Lloyde England’s Taxicab on 9/11

Resolving the Long Running Controversy

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A Long Running Controversy

• The incident at the Pentagon where Lloyde England’s taxi was speared by a piece of a light pole has become a long running controversy among those with an interest in the events of 9/11

• Human interest stories about the incident were brief and did not fully document detailed questions about the mechanics of the incident
Subsequent Interviews

• A series of interviews were conducted by a group – self-identified as the Citizens Investigation Team (or C.I.T)
• Persons conducting the interviews were supposedly trying to document what actually happened
• C.I.T.’s resulting videos demonstrate an interest in storytelling instead
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INCIDENT OVERVIEW
Accident Scene Reconstruction

• Review the Lloyde Taxicab incident:

  *When treated as an accident scene using the physics of motion, the location of the taxi and debris supports Lloyde’s “Survivor Fund” statement.*

  *The location of most debris from light pole #1 and #2 is documented in the photographic record.*

  *The location of the lamp heads from light poles #1 and #2 is consistent with a high speed impact of the lamp post mast – at a point below the attachment point of the lamp support arms.*

  *Lloyde describes a “long” pole (like a javelin) that impaled his taxi.*

  *The lower lamp support arms are approximately **11.5 feet long***
Explosion 5 Minutes After Impact at 9:43 (Probably Propane Tank)

Photo by Daryl Donley
Taxi Photographed on South Side of Columbia Pike Overpass

Sign gantry near heliport

Pole 2 (Approx)

Pole 2

Pole 1 (Approx)

Sign gantry before exit

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Windshield and Rear Seat Are Damaged By “Long pole”

Imprecise use of the word “pole” and “long” has opened the door to confusion. The street lamps have three “pole” segments that are “long” compared to their width.
Small Holes in Rear Seat Fabric

Source: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yC3LRdjocmc at 50:38
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LAMP POST PARTS

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Lamp Post Parts

Upper lamp support arm or “pole”

Lamp

Lower lamp support arm or “pole”

Mast “pole”
Lamp Post Parts

‘Short’ end of lamp support arm

‘Long’ end of lamp support arm
Lower Lamp Support Arm

- ‘Short’ end of lamp support arm
- ‘Long’ end of lamp support arm
- Attachment bracket for lamp support arm
Photo of Neighboring Lamp Post

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Lamp Support Arm Highlighted
Estimating Lower Lamp Support Arm Length to be \(~11.5\) feet

- Top lamp support arm ~16 feet long
- \(~11.5\) feet long
- ~35 feet high

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Detail of Lower Lamp Support Arm (Note: This is Photo of Light Pole #3)

Lower lamp support arm is about 11 ½ feet long

NOTE: CIT minimizes the length and claims only 6 feet long
Detail of Lower Lamp Support Arm (Note: This is Photo of Light Pole #3)

Lower lamp support arm is about 11 ½ feet long

NOTE: CIT minimizes the length and claims only 6 feet long
This is one of the most important pieces of evidence in regards to the attack on the Pentagon therefore our research into it has been extremely detailed and thorough.

[...]
We had a tour of the VDOT (Virginia Department of Transportation) and physically examined the same style light poles.

Here are the dimensions:

Lamp head height was 40 feet
Base diameter is 10 inches
Top Diameter is 6 inches
The walls are 1/8 inch thick aluminum
Light head was approx. 70 pounds
Pole weight is 247 pounds
Transformer style breakaway base

And here is a video of me doing a squat lift to pick up the heavier base end of the pole which is what Lloyd claimed was sticking out over the hood of his car:

[Video link]

NOTE: Length of Truss Arm for light pole #2 is at least 11.5 feet.
Actual Lamp Post Truss Arm vs. C.I.T. Lamp Post Truss Arm

Top lamp support arm ~16 feet long

Neighboring lamp post for comparison

C.I.T.’s erroneous 6 feet long

Neighboring lamp post for comparison

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NOTE:
At 40 mph, typical driver reaction time and stopping distance is about 164 feet.
Typical Reaction / Stopping Time

At 40 mph, stopping distance with reaction time is estimated to be 164 feet.

<table>
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<th>MPH</th>
<th>Ft./Sec.</th>
<th>Braking Deceleration Distance</th>
<th>Perception Reaction Distance</th>
<th>Total Stopping Distance</th>
<th>Implied Reaction Time</th>
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Source: [http://nacto.org/docs/usdg/vehicle_stopping_distance_and_time_upenn.pdf](http://nacto.org/docs/usdg/vehicle_stopping_distance_and_time_upenn.pdf)
Town Car with 11.5 Foot Pole

11.5 foot pole is consistent with “Lloyd’s Doodle”

18.5 foot vehicle length

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Lloyde England’s Taxicab on 9/11; Resolving the Long Running Controversy
Lloyde vs. an 11.5 Foot Pole
Next to Lloyde, the 11.5 Foot Pole Can be Called “Long”
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AIR PLANE FLIGHT PATH

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Clipping Tree Next to Washington Blvd. and Lamp Posts #1 & #2
Clipping Tree Next to Washington Blvd. and Lamp Posts #1 & #2

Lamp post #2 hit by end of wing

Lamp post #1 hit center of wing spar
Location of Lamp Post Debris

- Mast 1 Pieces
- Mast 2
- Upper and Lower Arm and Lamp 1
- Upper Arm and Lamp 2
- Lamp 2 Upper and Lower Arm and Lamp 1
Location of Lower Lamp Support Arm of Lamp Post #2

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REMOVING THE POLE

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Removing the 11.5 Foot Pole Requires Significant Exertion

- Goal was to remove the pole without additional damage to the taxi
  - Repairs expected to return taxi to service
- Two men at end of a long “moment” arm
Removing the 11.5 Foot Pole Requires Significant Exertion

- Gravity creates a “moment” that must be resisted
- Holding the pole up requires significant effort
  - Weight of the pole estimated at ~22.9 lb
  - Moment is ~120 ft-lb of torque from the end
Lifting an 11.5 Foot Long 2x6 Piece of Lumber From One End

• Gravity creates a “moment” that must be resisted
• Holding the board up requires significant effort
  – Weight of 2x6 is ~22.3 lb
  – Moment is ~130 ft-lb of torque from the end
Daryl Donley Captures Explosion at 9:42 and 40 seconds

- Explosion at 9:42 and 40 seconds captured by Daryl Donley, NBC and CBS
- About 5 minutes after plane hits the lamp posts
C.I.T. INTERVIEWS AND VIDEOS
C.I.T.’s Resulting Videos

- During on-camera interview sessions they discussed printed images
  - Pointed to various features
  - Did not discuss photo of “long pole” on-camera
- Left the most important issue out of the video interview
  - Preferred innuendo
  - Used misleading images in audio-only segment
C.I.T. Excluded Lloyde Pointing to the "Long Pole" in Any Photo
C.I.T.’s Resulting Videos

• Omitted key questions and answers
• Substituted innuendo and accusations to create a “fantastical” story
  – Inserted images with inaccurate annotations during audio interviews to create their story
This Photo was C.I.T.’s Visual During an Audio-Only Interview
This Annotation Would Have Been Appropriate

11½ foot long piece
When Lloyde Was Told by C.I.T. the 25 foot Mast Speared his Taxi

• C.I.T. asserted, “It couldn't be any other pole. The lamp is down next to it.”

  – Lloyde’s response was: silence
“It couldn't be any other pole. The lamp is down next to it.”
“It couldn't be any other pole. The lamp is down next to it”

C.I.T.: These pictures are taken right after each other - at the same time. It shows the pole. The most important point is that – here is your cab – right?
Lloyde: That’s not, That's not
C.I.T.: See your cab? See the grill? See you right here, you're wearing the cap.
Lloyde: Yeah, I see it, I see it.
C.I.T.: Now here is the pole. That's your pole – see the bend?
Lloyde: Yeah.
C.I.T.: That's the pole you pulled out – Right
Lloyde: [SILENCE]
C.I.T.: There's your cab. It couldn't be any other pole. The lamp is down next to it.
C.I.T. Left One Segment Where Lloyde Shows the Pole Location

• When visiting the damaged Taxi:
  – Lloyde gestures where the pole ended
  – Saying, “The pole went through – it went through – over here – straight back”

• Nowhere, during the visit to the damaged taxi, does Lloyde indicate the presence of a 25-30 foot pole on, or in, the vehicle
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“The pole went through, it went through — over here — straight back”
Lloyde Shows Where the Pole Was

“The pole went through, it went through – over here – straight back”

Note: Pole extended back to approximately where the rear seat would be and forward to the location above the hood shown earlier.
The “Long Piece” Was Mislabeled By C.I.T. (e.g., Storytelling)
Jeff Hill Interview

• A later interview omitted descriptive questions, such as:
  – How thick was the pole
    • Thick as a man’s arm?
    • Big around as a man’s head
  – How heavy was the pole
    • About 25 pounds?
    • Heavy as a 12 foot long 2” x 6” piece of lumber?
    • 200 pounds?
Jeff Hill Interview

• Lloyde described the pole coming in like a Javelin
  – Javelins are not “telephone pole” sized
  – Javelin’s are long and narrow
    • Diameter: 1.181 inches
    • Length: 8 feet 10 1/4 inches

• Lower lamp support arm
  – Diameter: tapered from about 2” to about 5”
  – Length: 11 ½ feet
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CONCLUSION
Many People Confused by the C.I.T.’s 25 Foot “Long Pole” Story

Example drawing by people confused by C.I.T.’s false information
Many People Confused by the C.I.T.’s 25 Foot “Long Pole” Story

Example drawing by people confused by C.I.T.’s false information
Conclusion Regarding “Long” Pole

• The thin lower lamp support arm is about 11.5 feet long
  – Nearly twice as “long” as Lloyde is tall
  – Fits the meaning of “long”

• Lloyde shows, with his hand gesture, where the pole was located relative to the hood
  – Began near the front of his car’s hood and went straight back
  – Lloyde is clear and unambiguous in video clip