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Thread: [SDI, GEC-Merconi & Mysterious Deaths](#)

Hackers - March 27, 2026, 12:14 pm

This is by no means a comprehensive list of all SDI/GEC-Merconi mysteries, but here are 22 deaths of engineers working on SDI & parallel projects at the time.

Look into this:

Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI)

Longer read for later:

<https://www.cia.gov/readingroom/docs/CIA-RDP90M00005R001100160042-2.pdf>

There are others (apparently 25 known) , but here are 22 deaths I found related to the teams working on these projects:

in 1985, the Marconi radar designer Roger Hill died by shotgun at his home.

Hill's death was followed by Jonathan Wash's fall from a hotel window later in the same year.

1986 Vimal Dajibhai, a 24-year-old scientist working on computer control systems at Marconi, jumped 331 feet from a suspension bridge over the Avon River.

On October 28th 1986 the 26-years-old computer systems analyst Ashhad / Arshad Sharif was also found dead in Bristol. Ashhad killed himself by tying a rope around his neck and the other end around a tree. He then drove off in his car at high speed.

Others dead in car crashes were Michael Baker, 22, digital communications expert for Plessey, a Marconi acquisition and Stuart Gooding, research student at the Royal College of Military Science. A systems analyst for another contractor, George Kountis, drove his car into the Mersey. Plessey communications expert Michael Baker crashed through a barrier near his home.

On the same day as Gooding's death, David Greenhalgh of ICL (a defense contractor) paused in his drive to work to jump off a bridge.

On January 12th 1987, the 52-years-old IT specialist John Brittan died in his own garage of carbon monoxide poisoning.

So did Marconi engineers David Skeels and Trevor Knight, MOD researcher Peter Peapell, and British Aerospace engineer Andrew Hall.

A MOD researcher, Avtar G Singh-Gida, disappeared and turned up four months later in Paris, unsure how he got there.

1987 began with Richard Pugh, a computer expert and consultant to the Ministry of Defence

(MOD). Pugh's body was found in his flat with his feet bound, a plastic bag on his head, and a thick rope coiled around his body.

On February 22nd 1987 the 46-year-old Peter Peapell, a lecturer at the Royal Military College, died lying under his car with the engine running and garage doors shut.

On March 30th 1987 37-years-old David Sands, a researcher for Easams, a Marconi sister company, steered his car into the front of a vacant restaurant in Basingstoke, 50 miles west of London. His trunk was packed with gasoline tanks.

April of 1987 Shani Warren—the only female on this list—was found gagged, with hands bound behind her back and her feet tied, and with a noose around her neck.

Plessey electronic weapons engineer Frank Jennings, 60, died of a heart attack in June.

On August 25th 1988 the 60-year-old Marconi director John Ferry, a retired Army general, jammed stripped wires into his own tooth fillings and electrocuted himself.

On August 28th 1988, only three days after the suicide by electrocution it comes to a second one. The 50-year-old computer engineer Alistair Beckham electrocutes himself.

This is all public information, documented for years, long suspected of involving foul play, and is by no means a "leak" or fake news. As far as I know, all deaths were ruled as either accidental or by suicide, with no connection to each other.

Stanley - April 1, 2026, 5:39 am

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Thanks,
Stanley