



Figure 3–5. Photograph of WTC 2 tilting to the southeast at the onset of collapse.

3.7 THE OUTCOME

Seven factors led to the collapse of WTC 2:

- Direct structural damage from the aircraft impact, which included more severe damage to the core columns than in WTC 1;
- Jet fuel sprayed into the building interior, that ignited widespread fires over several floors;
- Dislodging of SFRM from structural members due to the aircraft impact and aircraft and building debris, which enabled rapid heating of the unprotected structural steel;
- Sustained fires on the east side of the tower and an ample air supply;
- Weakened core columns that increased the loads on the perimeter walls;