

# Was the Space Shuttle Columbia Disaster Caused by a Weapon from an Extraterrestrial Civilization or US Government Weapon Misfire? **Did NASA Bury the Evidence?**

This private study was conducted by David Sereda, UFOlogist after studying 5 photographs taken by amateur astronomer Dr. Peter Goldie (Kings College of London). Goldie was a British Tourist visiting San Francisco during the re-entry of NASA Space Shuttle Mission STS-107 on Feb 1, 2003. What he captured in 5 digital still photographs was so shocking, the San Francisco Chronicle reported that:

“The digital image is one of five snapped by the shuttle buff at roughly 5:53 a.m. Saturday as sensors on the doomed orbiter began showing the first indications of trouble. Seven minutes later, the craft broke up in flames over Texas.”

# Space Shuttle Columbia launched on January 16th, 2003: 9.39am Columbia (Flight STS-107) was the 113th mission!

Feb 1, 2003, Space Shuttle Columbia Disaster Events Engineers remain confident in their understanding of the size and weight of the debris seen hitting Columbia's wing. Analysis determined the impact wouldn't significantly damage the shuttle or pose a safety issue.

“We believe there is something else,” Dittemore said. “It just does not make sense to us that a piece of debris is the root cause for the loss of Columbia and crew.”





On February 1st, 2003, at 8am - All vehicle data was lost at 207,135 ft above the Earth at Mach 18.3 (about 12,500 mph) when the Columbia Space Shuttle broke up over north-central Texas. It was about 16 minutes prior to its scheduled landing at Florida's Kennedy Space Center.





Dr. Peter Goldie's first of 5 digital photos taken in San Francisco, Feb 1, 2003 as the San Francisco Chronicle reported, "The digital image is one of five snapped by the shuttle buff at roughly 5: 53 a.m. Saturday as sensors on the doomed orbiter began showing the first indications of trouble. Seven minutes later, the craft broke up in flames over Texas."

The Incoming Missile, Plasma Weapon or alleged Super Lightning Strike appears to come from above and speeds towards the shuttle's position at the time the shuttle would have been straight ahead of its path. See intersection point.



The shuttle is the straight line streak of white. It is travelling from left to right at 12,500 mph, and 207,135 ft above the earth. The photo was taken with a Nikon 800 digital camera while placed on a tripod. Peter Goldie told the SF Chronicle the 5 exposures were taken as 4-6 second exposures. The Time value of the exposure means that the bright source of the shuttle plasma burn would cause a streak over time, plus the length of the burn trail.

But notice that just after the incoming weapon, or supposed "Super Lightning Strike" crosses the path of the shuttle, it makes a course correction at 90 degrees very suddenly to chase after the shuttle. Is this is behaving like a heat seeking missile?



Dr. Peter Goldie's second of 5 digital photos taken in San Francisco, Feb 1, 2003. Now this photo poses a real problem. There is no way that a lightning strike could exist in a second exposure of 4-6 seconds with the origination point at the top still in frame. I have done professional photography for over 25 years, and I can tell you that a single lightning strike cannot exist for even a full second, let alone for 5 consecutive exposures of 4-6 seconds each (20-30 seconds of time). According to the physics definition on Time values for lightning, "Most commonly, the lightning current ceases in about a millisecond for a given stroke" (or 1/millionth of a second), or enough to expose only 1 frame of film with a single lightning strike.

Here we can see the weapon has made a course correction of 90 degrees, an impossible feat for any missile to do that is travelling faster than the shuttle's 12,500 mph. It is clearly gaining on the shuttle and spiraling right towards the head of the shuttle precisely, as we will see on the next photo taken by Peter Goldie.

I have also examined lightning strikes on video, which I shot myself on a Canon XL-1. This video camera shoots at 30 frames per second. In the editing bay, I rarely saw lightning on more than 1 or 2 frames out of 30 frames per second. This also makes the NASA theory that what we are seeing in this photo is Super Lightning.



Dr. Peter Goldie's Third of 5 digital photos taken in San Francisco, Feb 1, 2003. Again, how could a lightning strike survive even 3 frames of exposure? At this point, we are at between 12 and 18 seconds from the first picture that Dr. Peter Goldie took. It is not lightning. According to the San Francisco Chronicle article, Peter Goldie said "the estimated exposure time -- about four to six seconds on the automatic Nikon 880 camera. It was mounted on a tripod, and the shutter was triggered manually." Manual triggering means there is a time lapse between each picture. Lightning? How stupid does NASA think we are?



Notice here that the weapon or missile strikes the shuttle Columbia between 12 and 18 seconds (plus time between pictures) after the first photo was taken. Perhaps this is 25 seconds later.

At the point of intersection or strike, the shuttle brightens considerably meaning it is discharging explosive or kinetic energy.

According the the SF Chrinicle, "The photographer requested that his name not be used and said he would not release the image to the public until NASA experts had time to examine it.

Late Tuesday, NASA dispatched former shuttle astronaut Tammy Jernigan, now a manager at Lawrence Livermore Laboratories, to the San Francisco home of the astronomer to examine his digital images and to take the camera itself to Mountain View, where it was to be transported by a NASA T-38 jet to Houston this morning."



Dr. Peter Goldie's Fourth of 5 digital photos taken in San Francisco, Feb 1, 2003. This photo clearly shows a color difference between the weapon (violet) and the shuttle (blue white). The color was reported in the SF Chronicle article as "In the critical shot, a glowing purple rope of light corkscrews down toward the plasma trail, appears to pass behind it, then cuts sharply toward it from below. As it merges with the plasma trail, the streak itself brightens for a distance, then fades. "It certainly appears very anomalous," said Jernigan. "We sure will be very interested in taking a very hard look at this."



If we look closely here, we can see that the weapon was intending on striking the shuttle. It does not stray from its course and course correction on striking the shuttle. There is also no continuation after it strikes the shuttle. The questions is: what kind of a weapon is this? Who or what fired it? Was it a misguided weapons test from the Department of Defense Star Wars? Was it Russian? If so, would they strike at the shuttle and engage the United States in a clear Act of War? No way!

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Dr. Peter Goldie's Fourth of 5 digital photos taken in San Francisco, Feb 1, 2003. This photo is not as the previous images, which were taken off a TV screen when Peter Goldie's photos appeared in a national Geographic TV special on the Shuttle Columbia accident. This is a direct Digital image, which was posted on the internet. 5 photos puts us at 20-30 seconds of exposure time after the first shot, plus time between manual exposures by Peter Goldie. There is no way a lightning strike could remain on 2, let alone all 5 photographs.



In this photo, we can clearly see that the weapon has strick the shuttle and does not travel any more. It has reached its target. But the shuttle does not explode to pieces immediately. Therefore, this could not be a missile carrying an explosive. It woud have to be some kind of advanced weapon.

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The Question Arises: If an Amateur Astronomer shot photos of the space shuttle being struck by this advanced weapon, the military must have better images or even photography of the event. Their imagery is classified.

Air Force imagery confirms Columbia wing damaged

BY CRAIG COVAULT

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High-resolution images taken from a ground-based Air Force tracking camera in southwestern U.S. show serious structural damage to the inboard leading edge of Columbia's left wing, as the crippled orbiter flew overhead about 60 sec. before the vehicle broke up over Texas killing the seven astronauts on board Feb. 1.

According to sources close to the investigation, the images, under analysis at the Johnson Space Center in Houston, show a jagged edge on the left inboard wing structure near where the wing begins to intersect the fuselage. They also show the orbiter's right aft yaw thrusters firing, trying to correct the vehicle's attitude that was being adversely affected by the left wing damage. Columbia's fuselage and right wing appear normal. Unlike the damaged and jagged left wing section, the right wing appears smooth along its entire length. The imagery is consistent with telemetry.



# **A Study on the Velocity of the Fastest Missiles on Earth versus the speed of the Weapon chasing and striking the Shuttle Columbia.**

According to NASA, at the time of the incident of the supposed “Super Lighting Strike,” the Shuttle is travelling at 12,500 mph. As you will see, no missile on earth, other than ICBMs (Nuclear Missiles) could travel faster than the shuttle and catch up to it and strike it.

**The Velocity of the fastest non-nuclear Missiles on Earth:** Tomahawk Land Attack Missile (TLAM) is a long-range, all-weather, subsonic cruise missile: speed 550 mph. AGM-88 High speed Anti Radiation Missile (HARM) is an air-to-surface tactical missile designed to seek out and destroy enemy radar-equipped air defense systems. Speed 760 mph. The FIM-92 Stinger is a passive surface-to-air missile. The FIM-92B can attack aircraft at a range of up to 15,700 feet (4800 m) and at altitudes between 600 and 12,500 feet (180 and 3800 m). Maximum speed of Mach 2.2 (750 m/s) = approximately 1,500 mph. AIM-9 Sidewinder maximum speed mach 2.5. The Evolved Sea Sparrow Missile maximum Speed Mach 4 = 2,800 mph. Range 27 nautical miles. AIM-120 Advanced Medium-Range Air-to-Air Missile, or AMRAAM = Mach 4. RIM-116 Rolling Airframe Missile (RAM) is a small, lightweight, infrared homing surface-to-air missile in use by the United States Navy, German Navy, Hellenic Navy, and South Korean Navy. Mach 2.



## **The Velocity of the fastest Nuclear Missiles on Earth:**

The ICBM: The LGM-30 Minuteman is a United States nuclear missile, a land-based intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM). As of 2006, it is the only land-based ICBM in service in the United States. Approximately 15,000 mph (Mach 23, or 24,000 km/h, or 7 km/s). At \$7 million each, we don't fire these at UFOs. The Trident missile, named after the trident, is a submarine-launched ballistic missile (SLBM) which is armed with nuclear warheads and is launched from SSBNs, nuclear-powered ballistic missile submarines. Trident missiles are carried by fourteen active US Navy Ohio class submarines and, with British warheads, four Royal Navy Vanguard class submarines. Speed 18,000 mph. Cost \$31 million each.

## **A Comparative Study on the Weapon that struck the Shuttle Columbia:**

Using the Goldie photos (4-6 second exposures), I would estimate that the weapon was fired at the shuttle head on. At the point of the course correction, we can measure the difference in speed between the weapon and the shuttle. I estimate that if the shuttle is traveling at 12,500 mph, from the point of the course correction, it took the weapon between 10 and 15 seconds to catch up to and strike the shuttle. The shuttle is travelling at approximately 3.5 miles per second. The Minuteman missile, at 15,000 mph travels at 4.16 Miles Per Second. The Trident Missile, at 18,000 mph, travels at 5 miles per second. The Trident Missile is 1.5 miles per second faster than the shuttle. Could the Trident missile have even caught up to the shuttle in 10 to 15 seconds from the point of the course correction? In 10 seconds, the Trident could travel 50 miles. In 10 seconds the shuttle would travel 35 miles. That is a difference of 15 miles in 10 seconds that the Trident would have to gain on the shuttle. It would take 3 seconds for the Trident to gain those 15 miles.



# **We are not looking at a missile trying to target the shuttle:**

**Had the Shuttle Columbia been struck by an ICBM, there would have been a huge explosion. There is no large explosion upon impact, rather a brightening or plasma effect. The astronauts were still alive at this point, and in contact with Houston Control. It took another 6.5 minutes for the shuttle to break apart. What kind of weapon could do this?**

**Lasers: Pulsed Lasers - The problem with Pulsed Lasers and Microwave radiation lasers is that they are not able to change direction like the Weapon that is chasing and striking the Shuttle. We could not be dealing with something like this.**

**Was the Weapon part of a Star Wars or SDI test that went wrong? From Wikipedia: The Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI), commonly called Star Wars after the popular science fiction movies of the time, was proposed by U.S. President Ronald Reagan on March 23, 1983[1] to use ground-based and space-based systems to protect the United States from attack by strategic nuclear ballistic missiles. Though it was never fully developed or deployed, the research and technologies of SDI paved the way for some Anti-ballistic missile systems of today. The Strategic Defense Initiative Organization (SDIO) was set up in 1984 within the United States Department of Defense to the Strategic Defense Initiative. Under the administration of President Bill Clinton in 1993, its name was changed to the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization (BMDO) and its emphasis was shifted from national missile defense to theater missile defense, i.e. from global to regional coverage.**



# The Most Advanced Weapons for SDI so far have not attained a high enough success rate to be in practical use:

**Project Brilliant Pebbles has some characteristics of the kind of weapon used:**

Brilliant Pebbles was a non-nuclear system of satellite-based, watermelon-sized,[17] mini-missiles designed to use a high-velocity kinetic warhead.[18] It was designed to operate in conjunction with the Brilliant Eyes sensor system and would have detected and destroyed missiles without any external guidance. The project was conceived in November 1986.[19]

John H. Nuckolls, director of Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory from 1988 to 1994, described the system as “The crowning achievement of the Strategic Defense Initiative”. The technologies developed for SDI were used in numerous later projects. For example, the sensors and cameras that were developed for Brilliant Pebbles became components of the Clementine mission and SDI technologies may also have a role in future missile defense efforts.[20]

Though regarded as one of the most capable SDI systems, the Brilliant Pebbles program was canceled in 1994 by the BMDO.[21] However, it is being reevaluated for possible future use by the MDA.



From Wikipedia: **Kinetic projectiles Could the Shuttle Columbia have been targeted by a Kinetic Weapon from Space? The characteristics are similar.**

Some projectiles do not contain an explosive charge (such as shells). They are termed kinetic projectile, kinetic energy weapon or kinetic penetrator. The classic kinetic energy weapon is the bullet. Among projectiles which do not contain explosives are railguns, coilguns, mass drivers, and kinetic energy penetrators, in addition to smaller weapons such as bullets. All of these weapons work by attaining a high muzzle velocity (hypervelocity), and collide with their objective, releasing kinetic energy.

Some kinetic weapons for targeting objects in spaceflight are anti-satellite weapons and anti-ballistic missiles. Since they need to attain a high velocity anyway, they can destroy their target with their released kinetic energy alone; explosives are not necessary. Compare the energy of TNT, 4.6 MJ/kg, to the energy of a kinetic kill vehicle with a closing speed of 10 km/s, which is 50 MJ/kg. This saves costly weight and there is no detonation to be done at the right time, but on the other hand it requires a more accurate hit.

If the Shuttle Columbia was targeted by a US Military Kinetic weapon, the question is why? Also, does the United States have them in place on military satellites today?

The problem with these weapons is that there seems to be no evidence that they are heat seeking, and course correctional like the weapon that struck the shuttle Columbia.



# Final Analysis:

It does not appear that Reagan's Star Wars or SDI is advanced enough at this time to have developed the type of weapon used against the Shuttle Columbia. I therefore have no other option but to charge that Extraterrestrial UFO craft may have been involved in the incident.

Engineers remain confident in their understanding of the size and weight of the debris seen hitting Columbia's wing. Analysis determined the impact wouldn't significantly damage the shuttle or pose a safety issue. "We believe there is something else," Dittemore said. "It just does not make sense to us that a piece of debris is the root cause for the loss of Columbia and crew."

It was not debris, or a true malfunction. There is clear evidence here that something beyond earth technology was responsible. Unless we can provide evidence that a kinetic weapon of this type and specifications is in the hands of the Russians or the Chinese in space, we have no other course.

David Sereda Jan 2nd, 2007