

whereabouts from July 10 to 16 are unaccounted for, “roughly the same period during which Atta’s movements are unknown,” suggesting, according to DCI Tenet, that “the two engaged in clandestine meetings on the progress of the plot.” Atta returned to the United States on July 19, arriving in Atlanta. Jarrah traveled to Germany from Newark on July 25, returning on August 5, a trip that may have permitted further contact with Bin al-Shibh. Director Mueller also testified that “[d]uring the summer of 2001, some of the hijackers, specifically Mohamed Atta and Nawaf al-Hazmi appear to have met face-to-face on a monthly basis to discuss the status of the operation, and ultimately the final preparation for the attack.” In an interview with al-Jazeera shortly before his capture, Bin al-Shibh described al-Hazmi as Atta’s “right hand.”

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As the supporting hijackers arrived, they divided between Florida and New York before moving to three staging areas. The two who arrived in Virginia and the two who arrived in New York joined Nawaf al-Hazmi and Hanjour in Paterson, New Jersey. The four who arrived in Orlando and the five who arrived in Miami joined Atta, al-Shehhi, and Jarrah in the Fort Lauderdale, Florida area.

The nineteen hijackers began to book September 11 flights on August 26. Al-Mihdhar and Majed Moqed, hijackers on the Pentagon flight, were unable to buy tickets on August 24 because their address could not be verified. They finally purchased them with cash on September 5 at the American Airlines counter in the Baltimore/Washington International Airport. The hijackers in the Fort Lauderdale area also booked flights to locations in the Boston, Newark, New Jersey, and Washington, D.C. areas where the teams for each September 11 flight assembled.

F. Financing of the Attacks

The FBI estimates that the September 11 attacks cost \$175,000 to \$250,000. According to Director Mueller and Bureau documents, “the funding mechanism behind the conspiracy appears to center around Marwan al-Shehhi and individuals providing financial support primarily” through the “banking and wire service infrastructure” of the United Arab Emirates.

In Hamburg, al-Shehhi received substantial transfers from the UAE by wire from Mohamed Yousef Mohamed Alqusaidi, whom the FBI believes to be al-Shehhi’s brother. In July 1999, al-Shehhi opened a checking account in the UAE and soon after granted a power of