

[REDACTED]
January 5th, 2016

H.E. Mr. John Kerry, Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2201 C St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20520
United States of America

Your Excellency,

Celebrating Christmas and New Year without my son Quinn Schansman, was difficult for my family and myself. Quinn was one of 298 people who perished in the attack on the MH17 in July 2014. He is the only victim with an American passport and this is why I write to you for your help and support.

Recently, the Dutch Safety Board (DSB) published its final report on the downing of Malaysia Airlines Flight MH17. However, the DSB stated that it did not receive the (raw) primary radar data from any State. Russia said it erased the data, while Ukraine claimed all its radar systems were down. Yet all countries are obliged under ICAO rules to preserve and hand over all the data. The UN Security Council Resolution 2166 explicit requested Member States to provide any requested assistance and cooperate fully with the investigation.

The (raw) primary radar data is crucial for determining cause, and for identifying and prosecuting those responsible for this heinous act. For us, as bereaved family, it is very important that the perpetrators will face justice. It is also important to combat impunity and to reaffirm the universality of international law.

On August 12th, 2014, at the Joint Press Conference by Secretary Hagel, Australian Foreign Minister Bishop, Australian Minister of Defense Johnston and yourself at the AUSMIN in Sydney, Australia, you stated the following:

"We saw the take-off. We saw the trajectory, we saw the hit. We saw this aeroplane disappear from the radar screens. So there is really no mystery about where it came from and where these weapons have come from."



It is my understanding, that neither the Dutch government nor the Dutch Safety Board have officially received the radar information from the US that you referred to. It is not included in the report and it is not in the public domain.

On behalf of the bereaved parents and to assist in the pursuit of justice, I would like to request that the United States provides the DSB with the radar data you referred to at the press conference and all other available and relevant information (like satellite data and infrared satellite data) that is in your government's possession. I would be most grateful if the United States either directly or through NATO would publicly hand over to the Dutch Safety Board radar and satellite data of the minutes before and after the crash. In addition, I would like to request the United States, as a permanent member of the UNSC, to undertake concrete action in the Security Council to ensure all Member States cooperate fully with the investigation and provides all relevant data.

This would enable the DSB to reopen the investigation and include a chapter with this information, which is essential for a successful criminal prosecution.

I count on the support of the government of the United States to find and prosecute those responsible for my son and your citizen's death.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely,

Thomas J. Schansman


