

Atta — Terrorist, Patsy or Scapegoat?

The Official Story

On September 11th, Mohammed Atta and another alleged hijacker Abdullah al-Omari, drove a rented Nissan Altima from Boston up to Portland, Maine, stayed overnight, then took a commuter flight back to Boston the next morning in time to catch AA Flight 11. Atta's luggage, however, did not get loaded onto Flight 11 because the commuter flight was too late.

Atta's passport was allegedly found in "a piece of luggage that did not make it from the hijackers' flight connecting flight onto American Airlines Flight 11." Authorities later discovered in this luggage various other incriminating items — such as flight simulation manuals for Boeing airplanes, a copy of the Quran, a religious cassette tape, a note to other hijackers about mental preparation and Atta's will.

The 9/11 Commission's Report's explanation for this convenient find (that the luggage was too late for the connecting flight) illustrates the risks of missing Flight AA11 that were taken.



Why would these individuals, having allegedly planned this operation for well over a year, risk not getting to Boston in time for their flight on 9/11 by travelling to Portland the night before and jumping on a plane back in the morning - with time being so tight that the luggage didn't make it?

And why would Atta take his Will onto a plane that he planned to slam in to World Trade Center, knowing that his belongings would be destroyed by the burning of the plane's jet fuel on impact?

Whilst the 9/11 Commission characterised Atta as "fanatically" religious — and he and the other alleged hijackers as "a cadre of trained operatives willing to die" — they ignore the many reports that Atta loved gambling, cocaine, alcohol, pork and lap dances.

An editorial in the Wall Street Journal called "Terrorist Stag Parties" noted that several of the other alleged hijackers had similar appetites, which they sometimes indulged in in Las Vegas.

"[Atta and Alomari] spent their last night pursuing ordinary activities: making ATM withdrawals, eating pizza, and shopping at a convenience store"