

The Ghost in the Machines: The Mystery of the WTC Hard Drive Recoveries

by Michael Fury

Many are aware of the surge in put options purchased on American and United Airlines as well as several major tenants of the WTC in the days preceding 9/11, purchases the 9/11 Commission Report waves away in a footnote on pg. 499 as having no connection with the events of 9/11 since there were no ties to al Qaeda. More obscure, and nowhere mentioned in the Commission Report, are the facts of the WTC computer data recovery operation undertaken in late 2001 by Convar GmbH, a German firm. Under conditions of hermetic secrecy, Convar used its proprietary technology to salvage data from the damaged hard drives of WTC tenants, as reported in December 2001 by Reuters and CNN.

<http://www.rediff.com/money/2001/dec/17wtc.htm>

<http://archives.cnn.com/2001/TECH/industry/12/20/wtc.harddrives.idg/>

From the Reuters article:

"The suspicion is that inside information about the attack was used to send financial transaction commands and authorisations in the belief that amid all the chaos the criminals would have, at the very least, a good head start," said Convar director Peter Henschel."

"Richard Wagner, a data retrieval expert at the company, said illegal transfers of more than \$100 million might have been made **immediately before and during the disaster.**"

"There is a suspicion that some people had advance knowledge of the approximate time of the plane crashes in order to move out amounts exceeding \$100 million," Wagner said. **"They thought that the records of their transactions could not be traced after the main frames were destroyed."**

"Henschel said the companies in the United States were working together with the FBI to piece together what happened on September 11 and that he was confident the destination of the dubious transactions would one day be tracked down."

Convar's website features a video confirming that Convar GmbH did in fact process the WTC hard drives. <http://www.datarecovery-europe.com/welcome.htm> The widely disseminated claim that Kroll Associates--the powerful private-intelligence firm responsible for some elements of WTC security on 9/11--acquired Convar in June 2002 remains unsubstantiated. What can be verified is that Kroll purchased Ontrack Data Recovery, a U.S.-based rival of Convar with offices in Germany.

After the CNN article of December 20, the U.S. media were stricken mute on the Convar investigation. Of the media blackouts shrouding 9/11, none has been more absolute.

Notice that Convar, its unnamed WTC clients and the FBI possessed these data, and that the FBI would have no reason to withhold the results of its investigation had they proven benign or consistent with the Commission's account of the attacks.

It is worth remembering what Sibel Edmonds told Jim Hogue: "I can tell you that the issue, on one side, boils down to money--a lot of money. And it boils down to people and their connections with this money..."

<http://baltimorechronicle.com/050704SibelEdmonds.shtml>

Consider again Wagner's inference: "They thought that the records of their transactions could not be traced after the main frames were destroyed." The locations of the computers in question within the towers is unknown, but if Wagner is correct, two possibilities emerge: (1) either the "insiders" had foreknowledge of the precise impact points of the aircraft (otherwise why assume that the main frames would be destroyed?) or (2) **they had foreknowledge of the total destruction of the towers**. Upon reflection, for numerous reasons the first possibility recedes into remote improbability. But why would the "insiders" assume the total collapse of the towers when there was no historical precedent for such an event and the towers had been designed to survive the impact of fuel-laden 707s at 600 mph? <http://911research.wtc7.net/wtc/analysis/design.html> If in fact the WTC towers were demolished by explosives, incendiaries or other means, whoever initiated these transactions should be considered suspect for complicity in those acts.

No legitimate reason—in fact no reason whatsoever—for withholding the Convar data has to date been offered.