

TAPE #9--JAY COBURN

JC If I remember right, Merv purchased the radios, Ralph got on the plane with them and went to this...Now it's illegal to have radios in Istanbul. But at any rate we went ahead and took them in there. And you'll have to get the details on that, but I know that Ralph and Ron went back to the States, but then Ralph went to Istanbul at some point.

KF Did Jim and Pat ever come back to the No wait a minute. Jim and Pat never came back.

JC No.

KF Ralph came to Istanbul with the radios. How did they get to...

JC And then Ralph began working in Istanbul on the...Like we sent Glen to Kuwait. Well then Ralph went to Turkey to work on any angles he could, contacts, etc. to get started on that.

KF Okay, and it was the Colonel who would have sent him there?

JC Yes. Well, the Colonel made all the decisions for any of the team members. Nobody moved a team member period. He made all the decisions. And I would say about this time, we spent the majority of our time working on this, get out of Dodge routine. Just about eliminated, we did a lot, we poked around the airport out there for warehouses, and I talked to each one of the airlines and tried to develop a contact that I felt would assist us. The closest we came to it was a fellow out of Pan Am. And the problem that the airlines had doing anything is liability. And so there was some reluctance. So the closest we came with anybody was the Chief of Security at Pan Am, who I met with one night, or more than one night, in fact, you know we talked about it. We talked about it in general terms to start out

with and then got more specific. I never mentioned any names or anything like that. But eventually he got an answer back, or he didn't feel comfortable doing it just on his own, he needed to contact one of their officers in the company, and eventually it got nixed. We went so far as to investigate stealing two helicopters, which was kind of interesting. All of the helicopters were kept at a place called....It starts with a "G", anyway its down south of the city a little bit, it's still in the city. And it would have been the easiest thing in the world to do. The risk, and the only only risk, is they weren't flying alot. They also weren't getting supplied with spare parts, and the risk you run is the one that you steal, how well has it been maintained, was the fuel contaminated. That kind of thing. But we fooled around with that. You know we really fooled around with alot of things, and we spent alot of time looking at that kind of stuff. But then we got serious about this task of looking at this overland route, and we knew one way or the other we were going to have to have some vehicles. Some reliable, off road, it might be necessary, type vehicles. So we wanted a combination of something that was really good on the road, because hopefully, we'd be doing alot of it on the road, high speeds, but if we had to get off the road, that would hold up. And what we decided on was the Range Rover. I'm sure you are familiar with those.

KF Yes, a British car. One of EDS' Iranian employee found two, and bought spare parts for them as well. Can we have his name or not?

JC Well, yes, you can have his name, I'm not sure you want to mention it. We called him the cycle man. Now, that was...it was a code name. So I'll just call him the cycle man. He is probably as western as you and I. Gutsy kid, street savvy, street smart kid. The best we had in my opinion, from the standpoint of being street smart. I felt the most, I'd trust him and ████████ ^{Majid} equally so, I mean, you know with my own life. I mean that's how I felt, I don't know if the Colonel felt that way, but that's how I felt. See, the Colonel doesn't know any of these people. He's having to rely, which he doesn't like, on a certain

JC extent on my judgement. So, consequently, I could never, ever level, cont. he would not allow me to level with either one of them. Now I felt like I could do that. But the Colonel did not want that to happen, so I could not do that.

KF Why was he called the cycle man?

JC Oh. He didn't have any transportation. He was primarily getting around town on foot. So we had access to all these employees motor cycles and things, so we gave him two or three motor cycles to, you know...that's how he got around was on the motor cycles. So we called him the cycle man. We're not very imaginative.

KF So he got you two Range Rovers.

JC Yes. It's hard to purchase, and we didn't want a straight up purchase where this vehicle could be tied, certainly to him, we didn't think that would be a good idea, but certainly not tied back to the company either. So, we thought about stealing them, you know, there were alot of different options. Again, the Colonel felt there was some risk involved in stealing them, therefore, why take the risk. But John took care of all that, that's the cycle man...We gave him the money and somehow, how he located these vehicles...He said he put...there is no outlet for anything right now. The dealerships are closed down, and there are no used car lots in Tehran. So he went around and he would ride around on this motor cycle and put a leaflet on every Range Rover that he saw. Would you like to sell your vehicle, contact...

KF Are you serious, that's what he did, and a phone number?

JC Yes. And he used some friend of his phone number...he didn't use a relative or anything, but some friend of his. In fact, he was a revolutionary, the friend of his that he was using. But anyway he ended up buying these two vehicles, I think they cost us something

JC like \$20,000 each, I mean, ungodly price, you'd never pay that much cont. in your entire life, but who cared at this point. We needed the vehicles. And then everything shut down. There was no...The only place you could buy anything throughout this whole thing was at the bazzare, you know, it would be crazy for an American. So we basically used the cycle man for all of our purchasing type activities. And there were a million of things we needed. We felt like we...everything you can imagine. We could have almost overhauled one of those vehicles on the trip that we had... I mean we had tools, and spare parts...tire change...we had to try to think of every possibility. So ^{Cycle Man} [REDACTED] was our person that did all that. And then I would meet with him in the middle of the night and pick up the gear and give him instructions on what else we needed. And we kept him pretty busy.

KF Did he know where the apartment was?

JC No.

KF I see. So you would meet with him where?

JC Different places, parks...

KF How did you contact him, by phone?

JC Yes. He never, you know, I couldn't give him our phone number, and I was...we always had a prearranged time that he had to be by that phone each day, regardless what he was doing. Not that I called him every day, but that's how I got in touch with him, and then we would arrange to get together, and then I would sneak out...we always did it after hours, I mean after dark.

KF There was a curfew.

HOTFOOT TAPE #9-5

JC And there was a curfew, so I was out after the curfew.

KF Dangerous?

JC Oh, I suppose it was. I didn't really ever feel like it was. I felt fairly comfortable moving around after dark. I didn't feel as comfortable moving around in the day because there weren't that many Americans around. And I felt alot more comfortable after dark, and since John did, he wasn't afraid of anything, we did it all after hours.

KF Okay, let's get to your trip. I wonder about when this might have been?

JC Well, it can't be...Jim and Pat, in fact, may have still been in the country when we departed. No I cannot remember if they were or not. Anyway, it's the next event to talk about. It took us four days to make the trip, which is what we had planned for.

KF Four days for the round trip?

JC Right. We wanted to time all the, you know, know the driving times between various points, know what the road conditions were. Even though there may be some time in between the time we went and the time we actually departed with everyone, we felt like we'd get a good indication of at least what the Military's activity was out in the countryside, where the Jondonmarie (?) activity was. How much trucking, but activity, how available was fuel. We took fuel along with us, now knowing. We took one of the 55 gallon drums and put it in the back. We never had to use it, but we had it with us, because the reports were unclear as to what kind fuel availability there was.

KF This is a drive of 600 miles. How far does the Range Rover go on a full tank.

HOTFOOT TAPE #9-6

JC I would imagine about 300. We didn't travel that fast, we weren't running a speed course. Our cover story was that ^{Majid's} [REDACTED] cousin, and I can't for the life of me remember the gentleman's name. But his cousin was a professor at Rezaiyeh, in fact was a professor at Rezaiyeh.

KF So the employee who went you was...

JC Is ^{Majid} [REDACTED].

KF Tell me something before we get into this. ^{Rashid} [REDACTED] hasn't come into the story yet. He's not doing anything at this point.

JC Well, he's not doing anything with the team. He is working down at our...he and another Iranian, there were altogether three Iranians that we used, no four. And he and the other one are working down at our Bucharest office. But we haven't used them on the team at this point.

KF ^{Majid's} [REDACTED] cousin is a professor, and he's married to an American.

JC Yes, agricultrial type college is what this is. And ...

KF So the professor comes to Tehran, puts his American wife and their child on the plane, and then he goes with you on the reconnaissance trip. So the four...

JC We were actually providing him transportation back home.

KF Professor, ^{Majid} [REDACTED], and you and the Colonel, and Joe Poshe stays in hiding.

JC Correct.

KF I don't suppose you know the date that you departed.

HOTFOOT TAPE #9-7

JC I have no idea. I ought to keep a diary of the thing. I know we were in Tehran about 30 days, or I was in Tehran about 30 days prior to our departure on the morning, you know, we departed to leave for the border. But you know, anything in between there if you ask me about dates, I'm fuzzy on them, because we weren't paying that much attention to dates at that point. You know back here, in civilization, you do enough things with dates all the time, that dates are relatively easy, I mean you write checks, and you sign things, do business. We weren't doing any of that kind of stuff. And the days were not important. So I can't remember any of that.

KF How did you dress for this trip.

JC Casual, jeans, boots, jacket.

KF Now then, the route you followed is the route you eventually really took?

JC For the most part.

KF Shall we see if we can trace it on the map?

JC We encountered some snow in this valley here, there was snow on each side of the road, and you could tell up in the mountains that there was snow, we are in the winter time. We stopped in this little town of Zan Zan, and the cousin had an uncle, some relative, everybody is related....He told us that they were on the verge of war in Tabris. We stopped here primarily to get some intelligence on what the route was going to be like. And that you know, if we were going to have any problems it would be from Tabris on. At any rate we moved on, and sure enough we encountered demonstrations and that kind of thing in Tabris. We stopped, in fact, in Tabris, and went to the bizzare in Tabris. I forget what we did there, but we bought something. I don't know what we bought. Anyway, we moved on, and right outside of Tabris is where we encountered our first

JC road block. Which I mentioned in the article there. And it was pretty
cont. much as I described it. I don't know if you read that, but it looked
like just people, you know, local village type people, didn't have
anything better to do, thought they would go out on the road and
stop everybody...I mean, you know, that's about all it was. They
had laid a tree down, and another tree down so you could get around
the road, but obviously you couldn't get through there at high
speeds, and that was about it. They weren't armed or anything like
that. And we went on through that...

KF So we are at this road block.

JC Yes, I was going to show you on this map, it's kind of obvious from
what I said earlier, if you had to drive someplace from Tehran, see
why Afganistan, and Pakistan would not be...and you've got alot
more driving to do, and of course Russia...The countryside, by the
way, up there, we are starting to get into the Turkish area, Turkish
speaking, so they would speak a different dialect, language wise. Not
only that, these people up here are somewhat, especially the people
in this area, are somewhat oriented to the Shah. Their lives are, in
their opinion, a lot better off as a result of the Shah. And alot of
Shah supporters up in this area. I just thought I'd throw that in.
Not that it has much meaning...Then right before we get to this town
of Khoy...Oh, here's the other border crossing point that was
considered.

KF At Machub?

JC Actually its Barsegot, is the name. It's on the other side of Machub.
And this map doesn't show all the towns. But that's the border
crossing point. It's called Barsegot. We didn't go on up to that
border point and look at it, primarily because we felt our method of
getting across the border, when the time came, was one of deception,
as opposed to straight forward going through. And we felt the

JC heavier traveled border crossing point was less likely that we would cont. be able to pull that off than one that was a little smaller check point. So we picked out one...and it doesn't even show up on this map, I don't think. This little road going out here though, is probably the road...

KF Okay, let's mark it with a pen. So on the reconnaissance, you went down from Khoi to Razaiyeh?

JC Yes, from Khoi down to (looking at map) and then....

KF And you actually went all the way to the border?

JC Went to the border. This is called, and you'll find it on better maps, its Saro. There is a village right there called Saro. And we spent the night in Razaiyeh, in the cousin's apartment. And actually it was on the outskirts of Razaiyeh. The Colonel felt like, at this point he's pretty, you know, he's getting more comfortable with the cousin and with ^{Majid} [REDACTED]. He hadn't spent any time with ^{Majid} [REDACTED] until this trip. So he's getting a feeling for these guys, you know, that they are pretty good guys. And that night we had dinner with the cousin's landlord, who just happened to be a customs official, to try to get some information about the kinds of activity taking place at this little border checkpoint. And there's not very much going on right now, at all. But that's basically what we found out. The next day the cousin and ^{Majid} [REDACTED] actually went to the border in advance. There was alot of trouble going on in the city, and they didn't feel comfortable having us along initially. We ran into those road blocks, and they considered it to be a fairly close call, you know, we did too. They wanted to drive to the border. It wasn't that far, and they wanted to drive up there to see what kind of road blocks we'd encounter. They didn't encounter any. Therefore they turned around and came back and got the Colonel and I and then we all proceeded to the border. And our cover story at this point changed. We were Americans from Tehran, trying to determine how to get out of the country.

KF The truth.

JC Yes, the truth. And....

KF Just to back track a bit...north of Tabriz was the first road block, but you had stopped cars previously.

JC Yes.

KF What did you do, did you just stop cars...

JC Just waved them down. The cousin and [REDACTED] would wave them down and get out, and say, what's going on. You could kind of tell though, after a while, what kind of pictures had in their windows as to what you were going to....So you did this picture switching routine throughout the....

KF And you learned that there was trouble in Khoy, that was presumably by the same method that you learned that. Now then there was the road block at Khoy. You had a little bit of a....

JC Yes, I don't know why the guy singled me out...I guess because I had a red beard, and I had a little watch cap...wool type thing. And he thought I was a Russian. They don't like Russian's up there too much. You know, he kept saying over and over Rooskie, Rooskie.

KF What was he like, describe him?

JC He was a young kid, probably 16, 17 years old. Probably never had a pistol before all this....

KF Big, small?

JC He was bigger than I was. Taller than I was. Average build. He had very white knuckles. I looked at his knuckles more than anything, because I figured...he had a hold of that weapon so tight, and I figured it he would have stumbled, or sneezed, or anything quick, you know, I didn't even know is there was a round in the chamber, who knows....but it certainly got my attention.

KF Had you ever been in that position before?

JC Well, not where somebody was holding a weapon...I'd been involved in military situations where, you know, people were shooting at me, obviously trying to hurt me. But not in a situation where a person was holding a weapon on me, and the worst part about that is, you could tell it was not a trained individual, so something could have happened more by accident, you know than....I felt like at any moment in time, he was not a skilled enough person, I could have probably have disarmed him in a couple of seconds. But that wasn't the issue. The issue was, here is an unskilled person with a weapon in his hands, and those are the most dangerous. It provided a little excitement.

KF How did you...wait a minute, let's take this step by step now. We took remote roads on into Rezaiyeh, you stopped by the university, what was that about?

JC Well, according to our cover story, we were supposed to be headed to the university anyway, so we thought we'd better make an appearance, in case there were any questions asked, or that may come up. Besides, he needed to go by there, the cousin needed to go by there. It was really just a quick visit. I'm not so sure the Colonel even got out of the car. You know, it was a quick visit.

KF You went to the cousin's house, you met his landlord, do you remember what you had for dinner?

JC We had the Iranian rice and lamb. Chella Kabob is what it is referred to as.

KF It was presumably the landlord who told you there was a lot of trouble in Rezaiyeh.

JC Yes.

KF The next morning you did a reconnaissance around the apartment. Why was the apartment ideal for staging?

JC It was on the very outskirts of the city, so there was a lot of egress away, which...I remember the Colonel talking a lot about. It was a building where we were the only ones occupying it, so we didn't have to worry about up and downstairs, and all that stuff, which we had in a lot of places. It was both an up and downstairs. And we knew we would have a number of people at this point, therefore, that was a little bit of a concern. We didn't know how long we would be there, and, you know, it had all the amenities, and you know, everybody would be comfortable while the Colonel, or the Colonel and I, or me, or, you know, whoever was setting up the actual border crossing point. Because that was the plan at this point, was to stage, in Rezaiyeh, then the Colonel had decided that there was no sense tipping our hand well in advance of what was going to be required. We needed to make some contacts and find out what was possible, but don't let the cat out of the bag until you get very close to the time that you need to.

KF You got the intelligence you needed on the border crossing. What was that intelligence?

JC Well, physically, the layout. Until you got to a place, you can imagine what a border crossing point is like, but until you go to a specific one, you are not sure exactly what the set up is going to be, what the routine is going to be. And so that was good that we

JC cont. were actually able to go up there and walk right up to the chain that eventually we ended up going across. I mean, it's something we had seen before, we could anticipate where the guard shacks were, and where materials were being stored, and how much traffic, what kind of vehicle traffic was taking place, what the terrain around it was like, what means of communications did the guards have that the outside world...we determined very easily we could cut them off from everybody real quickly, because there was only one set of wires that came up through the mountains along the road that headed to this place. You could stop on your way in, and you know, they are cut off. Things like that. Again, still considering all the options. It was just kind of neat. As the Colonel said, you know, there had been very few operations that he'd been involved in where he actually got to see everything in advance.

KF How did you make contacts with local smugglers?

JC Just nosing around. You know, we stopped on the road before we got into the...and ^{Majid} [REDACTED] had already told us that there was alot of smuggling going on. He wasn't....but his cousin's were. But we actually stopped, we had binoculars, so we stopped on the side of the road before we got the actual village. And you could see the tracks, it's amazing...going where the burrows, you know the horses and what not, from the previous night...It was snow covered, okay, so you could see the tracks just headed right...the guard station is here and the tracks are right behind it, you know, they didn't bother using the...and I guess there is alot of payoffs and what not going on to get the guards not to pay attention, I assumed. Because everything was within sight. We are talking about extremely mountainous terrain. And you know, if you didn't want the guards, or the guards weren't somehow hooked into all this, you wouldn't...I'm not sure you would go, you know, right behind, I mean within eyesight, unless they were read in somehow.

burrows

KF But did you speak to smugglers?

JC Oh yes.

KF How was that arranged?

JC Just walking in...it wasn't arranged, just walking into the village, finding the village chief, and talking to him about the activities that went on. The Colonel was very....

KF But of course he could speak Turkish.

JC Right. He could speak enough to get by.

KF So after going to see the actual border crossing...

JC We stopped back at the village on the way back. So it really was before the border crossing.

KF And you just found the local chief?

JC And we said what would happen if you wanted to get something across the border. I mean, do you all....you know, we just acted dumb. That appeared to me to be what he was doing. And the guys were then bragging about all the...I mean, you know, so it was...The Colonel was very good at it. Now, I assume he has done that kind of thing before, you know, he spent alot of time out in the bush of various countries around the world, primarily in Southeat Asia, you know, dealing with locals. And understanding all the things that go on in the countryside. But he felt relatively certain that this village we went into...I said, well how do you know there is going to be something...I mean why not this next village, I mean how do you know it's going to be this one...He said every village, he said stop and look around. There is no reason for these villages to be here, absolutely none. There is no farming going on, I mean, the only reason that these towns are here is to trade. And he was right.

KF You got a key contact to obtain weapons locally. Who was that?

JC Well, I don't know the person's name. I'm not even sure that's important, but it was a contact in Rezaiyeh through ^{Majid} [REDACTED], that had access to everything...And you know what was interesting was the price. It was going to cost about \$6,000 for a Browning 12 guage shot gun...you know, that in itself doesn't mean, but stop and think about it, where was somebody...I mean there has to be a market, right, and where do those people get \$6,000 to pay for it.

KF Well, that may have been the price to you.

JC That's very possible.

KF People may have known ^{Majid} [REDACTED] had to do with Americans, so the price to ^{Majid} [REDACTED] may have been very stiff. Anyway...

JC Llama pistols was the hand gun that was easily obtainable.

KF Where is that made?

JC Spain.

KF Okay, what's this about horse back? Were you planning to go on horseback?

JC Sure. That's how the smugglers went across the mountains. The plan went something like this. We would stage in Rezaiyeh, the Colonel, we would have two vehicles..the Colonel would link up with...with Paul and Bill would link up with this one....I, in the other vehicle, we would leave one vehicle behind, by the way..I would go across the border through normal means, you know, I was legal, the car was legal and all that and I would go across into Turkey and position myself on the other side.

HOTFOOT TAPE #9-16

KF With Joe?

JC No.

KF You'd be on your own.

JC Right. And then our Turkish team that was going to be waiting on the other side that I would link up with and wait on the Colonel and them who should be coming down at daybreak approximately, the next morning.

KF On horse back through the mountains with the smugglers?

JC Yes. Which they do routinely. We looked at some other options again, but that appeared to be the one the Colonel was most satisfied with.

KF Now I just realized that your route back was slightly different.

JC Right.

KF And the route back was, in fact, the one you finally took going there.

JC That's right. We came back down the lake and crossed this way (looking at a map)...It's interesting, we didn't even encounter any of this on our actual trip. And then the common route from Zenjan on back.

KF And when you in fact escaped you came as far as Zenjan...

JC This way...

KF Okay. And what made you decide that was better?

JC Tabriz. There was some trouble in Tabriz. In fact, there was an all out war going on in Tabriz. That was one of the last hold outs of the military and the Sabach (?). So the people, the revolutionary types, there was still a battle going on for that particular location.

KF So no we've got you back to Tehran. And I don't know when this is, but it's got to be about the end of the month.

JC We went through a hell of an ice storm, by the way, snow storm in these mountains coming back. And that scared the Colonel....

KF The mountains near Baljah?

JC Yes. Coming across this mountain right here. I suppose we were up around 10,000 feet coming through these mountains. And we went through a blizzard/ice storm up there. It was a single lane road, unimproved road, and it was really something. And that kind of bothered him a little bit. But on the actual trip...we came back through here at night, by the way, when we were coming back. Because of curfew in the cities. There was no curfew out in the countryside, just in the cities. So we came back at night so we could arrive just as curfew lifted in Tehran. So we travelled at night. But when we actually made the trip there was no storm or anything, so it really wasn't a problem. But it got really exciting in these ruts. You didn't even have to hold on to the steering wheel. You just put the tires in the ruts and go, and then if you met a car coming on, then you had a real problem. But it was exciting.

KF So after this reconnaissance trip, Deep Throat comes up. And Ross asks you to meet with Deep Throat, and gives you a phone number. Do you remember the conversation with Ross?

JC Yes. Well, first of all, let me mention that Ross asked the Colonel if he could use me. First of all let me get that out of the way. But Ross went up there, seems like, in the afternoon, and he said...now I'm not sure about the time that this took place, I'm just saying that somewhere in all this, this took place. I have no idea, it obviously was during the time that Ross was in the country. But evidently he gave me the background on it, he said that there had been a number of overtures by this fellow, and they had kind of nicknamed him Deep Throat. Why, I'm not sure....

KF Maybe it was because of All The President's Men. There was a...the man that was leaking stuff those two...in All The President's Men, they nicknamed him Deep Throat.

JC I see. So there had been a number of contacts by this fellow, I guess, in advance of this one. And Ross said he just wanted to find out what this guy was really all about, and the guy had proposed that he'd get together with him and that kind of thing. But Ross said I don't want to get together with him. But of course, we probably wouldn't have let Ross get together with him anyway. But at any rate he said, why don't you call the guy and see him. So I called and told him that I would be representing him and he said, no, I can only meet with him, and I said, well, all deals are off and started to hang up. He said, no, okay, and gave me those instructions there, as silly as they sound...and just kinda like it says there. I met with the guy and he layed out a...I can't remember all the details of it Ken, but basically, I got the impression that he was representing somebody very close to Dadghar, if not Dadghar himself. But I would guess somebody close to Dadghar that had influence.

KF When you called him you had to identify yourself with a code. Do you remember what the code was?

JC I sure don't.

KF Okay. He told you to go to a phone booth. In the street?

JC Yes.

KF Now presumably it was near the Sheraton, this phone booth?

JC A couple of miles away.

KF Do you remember the address.

JC (I don't hear a response)

KF Alright, now, we'll catch up. You got the impression he was representing probably somebody close to Dadghar. He spoke English to you. What did he look like?

JC American.

KF Oh, he was an American. He searched you. He told you what his offer was. What was that?

JC That if we'd just leave this up to him he'd have Paul and Bill out of jail and out of the country in no time. All we had to do was pay the money.

KF It was \$6 million wasn't it. And he told you the arrangements he wanted for payment..

JC He would have Lloyd Briggs, who was our country manager...He said somebody like Lloyd Briggs, I don't know, but it had to be....

SIDE B--TAPE #9

JCin Switzerland and open an account, and there was...

KF Do you remember which bank?

JC No. And there was some kind of letter arrangement that could be made where we could somehow protect ourselves by depositing the money in there and at the same time, you know, he could get out the money once Paul and Bill were released. He had it all worked out. I have no idea how real something like that is, but he seemed to....

KF So you would put the money in the bank account so that he would know the money was there, and the money would not be available to him until a certain letter was delivered to the bank, perhaps. And you would not be obliged to deliver that letter until Paul and Bill were out. Did he have any way of being sure that you would pay once they got out?

JC Something in his scheme, I can't remember what it is, but he had a way, he had a mechanism in there that made sure that he was able to get to the money prior to the release of Paul and Bill, but I can't remember what it is. But he had the mechanics all laid out, from both points of view, he recognized that we wouldn't be just willing to put the money in there. He had that worked out, and I can't remember what the mechanics of it were.

KF Okay.

JC Nervous sort of person.

KF Did you ever find out who he was?

JC I didn't.

KF Somebody did?

JC I don't know.

KF Did you see Ross again the same night?

JC Yes.

KF And Ross just said you weren't interested. Any idea why?

JC Well, I know what he said. He said, well, we haven't done anything wrong so far, even though I'd really like to get those guys out, any way we can, but this whole thing may be a trap that stinks. I don't see why we ought to start doing something wrong at this point. Tell him no. Words to that effect. I won't say that's a direct quote.

KF The political situation continues to deteriorate, and the Colonel is now really going for option number 2, which is to let the mob storm the prison. At what point did he begin to think about encouraging the mobs to storm the prison.

JC Well, I think it was somewhere in this last couple of weeks, even though I can't nail down the exact time. I mean, we weren't together all the time. So I'm not sure of all his activities. But I would suspect, and in talking to ^{Rashid} [REDACTED], after the fact, you know, it took place some time during that last week that we were there prior to the tour. And no so much of speeding up the process as much as, he felt like when it happens, when the time is right, if we do nothing, it's still going to happen. So once that time is right, we've got a narrow window to get them out of jail, and get out of the country. I mean, you know....Before these guys, the new guys get organized, and the

JC old guys are on the run, okay, we've got to accomplish all this. So cont. we can't wait for it to take its course. We've got to speed it up. We've got, you know...He felt, I'm sure, and he was probably right, he felt like the prison was a target, no different than the palace, or any of the other targets that were hit during that time. But we couldn't wait for, you know, we've got to speed that process up. I just have to say it's a sense that he had, you know, by observing what was happening.

KF And of course he knew alot about revolutions.

JC That's right. But how he knew that day, and...well, alot of other things happened along the way that may be very...the man must have had...like getting out of the hotel when he decided to. You know, alot of people say, well, you all were just lucky. I'm not so sure I can chalk it up to that. I mean it was just...he had that sense about him that he made the moves at the right time. But I can't tell you exactly at what moment he decided to tell ^{Rashid} [REDACTED] to get his act in gear.

KF When did ^{Rashid} [REDACTED] start coming into the picture as far as you were concerned, as far as you knew?

JC Well now, keep in mind, ^{Rashid} [REDACTED] was always on our list. The Colonel asked me to identify 3 or 4 Iranians that could be helpful to us, before we ever got there, and he wanted to discuss it. ^{Rashid} [REDACTED] was on my list. And each of them had different things that they could offer us. But all of them, in my opinion, had a common thing, and that is that we could trust them.

KF They were ^{Abolhasan} [REDACTED]...

JC We had ^{Majid} [REDACTED], number one was ^{Majid} [REDACTED]...

KF ^{Majid} [REDACTED] was number one.

JC Sayyed
 [REDACTED] the cycle man, and [REDACTED] Rashid. That we trusted, you know, we
 used alot of other ones.

KF Without telling them what they were doing.

JC Right. Remember me saying that there were 4 that were on our list
 that we felt like we could trust.

KF So he was on your list. But so far as we've talked, he hasn't played
 any role in the narrative. He's been around, he may have been
 helping the clean team, the negotiating team. When does he first come
 into your side of the story. When do you first start to see him, talk
 to him, when does he get involved?

JC Well, I don't see him at all. The Colonel.....

TYPIST INSTRUCTED TO GO TO THE NEXT TAPE