

Lockerbie's unanswered questions

Pan Am flight 103 was blown out of the sky on December 21, 1988, killing 259 on board and 11 people on the ground in Lockerbie, Scotland. Libyan Abdel Basset al-Megrahi was found guilty of murder and jailed for life in 2001

OFFICIAL VERSION OF EVENTS

08:52GMT, Dec 21, 1988:

Bomb in unaccompanied luggage leaves Malta on flight **KM180**

11:48: KM180 arrives Frankfurt. Bomb transferred to feeder flight **Pan Am 103A**

15:53: Pan Am 103A departs Frankfurt

17:40: Pan Am 103A arrives London Heathrow, 25 minutes late. Bomb transferred to **Clipper Maid of the Seas**

18:30: Pan Am Flight 103 departs Heathrow

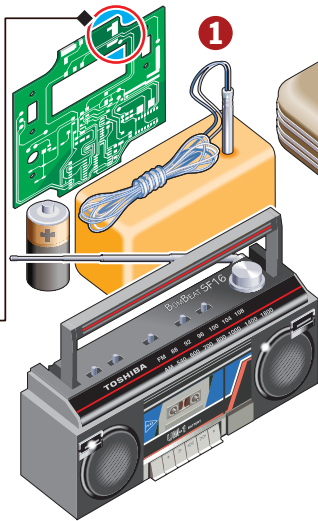
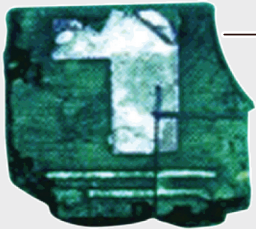
19:02: Bomb explodes over Lockerbie

02:00, Dec 22: Flight due in New York



CASE FOR THE PROSECUTION

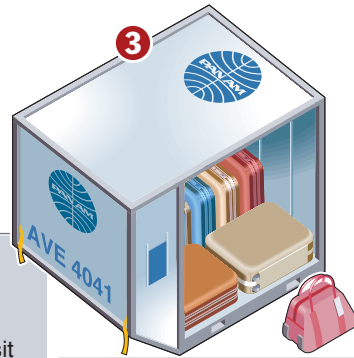
1 Improvised explosive device (IED), containing **300-450gm of Semtex** plastic explosive and **MST-13** electronic clock timer, is built into **Toshiba BomBeat** radio-cassette player



3 London Heathrow: Prosecution claims that luggage container **AVE4041** holds only interline luggage in transit from other destinations and luggage transferred on tarmac from PA103A

Exhibit PH/137: Pan Am records show purple holdall checked in at Heathrow is placed in AVE4041. **This raises another possibility that bomb could also have originated at Heathrow**

Early hours of Dec 21: Break-in at Heathrow Terminal 3 gives possible access to **interline Baggage Shed**



Germany, Oct 26: West German Bundeskriminalamt (BKA) arrests 16 members of **Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine – General Command** near Frankfurt. BKA finds Toshiba BomBeat radio-cassette player packed with Semtex and altitude-sensitive trigger

Dec 7: Security alert issued after U.S. Embassy in Finland receives threat to Pan Am flights from Frankfurt to U.S.

WHAT WE KNOW NOW

Exhibit PT35b:

Fingernail-sized fragment of printed circuit board is identified by FBI as part of MST-13 timer supplied to Libyan military. Almost identical timers are manufactured in Florida for CIA. **PT35b is never tested for explosive residue. Was evidence tampered with to implicate Libya?**

2 Malta: IED placed in Samsonite Silhouette 4000 suitcase which is smuggled unaccompanied aboard **Air Malta flight KM180** from Luqa Airport, Malta, to Frankfurt

Dec 21, Frankfurt interline baggage:

Luggage from KM180 is placed in individually numbered trays and forwarded to various transit flights. **No baggage from KM180 is destined for Pan Am Flight 103**

13:07: Interline baggage tray **B-8849** – with suitcase from Berlin-Tegel – is handled at same time as Air Malta baggage

14:17: Frankfurt computer data shows **B-8849** is loaded on flight **PA 103A** for London and is retrieved by its owner at Heathrow. **Is this mistaken as bomb?**

