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NEARLY 23 YEARS LATER

Video alleges new evidence in Saudi hijackers case

It’s tied to lawsuit now in a NYC judge’s hands

By Joe Dwinell
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The 9/11 families are closer to the truth than ever before. A federal judge in Manhattan is expected to rule anytime now on Saudi Arabia’s appeal to toss a lawsuit against the Kingdom, but if this landmark case goes forward, long-buried secrets of the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks will be exposed.

“This is the closest thing you’re going to get to a smoking gun,” said Brett Eagleson, who was 15 years old when his dad, Bruce, died while working at the Twin Towers on 9/11. “The public needs to see this.” Eagleson tells the Herald that lawyers have obtained a video that allegedly shows a Saudi suspect “casing the Capitol” in the summer of 1999, pointing out where Congress sits. Eagleson

also says a companion sketch-book painstakingly shows “an aviator’s algorithm on how to hit a target on the horizon when flying a plane.” He credits British officials for obtaining both pieces of “incredible” evidence and retired FBI agents for assisting 9/11 families who refuse to give up on seeking justice nearly 23 years after the ruthless kamikaze jet attacks on

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Brett Eagleson, son of Sept. 11 victim Bruce Eagleson sits in a memorial garden with a beam from the World Trade Center.

JESSICA HILL — THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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HAITIAN COMMUNITY MARKS INAUGURAL FLAG DAY



COURTESY IINE

Saxophonist Carlyle Louiné plays during a procession to a flag-raising ceremony for Haiti at Lowell’s City Hall on May 17, 2024.

Flag-raising ceremony held at City Hall

By Melanie Gilbert
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LOWELL » The first Haitian Flag Day was celebrated at City Hall Friday morning. Organized by the International Institute of New England, the event commemorated the creation of the blue and red Haitian flag in 1803 during the Hai-

tian peoples’ revolution against French control. A procession from IINE’s offices at 101 Jackson ended at JFK Plaza off Arcand Drive and featured speakers and performances. A traditional dance by Bobline Moliere, Dalila Lucien, Witline Janvier and Witelande Janvier kicked off the program. Saxophonist Carlyle Louiné played the Haitian anthem as the flag was raised, flanked by the U.S. and commonwealth flags, outside the front entrance to City Hall. Nina Nova sang the “Star-Spangled Banner,” and

Ishtar Pady asked for a moment of silence for the people killed by the ongoing gang violence in the country. The bilingual program featured a speech by Edentz F.S. Prophete, who spoke in Haitian Creole on the history of the flag with Dyay D. Nicolas providing an English translation. “As long as the wind will continue to blow on this flag, Haitians will always be united to fight for freedom,” Prophete said. The event concluded with remarks by state representatives Rodney Elliott and Vanna How-

ard and a presentation by Vice Mayor Paul Ratha Yem. “In Lowell, we are a melting pot and always have been since the beginning,” Elliott said. “Generations of immigrants come to Lowell for a better life. I’m proud to join you.” Yem acknowledged the Haitian community’s contribution to Lowell and presented IINE a proclamation of May 17 as Haitian Flag Day. “I’m also an immigrant,” Yem said. “As a city, we welcome everybody here ... to build a new life in the city of Lowell.”

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‘A TRUE PUBLIC SERVANT’

Late Daniel Leahy memorialized at Lowell’s Cornelius F. Kiernan Judicial Center

Law library named in honor of attorney, politic figure, veteran

By Aaron Curtis
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LOWELL » The late Daniel Leahy, a leader from Lowell to Beacon Hill, is described by those who knew him as “his own man.” He was empathetic to the struggles of others, but able to find humor in difficult situations, while always eager to roll up his sleeves and get to work. “He was an extraordinary example of a true public servant,” said state Rep. Colleen Garry, who served with Leahy when she was first elected to the House of Representatives. Leahy helped those “run over by the rest of society,” Garry said. “He did not mince words. He spoke exactly how he felt,” she added. “He was straightforward with his views. He was not worried how it would help or hurt him politically.” With a life well-lived, Leahy’s accomplishments have been memorialized at the Cornelius F. Kiernan Judicial Center. His name adorns the wall above what is now the justice center’s Daniel P. Leahy Law Library. On Friday afternoon, Leahy’s loved ones gathered at the justice center for a ceremony officially dedicating the library in his honor. Those who addressed the crowd of attendees were Garry, along with Trial Court Chief Justice Hedi Brieger, Superior Court Judge Kenneth Salinger, Court Services and Law Libraries Director Sheriece Perry, as well as Leahy’s son, Lowell City Councilor John Leahy, and his granddaughter, Amanda Leahy. “My father really did enjoy life,” John Leahy told the crowd, fighting back tears at times as he spoke. “He enjoyed his family, his friends, and most of all, be-

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