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The men who brought the world to brink of war

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Sunday September 23, 2001

[The Observer](#)

The 19 men the FBI says hijacked the four planes were as follows:

**On American Airlines Flight 11, which crashed into the World Trade Centre's north tower:**

Mohamed Atta, 33, Egyptian. Trained as a pilot in Florida where he got drunk on vodka days before the killings. His father says his son was not a hijacker, but that he may have been murdered and his identity stolen. **Waleed al-Shehri, age unknown, Saudi Arabia,** Veteran of Afghan civil war; the son of a diplomat who once served in Washington. Took degree in aeronautics in Florida, where he learned to fly. **Wali al-Shehri, 28, Saudi.** Waleed's brother; also an Afghan veteran. **'Abdul Aziz al-Omari', 29, Saudi.** A false identity used by man who also learnt to fly in Florida, where he lived with his wife and three children. A man who says he is the real Omari says his passport was stolen five years ago. **Satam al-Suqami, 25, Saudi.** Linked by FBI to Raed Hijazi, known Boston-based bin Laden associate on trial for bombings in Jordan.

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Ahmed al-Ghamdi, 21, Saudi. Also linked to Hijazi. Fought in Chechnya after studying engineering in Mecca. **Marwan al-Shehri, 23, UAE.** Studied German in Bonn; later moved to Hamburg. Learnt to fly with Atta in Florida. Also enjoyed final alcoholic binge. **Fayaz Ahmed, 28.** Held pilot's licence and lived in Florida. **Mohald al-Shehri, 23, UAE.** Lived in Florida. Related to Waleed and Walid al-Shehri. **Hamza al-Ghamdi, 20.** Also lived in Florida.

On American Airlines flight 77, which hit the Pentagon:

Khalid al-Midhar. Filmed by CIA last year meeting known bin Laden operatives in Malaysia; linked to attack on USS Cole. Lived in San Diego where he flew small planes but was rejected for airliner course on grounds of poor English. **Nawaq al-Hamzi, 25, Saudi.** On list of suspected terrorists before attacks; lived in San Diego. Fought in Chechnya in 1996. **Hani Hanjour, Saudi.** Lived in Arizona; obtained commercial pilot's licence. **'Salem al-Hamzi', 21, Saudi.** False identity: the real al-Hamzi lives in Riyadh. **Majed Moqed.** Used same frequent flyer card as al-Midhar.

United flight 93. Crashed in Pennsylvania after passengers overpowered hijackers.

'Saeed al-Ghamdi', Saudi. Another false identity. **Ziad Jarrahi, 27, Lebanon.** Studied in Hamburg; trained for five months in Afghanistan. Lived in Florida where his German girlfriend is now under witness protection. **Ahmed al-Nami, 23, Saudi.** Also based in Florida. **Ahmed al-Haznawi, 20.** Lived with al-Nami and others in Delray Beach, Florida.

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