain metals can be *ruled out* by looking at them. And we know this is in fact possible. As noted by Dr. Jones:

Even without a direct elemental analysis, we can rule out some metals based on available data. The photograph in the introduction shows a chunk of hot metal being extracted at ground zero. The hottest portion of the chunk is the lower portion, which was deepest down in the slag, and the metal is seen to be yellow-hot, certainly above cherry-red hot... We see from the photograph above that solid metal from the WTC rubble existed at salmon-to-yellow-hot temperature (approx. 1550 - 1900 °F, 845 - 1040 °C.) The temperature is well above the melting temperatures of lead, zinc and aluminum, and these metals can evidently be ruled out since they would be runny liquids at much lower (cherry-red or below) temperatures. However, the observed hot specimen could be structural steel (from the building) or iron (from a thermite reaction) or a combination of the two.¹⁵⁶



Images from: <http://911debunkers.blogspot.com/2010/05/molten-steel-in-rubble-of-world-trade.html>

At 5:16, Mohr argues that if the molten metal was steel or iron, the water thrown on the debris “**would have caused incredible damage**” such as steam explosions, and quotes “**people who work around molten steel**” to confirm this. However, as we have previously seen, the clean-up crews at Ground Zero were worried about this, saying that:

[T]hey were **concerned that applying water to cool the steel could cause a steam explosion that would propel nearby objects with deadly force**. Special expertise was needed. OSHA called in structural engineers from its national office to assess the situation. They recommended a special handling procedure, including the use of specialized rigging and instruments to reduce the hazards.

¹⁵⁶ Quoted from: Why Indeed Did the WTC Buildings Completely Collapse? by Dr. Steven Jones, pg. 8

What's more, workers at Ground Zero were harmed by the water being thrown onto the debris. One of these individuals was John Feal, who Richard Gage quotes in his presentation as saying that, "While the fire department was throwing water on the pile, the water would bounce back and burn us. That's how hot it was."

Mohr also argues at [6:57](#) that "regular fires can also last for months." While this might be true, the length of the burning fires is not the only aspect that should be analyzed. The observed characteristics of the fires at Ground Zero indicate that they were not simply the result of burning debris. As Andrea Dreger explains:

If you compare the 25 thermal images by EarthData that are published on their website you can see that the area covered by hot spots becomes smaller over time, but the general location of the hot spots does not change. You have hot spots at the same places for weeks. This seems to be inconsistent with the assumption that the hot spots were due exclusively to underground fires. Any fire at a given location will have consumed all burnable matter at some point and will stop burning at this given spot. Even if you consider that fires might have burnt at different levels at different times under the surface at any given spot, and that a single spot that seems small on the image in fact covered a relatively large area it seems impossible to explain how the heat persisted for weeks at the same spots due solely to burning fires.¹⁵⁷

At [7:45](#), Mohr quotes New York firefighter Vincent Palmieri as saying that he never came into contact with temperatures exceeding 1400 °F, based on the USGS thermal measurements. However, it's important to note that these temperatures were only recorded on the surface, not further down where the temperatures may have been greater than this. We have already seen abundant evidence that there were extremely high temperatures at Ground Zero, far greater than 1400 °F. Also, Mohr discusses in a later video the sulfidized steel from WTC7. Although Mohr disputes what actually caused the sulfidation, the fact remains that this event occurred at temperatures of around 1000 °C (1800 °F). So regardless of whatever measurements Vincent Palmieri looked at, the fact remains that there were temperatures at Ground Zero that exceeded the temperatures Palmieri reported. This is a fundamental point that must be taken into consideration. It is not only thermal measurements that can tell us what kind of temperatures existed in the debris piles, but also the materials that can be directly examined in the debris as well. Palmieri also claims that the reports of firefighters' boots being melted at Ground Zero are false to his knowledge. However, activist Jon Gold contacted people who did work clean-up at Ground Zero, and they have confirmed that this did happen.

Gold9472: question

John Feal: hello

Gold9472: about Ground Zero

Gold9472: hi

¹⁵⁷ Quoted from: Sources related to exceptionally high temperatures, and/or to persistent heat at Ground Zero Disinformation regarding the phenomena of "molten steel"/ exceptionally high temperatures/ persistent heat at Ground Zero; Pre-collapse pressure pulses, by Andrea Dreger, pg. 16-17 http://911research.wtc7.net/papers/dreger/GroundZeroHeat2008_07_10.pdf (The EarthData images can be seen here: <http://www.newyork.earthdata.com/thermal.html>)

John Feal: go
John Feal: hit me
Gold9472: Could you get me some quotes of individuals who's boots were melted?
Gold9472: You know what i'm talking about?
John Feal: i went through three pairs in 5 days
Gold9472: what was that
Gold9472: the molten steel?
John Feal: boots
John Feal: yes from hot steel it melted my boot soles
Gold9472: do you mind if I post this little corresopndence?
John Feal: no not at all,after going through 3 pairs of boots i went and got a free pair at the salvation army tent and then that day got hurt
Gold9472: do you know anyone else with boot trouble?
John Feal: no but i will ask about 30 people in an email
Gold9472: cool
*Gold9472: thanks.*¹⁵⁸

Jon Gold obtained a similar account from another individual, who also confirmed there was molten metal flowing in the basements, another point Mohr disputes.

Gold9472: Hey Mike...
Gold9472: Quick question...
Mike McCormack: whats up
Mike McCormack: go
Gold9472: Tell me about your boots down at Ground Zero.
Mike McCormack: which pair I melted 3
Gold9472: In how many days?
Mike McCormack: 8
Gold9472: That was from the molten steel?
Mike McCormack: thats from transference of heat through the hot steel not molten
Gold9472: It wasn't "flowing"
Mike McCormack: down in the basement it was but nobody got down there for about 2 weeks
Gold9472: Some have described it as "pools of molten metal"
Gold9472: How long would you say the steel was hot?
Mike McCormack: yeah it was molten down below. the temperature down there was 1100 degrees for over 6 months
Gold9472: over 6 months?
Mike McCormack: they had hot sots for over 6
Gold9472: hot sots?
Mike McCormack: hot spots
Gold9472: ah
Gold9472: Do you mind if I post this little correspondence?

¹⁵⁸ Quoted from: <http://911blogger.com/news/2007-02-10/nist-engineer-john-gross-denies-reports-about-molten-steel-wtc#comment-115423>

Mike McCormack: i dont care
*Gold9472: Cool. Thanks Mike.*¹⁵⁹

In his correspondence with John Feal, Jon Gold also confirmed that the water at Ground Zero reacted violently with the debris and injured people.

Gold9472: Do you know how long it was hot down there?
Gold9472: how long after 9/11
John Feal: weeks dude
John Feal: everytime the fire dep shot water on the pile the water would burn us from bouncing off steel
Gold9472: ouch
John Feal: yes little burn dots.hurt like a bitch
*John Feal: that is why i was so covered and layered on cloths*¹⁶⁰

One point that Mohr makes throughout his videos is that the debris pile was cool right after the collapses, and therefore high-temperature nanothermite could not have been used to demolish the Towers. However, Andrea Dreger provides ample evidence that the debris pile was extremely hot right after the collapses.

SPOT image acquired September 11, 11.55 am

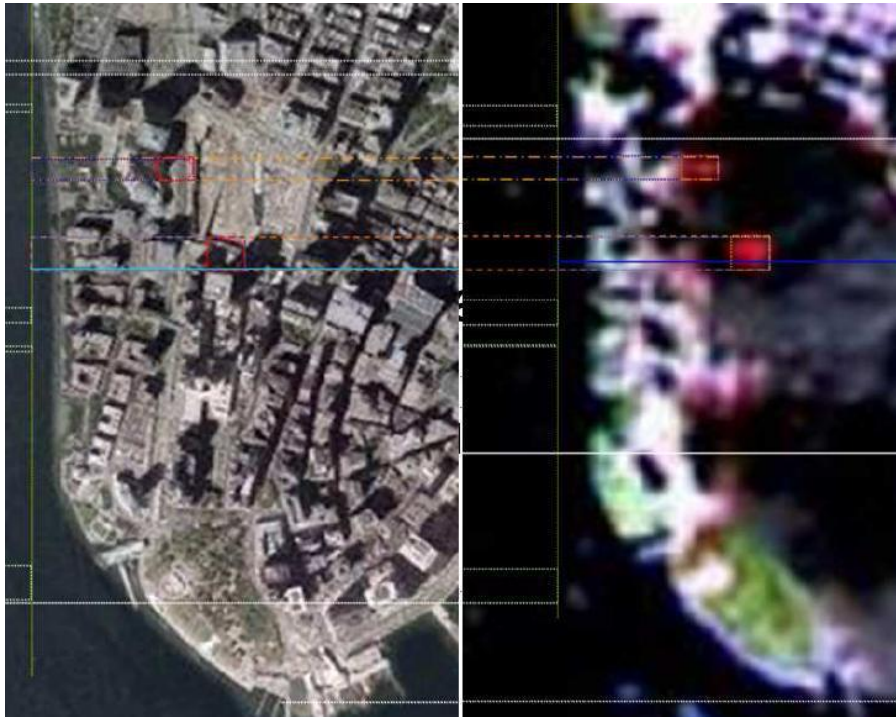
The SPOT image shows most of Ground Zero and parts of the surrounding area obscured by smoke. The obscured parts appear black on the image. Two red spots indicating infrared radiation are clearly visible.



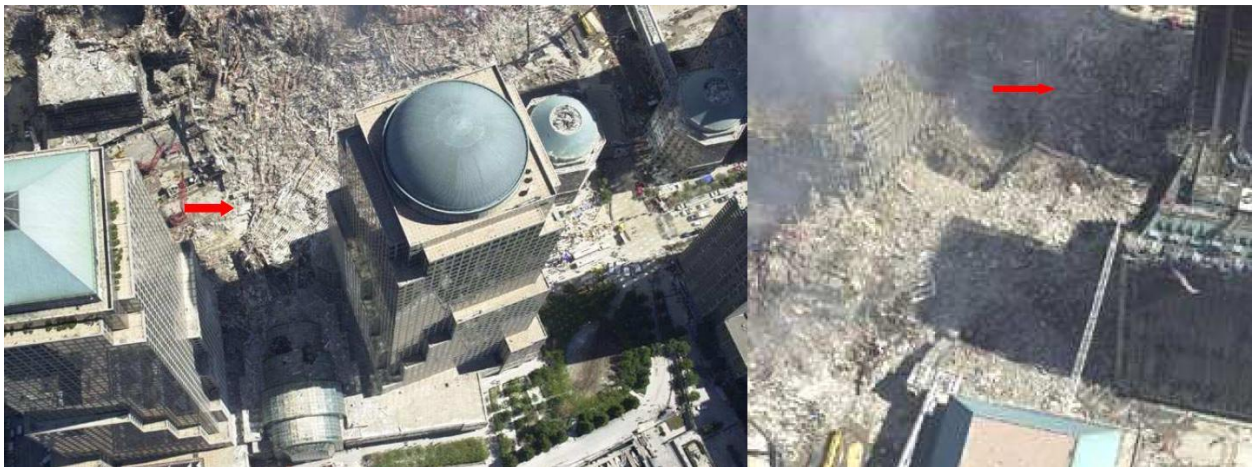
¹⁵⁹ Quoted from: <http://911blogger.com/news/2007-02-10/nist-engineer-john-gross-denies-reports-about-molten-steel-wtc#comment-115437>

¹⁶⁰ Quoted from: <http://911blogger.com/news/2007-02-10/nist-engineer-john-gross-denies-reports-about-molten-steel-wtc#comment-115428>

The caption (from the article “Emergency Response ...”) states: “Note: Hotspots associated with fires raging at Ground Zero appear in red. [...]”. However, “raging fires” are reported for this time from surrounding buildings, but not from the collapse piles of WTC 1 and WTC 2... The hot spots are caused neither by WTC 6, or by WTC 5, nor by other burning buildings, and not by fires on the whole of Ground Zero (note that WTC 7 was still standing when the image was acquired). Instead, the visible hot spots are most likely a pile of parts of the North Tower located east from the footprint of this tower across West Street (between the American Express Building and Merrill Lynch Building), and a pile of parts from the South Tower located between the former footprint of this tower and the Bankers Trust Building.



Both piles are captured on photographs:



The SPOT thermal image raises the question of how to explain that raging building fires in WTC 5 and WTC 6 are not visible as infrared emitters on the SPOT image while two parts of the collapse piles are.¹⁶¹

There can be no denying that the debris piles at Ground Zero were extremely hot and that metals with extremely high melting points were both melted and in some cases vaporized. Although Mohr's arguments appear compelling at first, the evidence overwhelmingly indicates that these phenomena could not possibly have been caused by any sort of fires that could have existed naturally at Ground Zero.

¹⁶¹ Quoted from: Sources related to exceptionally high temperatures... by Andrea Dreger, pg. 27-31

Part 9: Iron Microspheres in WTC Dust

In the ninth installment of Mohr's video series, he discusses one of the most direct evidences for a thermite-based demolition: the iron microspheres found all throughout the dust at Ground Zero. Like every other physical anomaly we have discussed so far, Mohr believes there are several natural explanations for these spheres. As we will see, every argument Mohr uses to address them does not adequately explain their presence in the dust, while a thermite based demolition accounts for them nicely.

Beginning at [0:37](#), Mohr discusses the fact that the iron spheres could have been formed at lower temperatures since they were mixed with other metals. While this may be true, it is difficult to imagine how all the metals and elements found in the spheres could possibly have fused together to form the spheres observed in the debris. The fact that all these elements appear to have been formed through melting and/or vaporization implies that all of the elements were melted at the same time. We know that iron cannot melt in an office fire, and the melting points of these metals are so different that there would be a sizeable time delay from heating WTC common materials. Then they would also have to cool together at the same time to form a sphere. However, the very characteristics of the spheres rules out the possibility that they were formed naturally at the WTC.

At [1:39](#), Mohr argues that the high concentration of spheres in the dust was due to the fact that the fires in the buildings burned other materials and “**the residue will have higher concentrations of whatever didn't burn off.**” However, Mohr provides no examples of what could have burned in the Towers to produce the iron spheres. But even if his argument were valid, how many more spheres does he expect the fires to have produced? As noted by Steven Jones et al:

A WTC dust sample acquired at 130 Liberty Street shows a “mean of composition” of “Fe spheres” of 5.87% which is very high compared with “Fe spheres” found in ordinary building dust of only 0.04%. As the report notes, the WTC dust has unusual identifying characteristics – in particular, the WTC dust in this sample has nearly 150 times (5.87/0.04) the amount of iron-rich spheres as ordinary dust (where Fe spheres can arise from micrometeorites, for example).¹⁶²

Is Mohr really suggesting that the fires burning over only six (WTC2) and eight (WTC1) floors produced 150 times more spheres than there should have been in the dust?

At [2:16](#), Mohr asserts that “**cutter charges leave behind several unmistakable tell-tale signatures, none of which are visible in any sample from Ground Zero.**” While we will see later on that some pieces of steel evidently did have the signature of thermate, we note that the way in which the devices would have been set up to attack the columns would likely not have involved directly cutting them. In Richard Gage's presentation, he presents numerous pictures of columns from Ground Zero that appear to have been attacked at the weld connections.

¹⁶² Quoted from: Extremely high temperatures during the World Trade Center destruction, by Steven Jones et al., pg. 4-5

Explosive Force Breaks Welds at Column Ends



Note concave/convex column ends with reddish oxidation

Mohr's assertions that signs like the "**fusion of copper into the steel grain structure**" are very misleading, since the Movement has posited thermite as the main incendiary/explosive to demolish the Towers, not typical cutter charges that use copper. However, there are indications of cutter charges used that Mohr does not discuss. We previously noted that a molybdenum sphere was found in the WTC debris. As it turns out, molybdenum has been used in cutter charges.

In early 1997, Lawrence Livermore successfully tested a shaped charge that penetrated 3.4 meters of high-strength armor steel. The largest diameter precision shaped charge ever built produced a jet of molybdenum that traveled several meters through the air before making its way through successive blocks of steel.¹⁶³

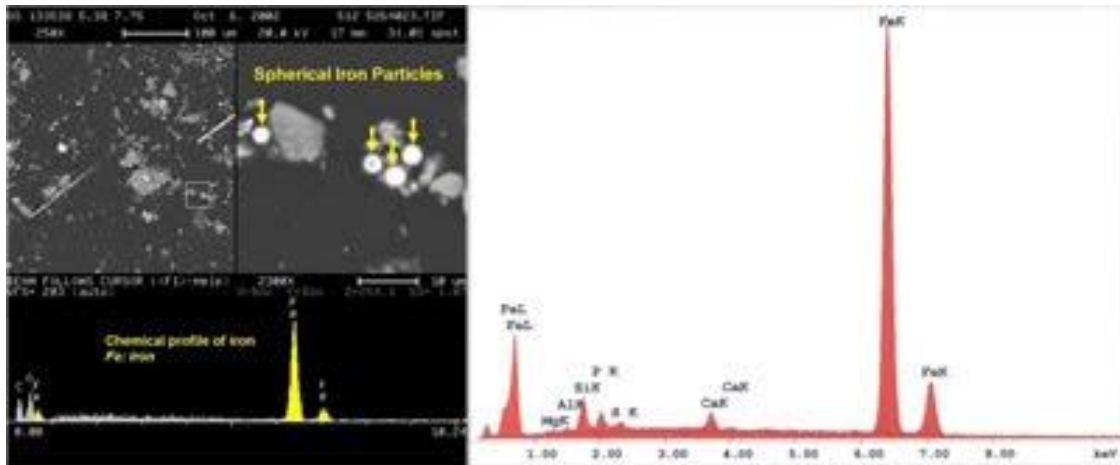
Therefore, cutter charges could very well account for molybdenum spheres being found.

Mohr then asserts at [3:09](#) that the spheres could have come from the welding from when the Towers were first built. However, the spheres appear have relatively low oxygen, and as Steven Jones et al. note:

The RJ Lee report also provides a micrograph and XEDS data for iron-rich spheres observed in the WTC dust; for example, their figure 21 shows an "SEM image and EDS of spherical iron particle." We likewise observe high-iron, relatively low oxygen spheres, which we find are **unlike spheres gathered from cutting structural steel with an oxyacetylene torch.**¹⁶⁴ (Emphasis added)

¹⁶³ Quoted from: Shaped Charges Pierce the Toughest Targets https://www.llnl.gov/str/pdfs/06_98.3.pdf

¹⁶⁴ Quoted from: Extremely high temperatures during the World Trade Center destruction, by Steven Jones et al., pg.



Dr. Jones and his co-authors also noted that:

[W]e observe spherules with high iron *and aluminum* contents, a chemical signature which is *not* consistent with formation from melted steel.¹⁶⁵

At [3:30](#), Mohr quotes the RJ Lee report as saying that the iron spheres would be expected in the dust. However, the RJ Lee group also noted that:

Particles of materials that had been modified by exposure to high temperature, such as spherical particles of iron and silicates, are common in WTC Dust because of the fire that accompanied the WTC Event, but are not common in “normal” interior office dust.¹⁶⁶

To which Steven Jones and his co-authors wrote in response:

We agree with the RJ Lee report that the abundance of “spherical particles of iron and silicates” is proof of high temperatures, and that these particles are not common in normal office dust, but we do not agree that this abundance is necessarily due to the “fire that accompanied the WTC Event”. Before drawing such a conclusion, one must scrutinize the temperatures and other conditions needed to form these molten spheres (iron melts at 1,538 °C (2,800 °F) while iron (III) oxide melts at 1,565 °C (2,849 °F) and aluminosilicates melt around 1,450 C) and then compare with conditions reached in the WTC fires.¹⁶⁷

Indeed, the RJ Lee report offers no explanation for the high temperatures needed to create these spheres. However, in regards to the RJ Lee report’s mention of these spheres and the temperatures needed to create them, Mohr asks “**why would they say this if they did not know that iron-rich spheres could be created in a regular office fire?**”

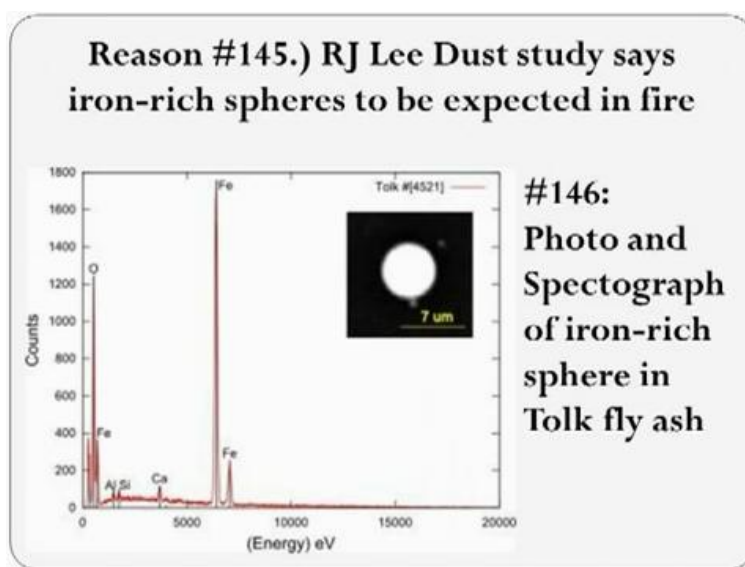
¹⁶⁵ Ibid. pg. 10

¹⁶⁶ Quoted from: RJ Lee Group, “WTC Dust Signature Study: Composition and Morphology,” December 2003, pg. 5

¹⁶⁷ Quoted from: Extremely high temperatures during the World Trade Center destruction, by Steven Jones et al., pg. 5

Firstly, it was not the purpose of the RJ Lee study to explain how these particles may have been formed through the high temperatures. The RJ Lee group's purpose was "to oversee and investigate the presence, type, amount, and extent of environmental contaminants" in the Deutsche Bank building across from the WTC "and to recommend remediation strategies."¹⁶⁸ Also, this would not be the first time that experts provided false claims regarding anomalies surrounding the WTC event. In the wake of the attacks, numerous experts in the fields of science and engineering claimed that the fires in the buildings had actually melted the structural steel and caused them to collapse.¹⁶⁹ However, all of these claims were clearly false, as open air hydrocarbon fires cannot burn hot enough to melt steel. But despite this fact, several experts in relevant fields did claim this. There were also massive exaggerations for how hot the fires could have gotten inside the buildings, such as National Geographic's claim that the fires could have gotten as high as 2900 °F.¹⁷⁰ RJ Lee's assertion that the spheres could have been formed naturally would just be one more non-explanation of anomalies at the WTC offered by experts.

Finally, at 3:48 Mohr argues that "another possible source of iron-rich microspheres that's been proposed is fly ash in the concrete."



This is a common favorite explanation amongst debunkers. However, it suffers from several issues. Firstly, the fly ash would not explain the enormous abundance of the spheres found throughout the dust. As we previously saw, the RJ Lee study estimated that iron spheres made up approximately 5.87% of the WTC dust. At best the fly ash particles could only have contributed somewhat to this amount, for the RJ Lee report itself distinguishes between the iron spherules and the fly ash.¹⁷¹ As noted by blogger ScootleRoyale:

¹⁶⁸ Quoted from: RJ Lee Group, "WTC Dust Signature Study: Composition and Morphology," December 2003, pg. 1

¹⁶⁹ 911research.wtc7.net provides a long list of experts who claimed in the wake of the attacks that the jet fuel fires had melted the steel. See: <http://911research.wtc7.net/disinfo/collapse/meltdown.html>

¹⁷⁰ See: Inferno Heat, Not Impact, Brought Down Towers, Experts Say; by Bijal P. Trivedi http://911research.wtc7.net/reviews/NationalGeographic/cache/0917_disasterbuildigs.html

¹⁷¹ See: RJ Lee Group, "WTC Dust Signature Study: Composition and Morphology," December 2003, pg. 3 and 7

Spheres in fly ash ([cenospheres](#)) are hollow and predominantly alumina and silica. Iron oxide typically makes up only about 5-10% of fly ash used in cement. While the WTC microspheres also contain aluminum and silicon, and while we also find silicon-rich spheres, iron-rich spheres are the most common. Fly ash may be the source of the alumino-silicates also abundant in the WTC dust, but that doesn't explain how they were vaporized to a 'Swiss Cheese' appearance, something which requires temperatures in excess of 5000°F!¹⁷²

Another problem with concluding that the spheres came from the fly ash is that their composition is inconsistent with the many of the spheres observed by RJ Lee and Dr. Steven Jones' research team. As we previously saw, the spheres were found to have low oxygen and high iron constituents, which is unlike fly ash particles. Mohr himself notes that the sphere he shows "**is an iron-oxide of some type.**" This however is a problem for those who would argue that the spheres are the result of fly ash residue, as noted by Jim Hoffman.

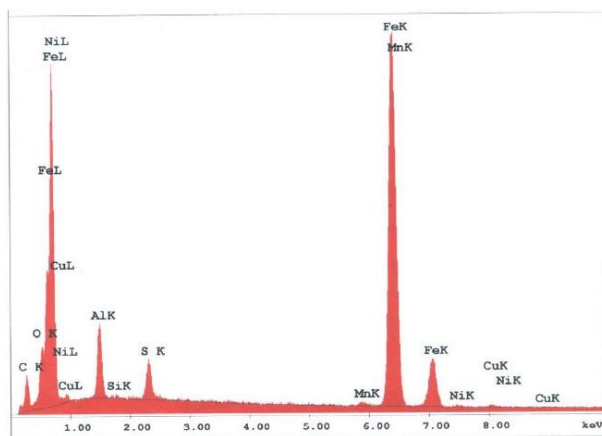
"Debunkers" have proposed that the [iron-rich spheres](#) were fly ash residues embedded in the Towers' concrete, ignoring that the iron constituents in fly ash are oxides rather than elemental iron.¹⁷³

Furthermore, many of the iron-rich spheres were found to have sulfur in them. As noted by Dr. Jones' et al:

XEDS spectrum for the largest metal-rich spherule found in sample 2 [below]. K and L lines for noted elements are labeled after the element symbol. Elemental contents in atomic percent are approximately: Fe (65), O (18), Al (11), S (4), Cu (0.6), Mn (0.6), Ni (0.4); the small C peak is likely from the carbon conductive tab used to hold the sample. The Fe-S-Al-O signature is striking, nothing like the signature of structural steel. Note also: Sulfur peak without a calcium peak, so the sulfur is not from calcium-sulfate contamination (gypsum).

¹⁷² Quoted from: Answers to Chris Mohr (Parts 8 - 11), by ScootleRoyale
<http://911debunkers.blogspot.com/2011/09/answers-to-chris-mohr-parts-8-11.html>

¹⁷³ Quoted from: Explosives Found in World Trade Center Dust: Scientists Discover Both Residues And Unignited Fragments Of High-Tech Metal Incendiaries In Debris From the Twin Towers, by Jim Hoffman
http://911research.wtc7.net/essays/thermite/explosive_residues.html



The iron-rich spheres found in the dust simply cannot be accounted for by any prosaic explanations Mohr or anyone else can come up with. Their presence in the dust indicates that they came from an unnatural source that shouldn't have been present in the buildings or the debris. And as we shall see, their most likely reason for being that is the result of a thermite-based demolition.

Part 10: Sulfidized Steel

The tenth installment of Mohr's video series deals with another direct evidence for a thermite-based demolition; the pieces of sulfidized steel found in the WTC debris. These pieces of steel are arguably the closest thing the Truth Movement has to evidence of demolition devices affecting the steel in some way. Specifically, these pieces of steel lend enormous credibility to the idea that thermate was used in the demolitions of the Towers and Building 7. However, Mohr sees differently, and has several prosaic explanations for the steel being sulfidized. The question is, do his explanations seem more plausible than a thermite-based demolition?

Beginning at [0:24](#), Mohr gives an overview of what a "eutectic mixture" is and how this affected the pieces of WTC steel.

Sulfidized Steel: Sulfur invades the boundaries of the steel and causes corrosion on a macro scale over time and "melting" on a micro scale at the boundary

Steel melts at 2750°; Eutectic Steel Melts at 1740°

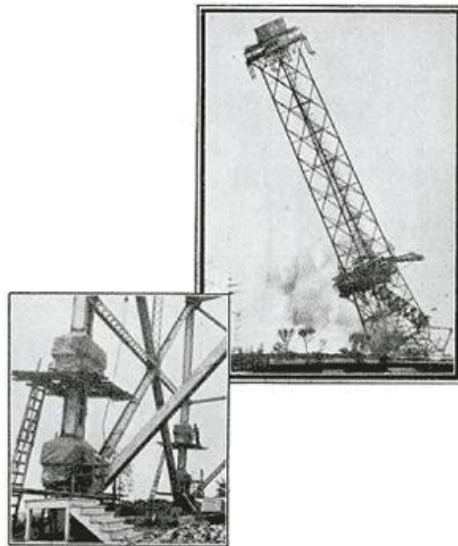
Eutectic mix of steel and sulfur: not chemical bonding but inhibits crystallization so melting temperature drops by 1000°. Like ice and alcohol where liquid slurry created

Mohr claims that the melting point of eutectic steel is around 1740 °F, which he deems "**well within the temperature range of an office fire.**" However, we previously established that NIST has no evidence that these temperatures existed in the Towers or Building 7 at the time they were on fire. Furthermore, we saw in Part 8 of Mohr's video series that he argued that the temperatures in the Ground Zero debris did not exceed 1400 °F, based on Vincent Palmieri's testimony about seeing the USGS thermal images. This is a clear contradiction in Mohr's arguments. However, thermate can in fact be formulated to burn at around that temperature, as explained by Jerry Lobdill.

Now consider the problem of the molten metal flowing from the 82nd floor of WTC 2. Some have suggested that this metal was the eutectic mixture of Fe and S. Let's discuss that possibility. We assume that the steel that is cut from the columns is essentially pure Fe. It is melted and mixes with the thermate reaction products and then flows away by gravity. As the mixture cools, if the original molten mix was at $S < 31.4\%$, Fe begins to crystallize out. This increases the S% in the remaining mix. As the cooling continues, the S% increases until it reaches 31.4%, and this remaining molten eutectic mixture solidifies at 994 C (or 988 C, depending on which measurement you believe). So unless the

original S% was 31.4%, the molten mass is crystallizing out solidified Fe as it flows downhill and cools. When, in the cooling process, the molten mass reaches the eutectic composition, it also reaches the eutectic temperature. At that temperature the remaining liquid gives up its latent heat of fusion and crystallizes as a microscopically heterogeneous solid with a (macroscopically) 31.4% S, 68.6% Fe composition. Once all the material has solidified the entire mass resumes cooling. We thus have a plausible explanation of why the material flowing from WTC 2 was orange-hot liquid (~1000 C).¹⁷⁴

At 1:35, Mohr argues that thermate is a slow burning incendiary, and asserts that it wouldn't have the quick precision necessary to pull off a controlled demolition. However, experiments that have been done with thermate done by civil engineer Jon Cole show that thermate can be used to quickly cut through steel.¹⁷⁵ Furthermore, in 1935 thermite was used to demolish a 638-foot tower. The thermite almost instantly evaporated the steel legs of the tower.¹⁷⁶



Skyride Tower demolished with thermite

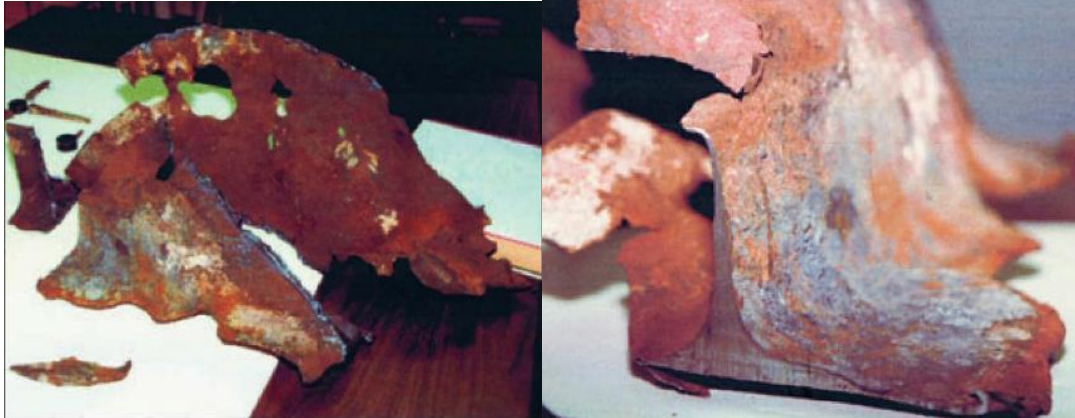
Mohr also asserts that the corrosion seen on the WTC steel does not look like the type of corrosion seen when thermate attacks steel. However, Jon Cole's experiment with thermate demonstrates that thermate actually does cause corrosion like what is seen on the WTC steel.

¹⁷⁴ Quoted from: Some Physical Chemistry Aspects of Thermite, Thermate, Iron-Aluminum-Rich Microspheres, the Eutectic, and the Iron-Sulfur System as Applied to the Demise of Three World Trade Center Buildings on 9/11/2001, by Jerry Lobdill, pg. 6-7

<http://www.journalof911studies.com/volume/200704/JLobdillThermiteChemistryWTC.pdf>

¹⁷⁵ See: <http://911blogger.com/news/2010-11-10/911-experiments-great-thermate-debate>

¹⁷⁶ See: <http://www.ae911truth.org/en/news-section/41-articles/575-popular-mechanics-ignores-its-own-historical-records-of-thermite-demolition-destruction-of-skyride-towers-reichstag-dome-set-incendiary-precedent.html>



Corroded steel from WTC7



Steel attacked by thermate (Jon Cole experiment)

Next, Mohr argues at [2:07](#) that because there were so few pieces of steel that were found to be sulfidized, it is unlikely whatever corroded them was used throughout the Towers and Building 7 to demolish them. And Mohr also answers critics who would say that most of the steel was recycled before it could be examined by once again quoting Vincent Palmieri as saying that he never saw sulfidized steel in the debris.

#152.) 911 firefighter Vincent Palmieri: “I understand that there were a few steel pieces that were corroded by sulfur, but in the massive debris piles I worked on I never saw a single example of sulfidized steel.”

However, Mohr’s reasoning here seems flawed. In Part 8 of his video series he asserted that the many first responders who reported seeing molten steel/iron at Ground Zero were not in a position to recognize molten steel/iron. And yet in this video Mohr seems to have no problem excepting that first responder Vincent Palmieri would have been able to recognize sulfidized steel in the debris. Regardless, if thermate was used in some way to demolish the Towers and

Building 7, it could very well have been set up so as to not leave any obvious indications of melting/corrosion. For example, Jon Cole's experiment used thermate to simply cut the bolt connections on a steel beam, with the result that no apparent evidence of its use was seen on the steel.



Jon Cole experiment: before

after (note no obvious signs of corrosion)

Again, we may never know how much chemical evidence of explosives/incendiaries there was on the steel, since the steel was recycled and NIST completely refused to test for those residues.

Mohr also adds that because the sulfidized steel found was from a horizontal beam and not a vertical support column, thermate was likely not used for demolition. Mohr concludes that **“this can't explain a global collapse.”** Yet again, Mohr appears to contradict himself. After all, the NIST report on WTC7 claims that the failure of horizontal girders and beams ultimately led to the global collapse of WTC7. Therefore, according to NIST, the failure of horizontal connections could conceivably cause a building to collapse.

Mohr further explains how the steel was sulfidized at [2:51](#), and asserts that this process could have occurred over several days, and that Appendix C of the FEMA report asserts the same thing. However, the FEMA report also noted that, “It is also possible that the phenomenon started prior to collapse and accelerated the weakening of the steel structure.”¹⁷⁷ If FEMA considered that this process could have started prior to the collapse, then it clearly would have been justifiable to investigate it further.

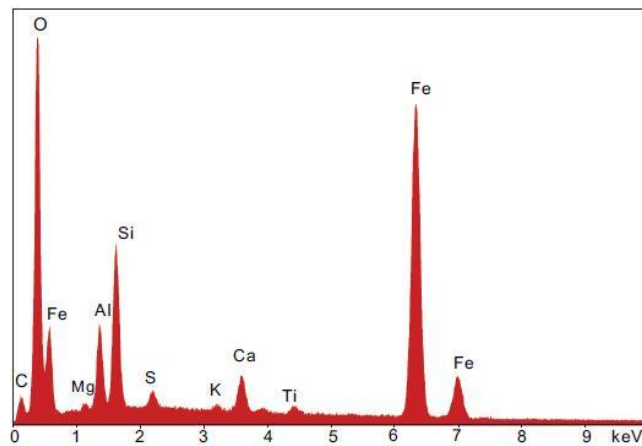
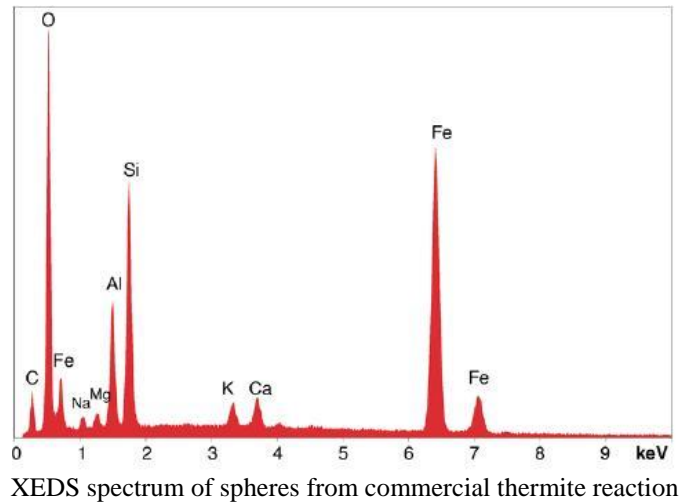
At [4:05](#), Mohr argues that the corrosion could not have been caused by thermate because **“we would have also seen a lot of aluminum-oxide, which we don't see.”** While it is true that aluminum-oxide is a byproduct of a thermate reaction, it wouldn't necessarily be found in the sulfidized steel. As chemical engineer Mark Basile explains:

From my readings on thermite, the aluminum oxide floats to the top of the liquid iron produced, as its density is lower and it is probably not overly miscible with the molten metal. Railroad rails were welded using thermite [and used] a crucible with a bottom trap

¹⁷⁷ Quoted from: FEMA report Appendix C: Limited Metallurgical Examination
http://911research.wtc7.net/wtc/evidence/metallurgy/WTC_apndxC.htm

door [that] was charged with a load of thermite, ignited, and when ready the iron poured out the bottom port with the aluminum oxide staying on top as a separate layer.¹⁷⁸

A strong indication that aluminum-oxide would not be present in the steel is that it is also not found in the iron-rich microspheres produced through a thermite reaction.



Images from: <http://tinyurl.com/3r7b92v>

Though Mohr disputes the idea that the white smoke seen coming from the molten spout at the South Tower was aluminum-oxide, it is never the less a common characteristic of a thermite/thermate reaction.

¹⁷⁸ Quoted from: Email correspondence with Mark Basile.



Typical thermite reaction (note white smoke [aluminum-oxide]). Images from:

http://www.journalof911studies.com/volume/200609/Why_Indeed_Did_the_WTC_Buildings_Completely_Collapse_Jones_Thermite_World_Trade_Center.pdf

It is highly likely that the aluminum-oxide from the thermate reaction simply dispersed in the air as an aerosol, while the liquid iron mixed with the sulfur and entered the structure of the steel.

Mohr evidently believes that sulfur should also have been present in the red/gray chips discussed in the ATM paper. At [4:30](#), Mohr claims that “**there is no sulfur in the Harriet/Jones/Ryan paper. It’s not there and therefore no thermate.**” Mohr seems to have misunderstood the findings of Dr. Jones’ et al. research. As Dr. Jones explains:

Thermate (sulfur plus thermite and possibly the form thermate-TH-3) was ALSO in evidence and probably intended to weaken critical steel members (e.g., residue/ material flowing with orange glow from the So. Tower just minutes before its collapse and the sulfidation of WTC steel reported in the FEMA report but ignored by NIST). Thermite incendiary without sulfur is *not* in evidence at the WTC to date. But sulfur is NOT needed for the function of explosive nanothermite and would not be expected to appear in the red/gray chips.¹⁷⁹

Though thermate and nanothermite are obviously both thermites, they each have different compositions.

At [4:52](#), Mohr begins to list possible natural causes for the sulfidation that don’t include thermate.

¹⁷⁹ Quoted from: <http://911blogger.com/node/20094>

#154.) Discoverer Jonathan Barnett's

Possible Causes for Sulfidized Steel:

-Heating oil

**-Construction materials such as gyp
wallboard dust**

-environmental sources such as acid rain

Never Mentions Thermate!

#155.) CSWDC Waste Company: Gypsum

can create sulfur dioxide when burned

He cites the gypsum wallboard as the most likely source of the sulfur. Mohr's reasoning is that the gypsum wallboard burned and produced sulfur dioxide, which may have caused the sulfidation of the steel. However, there are problems with this assertion. As noted by physicist Dr. Jeffery Farrer:

Some people have speculated that the sulfur could have been supplied by the... gypsum board that was present in the buildings... that's calcium sulfate, so it is a sulfate-rich phase. However, in order for that happen, in order to get sulfur out of the wallboard you've got to heat up the gypsum board to high enough temperatures to disassociate the calcium from the sulfur. And then you'd have free sulfur and then the sulfur could then attack the steel... but again, you've got to get extremely high temperatures to disassociate those two things.¹⁸⁰

How hot would the temperatures need to be to cause this? According to Andrea Dreger, "gypsum only starts to decompose into calcium oxide and sulfur dioxide at temperatures of 1200 degrees Celsius [2200 °F] (which were not available in the WTC)."¹⁸¹ Therefore, in order for Mohr's theory to be correct, the temperatures would have needed to exceed the 1400 °F he claims existed in the debris piles.

Furthermore, as noted by Dr. Steven Jones et al:

[T]o form a molten iron-oxygen-sulfur eutectic at about 1,000 °C would require a very high concentration of sulfur, around 50 (mol. %). The fact that sulfur evaporates at a low temperature, 445 °C, along with the very low levels of elemental sulfur in office buildings appears to preclude the possibility that the eutectic could have formed as a result of a slow sulfidation process in the debris pile... (The XEDS plots shown by the

¹⁸⁰ Quoted from: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=23n0Vr_A1TQ

¹⁸¹ Quoted from: Sources related to exceptionally high temperatures... by Andrea Dreger, pg. 131

authors show sulfur without concomitant calcium, which would be present for a calcium-sulfate (gypsum) contamination.)¹⁸²

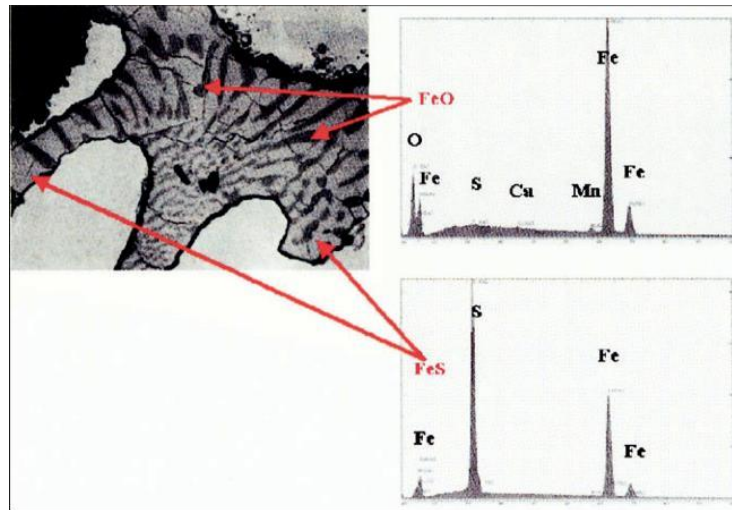


Image from: http://911research.wtc7.net/wtc/evidence/metallurgy/WTC_apndxC.htm

As Dr. Niels Harrit summarizes, “Although gypsum contains sulfur, this is not elemental sulfur, which can react, but sulfur in the form of calcium sulfate, which cannot.”¹⁸³ The fact that the temperatures needed to cause this sulfidation were well in excess of what normal fires could cause, and that the chemical composition of gypsum wallboard was not found in the steel, renders the idea that the corrosion was caused by the wall board invalid. Of course, Mohr lists off several other possible sources for the sulfur, such as acid rain, fluorine gasses and Freon. However, if any of these substances are to be posited as possible sources for the corrosion, then a test should be carried out to determine if they could have done it. NIST could very well have done tests such as these, but they never did. But as it turns out, someone has carried out tests to determine this. Using several of the substances posited as causing the sulfidation, civil engineer Jon Cole carried out an experiment to see if any of the natural sources could have corroded the steel. None of them had any effect on the steel.¹⁸⁴ This is what needs to be done in order it determine what actually happened to the steel.

Even though NIST failed to carry out any experiments to see what corroded the steel, members of the Movement have done experiments, following the scientific method. Jon Cole has tested several of the natural sources which are said to have caused the sulfidation. And Dr. Steven Jones has carried out tests involving thermate, and got some interesting results.

I (with colleagues) have done the experiment with thermite + sulfur (often called “thermate”) acting on a piece of WTC steel... Then we looked at the steel, including use of electron microscopy, and found the same characteristic corrosion as found by Barnett et al. in WTC 7 steel.¹⁸⁵

¹⁸² Quoted from: Extremely high temperatures during the World Trade Center destruction, by Steven Jones et al., pg. 7-8

¹⁸³ Quoted from: The Mysterious Collapse of World Trade Center 7... by David Ray Griffin, pg. 49

¹⁸⁴ See: <http://911blogger.com/news/2010-07-13/911-experiments-mysterious-eutectic-steel>

¹⁸⁵ Quoted from: <http://911blogger.com/news/2008-07-09/third-tower-critical-review#comment-191819>

As we can see, experiments have been done with both the natural substances posited as the cause of the corrosion and with thermate. Currently, thermate seems to be the better case. Therefore, until an experiment is carried out that demonstrates that the sulfidation could have been caused by anything natural that could have existed in the WTC debris, thermate stands as the more likely candidate.

At [7:10](#), Mohr discusses NIST's role in examining the pieces of sulfidized steel from the WTC debris. Mohr claims that NIST didn't ignore this phenomenon, but that "**they mentioned it expressively in their report.**" Mohr also notes that NIST's examination of the steel showed that they were corroded in the debris pile and not in the buildings. Firstly, although NIST mentioned both pieces of steel (one from the Towers and one from WTC7) in their report on the Twin Towers, they only examined the steel from the Towers. They performed no examination of the steel from WTC7, and there was no mention of this steel in their WTC7 final report. Second, Mohr does not provide details on how NIST concluded that the steel from the Towers was corroded while in the pile. As we read in the NIST report:

The damage consisted of localized thinning in the outer and inner web plates in this area, leading to significant perforations in the outer and inner webs. The stampings at the base of the column on the flange indicated that it was a 50 ksi column with column type 143. The database of all columns showed that columns matching this description were no higher than the 52nd floor level in WTC1 and the 53rd floor level in WTC2. Therefore, it is unlikely that this column experienced degradation prior to the collapse of the towers. The attrition appearance of the column, in terms of the two webs experiencing the highest degree of degradation with minimal attack observed on the flange sections, also indicates that the column was in a horizontal position while the attack occurred.¹⁸⁶

Therefore, NIST's conclusion that the steel was corroded post-collapse is based on the fact that it came from a floor below where the fires were. However, this reasoning is completely flawed in regards to the question of whether or not the Towers were demolished. Those who assert that the Towers were demolished have pointed out that the demolition devices would obviously have been placed on floors below where the fires were. The fact that the sulfidation occurred on a column at a lower floor does nothing to debunk the idea that the Towers were destroyed with controlled demolition.

¹⁸⁶ Quoted from: NCSTAR 1-3C; Damage and Failure Modes of Structural Steel Components, by Stephen W. Banovic and Timothy Foecke, pg. 229 http://www.nist.gov/manuscript-publication-search.cfm?pub_id=101019



Corroded steel from WTC (steel sample K-16) Images from: NCSTAR 1-3C, pg. 262

There are strong reasons to believe this steel could not have been corroded by anything natural at Ground Zero. As Andrea Dreger points out:

Even had there been office fires next to K-16, they would not have had much of an effect on it, because its fireproofing cannot have been damaged by the airplane impact. NIST assumes that K-16 was affected by the high temperatures in the piles. But a mix of unburnable construction materials and dust covered, shredded office contents cannot sustain fires that burn hot enough to explain the high temperature exposure of K-16.¹⁸⁷

As Dreger also notes concerning the steel from WTC7:

NIST did not examine sample (1) from Appendix C. NIST leaves it to the reader to choose whether NIST wants to justify this because the metallurgical examination documented in NIST NCSTAR 1-3C was done only for recovered Twin Tower steel, or because sample (1) was not unambiguously identified as being from WTC 7. NIST's statements vary. In favor of the first option, NIST fails to analyze sample (1) as part of their WTC 7 investigation; for the second, NIST fails to discuss the possible provenance of sample (1). Just stating that no steel "was unambiguously identified as being from WTC 7" is not an adequate substitute for an analysis of the provenance of sample (1). For both options, NIST fails to give any discussion regarding the failure modes of sample (1), and fails to show how the failure mode of this piece was - independently from its as-built location - possibly explicable in line with NIST's premise.¹⁸⁸

¹⁸⁷ Quoted from: How NIST Avoided a Real Analysis of the Physical Evidence of WTC Steel, by Andrea Dreger, pg. 50-51

http://www.ae911truth.org/documents/How_NIST_Avoided_a_Real_Analysis_of_the_Physical_Evidence_of_WTC_Steel.pdf

¹⁸⁸ Ibid. pg. 53

It is entirely unjustifiable for NIST to have avoided examining the steel from WTC7. They baselessly assert that the steel was corroded post-collapse, but as we previously saw, the FEMA report acknowledged that “It is also possible that the phenomenon started prior to collapse and accelerated the weakening of the steel structure.”

Mohr finishes up his video at [8:01](#) by explaining why he doesn’t believe the evidence provided by the Truth Movement warrants a new investigation. He points out that currently the majority of scientists and structural engineers still support natural collapse. He also notes that the call for a new investigation seems to be “**political in nature**,” and that other groups attempt to do this too, such as “**creationists with a strong religious base**” and “**global warming deniers with powerful economic interests**.” All of the assertions are baseless and irrelevant. Mohr believes the scientific consensus should not be overridden, but the fact of the matter is that science is simply not done by consensus. Science has no political agenda, and AE911Truth recognizes this, as they focus only on the scientific forensic evidence to make their case. Mohr’s appeal to majority is also unwarranted. The Truth Movement currently has over 2000 architects and engineers, 220 Senior Military, Intelligence Service, Law Enforcement, and Government Officials; 250 Pilots and Aviation Professionals; 400 Professors; 400 Medical Professionals; and many other experts.¹⁸⁹ There has never been this many experts standing behind a cause as there has been for other beliefs such as creationism and global warming doubt. While Mohr may remain unimpressed by the evidence presented by the Truth Movement, many others don’t share his belief, and a new investigation would finally settle the scientific mysteries surrounding the collapse of the three WTC buildings.

¹⁸⁹ See: <http://patriotsquestion911.com/>

Part 11: Thermites in WTC Dust?

The eleventh installment of Mohr's videos series tackles what is undoubtedly the strongest evidence the Truth Movement has for controlled demolition of the WTC; the chips of unreacted nanothermite found in dust from the WTC. This is not merely residue of explosives, but actual unignited material. In other words, this is not simply the Movement's smoking gun, but in fact the loaded gun. However, Mohr sees differently, arguing that the claim that these chips are unreacted explosive/incendiary material is not proven. While I would grant that some of Mohr's concerns are justifiable, the evidence still supports the idea that this material is in fact the hard proof for controlled demolition of the three WTC buildings on 9/11.

Unlike Mohr's previous videos, this one is broken up into two videos, though we shall address them in this section together. At [0:51](#) of Mohr's first video, he gives a brief overview of how the chips were first discovered and how the results were published in the Bentham Open Chemical Physics Journal in April of 2009. Mohr grants that the chain of custody for the samples is verifiable, saying that possible contamination from other debris "**is almost certainly not a factor in the collection of this dust.**" Mohr then argues at [2:49](#) that because earlier experiments with nanothermite were carried out in May of 2001, "**nanothermites were still in the development stage by 9/11.**" However, research shows that the development of nanothermite goes back much longer than this. As noted by Dr. Frank Legge:

The history of nanothermite appears to go back far enough to be considered as a possible explosive in 2001. Here is a patent which is dated several years earlier.

US19960684781

19960722 (July 22, 1996)

Legal status (INPADOC) of US5885321

US F 68478196 A (Patent of invention)

PRS Date: 1997/07/22

PRS Code: AS02

EFFECTIVE DATE: 1996/07/15

Abstract of US5885321

Fine aluminum powders are prepared by decomposing alane-adducts in organic solvents under an inert atmosphere to provide highly uniform particles selectably sized from about 65 nm to about 500 nm and believed particularly effective as fuels and additives, in pyrotechnics, and in energetic materials including composites, super thermite, and other explosives.

Clearly researchers were describing methods of preparing nano sized particles, using them in superthermite, and calling such material “explosive” in 1997. It would therefore not be logical to assert that by 2001, four years later, they would be unable to utilize the material in demolition.¹⁹⁰

Virtually every type of technology is still in the development stage to some extent, so Mohr’s point would seem to be insignificant. But Mohr then proceeds to quote NASA scientist Ryan Mackey at [2:55](#) as saying that “**nanothermite is at best a low explosive, because the thermite reaction starts with iron oxide and aluminum and produces aluminum-oxide and iron, so it doesn’t produce any gases, and there’s no source for a shockwave.**” However, Mohr also admits that previous studies show that nanothermite can be formulated to be explosive. Indeed, there is overwhelming evidence which shows that nanothermite can be made to be even more powerful than high explosives.¹⁹¹ Mohr agrees that if it can be confirmed that nanothermite was present in the dust, then whether or not it is an explosive is ultimately unimportant. In regards to this debate over whether or not nanothermite is explosive, Dr. Steven Jones writes:

The definition of “explosive” can lead to endless debates. Is a flash of light required? Is a loud sound required? How loud? What rate of energy generation is required for a material to be called an explosive? Where is the line between low explosives and high explosives? Rather than getting mired into ad nauseum debates, I will use the term “explosive” in conjunction with superthermites/nanothermites IF the national defense laboratories which developed these materials use the term.¹⁹²

At [0:07](#) of Mohr’s second video, he discusses how the authors of the ATM paper measured the energy output of the four red/grey chips tested. Mohr points out that the chip with the lowest energy output took the highest temperature to react. He also notes that, in regards to the authors’ comparison between this chip and a known nanothermite sample, “**they claimed that the energy reaction was a close match. But look, it’s not.**”

¹⁹⁰ Quoted from: A study of some issues raised in a paper by Wood and Reynolds, by Dr. Frank Legge, pg. 1-2 <http://www.journalof911studies.com/letters/d/a-study-of-some-issues-raised-in-a-paper-by-wood-&-reynolds-by-frank-legge.pdf>

¹⁹¹ See: <http://911blogger.com/news/2011-06-20/explosive-nature-nanothermite>

¹⁹² Quoted from: <http://911blogger.com/news/2011-05-10/responses-questions-regarding-thermite-nanothermite-and-conventional-explosives-used-wtc-destruction>

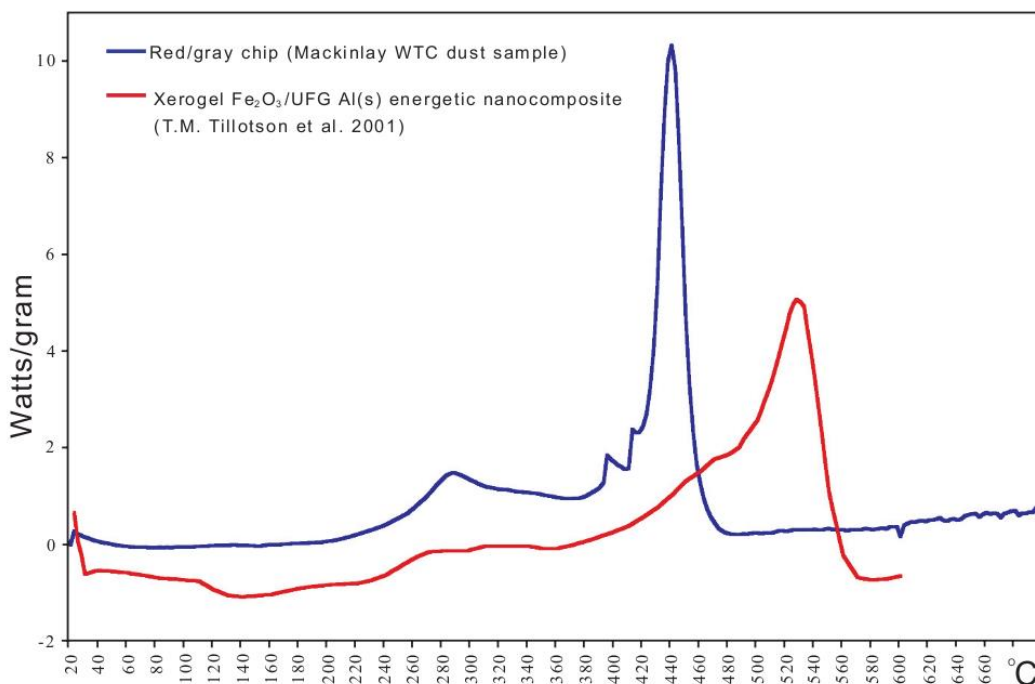


Image from: <http://tinyurl.com/3r7b92v>

However, that is not quite what the authors claimed in the paper. They actually pointed out that both of the samples “show completion of reaction at temperatures below 560 °C.”¹⁹³

Mohr also argues that because the heat output of the four samples is low in comparison to other substances, “**Harrit’s samples had some carbon based material in them that simply burned in the surrounding air, and that was not a thermite reaction.**” However, Niels Harrit disagrees with this assertion, noting that when the chips were ignited, “elemental iron was formed, clearly indicating a thermite reaction.”¹⁹⁴ Indeed, the formation of molten iron and iron spheres is a very strong indication that these chips are some sort of thermite. The fact that the chips produce the same type of spheres found from a thermite reaction is a point completely absent in Mohr’s video. But the spheres are very important in determining if the chips are thermite, as noted by the ATM authors.

The abundant iron-rich spheres are of particular interest in this study; none were observed in these particular chips prior to DSC-heating. Spheres rich in iron already demonstrate the occurrence of very high temperatures, well above the 700 °C temperature reached in the DSC, in view of the high melting point of iron and iron oxide. Such high temperatures indicate that a chemical reaction occurred.¹⁹⁵

¹⁹³ Quoted from: Active Thermite Material Discovered in Dust from the 9/11 WTC Catastrophe, by Niels Harrit et al, pg. 25

¹⁹⁴ Quoted from: Email correspondence with Niels Harrit.

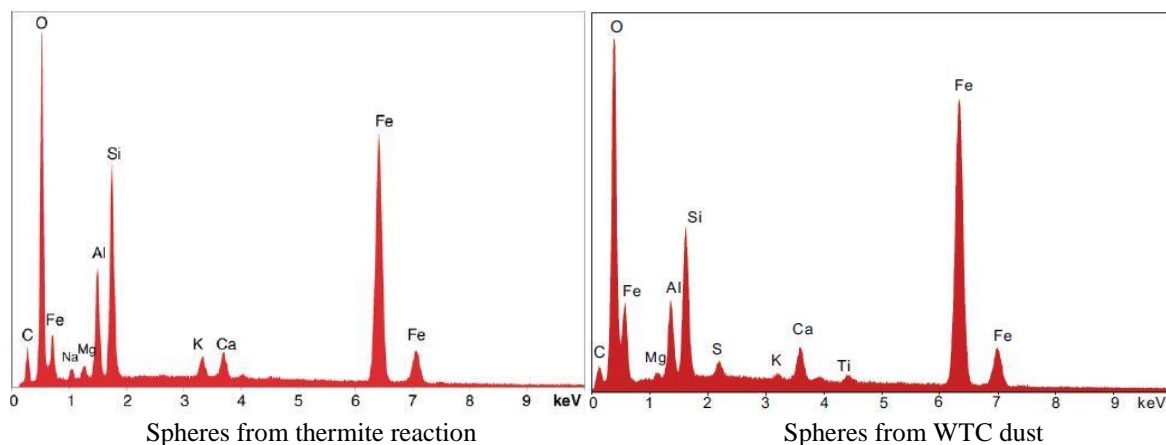
¹⁹⁵ Quoted from: Active Thermite Material Discovered in Dust from the 9/11 WTC Catastrophe, by Niels Harrit et al, pg. 19

Another point Mohr brings up at [1:54](#) is that if unignited thermite was found in the dust, the triggering devices used should also have been found as well. However, we previously discussed that the devices could very well have been made to be very small and disguised so as not to be found in the debris. Again, if the material is in fact thermitic, then this point about finding every piece of the devices used would be insignificant.

At [2:03](#), Mohr begins to list his reasons why he feels the paper's findings are inconclusive. His first point is that the chips were heated in air, when they should have been heated in a nitrogen or argon atmosphere to see if they could have reacted without the aid of oxygen. His second point is that Harrit et al. should have used a method known as PXRD to analyze the chips. However, Mohr does not provide an adequate explanation as to why using the PXRD method would have produced more accurate results. As for his point about heating the chips in an oxygen-less environment, the authors in fact had good reason to test their samples the way they did, as explained by Gregg Roberts:

We ran the test the way we did because the literature described a previous test of nanothermite that was run in an ordinary atmosphere. If we had run it in an inert atmosphere, we would not have been able to compare apples to apples in terms of the energy released.¹⁹⁶

Mohr then claims at [3:03](#) that during his debate with Richard Gage, “Gage flashed a spectrograph of known thermites vs. the dust onto the screen. They didn’t look the same, and he never explained why they proved thermites or even how to read a spectrograph.” Having obviously not seen these spectrographs Mohr is discussing, I cannot say for certain if Mohr is correct on this matter. However, we have already seen that the spheres in the dust do in fact have extremely similar contents to the spheres from a thermite reaction.



Mohr also repeats the argument that aluminum oxide should have been present in the dust but wasn't. He also claims barium nitrate should have been found as well. In regards to his first point, we have already established that aluminum oxide would not be expected to be found due to its dispersal in the air. However, there is also another reason why aluminum oxide would not be present if nanothermite was used. Though Mohr makes the point that fluorine was not

¹⁹⁶ Quoted from: <http://911debunkers.blogspot.com/2010/01/controlled-demolition-expert-mark.html>

definitively found in the chips, Dr. Harrit has explained why detecting the fluorine is difficult and how fluorine itself would explain why aluminum oxide would not be present.

One thing which is particularly interesting is if this organic material also contains fluorine, because there are recipes, there are procedures which have been published where they are making nanothermites of this kind and incorporating what we call a perfluorinated alkane... Now, one problem with the investigation which has just been done is that we cannot see fluorine because the response from fluorine lies under the iron response, which we see all the time. So we cannot see, determine if there are fluorine in there or not. Now, the presence of fluorine is interesting, because in the thermite process, when this burns, or reacts, the fluorine will pick up the aluminum because fluorine has a greater affinity for aluminum than oxygen. This means that the oxygen, which should have taken the aluminum, is now free to form gasses. That means that the presence of fluorine is one option if you want to make an explosive... [T]he fluorine is liberated to unite with the aluminum, so you do not get aluminum oxide, which is the white cloud.¹⁹⁷

As for Mohr's claim that barium nitrate should have been found, here is an instance where Mohr is confusing thermate with a particular type of thermate known as Thermate-TH3. This type of thermate is used in the military, and is 68.7% thermite, 29% barium nitrate, 2% sulfur and 0.3% binder.¹⁹⁸ There are a wide variety of different forms of thermite and thermate, and this is one that just happens to be found in this type of thermate. However, barium nitrate would not be expected to be found in every type of thermite or thermate, and it certainly doesn't need to be found in nanothermite.

Mohr then claims at [3:55](#) that “**all the ingredients in the dust were also present in the Towers,**” and provides a long list of possible sources for the elements found in the WTC debris.

Reason #166.) Everything found in the dust was in the towers (if not true, more proof needed):

- *sulfur* in the gypsum
- *iron* in paint and electrical equipment
- *manganese* in steel
- *fluorine* in air-conditioning freon
- *titanium* in the planes and buildings
- *potassium* in concrete (bananas in the snack room?... Just kidding!)
- Chips claimed to be identical to the chemical composition of the paint, fire retardant, vermiculite, sound-proofing and rustproofing.

¹⁹⁷ Quoted from: A Basic Chemistry Lesson with Dr. Niels Harrit, pg. 4-5

http://scientistsfor911truth.org/docs/Harrit_1_ABasicChemistryLessonWithDrNielsHarrit.pdf

¹⁹⁸ See: <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Thermate>

Mohr also quotes Dr. Niels Harrit's response to this argument, which compares the chemical composition of the dust to the ingredients in a stew. After reading this quote, Mohr simply stares blankly into the camera for a few seconds, which seems to be done (and insultingly so) for mockery. Mohr's entire argument regarding these elements is completely fallacious. His first point about the elements found in the Towers is flawed to begin with, as Mohr discusses these elements found in the *dust*. However, as explained at the Debunking the Debunkers blog:

Debunkers are confusing WTC dust with [IRON SPHERES](#) found [IN THE DUST]. There is a BIG DIFFERENCE. The spheres show that the chemicals were formed due to melting and/or vaporization, this is due to surface tension. When a liquid is formed the surface tension of the liquid forms a sphere. Just like when you spray water you will notice many small spheres forming. This is important as the SPHERES not the dust [has the chemical signature of a variation of thermate](#).¹⁹⁹

Mohr's other assertion that "the various element bondings may have occurred naturally in the fire" is unfounded, due to the nature of the chips and the spheres. Even though Mohr apparently is unimpressed with Dr. Harrit's stew analogy, mechanical engineer Gordon Ross has a similar analogy that perhaps Mohr will understand better.

[I]f I leave margarine, flour, sugar and fruit in a cupboard, when I next open the cupboard I will not find a fruit crumble. Some mechanism is required to convert the ingredients. Similarly, if I take these same ingredients, set them alight and throw them out the window, I still will not get my fruit crumble. The mechanism must have some order.²⁰⁰

As Jim Hoffman explains in more technical terminology:

Although these elements -- aluminum, iron, oxygen, and silicon -- were all abundant in building materials used in the Twin Towers, it is not possible that such materials milled themselves into fine powder and assembled themselves into a chemically optimized aluminothermic composite as a by-product of the destruction of the Twin Towers.²⁰¹

And, as the Debunking the Debunkers post summarizes:

This indicated the various chemicals found in the spheres were melted at the SAME TIME. Forming spheres. The spheres found had chemical signature of FE, AL, K, SI. And various additives and variations of the thermate were found, including sulfur, copper, manganese... What other mechanism can make fe, al, k, si melt at the same time to form spheres? Debunkers like to believe the iron came from steel; the aluminum came from cladding and silicon from glass, etc. Forming from office fire is impossible, for a start iron cannot melt in office fires and the melting points of these metals are so different, there would be a sizeable time delay from heating WTC common materials.

¹⁹⁹ Quoted from: <http://911debunkers.blogspot.com/2009/02/debunking911-debunked-thermate-chemical.html>

²⁰⁰ Quoted from: <http://911blogger.com/node/4867>

²⁰¹ Quoted from: Thermitic Pyrotechnics in the WTC Made Simple: Three Points of *Active Thermitic Material Discovered in Dust from the 9/11 World Trade Center Catastrophe* that Anyone Can Understand , by Jim Hoffman http://911research.wtc7.net/essays/thermite/thermitics_made_simple.html

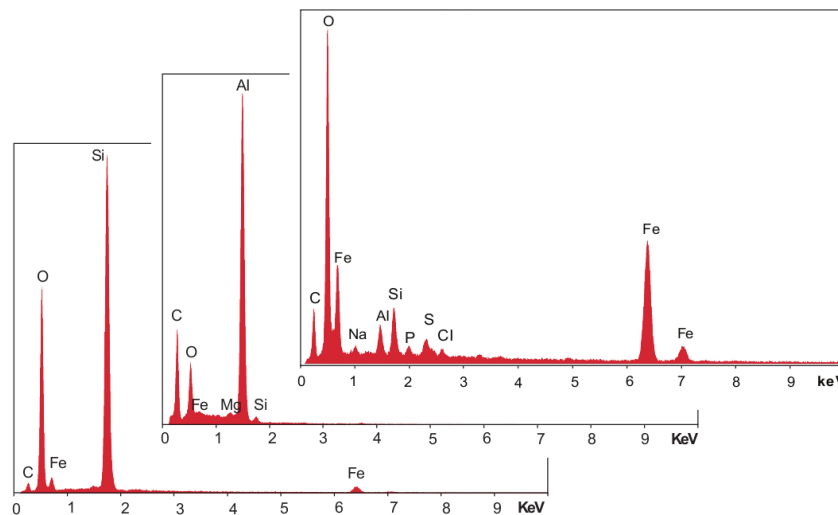
Then they also have to cool together at the same time to form a sphere. Thermate however provides the solution to this question because the reaction is very fast. No other mechanism is known to provide spheres such as these.

There seems to be no way that the spheres or the chips could have formed naturally in the buildings or the debris, and Mohr has not presented a plausible scenario for how that could have happened. However, Mohr does argue at 4:25 that the chips “could be a rust-inhibiting primer paint with a kalolinite base.” However, it has been repeatedly shown that these chips cannot possibly be primer paint. Niels Harrit has documented several reasons why the chips cannot be paint, including:

- The composition of the WTC paint and the red/gray chips are extremely different.
- The WTC paint was found to be stable beyond temperatures of 800 °C, whereas the chips ignite at temperatures below 500 °C.
- The chips did not dissolve in a MEK paint solvent.²⁰²

Mohr disputes the last point, noting that a stronger solvent should have been used. However, the solvent used actually provided an enormous amount of information, as explained by Dr. Steven Jones:

After the MEK soak, we now see regions where we see aluminum separated from silicon and oxygen... This is not aluminum silicate. It's not kalolinite as some debunkers say... You can't use a paint solvent and separate the aluminum from the silicon oxide in an aluminum silicate. It's just a solvent; it's not a reducing agent.²⁰³



A collage of Figs. 16, 17, and 18, showing, from back to front, the spectra from a silicon-rich region on the porous red matrix, a region with a clump of the aluminum-rich thin plates, and a region with a clump of the iron-rich grains.

The soaking of the sample in MEK has removed most of the carbon from the Silicon- and Oxygen-rich matrix.

Image from: http://911research.wtc7.net/essays/thermite/thermitics_made_simple.html

²⁰² See: Why the Red/Gray Chips are Not Primer Paint, by Niels Harrit <http://stj911.org/blog/?p=325>

²⁰³ Quoted from: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=D6Xokos-7V0> (min. 32:58)

Steven Jones has responded to many arguments such as this one.²⁰⁴ The ATM paper's second author, Dr. Jeffery Farrer, has this to say in regards to those who believe the red/gray chips are paint:

It is understandable that critics would point to paint. We also first assumed that it was paint and only came to believe otherwise after our analysis. I have yet to see a study that has been done that shows that there is a paint that exhibits the exact same characteristics as these red/gray chips. I HAVE conducted my own study (part of which has been published in the very paper under scrutiny) that leads me to believe that they are in fact NOT paint chips. I therefore, cannot understand why critics of our paper expect us to retract our conclusions when there has been no data put forth that leads to any other conclusion than that which we have made in the paper.²⁰⁵

There is simply no valid evidence to suggest that these red/gray chips are paint from the WTC.²⁰⁶

At 5:23, Mohr gives a brief discussion of the Bentham journal the ATM paper was published in. He cites two reasons why he feels the validity of the journal is questionable: that a hoax paper was accepted by Bentham and that the journal's editor resigned in protest after the ATM paper was published. Both of these points, however, are totally insignificant. In regards to the first point, the hoax paper submitted by Philip Davis and Kent Anderson was accepted for publication, but the purpose of the acceptance apparently was only to find out who the authors were.²⁰⁷ This incident ultimately shows nothing of importance, as noted by Erik Larson.

[It] has not [been] proven that even the single journal that has been shown to have accepted a hoax paper is a "vanity publication" where ANYONE can publish; so far a single instance of a failure to conduct a proper peer-review has been documented. Perhaps there are other incidents, and perhaps NONE of the papers published were legitimately peer-reviewed, but the experiment conducted by Scholarly Kitchen does not document that, and the authors don't claim it does. In addition, the problem has only been documented at a SINGLE journal among the hundreds published by Bentham- as Scholarly Kitchen notes, another Bentham journal rejected the hoax paper for publication. They say this incident only proves the peer-reviewed process is applied inconsistently.²⁰⁸

As for Mohr's second point about the editor resigning, he claims that she "**resigned in protest, saying it should never have been published. Period.**" However, a closer look at this incident reveals far more. The editor, Marie-Paule Pileni, claimed to have resigned because she was not told about the paper. But, she also did not present any scientific criticisms of the paper, claiming

²⁰⁴ See: <http://911blogger.com/news/2011-05-10/responses-questions-regarding-thermite-nanothermite-and-conventional-explosives-used-wtc-destruction>

²⁰⁵ Quoted from: <http://911debunkers.blogspot.com/2011/04/listening-to-debunker-arguments-is-like.html>

²⁰⁶ For lengthy refutations of the numerous arguments made against the ATM paper and claims that the chips are primer paint, see: <http://911debunkers.blogspot.com/2011/04/debunker-debunkers-exploding-paint.html>

²⁰⁷ See: <http://911blogger.com/news/2009-06-17/dr-moffett-smears-%E2%80%98active-thermitic%E2%80%99-paper-association-again-erik-larson#comment-210229>

²⁰⁸ Quoted from: <http://911blogger.com/news/2009-06-17/dr-moffett-smears-%E2%80%98active-thermitic%E2%80%99-paper-association-again-erik-larson#comment-210288>

that the topic of it lies outside her area of expertise. However, this is patently untrue, as demonstrated by Dr. Niels Harrit.

Her List of Publications reveals that Professor Pileni has published hundreds of articles in the field of nanoscience and nanotechnology. She is, in fact, recognized as one of the leaders in the field. Her statement about her “major advanced research” points out that, already by 2003, she was “the 25th highest cited scientist on nanotechnology” (<http://www.sri.jussieu.fr/pileni.htm>). Since the late 1980s, moreover, she has served as a consultant for the French Army and other military institutions. From 1990 to 1994, for example, she served as a consultant for the Société Nationale des Poudres et Explosifs (National Society for Powders and Explosives). She could, therefore, have easily read our paper, and she surely did. But by denying that she had read it, she avoided the question that would have inevitably been put to her: “What do you think of it?”²⁰⁹

Because her claims about not being qualified to review the paper are evidently untrue, her story ultimately does not add up. Of course, Mohr agrees that “**the experiment should speak for itself**,” but then at 5:47 claims that he doubts that the Bentham journals are actually peer reviewed. Other than his two previous assertions regarding the hoax paper and professor Pileni’s resignation, he offers no serious reason to believe that the paper was not adequately peer reviewed. Instead, he merely quotes another of Niels Harrit’s analogies and once again stares blankly into the camera in a mocking type way. Dr. Steven Jones has explained that these claims about the paper not being adequately reviewed are groundless.

This paper was thoroughly peer-reviewed with several pages of tough comments that required of our team MONTHS of additional experiments and studies. It was the toughest peer-review I’ve ever had, including THREE papers for which I was first author in NATURE. (Please note that Prof. Harrit is first author on this paper.) We sought an established journal that would allow us a LONG paper (this paper is 25 pages long) with MANY COLOR IMAGES AND GRAPHS. Such a scientific journal is not easy to find. Page charges are common for scientific journals these days, and are typically paid by the University of the first or second author (as is the case with this paper) or by an external grant.²¹⁰

At 6:37, Mohr discusses the EPA’s report that large amounts of 1,3-diphenylpropane (1,3-DDP) were found to be present in the air at Ground Zero. 1,3-DDP has been cited as evidence for the use of sol-gels at the WTC, but Mohr argues against this, saying that Richard Gage omitted the detail that the investigators believed that the 1,3-DDP came from the large amount of burning computers at the site. However, Richard does not omit this point in his 911BT presentation, as he includes it in his slide show.

²⁰⁹ Quoted from: Professor Pileni’s Resignation as Editor-in-Chief of the Open Chemical Physics Journal, by Niels Harrit http://scientistsfor911truth.org/docs/Harrit_PileniResignation.pdf

²¹⁰ Quoted from: <http://911blogger.com/node/19780>

EPA Analysis of the WTC dust showed:

- "One molecule was present at levels "that dwarfed all others..."
- **1,3-diphenylpropane**
- "We've never observed it in any other sampling we've ever done,"

Erik Swartz, EPA

Swartz speculated that it might possibly be from computers, but there have been many computers burned in office fires and no 1,3 DPP has ever been found!

<http://www.newsday.com/news/health/ny-hsair0911,0,471193.story?coll=ny-homepage-right-area>
http://oaspub.epa.gov/eims/xmlreport.display?deid=62021&z_c_hk=65088
<http://journalof911studies.com/articles/JonesAnswersQuestionsWorldTradeCenter.pdf>

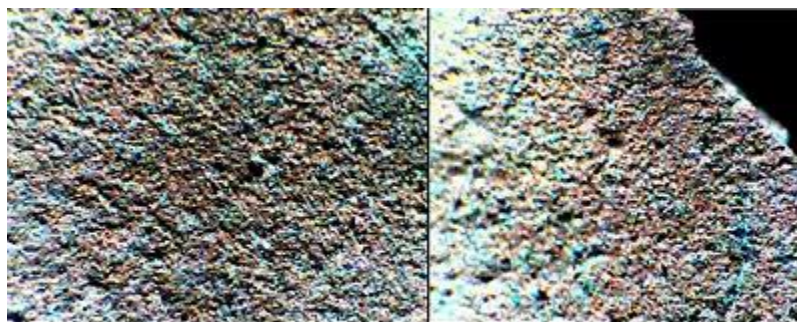
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As Gage's slide shows, the investigator's opinions about where the 1,3-DDP are included, but he also adds that "but there have been many computers burned in office fires and no 1,3-DDP has never been found!" In regards to this point concerning the 1,3-DDP, David Ray Griffin writes:

The EPA's Erik Swartz said that "it was most likely produced by the plastic of tens of thousands of burning computers." Experiments could surely be performed to see if that is an adequate explanation, but NIST did not report doing this.²¹¹

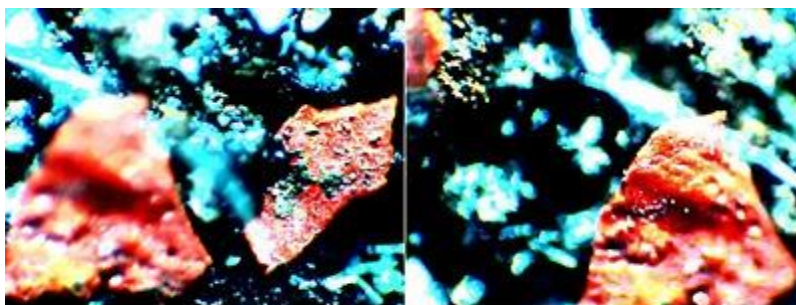
Indeed, much like the issue of the sulfidized steel, NIST could have investigated this phenomenon, but never did.

At [8:10](#), Mohr quotes Kevin Ryan as saying that the red/gray chips are nothing like the primer paint from the Towers, noting that not only do they behave differently and have different compositions, they look completely different. Indeed, upon close examination, the paint used in the Towers and the red/gray chips look nothing alike.



WTC primer paint

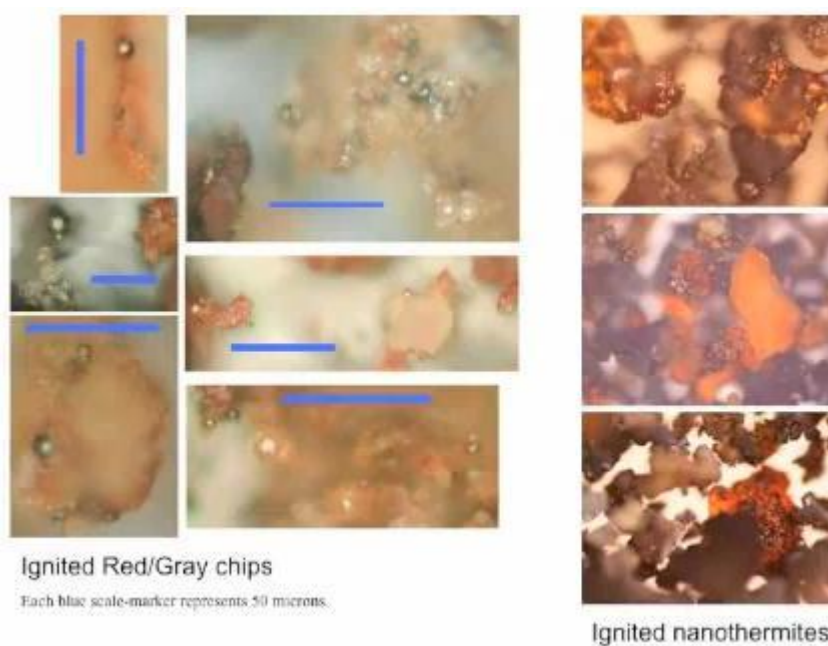
²¹¹ Quoted from: The Mysterious Collapse of World Trade Center 7... by David Ray Griffin, pg. 56



Red/Gray chips

Images courtesy of Jon Cole

However, Mohr argues that in the original Tilitson study, aluminum oxide was a component of nanothermite. Having not seen this report, I cannot say definitively if Mohr is correct. However, it is likely that we are merely looking at different variations of nanothermite in these tests, as Dr. Frank Legge notes that, “Once the nanothermite had been developed one would expect that over time various modifications using additives would be developed for different purposes.”²¹² Indeed, chemist Kevin Ryan has even made nanothermite himself using the same formulations described in the ATM paper.²¹³ The nanothermite he prepared looks just like the material found in the WTC dust.



Images from: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O66UyGNrmSI>

Again, the characteristics of these chips are in every way consistent with them being of a thermitic nature.

²¹² Quoted from: A study of some issues raised in a paper by Wood and Reynolds, by Dr. Frank Legge, pg. 2

²¹³ See: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O66UyGNrmSI>

At 9:22, Mohr discusses how he believes further study is needed on the red/gray chips and that the continued studies that have been carried out are unconvincing to him. He argues that there needs to be independent verification of the paper's findings, "and this one has a poor record of that." Mohr notes that "at least two 9/11 activists followed up on the dust," and believes they are unreliable. Again, Mohr's use of specific wording gives a negative impression in his argument. It was two SCIENTISTS who did further research on the samples, not simply "activists." The first of the scientists Mohr discusses is Frédéric Henry-Couannier, who tested several chips from the WTC dust. Couannier admittedly did claim that he could not confirm the chips were in fact nanothermite,²¹⁴ but he notes that this was due to the fact that he could not get his chips to ignite. However, Couannier also makes this distinction in discussing the chips' failure to ignite:

In my samples the red-red chips replace the red/gray ones reported to be found in other samples... except for, maybe, one exceptional red/gray chip I found and described elsewhere... So, maybe, the red-red chips are just fragments originating from red-grey chips that already reacted at the WTC and for this reason cannot react anymore.²¹⁵

Regardless of this, Couannier was able to confirm several aspects of the paper's findings, including the presence of the microspheres and the chemical composition of the chips' layers. The claim that Couannier's testing was inconclusive is therefore only partially true.

The next scientist Mohr discusses is chemical engineer Mark Basile, whom Mohr criticizes for "replicating the error of the original experiment" by burning the chips in open air. He also notes that Basile failed to measure the energy release, as was done in the original experiment. Firstly, we previously established that testing the chips in air was essentially not an error on the part of the authors, so it is therefore not an error on Basile's part either. Second, although Basile did not carry out the exact same experiments the ATM authors carried out, like Couannier he was able to confirm several aspects of the paper's findings. As Basile himself notes:

What I can confirm... is that these chips, the red layer is thermitic, it does produce molten iron... I've seen it in an independent sample that was also supplied to me from a museum in New York... I've independently seen thermitic activity within two separate samples of World Trade Center dust.²¹⁶

In regards to his point about finding molten iron after the chips react, Basile notes that:

[T]he other interesting thing about these chips that really kind of shows you that they are the nanothermite, is that when you take these small little chips and you ignite them... If you would take one and grind it up beforehand; just the red layer... There is no free iron in it. When I say free iron, like, you know, little beebees of iron metal, that exist in these. You know its iron oxide, it's not free iron. But when you ignite one, and then you break it up afterwards, you basically find these little droplets, although they're not actually I mean, as a portion of the total volume of the chip they rather significant, but they're still

²¹⁴ See: http://www.darksideofgravity.com/marseille_gb.pdf

²¹⁵ Quoted from: <http://www.darksideofgravity.com/redreds.pdf>

²¹⁶ Quoted from: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JZNQg7XBLwc>

small because these chips are small. But you basically produce molten iron, which then when it cools down again becomes these droplets of iron.²¹⁷

Basile also notes that, in regards to the claims made that the chips are paint:

If I have a thermite fire and I were to put that rod in there it would melt... if I had sufficient material there to do that, so... it's just the level of energy release, so, yep, there'd be an energy release, but I wouldn't expect say if within that paint chip there was iron oxide as one of the pigments that they put in there, I wouldn't expect to open that paint chip afterwards and find, you know, molten iron has been produced and now there would be iron droplets inside the residue of that chip.²¹⁸

Again, many of the paper's findings were confirmed by Basile's study, and most importantly he has confirmed that the chips are thermitic in nature. But Mohr disregards Basile and Couannier's research, saying the he "**personally can't take seriously fellow controlled demolition advocates who appeared in the acknowledgments of the original study that are now cooking red chips at home without proper measuring tools.**" Here is an instance where Mohr seems to be implying bias on the part of members of the Truth Movement, which is totally unfounded. Both Basile and Couannier have advocated further study on the material, and certainly don't believe the ATM paper is the final word on this matter. Furthermore, although Mark Basile is thanked in the acknowledgments section of the ATM paper, Mohr does not specify what Basile was acknowledged for. As Dr. Steven Jones explains:

Mark was the first to observe iron-rich spheres in the post-ignition residue of the red-chip material. I need to emphasize that. With that encouragement from Mark, we went back to our own samples and immediately found iron-rich spheres in the post-ignition residue also-- ours were ignited in a DSC. (Mark used a different method of igniting the red material, which he explains in his interview above.) This discovery, of iron-rich spheres in the post-ignition residue, was in fact the last piece of convincing evidence that we needed to assure ourselves that this indeed a thermitic reaction -- for it demonstrated the reduction of iron-oxide to iron AND very high temperatures at the same time, both characteristic of the thermitic reaction.²¹⁹

All Basile did was confirm that his independently collected samples reacted in the same way that the samples collected by Dr. Jones et al. reacted. If Mohr sees anything erroneous about this, he apparently sees something that I do not. If either of these men have some sort of agenda due to the fact that they are "**fellow controlled demolition advocates**," then why have they also advocated further research? Why, in the case of Couannier, if bias is a factor, did he claim that nanothermite could not be confirmed instead of just saying that his findings were 100% conclusive?

²¹⁷ Quoted from: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XmFsGpOwpvk>

²¹⁸ Ibid.

²¹⁹ Quoted from: <http://911blogger.com/news/2009-08-27/chemical-engineer-mark-basile-discusses-911-wtc-dust#comment-215169>

Not only have these men confirmed aspects of the study, but others OUTSIDE of the Truth Movement have also expressed support for the paper's findings. For example, according to Dr. Jones, the paper was reviewed prior to publication "by the Physics dept. chair at BYU -- and he approved it for publication. His peer-review was NOT under the auspices of Bentham. (This peer-review was done because two of the authors are from this dept. at BYU... and Dr. Farrer requested the review.)"²²⁰ Furthermore, the chairman of the physics department at BYU claimed that the paper "was sound scientific research and that he was now persuaded that explosives/pyrotechnics were involved in the destruction of the World Trade Center on 9/11."²²¹ What's more, it was reported by a Danish media outlet that professor of inorganic chemistry Jens Ulstrup, of the Technical University of Denmark, "felt that the assessments were made on the basis of 'very suitable' tests by current standards."²²²

At the time of writing this, Dr. James Millette, a scientist from MVA Scientific Consultants, has conducted a study of the WTC dust that indicates that the red/gray chips are not nanothermite.²²³ This study was commissioned by Mohr in order to have further independent examination of the dust done. However, members of the Movement have already found problems with Millette's study,²²⁴ and a full response to his study has been published by John-Michael Talboo and Ziggi Zugam.²²⁵ They state in their essay that "We cover the technical debate in five chapters and explain why [Dr. Millette's unpublished report fails](#) to provide a credible response" and that "we are helping to spearhead a fundraising effort for [Mark Basile](#), a chemical engineer who has already replicated and confirmed the most important results by [Harrit et al.](#) in a separate study of the red/gray chips."

While I do support Mohr's efforts in getting further examination of the WTC dust done, I feel his dismissal of the research done by others such as Couannier and Mark Basile to be unjustified. Furthermore, not only have these men expressed support for more research, other members of the Movement have expressed the same support. For example, Dr. Steven Jones, the ATM paper's third author, has suggested that those interested in this issue should contact Los Alamos Livermore Labs to "request at least three 'prototype' samples of super-thermite matches," and if successful, "ask two independent laboratories to do SEM/EDS and DSC analyses as described in our paper on the super-thermite material contained in these matches."²²⁶ Of course, Mohr suggests that the authors of the paper release their own sample for independent testing. Though Mohr and others may see their failure to do this as a sign that they don't want further testing

²²⁰ Quoted from: <http://911blogger.com/news/2009-06-13/fake-paper-tests-peer-review-process-bentham-science-publishers#comment-209987>

²²¹ Quoted from: <http://www.independentamerican.org/2010/05/07/dr-jones-to-a-professor-at-the-university-of-massachusetts/>

²²² Quoted from: <http://translate.google.com/translate?hl=en&sl=da&u=http://videnskab.dk/composite-1945.htm&ei=TB6tS6j5GY62swOwsPDPDQ&sa=X&oi=translate&ct=result&resnum=1&ved=0CAgQ7gEwAA&prev=search%3Fq%3DDansk%2Bforsker%2BEksplosivt%2Bnanomateriale%2Bfundet%2Bi%2Bst%25C3%25B8vet%2Bfra%2BWorld%2BTrade%2BCenter%26hl%3Den%26sa%3Dg>

²²³ See: <http://screwloosechange.blogspot.com/2012/03/red-gray-chips-tested-and-determined.html>

²²⁴ See: <http://911debunkers.blogspot.com/2012/03/millette-versus-harrit-et-al-mek-test.html>

²²⁵ See: 9/11: Explosive Material in the WTC Dust; Version 1.2, by John-Michael Talboo and Ziggi Zugam http://aneta.org/markbasile_org/study/

²²⁶ Quoted from: Exchange of Emails (March 2009) with Robert Erickson, Producer of the National Geographic Special on 9/11, by Steven Jones

done, it is more likely due to caution on the part of the authors. As noted by Kevin Ryan, the authors have lost some of their samples already.

When my colleague Steven Jones sent a sample of the red-gray chips to my post office box in late April 2009, the samples had been removed from the double envelope package through a series of slits just barely big enough to slide the small vial out. The postal inspector never responded to my complaint. But when I later mailed something to my colleague James Gourley, the envelope arrived with a corner ripped out, in a gross kind of damage that neither of us had ever seen.²²⁷



Images from: <http://www.ultruth.com/Mail%20damage.htm>

It has to be kept in mind that the authors of the ATM paper do not have that many samples of dust to begin with. Their samples are very limited, and some of them are already suspected to have gone missing due to foul play. It's therefore not surprising that the authors would feel hesitant about handing over their samples.

Mohr's criticisms of the ATM paper ultimately appear to be unfounded. The authors of the paper carried out very adequate research, and have followed the scientific method accordingly. While I feel that the results of Dr. Millette's study should be taken seriously, I also feel that the evidence presented in the ATM paper already warrants a new investigation into the attacks. As we have seen, the chips discovered in the WTC dust are in all likelihood explosive nanothermite. And in light of everything else we have already discussed, there is ultimately only one reason it would have been present in the dust: it was used in the controlled demolition of the three WTC buildings on 9/11.

²²⁷ Quoted from: <http://911blogger.com/news/2010-05-31/dusting-corley-official-response-discovery-energetic-materials-wtc-dust>

Part 12: Twin Towers Conclusion

In the twelfth and last installment of Mohr's video series discussing the Twin Towers, Mohr presents his 169th reason for believing that the WTC collapsed due to natural causes: That Osama bin Laden said he did it. Mohr evidently believes this evidence strongly contradicts the idea that the Towers were demolished with explosives, and claims at [0:37](#) that his confession is "even better than an eyewitness report." However, Mohr's citation of bin Laden's confession truly reveals his misunderstanding of the issues surrounding the collapse of the three WTC skyscrapers. I should note here that it is beyond the scope of this essay to delve into the many issues regarding Osama bin Laden and Al-Qaeda's involvement in the attacks. The purpose of this paper is to mainly address the scientific evidence which points to explosive destruction of the WTC. However, hopefully this brief discussion of these other issues will demonstrate to Mohr and others why bin Laden's involvement has no significant bearing on the question of what happened to the Towers and Building 7.

At [0:45](#), Mohr discusses the famed "fatty bin Laden" video and how it is in all likelihood real and not a forgery. While I agree with Mohr's assessment on this point (and other members of the Movement have agreed as well²²⁸) there are several problems with concluding that the video is in fact a genuine "confession" video. Several researchers have questioned the authenticity of the translation of the video done by the Pentagon. For example, a German TV show examined the bin Laden confession video and found that the Pentagon's translation "was not only inaccurate, but even 'manipulative.'"²²⁹ One of the experts cited on this matter was Dr. Abdel El M. Hussein, who was quoted as saying:

I have carefully examined the Pentagon's translation. This translation is very problematic. At the most important places where it is held to prove the guilt of Bin Laden, it is not identical with the Arabic.²³⁰

Another cited expert, Dr. Murad Alami, noted that while the Pentagon's translation had bin Laden stating "We calculated in advance the number of casualties from the enemy," Dr. Alami claimed that "'In advance' is not said. The translation is wrong. At least when we look at the original Arabic, and there are no misunderstandings to allow us to read it into the original."²³¹ Another mistranslation noted by Dr. Alami was the Pentagon's translation of bin Laden saying "We had notification since the previous Thursday that the event would take place that day." According to Dr. Alami, "'Previous' is never said. The subsequent statement that this event would take place on that day cannot be heard in the original Arabic version."²³² These are very significant sections of bin Laden's confession, as they indicate his involvement in the attacks.

Furthermore, Professor Bruce Lawrence of Duke University, a noted authority on Osama bin Laden and the author of *Messages to the World: The Statements of Osama bin Laden*, has

²²⁸ See: <http://nuke.crono911.org/Portals/0/Documenti/muckracker.pdf>

²²⁹ Quoted from: Mistranslated Osama bin Laden Video - the German Press Investigates <http://dc.indymedia.org/newswire/display/16801>

²³⁰ Ibid.

²³¹ Ibid.

²³² Ibid.

expressed his own skepticism on the authenticity of the tape.²³³ Gernot Rotter, professor of Islamic and Arabic Studies at the Asia-Africa Institute at the University of Hamburg, summarizes that, “The American translators who listened to the tapes and transcribed them apparently wrote a lot of things in that they wanted to hear but that cannot be heard on the tape no matter how many times you listen to it.”²³⁴ To say that bin Laden is “boasting about what he did” in this video is provably false.

It should also be noted that bin Laden had initially denied that he had anything to do with the attacks.²³⁵ However, there are other videos that undoubtedly show bin Laden confessing to the attacks,²³⁶ so I am inclined to believe that bin Laden likely did play some role in the attacks. But what I also accept is that it is entirely possible for bin Laden to have been involved in the attacks and the WTC to still have been brought down through controlled demolition. In other words, it is entirely possible that the events of September 11th could have been a genuine terrorist attack and some sort of “false-flag” event. As summarized by Nicholas Levis of summeroftruth.org:

Staging 9/11 as an inside job is going to work best (in fact, is likely to work only) if there actually exists an active network of anti-American terrorists who are deeply committed to killing Americans in response to U.S. policy. In other words, those who would blame Qaeda need a (relatively) real Qaeda. A partly-real enemy is much better than an entirely fabricated one. The most robust way for insider masterminds to stage 9/11 and get away with it is to arrange for their agents to infiltrate among “real foreign terrorists.” Let them come up with their own plots (or plant plots among them), choose a plot that will produce the results desired by the masterminds, and see that through to fruition. At some point, the masterminds and their agents will hijack the plot from the would-be hijackers, to make sure it happens. You won’t risk the whole game on the ability of amateurs to get away with it, you will help them along or even replace them (with a remote control hijacking, for example). But it’s best to have “real terrorists” in play. They leave a more solid trail of evidence internationally. Cops and agents and academics of two dozen countries can honestly confirm the existence of an al-Qaeda network. That way there is less need to initiate outside observers into the plot and you don’t have to hope they are all stupid, as they would have to be to fall for a complete fabrication of “Qaeda.” (Qaeda at this point is just a term of convenience for the Islamist extremist networks.) The best result would be for a whole bunch of Islamist extremists running around believing that their crew pulled off 9/11 all by themselves (how inspiring for them!). The patsies should believe they actually did it. This was the case with the [Reichstag Fire](#) and Marinus van der Lubbe: the patsy believed he had done it.²³⁷

There is one point that simply cannot be denied by a single supporter of the official story. The attacks of 9/11 could have truly been carried out by forces within Al-Qaeda. The planes could have actually been under the control of Islamic hijackers. Osama bin Laden could have been the

²³³ See: Duke Professor Skeptical of bin Laden Tape

<http://abclocal.go.com/wtvd/story?section=news/local&id=3828678>

²³⁴ Quoted from: Mistranslated Osama bin Laden Video - the German Press Investigates

²³⁵ See: <http://www.historycommons.org/context.jsp?item=a091201aidedenies>

²³⁶ See: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TCmkoaPIJC0>

²³⁷ Quoted from: <http://www.oilempire.us/lihop-mihop.html#hijackers>

true mastermind behind the plot. And still, *none of that would make the actual collapse of the Towers physically possible*. The question of what really caused the three WTC skyscrapers to collapse should be looked at as a scientific question. The politics of the matter should really be secondary to the issue. And it is this position that AE9/11Truth has always taken. As they state on their site in regards to bin Laden's death:

Reports of bin Laden's death, even if true, explain NONE of the overwhelming evidence for the explosive controlled demolition of the three World Trade Center skyscrapers on 9/11. For several years now we have been citing this evidence in support of a genuine, subpoena-powered, independent investigation. We have been joined in that call by almost 1500 licensed and/or degreed architects and engineers and almost 12,000 others, including chemists, physicists, firefighters, attorneys, and other professionals. When the flag-waving pep rallies have all died down, this evidence will still be here, demanding a serious accounting from our elected officials and the agencies that serve them... one man alone, no matter how large a symbolic figure he may have become, does not in any way relieve us from our government's responsibility and duty to investigate properly the destruction of these three buildings, and our responsibility to ensure that they do so... lest history repeat itself... We at AE911truth will continue that approach with respect to the WTC destruction and we hope that everyone else will follow the same approach with respect to the worst terrorist attack in American history.²³⁸

At 1:04, Mohr notes that “**terrorists attacked the World Trade Center in 1993, and finished the job in 2001.**” Again, even if this were true, it would still not be evidence for “natural collapse” of the WTC. The 1993 bombing of the WTC is, if anything, sufficient reason to have tested for explosives at Ground Zero. According to the NFPA 921 Guide, whenever an act of terrorism is carried out, investigators should consider all possible means of attack the terrorists would use, which “may include fire as but one of a variety of weapons, along with explosives, used in furthering his or her goal.”²³⁹ And as firefightersfor911truth.org appropriately notes in regards to this point:

During an investigation, many things must be considered. Aside from the physical evidence, and witness testimony, suspect criminal history also must be analyzed. The investigation must include past history and the Modus Operandi, “M.O.” for short... It would seem to be a “no-brainer” that a true investigation would test for the possibility that “the terrorist may (have) use(d) explosives along with fire to further their goal.” There is no excuse for refusing to test for explosives.²⁴⁰

Mohr then argues at 1:15 that “**in this era of WikiLeaks and blogs, not one whistleblower has leaked any smoking gun insider information. And the scientific evidence strongly points to the almost universally accepted theory of natural collapse.**” In regards to Mohr's first point, there have in fact been a great number of whistleblowers who have come forward in recent years and

²³⁸ Quoted from: AE911Truth Statement on Alleged Recent Death of Osama bin Laden
<http://www.ae911truth.org/news-section/41-articles/511-bin-laden.html>

²³⁹ Quoted from: <http://firefightersfor911truth.org/?p=859>

²⁴⁰ Ibid.

have exposed a large amount of valuable information.²⁴¹ Of course, the kind of whistleblowers Mohr is apparently referring to are the ones that would have been directly involved in the attacks or were close enough to know about it. However, there are many reasons why these types of whistleblowers have either not come forward or have been largely ignored by the general public. As noted by James Corbett:

What if these whistleblowers come from every level of government and private industry, individuals who have even had their cases vindicated by internal government reports? [T]here are numerous such whistleblowers and each one is a thorn in the side of those who want to pretend that the 9/11 Commission represents the sum total of knowledge on the 9/11 attacks. That is precisely why these whistleblowers are not lauded by legislators or trumpeted by the media, but actively suppressed by government officials and the corporate media alike. These courageous insiders have been sidelined, gagged, hounded from their positions and ignored to the point where their stories are virtually unknown among the general public.²⁴²

One of the whistleblowers Corbett cites is Sibel Edmonds, who was hired as a translator for the FBI in the wake of the attacks. After she had discovered gross negligence and criminal conspiracy in the FBI and State Department, she was given a gag order and was forbidden to disclose a great amount of information she discovered.²⁴³ The fact that whistleblowers like Sibel Edmonds have come forward but are forbidden to reveal crucial information is attested to by 9/11 victims family member Patty Casazza. As noted by georgewashington.blogspot.com:

9/11 family member and “Jersey Girl” Patty Casazza has just revealed that whistleblowers told her that -- before 9/11 -- the government knew the exact day, the type of attack, and the targets... Casazza further stated that these whistleblowers saw how Sibel Edmonds was being harrassed and gagged, and were fearful that the same thing would happen to them. So they approached the Jersey Girls to ask them to demand the 9/11 Commission subpoena the whistleblowers. The Jersey Girls tried to bring the whistleblowers before the 9/11 Commission, and the Commissioners agreed, but then never let the whistleblowers testify, let alone subpoena them.

Why is this important? Because defenders of the official government story have argued that 9/11 couldn't have been an inside job or else whistleblowers would have come forward. Ms. Cassaza confirms what many have said: there are a lot of 9/11 whistleblowers who are afraid to come forward -- especially without a subpoena -- for fear of being attacked and harassed.²⁴⁴

²⁴¹ See: http://www.prisonplanet.com/Pages/230904_whistleblowers.html

²⁴² Quoted from: A Guide to the 9/11 Whistleblowers; Courageous insiders, gagged, hounded and ignored, by James Corbett <http://www.globalresearch.ca/index.php?context=viewArticle&code=COR20100305&articleId=17961>

²⁴³ For more information on Sibel Edmonds, see:

<http://www.historycommons.org/searchResults.jsp?searchtext=sibel+edmonds&events=on&entities=on&articles=on&topics=on&timelines=on&projects=on&titles=on&descriptions=on&dosearch=on&search=Go>

²⁴⁴ Quoted from: 9/11 Family Member Patty Casazza; Government Knew Exact Date and Exact Targets <http://georgewashington.blogspot.com/2007/11/911-family-member-patty-casazza.html> (Patty Casazza's testimony can be seen here: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ruxI_GLc3w)

The fact of the matter is that there are many whistleblowers who have already revealed a large amount of very valuable information in regards to the events of 9/11, and many potential whistleblowers may never be heard unless we have a new and truly independent investigation into the attacks.²⁴⁵ However, even if we did not have a single whistleblower that revealed any type of valuable information, this would in no way refute the idea that the 9/11 attacks could have been some sort of “false flag” event. As noted by gatecreepers.com:

[T]he fact the so many people now believe there was a 9-11 conspiracy is evidence that any cover-up has not been completely successful. To say that the government could not be involved because no whistleblowers have come forward to admit involvement is essentially flawed in two distinct ways. Firstly, it assumes that any guilty parties would incriminate themselves, something that is ludicrous to assume, knowing the penalty for treason... Secondly, a false dichotomy is erected, stating that, without whistleblowers and leaks, the cover-up is ‘too perfect,’ therefore the absence of whistleblowers is the absence of conspiracy, when a logical reason for the absence of whistleblowers has already been provided.²⁴⁶

There have in fact been many “conspiracies” carried out over the years, and several of them, including Operation Gladio²⁴⁷ and the covert war in Indonesia,²⁴⁸ were kept secret for decades without the general public finding out.

Concerning Mohr’s second point regarding the scientific consensus of what happened to the Towers and Building 7, we should once again take note of the fact that science is not done by consensus. Regardless of whether or not the majority of the scientific community agrees with the theory of controlled demolition of the WTC, we still have a responsibility to investigate any issue we feel deserves further research. By simply citing what the majority of scientists think, we are abdicating our own responsibility as researchers and committing the fallacy of appeal to majority. As noted at AE9/11Truth regarding this issue:

Those who raise this point often do so in an attempt to avoid dealing with the scientific evidence brought forth by AE9/11Truth. The real question should be, ‘Is the evidence that they are bringing forth factual and worthy of a real investigation?’ To that question, the answer is yes. It doesn’t matter whether there is one architect and one engineer, or 12, or 100, or 1,600, or 16,000. Those who question the premises offered because the number of adherents to those premises is deemed too small are engaging in a logical fallacy often referred to as an ‘appeal to majority.’... It should also be noted that the failure to condemn the official story by such a ‘majority’ should not be viewed as an endorsement of it. One should not assume that the individuals comprising the majority opinion have all been exposed to all the relevant information on the topic... In addition there is no way to

²⁴⁵ For more on the subject of 9/11 whistleblowers, see: <http://911debunkers.blogspot.com/2009/09/but-if-911-was-conspiracy-people-would.html>

²⁴⁶ Quoted from: Debunking Myths on Conspiracy Theories <http://www.gatecreepers.com/entries/exclusive-debunking-myths-on-conspiracy-theorie/>

²⁴⁷ See: <http://911review.com/precedent/century/gladio.html> and <http://www.truthmove.org/content/operation-gladio/>

²⁴⁸ See: The covert war in Indonesia, by Mark Curtis <http://markcurtis.wordpress.com/2007/02/12/the-covert-war-in-indonesia-1957-59/>

calculate how many A/E's are aware of this evidence, but are unwilling to take a public stance on such a controversial matter.²⁴⁹

The fact of the matter is that the majority within the scientific community may one day agree with the 9/11 Truth Movement. After all, debunkers and other detractors use to argue that the Movement's claims would never be endorsed by even a single architect or engineer. Clearly that claim has been proven wrong. AE9/11Truth has demonstrated that the evidence we currently have does not “strongly point to the almost universally accepted theory of natural collapse.”

For the remainder of Mohr's video, he discusses peoples' belief systems and how we must learn to let go of a belief after it has been proven wrong. He correctly points out that this can be very difficult for many people, but that we must be honest to ourselves. I completely agree with him on this point. However, I believe that the majority of the 9/11 Truth Movement recognizes this fact also. While I obviously cannot speak for the entire Movement, I am confident that most members could be persuaded to change their minds were there to be sufficient evidence. But as we have seen, the evidence presented from the other side simply does not support the idea of “natural collapse.” AE9/11Truth makes this assessment on the basis of science and the scientific method. Unlike religious beliefs, which are essentially a cultural phenomenon and are seen as inherently true, those who believe that the events of 9/11 were some sort of “inside job” could very well be argued out of that belief system, since the vast majority of them (myself included) had to be argued into that belief system in the first place.

The first half of Mohr's video series presents a wide range of impressive arguments that seem to support the idea that the Twin Towers collapsed purely due to the combined effects of the plane impacts and the ensuing fires. But as we have seen, Mohr's arguments fall well short of explaining what happened to those buildings, and fail to “respectfully rebut” the arguments made in Richard Gage's presentation. And as we shall also see, this is especially true in regards to the mysterious collapse of World Trade Center 7.

²⁴⁹ Quoted from: FAQ #9: Why does AE9/11Truth Represent Only a Small Percentage of Architects and Engineers? by John-Michael Talboo <http://www.ae911truth.org/en/news-section/41-articles/586-faq-9.html>

Part 13: Building 7 Introduction

In the second half of Mohr's series, he devotes his videos to the collapse of WTC7 and the numerous theories attempting to explain why it collapsed the way it did. His thirteenth installment is mainly used to explain what NIST's general theory of collapse is, and what other scientists have to say about the building's destruction. However, an examination of all the theories Mohr presents that point to "natural collapse" shows that none of them can possibly account for the way Building 7 collapsed, and that the most likely reason for the building's demise is that it was brought down through controlled demolition.

Beginning at [2:27](#) of Mohr's video, he gives a summary of NIST's theory of what happened to cause WTC7 to collapse. His summary is very good, but instead of quoting him word-for-word, we shall use a summary created by David Ray Griffin that matches Mohr's description fairly well. Griffin's summary, adapted from the summary given in NIST's WTC7 report,²⁵⁰ goes as follows:

1. The fires caused sufficient thermal expansion in steel beams on the east side of WTC 7 to force the steel girder connecting Columns 44 and 79 to lose its connection with the latter, and to damage the floor framing on floors near Column 79.
2. The loss of that girder's connection to Column 79, along with fire-induced damage to the floor systems around Column 79, caused Floor 13 to collapse.
3. The collapse of Floor 13 caused all the floors below it down to the 5th floor to collapse.
4. Column 79, being left with inadequate lateral support, buckled between Floors 5 and 14.
5. This buckling caused the downward movement of Column 79 (which caused the kink in the east penthouse).
6. Columns 80 and 81, having also lost support, buckled, causing all the floors on the east side of WTC 7, which had been weakened by the fire, to collapse.
7. All the other interior columns then failed, leaving the building a hollow shell.
8. After most of the collapse had already occurred in the building's interior, where it could not be seen from outside, the exterior columns failed, completing the total collapse.²⁵¹

There are, of course, many problems with NIST's theory, but Mohr claims that he "[doesn't] want to just parrot the official story of Building 7 as presented by NIST, but to advocate for some kind of natural collapse scenario." However, as we will see, there doesn't appear to be any sort of "natural collapse" scenario that can account for Building 7's destruction.

I should add at this point that I take issue with one of Mohr's slides which claims that Building 7 was "engulfed" by debris from the collapse of WTC1.

²⁵⁰ See: NIST NCSTAR 1A, pg. 21-23 http://www.nist.gov/manuscript-publication-search.cfm?pub_id=861610

²⁵¹ Quoted from: The Mysterious Collapse of World Trade Center 7... by David Ray Griffin, pg. 210-211. A slight correction to David Ray Griffin's description: Point 1 – It was technically the so-called "walk-off" of the girder, not the loss of the connections, that triggered the collapse of floor 13. Point 7 – Only the building's eastern half was a hollow shell at this point (See: NCSTAR 1A, pg. 22).



WTC Tower Debris Engulfing WTC 7
NIST NCSTAR 1-9, page 140

While debris certainly did strike WTC7, and even Mohr acknowledges that the building did not sustain major damage from the collapse of the Tower, it is still somewhat misleading to say that the building was “engulfed” by debris. As noted at wtc7.net, even after the North Tower had collapsed to a significant degree, the debris from the building was “well behind Building 7.”²⁵²

At [5:50](#), Mohr cites the light shining through WTC7’s windows “**as evidence of the complete collapse of the penthouse and the structure.**” It’s important to note, however, that light is seen shining only through the top windows of Building 7, not further down in the building that would indicate massive destruction at the lower floors.



From NIST NCSTAR 1-9, page 326

As noted by mechanical engineer Tony Szamboti:

²⁵² Quoted from: <http://wtc7.net/location.html>

Sunlight only shines in on the windows of the top floor on the northeast side after the collapse of the east penthouse. I think this shows the collapse was local and at the top only, as the building was 144 feet wide and if the entire east side interior had collapsed, as NIST claims, there would have been many more windows in lower stories on the east side exposed to daylight from the inside.²⁵³

At 6:29, Mohr discusses NIST's computer simulation showing what an explosive demolition would have looked like inside WTC7. Mohr notes that, according to their simulation, a demolition "**would have caused many more broken windows, much louder sounds, and a different pattern of destruction.**" Each of these points, however, are extremely problematic, and are essentially straw-man arguments when one examines them closely. In regards to the first point concerning window breakage, NIST does not actually claim that no windows broke at the lower levels at the time of Column 79's collapse. Their report actually states:

[T]he minimum charge... required to fail [Column 79] would have produced a pressure wave that would have broken windows on the north and east faces of the building near Column 79. The visual evidence did not show such a breakage pattern on any floor of WTC 7 as late as about 4:00pm or above the 25th floor at the time of the collapse initiation.²⁵⁴

All NIST is telling us is that they found no evidence of windows breaking *before 4:00pm* and no evidence of windows breaking *above floor 25* at the time of collapse initiation. NIST's point about windows breaking prior to 4:00pm is irrelevant, as the critical explosives would have been set off at the time Building 7 collapsed. Their second point concerning window breakage occurring above the 25th floor at the time of collapse is misleading, as it leaves open the possibility that window breakage did in fact occur *below* the 25th floor at the time of collapse. That area happened to be covered with smoke at 5:20pm. However, NIST's entire argument is bogus, based on the parameters set up in their simulation, which focuses on the idea that explosives were placed only on Column 79. As David Ray Griffin explains:

NIST's assumption that explosives would have been focused especially on Column 79 is based solely on its own argument... that this was the critical column, the failure of which would have caused the entire building to collapse. Prior to NIST's report, the notion that anyone planning to bring down WTC7 would have concentrated the explosive material on this particular column had apparently not occurred to anyone. Accordingly, even if NIST's argument here is correct—that the windows that would have been broken if NIST's scenario had been enacted were *not* broken—it is a circular argument, based solely on NIST's own scenario, not that of people who have claimed that WTC7 was brought down with explosives. It is thereby a straw-man argument, disproving an unlikely hypothesis of its own creation that diverts attention from the more likely hypothesis proffered by critics of the official account.²⁵⁵

²⁵³ Quoted from: Email correspondence with Tony Szamboti.

²⁵⁴ Quoted from: NIST NCSTAR 1-9, pg. 357 http://www.nist.gov/manuscript-publication-search.cfm?pub_id=861611

²⁵⁵ Quoted from: The Mysterious Collapse of World Trade Center 7... by David Ray Griffin, pg. 127

Likewise, we find that window breakage *did* occur at the time the building collapsed. Videos show that at the time the building began to collapse, a vertical row of windows broke and expelled dust and debris.²⁵⁶



Stills from: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BS8vktP0l_Y (minute 48:00)

Furthermore, there are eyewitness testimonies of windows breaking and blowing out when WTC7 collapsed. One of these eyewitnesses is Peter Demarco of the *New York Daily News*, who reported that: “The building’s top row of windows popped out. Then all the windows on the thirty-ninth floor popped out. Then the thirty-eighth floor. Pop! Pop! Pop! was all you heard until the building sunk into a rising cloud of gray.”²⁵⁷ Another eyewitness to windows breaking and blowing out is a New York University medical student who stated that “it looked like there was a shockwave ripping through the building and the windows all busted out.”²⁵⁸ Claims that window breakage did not occur as Building 7 collapsed are clearly groundless.

Concerning Mohr’s second point regarding “much louder sounds,” the NIST WTC7 report notes in regards to this issue that:

The minimum explosive charge... would have resulted in a sound level of 130 to 140 decibels (a sound level consistent with a gunshot blast or a jet plane that is 10 to 20 decibels louder than a rock concert in front of speakers), at a distance of at least half a mile (if unobstructed by surrounding buildings...) There were no witness reports of such a loud noise, nor was such a noise heard on audio tracks of videotapes that recorded the WTC7 collapse.²⁵⁹

Again, much like NIST’s arguments regarding window breakage, which was centered on their own scenario involving explosives placed only on Column 79, this argument revolves around NIST’s created scenario, in which RDX was the primary explosive used. This is yet another straw-man argument fabricated by NIST, as the leading proponents of the demolition theory have seldom posited RDX as the primary explosive used to bring down the Twin Towers and Building 7. Rather, as we have already seen, the main materials believed to have been used are thermate

²⁵⁶ One such video can be seen here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=972ETepp4GI>

²⁵⁷ Quoted from: *At Ground Zero: Young Reporters Who Were There Tell Their Stories*, by Chris Bull and Sam Erman, pg. 97

²⁵⁸ Quoted from: <http://www.ae911truth.net/wtc7/WTC7-eyewitness-2-PFC.wmv>

²⁵⁹ Quoted from: NCSTAR 1-9, pg. 614

and nanothermite. And, as we have also seen, both of these materials can be formulated to react without producing loud explosive sounds. Even Mohr himself acknowledges that NIST's did not simulate "a thermate burning of the columns."

Another problem with NIST's argument is that, by claiming that explosive sounds of "130 to 140 decibels" were not heard or recorded, it implies that no explosive sounds at all were heard from Building 7. However, this suggestion is demonstrably false. Like the issue of window breakage, there were several eyewitnesses who reported hearing explosions from Building 7 as it collapsed. One of these individuals was first responder Craig Bartmer, who has testified that:

I was real close to Building 7 when it fell down... That didn't sound like just a building falling down to me... There's a lot of eyewitness testimony down there of hearing explosions... I think I know an explosion when I hear it.²⁶⁰

The New York University medical student previously cited also claimed that he and others "heard this sound that sounded like a clap of thunder" right before the building collapsed. Furthermore, there are recordings from 9/11 in which loud explosions can be heard (which were recorded after the Towers collapsed, but before Building 7 collapsed).²⁶¹ There is at least one video of Building 7's collapse in which a sharp explosive noise can be heard as it collapses.²⁶² And physicist David Chandler has analyzed one video of Building 7's collapse and has found sound evidence for explosions in the building.²⁶³ Though the sound levels of these explosions may not have been the "130 to 140 decibels" claimed by NIST, both of NIST's assertions, that explosive sounds were not heard or recorded, are clearly unjustifiable.

From 6:48 onward, Mohr discusses how several scientists have proposed variations on NIST's findings, but still agree with NIST's overall premise that thermal expansion was the primary cause of collapse. Mohr criticizes Richard Gage for claiming that NIST fabricated the new phenomenon of thermal expansion, and notes that thermal expansion is a very real process that does occur all the time. While thermal expansion is certainly a real process, what most people in the 9/11 Truth Movement have argued is that NIST's assertion that thermal expansion caused the collapse is very unlikely simply because it has never caused a steel-framed skyscraper to collapse before. In essence, members of the Movement claim thermal expansion couldn't have caused the collapse because it has happened so much and has never produced a total collapse. As physicist John Wyndham wrote in a letter to NIST:

[Your theory] runs contrary to 100 years of experience with the behavior of steel-framed buildings that have caught on fire. Every one of them was subjected to thermal expansion, but never before has there been such a collapse.²⁶⁴

²⁶⁰ Quoted from: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-IfgYhjQ9fE>

²⁶¹ See: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_A9X_8fIGeM

²⁶² See: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SIbqaybkbWI>

²⁶³ See: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ERhoNYj9_fg

²⁶⁴ Quoted from: Public Comments Received by NIST on DRAFT Reports, pg. 358
<http://www.nist.gov/el/disasterstudies/wtc/upload/combined2008publicComments-2.pdf>

Though Mohr argues that the variations that have been suggested by other scientists are consistent with NIST's overall findings, the evidence suggests that there is no "natural collapse" scenario that can account for not only the building's collapse, but the characteristics of the collapse as well. However, controlled demolition explains the characteristics of Building 7's collapse very well, and the evidence strongly suggests that this was in fact the cause of collapse. Of course, we must further examine just how plausible the overall idea of fire causing the collapse really is.

Part 14: Size of Building 7 Fires

In part 14 of Mohr's rebuttal to Richard Gage, he discusses the severity and duration of the fires that existed in WTC7. Mohr agrees with NIST's assessment that the fires in WTC7 were severe enough to cause collapse, and that members of the Movement have often minimized the fires' severity. As we shall see, it is defenders of the official story that have misrepresented the severity of the fires, and the evidence we have strongly indicates that the fires could never have caused the building to collapse the way it did.

At [0:44](#) of Mohr's video, he claims that advocates of the controlled demolition theory “**tend to minimize the fire damage by quoting the NIST report itself, which reports fires they can actually observe as open flames in photos and videos, even though the fires inside the structure may not have been visible.**” Mohr also asserts that members of the Movement “**often quote NIST's draft report of the fires, even though the final report shows pictures of more fires on more than ten floors, like they had in the draft report.**” So for the sake of clarity, let's look at NIST's final report and see what they have to say about the fires in WTC7.

Though NIST accepts that fires likely existed on more than ten floors, we find that in their final report that they repeatedly state the number of critical fire floors was six.²⁶⁵ In regards to the duration of the fires that caused the collapse, NIST writes:

[I]t appeared likely the critical damage state occurred between 3.5 h[ours] and 4 h[ours].²⁶⁶

The global analysis with fire-induced damage at 4.0 h[ours] most closely matched the observed collapse events.²⁶⁷

So, from this information we can conclude that NIST ultimately believes that the number of major fire floors was six, and that the duration of these fires was somewhere between 3.5 to 4 hours. We can also conclude that members of the Movement have not misread the NIST report quite as much as Mohr would like us to believe.

At [2:12](#), Mohr discusses the photographic evidence for fires in Building 7, and while noting that NIST showed all four faces of WTC7 in their report, he also claims that “**9/11 truth videos tend to show just the north face.**” He then shows a photograph of Building 7 that shows a large amount of smoke on the building's south face.

²⁶⁵ “The fires were ignited on at least ten floors; however, only the fires on Floors 7 through 9 and 11 through 13 grew and lasted until the time of the building collapse.” Quoted from: NCSTAR 1A, pg. xxxvi. NIST also lists the number of fire floors in WTC7 as six in Table 8-1 of NCSTAR 1-9, pg. 340

²⁶⁶ Quoted from: NCSTAR 1A, pg. 36

²⁶⁷ Ibid. pg. 39



Though Mohr acknowledges that much of this smoke did not come from WTC7, he still argues that “**these videos do show smoke actively pouring out of the building, not just hanging around the outside.**” However, the photographic evidence actually indicates that the vast majority of the smoke was not coming from WTC7. Several members of the Movement have cited negative air pressure, which drew the smoke from the still burning WTC complex, as the cause of the large amount of smoke on Building 7’s south face. There is strong evidence to support this assertion, as photos show that the exact same thing happened to WTC1 after WTC2 collapsed.



Images from: <http://www.amanzafar.com/WTC/>



The smoke that clung to WTC7's south face likely came from either WTC5 or WTC6, which were both burning severely before WTC7 collapsed.



Image from: <http://911blogger.com/node/7026> (See also: <http://www.infowars.net/articles/march2007/200307building7.htm>)

Even NIST acknowledged in their report that this phenomenon occurred at Building 7. They write:

Due to the wind direction, it was common for smoke to “bank up” against the south face [of WTC7]. For this reason, it was usually not possible to differentiate different types of smoke or to identify smoke source locations on the south face.²⁶⁸

While the smoke on WTC7’s south face may give the impression of large fires in the building, we generally do see fire *and* smoke if the fires are particularly severe. Take, for example this building, which had fires on virtually every floor.



Image from: http://thermalimages.nfshost.com/index.php/Building_Fires

As we can see, there is smoke actively pouring out of every floor of the building, and it is quite obvious that fires are the sole cause of the smoke. Compare this to the smoke clinging to WTC7, where essentially no fires are visible.



²⁶⁸ Quoted from: NCSTAR 1-9, pg. 196

Mohr then discusses at [3:01](#) the amount of damage Building 7 sustained from the debris from the collapse of WTC1. While the debris undoubtedly did cause a fair amount of damage to Building 7, NIST acknowledges that the structural damage played no significant role in causing the building to collapse, writing that:

Even without the initial structural damage caused by debris impact from the collapse of WTC 1, WTC 7 would have collapsed from fires having the same characteristics as those experienced on September 11, 2001.²⁶⁹

At [4:33](#), Mohr claims that “**Richard Gage tries to minimize the size of the fires, then he tries to maximize any evidence he can find of extreme heat in the debris pile.**” In regards to his first assertion, Richard Gage does NOT minimize the size of the fires. Rather, as we previously established, he describes the fires very accurately based on the NIST report. If anything, NIST itself minimizes the severity of the fires in Building 7 when comparing the building to other steel structures involved in fire that *didn't* collapse. For example, NIST writes on their FAQ page that:

There are more similarities than differences between the uncontrolled fires that burned in WTC 7 and those that occurred in the following buildings: First Interstate Bank Building (1988), One Meridian Plaza Building (1991), One New York Plaza (1970), and WTC 5 (2001).²⁷⁰

Likewise, in the final report they write:

NIST therefore concluded that the fires in First Interstate Bank and One Meridian Plaza were at least as severe, **and probably more severe**, than the fires in WTC 7.²⁷¹

Mohr shows a photograph of one of the “meteorites” from Ground Zero in discussing his second assertion.



²⁶⁹ Ibid. pg. 48

²⁷⁰ Quoted from: Questions and Answers about the NIST WTC 7 Investigation, question 9 http://www.nist.gov/el/disasterstudies/wtc/faqs_wtc7.cfm

²⁷¹ Quoted from: NCSTAR 1-9, pg. 341 (Emphasis added)

In his presentation, Richard Gage shows this object as support for molten iron at Ground Zero. However, Mohr points to the unburned paper seen embedded in the meteorite as evidence that this object was not formed through extreme heat, noting that the paper was not totally burned. While it may seem strange that paper with legible text would have survived extreme heat, we must keep in mind that the existence of burnt or partially burnt paper does not mean that this is all the paper that survived. Paper existed everywhere at Ground Zero in all types of conditions, so it is not particularly surprising that some fragments of paper may have occasionally survived in the rubble. As Dr. Steven Jones notes, “One might expect burned papers associated with the hot slag... but we cannot say for certain the origin of the slag until we perform XEDS/elemental analyses.”²⁷² Furthermore, the paper may in fact be carbonized, not simply burnt. In short, we may not be sure if the material is made up of molten iron, but the presence of paper embedded in the material certainly does not refute this overall premise.

Furthermore, there are other “meteorites” from Ground Zero that are certainly indicative of extremely high temperatures in the debris, such as these ones of previously molten concrete fused with firearms.



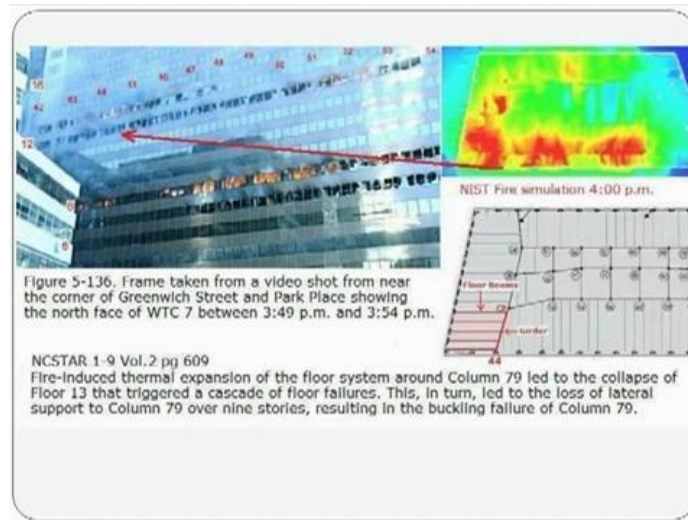
Image from: <http://911debunkers.blogspot.com/2009/05/5-photos-911-thermite-deniers-hate.html> The label in the background reads as follows: “*Gun Encased in Concrete and Gun-Casing Remains: The U.S. Customs House stored a large arsenal of firearms at its Six World Trade Center office. During recovery efforts, several handguns were found at Ground Zero, including these two cylindrical gun-casing remains and a revolver embedded in concrete. Fire temperatures were so intense that concrete melted like lava around anything in its path.*” (Emphasis added)

Mohr then discusses at 5:13 the issue of the firefighters’ capabilities of fighting the fires in WTC7. Though Mohr does demonstrate that “**the firefighters were unable to effectively douse the flames of this 47-story building,**” this evidently was not a major factor in assessing the severity of the fires. As NIST writes concerning Building 7 and other fire-engulfed buildings that didn’t collapse:

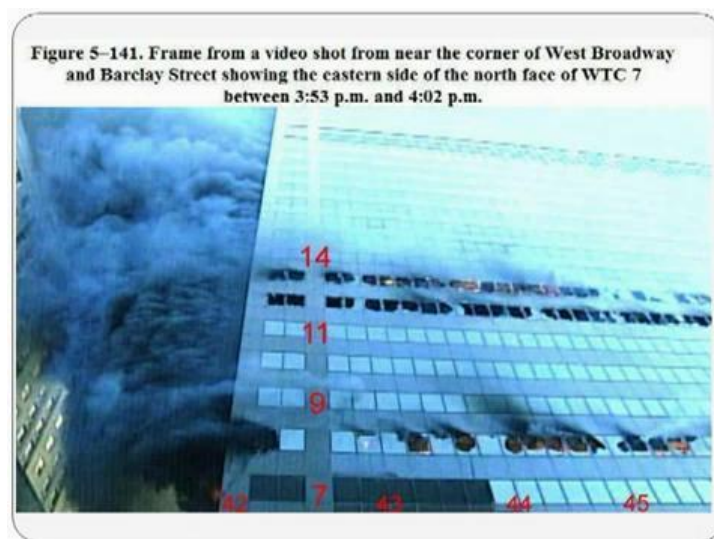
²⁷² Quoted from: An Open Letter to Dr. Steven Jones by James Bennett, with replies by Steven Jones, pg. 5 <http://www.journalof911studies.com/letters/JBennettOpenLettertoDrJones.pdf>

[I]n each of the other referenced buildings, the fires burned out several floors, even with available water and fire fighting activities (except for WTC 5). **Thus, whether the fire fighters fought the WTC 7 fires or not is not a meaningful point of dissimilarity from the other cited fires.**²⁷³

At 6:44, Mohr talks about some of the discrepancies members of the Movement have found in the NIST report. One of the discrepancies he discusses is one discovered by researcher Chris Sarns, in which NIST's assertions of raging fires on Floor 12 at around 4:00pm don't match with available photographs of Building 7 taken around 4:00pm.



Mohr counters this assertion by insisting that the fires on Floor 12 “were inside the north wall at the time, but no longer at the edge, and in general agreement this is like the NIST simulation.” He also shows a photograph of WTC7 in which smoke is apparently coming out of Floor 12, in order to back up this assertion.



²⁷³ Quoted from: Questions and Answers about the NIST WTC 7 Investigation, question 9 (Emphasis added)

However, smoke coming from the 12th floor is not proof in and of itself that there were fires actively burning on this floor. Dark smoke is also an indication of soot, which would be consistent with the idea that the fires on this floor were burned out. Also, the smoke seen may not be coming from Floor 12, but merely from other floors below. After all, the tenth floor appears to be producing smoke as well, even though NIST reported no fires on this floor.²⁷⁴

As the NIST report itself shows, the fire in NIST's animation inexplicably burns around the offices to the south and west of column 79 between 2:30 and 4pm. It then has them burning at 5pm. NIST did not know the fuel load in each office so they had to use the same fuel load in all the offices.²⁷⁵ The fire would have spread in all directions at about the same rate, engulfing all the offices around column 79 on its way to the north face.

We note here that Mohr has omitted a key point in this discrepancy discovered by Chris Sarns that essentially does provide strong evidence that NIST has falsified their data. For it is not merely the appearance of Floor 12 that indicates the fires were no longer burning, but also that *NIST itself claimed that the fires were burned out at this time*. As we read in NIST's 2004 Interim report:

Around 4:45 p.m., a photograph showed fires Floors 7, 8, 9, and 11 near the middle of the north face; Floor 12 was burned out by this time.²⁷⁶

So, while NIST's study in 2004 showed that the fires were burned out on Floor 12 by around 4:45pm, NIST now wants us to believe that the fires were still burning by about 5:00pm and were severe enough to cause the building to collapse. But NIST's own analysis and photographic record contradict this new assertion and confirms their previous 2004 assertion. NIST itself points out that the fires "persisted in any given location for approximately 20 min to 30 min."²⁷⁷ The northeast corner office on Floor 12 was fully involved at 3:10pm \pm 5 minutes. The corner office had burned out by 3:53pm.



Figure 5-123. Enlarged section of a long distance aerial shot of the north face of WTC 7 taken around 3:10 p.m. \pm 5 min.
The contrast has been enhanced and the intensity levels adjusted. Floor numbers have been added.

²⁷⁴ See: NCSTAR 1A, pg. 19

²⁷⁵ See: NCSTAR 1-9, pg. 60

²⁷⁶ Quoted from: Progress Report on the Federal Building and Fire Safety Investigation of the World Trade Center Disaster, pg. L-26 http://www.nist.gov/manuscript-publication-search.cfm?pub_id=860567

²⁷⁷ Quoted from: NCSTAR 1A, pg. 47



Figure 5-141. Frame from a video shot from near the corner of West Broadway and Barclay Street showing the eastern side of the north face of WTC 7 between 3:53 p.m. and 4:02 p.m.

The intensities have been adjusted, and column and floor numbers have been added.
Images from: NCSTAR 1-9, pg. 209 (top) and pg. 227 (bottom)

Even though these kinds of discrepancies are obviously important in assessing how severe the fires were, Mohr evidently feels differently, saying that “the most important question is ‘was it controlled demolition or not?’” and that issues like the accuracy of NIST’s study “are much less important to me.” However, these issues are extremely important, as they demonstrate the reliability of the explanations given to us by the people whose job it is to give us the best explanation possible for what happened to the building. NIST’s study of the fires in WTC7 appears to be flawed, as are their assertions for how hot the fires could have gotten in the building as well. Scientists on both sides of the argument have noted that NIST evidently exaggerated the temperatures of the fires which initiated the collapse. Kevin Ryan, in response to NIST’s assertion of fires in the 600 °C range, wrote:

[R]aising those five floor beams to a temperature of 600 °C would require an enormous amount of energy, far more than was available from the burning of the office furnishings underneath the floor beams.²⁷⁸

Likewise, Dr. Frank Greening, a physical chemist who does not believe WTC7 was demolished, wrote in his letter to NIST:

NIST’s collapse initiation hypothesis requires that structural steel temperatures on floors 12/13 significantly exceeded 300 °C - a condition that could never have been realized with NIST’s postulated 32 kg/m² fuel loading.²⁷⁹

²⁷⁸ Quoted from: The NIST WTC 7 Report: Bush Science reaches its peak, by Kevin Ryan
http://911review.com/articles/ryan/NIST_WTC7.html

²⁷⁹ Quoted from: Comments on the Draft Report NIST NCSTAR 1-9: “Structural Fire Response and Probable Collapse Sequence of World Trade Center Building 7”, issued by NIST August 21st, 2008, by F. R. Greening, pg. 5
<http://www.cool-places.0catch.com/911/GreeningCommentsNCSTAR1-9.pdf>

So, while Kevin Ryan has asserted that the fires in WTC7 could not have reached 600 °C, Dr. Greening rejects the idea the fires could have reached even 300 °C.

It should be noted here that Mohr fails to mention another key discrepancy in the NIST report also discovered by Chris Sarns. This discrepancy deals with the construction of WTC7, and is in fact a major factor in NIST's conclusions on why WTC7 collapsed. As Sarns explains:

In their June 2004 report (and in the actual shop drawings), NIST referred to the use of shear studs in World Trade Center 7. Shear studs are used to keep steel floor beams and girders in place; they impart stability and strength to buildings. But in their August 2008 final report, NIST re-worded their comments on shear studs to make it appear that none were used on the floor girders.²⁸⁰

Indeed, when one reads the 2004 Interim report, we find that NIST states:

Most of the beams and girders were made composite with the slabs through the use of shear studs. Typically, the shear studs were 0.75 in. in diameter by 5 in. long, spaced 1 ft to 2 ft on center. Studs were not indicated on the design drawings for many of the core girders.²⁸¹

However, in NIST's 2008 final report, they write:

Most of the beams acted compositely with the slabs through the use of shear studs. Typically, the shear studs were 0.75 in. in diameter by 5 in. long, spaced roughly 1 ft to 2 ft on center... Studs were not indicated on the design drawings for the girders, i.e., composite action did not develop between the girders and the slab.²⁸²

Note that in the 2008 version of this passage, NIST omitted "girders" from the description of the components made composite with the slabs through the use of shear studs. And most importantly, NIST changed its 2004 passage from "Studs were not indicated on the design drawings for many of the core girders" to "Studs were not indicated on the design drawings for the girders," omitting "core" girders in the 2008 report. This is significant because if it truly was only the core girders that lacked shear studs, then this raises a major problem for NIST's conclusions on why WTC7 collapsed. It is the absence of shear studs that NIST cited as one of the key reasons the thermal expansion caused WTC7 to collapse. As we read in the report:

At Column 79, heating and expansion of the floor beams in the northeast corner caused the loss of connection between the column and the key girder. Additional factors that contributed to the failure of the critical north-south girder were (1) the absence of shear studs that would have provided lateral restraint and (2) the one-sided framing of the east

²⁸⁰ Quoted from: NIST fraud - WTC 7 Shear Studs, by Chris Sarns <http://www.opednews.com/Diary/NIST-fraud--WTC-7-Shear-S-by-Chris-Sarns-081109-134.html> (See also: <http://911blogger.com/news/2012-02-04/wtc7-and-nist-shear-ignorance>)

²⁸¹ Quoted from: Progress Report on the Federal Building and Fire Safety Investigation of the World Trade Center Disaster, pg. L-6

²⁸² Quoted from: NCSTAR 1-9, pg. 15

floor beams that allowed the beams to push laterally on the girders, due to thermal expansion of the beams.²⁸³

However, the girder NIST claims failed (the girder connecting Column 79 to Column 44) that caused the global collapse was NOT a “core girder.” Rather, the girder was located in the building’s eastern region. Therefore, by NIST’s own apparent admission, this girder should in fact have had shear studs installed on it. Likewise, the original WTC7 construction documents show that this critical girder was installed with 30 shear studs.²⁸⁴ Based on NIST’s own contradictory statements, and the original documents pertaining to WTC7’s construction, it’s clear that the girder connecting column 44 to column 79 should not have failed from thermal expansion. And likewise, the building ultimately should not have collapsed.²⁸⁵

These two discrepancies are extremely important to NIST’s theory of collapse, and certainly seem to indicate falsification of data on NIST’s part. It must be kept in mind that both of these issues—the 12th floor fire being burned out and the presence of shear studs on the girders—were acknowledged as true by NIST at a time when their theories of collapse did not revolve around girder failure. It was only after they had developed a theory centered around girder failure did they change their findings. These are serious problems for NIST, and cast great doubt on the validity of their work.

In the last part of Mohr’s video, he discusses at [9:10](#) the position of David Scott, the director of the Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat, regarding the NIST report on WTC7. Mohr quotes David Scott extensively as saying that the council, having looked into the claims of the 9/11 Truth Movement, sees no credibility in the claims made by the Movement, and that it is a distraction from more important issues.

²⁸³ Quoted from: NCSTAR 1A, pg. 53-54

²⁸⁴ See: Seven World Trade Center, New York, Fabrication and Construction Aspects, by John J. Salvarinas, pg. 18 <http://sites.google.com/site/wtc7lies/Salvarinas-1986.pdf> See also: <http://www.ae911truth.org/news-section/41-articles/786-nists-claim-in-its-final-report-about-the-lack-of-shear-studson-the-floor-support-girder-between-columns-44-and-79-is-exposed.html>

²⁸⁵ We should also keep in mind that even if Building 7 actually did lack shear studs on its girders, this does not mean the building was in fact doomed to collapse. In discussing the differences between Building 7 and three other fire-involved buildings—the First Interstate Bank, One Meridian Plaza, and the Cardington Test Building—NIST stated in their August 2008 draft report that: “Non-composite girders in WTC 7 rather than composite girders (presence or absence of shear studs) in the other three buildings.” (NCSTAR 1-9, Draft for Public Comments, pg. 341 http://www.nist.gov/manuscript-publication-search.cfm?pub_id=909256) At first, this argument seems justifiable. The three buildings listed by NIST all had shear studs and none of them collapsed. Building 7 had no shear studs and it did collapse. It sounds like a good correlation. However, in NIST’s final report released in November of 2008, this passage was altered. It now states: “Non-composite girders in WTC 7 rather than composite girders (presence or absence of shear studs) in two of the other three buildings.” (NCSTAR 1-9 final report, pg. 341) So, NIST now admits that one of the three listed buildings also did not have shear studs, but it did not collapse. This greatly decreases the credibility of NIST’s arguments.

Reason #179.) The Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat Director David Scott: "The Council... sees no credibility whatsoever in the 9/11 'truth movement' and we believe, with the vast majority of tall building professionals, that all the failures were a direct or indirect result of the planes... flown into the two towers. We cannot see any credible scientific evidence of a controlled demolition on WTC 7 or any of the other WTC buildings. The Council considers that the 'truth movement' is a distraction..."

#180.) Buildings collapse hours after fires go out.

Mohr also quotes David Scott as saying that the issues regarding the collapse of the three WTC buildings should be discussed on a technical level, but that the videos on the 9/11 Truth sites are not technical. This assertion raises the question of how carefully David Scott and the Council examined the evidence provided by the Movement. Members of the Movement do not just have videos supporting the idea that the Towers and Building 7 were destroyed through controlled demolition, but also numerous technical articles that back up that idea as well. For example, AE9/11Truth provides several technical articles and essays on the collapse of the buildings written by engineers and scientists.²⁸⁶ And as we have already seen, several of these articles have been published in peer-reviewed journals.

David Scott is also quoted as saying that there are thousands of engineers from other organizations who do not believe the WTC buildings were destroyed with demolition, and that the Truth Movement only has around 80 licensed structural and civil engineers who support this theory, and that the reason such a small amount of engineers believe in demolition is likely because "the one-side videos of the 9/11 Truth Movement that they show are very compelling if you do not review them critically." This assertion is both extremely insulting and very misleading. First, this assertion implies that the engineers who have joined the Truth Movement have not carefully studied the evidence on both sides of the argument, a claim that is groundless. The engineers who believe the Towers and Building 7 were demolished came to that conclusion based on scientific research and critically examining all of the available evidence. For example, Ron Brookman, a structural engineer with over 23 years experience and a member of AE9/11Truth, has written a comprehensive critique of NIST's report on WTC7.²⁸⁷ Jonathan Cole, a civil engineer with over 28 years experience and also an AE9/11Truth member has also critiqued NIST's finding extensively.²⁸⁸ Moreover, a critical review of NIST's WTC7 report was submitted by attorney and chemical engineer James Gourley to NIST, which represented the views of several scientists and engineers, including a mechanical engineer, two structural engineers, and a civil/fire protection engineer.²⁸⁹

²⁸⁶ See: http://www.ae911truth.org/en/evidence.html#Technical_Articles

²⁸⁷ See: The NIST Analyses: A Close Look at WTC 7, by Ronald H. Brookman
http://www2.ae911truth.org/downloads/NIST_Analyses_Brookman.pdf

²⁸⁸ See: http://911research.wtc7.net/letters/nist/WTC7Comments_JCole.html

²⁸⁹ See: <http://911blogger.com/node/17794>

Second, David Scott completely misrepresents the amount of support the demolition theory has from credentialed experts. While AE9/11Truth may only have about 80 licensed structural/civil engineers, there are a wide variety of experts in the fields of science and engineering who have called for a new investigation into the attacks, including over 60 aerospace and mechanical engineers.²⁹⁰ Currently, AE9/11Truth has over 2000 architects and engineers who believe the Towers' collapses should be reinvestigated, and they all have relevant expertise in studying the collapses. In regards to the question of how much support the Truth Movement has, AE9/11Truth notes:

Other ignored variables include the fact that there are more than [13,000 additional signatories](#) at AE9/11Truth, which include many highly credentialed people in other fields equally as relevant to the issue. These 'other' petition signers include metallurgists, physicists, explosives experts and demolition contractors. Furthermore, there are other 9/11 truth groups which should also be taken into account that represent hundreds of people credentialed outside the fields of architecture and engineering, such as [Scholars for 9/11 Truth and Justice](#), [Firefighters for 9/11 Truth](#), and [Pilots for 9/11 Truth](#).²⁹¹

Mohr finishes up his video at [11:37](#) by citing an incident where a barn that caught on fire collapsed completely hours after the fires were put out as evidence that “**thermally expanded beams do not have to collapse within the process of expansion. They can occur sometime afterward.**” Here Mohr is clearly comparing apples to oranges. A barn is obviously not a reasonable comparison to a 47-story steel-framed skyscraper. Again, there have been several steel-framed high-rises that have caught on fire, and yet none of them have ever collapsed, whether during the fire or after the fires were put out.²⁹² Furthermore, experiments that have been carried out strongly indicate that thermal expansion would not cause the beams in Building 7 to collapse. David Proe and Ian Thomas of the Centre for Environmental Safety & and Risk Eng (CESARE), in their letter to NIST, pointed out that they had “conducted a series of 21 standard fire tests on simply-supported composite beams,” and that “there was no indication that shear stud failure could cause premature failure.”²⁹³

Though Mohr concludes that “**the evidence is strong that the un-fought fires in Building 7 over seven hours were very large and that the fire collapses can happen, even after fires have left a specific area,**” the evidence actually supports the opposite. As we have seen, the fires in Building 7 were not severe in comparison to other skyscrapers that have truly been engulfed in fire, and they were neither as long-lasting nor as large as Mohr apparently believes. We have seen strong evidence that NIST falsified their data and misrepresented the construction of Building 7, and that actual experiments that have been carried out strongly contradict NIST's findings and the conclusions of other scientists who have argued for “natural collapse.” Although I don't deny there were fires, I have yet to see the evidence that would indicate that they were severe enough to cause the building to collapse.

²⁹⁰ See: <http://www.ae911truth.org/en/news-section/41-articles/127-60-aerospace-engineers-call-for-new-911-investigation.html>

²⁹¹ Quoted from: FAQ #9: Why does AE9/11Truth Represent Only a Small Percentage of Architects and Engineers? by John-Michael Talboo

²⁹² See: <http://911research.wtc7.net/wtc/analysis/compare/fires.html>

²⁹³ Quoted from: Public Comments Received by NIST on DRAFT Reports, pg. 287

Part 15: Symmetrical Collapse?

In Mohr's fifteenth installment, he discusses the issue of Building 7's symmetrical collapse through the path of greatest resistance. While this aspect of the building's destruction has been cited as particularly strong evidence for controlled demolition, Mohr disagrees, arguing that the collapse was in fact not that symmetrical and the direction of its fall was nothing unusual. However, both of these assertions are shown to be false and the symmetry of the collapse still lends strong credibility to the idea that Building 7 was brought down through demolition.

At 0:25 of Mohr's video, he lists three points which he asserts are evidence that the building's collapse was not symmetrical. Those points are:

- “[The north] face twisted towards the end”
- “Rotated southwards”
- “And the north face developed a visible kink off center as the column failures progressed outwards from the initial point of failure.”

From this, Mohr concludes that “there's no symmetry in any horizontal direction.” In regards to Mohr's first and second points, while Building 7 may have twisted and rotated as it fell, this does not mean the collapse was not “symmetrical.” The collapse of Building 7 has generally been characterized as “near-symmetrical” by advocates of the demolition theory. Dr. Steven Jones, for example, writes:

A near-symmetrical collapse, as observed, evidently requires the simultaneous “pulling” of many of the support columns... The likelihood of complete and nearly-symmetrical collapse due to random fires as in the “official” theory is small, since non-symmetrical failure is so much more likely. If one or a few columns had failed, one might expect a portion of the building to crumble while leaving much of the building standing. For example, major portions of WTC 5 remained standing on 9/11 despite very significant impact damage and severe fires.²⁹⁴

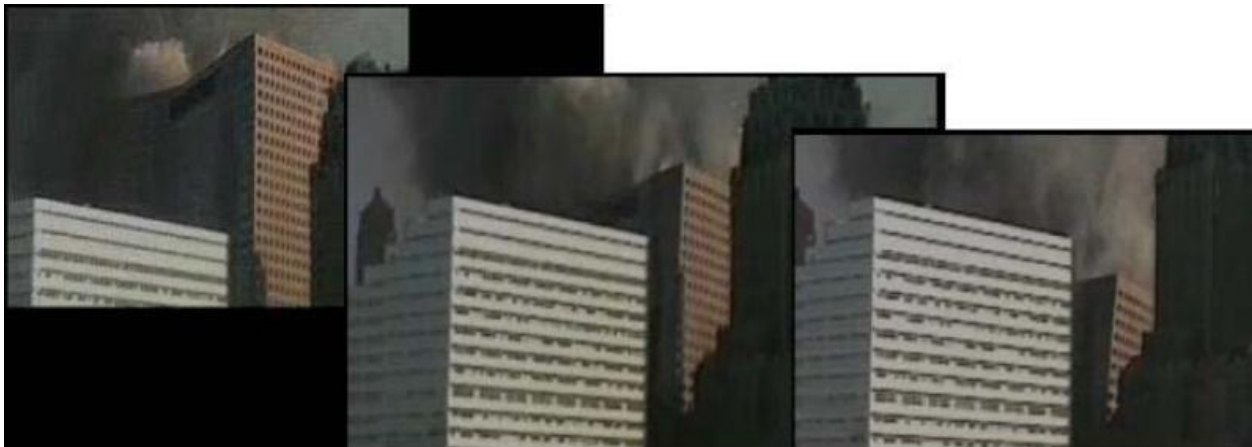
Although Building 7 exhibited a southward slump as it fell, this does not refute the notion that the building was demolished, as Mohr himself admits that “controlled demolitions don't always produce symmetrical collapses.” Indeed, as an example, the Landmark Tower demolition proves this point.

²⁹⁴ Quoted from: Why Indeed did the WTC Buildings Completely Collapse? by Dr. Steven Jones, pg. 20-21



Stills from: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cqoqISrfR1E>

The tilt the Landmark Tower exhibited is comparable to the southward tilt exhibited by Building 7.



Stills from: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AsJOKpnkZ10>

Building 7 only began to significantly tilt after having already fallen in a near-symmetrical fashion through several stories, which is consistent with a building demolition.

In regards to Mohr's third point concerning Building 7's off-centered kink, much like the issue of the building's tilt, the kink produced in a controlled demolition does not have to be centered, as demonstrated below.



Stills from: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sK50So-yYRU&t=1m13s>



Images from: <http://911research.wtc7.net/wtc/evidence/photos/wtc7exp2.html>

At [0:49](#) of his video, Mohr once again references the partial collapse of the Delft University building as evidence that fire-induced collapses can be symmetrical due to gravity. As we previously established, the partial collapse of this structure is a very poor comparison to Building 7 and the Towers. While the Delft building demonstrates that progressive collapse is possible, there are more differences than similarities in case of the building and the WTC buildings. The building's collapse was partial, uneven, and was nowhere near the rate of free fall. Furthermore, the upper part of the Delft building clearly did not accelerate through the lower part as the Towers and Building 7 did. Its supports were not removed simultaneously, and it was still partially supported as it began to collapse.



Stills from: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RveHSPbtTmY>

It's also important to note that the geometry of the building may have contributed to how it collapsed. Unlike the Towers and Building 7, the rotation of the upper section of the delft building was limited, given that it could not fall towards the south or to the west due to its design. Photos of the building after the collapse show sections of the interior clinging to the interior wall. This shows that part of the collapsing section was still attached to the main structure as it collapsed, thereby severely restricting its lateral motion.



Image (left) from: <http://www.archdaily.com/19431/tu-delft-competition-all-entries-exhibition/>



The design of the Towers and Building 7, however, allowed them to rotate much more freely and allowed for lateral forces to act on them easier.

Mohr then mentions at [1:31](#) a type of demolition done in France known as the Verinage technique, in which a few floors are removed externally from a building using hydraulics or cables in order to cause the upper part of the structure to fall onto and crush the lower structure. He shows a video of one of these demolitions that uses the top three floors of a building to crush the lower nine floors.²⁹⁵ There are several things to note about this demolition technique:

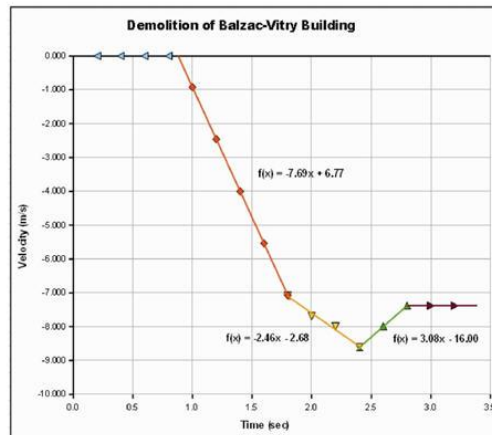
1. The Verinage technique is only used on concrete/masonry structures. It is not used on steel-framed buildings, which can provide greater elastic resistance than concrete buildings.
2. Mohr's video does not show the remains of the structure after the demolition, as it is blocked by dust and the video ends before the dust clears away. Therefore, we cannot see how thoroughly the building was pulverized and cannot fully compare it to the Towers and Buildings 7.
3. The upper section of the building in Mohr's video fell freely through an open space of two stories before impacting the lower section. The dynamic load of the upper section would have been far greater than that of the Towers or Building 7, as steel columns do not lose enough strength to allow for free-fall even if they are buckled.
4. As in the case of all Verinage demolitions, when the upper section of the building impacts the lower section, the upper section no longer accelerates and slows down as it loses energy. David Chandler has demonstrated this fact using another Verinage

²⁹⁵ The video of this demolition can be seen here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=prwvj-npt5s>

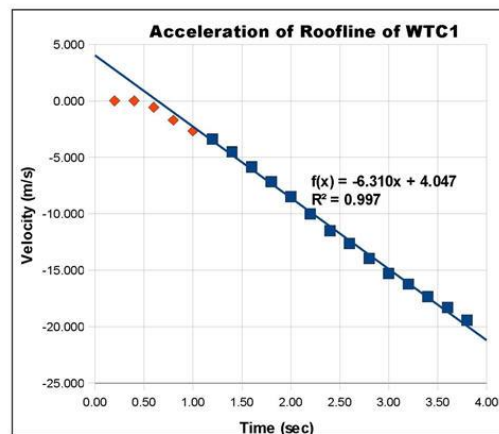
demolition, and shows that the deceleration that occurs in Verinage demolitions did not occur for the Towers or Building 7.²⁹⁶

Point 4 alone is enough reason to believe that Verinage demolitions are not valid comparisons to the WTC. As Tony Szamboti notes:

In recent years demolition engineers [in France] have devised a system known as the Verinage technique, where they demolish buildings without the use of explosives. This technique uses hydraulic rams to break all of the columns in a couple of stories near the center of the building. The loss of vertical support in these stories then causes the upper section to fall unimpeded through a pre-determined distance before impacting the intact lower structure. Watch this video of one of these demolitions – of the [Balzac-Vitry building](#). In all known measurements of these “Verinage” demolitions, the descent of the roofline shows definitive proof of deceleration of the upper building sections as they impact the lower structure, as seen in the velocity graph of the Balzac-Vitry building demolition below.



Now compare the above velocity graph of the Balzac-Vitry demolition to the velocity graph of the WTC 1 “collapse.”



²⁹⁶ See: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NiHeCjZlkr8> (See also: <http://911debunkers.blogspot.com/2010/02/debunker-verinage-fantasies-are-bunk.html>)

There is obviously no deceleration in the fall of the upper section of WTC 1. A “natural” collapse (without the use of explosives) could not have occurred without it. Therefore, this verified scientific data proves that explosives must have been employed to remove the structural columns – and thus to bring down the World Trade Center North Tower.²⁹⁷

Again, Mohr demonstrates that progressive collapse is possible, but the scientific data demonstrates that the WTC collapse could not have been this type of process.

At 2:28, Mohr discusses an argument raised against “natural collapse” that has been offered by the Truth Movement; that the weight and strength of a building increases lower down in the structure, so the lighter upper part of a building should not be able to plow through the stronger lower parts. To counter this argument, Mohr explains that the absolute strength of the building is relatively the same floor-by-floor. He also notes that “the 2008 Delft University straight down, fast collapse of the top half of a tall building due to fire proves this [argument] wrong.” Both of these assertions, however, miss the point, as Mohr once again fails to recognize that although the absolute strength of a building is essentially similar floor-by-floor, the safety factors of the Towers and Building 7 simply would not have permitted them to collapse at the rate that they did. The safety factors in steel-framed building limits the rate at which they can collapse, as explained by Tony Szamboti.

The minimum resistance during buckling is a function of the plastic moment and the unsupported length of the column. In a one-story unsupported length of the Twin Tower box columns, it was approximately 25% of the yield strength of the column. For the wide-flange columns in the core it was lower, at about 14% of yield. The wide-flange core columns at the 98th floor of the North Tower had a minimum factor of safety against gravity of 3 and the perimeter box columns a minimum factor of safety against gravity of 5. The core columns would have to buckle over one story with their moment connected beams at each floor, so they would provide a minimum resistance during buckling of about 42% of their load. A case could be made that the perimeter columns initially buckled over two stories and thus their resistance would be 12.5% of yield, so they would have still provided a resistance of 65% of their load. The load split between the core and perimeter was 42% core and 58% perimeter. The resistance during buckling would thus be $(0.42)(0.42) + (0.58)(0.65) = 0.55$. So the resistance to the actual load during buckling would have been a minimum of about 0.55g... Additionally, WTC 7 could not come down in freefall while its columns were buckling for the reasons I showed above, and it didn't start to tilt over until it was about 60% of the way down and well beyond that initial 8-story (100-foot) freefall.²⁹⁸

Again, the Delft University collapse was essentially everything one would expect in a “natural collapse”: localized, uneven, and nowhere near the rate of free fall. The argument presented by the Truth Movement still stands, as it is has been established that the behavior of the upper

²⁹⁷ Quoted from: Lack of Deceleration of North Tower's Upper Section Proves Use of Explosives, by Tony Szamboti <http://www.ae911truth.org/en/news/41-articles/403-lack-of-deceleration-of-north-towers-upper-section-proves-use-of-explosives.html>

²⁹⁸ Quoted from: <http://911blogger.com/news/2011-10-18/pacifica-radio-twin-towers-debate-9112011#comment-253951>

sections of the Towers and Building 7 did not behave in a manner consistent with “natural collapse.”

At 3:35, Mohr talks about the issues regarding the paths of greatest and least resistance in relation to the collapse of the WTC. Here Mohr asserts that “**what Richard is saying is that the tops of the Twin Towers should have floated to the side and into mid-air, and then drop over just because it would be the path of least resistance.**” This claim is demonstrably false. Richard Gage asserts nowhere in his presentation that the tops of the buildings should have “**floated to the side.**” What he does assert, however, is that buildings generally should fall asymmetrically when they are damaged asymmetrically. And this is indeed what is usually seen in this scenario.²⁹⁹ Mohr also asserts once again that there were no lateral forces acting on the buildings to cause them to fall over. However, as 911research.wtc7.net notes, “any imbalance in the damage to the structure would result in lateral loads due to the fulcrum of damaged structure not being directly beneath the center of gravity of the overhanging mass.”³⁰⁰

Mohr then makes what can only be described as a ludicrous argument at 4:25, in which he cites the Royal Gorge canyon as evidence that the path of least resistance is in many cases straight down. But to elaborate, Mohr’s reasoning is that the river was eventually able to erode the mountains straight down, which would be the path of most resistance. This is, to put it mildly, comparing apples to oranges. Mohr is actually suggesting that a Colorado canyon, which was formed over millions of years, with the canyon rising about one foot every 2500 years,³⁰¹ is somehow comparable to two 110-story skyscrapers totally collapsing in 15 seconds, and a 47-story building totally collapsing in under 7 seconds. (Keep this in mind the next time a debunker argues that comparing the WTC skyscrapers to smaller skyscrapers is fallacious due to “differences in design.”)

At 5:15, Mohr asks “**if a brick falls on an egg, will it move to the side because that’s the path of least resistance?**” He then answers with a definitive “no,” saying that the mass of the brick overcomes any lateral forces and crushes the egg. Again, there is very little evidence in the visual record that would suggest that the upper sections of the Towers actually crushed the lower sections. The videos all show the upper sections destroying themselves long before the lower sections begin to give way.³⁰²

²⁹⁹ See examples here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qpb1Fk3ovYc&t=1m16s>

³⁰⁰ Quoted from: http://911research.wtc7.net/disinfo/experts/articles/eagar_jom/eagar_0112.html

³⁰¹ See: http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Royal_Gorge

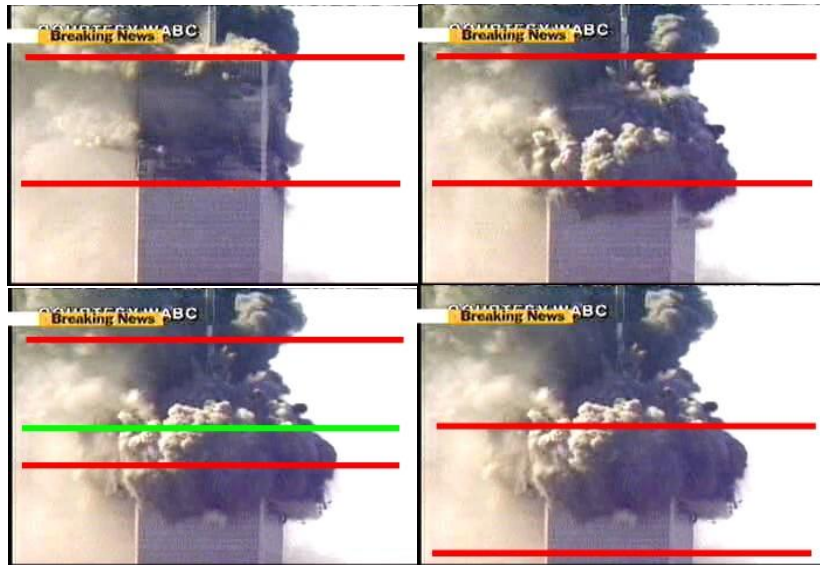
³⁰² For analyses of the behavior of the tops of the Towers, the following links are recommended:

http://911research.wtc7.net/wtc/evidence/videos/st_nbc1.html

http://911research.wtc7.net/wtc/evidence/videos/wtc2_from_south.html

http://911research.wtc7.net/wtc/evidence/videos/north_tower.html

http://911research.wtc7.net/wtc/evidence/videos/wtc1_close_frames.html



Images from: <http://gordonssite.tripod.com/id2.html>

Mohr then argues at [5:52](#) that the buildings actually did follow the path of least resistance, saying that the debris from the Towers flew outside of their footprints. Mohr also notes that “**the path of greatest resistance is where all the columns above strike all the columns below both axially and simultaneously.**” However, he asserts that “**this did not occur in the Twin Towers. The top sections tilted before the main structure progressively collapsed.**” In essence, Mohr is arguing that the columns from the upper section missed the columns in the lower section, and that the debris landed on the floors rather than the columns. There are several problems with this assertion. First, Dr. Frank Legge has demonstrated that if the columns above did not strike the columns below, the collapse of the Towers would still not have resembled what was seen on 9/11.³⁰³ Second, Mohr’s entire premise is incorrect, as it has been demonstrated that the upper section of the North Tower did not tilt significantly enough to cause the upper section columns to miss the lower section columns.³⁰⁴ Third, even if Mohr were correct and the upper columns significantly missed the lower columns, that still wouldn’t explain why the 23 inner core columns remained standing, and why the outer 24 core columns (which were much stronger than the inner core columns) collapsed along with the rest of the structure.

At [7:02](#), Mohr quotes Thomas Eagar as saying that because the Towers were 95% air, there was nowhere else for them to fall except straight down. This argument, however, misses the point, as a straight down collapse rarely happens outside of controlled demolitions, so the prior probability lends credibility to the idea that the Towers and Building 7 were controlled demolitions. As Jim Hoffman appropriately notes:

If buildings that are “95 percent” air -- virtually all modern office buildings -- can only collapse straight down, one has to wonder why demolition companies are paid millions of

³⁰³ See: WTC 1 Collapse – What if the Columns Miss? by Dr. Frank Legge
<http://www.journalof911studies.com/letters/c/ColumnsMissLegge9.pdf>

³⁰⁴ See: <http://911debunkers.blogspot.com/2010/06/distorted-tilt-confirmed.html> and
<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oTuvo4b4E9Y>

dollars to engineer straight-down collapses with hundreds of carefully placed and precision-timed explosives.³⁰⁵

Then at [7:31](#), Mohr gives a list of four points that he feels indicate that Building 7 could not possibly have been brought down by explosives.

#192.) No major explosions immediately prior
#193.) No squibs prior.
#194.) No ejection of dust
#195.) Squat building wider than it was high, greater lateral forces needed

However, each of these points is either fallacious or has already been addressed.

- “There was no visible or auditory sign of explosion directly triggering collapse.”

We have already established that several people did hear explosions as Building 7 collapsed, and that explosion sounds can be heard in the videos of the building’s collapse.

- “No explosive squibs flew out.”

The video record does in fact show a row of ejections being produced from the building’s north face as the building collapses.

- “Building 7 was a squat building, wider than it was tall.”

This description of Building 7’s design is obviously incorrect, but Mohr has acknowledged this error and has since corrected it in his video. However, he still feels his overall point holds true; that Building 7 had a somewhat squat design and therefore needed stronger lateral loads to knock it over. This is debatable, but given that Building 7’s design was in fact more solid than Mohr believes, the building likely should have toppled far greater than what is observed in the videos.

At [7:52](#), Mohr claims that “[the] WTC didn’t fall into its own footprint at Building 7.” To support this assertion, Mohr points to the damage to the Fiterman Hall and the Verizon building caused by Building 7 as evidence that the building’s debris landed outside its footprint. However,

³⁰⁵ Quoted from: Scientific American’s Dishonest Attack On 911Research, by Jim Hoffman
<http://911research.wtc7.net/essays/sciam/index.html>

this assessment of the building's debris does not prove the building fell due to natural causes. Building 7 did cause damage to some of the surrounding structures, but this may have simply been due to the fact that it was a particularly large building. No building the size of Building 7 had ever been demolished before, and the buildings around it were very close.



According to the FEMA report, “the collapse of WTC 7 had a small debris field,”³⁰⁶ and that “the average debris field radius was approximately 70 feet.”³⁰⁷ Furthermore, according to NIST’s interim report on Building 7 “The debris of WTC 7 was mostly contained within the original footprint of the building.”³⁰⁸ It is clear that the dispersal of Building 7’s debris more closely matches a demolition than a natural collapse.³⁰⁹ Mohr also repeats the error of insisting that because the debris from the Towers fell well outside the buildings’ footprints, they were likely not demolished. Again, all this shows is that the Twin Towers were meant to be more explosive demolitions than Building 7. As noted at 911research.wtc7.net:

Controlled demolitions can be engineered in many different ways. Normally, the purpose of a controlled demolition is to remove a structure while avoiding damage to adjacent structures, and to do so economically... The objective of controlled demolition applied to the Twin Towers was the decidedly different one of producing collapses that could be explained as having been caused by the aircraft crashes and fire damage. Hence, the destruction was started around the crash zones and then moved downward.³¹⁰

The “collapses” were, in some respects, very chaotic events which don’t look very controlled. However, they must have been carefully engineered. In addition to having to

³⁰⁶ Quoted from: FEMA report, 2002, pg. 31 http://911research.wtc7.net/mirrors/fema_wtc/fema403_ch5.pdf

³⁰⁷ Ibid. pg. 24

³⁰⁸ Quoted from: Progress Report on the Federal Building and Fire Safety Investigation of the World Trade Center Disaster, pg. L-33

³⁰⁹ Building 7’s collapse was clearly different compared to something like this: <http://whatreallyhappened.com/IMAGES/noexplosivesplaceddemolition.wmv>

³¹⁰ Quoted from: <http://911research.wtc7.net/faq/demolition.html#versus>

determine the quantities and placement of explosives necessary to achieve the total destruction of the Towers, the planners had to plan the timing of their detonations with some precision. It is clear from [photographs](#) and [videos](#) of the Towers' destruction that the zones of destruction moved downward at about the same rates as the exploding rubble clouds descended, so that these zones remained concealed by the clouds. If these zones of destruction moved either too quickly or too slowly, they would have become visible below or above the rubble clouds, blatantly contradicting the official account of gravity-driven collapses.³¹¹

At [8:18](#), Mohr talks about the debris piles at Ground Zero and asserts that Richard Gage is incorrect about the convenience of the size of the steel pieces. He backs up this assertion by once again quoting Vincent Palmieri as saying there was nothing convenient about the debris piles. While Gage's assessment of the size of the steel sections as "convenient" is an exaggeration, the point still remains that the Towers were thoroughly dismembered, with no chance of the structures being repaired. Again, something that very rarely happens outside of controlled demolitions.

Mohr then gives another list of points at [9:00](#) that he feels supports "natural collapse" Several of these points he has already made in previous video. Each of these arguments is shown to be false.

#199.) Nanothermite Ignites at 825-985 degrees, would go off in 1400-degree fires

Nanothermite matches may have been used which, according to the literature, "resist friction, impact, heat, and static discharge through the composition, thereby minimizing accidental ignition."

#200.) No radio receiver could receive signal to detonate after heating to 1400 degrees

The explosives and the receivers may have been protected. As 911research.wtc7.net notes:

[I]t is relatively easy to design casings for explosives that would allow them to survive even the most violent assaults. The casings of jetliners' [black boxes](#) protect their contents from impact accelerations of 3,400 Gs and from temperatures of 2,000°F for up to 30 minutes.³¹²

³¹¹ Quoted from: <http://911research.wtc7.net/faq/demolition.html#controlled>

³¹² Quoted from: <http://911research.wtc7.net/faq/demolition.html#positioning>

#201.) All three buildings collapsed asymmetrically and into their weakest points

The North Tower tilted towards the south, away from its north face where the plane impacted.

#202.) Smoke pouring out of much of Building 7

As we previously established, the vast majority of the smoke on the south face was not coming from the building, but rather from the still-burning WTC complex.

The conclusion of Mohr's video at [10:37](#) ends on him saying that “the fire-proofing may have been compromised in the south-west corner from the debris damage.” This assertion is insignificant, as NIST claims the critical failure due to fire occurred in the northeast corner, where there was no debris damage at all. Though Mohr holds strong to the idea that the fires were severe and the collapses were asymmetrical, the evidence still overwhelmingly supports the fact that the fires were not severe enough to cause collapse, and even if they were they could not possibly have caused the buildings to collapse the way they did.

Part 16: Eyewitness Accounts, Foreknowledge

In Part 16 of Mohr's video series, he moves the discussion into the non-scientific realm and examines more of the eyewitness testimony at Ground Zero, and the foreknowledge people seemed to have that Building 7 was going to collapse. While these issues are more closely grounded in speculation, careful analysis of these events show that they do support controlled demolition over "natural collapse." Mohr, of course, disagrees. But as we shall see, the accounts from individuals that day shows enormous support for the controlled demolition theory.

Beginning at [0:42](#), Mohr first examines the testimony of first responder Kevin McPadden, who is famous within the 9/11 Truth Movement for claiming to have heard a countdown to Building 7's collapse. However, Mohr disputes this due to the fact that McPadden's story seems to have changed over the years. Though his current claim is that he heard a countdown prior to collapse, an earlier account he gave has him saying that he only heard what *sounded* like a countdown.³¹³ Though I obviously can't speak for Kevin McPadden and cannot attest to the accuracy of his claims, we do in fact possess several accounts from individuals who were told that the building was going to be brought down. One of these accounts was given by FDNY Lt. David Rastuccio, who reported to MSNBC that he was told that Building 7 "would be taken down."³¹⁴ Another individual who heard of plans to take Building 7 down was paramedic Indira Singh. In an interview on Bonnie Faulkner's 'Guns and Butter' radio show, Ms. Singh stated that:

I do believe that they brought Building 7 down because **I heard that they were going to bring it down**, because it was unstable, because of the collateral damage. That I don't know, I can't attest to the validity of that, all I can attest to is that by noon or one o'clock, they told us we had to move from that triage site, up to Pace University a little further away, because **Building 7 was gonna come down, or being brought down.**

[Interviewer] *Did they actually use the words brought down, and who was it that was telling you this?*

The Fire Department, the Fire Department, and they did use the word, **we're gonna have to bring it down.** And, for us, there observing the nature of the devastation it made total sense to us that this was indeed a possibility.³¹⁵

She clearly interpreted their statements as referring to the building being brought down that day, as opposed to weeks or months later, as would have to be the case unless the building was already rigged with explosives.

For the record, I would like to make it clear that I do not in any way believe that the FDNY was involved in the demolition of Building 7. Members of the Truth Movement have continuously been accused of claiming that the firefighters were "in on it," but this evidence and the evidence we will later discuss shows that FDNY foreknowledge and complicity are not synonymous. Ms.

³¹³ Kevin McPadden's conflicting testimonies can be seen here: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1lhwmCM_dicc

³¹⁴ Quoted from: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1KQA1KOKrPc>

³¹⁵ Quoted from: <http://ourworldinbalance.blogspot.com/2005/04/story-of-indira-singh.html> (Emphasis added)

Singh did state that “they did use the word, we’re gonna have to bring it down,” but Lt. Rastuccio’s account indicates they were just passing down information they heard about the building possibly being brought down. And as we shall see, this is undoubtedly what happened.

Mohr then discusses at [2:35](#) the testimonies of Michael Hess and Barry Jennings, two individuals who were trapped in Building 7 on 9/11. Both of these men have testified that there was at least one explosion in Building 7 prior to collapse that they experienced, and it was due to this explosion that they were trapped in the building in the first place. Mohr states that “**Michael Hess said that he heard and felt the building shake like an earthquake for 5-10 seconds prior to the collapse of either Tower.**” Although Mohr correctly points out that Hess also changed his story years later, Mohr erroneously misrepresents Hess’s initial testimony. Hess did not say that he “**heard and felt the building shake like an earthquake for 5-10 seconds**” in his first interview. Here is Hess’s complete testimony from the interview he gave on 9/11:

I was up in the Emergency Management Center on the 23rd floor. And when all the power went out in the building, another gentleman and I walked down to eighth floor where there was an explosion. And we were trapped on the eighth floor with smoke, thick smoke all around us for about an hour and a half. But the New York fire department as terrific as they are just came and got us out.³¹⁶

As we can see, there is no mention of the building shaking, no mention of it being like an earthquake, and no mention of the event lasting several seconds. Hess only started describing the event this way when he was interviewed by the BBC.³¹⁷ In other words, Hess’s new story involves his claim that the event was “**like an earthquake.**” But on 9/11, Hess clearly described the event as an explosion. Not “possibly an explosion,” or “like an explosion.” He simply stated, without a trace of doubt, that it was an explosion.

Mohr correctly points out that Barry Jennings’ testimony did not change, and that he stuck with his position that the event he experienced was an explosion. Unfortunately, Mohr does not examine this issue any further and merely leaves it up to the viewer to decide who is more credible. However, by examining Hess and Jennings’ testimonies and the events of that day further, we can reasonably establish that Jennings’ testimony is in all likelihood correct. The common debunker argument against Barry Jennings’ testimony is that he was simply confused, and that the explosion he experienced was only the collapse of the North Tower, as Michael Hess now claims was the cause of the event. But careful examination shows that this could not possibly have been what caused the explosion Hess and Jennings’ experienced.

For starters, Hess and Jennings were almost certainly trapped in the building before the North Tower collapsed. According to Hess’s first testimony, he and Jennings were trapped in the building “for about an hour and a half.” The interview that Hess gave on 9/11 was given at 11:57am,³¹⁸ and the North Tower collapsed at 10:28am. According to the reporter who

³¹⁶ Quoted from: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BUfiLbXMa64>

³¹⁷ Hess’s new testimony can be seen here: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hy5lpp6yADw>

³¹⁸ See: Michael Hess, Barry Jennings: The 9/11 Interview with Evidence that NIST Lied about When Michael Hess and Barry Jennings Were Rescued, by David Ray Griffin
<http://www.wanttoknow.info/008/hessjenningswtc7explosiontvbroadcast>

interviewed Hess, the interview was given “off Broadway by City Hall,” which is several blocks from WTC7. Therefore, it is likely that Hess and Jennings were trapped at around 10:00am. That is, if they were trapped at 10:00am, and were rescued “an hour and a half” later, they would have gotten out of the building at around 11:30am. This would have given Hess just enough time to make his way across the city to give his interview. Had they been trapped later than 10:00am, or just after the collapse of the North Tower at 10:28am, Hess would not have had time to give his interview over an hour and a half later. Also, Hess’s estimate of being trapped for an hour and a half may have been somewhat conservative, as Jennings stated that he and Hess were trapped “for several hours.”³¹⁹

Second, the effects of the event described by Jennings could not possibly have been caused by debris from the North Tower striking the south side of WTC7. According to Jennings, he and Hess were on the north side of the building when the explosion occurred and trapped them on the stairwell. Jennings testified that “the explosion was beneath me,” “the landing gave way,” and that the explosion “blew us back.” This raises the question of how *falling* debris from the North Tower, even considering it had collapsed at this time, could possibly have caused an *upward* explosive force strong enough to blow Hess and Jennings backwards and knock the landing out from under them. This also somehow had to be accomplished by debris striking the *south* face of WTC7 while both men were on the *north* side. Even the NIST report itself shows that debris from the North Tower could not possibly have caused the explosion the two men experienced, as they claim that “it is likely that the structural damage (steel and floor slabs) did not penetrate beyond the perimeter of the building core” and that “there was relatively little damage to the interior of WTC 7.”³²⁰

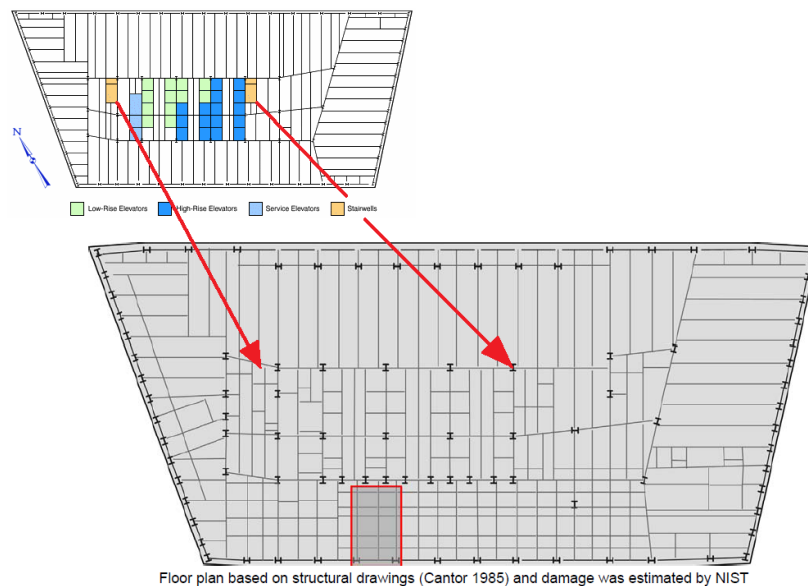


Figure 5-94 Estimated debris impact damage to Floors 5 and 6 of WTC 7.
Marked area indicates removed columns and floor segments.

Images from: (Top) FEMA Report, Chapter 5, pg. 4 and (bottom) NCSTAR 1-9, pg. 184

³¹⁹ Quoted from: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9LLHTh_UjBc Also, the transcript of Barry Jennings’ testimony can be read here: <http://sl.zetaboards.com/LooseChangeForums/single/?p=108750&t=451652>

³²⁰ Quoted from: NCSTAR 1A, pg. 16

To summarize, if the explosion that Hess and Jennings experienced in Building 7 was caused by debris from the collapse of WTC1, then it must be adequately explained how a) Hess was able to be interviewed across town at 11:57am after being likely trapped before 10:28am, and b) how debris from WTC1 striking the south side of WTC7 caused an upward explosive force all the way on the north side of the building. Unless both of these issues are resolved, then the testimony of Barry Jennings stands. We have little reason to believe Michael Hess's new story, as it greatly contradicts Barry Jennings' and his own original testimony. Not only does Hess now deny that the event that trapped them was an explosion, but when asked in 2008 if he heard other explosions in the building he flatly stated "no."³²¹ However, according to Barry Jennings, he heard "all types of explosions" while trapped in the building.

From 5:25 to 7:00, Mohr discusses Barry Jennings' death and how the Truth Movement has responded to it. He claims that Dylan Avery's decision to hire a private investigator to look into Jennings' death was "unethical," and then asks the Truth Movement to "respect the privacy of a grieving family and show compassion for their situation." However, I personally do not see anything unethical in Dylan Avery's actions, as his hiring of the PI was likely done out of concern for Jennings. Avery has always shown respect for Jennings and his family, having pulled Jennings' interview from his film *Loose Change Final Cut* when requested by Jennings. Also, when Avery finally did release Jennings' full testimony, he added a disclaimer at the end asking people to respect the privacy of Barry Jennings and his family.

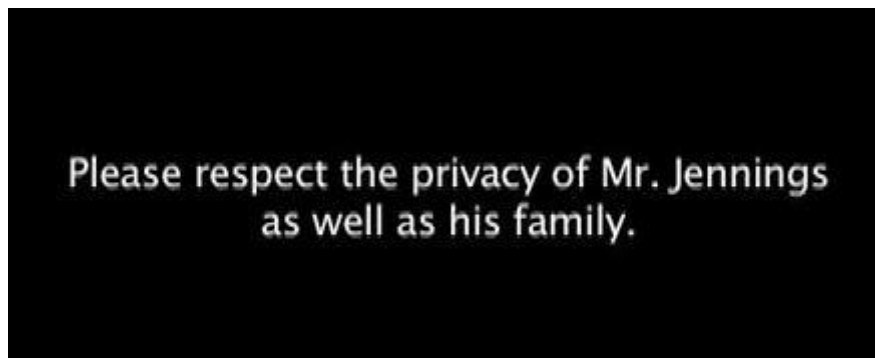


Image from: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9LLHTh_UjBc&t=20m36s

As of this time, I personally believe foul play was not a factor in Jennings' death, as his family has made it clear that he died in a hospital due to leukemia.³²² However, it is understandable why the Truth Movement expressed suspicion over his death, given that Jennings' testimony greatly contradicts the official account of 9/11. It was especially suspicious due to the fact that Jennings reportedly died on August 19th, 2008, which was just two days before NIST released its report on WTC7. Regardless of why Jennings died, the evidence still supports his testimony; there were explosions in WTC7 before it collapsed, and there appears to be no prosaic explanations for them. Mohr constantly asks the viewer "who do you believe?" I believe Barry Jennings, a man whose memory we should all respect and honor.

³²¹ See: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hy5lpp6yADw&t=1m52s>

³²² See: *Debunking 9/11 Myths: Why Conspiracy Theories Can't Stand Up to the Facts* (2011), by David Dunbar and Brad Reagan, pg. 82-85

At 7:00, Mohr begins his review of the foreknowledge several people seemed to have about Building 7's collapse. The first instance of foreknowledge he discusses is the BBC's early report that Building 7 had collapsed about 20 minutes before it actually did.³²³ Despite the oddity of this event, Mohr claims that he was "stunned that BBC's journalistic error became grounds for suspicion of the official 9/11 story." Mohr's rationalization for this is like that of most debunkers; that the BBC simply made a mistake. To back up this assertion, Mohr shows a list of several false reports given on 9/11 as evidence that "the media makes mistakes."

#206: Reporters Also Said Camp David had been hit by a plane!

#207: Forbes Magazine: "A car bomb exploded outside the State Department."

#208: CBS: "As many as eight planes have been hijacked and only four have been accounted for."

#209: The media make mistakes, and there was nothing unusual or suspicious about the BBC's error



Mohr asks "what makes more sense? That the BBC made a Dewey defeats Truman kind of mistake, or that the BBC was somehow let in on the collapse of Building 7?" Mohr's argument completely misses the point. The BBC's mistake was not like the other mistakes Mohr lists, as the BBC was *not wrong* about what they reported. It's that they reported the event too early. But the event did in fact happen. The overall question the Truth Movement has asked in regards to this issue is who reported to the BBC that Building 7 had collapsed. Though it has been revealed that this was reported to the BBC by Reuters,³²⁴ the question still remains why Reuters had the official explanation of Building 7's collapse—fire and damage—seven years before NIST released their report. As noted at 911review.com:

The question still remains as to the actual source of the report! The only thing the BBC can say is that it was an erroneous local story - but of course that day EVERY story from New York City was a local news story! Therefore the source of the report is still left unanswered. Why can't the BBC simply investigate the matter with the supposed due diligence they are famed for? Simply track down the original source - who it was and where it came from. This is exceedingly simple - and yet the inability of anyone to take any responsibility is amazing.³²⁵

Personally, my own views on the BBC's early report of Building 7's collapse are agnostic. However, I find Mohr's dismissal of this incident to be extremely disingenuous. Mohr asks


³²³ See: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ky90eEIzStw>

³²⁴ See: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YKrtbDJ1awM&t=4m04s>

³²⁵ Quoted from: The Third Tower: A Critical Examination <http://911review.com/articles/richard/thirdtower.html>

“what possible value can there be in telling the media about your secret plan for a false flag operation?” Mohr is not the first to make this sort of argument, and it once again highlights the absurd circular logic that so many debunkers use. The early report of Building 7’s collapse, if it did play some role in the conspiracy, was likely a mistake on the part of the conspirators. But debunkers often dismiss this possibility, claiming (as Mohr essentially claims here) that the conspirators wouldn’t have made mistakes like that. However, we often also hear from debunkers that the events of 9/11 could not have been some sort of “inside job” because the conspirators would have made mistakes and let things slip! In other words, debunkers are trying to have it both ways; 9/11 couldn’t have been an inside job because the conspirators would have made mistakes, and that incidents like the BBC’s early report is not evidence of a conspiracy because the conspirators wouldn’t have made mistakes like that.

At [9:58](#), Mohr begins to discuss the foreknowledge the FDNY had about Building 7’s collapse. Like most defenders of the official story, Mohr argues that the FDNY knew Building 7 was going to collapse based on their assessment of the building’s condition. He also quotes Chief Daniel Nigro as saying that it was his decision to pull the firefighters away from Building 7.



Reason #210.) Eyewitness Firefighter Building 7: Fire Chief Nigro

Early on the afternoon of September 11th 2001, following the collapse of WTC 1 & 2, I feared a collapse of WTC 7 (as did many on my staff). The collapse of WTC 1 damaged portions of the lower floors of WTC 7. WTC 7, was built on a small number of large columns providing an open Atrium on the lower levels. Fires on many floors of WTC 7 burned without sufficient water supply to attack them. For these reasons I made the decision (without consulting the owner, the mayor or anyone else - as ranking fire officer, that decision was my responsibility) to clear a collapse zone surrounding the building and to stop all activity within that zone. Approximately three hours after that order was given, WTC 7 collapsed. Conspiracy theories abound and I believe firmly that all of them are without merit.

While the firefighter testimony has often been used by many as evidence that Building 7 collapsed due to the fire and damage, members of the Movement have carefully analyzed the FDNY foreknowledge and have found it to be greatly suspicious. For example, Dr. Graeme MacQueen has examined all of the FDNY testimonies from 9/11, and has concluded that:

The majority of FDNY members did not rationally conclude, on the basis of direct perception of damage to the building, that it was in danger of collapse; they accepted that it would collapse on the basis of what they were told.³²⁶

³²⁶ Quoted from: Waiting for Seven: WTC 7 Collapse Warnings in the FDNY Oral Histories, by Graeme MacQueen, pg. 1 (Dr. MacQueen’s entire article is highly recommended)
<http://www.journalof911studies.com/volume/200701/MacQueenWaitingforSeven.pdf>

Indeed, there is abundant evidence that the FDNY was largely told that Building 7 was going to collapse. For example, Deputy Chief Peter Hayden was apparently told by some unnamed engineer that Building 7 was going to collapse.³²⁷ Even Mohr acknowledges this fact in his video, but doesn't analyze it further. Based on the accounts of other firefighters from that day, this unnamed engineer likely came from Mayor Rudolph Giuliani's Office of Emergency Management (OEM), and this was where the first warning of Building 7's collapse came from. As David Ray Griffin writes:

According to Captain Michael Currid, the Uniformed Fire Officers Association's sergeant at arms, he and other FDNY officers at some point went into WTC 7, where four or five fire companies were battling its flames, and yelled up the stairwells: "Drop everything and get out!" He did this, he said, because "[s]omeone from the city's Office of Emergency Management" had told him that WTC 7 was "basically a lost cause and we should not lose anyone else trying to save it."³²⁸

While the decision to evacuate the zone around Building 7 ultimately came from Chief Nigro, the initial warning to evacuate the firefighters from inside the building came from someone from the OEM. And interestingly enough, someone from the OEM evidently also warned members of the FDNY that the Towers were going to collapse as well. According to the account of EMT Richard Zarillo:

As I was walking towards the Fire command post, I found Steve Mosiello. I said, Steve, where's the boss? I have to give him a message. He said, well, what's the message? I said the buildings are going to collapse; we need to evac everybody out. With a very confused look he said who told you that? I said I was just with John [Peruggia] at OEM. OEM says the buildings are going to collapse; we need to get out.³²⁹

Fire Marshal Steven Mosiello corroborates this account.

At that point I don't know exactly when the Commissioner and Mayor had left. It was pretty soon after they had left that Richie Zarillo, who works with EMS -- I believe he's an OEM liaison -- came running up to me. I was not on the ramp at this time. I was like almost at the sidewalk location. He said Steve, where's the Chief? I have to tell him, you know -- I said tell him what, Richie? These buildings are in imminent danger of collapse. I said how do you know that, you know? So he ran with me. I ran over and grabbed Chief Ganci and said Chief, these buildings are in imminent danger of collapse. He looked up at me.³³⁰

These accounts are extremely damaging to the idea that the firefighters themselves assessed the condition of Building 7. What these accounts tell us is that the idea that the Towers and Building

³²⁷ See: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=HvAJQnUJUVY&t=9m34s>

³²⁸ Quoted from: The Mysterious Collapse of World Trade Center 7... by David Ray Griffin, pg 114

³²⁹ Quoted from: http://graphics8.nytimes.com/packages/pdf/nyregion/20050812_WTC_GRAPHIC/9110161.PDF (pg. 6)

³³⁰ Quoted from: http://graphics8.nytimes.com/packages/pdf/nyregion/20050812_WTC_GRAPHIC/9110141.PDF (pg. 7-8)

7 were going to collapse originally came from Mayor Giuliani's people. As David Ray Griffin writes:

The fact that the idea that WTC 7 was a lost cause came from Giuliani's Office of Emergency Management is significant... this same office had told some firefighters in advance that the Twin Towers were going to collapse. Mayor Giuliani himself, in fact, told Peter Jennings on ABC News that he had been told that the towers were going to collapse shortly before the first of them actually did. How could Giuliani's people have known that these three buildings—and *only* these three buildings—were going to collapse?³³¹

Based on the accounts of these and other firefighters, Dr. MacQueen writes:

When Zarrillo carried Peruggia's startling news of imminent collapse to Chief Ganci, Ganci's response was, "who the fuck told you that?" Ganci had bet the lives of his firefighters on the stability of the Towers. In fact, the lives of hundreds of firefighters had been wagered on the experience of fire chiefs who never suspected collapse. Ganci had almost certainly been told, like Peruggia and others in the FDNY (see Appendix E), that planes could not cause the Towers to collapse. Ganci is dead—he died in the collapse of the North Tower—but his question remains a good one: Who told you that? In my view, all three building collapses were peculiar in the extreme, and we have a perfect right to ask who determined that they were going to collapse and on what basis. We need not apologize for asking whether there might have been an "engineer type person" who told crucial members of the FDNY that Seven's stability was compromised, after which this warning was passed on and largely accepted by the rank and file.³³²

Nine months after publishing his article, Dr. MacQueen was in fact proven right. As pointed out by Erik Larson:

In an [Oct 15, 2008 interview](#) with Allan Rees (following the release of the NIST WTC 7 report), Dr. Shyam Sunder (lead investigator) responded to a question about the evidence of foreknowledge of the collapse of WTC 7 by saying that they were "aware that an engineer or a technical expert or a technical advisor was providing advice to the city agencies with regard to the condition of building 7", and that they had been hearing creaking noises and the area was cleared about 2:30 pm. He refused to name this person, and then implied it may have been more than one "advisor."³³³

What we can conclude from all of this is that the FDNY was clearly warned of Building 7's collapse, and that the people who told them are still unknown to this day. Although Mohr asserts that the firefighters "**were't thinking about Richard Gage's mantra that no tall steel structure had ever collapsed due to fire,**" several members of the FDNY evidently did express skepticism

³³¹ Quoted from: The Mysterious Collapse of World Trade Center 7... by David Ray Griffin, pg. 114

³³² Quoted from: Waiting for Seven... by Dr. Graeme MacQueen, pg. 7

³³³ Quoted from: FDNY 9/11 Reports: WTC 7 'Collapse' Foreknowledge, by Erik Larson
<http://www.nowpublic.com/world/fdny-9-11-reports-wtc-7-collapse-foreknowledge>

about Building 7's condition and the idea it would collapse. For example, Chief Thomas McCarthy said:

[The firefighters at the site] were waiting for 7 World Trade to come down... They had three floors of fire on three separate floors... just burning merrily. It was pretty amazing, you know, it's the afternoon in lower Manhattan, a major high-rise is burning, and they said "we know."³³⁴

A similar statement was made by EMT Decosta Wright, who said:

I think the fourth floor was on fire... [W]e were like, are you guys going to put that fire out? I was like, you know, they are going to wait for it to burn down—and it collapsed.³³⁵

And Battalion Chief John Norman testified that:

I looked at 7 World Trade Center. There was smoke showing, but not a lot and I'm saying that isn't going to fall... I never expected it to fall the way it did as quickly as it did, 7.³³⁶

Deputy Chief Nick Visconti also expressed concern over the fires in Building 7 being un-fought, saying that: "Now, World Trade Center 7 was burning and I was thinking to myself, how come they're not trying to put this fire out?"³³⁷ Then, after he started implementing Chief Frank Fellini's order to get away from Building 7, he encountered more resistance from some other chiefs, one of whom said: "Oh, that building is never coming down, that didn't get hit by a plane, why isn't somebody in there putting the fire out?"³³⁸ Similarly, Fire Commissioner Thomas Von Essen reported that, while walking past hundreds of firefighters who were being held away from WTC7, he heard comments such as, "Why don't they let us in their?"³³⁹ As we can see, there were in fact several firefighters who believed Building 7 was not going to collapse and that the fires were manageable.

Despite Mohr's claims to the contrary, the eyewitness accounts from 9/11 and the foreknowledge of Building 7's collapse are very suspect. Whether or not the foreknowledge is definitive evidence of controlled demolition, I cannot say. However, as we have established, it is certainly not compelling evidence for "natural collapse." The eyewitness testimony favors controlled demolition over natural collapse, and ultimately does nothing to support Mohr's assertions.

³³⁴ Quoted from: http://graphics8.nytimes.com/packages/pdf/nyregion/20050812_WTC_GRAPHIC/9110055.PDF (pg. 10)

³³⁵ Quoted from: http://graphics8.nytimes.com/packages/pdf/nyregion/20050812_WTC_GRAPHIC/9110054.PDF (pg. 11)

³³⁶ Quoted from: <http://www.firehouse.com/article/10567891/battalion-chief-john-norman>

³³⁷ Quoted from: <http://www.firehouse.com/article/10567999/deputy-chief-nick-visconti?page=6>

³³⁸ Ibid.

³³⁹ Quoted from: Strong Heart: Life and Death in the Fire Department of New York, by Thomas Von Essen, pg. 45

Part 17: Secret 9/11 Conspiracy Size

The seventeenth video in Mohr's series focuses on another nonscientific issue regarding the demolition theory; the number of people who would have been involved in setting up the buildings for demolition. This video deals largely in speculation, and therefore deals exclusively in secondary issues regarding the controlled demolition theory. However, Mohr seems to feel this is an important issue to look into. Like most of Mohr's scientific objections, his objections based in non-science are shown to be groundless.

Beginning at 0:21, Mohr characterizes “the number one objection” against the controlled demolition theory as “how would people have been able to load all those bombs into the buildings and get away with it?” Mohr believes this couldn't have been done, and lists several reasons why he believes it couldn't have been done. The first reason Mohr gives is that the placement of the explosives wouldn't have gone unnoticed by the people who worked in the buildings. This is another favorite argument of debunkers, but it is not the be-all end-all type of argument against demolition that they would like to believe. The idea that explosives could be placed covertly in buildings like the Twin Towers and Building 7 does at first seem to be highly improbable. However, the probability of something being done can increase if it has been done before (or something similar). So the question is: could explosives be planted in a building covertly, and has it been done? The answer is yes. In 2009, drills were successful in planting bombs in ten high-security federal buildings, including DHS offices.³⁴⁰ Furthermore, in 1978, after the owners of the new Citicorp Tower learned that the building was likely to fall over during a hurricane, they had it retrofitted during the evening hours, without the building's tenants ever knowing.³⁴¹

So, here we have two examples (or 11, if you count all 10 federal buildings as separate events) of covert work being done in high security buildings without the occupants knowing about it. The probability of the WTC buildings being set up for demolition covertly would seem to have increased.

Mohr also makes mention of the JL Hudson building that was demolished, and points out that it was the tallest building ever demolished and that it took 24 days to place the explosives in the building. Mohr's obvious reasoning is that the Towers and Building 7 would have taken far longer. However, this may in fact not be true. It has been demonstrated that Building 7 possibly could have set up for demolition in a similar time frame as the JL Hudson building. As noted at 911blogger:

What took so long [to set up the JL Hudson building for demolition]... was the design of the implosion because there were 12 separate sections to the 2.2 million sq. ft. building. All built at different times, with different construction techniques. And no drawings of the building. Now compare that to Building Seven. 47 floors, as opposed to the Hudson building's 30 levels; the Hudson building had 2.2 million sq ft of floor space, where Building Seven had roughly 45,000 sq ft per floor totaling... 2.2 million sq ft. So,

³⁴⁰ See: <http://911blogger.com/node/20580>

³⁴¹ See: http://sciencehack.com/videos/view/O_ekNosnieQ

theoretically, the demolition requirements would be similar and the design part would certainly be easier. Now, that would mean, that the actual charges if they used a 12 person team could be set in 24 days. Or, if they used 20 people... you do the math. But this is all factually based on real world experience provided by CDI's own site.³⁴²

As for the Towers, the amount of time needed to set the buildings up for demolition could also be decreased significantly. As we previously established, the explosives were likely placed only on the 24 outer core columns and the four corner perimeter columns of each Tower. This means that the remaining 259 columns of each Tower would *not* have to be loaded with explosives. Furthermore, the explosives likely were not placed on every floor, but perhaps every third floor. And we also previously established that the lower floors of the Towers—perhaps the bottom 20—would not have needed to have any explosives placed on them. If this is the case, then we are left with only 30 floors of 28 columns in each Tower that would have been set up for demolition. In terms of concealing the work done in the buildings, Jim Hoffman notes that:

Conventional demolitions do not require the use of heavy equipment. Holes are often drilled to place cutter charges adjacent to columns. That is easily done with hand tools. If heavy equipment is used, it's generally to gut the building in order to reduce the dust produced during its demolition.³⁴³

As Hoffman also notes, the common arguments often heard about the placement of the explosives and possible detection presupposes that the demolitions of the WTC buildings “would have to be set up like a conventional commercial one, with fuses and large numbers of cutting charges.”³⁴⁴ In reality, he points out that “the demolitions could have been controlled using wireless detonators, which have been commercially available for decades,” and that it would have been easy “to surreptitiously install devices in hidden portions of the cores. Any such job would have been far simpler than the structural retrofit of the Citicorp Tower in New York, carried out unbeknownst to the building’s very tenants.”³⁴⁵

Mohr then quotes former explosives technician Tom Sullivan at [2:55](#) as saying that shaped charges would likely have been used in the buildings. Mohr claims that this “**would have required welding torches**,” and that the smell and the noise from the torches would have been noticed by the occupants of the buildings. However, the retrofit of the Citicorp Tower shows this to be wrong, as the building’s connections were welded all over the structure without anyone noticing. Throughout his video series Mohr has tried to use Tom Sullivan to show how difficult it would have been to set the buildings up for demolition. However, Sullivan has no doubt that these buildings were brought with explosives, and that the demolitions were clearly successful.

I could offer an opinion but I’d rather not open up that venue. It never ceases to amaze me that the obvious in your face smoking gun (Bldg.#7) is still discussed. People, so-

³⁴² Quoted from: <http://911blogger.com/node/16565>

³⁴³ Quoted from: *911 Mysteries AND Facts*, by Jim Hoffman
<http://911research.wtc7.net/reviews/911mysteries/index.html>

³⁴⁴ Quoted from: <http://911research.wtc7.net/faq/demolition.html#access>

³⁴⁵ Ibid.

called experts, just have no clue how and what goes on in an implosion. A global failure is absolutely needed and is absolutely impossible with a fire.³⁴⁶

Mohr then throws another list of objections to controlled demolition on the screen at [3:22](#).

No! #222.) Major structural supports next to the most desirable offices on outside

This is yet another assertion that the explosives could not have been hidden from the buildings' occupants. But as we have already seen, it is entirely possible that covert work can be carried out in high-security buildings without detection.

#223.) Nanothermites painted on could warm steel but not cause lateral ejection

Here Mohr objects to a theory proposed by Dr. Steven Jones that nanothermite may have been painted on the steel columns. Although only one layer of nanothermite may not have been sufficient to cut through the structural supports, there are other ways the nanothermite could have been used, such as for triggering other explosives.

#224.) Remote controls in core: hard time receiving signal

Mohr also believes that radio controlled explosives “**would have had a hard time receiving the triggering signals**” He also notes that “**firefighters even reported having trouble with their communication devices that day.**” In regards to his first point, it would in fact have been easy to set the explosives off in the buildings using wireless technology, as 911review.com notes that:

While most controlled demolitions still use detonating cord to set off the demolition charges, technologies for the wireless detonation of explosives are already commonplace. For example, [HiEx.bc.ca](#) sells the *TeleBlaster* “VHF or UHF telemetry [sic] blast initiation system intended for commercial blasting operations.”³⁴⁷

Indeed, both Tom Sullivan and Protec employee Brent Blanchard have confirmed that wireless detonators could have been used.³⁴⁸ As for the firefighters' having trouble with their radios, this was evidently due to the fact that Mayor Giuliani provided the FDNY with malfunctioning radios.³⁴⁹ The fact of the matter is that radio technology would have been very feasible to use. NASA is able to control rovers on Mars millions of miles away,³⁵⁰ so there is no reason to believe that the technology used on 9/11 was any worse.

³⁴⁶ Quoted from: Email correspondence with Tom Sullivan.

³⁴⁷ Quoted from: <http://911review.com/means/demolition/index.html>

³⁴⁸ See: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ns_hjONWZ88&t=4m09s

³⁴⁹ See: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=StE_Xa6TiQU

³⁵⁰ See: http://lightsey.ae.utexas.edu/intranet/pr_documents/Microsoft%20Word%20-%20Robotics%20in%20Space%20Lesson%204%20Control%20and%20Rovers%20-Old.pdf

**#225.) Creating shape charges is noisy and smelly.
Complete control of the building required for prep**

Again, the secret retrofit of the Citicorp Tower proves this kind of work can be done covertly.

#226.) Nonexplosive thermates pulverize whole building?

Mohr's argument here is that if thermate was used to demolish Building 7, it wouldn't have the destructive force to pulverize the building's concrete. Firstly, nanothermite could very well have been used in conjunction with thermate to demolish Building 7. But even if we assume that only thermate was used to demolish Building 7, this could still account for the pulverization of the building's concrete. Given concrete's moisture content, heating it to high temperatures can cause explosive spalling. If high temperature thermate was used to sever structural supports in Building 7, the excess heat could have caused such spalling to occur.

From [4:45](#) onward, Mohr decides to “depart from the science of these collapses and go where Richard Gage claims he does not go.” In other words, Mohr chooses to speculate on who might have been involved in demolishing the WTC buildings. He also asks the viewer to “take out a sheet of paper... and start counting all the people you suspect are part of this cover-up.” Then he proceeds to list numerous people that likely would have been involved. This, perhaps more than any other argument presented by Mohr, highlights his ignorance of what is truly important in investigating the collapse of the WTC. It cannot be emphasized enough that the issue of “who did it?” is secondary to the controlled demolition theory. No amount of speculation changes the fact that the SCIENCE decides what happened to those buildings. Richard Gage may speculate from time to time about the events of 9/11, but he understands that speculation does not decide what caused the collapse of the Twin Towers and Building 7. This is the position that AE9/11Truth takes on this matter.

We at AE9/11Truth are technical and building professionals. We do not speculate about who may have been responsible for destroying these buildings. However, we do point to overwhelming evidence of a cover-up of the crime. The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) was tasked by Congress to uncover how the three skyscrapers “collapsed.” The WTC Reports that they provided in order to prop up the impossible hypothesis of collapse by fire were fraudulent... The topic of the motives behind the demolitions raises non-technical questions that are outside of our expertise and the scope of our examination. While we know that the WTC catastrophe has been used as justification to launch wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and curtail civil liberties, it is up to criminal investigators, not architects and engineers, to identify motive.³⁵¹

³⁵¹ Quoted from: FAQ #1: Who demolished the Twin Towers and Building 7 and why?
<http://www.ae911truth.org/en/news-section/41-articles/595-faq-1-who-demolished-the-twin-towers-and-building-7-and-why.html>

Mohr's argument erroneously assumes that every person involved in the attacks would have complete knowledge of the operation. However, this is simply not true. As pointed out by Gatecreepers.com:

Conspiracy theories usually require only the top of the hierarchical structures to be in on the conspiracy, not the subordinates. While the subordinates may be involved in a conspiracy, they are usually unaware of their part in that conspiracy because they are split up and made to focus on very specific tasks which require their skills: a phenomenon called compartmentalization. However, it often happens that they find out, and either blow the whistle or get silenced. Compartmentalization attempts to ensure that any spy, worker or whistleblower is only able to gather knowledge related to their compartment, thus preventing them from seeing the details of the operation in its entirety. Anti-conspiracy theorists often inflate the possible number of participants in a conspiracy to ridiculous proportions. They then use this exaggerated example as a straw man that they can easily knock down, because it is so extensive and unreasonable.³⁵²

There are instances where large operations were carried out that were able to be kept a secret through the process of compartmentalization. For example, the Manhattan Project, the joint effort between the United States, United Kingdom and Canada to develop nuclear weapons, employed over 100,000 people across three states. And yet despite this, the Manhattan Project was able to be kept a secret.³⁵³

At 7:57, Mohr discusses Larry Silverstein and his infamous "pull it" quote.³⁵⁴ Many in the 9/11 Truth Movement have interpreted this statement as an admission from Silverstein that he ordered Building 7 to be demolished. However, defenders of the official story insist that he was actually talking about pulling the firefighting efforts. While there is strong evidence to suggest that Silverstein was referring to the firefighting efforts when he spoke of the decision to "pull,"³⁵⁵ there are several points to keep in mind:

- Silverstein claims to have spoken with the fire department commander on 9/11, which would have been Chief Daniel Nigro. However, Chief Nigro has denied that he spoke with Silverstein,³⁵⁶ and has confirmed that the FDNY would have no reason to contact him about pulling the firefighting operations.³⁵⁷
- When Silverstein was asked who he conversed with on 9/11 about the decision to "pull," he refused to answer.³⁵⁸ To this day, no one from the FDNY has corroborated Silverstein's story.

³⁵² Quoted from: http://www.gatecreepers.com/entries/exclusive-debunking-myths-on-conspiracy-theorie/#Myth_2317: Conspiracy theories assume the involvement of a large number of people

³⁵³ See: <http://web.archive.org/web/20120113202418/http://www.reachingcriticalwill.org/technical/factsheets/secrecy.html>

³⁵⁴ See: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7WYdAJQV100>

³⁵⁵ See: <http://911research.wtc7.net/wtc/evidence/pullit.html>

³⁵⁶ See: <http://forums.randi.org/showpost.php?p=3440364&postcount=1>

³⁵⁷ See: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Yva0sacFJu8&t=2m12s>

³⁵⁸ See: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EtPC0W4HII8&t=2m38s> and <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=huBcFjAcuL4>

- Regardless of what Silverstein really meant by “pull it,” we now have confirmation that he did in fact discuss demolishing Building 7 on 9/11.³⁵⁹

The remainder of Mohr’s video simply has him proposing others that could possibly have been involved in the attacks, including the Obama administration. Again, these sorts of arguments merely cloud the important scientific issues in determining what really caused the Towers and Building 7 to collapse. At the end of his video at [11:37](#), Mohr asks “**could it be that the controlled demolition theory flies in the face of common sense, especially when it comes to the first question everyone seems to ask: how could they have put the bombs in their in the first place.**” Mohr’s answer to his own question is, of course, “**they can’t.**” This is an utterly meaningless claim. Mohr’s failure to see how a covert demolition could have been set up in the WTC buildings is nothing more than an argument from ignorance. Several in the Truth Movement have given extremely detailed explanations of how the buildings could have been rigged with explosives.³⁶⁰ Mohr’s arguments are therefore insignificant, and only serve to cast doubt on what the hard scientific evidence has to say about the destruction of the Towers and Building 7. But as we come to the final objections Mohr raises against controlled demolition, he now focuses his attention on what is undoubtedly one of the greatest mysteries in the history of engineering.

³⁵⁹ See: <http://911debunkers.blogspot.com/2010/04/possible-confirmation-of-pull-it-in.html>

³⁶⁰ See examples: Good Riddance to the Big Lie: Kevin Ryan’s ‘Demolition Access ...’ Lights the Shadows, by Don Paul and Kevin Ryan http://911review.com/articles/ryan/demolition_access_DonPaul.html and <http://911blogger.com/news/2011-05-23/people-could-have-planted-bombs-world-trade-center-without-anyone-noticing>

Part 18: Freefall Collapse of Building 7

In the eighteenth installment of Mohr's 20-part video series (and last installment offering objections to the controlled demolition theory), he finally discusses one of the most daunting aspects of Building 7's collapse; its 2.25 second period of free-fall. The free-fall collapse of Building 7 is seen by many as smoking gun proof that the building could only have collapsed the way it did by means of pre-planted explosives. However, Mohr feels that he's come up with a plausible scenario for how Building 7 could have fallen at free-fall in a "natural" way. As we shall see, Mohr's scenario fails to provide an adequate explanation for this event, and that controlled demolition is still the most likely cause.

The first thing to note about this video is that it is a remake of a previous video Mohr made to explain Building 7's collapse. After David Chandler pointed out an error Mohr made in his analysis of the velocity vs. time graph used by NIST,³⁶¹ Mohr corrected this error and uploaded a revised version. Despite fixing this one error in his video, there are several more mistakes that Mohr also should have corrected.

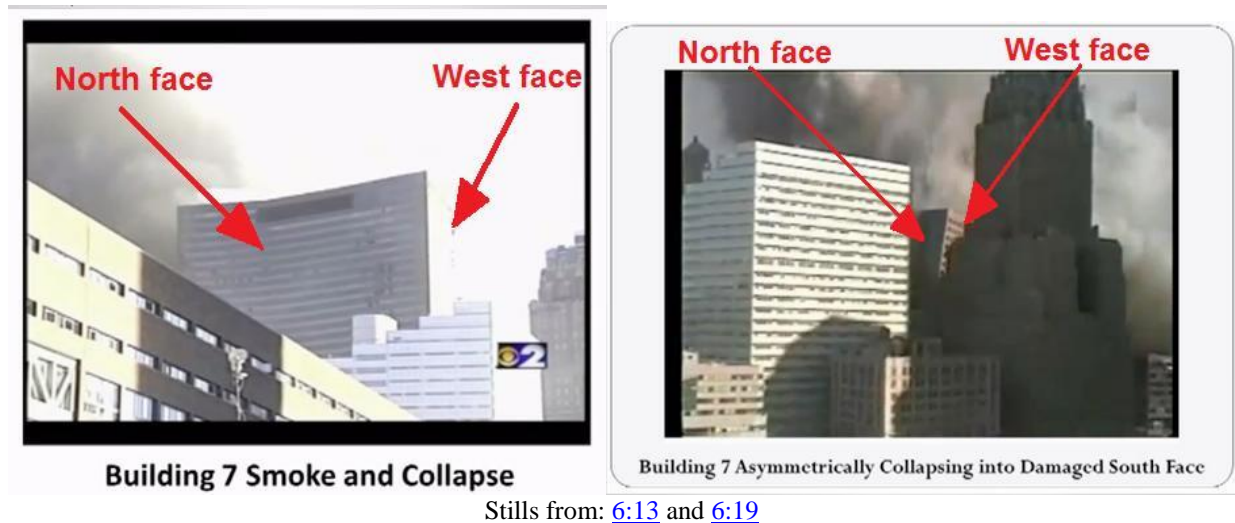
At [1:15](#), Mohr claims that "**Building 7 was 47 stories high, and only one perimeter wall of eight of those stories is known to have collapsed at free-fall acceleration.**" This characterization is highly misrepresentative of how Building 7 actually came down. In regards to Mohr's claim that only "**one perimeter wall**" collapsed at free-fall (a claim he repeatedly makes throughout his video), physicist David Chandler notes that:

There is no evidence that it is only the north perimeter wall left when the building falls... There is a video showing the north and west walls of the building both falling together. The west wall is connected to the south wall, and there is no evidence of the west and south walls tearing or detaching or significantly deforming, so the south wall also is falling at the same time.³⁶²

Indeed, videos that show that both the north and west walls fell together are actually shown in Mohr's video!

³⁶¹ See: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e8N6V68jotg>

³⁶² Quoted from: Email correspondence with David Chandler.



As NIST itself even reports:

The entire building above the buckled-column region then moved downward in a single unit, as observed.³⁶³

In regards to Mohr's assertion that "eight of those stories is known to have collapsed at free-fall acceleration," David Chandler also notes:

This evokes a picture of a small piece of wall falling at freefall. It was the whole building falling at freefall. The reference to eight floors is a graphic way of saying the whole building fell for ~100 feet in freefall. Multiple videos show the whole building falling as a unit.³⁶⁴

A free-fall drop through eight floors, or 100+ feet, is no small drop. Building 7 was 610 feet tall, so it fell in free-fall through roughly 1/6 of its height.

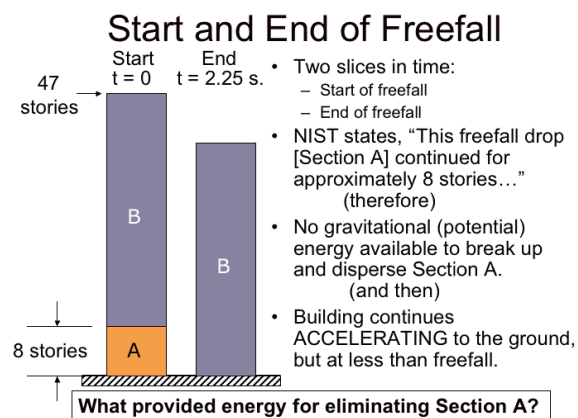
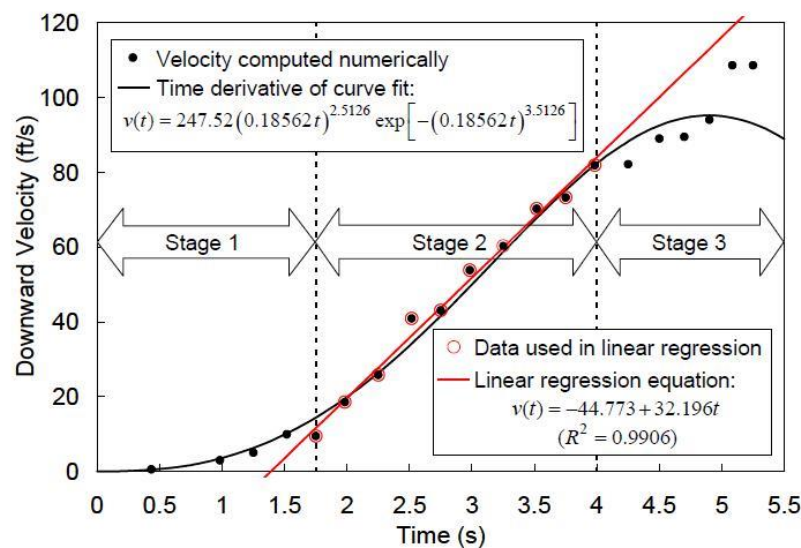


Image from: <http://www.ae911truth.org/en/news-section/41-articles/205-two-seconds-that-will-live-in-infamy.html>

³⁶³ Quoted from: NCSTAR 1A p. 55

³⁶⁴ Quoted from: Email correspondence with David Chandler.

Mohr then proceeds to analyze NIST's velocity vs. time graph for Building 7's descent at [1:40](#). Here is the graph reproduced from NIST's WTC7 final report.



3–15. Downward velocity of north face roofline as WTC 7 began to collapse.

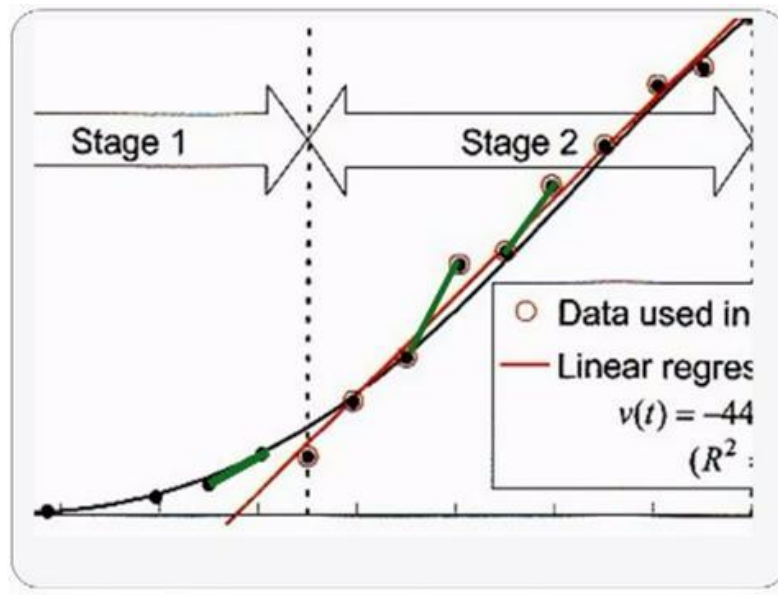
Image from: NCSTAR 1A, pg. 46

NIST's detailed description of each of these stages is as follows:

- In stage 1, the descent was slow and the acceleration was less than that of gravity. This stage corresponds to the initial buckling of the exterior columns in the lower stories of the north face. By 1.75 s, the north face had descended approximately 2.2 m (7 ft).
- In Stage 2, the north face descended at gravitational acceleration, as the buckled columns provided negligible support to the upper portion of the north face. This free fall drop continued for approximately 8 stories or 32.0 m (105 ft), the distance traveled between times $t = 1.75$ s and $t = 4.0$ s.
- In Stage 3, the acceleration decreased somewhat as the upper portion of the north face encountered increased resistance from the collapsed structure and the debris pile below. Between 4.0 s and 5.4 s, the north face corner fell an additional 39.6 m (130 ft).³⁶⁵

Mohr highlights certain steep points on the graph to make his case that Building 7 fell “**perhaps very slightly faster than free-fall.**” Mohr makes this argument constantly in his video, his reasoning apparently being that explosives cannot cause a building to fall faster than what gravity could allow.

³⁶⁵ Quoted from: NCSTAR 1A, pg 45



However, Mohr has no basis for saying the building fell slightly faster than free-fall based the information we have. Mohr's interpretation seems to be due to his focus on the steeper dots on the graph, which are simply within the margin of error for measuring the building's velocity. As David Chandler notes in regards to this point:

Mohr constantly asserts and reasserts that in phase 2 the acceleration was 0.1% faster than freefall. He acknowledges that this is within the margin of error of the measurements, yet he then turns around and takes it literally anyway, as though it was a significant measurement. NIST does not. NIST pegs the acceleration at exactly freefall.³⁶⁶

As Chandler also appropriately notes, "the most accurate way to characterize the result is to say the acceleration of the building is indistinguishable from free-fall."³⁶⁷

At 4:08, Mohr finally begins his explanation for how Building 7 could have fallen in free-fall for eight stories. His explanation begins with his comparison of the columns in Building 7 acting like sticks under pressure. His reasoning is that as the stick is bent, it has some resistance, but once it snaps, all the resistance is gone. However, the columns in Building 7 were far more likely to buckle rather than break, given their high level of strength. According to mechanical engineer Tony Szamboti:

The columns wouldn't have broken easily being made from a very ductile structural steel with a high elongation. Even if the columns did snap (highly unlikely), that doesn't allow for no resistance for eight stories.³⁶⁸

Indeed, even in NIST's computer model of WTC7's collapse, the exterior columns are bending in an irregular manner but not breaking, well into the free fall part of the collapse.³⁶⁹

³⁶⁶ Quoted from: Email correspondence with David Chandler.

³⁶⁷ Quoted from: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rVCDpL4Ax7I>

³⁶⁸ Quoted from: Email correspondence with Tony Szamboti.

Of course, Mohr argues in his video that “free-fall acceleration does not mean ‘no resistance,’ it means no net resistance, meaning that resistance can be cancelled out by other forces.” Mohr therefore seems to disagree with lead NIST investigator Dr. Shyam Sunder, who has claimed that “a free-fall time would be an object that has no structural components below it.”³⁷⁰ But what Mohr is apparently saying is that forces within the building may have caused the structure to be pulled down at the rate of free-fall. He claims there may have been “negative net resistance” in the structure. However, the scenario Mohr creates to outline this process is very problematic, as we shall see.

Mohr focuses strongly on NIST’s Stage 1 measurement that WTC7 fell initially at less than free-fall acceleration. He points out that free-fall may occur at the beginning of a controlled demolition, but not later. From this, he asks at 5:37, “If this were a controlled demolition, why would the acceleration rate have been so slow at first?” David Chandler provides an answer for that.

Any honest measurement of the collapse of the building shows the building holding steady right up to the point of freefall. The center of the roofline sags slightly along with the interior demolition that leads the exterior demolition by about a half second, but the motion of the corner of the building transitions directly from being essentially motionless into freefall.³⁷¹

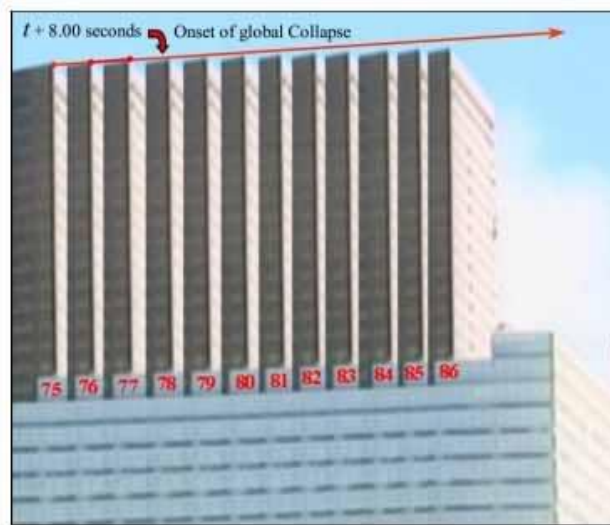
This is an important point Chandler raises. The starting point of NIST’s measurement was the initial dip of the building’s roofline. Within NIST’s 5.4 second time frame of the building’s descent, the building’s roof does start to sag at approximately 1.5 seconds into NIST’s timing. This was the key point NIST used in their report to assert that the overall collapse time of the upper 18 floors was 40% longer than free-fall. According to NIST, free-fall of the upper 18 floors would have taken 3.9 seconds. But according to their measurement, the upper 18 floors took 5.4 seconds to fall, which is 40% (1.5 seconds) longer than free-fall. However, this dip in the roofline (which actually happens in controlled demolitions³⁷²) has little bearing on the global collapse of the building. As was demonstrated to NIST by members of the Truth Movement, while the roof does sag in the first 1.5 seconds of NIST’s timing, the northwest corner of the building has not begun to move downward. The corner does not fall until about 1.5 seconds *into* NIST’s timing. By then, we’re back to 3.9 seconds.

³⁶⁹ See: FAQ #11: Does the NIST WTC 7 computer animation of the collapse prove that the skyscraper came down by fire?, by Chris Sarns, Richard Gage, and Gregg Roberts <http://www.ae911truth.org/en/news-section/41-articles/733-faq-11-does-the-nist-wtc-7-computer-animation-of-the-collapse-prove-that-the-skyscraper-came-down-by-fire.html>

³⁷⁰ Quoted from: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eDvNS9iMjzA&t=3m15s>

³⁷¹ Quoted from: Email correspondence with David Chandler.

³⁷² See: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YSAlHeL_Ls4



Images from: <http://911blogger.com/node/17794>

Therefore, the west side of the building evidently DOES start off collapsing at free-fall. Both Mohr and NIST can focus on the roofline dip if they choose to, but it is clear that this was an insignificant factor in the overall collapse of the building.³⁷³

At 6:44, Mohr presents a hand-drawn model of how he believes the internal collapse of WTC7 may have occurred.

³⁷³ David Chandler highlights how truly ridiculous citing this motion of the roofline is in this video: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pP4_8s-2Gmc



Note that he again asserts that the collapse may have been faster than free-fall, which we have already established he has no basis for saying. Essentially, Mohr's scenario involves an eight-story chunk of the interior structure torquing the perimeter structure downward, leveraging it to collapse at (or possibly faster than) free-fall. But there are numerous problems with Mohr's scenario that directly contradict his assertions. First, as David Chandler notes:

Mohr goes to lengths to construct a scenario by which the north wall could be leveraged down at greater than the acceleration of gravity by floor trusses connected to the other side of the building, which he postulates did not fall as early as the north wall. This contradicts NIST's assertion that the interior of the building had collapsed earlier. Without interior structure, how would torquing from one wall to the other take place? If there is any reality to the slightly greater than g downward acceleration, it could be due to the fact that the interior got a half second head start. The walls would then be pushed down slightly due to the slow relative motion of the falling material. However, this effect would be very slight and the center of mass would still be in freefall. Remember that during the entire time of freefall, the west penthouse gains on the rest of the building only a distance equal to its own height. These low relative speed impacts would not significantly affect the outcome.³⁷⁴

During the collapse of the east penthouse, several windows below it broke down the face of the building. However, further window breakage did not occur until the building began to collapse at free-fall. If the interior had had a significant lead in the collapse sequence, as Mohr and NIST suggest, one would expect a lot of window breakage to accompany it. This didn't happen. There was, however, significant window breakage at the onset of freefall. This indicates when the

³⁷⁴ Quoted from: Email correspondence with David Chandler.

interior disintegration was actually taking place. The fact of the matter is that the motion of the building is extremely at odds with what any partial or total interior collapse would look like prior to the perimeter collapse. This point was specifically noted by Dr. Frank Greening in his letter to NIST. He wrote:

According to NIST, the global collapse of WTC 7 began 6.9 seconds after the East Penthouse collapse or about 23 seconds into the simulation. Now consider NIST's Figures 12-66, 12-67 and 12-69 and in particular the images showing the alleged state of the core 17.5, 19.5, 20.7, 21.8, 24.1, 26.8 and 28.8 seconds into the collapse simulation. These images represent NIST's view of what the core looked like at ~1-2 second intervals following the collapse of the East Penthouse. What is most significant about these images is that around the time of global collapse initiation NIST's simulation shows that the eastern half of the core had completely collapsed while the western half of the core remained standing and relatively undamaged. This is quite remarkable since videos of the collapse of WTC 7 show that up to *and well beyond* the moment that the roofline of WTC 7 exhibited its first downward movement, the exterior of the building revealed absolutely no signs of NIST's proposed partial collapse of the core even though the core was connected to the exterior walls of Building 7 by dozens of horizontal beams on every floor.³⁷⁵

Dr. Greening ultimately concludes that such extensive interior destruction prior to the perimeter collapse "would have caused the eastern façade to buckle *well before* global collapse ensued," and that "this buckling would have been visible as a bowing of the northeast corner of the building." But as Dr. Greening rightly observes, "such pre-collapse buckling or bowing of WTC 7 was not observed."³⁷⁶ Though NIST asserts that the strength of the exterior enabled it to avoid deforming during the collapse,³⁷⁷ this still leaves open the question of how Building 7 was therefore able to collapse as fast as it did. In other words, defenders of the official story cannot have it both ways; either the exterior was strong enough to avoid deforming during interior collapse, or it was weak enough to allow the building to collapse at the rate it did.

Mohr's scenario simply does not adequately explain Building 7's period of free-fall, let alone the entire collapse of the building. As Tony Szamboti ultimately concludes:

When he talks about faster than freefall acceleration he tries to say that the internal structure falling first caused a whip action and negative resistance by the exterior. Negative resistance is completely impossible. As I said before, for faster than freefall to occur what actually had to happen is that the exterior resistance was removed and then caused to accelerate at a faster than freefall rate due to a whip action by the already moving interior. The notion of negative resistance is a ridiculous contention by Mohr... Controlled demolition does not have to be done in a way which produces freefall

³⁷⁵ Quoted from: Public Comments Received by NIST on DRAFT Reports, pg. 315 (The figures Dr. Greening refers to, Figures 12-66, 12-67, and 12-69 in NIST's draft report, now appear in the final report as Figures 12-67, 12-68, and 12-70, respectively).

³⁷⁶ Ibid. 315-316

³⁷⁷ See: Questions and Answers about the NIST WTC 7 Investigation, question 29

acceleration, but it is the only thing which can remove all resistance simultaneously and cause it. Freefall acceleration is completely impossible in a natural collapse.³⁷⁸

(I am extremely grateful for the extensive assistance provided by David Chandler and Tony Szamboti regarding this issue.)

The last few points Mohr raises concern the explosives that would have been used in Building 7. At [10:59](#), Mohr argues that thermate doesn't react fast enough to cut through the supports in the building. However, as we have already seen, civil engineer Jon Cole has demonstrated that thermate can cut through steel very quickly, and that explosive nanothermite could have been used as well. Mohr also argues that the use of incendiaries would have produced bright lights and flashes. But as can be seen in other demolitions, bright flashes can be prevented.³⁷⁹

In light of everything we have discussed, it is apparent that Mohr has not provided conclusive arguments against the controlled demolition theory. While some of his arguments have highlighted legitimate concerns regarding this theory, he has nevertheless failed to provide a coherent rebuttal to Richard Gage's presentation, and the controlled demolition theory in general. But Mohr believes otherwise, feeling that his explanations offer a solid case for "natural collapse." By the end, he triumphantly declares to Richard Gage that "**the debate is over.**" No Mr. Mohr, the debate is not over. Not by any stretch of the imagination. The evidence gathered by the careful researchers within the 9/11 Truth Movement continue to overwhelmingly support one central conclusion: that the Twin Towers and World Trade Center 7 were destroyed through controlled demolition.

³⁷⁸ Quoted from: Email correspondence with Tony Szamboti.

³⁷⁹ See: <http://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLF740EB584F45FBEB>

Part 19: New 9/11 Investigation?

Having finished his arguments against the controlled demolition theory, Mohr's nineteenth installment examines the Truth Movement's call for a new independent investigation into the 9/11 attacks. Mohr evidently feels that a new investigation is unwarranted based on the evidence we currently have. However, this claim is clearly unfounded, as we have demonstrated throughout this paper that the evidence overwhelmingly favors controlled demolition, and that a new investigation is surely needed. Yet Mohr believes otherwise, and offers reasons why he feels the Truth Movement has no grounds for a new investigation.

Mohr starts off at [0:30](#) discussing the fact that many people have encouraged him to support a new 9/11 investigation, due to the fact that there is much more evidence provided by the Truth Movement than just information regarding the controlled demolition theory. Though it is beyond the scope of this paper to intently discuss the non-demolition issues regarding 9/11, there are many valid reasons why a new investigation is warranted even without evidence of controlled demolition of the three WTC buildings. For example, 911truth.org has listed 40 compelling reasons why the official story of 9/11 cannot be taken seriously, most of which have nothing to do with the controlled demolition theory.³⁸⁰ Mohr is right to say that he has likely “**only looked at about 10% of the entire 9/11 Truth Movement's information**” since he has “**focus[ed] exclusively on just the science.**” This is an important point, as Jim Hoffman has noted that “many 9/11 researchers don't even address the physical evidence, preferring instead to focus on who had the means, motive, and opportunity to carry out the attack.”³⁸¹ Not only should Mohr look into these other topics, but they are well within his realm of his expertise to do so. Given the fact that he is a journalist, Mohr should be well adapted to investigating the non-scientific issues regarding 9/11.

At [1:23](#), Mohr discusses one of these non-demolition aspects of 9/11 that warrants further investigation: the fact that the official investigators of the original investigation have expressed doubt over the original investigation.

³⁸⁰ See: <http://911debunkers.blogspot.com/2008/08/top-40-reasons-official-911-story-is.html>

³⁸¹ Quoted from: Popular Mechanic's Assault on 9/11 Truth, by Jim Hoffman
<http://911research.wtc7.net/essays/gopm/indexg.html>

9/11 Commission: Resisted by Bush/Cheney!

Senator Max Cleland quit, calling it a farce and a cover up.

Thomas H. Kean, Chairman, 9/11 Commission said
"The 9/11 Commission was in many ways set up to fail...not enough money, not enough time."

Lee Hamilton, Vice Chairman, 9/11 Commission :
"They were afraid we were going to hang somebody, that we would point the finger, right in the middle of a presidential campaign."

Unlike the previous aspects of the 9/11 controversy Mohr has discussed, he claims this one actually "[has] credibility" for him. Again, this is the kind of issue Mohr should be looking into, as the evidence strongly supports the idea that the Commission was indeed "set up to fail." Several people within the 9/11 Commission have expressed serious doubt over the findings of the investigation, including:

- Bob Kerry, 9/11 Commissioner: "[M]any legitimate mysteries still surround the events of that day. There are ample reasons to suspect that there may be some alternative to what we outlined in our version... The commission had limited time and limited resources to pursue its investigation, and its access to key documents and witnesses was fettered by the administration."³⁸²
- John Lehman, 9/11 Commissioner: "We purposely put together a staff that had—in a way—conflicts of interest... All of the staff had, to a certain extent, some conflict of interest."³⁸³
- Timothy Roemer, 9/11 Commissioner: "We were extremely frustrated with the false statements we were getting... We were not sure of the intent, whether it was to deceive the commission or merely part of the fumbling bureaucracy... The panel even considered taking the matter to the Justice Department for a possible criminal probe."³⁸⁴
- Max Cleland, former 9/11 Commissioner: "It is a national scandal."³⁸⁵ "This investigation is now compromised."³⁸⁶ "One of these days we will have to get the full

³⁸² Quoted from: http://www.salon.com/2006/06/27/911_conspiracies/

³⁸³ Quoted from: <http://georgewashington.blogspot.com/2008/02/lehman-commission-purposely-set-up-so.html>

³⁸⁴ Quoted from: <http://www.cnn.com/2006/POLITICS/08/02/9-11panel.pentagon/index.html>

³⁸⁵ Quoted from: http://www.salon.com/2003/11/22/cleland_2/

³⁸⁶ Quoted from: http://articles.boston.com/2003-11-13/news/29196061_1_commission-ashley-snee-bipartisan-panel

story because the 9-11 issue is so important to America. But this White House wants to cover it up.”³⁸⁷

- John Farmer, Senior Counsel to the 9/11 Commission: “I was shocked at how different the truth was from the way it was described... The tapes told a radically different story from what had been told to us and the public for two years. . . . This is not spin. This is not true.”³⁸⁸
- Lee Hamilton and Thomas Keane, Chairmen of the 9/11 Commission: “The CIA (and likely the White House)... obstructed our investigation.”³⁸⁹ “We to this day don’t know why NORAD [the North American Aerospace Command] told us what they told us...It was just so far from the truth. . . . It’s one of those loose ends that never got tied.”³⁹⁰

Mohr correctly points out in his video that other investigations (such as the Challenger Disaster investigation) carried out by the government “**did not have this kind of descent irrupting from the commissioners themselves.**” Mohr sees this issue as significant, and claims he is “**torn**” by the call for a new investigation. Perhaps if Mohr were to investigate this subject further (he admits that he has “**not done as much research on [the commissioner’s statements] as I have on the science issues**”) he would fully appreciate the Movement’s demand for a new investigation. As such, he is still evidently unconvinced by the evidence presented by Richard Gage, and proceeds at [2:29](#) to list ten questions posed to Gage and the Truth Movement.

³⁸⁷ Quoted from: http://www.democracynow.org/2004/3/23/the_white_house_has_played_cover

³⁸⁸ Quoted from: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/08/01/AR2006080101300.html>

³⁸⁹ Quoted from: <http://www.nytimes.com/2008/01/02/opinion/02kean.html>

³⁹⁰ Quoted from: <http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2006/08/01/AR2006080101300.html?sub=new>

10 Sincere Questions for my 9/11 Truth Friends

1.) Over 1500 architects and engineers on your investigation petition: will you ever submit it to Congress?

2.) Who would be on this panel?

3.) Independent Commissions a threat to civil liberties?

4.) No reasonable suspicion scientifically

5.) Would 9/11 commission investigate UFOs, space rays, mininukes, missiles, holograms, and other 9/11 theories? Who decides which theories deserve a close look?

6.) What about other theories: Kennedy conspiracy, Martin Luther King, Pearl Harbor, aliens in cold storage, Obama's birth certificate... Do these merit special independent investigations, and if not, why controlled demolition and not these other ones?

7.) What about theories that haven't come true: of concentration camps for dissidents, stolen elections in 2006 and 2008 when the Dems won, CIA plans to assassinate Obama, plans for other false flag operations that never materialized, etc?

8.) What if independent commission uncovered incompetence but nothing else? Would you demand yet another investigation?

9.) Truth-and-Reconciliation, or the full force of the law?

10.) Why don't you submit your dust samples for standardized testing with RJ Lee?

Question 1 is fair, but it should be noted that several groups within the 9/11 Truth Movement have already made several attempts to bring this issue to the legal system. For example, the "Justice for 9/11" Steering Committee submitted a Citizens' Complaint and Petition to the offices of the Attorney General of New York State, Eliot Spitzer, citing probable cause for an independent grand jury investigation to examine unsolved crimes committed in connection with the events of 9/11.³⁹¹ Furthermore, an organization known as the NYC Coalition for Accountability Now succeeded in obtaining 80,000 signatures of NYC residents in support of a ballot initiative for a new 9/11 investigation to be held in New York, but was unfortunately shot down by a judge.³⁹² The Truth Movement has made many attempts in bringing forth the evidence to the legal system.

Question 2 supposes that only politicians would be involved, when in fact the correct people to also be involved are criminal investigators and scientists who can be shown to not have any conflicts of interest, as was clearly the case for the 9/11 Commission and NIST. In regards to question 3, it would need to be made sure that the new investigation will be carried out with respect to the civil liberty. Question 4 falsely assumes that there is no strong scientific evidence that the Towers and Building 7 were demolished, an assertion which has been shown to be wrong in this paper. Though Mohr is unconvinced by the evidence presented by AE9/11Truth, others don't share his views, including several of the 9/11 victim's family members,³⁹³ and even

³⁹¹ See: <http://www.justicefor911.org/index.php>

³⁹² See: <http://911truth.org/article.php?story=20091009172823422> and <http://nyccan.org/>

³⁹³ See: <http://www.ae911truth.org/en/news-section/41-articles/102-qthe-jersey-girlsq-support-ae911truth-efforts.html>

the FBI's Michael J. Heimbach, Assistant Director of the Counterterrorism Division, who agrees that "Mr. Gage presents an interesting theory, backed by thorough research and analysis."³⁹⁴

In regards to question 5, the evidence overwhelmingly supports controlled demolition with explosives. This theory, as we have already seen, has been submitted for peer review several times, while none of the other theories Mohr presents have. Likewise, we have also established that the investigation was essentially required to look for explosive residues anyway. Question 6 is quite irrelevant to the discussion of 9/11. None of the other issues Mohr presents have had as much support for a new investigation as 9/11. Question 7, like question 6, is also essentially irrelevant, as the issues Mohr brings up have nothing to do with the 9/11 controversy. Using Mohr's logic, we would avoid investigating virtually any issue if only on the basis that other predictions for events didn't come true.

Question 8 supposes that the Movement would not be satisfied by any investigation that revealed anything less than demolition for the Towers. However, if the new investigation were to be carried out correctly, as was the case for the Challenger Disaster, the Truth Movement would obviously be satisfied. In regards to question 9, the events of 9/11 were clearly a case of mass murder, so the full force of the law should be used. And finally, in regards to question 10, the authors have encouraged more study of the WTC dust, but evidently feel other samples should be used since they have so little to begin with.

Mohr's concerns over the validity of a new 9/11 investigation are understandable to some extent, but I feel that many of them only serve to cast unreasonable doubt rather than reasonable doubt. Mohr expresses so much concern over the issue of the red/gray chips, but this should not be his primary focus. As I pointed out earlier, there are so many issues regarding 9/11 that warrant investigation that Mohr really should look into, not just because they are significant, but because they are well within Mohr's area of expertise to do so. Even if the results of the ATM paper were shown to be false, the evidence of demolition for the Twin Towers and Building 7 would still be substantial, as well as other non-demolition issues.³⁹⁵ While Mohr calls for further investigation of the WTC dust, I call on him to investigate the other important issues raised by the 9/11 Truth Movement, in hopes that he will realize that the controversy surrounding 9/11 does not begin and end with the question of what happened to the three WTC skyscrapers.

³⁹⁴ Quoted from: <http://www.ae911truth.org/en/news-section/41-articles/210-fbi-acknowledges-thorough-research-and-analysis-of-ae911truth.html>

³⁹⁵ See: <http://911debunkers.blogspot.com/2012/01/what-does-it-mean-for-911-truth.html>

Part 20: Final Conclusion

And so we come to the conclusion of Mohr's extensive video series and "respectful rebuttal" of Richard Gage's *Blueprint for Truth*. Mohr's 235+ reasons for doubting the controlled demolition theory are very detailed and many of them are fair points. However, as we have definitively shown, Mohr's arguments ultimately do not refute the controlled demolition theory. Nor do they erase the genuine concern over the 9/11 controversy as a whole. The science supports the demolition theory very well, and the evidence supporting "natural collapse" appears to be unsatisfactory. Regardless of what Mohr believes, the debate is still very much continuing.

Mohr devotes his final video to explaining his sincere reasons for doubting the controlled demolition theory, and though I sympathize with many of his concerns, I hope that the explanations I have provided will help to change his mind. My sincerity is just as great as Mohr's in pursuing this issue, and I feel that only a continued open discussion will eventually lead us to the real truth of what happened that terrible day. And just as Mohr thanks several within the Movement for allowing this open debate to be explored, I also give my thanks to Chris Mohr for allowing me a chance to re-examine the events of 9/11 and to decide if this issue is still worth looking into. My concerns about 9/11 do remain, but they are the same concerns shared by so many who recognize that something is very wrong in the world today.

Mohr's description of his video series as a "rebuttal," as opposed to "debunking," correctly outlines how we should view the disagreements between "truthers" and "debunkers." While tempers tend to flare in discussions such as these, I appreciate Mohr's willingness to eliminate this problem by being as civil and sincere as possible. Those in the Movement should not look upon the debunkers as "enemies" of the truth (and vice versa). Instead, we should look upon them as fellow truth seekers who just happen to disagree with the other side. The only "enemies" in this entire controversy are the people who actually carried out the attacks, whoever they may be. There is one central fact that both truthers and debunkers can agree upon; that the events of September 11th, 2001 was a terrible tragedy that should never have happened, and those behind it should be brought to justice. And as long as we agree on that point, and that point alone, we are all on the same side.

Though Mohr feels that he has "respectfully rebutted" the Truth Movement's arguments, the evidence continues to demonstrate otherwise. But we should all continue to research this topic in hopes that it will finally bring closure to those most deeply affected by that day. And that is what is truly at the heart of this investigation; to find out why nearly 3000 people were murdered, and to make sure the victims' family members see true justice is served. There can be no greater duty as human beings than to investigate one of the most serious crimes in history that has literally affected us all. This is our world, and we all have a duty to protect it.



World Trade Center 1 (under construction) and the new World Trade Center 7, 9/11/2011

Appendix A: Mohr's 235+ Reasons

Below is a summary of Mohr's 235+ reasons for doubting the controlled demolition theory, accompanied by summarized rebuttals to each. This list is adapted from Rick Shaddock's website: www.ChrisMohr911.com

Reason by Chris Mohr	Response
1. Planes Hitting at 450-550 mph	The Towers were designed to take the impact of a Boeing 707 travelling at 600mph. See: www.911research.wtc7.net/wtc/analysis/design.html
2. Planes steeply banked, max damage	Wings tilted, distribute damage across several floors, enabling more supports to remain on each floor
3. 282,000-lb Planes	The steel on a single floor of the tower weighed ten times as much as a 767. See: www.911research.wtc7.net/reviews/nist/WTC_FAQ_reply.html
4. 60% of columns on crash side destroyed	"While the aircraft impact undoubtedly destroyed several columns in the WTC perimeter wall, the number of columns lost on the initial impact was not large and the loads were shifted to remaining columns in this highly redundant structure." – Thomas Eagar. See: www.tms.org/pubs/journals/jom/0112/eagar/eagar-0112.html
5. Fire Insulation Stripped Off	This has not been proven. See: www.journalof911studies.com/articles/Article_1_Ryan5.pdf
6. Cutoff of Water Sprinklers	According to NIST, the sprinklers wouldn't have made much of a difference anyway. See: www.nist.gov/public_affairs/factsheet/wtc_faqs_082006.cfm
7. Collapse Safety Factor of 3 Reduced	There was a safety factor of 3 for the core and 5 for the perimeter. See: www.journalof911studies.com/volume/200704/SzambotiSustainabilityofControlledDemolitionHypothesisForDestructionofTwinTowers.pdf
8. Eccentric Load on Surviving Beams	See point 4.
9. Structural Damage Throughout Building	The collapses initiated at floors with minimal damage. See: www.journalof911studies.com/volume/2008/FentonWTCInitiationFloors.pdf
10. Fast-moving Fires on all four faces in	Wrong. According to NIST: "The fires in WTC 2

15 minutes	reached the east side of the building more quickly, within 10 to 20 minutes, than the 50 to 60 minutes it took the fires in WTC 1 to reach the south side.” –NCSTAR 1-6, pg. 322 and 338
11. Smoke quickly choking occupants on top floors	Smoke doesn’t cause a building to collapse.
12. 1000 Windows Break out; 12,000 sq ft ventilation	Perhaps, similar conditions have occurred in other skyscraper fires.
13. Explosions Radiating Every Direction	Initial explosion didn’t cause collapse.
14. 90,000 Liters of Jet Fuel	Wrong. Each plane contained less than 10,000 gallons of fuel.
15. Fires Radiate to All Four Faces Within 15 Minutes	See point 10.
16. Jet Fuel in Elevator Shafts	Which means there was less fuel at the impact zones to fuel the fires.
17. Thermal limit of steel 750°	NIST has no evidence the steel reached these temperatures. See: www.journalof911studies.com/volume/2010/Falsifiability.pdf
18. Leslie Robertson didn't design WTC for fuel explosion	According to the lead WTC engineer John Skilling: “Our analysis indicated the biggest problem would be the fact that all the fuel (from the airplane) would dump into the building. There would be a horrendous fire. A lot of people would be killed. [But] the building structure would still be there.” See: http://community.seattletimes.nwsources.com/archive/?date=19930227&slug=1687698#loop
19. What We See Outside Is Small Part of Explosion	If we can’t see it, how do you know?
20. Jet Fuel Explosions on 77th and 22nd Floor of Lobby from Elevator Shaft	See point 16.
21. Fatal Fireball in Lobby Due to Elevator Fires	See point 16.
22. Inward Bowing of Perimeter Columns	No proof that fire was the cause of this. See: www.911debunkers.blogspot.com/2010/07/wtc-pre-collapse-bowing-debunks-911.html
23. Huge Temperature Differentials along Individual Beams 2750° Steel Melts 2012° Colin Bailey, max fire temperatures 1500° F max temp of hydrocarbon fires? 1800° max temp of WTC fires (NIST)	See point 17.

1400° max temp of WTC fires (Thomas Eagar) 800-1500° jet fuel burns 1100°-1200°, steel loses 50% of its integrity 1000° Steel begins to glow red 800-1000° steel girders are routinely bent 750° thermal limit of structural steel 572° steel loses resistance to distortion (creep strength) 300° steel will begin to expand in length 140° railroad tracks need expansion protection	
24. Bright orange flames in tower: evidence of 1800 degree fires	Thermo grams show low temperatures. www.youtube.com/watch?v=3PawC4u1U7k Also, see point 17.
25. Major Fires in multiple floors; smoke rising hundreds of feet up	See point 17.
26. Lattice of Inward Buckling of Perimeter Columns by 55 Inches	Experiments done show steel sags minimally. See: www.youtube.com/watch?v=-IACdhpFZjk
27. Sagging Steel, Inward Bowing Breaks Connection	See point 22.
28. Heavy Bowing 1 Min Before Collapse	See point 22.
29. The building with twice the weight above crash site collapsed twice as quickly.	Other factors to consider: More fuel exploded outside South Tower; Column strength stronger at lower levels. Fires were clearly more severe in North Tower.
30. 10:20 a.m.: NYPD aviation—"the top of the tower might be leaning."	See point 22.
31. A minute later, North Tower "is buckling on the southwest corner and leaning to the south."	See point 22.
32. At 10:28 a.m.: "the roof is going to come down very shortly" The North Tower collapsed seconds later.	See point 22.
33. Richard Gage claims that near the end, "The fires were diminishing severely." But they grew from 3 to 14 floors in less than an hour.	They were 6 floors of fire in WTC2 and 8 floors of fire in WTC1.
34. Hat truss near the top held up core momentarily, then dropped and dragged antenna down with it	Antenna could not fail without failure of the core first. See: www.journalof911studies.com/volume/200704/SzambotiSustainabilityofControlledDemolitionHyp

	thesisForDestructionofTwinTowers.pdf
35. If thermites at the top, then no one could have walked on the debris pile	The piles were evidently very hot after the collapses. See: http://911research.wtc7.net/wtc/evidence/rubblefiles.html
36. In classic controlled demolitions, no smoke comes out the top	The Towers were not classic demolitions, but still demolitions regardless.
37. People on top floors suffered smoke inhalation because hot smoke rises	Again, hot smoke doesn't cause a building to collapse.
38. Smoke and dust had no significant upward velocity	The outward velocity of debris was very great. See: www.youtube.com/watch?v=eHnLlwqiu0A
39. How is "Smoke rises" proof of a CD?	It may not be, but there are several other pieces of evidence that are stronger.
40. They took the towers down using demolition charges on the roof?	Perhaps not, but demolition devices were clearly placed further down.
41. Mild smoke ejection at the top not indicative of explosions	Maybe not, but there is stronger evidence of explosives at lower levels.
42. 2x Weight Above crash site fell 2x as fast. 42a. Collapse Onset Bellows Effect: 1/2 million cubic feet of air/floor pushes massive influx of oxygen on fires, creating large "ring of fire" around the building	See point 29. The ring of fire was likely from the fuel. However, if these fires were being smothered, then where did the heat come from for the 99 day fires in the debris?
43. NIST: "No building in the United States has ever been subjected to the massive structural damage and concurrent multi-floor fires that the towers experienced on Sept. 11."	The collapses initiated at floors with minimal damage. See point 9.
44. 13 Story High Façade... Why Didn't Nanothermites Pulverize This?	At the bottom of the WTCs, there probably was no need for explosives.
45. Total Dismemberment of Steel Structures DID NOT HAPPEN see slide	The buildings were clearly destroyed beyond repair.
46. Minimal Damage to Adjacent Structures????? not true! Major damage picture	Only happens in classic controlled demolition. Richard Gage acknowledges this fact in his presentation.
47. Dust Clouds Common to Controlled Demolition and Natural Collapse	This feature is common in demolitions, and given that the Towers exhibited other characteristics of demolition, then it is more likely that demolition is what occurred.
48. By Definition Controlled Demolition Impossible With Variables Like Plane Crashes and Fires	No, it's not. The demolitions were covert and set up to avoid effects from the planes and fires. See: http://911research.wtc7.net/faq/demolition.html#access
49. Tom Sullivan: Very Hard to Make It	Tom Sullivan also agrees that fires could not have

Perfect Under Best of Circumstances	caused what we saw. The demolitions were evidently successful.
50. Explosive Sounds In Controlled Demo	There were explosive sounds from the Tower collapses. See: www.youtube.com/watch?v=EseUt2LUan4#t=11m0s
51. Squibs Appear in Logical Patterns	The ejections from the Towers do have discernable patterns.
52. Squibs Appear Before Collapse	Some of the squibs did form before collapse. See: www.ae911truth.org/en/news-section/41-articles/585-faq-8-squibs.html
53. If lateral ejections from controlled demolition, then ½ mile away you would hear deafening 140 db sounds	Not necessarily. The sounds could have been reduced with the use of aluminothermics. See: http://911debunkers.blogspot.com/2011/03/magic-mythology-or-science.html
54. All six companies in the world that can bring down tall buildings dismiss this theory. They can't tear down the world's tallest buildings in secret in an entirely new way while a raging fire is going on, tossing in two crashing 767s to randomize structural damage and make the feat even more virtuosic.	There are demolition experts who believe the Towers and Building 7 were destroyed with explosives. See: http://demolitionexpertsquestion911.blogspot.com/
55. There has never been a tall building where a large jet with 98,500 liters of exploding fuel hit at over 500 mph creating massive fires where softened steel has had to hold up 180,000,000 pounds above it.	Again, there was less than 10,000 gallons in either case. The Towers were designed for airplane strikes. See: http://911research.wtc7.net/wtc/analysis/design.html
56. The World Trade Center Towers dispensed with heavy concrete reinforcement because its weight would have made a 110 story skyscraper unsound. Instead the builders used a spray on fire retardant.	See point 5.
57. Tall Steel Framed Building's Very Fast, Almost Symmetrical, Collapse into its Own Footprint after coffee maker fire	The collapse of the Delft University is similar to the WTC, but the differences clearly outweigh the similarities. See: http://911debunkers.blogspot.com/2011/07/chris-mohrs-respectful-rebuttal-smells.html
58. Steel Frame Structures Collapse in Fire: In 1997 the large Sound Theatre in Pennsylvania In 1967, the very large steel-framed McCormick Center in Chicago collapsed in 30 minutes	None of these structures are fair comparisons to the WTC buildings. See: http://citizenfor911truth.files.wordpress.com/2011/06/otherbuildingcollapses-1.pdf

<p>Three four-story-high steel framed buildings at the Kadel Toy Factory in Singapore collapsed in 1997</p> <p>The Mumbai High North Oil Platform, constructed of steel and seven stories high, completely collapsed after burning for two hours</p> <p>Interstate 580 overpass near San Francisco, supported only by steel beams, collapsed due to the heat of a gasoline fire after nineteen minutes</p> <p>Sofa SuperStore Charleston SC, long span roof trusses</p> <p>WTC 5 had a partial collapse of four floors on 911.</p>	
59. People Surprised By Steel Building Collapses Since 1900 (Unsinkable Titanic)!	See point 57.
60. Traditional bldgs : steel-reinforced concrete. In fires, steel bends and concrete holds it together.	Yet not a single 100% steel-framed skyscraper has ever collapsed from fires.
61. Sagging Steel beams in a regular fire.	See point 60.
62. Vincent Dunn has "seen twisted, warped, bent and sagging steel. Steel tries to expand at both ends, when it can no longer expand, it sags..."	True. But again, steel sagging and weakening has never caused a steel-framed skyscraper to collapse.
63. Barehanded Guys Bending Steel Around a Tree (Sherman's Necktie)	Steel does have somewhat lower conductivity than other metals. But compared to non-metallic material its conductivity is high. NIST evidently did not correctly factor steel conductivity in their simulations. See: http://911research.wtc7.net/essays/nist/index.html#conduction
64. Robert Berhinig, 1967: "steel frame buildings can collapse as a result of... fire. This is true for all types of construction materials, not only steel."	True. But the fires in the Towers appear to have been less severe than the fires in other skyscrapers that didn't collapse.
65. If Steel Can't Be Brought Down By Fire, Why Bother With Concrete Reinforcement or Fireproofing of Steel Frames?	Steel can fail from fire, but it has never caused the total collapse of a steel skyscraper.
66. Towers did not fall at almost free fall speed.	They accelerated at 2/3 free-fall. The acceleration shows that some sort of external force removed the column strength. See: www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZjSd9wB55zk

67. Towers provided structural resistance and fell at 2/3 free fall: 180,000,000 pounds crashing down at 100+ mph.	Where is the evidence that the tops initially fell at 100+ mph? Also, see point 66.
68. Core with its extra structural supports came down last, standing 25 seconds. The core structure would always get detonated first or the building collapse won't work right.	The 24 outer core columns evidently were taken down first in the demolition. See: http://gordonssite.tripod.com/id2.html
69. Force equals Mass times Acceleration 10,000,000 pounds of force becomes 98,000,000 pounds of force in one second; 196,000,000 pounds of force in two seconds	Again, there should have been noticeable resistance, but there was none. See point 66.
70. F. R. Greening: WTC buildings weighed 580 million pounds: WTC II: 180,000,000 pounds on top going 100mph, overwhelming resistance.	The top of the South Tower collapsed at a faster rate than what gravity could allow. See: www.sealane.org/writings/newSTCsub.pdf
71. 7 to 14 times the structural load was on the buildings during the collapse.	There was never a dynamic load exerted on the buildings. See: www.journalof911studies.com/volume/2008/TheMissingJolt7.pdf
72. In two seconds, free-fall is about 45 miles per hour.	Did the Towers start out collapsing at free-fall? See point 66.
73. Average strength during collapse a tiny fraction of static strength "Toughness" = work required to fracture material Much less than the static strength of each member times its length	See point 71.
74. Can Explosives Right this 22° Tilting Top??	Yes. See: www.sealane.org/writings/newSTCsub.pdf
75. Top of the South Tower is tilted 22 degrees into the hole left behind by the plane crash.	The impact may have affected the way the top fell. But it is what happened below that is significant.
76. Explosives would be destroyed	No, they wouldn't. See: http://911research.wtc7.net/faq/demolition.html#positioning
77. Shape Charges Sensitive to Geometry	The explosives could have been set to avoid the areas where the plane struck. Also, see point 9.
78. Explosives burn, detonate or degrade in high heat.	Conventional explosives perhaps. But aluminothermic explosives can be made not to. See: http://911review.com/means/demolition/nanocomposites.html
79. Detonators, receivers, wiring, connections between explosives are	The explosives could have been set up with wireless detonators. See:

sensitive.	http://911review.com/means/demolition/index.html
80. Demolition crews could not instantly right the 180,000,000 pound building top collapsing at high speeds in mid-course; collapse initiation in a raging fire	See point 74.
81. Lateral Force vs Gravity: Sideways vs Downward Forces	Toppling can produce a lateral force that increases as the center of mass is laterally displaced from the fulcrum.
82. Fast descent of building: collapsed to ground before time to tip over.	The lower sections didn't start to collapse until the upper sections were destroyed.
83. Gravity overcame angular momentum and pulled it back.	Because the upper sections disintegrated as they fell, there likely was not much momentum to transfer in the first place.
84. The crushed structure resists, reactive force will tend to keep the upper block centered.	There evidently was no resistance see point 70.
85. Towers rotated a few degrees, a gradual collapse mechanism. If all the supports had failed simultaneously in a controlled demolition, neither Tower would have rotated.	Wrong. Tilts often happen in demolitions. See: www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL4B4EE5DA2B118EAC
86. The toppling collapse theory requires crushing to be occurring on only one side, which is implausible.	How was the upper section of the South Tower supposed to symmetrically crush the lower section if it was tilted 22 degrees?
87. Building collapse accelerates, pushing air out faster, causing greater lateral ejection	Many of the lateral ejections appeared above the crush front.
88. Lateral Ejection of Steel Beams Not a Sign of Classic Controlled Demolition... Very Little Lateral Ejection at First, Increases With Acceleration	The Towers were not conventional demolitions. This point is made by Richard Gage.
89. Hurricane Andrew: Impaled Plywood with winds ¼ the speed of wind from Towers' collapses	So this wind blew 4+ ton steel beams and columns over 500 feet away?
90. ½ million cubic feet of air per floor at 12 floors per second	The Towers were not air tight, so the air had many areas of escape.
91. Bow-and-arrow effect when inward-bowing columns snap back and shoot "arrows" of steel	The columns don't appear to have flexed outward. They shoot out in a horizontal direction.
92. "Pinball" effect when steel falling outside vertically hits another object and deflects horizontally	Again, many of the ejections happened well above the crush front and therefore could not hit other objects.

93. Loud Explosions can't be Masked 93a. Reason for Natural Collapse: Random Squibs	With aluminothermic technology, they can. See point 53. The ejections do seem to have a discernable pattern. See: www.youtube.com/watch?v=zoAD8HlrLZg
94. Squibs happened after collapse began.	Some of them happened before. See point 52.
95. Survivors felt "hurricane wind" in stairwells.	Explosives can displace large volumes of air.
96. No structural deformations from squibs.	Not true. See: www.youtube.com/watch?v=t64rlnaCqY8
97. Squibs Start Slowly Then Grow As Collapse Nears	Perhaps the initial squibs were for initiation and then the rate increased to quickly wipe out the lower sections.
98. By The Way: A 110-Story Building of 95% Air Would Leave a Debris Pile of 6 Stories if All Air Removed	Virtually all tall buildings are mostly air anyway.
99. If Squibs Premature Charges, Others Would Not Have Gone Off And Would Be Found	Speculation. Just because they were not found doesn't mean they weren't used in the demolition. It means they did go off.
100. Almost all physicists insist there was plenty of energy to thoroughly but gradually pulverize three-to-four-inch layers of concrete.	Not all the concrete needs to be pulverized for it to be a demolition.
101. Gage says 110,000 kw hrs not enough energy to pulverize concrete, but it is more than a W-48 nuclear weapon	See point 100.
102. 1,000 tons of thermite would blow the tops of the Towers hundreds of feet up 102a. Dust cloud could not have expanded thermally 3.4 times of cloud would have been 1300°	There likely wasn't that much thermite in the tops of the Towers.
103. Most of the Concrete Pulverized: Nanothermites Exploding Every Inch?	Not every inch, but perhaps a good portion of it.
104. Rescue crews walked on cool rubble immediately. Hot nanothermites would make that impossible	Parts of the debris evidently were extremely hot right after the collapses. See: http://911research.wtc7.net/papers/dreger/GroundZeroHeat2008_07_10.pdf pg. 27
105. Not All the Concrete Completely Pulverized. Large expanses of medium and small size concrete chunks in sandy concrete not fully pulverized	True, but this is the case for controlled demolitions as well.

106. Twenty Pancaked Floors	Perhaps not all the floors were loaded with explosives. The only floors found were in the sub-basements.
107. Are those pancaked floor layers in the right photo of this Blueprint for Truth Slide?	Perhaps. But it should still be examined to see what exactly formed it.
108. Pyroclastic Clouds Kill Entire Villages	The clouds were not pyroclastic.
109. This Is Not 1100°; Dust a Bit Warm from Fires	True. But the heat from the dust clouds may have not only been caused by the fires.
110. Why didn't nanothermites burn millions of sheets of paper? 110a. If nanothermites, flying beams would be red or even white hot on the edges	Paper existed in all forms at Ground Zero. Much of the paper was blown outside of the buildings by the initial plane impacts. Some of the columns do appear to have white ends.
111. If those clean diagonal cuts on debris beams, then why aren't diagonal cuts visible in the pictures of the flying steel beams?	The diagonal cuts were likely done by the clean-up operations. The weld connections were likely attacked in the demolition.
112. No loud blasting sounds on videos	Explosive sounds can be heard and were reported by witnesses. See point 50.
113. No 140 db blasting sounds ½ mile away	The sounds were heard miles away and were described as explosions. See point 50.
114. Masking explosive sounds by 8db max	Sounds could have been decreased through the use of nanothermite-based explosives.
115. Nanothermites may be low explosive	Nanothermites have been shown to be high explosives. See: http://911blogger.com/news/2011-06-20/explosive-nature-nanothermite
116. I read 50 firefighters' accounts of explosive sounds around collapse time, not before: http://graphics8.nytimes.com/package...s_full_01.html	Some did report explosions before the collapse started. See: www.journalof911studies.com/articles/Article_5_118Witnesses_WorldTradeCenter.pdf
117. Some explosions before from fuel in elevator shafts and in the basement, crashing freight elevator	All that means is that there was less fuel in the crash zone for the fires.
118. No seismic evidence of major explosions	Seismic signals are not always recorded in demolitions anyway. See: http://911research.wtc7.net/reviews/blanchard/index.html#point4
119. White smoke explosions in fires	The vast majority of the smoke coming from the Towers was black and dark gray.
120. Only Ten or so former FDNY firefighters still think bombs were used (5000 FDNY employees)	See point 116. These testimonies should have been taken into consideration in the investigation.

121. Few firefighters can distinguish sound of bombs from regular fire explosions; many are getting trained now	Perhaps, but this issue should still be investigated.
122. Firefighters say office fire explosions common	True. But many of the explosions were reported right before and during the collapses.
123. These explode in office fires (partial list) HVAC equipment including condensers and compressors Cleaning supplies CRT type TV's and computer monitors. Large motors that have an oil reservoir for lube. Elevator lift motors hydraulic pistons found in office chair. UPS battery backups Tires in vehicles Steam explosions when water hits a hot fire or molten aluminum Propane tanks A metal fire, possibly aluminum, as NIST proposed After the first collapse, firefighters' SCOTT pack bottles	See point 122.
124. If FDNY thought there were bombs, they would have ordered evacuation.	Several FDNY members did believe bombs were at Ground Zero. See: www.youtube.com/watch?v=nfdgtVWp8PE
125. NIST: 72% smelled jet fuel in stairwells.	See point 117.
126. Random Eyewitness Accounts of fireballs, or mere flashes, or ground shaking with no other effect.	This doesn't discount their testimonies. Should still be investigated.
127. Philip Morrell: ground shaking caused by freight elevator crash.	True. But there is still ample evidence of explosives in the Towers.
128. Molten Debris Came From Plane Crash Site, is Discolored Aluminum Soup Mixed With Burnt Office Furniture, Paper, Etc.	Organic materials do not mix with molten aluminum. See: http://stj911.org/jones/experiments_NIST_orange_glow_hypothesis.html
129. Why molten debris here only? Why asymmetrical?	The plane impact likely pushed a thermite device to that location.
130. WTC Designer Leslie Robertson said he wasn't qualified to talk about molten steel	Still doesn't change the fact that he changed his story. See: www.youtube.com/watch?v=hLCwq3-RzZs
131. NASA Satellite Images show only 1400°, not 2800°	These images were of surface temperatures. It was likely hotter down below. Regardless of the

131a. Abundant Aluminum in Debris to Melt at 1200 degrees	aluminum present, other metals were clearly affected by extreme heat. See: www.journalof911studies.com/articles/WTCHighTemp2.pdf
132. Molten Steel Would Have Destroyed the Claw	The claw did not directly grab onto the molten steel.
133. Regular Fires Can Last for Months	This is true only when there is a proper fuel source. It has not been proven that Ground Zero had adequate fuel to keep the fires burning.
134. Thermites Burn Out Fast, Not for Months	The long lasting heat was likely caused by continuing chemical reactions. See: http://911research.wtc7.net/wtc/evidence/gases.html
135. Fuel oil from generators seeped down on fire	Much of the fuel was actually recovered at Ground Zero. See: http://911research.wtc7.net/papers/dreger/GroundZeroHeat2008_07_10.pdf pg. 70
136. V. Palmieri Testified he used USGS Maps, 1400o Max	Again, this was only for surface temperatures. Also, some steel was heated to temperatures above 1400 degrees.
137. Steel Girders from Burning Floors	The girders were burned, but the evidence indicates they were heated to higher temperatures than what normal fires could allow.
138. If temps 2800o, then thermal expansion of water would have caused water explosions	This apparently was a concern at Ground Zero. See: www.gelmans.com/ReadingRoom/tabid/65/ctl/ArticleView/mid/372/articleId/159/OSHA-Identifies-Hazards-and-Risks-of-World-Trade-Center-911-Worksite.aspx
139. Diagonal Cuts in Beams in Debris Caused by Thermitics? No, cut by first responders	See point 111.
140. Pools of Molten Metal Localized, Not Universal	The localization of the pools is suspicious itself. See: http://911research.wtc7.net/papers/dreger/GroundZeroHeat2008_07_10.pdf pg. 16
141. Debris Pile 10-12 Stories High/Deep	True, but this does not mean the buildings were not demolished.
142. Iron mixed with other metals has a lower melting point.	Other metals were also melted and/or vaporized at higher temperatures. See point 131a.
143. Fire burns off materials and leaves higher concentration of iron-rich spheres 143a. Thermitics would leave tons of formerly melted iron blobs in the debris pile, not just microspheres.	This cannot account for the abundance of spheres found. Again, the molten metal was seen by many first responders. And it must be kept in mind that the debris was carted away.

<p>144. “Thousands of cutter charges” a logistical nightmare which would leave behind: Steel fractures with high rate-of-strain Copper around cut surfaces and inside steel Abundant steel shrapnel 144a. In the early 1970s, thousands of very hot welded steel connections were made during construction; this would be a source of countless iron microspheres</p>	<p>Steel columns showed evidence of attack at the weld connections. Copper would only be found in the use of conventional explosives, not thermitic explosives. Much of the Towers were reduced to shrapnel.</p> <p>The iron-rich spheres examined by Dr. Jones et al. are not consistent with structural steel.</p>
<p>145. RJ Lee Dust study says iron-rich spheres to be expected in fire</p>	<p>The ATM paper analyzes iron-rich spheres from three different sources: residue from the ignition of commercial thermite, residue from the ignition of the red-gray chips found in the WTC dust, and the spheres found by themselves in the dust. They are almost indistinguishable, or “strikingly similar” as the paper puts it.</p>
<p>146. Photo and Spectrograph of iron-rich sphere in Tolk fly ash 146a. FEMA Appendix C: Corroded Steel, Evidence of Fires Under 1800 Degrees.</p>	<p>The iron constituents from fly ash are an oxide rather than elemental iron.</p> <p>Actually, is evidence of fires approaching 1800 degrees. But there is also evidence of higher temperatures as well. See point 142.</p>
<p>147. Thermate Surgically Cuts Through Steel Like a Hot Knife Through Butter?? Picture shows steel corroded in random patterns.</p>	<p>Perhaps this steel was asymmetrically hit with thermate. Other parts of the building would have been more symmetrically attacked.</p>
<p>148. Sulfidized Steel Melts at Much Lower Temperatures</p>	<p>True, which is why thermate would have been used.</p>
<p>149. Thermate would cut too slowly for precise controlled demolition</p>	<p>Not true. See: www.youtube.com/watch?v=5d5iIoCiI8g</p>
<p>150. Localized Sulfidized Steel, Not Found Throughout Debris</p>	<p>The debris was recycled before proper forensic analyzation could be carried out.</p>
<p>151. Sulfidized steel: all horizontal beams, not support columns; can't explain a global collapse.</p>	<p>However, NIST argues that the failure of a horizontal girder in WTC7 led to “global collapse.”</p>
<p>152. 911 firefighter Vincent Palmieri: “I understand that there were a few steel pieces that were corroded by sulfur, but in the massive debris piles I worked on I never saw a single example of sulfidized steel.”</p>	<p>How would he recognize sulfidized steel?</p>
<p>153. Intergranular melting is not classic melting; 4500 degree thermites would obliterate structure of sulfidized</p>	<p>Only if placed symmetrically. See point 147.</p>

steel	
154. Discoverer Jonathan Barnett's Possible Causes for Sulfidized Steel: - Heating oil -Construction materials such as gyp wallboard dust -environmental sources such as acid rain Never Mentions Thermate!	These and other materials have been tested and have been shown not to have corroded steel. See: www.youtube.com/watch?v=VvQDFV1HINw
155. CSWDC Waste Company: Gypsum can create sulfur dioxide when burned	See point 154.
156. 2001: nanothermites in development stage	The technology would have been well developed by 2001. See: http://911blogger.com/news/2011-06-20/explosive-nature-nanothermite
157. Nanothermites non-explosive? heat not gas?	Nanothermite can be made to be very explosive. See point 115.
158. The least energetic dust sample with the highest ignition temperature (in blue) is plotted against known nanothermite: not a match	All this means is that this is more powerful nanothermite.
159. Carbon-based materials burned in air may have caused energy spike, not thermites	This is unlikely, as the chips produce iron microspheres, indicating a thermitic reaction.
160. If you found unexploded thermitics then where are the unexploded triggering devices?	The devices could have been made exceedingly small and disguised.
161. Tests Inconclusive Because: Burning test should have used argon or nitrogen gas to see if thermites burn without oxygen.	The ATM paper authors repeated previous experiments that were done in open air. See: http://911debunkers.blogspot.com/2010/01/controlled-demolition-expert-mark.html
162. Tillotson used PXRD in original nanothermite experiment; Harritt et al did not	How does this affect their conclusions?
163. Gage flashed spectrographs of dust vs thermites, they looked different and he never explained them	The spectrographs of the dust and thermite do match quite well. See: http://911research.wtc7.net/essays/thermite/explosive_residues.html#residue_analysis
164. No aluminum oxide in dust sample, which would be residue of exploded thermite	Aluminum oxide would disperse in the air and not be present.
165. Not adequately tested for fluorine in the dust, which Kevin claims is used to stabilize the silicon.	Further study is needed, but the means to do so were unavailable to the ATM authors.
166. Everything found in the dust	However, these materials would have chemically

<p>was in the towers (if not true, more proof needed): sulfur in the gypsum iron in paint and electrical equipment manganese in steel fluorine in air-conditioning freon titanium in the planes and buildings potassium in concrete (bananas in the snack room?... Just kidding!)</p> <p>Chips claimed to be identical to the chemical composition of the paint, fire retardant, vermiculite,</p>	<p>fused together due to random events such as fires and collapse. Some mechanism was needed.</p> <p>The chips cannot be paint. See: http://911debunkers.blogspot.com/2011/04/debunker-debunkers-exploding-paint.html</p>
<p>167. EPA's Erik Swartz told the Times Union 1,3-diphenylpropane (1,3-DPP), was present at levels "that dwarfed all others," produced by plastic of burning computers sound-proofing and rust proofing.</p>	<p>No tests were conducted to prove this.</p>
<p>168. The Next Essential Steps Have Not Been Taken Richard Gage: "We need repeatable experiments on the dust." Complete the discovery with presentation of findings to qualified scientists Release dust samples to any one of these independent labs for testing: RJ Lee, EMRTC, MACE, or NJIT's ACN group.</p>	<p>It is agreed that the replication of the thermite study has been slow, over 2 years. Science depends on repeatable studies, standard scientific procedure, in order to be accepted by the scientific community. There is no short cut or substitute. (The study conducted by Dr. James Millette has been shown to be problematic. See: http://911debunkers.blogspot.com/2012/03/millette-versus-harrit-et-al-mek-test.html)</p>
<p>169. Bin Laden said he did it</p>	<p>This does not mean the Towers were not demolished. See: http://911debunkers.blogspot.com/2008/12/alleged-911-plotters-offer-to-confess.html</p>
<p>170. For Natural Collapse: At least Six Variations of Natural Collapse Theory, all with minor variations on the NIST proposed sequence. This is normal in science, NOT proof of fraud by NIST!!!!</p>	<p>However, many issues raised by the Truth Movement cannot be explained by any "natural collapse" scenario.</p>
<p>171. David Scott, chair of the Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat wrote, "the failure was caused by thermal expansion but perhaps the critical point of time was as the expanded beam returns back to its original position. This is part of the thermal expansion theory."</p>	<p>Thermal expansion has never caused a high-rise skyscraper to collapse.</p>

172. WTC 7 Much bigger fires on south face. Building Seven: Another Raging Fire Picture	This was likely caused by negative air pressure, not fire. See: http://911debunkers.blogspot.com/2012/02/what-does-building-engulfed-in-fire.html
173. Fire originated on ten floors	There were only six critical fire floors.
174. Water Supply Impaired, no firefighting efforts	NIST concluded that this was likely insignificant. See: www.nist.gov/el/disasterstudies/wtc/faqs_wtc7.cfm
175. “It was a huge hole right in the middle of it.”	NIST concluded the building would have collapsed even without the structural damage. See: www.nist.gov/el/disasterstudies/wtc/faqs_wtc7.cfm
176. First Responders Walking Through Cool Debris Pile While Building 7 Fire Rages: Where’s the 4500o Nanothermitic Heat?	See point 104.
177. Damage from Tower Collapse	See point 175.
178. “Meteorite”: Unburned Paper!	Paper may have occasionally survived in the debris.
179. The Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat Director David Scott: “The Council...sees no credibility whatsoever in the 9/11 ‘truth movement’ and we believe, with the vast majority of tall building professionals, that all the failures were a direct or indirect result of the planes...flown into the two towers. We cannot see any credible scientific evidence of a controlled demolition on WTC 7 or any of the other WTC buildings. The Council considers that the ‘truth movement’ is a distraction...”	Others don’t feel the same way. Majority opinion does not determine what the truth is.
180. Buildings collapse hours after fires go out.	Yet this has never occurred in a steel-framed skyscraper.
181. Face twisted towards the end, rotated southwards as it fell, and the north face developed a visible kink off-centre as the column failures progressed outwards from the initial point of failure	These features can occur in demolitions. See point 85.
182. Controlled demolitions not necessarily symmetrical anyway	True. See point 181.

183. “Path of least resistance” limited to paths that are actually available.	The buildings could have toppled over.
184. Royal Gorge Colorado: carves through mountain with nearby flat terrain. 184a. If a brick falls on an egg, will it move to the side because that’s the path of least resistance?	This is in no way comparable to the Towers and Building 7. No, but the upper sections of the buildings were clearly destroyed before the lower sections began to give way.
185. Conservation of momentum and lateral force	Again, little force was acting on the buildings in the first place. See point 71.
186. WTC Buildings fell through path of least resistance, often bypassing columns and the core instead falling into open office space	This does not explain why the outer core columns collapsed along with the rest of the structure. See also: www.journalof911studies.com/letters/c/ColumnsMissLegge9.pdf
187. Earthquakes Topple Buildings to Sides Only Because of Lateral Forces	The toppling of the upper section of the South Tower would have created large lateral forces.
188. An object can’t just float to the side and into midair and drop that way.	No one is saying that is what would have happened.
189. Thomas Eagar: “The building is 95 percent air and can implode onto itself. A [large] structure has too much inertia to fall in any direction other than nearly straight down.”	If buildings that are 95 percent air—virtually all tall office buildings—then why do demolition companies spend millions of dollars to ensure that a building falls straight down?
190. Michael Brown: “...Collapses began were tilted toward the weakened collapse points.”	Not necessarily true for the North Tower, as it initially tilted away from the most damaged location.
191. WTC 7 Tilting 6 degrees before collapse	See point 181.
192. No major explosions immediately prior	Explosions were heard and recorded. See: www.youtube.com/watch?v=ERhoNYj9_fg
193. No squibs prior.	Squibs did shoot out of the building. See: www.youtube.com/watch?v=rqSEfDxuoYg
194. No ejection of dust	See point 193.
195. Squat building wider than it was high, greater lateral forces needed CORRECTION on Reason #195: Building 7 was higher than it was wide, it was “squat” in shape only by comparison to the Twin Towers.	The building still could have simply toppled over.
196. Perimeter wall folded over entire building, not demolished	Façade appearing intact does not mean the interior was not demolished.
197. WTC 7 didn’t fall in its own	This was likely due to the fact that the building

<p>footprint: there was extensive damage to Fiterman Hall and Verizon building.</p>	<p>was particularly large. The debris field was compact. See: http://911debunkers.blogspot.com/2008/11/does-new-footage-of-wtc-7s-collapse.html</p>
<p>198. 16-acre debris: inconsistent with falling into own footprint</p>	<p>This only occurred for the Towers, which were obviously more explosive demolitions.</p>
<p>199. Vincent Palmieri personally emailed me this picture: “Richard Gage claimed... the steel columns were conveniently broken into 30-foot pieces... for easy and quick removal. As a first responder, I can assure you that there was nothing convenient about the debris pile we encountered in the fall of 2001.”</p> <p>199a. Nanothermite Ignites at 825-985 degrees, would go off in 1400-degree fires</p>	<p>The key point is that the buildings were dismembered beyond repair.</p> <p>They wouldn’t go off with electric superthermite matches. See: http://awards.lanl.gov/PDFfiles/Super-Thermite_Electric_Matches_2003.pdf</p>
<p>200. No radio receiver could receive signal to detonate after heating to 1400 degrees</p>	<p>NASA controls a rover on Mars, up to 160,000,000 miles from Earth, just fine, by radio remote control. The Mariner and Messenger probes to Mercury functioned near the closest planet to the Sun. There is no reason to believe that the radio technology used on 9/11 was any worse, within 1 mile.</p>
<p>201. All three buildings collapsed asymmetrically and into their weakest points</p>	<p>See point 190.</p>
<p>202. Smoke pouring out of much of Building 7</p> <p>202a. Reason to Doubt the Controlled Demolition Theory: Kevin McPadden's Changing Story</p> <p>202b. Barry Jennings’s Consistent Testimony Cancels Out Michael Hess’s Testimony Foreknowledge</p>	<p>See point 172.</p> <p>Even without Kevin McPadden’s testimony, we still have accounts of plans to bring Building 7 down. See: http://911debunkers.blogspot.com/2010/05/oh-really.html</p> <p>Indeed, Jennings’ testimony remained the same.</p>
<p>203. Michael Hess’s Changing Story: No Explosions, Compared to Earthquake</p> <p>203a. Peter Hayden: Engineer predicted structural collapse of Building 7 early on</p>	<p>See point 202a.</p> <p>Who was this “engineer?”</p>
<p>204. Why on earth would BBC be let in on demolition in advance?</p>	<p>Perhaps the conspirators made a mistake.</p>
<p>205. Reuters Reported Collapse Midday due to dust blocking view?</p>	<p>If so, then this should be clarified.</p>
<p>206. Reporters Also Said Camp</p>	<p>This is not comparable to the BBC report, as</p>

David had been hit by a plane!	Building 7 actually did collapse.
207. Forbes Magazine: "A car bomb exploded outside the State Department."	See point 206.
208. CBS: "As many as eight planes have been hijacked and only four have been accounted for."	See point 206.
209. The media make mistakes, and there was nothing unusual or suspicious about the BBC's error.	Except that their report was not false. It was at the wrong time.
210. Eyewitness Firefighter Building 7: Fire Chief Nigro Early on the afternoon of September 11th 2001, following the collapse of WTC 1 & 2, I feared a collapse of WTC 7 (as did many on my staff). The collapse of WTC 1 damaged portions of the lower floors of WTC 7. WTC 7, was built on a small number of large columns providing an open Atrium on the lower levels. Fires on many floors of WTC 7 burned without sufficient water supply to attack them. For these reasons I made the decision (without consulting the owner, the mayor or anyone else - as ranking fire officer, that decision was my responsibility) to clear a collapse zone surrounding the building and to stop all activity within that zone. Approximately three hours after that order was given, WTC 7 collapsed. Conspiracy theories abound and I believe firmly that all of them are without merit.	The evidence strongly suggests that the FDNY was warned about the building's collapse. See: www.journalof911studies.com/volume/200701/MacQueenWaitingforSeven.pdf and http://911debunkers.blogspot.com/2010/05/oh-really.html
211. Firefighter Miller Before WTC 7 Collapse	See point 210.
212. Deputy Chief Peter Hayden: We saw a bulge in the southwest corner between floors 10 and 13, and we had put a transit on that, and we were pretty sure she was going to collapse.	See point 210.
213. Fire Captain Chris Boyle: Butch said forget it, there's creaking, there are noises coming out of there, so we just stopped.	See point 210.

214. At 5:20, Building 7 finally falls. There's a stampede over pickaxes and oxygen tanks. They head out toward the crushed fire trucks. "They're looking for their brothers," says an ambulance driver.	The firefighters should obviously be looked at as heros.
215. No! Tens of thousands of workers coming and going day and night	The explosives could have been planted covertly. See: http://911debunkers.blogspot.com/2008/11/how-could-and-why-would-anyone-besides.html
216. No! Thousands of Nervous 1993 survivors still working there	See point 215.
217. No! The tallest demolished building ever took twelve people 24 days doing nothing but loading in explosives	This was due to the building's construction. Building 7 would have been easier to set up. See: www.911blogger.com/node/16565
218. No! 369 shaped charges used for similar sized Landmark Tower	The number of charges used could have decreased in the Towers based on where they were placed.
219. No! Both demolitions were incredibly loud, and serious muffling impossible	The WTC demolitions could have had the sounds decreased. See point 53.
220. No! Linear Shaped Charges: Smells and sounds of Welders burning thru steel	Similar work has been done in buildings without the occupants knowing. See: http://911blogger.com/node/20580 and http://911research.wtc7.net/faq/demolition.html#access
221. 236 columns like this would need several shaped charges each to provide the "overkill" of Building 7	Perhaps, but this done not mean the building couldn't have been set up this way.
222. No! Major structural supports next to the most desirable offices on outside	Again, the work could have been done covertly.
223. Nanothermites painted on could warm steel but not cause lateral ejection	The nanothermite could have been applied in other ways.
224. Remote controls in core: hard time receiving signal	See point 200.
225. Creating shape charges is noisy and smelly. Complete control of the building required for prep	See point 215.
226. Nonexplosive thermates pulverize whole building?	John Cole has shown that thermate can be explosive. See: www.youtube.com/watch?v=Qamecech9m4
227. Implication of Mayor, Fire and Police Chiefs, building owner, BBC, "phony" man-on-the-street	They are not "implicated." A new investigation will officially determine who is guilty.

interviewees, several layers of the Federal Government??	
228. Someone would have gone to WikiLeaks!	There are considerable entries in WikiLeaks about 9/11, if you can read between the lines. The Guantanamo Files indicate the Muslim prisoners were scape goats and not the real organizers of 9/11. Whistle blowers such as Colleen Rowley (a Time Magazine Person of the Year) have come forward in main stream press. National consciousness has to wake up to the information that is already available.
229. Larry Silverstein talked about “pulling” in relation to Building 7, but he was talking with firefighters about pulling the crew out of the collapse zone, not talking to controlled demolition people	See: http://911debunkers.blogspot.com/2010/04/possible-confirmation-of-pull-it-in.html
230. If Larry Silverstein had admitted to bombing his own building, why did he get billions in insurance money?	See point 229.
231. Conservatives Protect Their Own and Most Would Not Cooperate with Plan to kill thousands of Americans	This is not a left/right issue. Those corrupt enough would have executed the operation.
232. This explanation!: 1.) Faster-Than-Freefall Collapse of Building 7 2.) Stage One: east penthouse collapsed. 3.) Debris fell inside building 4.) Debris pile spread out at bottom 5.) (top.) (Kink) columns about to snap. 6.) Perimeter columns buckled, transferring loads Stage Two of Collapse: Gradual Acceleration Increase to Free-Fall + 7.) An 8-story chunk of floors torqued down 8.) Clinging collapsing beams functioned as levers 9.) Leveraged faster than free-fall drop. 10.) Stage Three: Debris pile slows it down	This explanation does not explain the fast decent of the building, according to David Chandler and Tony Szamboti. “Without interior structure, how would torquing from one wall to the other take place? If there is any reality to the slightly greater than g downward acceleration, it could be due to the fact that the interior got a half second head start. The walls would then be pushed down slightly due to the slow relative motion of the falling material. However, this effect would be very slight and the center of mass would still be in freefall. Remember that during the entire time of freefall, the west penthouse gains on the rest of the building only a distance equal to its own height. These low relative speed impacts would not significantly affect the outcome.” –David Chandler “[F]or faster than freefall to occur what actually

	<p>had to happen is that the exterior resistance was removed and then caused to accelerate at a faster than freefall rate due to a whip action by the already moving interior. The notion of negative resistance is a ridiculous contention by Mohr... Controlled demolition does not have to be done in a way which produces freefall acceleration, but it is the only thing which can remove all resistance simultaneously and cause it. Freefall acceleration is completely impossible in a natural collapse.” – Tony Szamboti</p>
233. Thermates would have created blinding lights everywhere.	<p>Bright lights and flashes do not always happen in demolitions. See: www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLF740EB584F45FBEB</p>
234. Unburned, collapsed perimeter wall: no sign of destruction of perimeter by thermate.	See point 196.
235. Entire Structural Perimeter Faces Folded Over on Top of Rubble: Not Cut Apart by 4500o Thermitics	See point 196.

Appendix B: Mohr's *eSkeptic* Article

On September 7th, 2011, Chris Mohr published an article at www.skeptic.com titled *9/11 and the Science of Controlled Demolitions*. See: <http://www.skeptic.com/eskeptic/11-09-07/> The article is essentially a summary of the key points presented in his video series. (Jeremy Hammond has already written an extensive critique of this article, which is recommended reading; See: <http://www.ae911truth.org/en/news-section/44-press-items/584-911-and-skeptic-magazines-science-of-controlled-demolitions.html>) Here the article is reproduced in full, with my own comments added to address his points. (My comments appear in red, with additional links provided also. Aside from my added comments and some adjustments to the formatting, the article appears here exactly as it appears at skeptic.com.)

9/11 and the Science of Controlled Demolitions

by Chris Mohr

With the tenth anniversary of the 9/11 attacks upon us, a group of 9/11 conspiracists are working hard to publicize their claims of scientific validity to the conjecture that the World Trade Center buildings were destroyed through controlled demolition. **Actually, thousands of scientists, engineers, architects and other experts have worked hard to investigate the collapse of the Twin Towers and Building 7, not “conspiracists.”** The architect Richard Gage is the founder of the nonprofit organization Architects & Engineers for 9/11 Truth, which focuses on the controlled demolition theory. So outraged was I by the Bush administration's justification for the war in Iraq based on faulty WMD intelligence information that I initially thought that Gage might be on to something, until I examined his science carefully and engaged him in [a spirited debate](#) on March 6, 2011 in front of 250 people in Boulder, Colorado. ([Listen to the debate audio](#).) The video of that debate is not being released (his own website admitted that twice as many people changed their minds in my direction as his during the debate), so I created 20 short videos on YouTube that present detailed rebuttals of each of Gage's claims.

- [WATCH PLAYLIST 1: Twin Towers](#) (duration 2:09:29)
- [WATCH PLAYLIST 2: Building 7](#) (duration 1:35:48)

What follows is a brief summary of Gage's points and my rebuttals to them.



United Airlines Flight 175 crashes into the south tower of the World Trade Center complex in New York City during the September 11 attacks. A controlled demolition couldn't have been created at the same site where a plane impact and a raging jet fuel fire would have obliterated the demolition rigging. **If the devices are placed and prepared correctly, [they can](#).** (Click any image in this article to enlarge it.)

1 EXPLOSIVE DEVICES WERE CAREFULLY AND SECRETLY PLANTED IN THE WTC BUILDINGS. You cannot secretly prepare a controlled demolition of the two World Trade Center buildings containing 50,000 workers, plus extensive security systems and guards, working round the clock, without anyone noticing anything unusual. **In 2009, drills were run in which bombs [were successfully placed](#) in 10 high security federal buildings. Construction was also [secretly done](#) in a skyscraper in 1980.** Instead, we should accept at face value what we all witnessed: two massive jets that slammed into the buildings, damaging the structures and setting off raging fires and igniting more than 40,000 square feet of office space per floor in a matter of seconds, igniting furniture, carpeting, desks, paper, etc. You cannot control the area around such a raging fire to start a demolition.¹ **This is patently [untrue](#).**



Plumes of smoke billow from the World Trade Center towers in New York City after a Boeing 767 hits each tower during the September 11 attacks. Was architect and 9/11 conspiracy theorist Richard Gage kidding when he said the fires in the Towers were almost out shortly before their collapses? **The fires in the South Tower WERE almost out before collapse. The photographic and video evidence [confirms this](#).**

2 NO TALL STEEL FRAME BUILDING EVER COLLAPSED BEFORE 9/11 DUE TO FIRE. Though it is true that no tall steel frame buildings ever collapsed due to *fire alone* prior to 9/11, since then, other tall steel framed buildings have. On May 13, 2008, a large part of the tall concrete-reinforced steel architecture tower at the Delft University of Technology in the Netherlands caught fire and thereafter had a very fast, nearly straight-down collapse mostly into its own footprint. **This building is [hardly comparable](#) to the WTC.** Gravity increases the force of a falling object by a factor of 30 for a single collapsing floor, and collapsing buildings have nowhere to go but straight down. Other types of steel frame structures have collapsed due to fire.² **And [none of them](#) are comparable to the WTC either.**

3 WHAT ABOUT THE ALMOST FREE-FALL COLLAPSE OF THE TWIN

TOWERS? The key is the “almost” modifier. If I told you I was making almost \$100,000 and you found out I was making only \$67,000, you’d say I was exaggerating. So stop exaggerating the collapse speed of the WTC Towers! The 80,000 tons of structural steel slowed down the collapses of the Twin Towers to about $\frac{2}{3}$; (two-thirds) of free-fall.³ **But the key point is that the upper section accelerated, which [cannot happen without some sort of external force removing the column strength](#).** And the core collapsed at about 40% of free-fall speed, coming

down last.⁴ **Only the inner 23 core columns remained standing. The 24 outer core columns collapsed first.** According to Richard Gage: “To bring a building symmetrically down, what we have to do is remove the core columns.” But on 9/11 the stronger core columns came down *last*, which violates this supposed most fundamental rule of controlled demolition.



On 9/11, massive steel objects smashed into neighboring buildings accompanied by winds at speeds up to 482mph. Shown here a heavy beam from the World Trade Center hangs from a nearby building.

4 WHAT ABOUT THOSE EXPLOSIVE SQUIBS TWENTY STORIES BELOW THE COLLAPSE POINT, AND THOSE HEAVY METAL OBJECTS FLYING HUNDREDS OF FEET THROUGH THE AIR? During the collapse, one half million cubic feet of air per floor was pushed outwards at the rate of twelve floors per second, creating a “hurricane wind” in the building as reported by survivors, and blowing out windows, and with them the smoke from the fires and other objects.⁵ **The collapse of the buildings would not have been able to compress the air in a way that would cause these types of explosive ejections.**

5 WHAT ABOUT THOSE BILLIONS OF IRON MICROSPHERES THAT R.J. LEE FOUND IN A DUST ANALYSIS THAT PROVES THE THEORY THAT THE IRON IN THE BUILDINGS WAS MELTED BY THERMITE? Thermite would leave tons of formerly melted iron blobs, not just microspheres. But in the 1970s, while workers welded thousands of steel beams together, hot microspheres were splattered everywhere. **The spheres studied by Dr Steven Jones et al. are not consistent with spheres formed through cutting structural steel.** Concrete has fly ash in it, and I have a photo of iron-rich spheres in Tolk fly ash in my YouTube video response. **The spheres are not consistent with fly ash residues.** Even if the microspheres were created in the fires on 9/11, the R.J. Lee dust study said, “Considering the high temperatures reached during the destruction of the WTC ... Iron-rich spheres ... would be expected to be present in the Dust.”⁶ **There is little evidence to support this assertion.**

6 WHAT ABOUT THE SULFIDIZED STEEL THAT MELTED AND THAT FEMA

FOUND BUT WHICH NIST IGNORED IN THEIR REPORT? NIST didn't ignore it. Jonathan Barnett at FEMA [studied two pieces of sulfidized steel](#), which is not enough to explain the collapse. NIST determined that neither piece came from a supporting column in the collapse zone so it couldn't have contributed to the collapse.⁷ **This reasoning is flawed, as controlled demolition would obviously occur below the fire zones.** Sulfidized steel melts at temperatures 1000° lower than regular steel so it could have “melted” in a regular office fire. And the “intergranular melting” FEMA discovered is not like melting as we know it anyway; it's more like corrosion on an almost microscopic scale occurring along the boundaries between the crystals or grains of a metal. The technical description for what happened is “intergranular melting, high temperature corrosion via sulphidation, oxidation, and decarburisation leading to a liquid Iron Oxide Sulfur mix from grain boundary melting.” And while Jonathan Barnett would like to see more research on this, he does not support the controlled demolition theory. **This phenomenon is [strong evidence of thermate being used in the demolitions](#).**

7 WHAT ABOUT ALL THOSE UNIGNITED NANOTHERMITES THEY FOUND IN

THE DUST SAMPLES IN THAT EXPERIMENT? Niels Harritt, Steven Jones and other 9/11 controlled demolition theorists claim to have found nanothermite particles in dust samples from the World Trade Center. They made sure the dust samples were untainted, and used advanced instruments to measure what happened when these tiny red-grey chips were heated up.

Thermite reaches temperatures of around 4500° and has its own oxygen supply when it burns, so it can burn underwater. Harritt, Jones, et. al. therefore should have heated up the chips in a nitrogen or argon atmosphere to eliminate the possibility that regular hydrocarbons were burning. **They [repeated a previous experiment done with nanothermite that was also done in open air](#).** They also failed to take the carbon-based products out of the mix, so what we may well be seeing is some kind of carbon-based product burning in oxygen. **This is unlikely, as the chips produce molten iron, which strongly suggests these chips are thermitic in nature.** They compared the sudden energy spike of their burning chips with the spikes of known nanothermites, and found that their chips ignited at around 150° C. lower than the known nanothermites, and the energy release was off between their chips and the nanothermites by a factor of at least two. Yet they called this a match for nanothermite! **What they ultimately conclude is that it is a more powerful type of nanothermite.**

Attempts to independently replicate this experiment have been dismal. Mark Basile, who appeared in the acknowledgments of the original study, burned the chips in air, replicating the error of the original experiment and not even measuring the energy released. **Basile [confirmed several aspects of the study](#).** A chemist named Frédéric Henry-Couannier got another dust sample from the original experimenters and wrote, “Eventually the presence of nanothermite could not be confirmed.” **Couannier [also verified several of the experiment's findings](#).** The R.J. Lee Company did [a 2003 study on the dust](#) and didn't find thermitic material.



Major fires on most floors of World Trade Centre Building 7 were much worse on the side facing the Twin Towers' collapses. **This was likely due to [smoke from WTC5 or WTC6 clinging to Building 7.](#)**

8 WHAT ABOUT ALL THOSE BIG FIRES IN TALL BUILDINGS THAT DON'T

CAUSE COLLAPSE, AND THE LITTLE FIRES IN BUILDING 7? Richard Gage and other 9/11 controlled demolition conspiracists like to show an NYPD photograph of small fires on the north face of Building 7. That's not the side where tons of flaming debris from the towers smashed into the south face, creating huge gashes and fires on multiple floors. **Again, the vast majority of the smoke is apparently [not coming from Building 7.](#)** In our debate Gage claimed that the videos I played showed smoke but no fire. When the fires first started on the southwest corner of Building 7, the dust was blocking the view. NIST reported that many fires burned themselves out in 20-40 minutes and then moved on. The fires left behind not only burned out areas, but structurally weakened areas as the beams and columns expanded, sagged, and contracted again. Then the fires started moving to the interior of the building. Is he suggesting that all that smoke wasn't evidence of fire, or that burned out areas went back to full structural strength?



No plane hit WTC Building 7. Instead, it was engulfed in hundreds of feet of flaming debris smashing into it. **The building was not “engulfed” in debris. Much of the debris was well behind building 7.**

9 WHAT ABOUT JANE STANDLEY, THAT BBC REPORTER WHO ANNOUNCED

THAT BUILDING 7 HAD ALREADY FALLEN WHEN IT WAS STILL STANDING RIGHT BEHIND HER?

This one is irritating to a guy like me who’s been in radio for over 30 years. Reporters make mistakes! **However, this was not a mistake of information. It was a mistake of time. But the BBC’s report actually did happen.** What possible value could there be in letting the BBC in on the “conspiracy”? Here’s what probably happened: Deputy Chief Peter Hayden of the New York Fire Department recalled: “We had our special operations people set up surveying instruments to monitor, and see if there was any movement of [WTC 7]. We were concerned of the possibility of collapse of the building... One particular engineer there, we asked him, if we allowed it to burn could we anticipate a collapse, and if so, how soon?... And it turned out that he was pretty much right on the money, that he said, ‘In its current state, you have about five hours.’” **And who exactly was this “engineer?”** Other errors in reporting show the chaos of the day, not a well-oiled conspiratorial machine at work. To wit:

CNN Reported at 11:07 am that Building 7 had collapsed at 10:45, or 15 minutes after the second tower collapse at around 10:30. CNN got their misinformation from the respected news agency Reuters, which picked up an incorrect report. They have issued this statement: “On 11 September 2001 Reuters incorrectly reported that one of the buildings at the New York World Trade Center, 7WTC, had collapsed before it actually did. The report was picked up from a local news story and was withdrawn as soon as it emerged that the building had not fallen.” **It should be investigated where the original source of this report came from.**

On 9/11, reporters also said that Camp David had been hit by a plane. *Forbes* magazine reported that “A car bomb exploded outside the State Department, according to State Department sources.” CBS News reported that as many as eight planes have been hijacked and only four have been accounted for. **Again, the difference here is that the BBC’s report actually happened.**

It is not hard to imagine how such mistakes could be made, especially when there is no time to sift through and analyze fast-moving information. As NIST reported, “The large dust clouds generated by the collapse of WTC 1 hid the lower portions of WTC 7 from view for over 20 min

following the collapse.” So firefighters on the ground saw only dust where Building 7 was until around 10:50 am and may have thought it had come down.



Issue 12.4 of *Skeptic* magazine presented Phil Molé’s assessment of the 9/11 Truth Movement. Though this issue is sold out, you can [read our cover story in eSkeptic](#), our free, weekly email newsletter.

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10 WHAT CAUSED BUILDING 7 TO COLLAPSE? Many firefighters reported seeing structural deformations of Building 7 hours before its collapse, including the top FDNY fire [Chief Daniel Nigro, who stated](#), “I feared a collapse of Building 7 (as did many on my staff). The collapse of WTC 1 damaged portions of the lower floors of 7. **According to NIST, this damage did not contribute to the collapse.** Building 7 was built on a small number of large columns providing an open Atrium on the lower levels. **This also evidently did not contribute to the collapse.** Fires on many floors of WTC 7 burned without sufficient water supply to attack them. **This was not a significant factor according to NIST.** For these reasons I made the decision (without consulting the owner, the mayor or anyone else—as ranking fire officer, that decision was my responsibility) to clear a collapse zone surrounding the building and to stop all activity within that zone. Approximately three hours after ... WTC 7 collapsed. Conspiracy theories abound and I believe firmly that all of them are without merit.”

In a [World Trade Centre Task Force Interview](#), FDNY Lieutenant Rudolph Weindler said: “So we left 7 World Trade Center... and Captain Varriale told Chief Coloe and myself that 7 World Trade Center was badly damaged on the south side and definitely in danger of collapse. Chief Coloe said we were going to evacuate the collapse zone around 7 World Trade Center, which we did.”

And [Deputy Chief Peter Hayden said](#): “We saw a bulge in the southwest corner between floors 10 and 13, and we had put a transit on that, and we were pretty sure she was going to collapse.” **Evidence strongly suggests the FDNY was warned that WTC7 was going to collapse.**

Another Building 7 eyewitness was Michael Hess, Mayor Giuliani's chief lawyer. He and fellow city worker Barry Jennings got caught in Building 7 and barely escaped with their lives. Michael Hess said that he heard and felt the building shake like an earthquake for 5–10 seconds prior to the collapse of either tower. **No, he did not say this in his first interview. He said [it was an explosion](#).** But in 2007, he too changed his story, claiming [in a BBC interview](#) that he got his timing wrong and that the 10-second-long earthquake sound was most likely caused by tower debris hitting the building later in the morning. "There were no explosions. That was caused by the north half of #1 falling onto the southern half of our building." He compared what he heard to a loud rumbling earthquake, not the staccato blasts of explosions. **This greatly contradicts the testimony of [Barry Jennings](#).**

11 WHAT ABOUT THOSE ACCOUNTS OF EXPLOSIONS IN THE TWIN

TOWERS? I read 50 randomly selected accounts out of some [118 or so accounts from firefighters](#) of explosions from the *New York Times*. None were of explosions before the actual collapse. **There were in fact [several accounts of explosions](#) right before and during the collapses.** Those accounts Gage found concentrated around the core and the basement where explosions from the jet fuel traveling down the elevator shafts caused several explosions and fireballs. **This means there was [less fuel in the impact zones](#) to fuel the fires.** Out of 5000 former and current FDNY 9/11 employees, only ten have come out and said they believe bombs were placed in these buildings. Further, firefighters have personally told me that explosions in office fires are not uncommon. Here is a list of a few things that explode in an office fire:

- HVAC equipment including condensers and compressors
- Cleaning supplies
- CRT type TV's and computer monitors.
- Large motors that have an oil reservoir for lube. (Elevator lift motors)
- Hydraulic pistons found in office chairs.
- Tires in vehicles
- Steam explosions when water hits a hot fire or molten aluminum
- Propane tanks

If bombs were going off to create a precise controlled demolition, then there would be a pattern. Eyewitness accounts of explosions were random: fireballs, mere flashes of light, ground shaking with no other apparent effect. This is consistent with the kinds of random effects of fires spreading through buildings and down the elevator shaft. **Regardless of this, explosive residue should have been tested for at Ground Zero [based on these reports](#).** Eyewitness Philip Morell talked of explosive sounds like bombs in a *9/11 Mysteries* video clip, but I went back to the complete original interview. The director cut out the part where he then explained that he ran over to the noise and discovered that the explosive sounds were actually from a crashing freight elevator, which did indeed create a tremendous crashing thud felt throughout the basement.

12 WHAT ABOUT THE FREE-FALL COLLAPSE OF BUILDING 7? That is the silver bullet that proves controlled demolition!

NIST studied the collapse of one face of the 47-story Building 7 and found that indeed, on that one face, it collapsed "at gravitational

acceleration” for eight stories over 2.25 seconds. **No, it was not just “one face.” It was the whole building.** The rest of that collapse was at considerably less than free-fall. After the internal supports collapsed, the perimeter walls were pulled inward. Every time a column snapped like a stick, it shifted its load at the speed of sound to other columns, and the collapse “gradually” accelerated over about two seconds. In phase two, the building was indeed collapsing at free-fall acceleration. **The columns would not have “snapped,” being made from a very ductile structural steel with a high elongation.**

Free-fall collapse speed does not mean no resistance, it means no *net* resistance. Those collapsing beams still clinging to the walls functioned as levers. So there were three forces at work on Building 7 during its collapse, and the sum of these three forces varied with time: the constant downward force of gravity, the variable upward force of residual structural resistance, and variable leveraged downward forces due to connections to other parts of the building. The leveraging forces may have briefly accelerated parts of Building 7 at *greater* than 1G, and in fact the NIST Report shows very slightly faster than free-fall for a second or so, though that could just be the margin of error. **It was a margin of error, and is recognized by NIST as such. You can’t get faster than freefall of the exterior due to increased loads. The only way it can happen is with all resistance removed at the exterior and it’s being pulled along by an already moving core. Freefall is only possible with no structural support whatsoever, as additional loading only causes the resistance by a structure to be lowered but can never reach zero.**

“What about” vs. “If... then”

The 9/11 controlled demolition theorists seem to like the “what about...” challenge. They know that even the most intelligent layperson can’t answer all their questions, and even if you can answer five “what about” questions in a row, then they’ll give you a real zinger, like this one from Richard Gage: “What about the EPA’s Erik Swartz who said they found 1,3-diphenylpropane at levels ‘that dwarfed all others. We’ve never observed it in any sampling we’ve ever done.’” Unless you’ve checked, you won’t know that Gage edited out the next sentence of the *Times Union* article where that first appeared, which continues, “He also said it was most likely produced by the plastic of tens of thousands of burning computers.” **Gage mentions in his [slide presentation](#) that this was suggested as a cause, but that other building fires have never produced these emissions either.** Gage thinks 1,3-diphenylpropane was used for the sol-gel solution for safe storage of nanothermites. [The patent](#) lists pharmacological uses such as treating complications associated with metabolic syndrome, insulin resistance, diabetes, dyslipidemias, atherosclerosis, cardiovascular diseases, obesity, hypertension, inflammatory diseases, neurodegenerative pathologies, Alzheimers, or cancers but never mentions thermites or even plastic computer parts. **Sol-gel can in fact [be used in nanothermite](#).**

Instead of the “What about” game these conspiracy theorists play, I prefer the “if ... then” approach:



If 4500 degree thermitics had been used to pulverize almost every inch of every concrete floor, then firefighters could not have walked on top of the debris pile that was left behind after the collapse. This photo shows that large parts of the buildings were left intact and not pulverized.

- *If 4500 degree nanothermites were used to pulverize almost every inch of every concrete floor, then how could there have been millions of sheets of paper with an ignition temperature of only 451° raining down on the sidewalks? A large amount of paper was blown out of the buildings by the initial plane impacts.*
- *If 4500 degree nanothermites were used extensively even at the top to cause a supposed upward explosion, then why were first responders able to walk over the wreckage less than an hour after the Tower collapses? The debris evidently was very hot after the collapses.*
- *If there were 2800 degree rivers of molten steel in the debris, then why do NASA thermal images show maximum temperatures in the rubble of only 1400°? This was only for the surface temperatures. It would have been hotter below.*
- *If the debris pile had 2800 degree temperatures, then why were firefighters able to pour millions of gallons of water all over it and not trigger the deadly thermal explosions that are caused when water comes in contact with molten steel or iron? This was apparently a concern at Ground Zero.*
- *If nanothermites pulverized everything, then why did the debris pile include a 13-story high facade? The explosives did not have to pulverize everything for them to have demolished the buildings.*
- *If classic controlled demolitions create minimal damage to adjacent structures, then why did the Verizon Building suffer \$1.4 billion in damages? Building 7 was a particularly large building. The vast majority of Building 7's debris landed in its footprint.*
- *If the lateral ejection of beams were caused by explosive nanothermites, then there would have been deafening 140 db sounds that can't be muffled by more than a few db or you lose the explosive force of the shock wave itself. With the use of thermitic explosives, the noises could have been decreased.*

- If the South Tower tilted 22° at first, *then* controlled demolition experts could not have righted it mid-collapse. **Powerful enough explosives could have righted the top to some extent.**
- If nanothermites were used, *then* they would have spontaneously detonated at well under 1000° F. and would not have been controllable; **If placed in the correct way, they could have been made to not detonate pre-maturely.** no signal receiving device could have survived the fires and continued to receive the destruct command. **Speculation. The technology exists to control space rovers on Mars. There is no reason to believe the technology used on 9/11 would have been insufficient.**
- If there had been large explosions prior to the collapse, *then* they would have been a part of the seismic record, and they were not. **This is not necessarily true. Seismographs do not always detect explosions from demolitions.**

You get the idea. My YouTube videos offer [235 reasons for natural collapse](#) just like these, along with abundant videos and photos. Investigate a little deeper and you'll find that the science just doesn't support the views of the Architects and Engineers for 9/11 Truth. The truth is out there and we know what it is.

About the Author

Chris Mohr is a lifelong science hobbyist, the former publisher and editor of the classical radio publication *On The Air Magazine*, and composer of the opera *From The Realm of the Shadow* on Naxos Records. He has hiked up 1000 mountains, bicycles 2000 miles per year, enjoys scuba diving and is a classical music and opera fanatic. He has hosted a prison meditation program for 16 years.

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Appendix C: Answers from NIST to Questions by Chris Mohr

The following written answers were provided to Chris Mohr by NIST on 2/25/11 in preparation for the debate that Mohr had with Richard Gage. Rather than providing Mohr with useful explanations, NIST evidently presented him with deceptive answers. Mohr's response from NIST (which is published at AE911Truth.org; see: <http://www.ae911truth.org/en/news-section/41-articles/469-answers-from-nist.html>) is reproduced below with my own added comments and accompanying links. (Mohr's questions appear in black text; NIST's answers appear in blue; my comments appear in red.)

[Note: This appendix first appeared as an article I posted on the Debunking the Debunkers blog. Aside from some adjustments to the formatting, the article appears here exactly as it appears at the DD blog. See: <http://911debunkers.blogspot.com/2011/03/22511-answers-from-nist-to-questions-by.html>]

From: "Newman, Michael E."
To: Chris Mohr
Sent: Fri, February 25, 2011 10:23:53 AM
Subject: Answers to Your Questions

Chris,

Below are the answers to your questions as requested. We apologize for the delay in getting these to you but we wanted to be certain that we provided you with the most complete and up-to-date responses that we could. Hopefully, these will help you as you prepare for your debate.

Thanks for your patience. Let us know if we can be of further assistance.

Best wishes,

Michael

1) Just making sure I understand sag vs pancake etc., getting clear on the difference and why the pancake theory popularized on public TV several years ago is no longer accepted. Also is there photographic evidence of sagging steel structures and steel columns being pulled inward? I do have figure 2-12 with the lattice overlay of inward buckling. I'll be using a lot of slides and videos (as will Richard) and visuals work well for this audience.

NIST's findings do not support the "pancake theory" of collapse, which is premised on a progressive failure of the floor systems in the WTC towers (the composite floor system—that connected the core columns and the perimeter columns—consisted of a grid of steel "trusses" integrated with a concrete slab). Instead, the NIST investigation showed conclusively that the failure of the inwardly bowed perimeter columns initiated collapse and that the occurrence of this

inward bowing required the sagging floors to remain connected to the columns and pull the columns inwards. Thus, the floors did not fail progressively to cause a pancaking phenomenon.

Note that the first part of NIST's answer is simply a repeat of one of their answers at their FAQ section on the WTC investigation. As we will see, several of NIST's answers to Mohr are just repeats of points that have already been raised at their FAQ page.

The change from "truss failure and pancake collapse" to the "weakened trusses that did not completely fail causing inward bowing of the perimeter columns and a non-progressive collapse" was acknowledged in the second of two NOVA TV documentaries about Ground Zero. The first program, "Why the Towers Fell" in 2002, discussed the truss failure/pancake collapse theory postulated by the Building Performance Assessment Team study (done by the Federal Emergency Management Agency and the American Society of Civil Engineers) that was the precursor to our more comprehensive investigation (which was under way at the time the program was produced). The follow-up program, "Building on Ground Zero" in 2006, corrected their previous report with a discussion of the "inward bowing" mechanism.

In his review of NIST's FAQ page, Jim Hoffman [notes](#) NIST's likely reason for changing their collapse theory:

In the following, NIST squirms away from the assertion that the 'collapses' of the Twin Towers were [progressive collapses](#). It does this by describing the [floor pancaking model](#) (endorsed by earlier versions of the official story, such as FEMA, [NOVA](#), and [Eagar](#)) as a progressive collapse, thereby implying that NIST's theory is not a progressive collapse theory.

However, regardless of whether one calls the total destruction of the Twin Towers progressive collapse or something else, it remains true that there is no historical or experimental basis for believing that collapse events near the tops of the towers could progress all the way down the towers' vertical axes to produce total collapses. Lacking such a basis, the core assumption of NIST's theory is unscientific.

Indeed, there are [no examples at all of a high-rise steel-framed skyscraper totally collapsing from fire](#). As for the inward bowing, Jim Hoffman has [noted](#) an alternative scenario for how it could have happened, as NIST has [no evidence for the kinds of temperatures](#) needed to cause it.

The inward bowing could be caused through some type of demolition scenario.

See video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m3CFIRVMs8g>

2) Making sure I understand how to calculate the kinetic energy of the fall. Besides $f=ma$, what are the factors that determine how much more force gravity adds to a falling object? Richard Gage says there is not enough kinetic energy for the collapse to continue, but with the $f=ma$ formula it seems that an object hits with 9.8 times more force just in the first second (assuming not much elasticity... and concrete and steel aren't all that elastic). By the way, I will be dropping a 25 pound dumbbell on a bathroom scale from 6 1/2 feet up. That's only half a story. In my first debate with a local 911 guy I crushed the scale completely. It's not scientific but I think it does

demonstrate how even 25 pounds in free fall quickly generates enough force to crush a scale designed to measure the weight of a 300-pound object!

NIST estimated the elapsed times for the first exterior panels to strike the ground after the collapse initiated in each of the towers to be approximately 11 seconds for WTC 1 and approximately 9 seconds for WTC 2. These elapsed times were based on: (1) precise timing of the initiation of collapse from video evidence, and (2) ground motion (seismic) signals recorded at Palisades, N.Y., that also were precisely time calibrated for wave transmission times from lower Manhattan (see NCSTAR 1-5A).

As documented in Section 6.14.4 of NIST NCSTAR 1, these collapse times show that:

“... the structure below the level of collapse initiation offered minimal resistance to the falling building mass at and above the impact zone. *The potential energy released by the downward movement of the large building mass far exceeded the capacity of the intact structure below to absorb that energy through energy of deformation.*

Since the stories below the level of collapse initiation provided little resistance to the tremendous energy released by the falling building mass, the building section above came down essentially in free fall, as seen in videos. As the stories below sequentially failed, the falling mass increased, further increasing the demand on the floors below, which were unable to arrest the moving mass.”

In other words, the momentum (which equals mass times velocity) of the 12 to 28 stories (WTC 1 and WTC 2, respectively) falling on the supporting structure below (which was designed to support only the static weight of the floors above and not any dynamic effects due to the downward momentum) so greatly exceeded the strength capacity of the structure below that it (the structure below) was unable to stop or even to slow the falling mass. The downward momentum felt by each successive lower floor was even larger due to the increasing mass.

Here we have another rehashing of the points raised in NIST’s FAQ on the WTC. As [pointed out](#) by Jim Hoffman:

NIST's assertion that the Tower's intact structure was “unable to stop or even to slow the falling mass” is absurd:

- It requires us to believe that the massive steel frames of the towers provided no more resistance to falling rubble than air.
- It ignores the fact that most of the rubble fell outside the towers' footprints, and hence could not contribute to crushing.
- It is unsupported by any calculation or logical argument.

Indeed, the NIST report provides no calculations to back up this assertion. And calculations that have been done to support this notion have been addressed and refuted numerous times [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#). NIST’s response does nothing to answer Mohr’s question.

From video evidence, significant portions of the cores of both buildings (roughly 60 stories of WTC 1 and 40 stories of WTC 2) are known to have stood 15 to 25 seconds after collapse initiation before they, too, began to collapse. Neither the duration of the seismic records nor video evidence (due to obstruction of view caused by debris clouds) are reliable indicators of the total time it took for each building to collapse completely.

This point has also been [addressed](#) by Hoffman:

To the contrary, video records, such as [this record of the North Tower's fall](#) clearly establish upper boundaries on the times that it took for the vast majority of each tower to be destroyed.

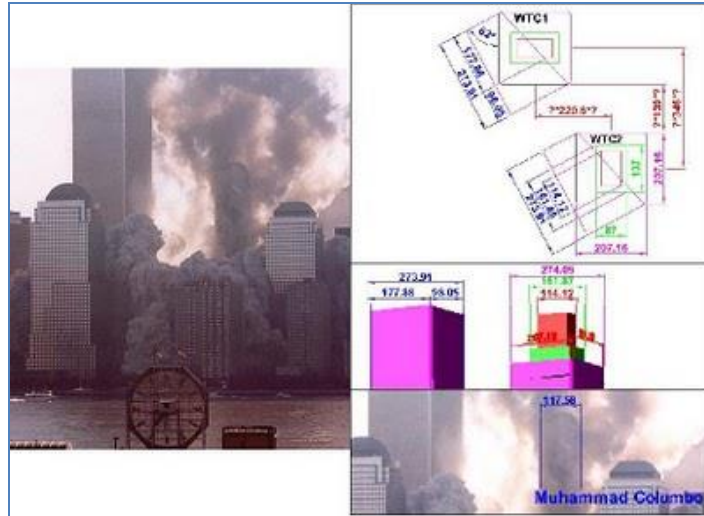
3) The tops of WTC I and II have been compared to pile drivers pushing the building through a natural collapse. But since both the top and bottom of the buildings were of similar structural strength, it looks to me like the bottom of the building was like a pile driver for the top as well. As the top of the building loses its structure while crashing down onto the very strong steel supports of the bottom part, how does the structural collapse of the top affect its ability to keep pushing down on the bottom of the building?

Since the stories below the level of collapse initiation provided little resistance to the tremendous energy released by the falling building mass, the building section above came down essentially in free fall, as seen in videos. As the stories below sequentially failed, the falling mass increased, further increasing the demand on the floors below, which were unable to arrest the moving mass.

In other words, the momentum (which equals mass times velocity) of the 12 to 28 stories (WTC 1 and WTC 2, respectively) falling on the supporting structure below (which was designed to support only the static weight of the floors above and not any dynamic effects due to the downward momentum) so greatly exceeded the strength capacity of the structure below that it (the structure below) was unable to stop or even to slow the falling mass. The downward momentum felt by each successive lower floor was even larger due to the increasing mass.

From video evidence, significant portions of the cores of both buildings (roughly 60 stories of WTC 1 and 40 stories of WTC 2) are known to have stood 15 to 25 seconds after collapse initiation before they, too, began to collapse. Neither the duration of the seismic records nor video evidence (due to obstruction of view caused by debris clouds) are reliable indicators of the total time it took for each building to collapse completely.

Not only is this a repeat of NIST's FAQ page, it's a repeat of their previous answer to Mohr's previous question! Does NIST have the capability of originality? These points about the "pile driver" have already been addressed. As for the cores of the Towers, photographs show that the remaining portion of the South Tower's core included only the inner 23 core columns. The 24 outer core columns are evidently missing.



As [pointed out](#) by Tony Szamboti:

The fact that 50 to 60 story high portions of the central core remain standing for several seconds, in the collapses of both twin towers, does pour cold water on the crush down (pile driver) theory of Bazant and the NIST. What many don't know is that it was only the 23 inner core columns which remained standing, and none of the significantly larger outer 24 core columns. This was brought to light by Muhammad Columbo in 2007 and enabled mechanical engineer Gordon Ross... to be the first to fully dissect just how the towers were demolished. The reality is that the 24 outer core columns and the corners of the perimeters were taken out to effect the demolitions of the twin towers. Gordon does a very good job of explaining this on the website he took the time to create, for just this purpose at <http://gordonssite.tripod.com/id2.html>

Again, NIST's response does nothing to answer Mohr's questions.

4) How could the towers have collapsed almost straight down? I have good answers (building was 95% air by volume, no lateral force like an earthquake pushed it to the side, etc). Still, I can't quite answer their assertion that a mostly straight-down collapse would have required that hundreds of structural supports all fail at once, that the randomness of natural fires creates asymmetrical collapses.

In the absence of any lateral forces acting on the falling mass, gravity will cause the mass (upper stories of the building) to collapse straight down. Core members were still standing after the rest of the building had collapsed.

This point is highly misleading, as the upper section of the [South Tower initially collapsed in an extremely asymmetrical fashion](#). And yet, the collapse became more symmetrical as it progressed. A natural collapse should usually become less symmetrical as it progresses. As [pointed out](#) by 911research.wtc7.net:

The centered collapses meant the falling mass *followed the path of maximum resistance*. That's the opposite of how we expect a structure to behave when it falls apart in any kind

of natural process. Even if the towers were made out of clay, we wouldn't expect them to collapse in such a dead-centered fashion. It's all the more incredible that a steel structure would shred itself by falling into itself instead of falling over.

There are many examples of steel-framed buildings undergoing unintentional collapses as a result of [severe earthquakes](#). In contrast to the destruction of the Twin Towers, no such collapses have been vertical or total -- let alone explosive. Rather, steel-framed buildings destroyed by earthquakes have toppled.

Again, a straight down collapse of a steel framed structure has only ever happened in a controlled demolition.

5) Do you have an explanation for the iron microspheres in the WTC dust? Controlled demolition theorists assert this is evidence of very high temperatures during the collapse, well over 2000 degrees, which leads them to thermites. The “911 debunkers” claim the microspheres are in printer toner, burnt garbage ash, concrete, etc but I can't find evidence of this.

NIST did not study the “microspheres.” The body of available evidence does not support the theory that thermite or nanothermite was used to demolish the WTC Towers or WTC 7.

This is not the first time NIST has openly admitted that [they never looked for evidence of explosives or incendiaries](#). NIST did not find any evidence that thermite was used in the demolition of the Towers because they never looked for it.

As far as the “microspheres” that were claimed to have been found at Ground Zero, there are two arguments against their being linked to thermite or nanothermite. First, there is no “chain of custody” for the samples. They cannot be traced back to anything “used” in the towers or WTC 7, or for that matter, or to any of the these three buildings at all.

On the contrary, the [chain of custody](#) has been well established for the samples Dr. Jones has collected.

Secondly, even if the samples could be conclusively linked to one of the three WTC buildings, there are hundreds of possible sources for the samples reported. For example, the alternative theory groups have often cited a U.S. Geological Survey paper, “Particle Atlas of World Trade Center Dust Report,” as documenting the chemical signature of thermite. However, a review of the actual paper (<http://pubs.usgs.gov/of/2001/ofr-01-0429/chem1/>) shows that the authors state that “the trace metal compositions of the dust and girder coatings likely reflect contributions of material from a wide variety of sources. Possibilities include metals that might be found as pigments in paints (such as titanium, molybdenum, lead, and iron), or metals that occur as traces in, or as major components of, wallboard, concrete, aggregate, copper piping, electrical wiring, and computer equipment. Further detailed SEM studies of dust and beam coating samples are needed to develop a better understanding of the residences of metals in the samples. A detailed review of the materials used in construction, and the elemental composition of materials commonly found in office buildings would also be useful to understand more completely the

potential sources and compositions of the materials in the dusts.” *There is NO mention of thermite or nanothermite as a possible source.*

The idea that the spheres could have been formed from the natural materials in the buildings is absurd. As Gordon Ross has [pointed out](#):

If I leave margarine, flour, sugar and fruit in a cupboard, when I next open the cupboard I will not find a fruit crumble. Some mechanism is required to convert the ingredients. Similarly, if I take these same ingredients, set them alight and throw them out the window, I still will not get my fruit crumble. The mechanism must have some order.

Similarly, Jim Hoffman has [pointed out](#) that:

Although these elements -- aluminum, iron, oxygen, and silicon -- were all abundant in building materials used in the Twin Towers, it is not possible that such materials milled themselves into fine powder and assembled themselves into a chemically optimized aluminothermic composite as a by-product of the destruction of the Twin Towers.

As for the microspheres, Hoffman also [points out](#) that:

"Debunkers" have proposed that the [iron-rich spheres](#) were fly ash residues embedded in the Towers' concrete, ignoring that the iron constituents in fly ash are oxides rather than elemental iron. How will they explain away the bi-layered chips, whose red layers have iron oxide and elemental aluminum in the ratio of Fe₂O₃ thermite as nano-sized particles of uniform shape?

To date, there is still no plausible explanation for the iron microspheres or the red/gray chips.

6) For Building Seven, if column 79 had failed, weren't there redundant support structures somewhere to shift the load to, at least partially? It seems that all big buildings are designed with structural redundancies. How can one column's failure bring the whole building down? I do see an eight-second time period on the video of the Bldg 7 collapse after the east penthouse goes down. Is that when the structural load shifted momentarily before the global collapse?

The heat from the uncontrolled fires caused steel floor beams and girders to thermally expand, leading to a chain of events that caused a key structural column to fail. The failure of this structural column then initiated a fire-induced progressive collapse of the entire building.

According to the report's probable collapse sequence, heat from the uncontrolled fires caused thermal expansion of the steel beams on the lower floors of the east side of WTC 7, damaging the floor framing on multiple floors.

And yet, as others have pointed out, NIST's estimated fuel loading for the floors they claimed failed could not have provided sufficient energy to cause collapse in the first place.

“[R]aising those five floor beams to a temperature of 600°C would require an enormous amount of energy, far more than was available from the burning of the office furnishings underneath the floor beams.” -[Kevin Ryan](#)

“NIST's collapse initiation hypothesis requires that structural steel temperatures on floors 12/13 significantly exceeded 300°C [570°F]--a condition that could never have been realized with NIST's postulated 32 kg/m² fuel loading.” -[Dr. Frank Greening](#)

Eventually, a girder on Floor 13 lost its connection to a critical column, Column 79, that provided support for the long floor spans on the east side of the building. The displaced girder and other local fire-induced damage caused Floor 13 to collapse, beginning a cascade of floor failures down to the 5th floor. Many of these floors had already been at least partially weakened by the fires in the vicinity of Column 79. This collapse of floors left Column 79 insufficiently supported in the east-west direction over nine stories.

However, evidence shows that NIST has [greatly misrepresented the construction of Building 7](#), and shows that the girder should NOT have failed.

The unsupported Column 79 then buckled and triggered an upward progression of floor system failures that reached the building's east penthouse. What followed in rapid succession was a series of structural failures. Failure first occurred all the way to the roof line-involving all three interior columns on the easternmost side of the building (79, 80, 81). Then, progressing from east to west across WTC 7, all of the columns failed in the core of the building (58 through 78). Finally, the entire façade collapsed.

This description of WTC7's internal failures is completely inconsistent with videos of the building's collapse, as [pointed out](#) by Dr. Frank Greening:

According to NIST, the global collapse of WTC 7 began 6.9 seconds after the East Penthouse collapse or about 23 seconds into the simulation. Now consider NIST's Figures 12-66, 12-67 and 12-69 and in particular the images showing the alleged state of the core 17.5, 19.5, 20.7, 21.8, 24.1, 26.8 and 28.8 seconds into the collapse simulation. These images represent NIST's view of what the core looked like at ~1-2 second intervals following the collapse of the East Penthouse. What is most significant about these images is that around the time of global collapse initiation NIST's simulation shows that the eastern half of the core had completely collapsed while the western half of the core remained standing and relatively undamaged. This is quite remarkable since videos of the collapse of WTC 7 show that up to and well beyond the moment that the roofline of WTC 7 exhibited its first downward movement, the exterior of the building revealed absolutely no signs of NIST's proposed partial collapse of the core even though the core was connected to the exterior walls of Building 7 by dozens of horizontal beams on every floor.

7) Your official 2008 report says that Building 7 fell at 100% of free fall acceleration for over two seconds of the collapse. Even if the major support structure had collapsed, it seems there would have to be SOME resistance to the collapse. How is this possible?

In the draft WTC 7 report (released for public comment on Aug. 21, 2008), NIST stated that the north face of the building descended 18 stories (the portion of the collapse visible in the video) in 5.4 seconds, based on video analysis of the building collapse. This time period is 40 percent longer than the 3.9 seconds this process would have taken if the north face of the building had descended solely under free fall conditions. During the public comment period on the draft report, NIST was asked to confirm this time difference and define the reasons for it in greater detail. That was done for the final WTC 7 report (released Nov. 20, 2008).

To further clarify the descent of the north face, NIST recorded the downward displacement of a point near the center of the roofline from first movement until the north face was no longer visible in the video. Numerical analyses were conducted to calculate the velocity and acceleration of the roofline point from the time-dependent displacement data. The instant at which vertical motion of the roofline first occurred was determined by tracking the numerical value of the brightness of a pixel (a single element in the video image) at the roofline. This pixel became brighter as the roofline began to descend because the color of the pixel started to change from that of the building façade to the lighter color of the sky.

The analyses of the video (both the estimation of the instant the roofline began to descend and the calculated velocity and acceleration of a point on the roofline) revealed three distinct stages characterizing the 5.4 seconds of collapse:

- * Stage 1 (0 to 1.75 seconds): acceleration less than that of gravity (i.e., slower than free fall).
- * Stage 2 (1.75 to 4.0 seconds): gravitational acceleration (free fall)
- * Stage 3 (4.0 to 5.4 seconds): decreased acceleration, again less than that of gravity

This analysis showed that the 40 percent longer descent time—compared to the 3.9 second free fall time—was due primarily to Stage 1, which corresponded to the buckling of the exterior columns in the lower stories of the north face. During Stage 2, the north face descended essentially in free fall, indicating negligible support from the structure below. This is consistent with the structural analysis model which showed the exterior columns buckling and losing their capacity to support the loads from the structure above. In Stage 3, the acceleration decreased as the upper portion of the north face encountered increased resistance from the collapsed structure and the debris pile below.

NIST's response does nothing to answer Mohr's question. This is, yet again, a repeat of the points NIST has already raised in their report and the FAQ pages. They provide no calculations to support their assertion that the buckling of the lower floors could cause the building to descend in free fall.

See video: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cgOGmUo9O2Y>

8.) Your report says that the Building 7 fires were scattered on several floors, that was not one huge fire. How do I reconcile this information with a global collapse of a steel framed building for the first time ever.

Debris from the collapse of WTC 1, which was 370 feet to the south, ignited fires on at least 10 floors in the building at its south and west faces. However, only the fires on some of the lower floors-7 through 9 and 11 through 13-burned out of control. These lower-floor fires-which spread

and grew because the water supply to the automatic sprinkler system for these floors had failed—were similar to building fires experienced in other tall buildings. The primary and backup water supply to the sprinkler systems for the lower floors relied on the city's water supply, whose lines were damaged by the collapse of WTC 1 and WTC 2. These uncontrolled lower-floor fires eventually spread to the northeast part of WTC 7, where the building's collapse began.

As NIST itself has stated, the fires in WTC7 were likely no more severe and probably less severe than the fires in other buildings. They blamed the collapse on the fires and the construction of the building, which we have already seen NIST misrepresented.

As stated previously above, the heat from the uncontrolled fires caused steel floor beams and girders to thermally expand, leading to a chain of events that caused a key structural column to fail. The failure of this structural column then initiated a fire-induced progressive collapse of the entire building.

Again, NIST has not provided proof of either the temperatures of the fires, nor shown how their models of the building's collapse are consistent with the videos.

9.) In Appendix C of an earlier FEMA report (http://wtc.nist.gov/media/AppendixC-fema403_apc.pdf), there is talk of sulfidized steel. Chemistry is a weak spot for me; I understand physics better. Richard Gage makes a big deal about this Appendix and his assertion that it is not dealt with in the subsequent NIST report. From the 1000 or so pages I have read of your report, I haven't found it either, and I see much more physics than chemistry in your report. That said, I have to try to find an answer to this question of how there was melted and sulfidized steel. Is there a chemist at NIST who has researched this? So far I have come up with this:

- a) Sulfidized steel melts at a lower temperature than regular steel (I have read figures of both 1800 and 2200 degrees F).
- b) Gypsum, which is 18% sulfur, was used as fire insulation for some of the steel beams and trusses.
- c) I don't know how steel is sulfidized. Is mere proximity of steel and sulfur during a fire enough to sulfidize steel?
- d) If so, could some steel have been sulfidized in the WTC fires, causing some steel to melt at the lower temperatures of the WTC fires? Or is there another explanation? Or is there no explanation yet? Except for this I have so far been able to find alternative explanations for melted steel in the rubble (such as melted aluminum from airplanes and cars in the basement garages).

The steel sections used in the other WTC buildings (WTC 3, 4, 5, 6, and 7) were conventional sections and were not marked. Thus it was not possible to conclusively trace the piece studied in the FEMA report to a particular building. It is also not possible to determine how and when the sulfidation occurred. It is important to note that NIST found that the steel only needed to heat sufficiently to lose a substantial amount of its strength and stiffness, which occurs at a temperature well below the melting point.

NIST's claim that "it was not possible to conclusively trace the piece studied in the FEMA report to a particular building" is contradicted by Dr. Jonathan Barnett, [who has said](#) that the type of steel found could be traced to WTC7. But even if it could not conclusively be traced back to WTC7, this is still no excuse not to examine it, as it obviously came from Ground Zero.

And although, as NIST claims, it is not known when the sulfidation occurred, the FEMA investigators [did suggest](#) that it's "possible that the phenomenon started prior to collapse and accelerated the weakening of the steel structure."

Note that NIST still continues to talk about steel weakening, whereas Mohr's question had to do with the steel melting. NIST has provided no explanation for the sulfidation of the steel, and any of the natural sources of sulfur in the buildings has been ruled out.

Conclusion:

NIST has done nothing to answer any of Mohr's questions. They have simply rehashed many of their old points which have long been debunked. Hopefully Mohr will be able to see through NIST's deceptiveness in the future.

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