

Hotfoot Tape #10  
Interview With Jay Coburn  
November 3, 1981

KF We just finished with "Deep Throat". Oh, we were talking about, I was asking you how <sup>Rashid</sup> [REDACTED] first came into the picture.

JC Yea.

KF And you explained that he had been on the list.

JC And, you know, I introduced him to the Colonel and they went off and talked.

KF Why did the Colonel ask to meet him, did he tell you, or how did it come up?

JC He said, that he needed to talk with one of the fellows that we were not going to be using, that had some of the same characteristics that these other, specifically the cycle man had. And, then that he also wanted to talk to the cycle man, he wanted to talk to two people. And, that he had you know, some things specifically surrounding getting out in the streets, determining what was going on, and looking at the mob situation. We were also working on a scenario, of what to do if in fact the prison was stormed and overthrown, in terms of exactly locating Paul and Bill. And, whether that was a good idea, bad idea, bring more suspicion to them, let them be on their own, you know that kind of thing. Tossing all that around, talking about it. And, the net of that was basically that they would be better off on their own, because it was going to be a very chaotic scene. Chances are they would endure themselves to some local, follow some you know, follow some local through the masses or whatever and eventually get away from where the trouble was going on and find their way back to the hotel. Which is in fact, what happened. But, if we hadn't heard from them, the plan we came up with was that the <sup>Majid</sup> [REDACTED] and I, me with a dark shaded motorcycle helmet, okay. <sup>Majid</sup> And, [REDACTED] would be on

the motorcycle. And, go look for them. I was not looking forward to that, knowing what was going on in the streets. Getting these reports all day about what was happening in the prison. And, the closer that it got dark, and I had alerted <sup>Majid</sup> [REDACTED] already that you know that he needed to be ready to go. And, when we finally heard from Paul and Bill that night.

KF Well, let's go back. Why did the Colonel talk to <sup>Rashid</sup> [REDACTED]?

JC To get out in the street, get the inf..., that's what he told me, get out in the street, get the information. Find out what was going on in the prison itself, and I assumed that that's what <sup>Rashid</sup> [REDACTED] did. I didn't get much directly involved in that, I was fairly busy with the cycle man and <sup>Majid</sup> [REDACTED].

KF So at first, as far as you understand it, <sup>Rashid's</sup> [REDACTED] job was to gather intelligence?

JC Is that where the idea spawned for you know <sup>Rashid</sup> [REDACTED] to be the one? I would assume so. But I have no concrete evidence of that.

KF Okay. Merve just gave me this this morning so I haven't read it yet. So, actually some of these things you're telling me I now see in here. Shortly, before the prison break, the Colonel took you for a walk and explained the raid... Only, okay. All this was planned, <sup>Rashid</sup> [REDACTED] would compare the Iranian revolution to the French revolution. We continued to prepare and then on the 11th of February in the morning the Colonel told you and Joe, this is the day, it's today. You spent the day in the apartment?

JC Most of the day in the apartment, by the telephone.

KF Did you at some point go to the Hyatt?

JC Yes, well let me think about it. Yes I did too, because I was there when <sup>Rashid</sup> [REDACTED] came in. The Colonel and Joe, that's right, the Colonel and Joe stayed in the apartment and I went to the hotel.

KF When did you know, well first question, when did you know when that the prison had been stormed and the people were escaping?

JC About noon.

KF About noon.

JC We got our first report on it, I then sent Ahmir...

KF You got that report from?

JC Well now that I think about it I think that the Colonel talked to somebody and then he told us. But any rate, he thought that it was time to send <sup>Malid</sup> [REDACTED] down to the prison.

KF And, it this was about midday?

JC Yes. It was about midday.

KF But you didn't go with them?

JC No, no I would, we never intended for any of us to get anywhere close to the place.

KF But you were going to go to look for them?

JC That was after dark.

KF After dark. Okay.

JC Dusk.

KF So <sup>Majid</sup> [REDACTED] went down, you got the news somehow that the prison had been overrun, and you sen <sup>Majid</sup> [REDACTED] down...

JC You see we were getting alot of reports see throughout the morning, the first we could...

KF From?

JC From various sources. I spent most of that day by the telephone talking to contacts that we had. People that were sending out...

KF Who gave these to you?

JC Oh gosh we had other Americans that were in town, other Iranian employees that lived in the area of the prison. <sup>Majid</sup> [REDACTED]...

KF And of course they didn't have to know that you had organized the break, as far as they were concerned you were just very concerned about Paul and Bill because the prison was taken.

JC Sure. Sure what's going on? You bet.

KF Okay. So you were calling American and Iranian EDS employees who lived in that area.

JC Even the military, I was talking to the Military there, in the Embassy. I mean I was talking to anybody I could to get information.

KF And in addition, at noon you sent <sup>Majid</sup> [REDACTED] down to get information.

JC Firsthand, but he reported that back to us.

KF Okay, when did you first know, you said that towards dusk, toward nightfall, you realized you would have to go, you began to believe you would have to go, you were reluctant to because of the dangerous situation in the streets, plus you were an American. Now when did you know when Paul and Bill were back at the hotel? Were you at the hotel when they arrived?

JC I belived I was, yes.

KF So did you see them? Or somebody tell you that they were back?

JC <sup>Rashid</sup> [REDACTED], I believe was the first one that saw them in the corridor. He had just left the room. I don't know why but I remember him, very elated, jumping up and down, saying "Paul and Bill are here". We had arranged to Paul and Bill in other rooms, so I immediately went and firmed up those arrangements in other people's names, not in their own.

KF What did you do to firm them up? You went and got the keys?

JC Yea. Yes. In the meantime there was alot of hugging and what not going in the suite where most everyone was located. And, then we took Paul and Bill down to those other rooms, they were in a different part of the hotel, from where this known EDS location was. And, in the meantime we called the Colonel and Joe and they were on their way over to the hotel.

KF Okay. Now. Let me move to Bill's notes, let's see if we can go through the rest of it. Now the next significant thing that happened seems to have been that <sup>Abolhasan</sup> [REDACTED] arrived. He must the fourth Iranian on your list, no?

JC No, he's no on our list.

KF I've been mixing him up with <sup>Majid</sup> [REDACTED]. Okay tell me who <sup>Abolhasan</sup> [REDACTED] was?

JC He in the business operation that we had going on over there was probably the most senior Iranian member of our management team.

KF But he was not somebody that you felt you could trust with your life?

JC No.

KF He turns up with his wife, tells you that Dadgar called his father.

JC I believe it was at this point we thought that it would be a good idea, <sup>Abolhasan</sup> or the Colonel did, I'm not sure, that somebody maybe it was [REDACTED] called Dadgar and demand that he find Paul and Bill, okay.

KF Was that done?

JC Yea. We made two phone calls. One to the Embassy to demand the same we wanted to... You see we had a leak at the Embassy, everything, and I'm not sure what the leak was, I would hate it was Al Jordan, but that's possible. But, it really didn't matter what we did surrounding those passports, or Paul and Bill's, anything, for some reason, either the Iranian police or Dadgar was finding out about it. And, so we very distrustful of that whole situation, right from the very beginning. I mean the fact that the Embassy you know is the one that cooked up the meeting that Paul and Bill got arrested in. And told them it really wasn't necessary to have their legal representation there, etc. But even going back before then there was some information that was leaked about us inquiring about their passports even before they were arrested, leaked to the police officials, and I don't know what it was, but I wouldn't trust them as far as I could throw them.

KF Okay. So who made that call, who mad those two calls?

JC Gayden made the one to Lou Goelz because he was the one who had been communicating with Lou, and I believe <sup>Abolhasan</sup> [REDACTED] made the one to Dadgar, but I wouldn't swear to that. Because Dadgar didn't speak English.

KF That <sup>Abolhasan</sup> must have been after <sup>Abolhasan</sup> [REDACTED] had arrived to the hotel then? <sup>Abolhasan</sup> [REDACTED] comes and he says Dadgar has given this information that Paul and Bill have escaped, so then you have <sup>Abolhasan</sup> [REDACTED] call Dadgar's office.

JC On our behalf, yea.

KF And, say EDS demands that you find Paul and Bill and...

JC It's your responsibility, you put them in jail.

KF Okay. We hold you responsible for their personal safety, that was a smart move.

JC That was the Colonel's idea again. But, not only that, we, it seems to me, and I can't remember the sequence, we got a strange phone call, some, and it didn't make any sense, I can't remember all the details, but it didn't make any sense that we would get this phone call. And, it was shortly after, and the Colonel was standing in the window watching this revolutionary activity going on down below the hotel. By the way, I'll just add, he was nervous about hotels, the whole time he was there. He stayed totally, he wouldn't have anything to do with hotels. So the fact that he was even in the hotel at this point, I felt was a first, because he had stayed totally away from them. He didn't like the fact that there were usually only one way in and out all that kind of stuff bothered him about hotels. So he was nervous about hotels to begin, not counting the fact that the Avene Hotel right across the way from the Hyatt, was where the military was staying,

JC and if any place was going to be a target, the American military, if any place was going to be a target for revolutionary activity you thought that would be it. So it was just too close.

KF And, now. Were you in the, were you in Paul and Bill's room when the phone rang?

JC I probably was, first, I probably was.

KF Do you remember what happened? Because the Colonel was worried about that.

JC Well you know the situation on the other floor, you've got to understand, when the Colonel got there he was not very happy about what was going on at the hotel at this point, because no one, everyone was just very happy, everybody was celebrating which was understandable. The Colonel didn't want to have anything to do with that, what he was concerned about was getting Paul and Bill you know safely out of the country and he was beady-eyed, focused on, there were some, there was a phone call taken place between the United States and that room, where they were liberally talking about the fact that Paul and Bill were there, etc. He immediately shut that down upon arriving. But I don't know too much about that phone call because he sent, Joe and I occupied the room on either side of Paul and Bill, okay, we had three rooms down here. And, we were all down there. We didn't let them out, in fact, you realize from that moment on until we arrived in Dallas I didn't let Paul, there was not, maybe an hour total that he was out of my sight. That's how beady-eyed the Colonel was about ...

KF Because that was on the Colonel's instructions that you should not let Paul out of your sight. And, was Joe given the same instructions, for Bill?

JC While Joe was there, now keep in mind, Joe went with the clean group. Joe's responsibility was the clean group and the Colonel pretty much took care of Gaylord.

KF Okay. But, now, this phone call when nobody was supposed to know that anybody was in the room, that seems to have triggered the Colonel's sixth sense again. But did you remember his reaction. Do you remember how he looked or what he said when that phone rang? Did he say don't answer it?

JC No, I don't remember.

KF You don't remember exactly. Okay. Anyway pretty soon after that he told Paul and Bill to get ready to leave the hotel.

JC He told me to get them ready and we'd be leaving shortly. And, he sent Joe down to do something with the vehicles, I don't know what. Joe came back and the three of us decided on the routine for getting out of the hotel, keep in mind there is a revolution on the other side of the hotel. And, it's just about dark, I mean, we, it is dark. It's just about dark when we're talking, and it is dark after we leave. And, the discussion was around we had a number of routes to get to the apartment. And we were deciding which route to take. Just the three of us, Paul and Bill were by themselves.

KF But you're in the same room?

JC Yea. In the same room. They're getting packed. And, then we took off. Joe and Paul and Bill were in the lead vehicle, the Colonel and I were the trail vehicle. And the Colonel had given Joe instructions to if stopped to say that his wife was having a baby, and that he had to go, it was after curfew, and we didn't have a medical pass, that he had to go get the doctor and that's who was in the other vehicle, was the doctor, and that's who, Colonel Simons was the doctor.

KF Wasn't Keane Taylor also in the first jeep?

JC I don't know, not that I remember.

KF Bill say's he was, when he was in yesterday.

KF There was a roadblock...

JC In fact I'm almost sure he wasn't.

KF There was a roadblock in the Hilton.

JC Yea.

KF Now you were in the trail jeep so you didn't know exactly what went on there, you didn't hear what was said.

JC Except when we got stopped.

KF Oh, so you got stopped afterwards, what happened then?

JC Well, Joe blew it, I guess, because he didn't use his cover story, the idea was that they would let both vehicles through at the same time, that was the whole idea behind the cover. At any rate, they stopped us, when Joe's vehicle was waived on, we were kind of sitting, and a couple of guys would come up, but all they could speak was Farsic, so we didn't acknowledge them or anything. In fact, we didn't even roll the window down. When their vehicle went on through then they stopped us, I rolled the window down and the fellow spoke English, and well he said something in Farsic and then I responded in English, and broken Farsic which he could tell, and then he started in English. He said, "Are you with them?" and we said yea, then he said "do you have any cigarettes?" and I said, yea. And I reached in my pocket, I was fumbling trying to get him a couple of cigarettes and the Colonel said "give him the fucking pack." They waived us on,

JC really wasn't that big a deal. They had alot of cars turned over, alot of burned, we thought it was going to be the worst. They all had kercheifs, some kind of cloths, bands, wrapped around their heads. They all had MiG's, and there were alot of cars burning, that's how, you could tell at this intersection. Normally, there's a street light there anyway, but nothing's working, and they've got all these cars turned over and their actually burning. So, we didn't know what the hell was going to happen, or what was going on. We had selected this route because they were only two possibilities of places where there would be roadblocks anyway, and this happened to be one of them. We had already passed one, we thought we were going to make.

KF After you gave him the packet of cigarettes he waived you on?

JC Yea.

KF And you went to the Dvoranchak's apartment.

JC Right.

KF Who slept in the apartment?

JC That night?

KF That night.

JC Five of us. Joe, the Colonel and I, and Bill and Paul. Everybody else was instructed to stay at the hotel, we would be there first thing in the morning. And the Colonel's logic was this, let's get Paul and Bill out of there because that's the one, I mean Dadgar probably already knows that the others are there anyway, so big deal. But, let's get Paul and Bill out of there and get them secure somewhere else. Second, of all moving that many people around through the streets after curfew, is not a good idea. So he said, we'll be down here at 7 o'clock in the morning, have everybody down here ready to go just

like they were going to work down to the office. And, you won't ever come back, don't check your bags, don't check out of the room, and that kind of deal.

KF And, that was done?

JC We did that the next morning.

KF Now, how many people, all the EDS people were moved out of Hyatt the following morning. Who would they have been then?

JC Alright, let's go down the list. It was Kathy and Rich Gallagher, Bill Gayden, Keane Taylor, Bob Young, John Howell.

KF And the dog?

JC And the dog. There's an interesting story about our dog.

KF Well I'm waiting for somebody to tell me?

JC Later on. That was an ugly little dog. Now, in this apartment, I laid it out for you earlier, we are on the ground floor. And, the landlord is upstairs, the landlord and her daughter are upstairs. So far, she hasn't seen Joe and the Colonel, if she knows there there, I'd be very surprised. And, I've done all the communicating with her. But, know when you get that many people in an apartment, it becomes difficult to keep everybody quiet, like there's only one person there. It was hard enough with three of us in there, okay. When you get eleven people and a dog...

KF So all these people came to the...

JC Dvoranchak's.

KF Dvoranchak's apartment.

JC Yes, the next morning.

KF Wait a minute, why did the Colonel say we'll be there at 7 o'clock. Why did somebody have to go and fetch them.

JC Two reasons if I remember right. One, just to insure that they make it safely, and he's got somebody that he thinks, understand that the Colonel looks at the team as one group of people, and all these other people as passengers, okay. Rightfully or wrongfully, that's the way he looks at it, and, so and the other reason was physically, I think vehicle wise, I'm not sure they had enough room. I don't think they had but one vehicle at the Hyatt. And, they used cabs to get around in. So, we needed our vehicles to get them on, loaded up.

KF Which two vehicles had you used to get from the Hyatt to the apartments? The two Range Rovers? Okay. And, they had a car. So, who went back with the other Range Rover to pick them up.

JC The next morning?

KF Yea.

JC I think Joe and I both did.

KF Okay, and you picked up six people and brought them back to the apartment. Okay. Where's Ross at this point, he must have left the country?

JC Yea, he had already left, lots earlier.

KF Lots earlier.

JC In fact, Gayden arrived when Ross left. I believe that's the sequence.

KF Okay. This is now Monday the 12th. Now for two days, did the 11 of you stay in that apartment for the next two days? A lot of people are going out of course? No, they're working on the phone? Bill says that some of them tried to keep the office running? No Even by phone?

JC No, I didn't. Those touched base with, Gayden was trying to make to run the idea by the people at the Embassy that everything was normal meaning we were still back at the Hyatt, and all that kind of stuff. So he made some calls to Lou Goelz, who was the attorney, the general counsel at the Embassy. John Howell, the attorney that had been working with Dadgar, touched base with numerous people by telephone. But nobody, except myself went out during that period and Keane Taylor went out during that period, but he was an outside person anyway. Meaning he had been going outside, and he assisted me the night we went over to Ahmir's house to get the fuel.

KF Now, there's a story here, there may be a couple of stories which I may be getting confused. One, that Ross told me and I think that the story Ross told me was that <sup>Majid</sup> [REDACTED] was going to drive you to the border?

JC That's correct.

KF But when the moment came...

JC Well let's back up even further.

KF Okay.

KF The Colonel during the recapture had become so familiar with <sup>Majid</sup> [REDACTED] and the cousin that basically we were going to have, he had pretty much leveled with them that we had a problem on our hands getting two people out of the country. Okay. <sup>Majid</sup> Didn't go into all the details that's enough's enough. And, of course <sup>Majid</sup> [REDACTED] knew that anyway, and

Majid [REDACTED] knew that Paul and Bill were in jail, so that wasn't like he was

JC really disclosing anything, okay. But level with the cousin. And, that they were released for some reason on bail, that we were going to get them out of the country. We weren't going to fool around, we were just going to get them out of the country. And, that sounded like great fun to the cousin so he had agreed to drive the other vehicle. So the Colonel wanted to have two vehicles, and he wanted to have an Iranian driver in each of the vehicles. The cousin in the meantime, got hung up doing something and we couldn't get him back to Tehran so we had to have another person on the list that was going to be a driver, and that was going to be ██████████<sup>Sayyed</sup>. Don't tell him 'til the last minute. So the day before our departure, during the day I met with ██████████<sup>Sayyed</sup> told him that I'd like him to get some intelligence on the road situation between Iran and his home country, which is by the way his dad is a Senator from Khoi, in the Shah's, not the revolution but the old government. So he's very familiar, he speaks Turkish, very familiar with that area up there, alot of contacts in that area, some other roads, etc. Resourceful type lad, but a little different from all the other guys on the list because ██████████<sup>Sayyed</sup> is basically from money. So he is not a street wise person.

KF Okay.

JC He is the only one of the four that has a college education, let's put it that way. But capable enough guy, we all trusted him, from a business point of view, and I felt we could trust him from this point of view. Only one problem with ██████████<sup>Sayyed</sup> was that his father was in hiding from the revolutionaries. Most of his father's brothers were Generals, in the Shah's Army, and they were all in hiding. In fact the place that I met ██████████<sup>Sayyed</sup> was where one of his uncles was hiding. But, during the day, I met him and told him what we wanted him to do and of course he didn't know where we were or anything like that. I wasn't allowed to disclosed that him.

KF This must have been the 14th of February by the way?

JC Yea. It was the day before we departed. It was the afternoon before we departed, and <sup>Sayyed</sup> [REDACTED] was up to the task, he wanted to do it, he wanted to be able to help us, and that kind of thing. So, we had the two people that we needed. <sup>Sayyed</sup> [REDACTED] was supposed to meet that evening at a circle, designated circle, again the Colonel didn't want to give him our address. Meet me at a designated circle, I would find him rather than him find me, and in case he was being followed or whatever and then we would proceed to the apartment. And then he would be in our group. The Colonel's idea of trust was a little different than your and mine, okay. I mean, from that moment on <sup>Sayyed</sup> [REDACTED] would not be out of our sight, let's put it that way. After he knows where we are and what we're doing he doesn't leave us anymore. So that was arranged for that evening.

JC So, we went that evening to do the same thing at <sup>Majid's</sup> [REDACTED] place, get the fuel bring <sup>Majid</sup> [REDACTED] back with us, and <sup>Majid</sup> [REDACTED] would be spending the night with us until the departure the next morning. Keane Taylor and I hopped in a Range Rover went over to <sup>Majid's</sup> [REDACTED] house, <sup>Majid</sup> [REDACTED] was not there. We waited. It was starting to get dark, <sup>Majid</sup> [REDACTED] finally comes in. He is carrying a bag with him, takes the bag in his room comes out, does all the salami and greetings as only Iraninians can do, you know they're very gracious hosts, and the tea and the whole nine yards and we go off in the front room away from the rest of the family. And, <sup>Majid</sup> [REDACTED] proceeds that he can't go with us. I shouldn't say tell us, because Keane was not in there, that's right, he wanted to tell me. Keane was not in the room. Basically, his problem was this. He had for a number of days been amassing a weapons cash, and his reason for being able to convince the revolutionaries to give him the weapons is to protect his, to protect EDS' office basically.

..llk

KF You didn't know he was doing this?

JC No. And, earlier in the day when I had asked him to come up with a third vehicle, he went to the place where most of our vehicles were stored, the garage area, to the garages where they all were. What it was, was a building that was under construction to be an apartment, which I can't remember who owned it, our landlord at the Bucharest Office owned, he allowed us to park all our cars there. Well [REDACTED], Majid had gone over to get a four wheel drive vehicle, it wasn't a Range Rover but another vehicle. And, the revolutionaries were at the garage, and [REDACTED] Majid parked a couple of blocks away and walked up. And, asked people what was going on, and through the talk and everything picked up that they were looking for him. And, this one of the known locations where [REDACTED] Majid worked because that's where our household, we had household goods were stored in and cars and all these things. And they were very interested in this guy that was getting all these weapons, why he was so attached to Americans, and all that, they were asking alot of questions. So [REDACTED] Majid's got, [REDACTED] Majid's being looked for let's put it this way, they had been to his house earlier, etc.

KF At first they had trusted him and given him weapons because he only wanted them to protect EDS from the Shah's police and Army. Then they discover that he goes alot to this place where the Americans store cars and food and all that, and they begin to think well is he really?

JC Right.

KF He goes there, parks a couple of blocks away, he finds that the revolutionaries are looking for them in there, so he doesn't go in there, he doesn't get that other vehicle. He comes home and finds you there and he says to you I can't go with you because...

JC They're looking for me. Levels with me about the weapons. He tells...

KF But didn't really want the weapons to protect EDS.

JC No. What he really wanted the weapons for, was they were planning to go get Havada.

KF Okay. Who is his ancient enemy from the old days of the land re-distribution. Havada was Prime Minister, <sup>Majid</sup> [REDACTED] was put in jail because he owned alot of tribal lands, the tribe didn't like the land re-distribution, <sup>Majid</sup> [REDACTED] must have led some kind of rebellion or tribe out there. He's hated Havada all these years for taking away his family lands and putting him in jail. He's been quietly been amassing these weapons without telling you. He now has reached the point of no return, the revolutionaries don't trust him. He thinks now or never I'm going to kill that old Havada. And, he levels you about this, and you say okay goodbye.

JC Right. Thanks for your help. Help us get the fuel, which he did very graciously. Showed me...

KF From where?

JC Well we had the fuel stored in his house. Remember, I told you we had it at the Bucharest Office and we moved it to <sup>Majid's</sup> [REDACTED] house and we put the fuel in the truck and said goodbye.

KF And, next you want <sup>Sayed</sup> [REDACTED]. He's going to let you down next.

JC I get back, and now the Colonel's decided you know, that we still need the other Iranian so I'm trying to get a hold of the cycle man. Well if the cycle man is not at the designated, if it's not the right time, the cycle man is not at the phone. But, I'm doing the best I can, improvising how to get in touch with the cycle man, he's a very mysterious person. Therefore, it's not easy to get a hold of him and I was unsuccessful getting a hold of him. But that's where I spent the next couple of hours, when it came time to leave because I had to go

JC meet [REDACTED]. And, so I positioned myself in the vacant building on the side of the circle, I waited, waited, waited. If he wasn't there, this was all after curfew, if he wasn't there by 11 o'clock I was supposed to leave, he knew that, that I would only be there for a certain period of time.

KF This would have been 10 to 11 you would've been there?

JC No, I was supposed to meet him at 10:45. Okay. But, I was only going to wait 15 minutes. I got there about 10:30. Okay, and waited until about 11:30, much longer that I should have. The Colonel got all over my ass for it. You know, it was very important to me, I knew we were getting down on the list, to give <sup>Sayyed</sup> [REDACTED] every benefit of the doubt to make it there. Well, as it turned out, we didn't know this until three weeks later, I mean I was so worried about <sup>Sayyed</sup> [REDACTED] through all this, 'cause I just knew that something bad had happened. And, it turned out I was right. When he left his house, he was followed, he felt like he was being followed so he didn't go to the circle and just driving indiscriminantly around town. They got tired of that routine, and realized what he was doing, pulled him over. Took him down to the Committee Office, questioned him, interrogated him. All surrounding his uncle and his father as opposed to us. Nonetheless, that's why he didn't show up. And, that was a risk we took with <sup>Sayyed</sup> [REDACTED] all along, that was a known risk, we figured once we got out of town and what not, that wouldn't be a real issue. But, that was a risk we ran all along, and that's why he wasn't first on the list, and that's why <sup>Majid</sup> [REDACTED] and his cousin were the first two. In <sup>Rashid's</sup> [REDACTED] case, the reason he wasn't on the list to lead us out of the country was the same kind of thing. The Colonel felt after his involvement, the last thing we want to do is to have a guy that they might be looking for. Somebody in the revolutionary chain of events looking for this guy that was, once they start questioning people around the jail break and all that kind of stuff, we don't want to be stuck with a guy that they're looking for, okay. But,...

KF Did you ever find out what ever happened to <sup>Sayyed</sup> [REDACTED], how did you find out that that had happened to [REDACTED]? Sayyed

JC We didn't find that out until we had been in the states for about a week. Maybe even after two weeks.

KF Then somebody back in Iran told you that.

JC Yea.

KF Okay.

JC I kept calling around trying to call trying to find <sup>Sayyed</sup> [REDACTED] all the phone numbers from here, and never could locate him, and his family didn't want to talk to anybody American on the phone. So they disavowed all knowledge of...

KF But, he was alright in the end, they questioned him and let him go.

JC Well they beat him up a little bit.

KF Okay, so you're going the list, you've lost <sup>Majid</sup> [REDACTED], you've lost, you can't contact the cycle man, <sup>Sayyed</sup> [REDACTED] has not turned up. Where was the cousin, the professor?

JC He was hung up over in Rezaiyeh for the same type of reason, meaning the revolutionaries were hassling, you know, anybody that was as Western as he was.

KF So he couldn't even get to Tehran?

JC He couldn't get to Tehran to help us.

KF So <sup>Rashid</sup> [REDACTED] was last on the list.

JC      Called [REDACTED] at home. This was like midnight. At, this point we don't have time to fool around with meeting people in circles and things like that. And I said, do you know the fellow with the crazy looking eye? And, he said, the fellow with the crazy looking eye. Bill Dvoranchik has got one eye that looks a different direction, okay. I said don't say his name. And, he asked a couple of questions, that I can't remember what they were, but I knew that he finally knew who he was. And, I said, that's where we are, and, you need to come here right away. He says, well I don't have any way to get there, I said, I don't care how you get here, just get here, quick. And, he got there.

KF      At what time.

JC      Shoot, it must have been 1:30 in the morning. He lived six or seven miles away.

KF      So, now you must have one driver. Now, this must be the point at which the Colonel splits you off into the clean team and the dirty team?

JC      This is where Joe and the Colonel and I get off to the side unbeknownst everybody else. And, he asks, we talk about it, and ask questions about each person in the group, you know what they've been doing and all that kind of thing. We basically decide, he decides from that information who's going and who's staying. He says, now what I'm going to do is we're going to have a meeting right after we come out of here. We're basically going to talk this out. I've got to make sure that each agrees with the decision, etc. And, he was beautiful, and you can imagine, these people are all professional people. Not easily manipulated let's put it that way. He got them all out there at the table, and went through what he thought made sense and everybody agreed with him. Because it was obvious we couldn't take that many people, even though he knew there was some risk leaving them behind because, when you get somebody else picked up, you're right back in the same boat you're in. Not counting the fact that he figured the

JC Embassy was the next target, you know that the people were going to hit, and he was right as it turned out. But, Joe Poche was put in charge of that group, the clean group. And we called Lou Goelz and asked Lou if they could stay at their apartment. And, delivered, I think they left about the same time we did, to go to the apartment.

KF They did.

JC Yea.

KF Alright we are now on the morning of the 15th...

Side B starts here.

JC We departed Tehran on the morning of the 14th if I remember right. No maybe it was the 13th the morning of the 13th, it should say in there.

KF The way I have it, they got the 11th.

JC Right.

KF Morning of 12th, everybody came to the Dvoranchik's apartment you were two days there, that's the 12th and the 13th, that must have been the morning of the 14th...

JC The morning of the 14th.

KF that you left Tehran. Now, then. In the dirty team there's Paul and Bill. Let's do it in cars, who's in the lead car?

JC Lead car is <sup>Rashid</sup> [REDACTED],

KF Driving.

JC Right. Colonel Simons, Bill and Keane. Trail car is myself, Paul and Bill Gayden. Paul was driving because he looked Iranian, since we couldn't have an Iranian, we chose the one that looked Iranian.

KF He by this time had grown a moustache.

JC No, Bill had grown a moustache, but Paul as you remember is very dark complected.

KF Yea.

JC Black hair.

KF Collar length.

JC Yea.

KF Why was Keane on the dirty team?

JC Because he had come eye to eye with Dadgar. Dadgar would recognize him.

KF So the rationale for picking these people is not necessarily who's going to be the most effective, it's who needs to get out. And,...

JC That's right. Who's going to be in jeopardy while staying behind while Dadgar is looking for them.

KF Okay, did that reasoning apply to Bill Gayden?

JC No, not so much on the eye to eye contact as much as Colonel felt like Gayden would be the next most prized, besides Ross, would be the next prized possession for Dadgar, even more so than Paul and Bill.

KF What was Bill Gayden's...

JC Bill Gayden was President of EDS World.

KF Okay.

JC And, his name is actually on the contract I believe with the Ministry of Health and Social Welfare.

KF I see. And, why were you on the dirty team? Just because you were the Colonel's second in command?

JC Right.

KF Alright. And, so the clean team is Joe Poche in charge,

JC Right.

KF The Gallagher's,

JC Right.

KF The dog

JC Right.

KF You're going to have to tell me the story about the dog sometime.

JC Well, there was a point where we thought all 11 of us were going to be going across country. The little dog, even though the Colonel has a strong affection for dogs, and he really does, but not necessarily little dogs, was a pest, making noise, etc. The first day we were in the apartment long about the afternoon the Colonel got me out to the side and said, "just prior to us leaving, instead of Richard taking the dog out into the yard for a walk, I want you to take the dog out in the

JC yard and walk, however, I don't want you to come back with the dog." He said, "we're not going cross country, it's bad enough with all these Americans going cross country, but not going to go cross country with that damn dog."

KF And did you do that?

JC Well when we decided later as we were talking about cross country, and we couldn't get the third vehicle, suitable vehicle, that we would just go with the clean dirty approach and therefore we didn't have to worry about the dog.

KF The dog was going to be somebody else's. The dog was going to be Joe's problem.

JC The dog would be Joe's problem.

KF I wish somebody could remember the name of the dog.

JC Oh, we'll find out, I'm sure that's no problem.

KF Where are the Gallagher's now?

JC I don't know, I've got a lead on them being in Washington.

KF They're not with EDS?

JC No, no. They're not with EDS at all. I've got a lead on them that the last time somebody spoke with them they were there, and I'm trying to contact them right now, if you want us to get a location on them.

KF Okay. She, Kathy Gallagher was not well at this time, I gather.

JC I'm sure she was in alot of pain, uncomfortable feeling, etc. But it was really grating on everybody, the fact that she was having all these problems, it was just one of those things.

KF Well, with 11 people in an apartment for two days, somebody's got to tread on somebody's toes?

JC That's right. It got a little tense at times, the Colonel, we had been pretty well disciplined to be quiet, with very little, anything loud. And, for some reason, with 11 people it's hard to be quiet, I mean I can't imagine that but, you know, it's just naturally hard to keep all 11 people, and he was still concerned about the landlord upstairs, spotting us, turning us in, etc. Oh, and there was an incident in fact the day before when I was coming in the gate one afternoon, some people across the street started yelling at me. You dirty American, that kind of thing, it was a shouting thing.

KF Did they shout in English?

JC Yes. Yea. And, he was a little concerned about this whole thing, we had been in this apartment entirely too long, we need to get out of there, so by all means let's not be causing any problems with the landlord upstairs. Whose only concern I think at that point my way to get to her, was to make sure that she got fuel. Heating oil was hard to come by. But I arranged for her to get heating oil, and consequently we got heating oil too, but.

KF You got it from? •

JC Just mad a deal with a guy on the street. And, paid ungodly prices, but I didn't tell her that. And, so she was somewhat grateful to us for that, her husband had departed the country, so she was alone.

KF She was Iranian?

JC Yes

KF Did the same boiler heat the whole house?

JC Yes.

KF If the fuel warmed you too.

JC You bet.

KF She was grateful anyway.

JC And we were bringing her, I brought her some groceries from time to time, and she was a nosy person by nature, and she'd knock, and we'd scramble around and I'd go to the door. But as far as I know she never knew that we were all staying. Now, when we finally left, and she looked around in that apartment, there was no doubt in my mind that she was aware that it was more than just me there. You know we travelled pretty light, and we left a lot of gear behind and that kind of stuff, I can't imagine what she thought everybody was, who knows? She was a little concerned about me being there to begin with, that's really the reason why I really catered to her a lot, because you know there weren't that many Americans, and they were a target, and she was in the same building with an American. She was a little uncomfortable about that right from the start. And, I wasn't the renter in the apartment, see I went in with this story, I'm not Dvoranchik's, Dvoranchik's her tenant. Now EDS is paying the rent, the company paid the rent for everybody. But, she really wasn't very comfortable with the fact that somebody else was going to move in and Dvoranchik's stuff was in there. So, I can't remember what I told her but I concocted some story about, in fact I had lived with Dvoranchik for awhile during the Ashura, during the evacuation. Some of us stayed behind, and Dvoranchik was one of them and. So I had met her on a couple of occasions so I had at least that much going for me, but she was a little apprehensive me, anyway.

KF So we go back to the morning of the departure which we now think is the morning of the 14th.

JC We stayed up all night. Some people got some sleep, but I know the Colonel, Joe and I were up all night, scrambling around, ██████ in, you know we were getting prepared to leave. And, we had a lot of packing to do and just hiding the money and talking to ██████, you know the Colonel wanted to spend some time with ██████. Making sure he understood what the objective was, etc. And, it was clear in his mind what we were up to. We had a long phone call to Dallas because we had to give them in code on what our route was going to be. And, arrange our communications enroute, how we were going to handle the communications enroute. And, most of our conversations up to this we had been able to use this we had been able to use both English and the code, so there was very little, some translation had to take place, decoding, but not... But this time the Colonel wanted the whole message sent in code. From both ends, so it took forever, you know.

KF So you must have had a place to call as well cause this wasn't the line that was opened throughout the whole period, you just had to call from the apartment phone.

JC I can't remember whether we called or they called us at a prearranged time, I don't remember. It was a lot easier for them it seems, than for us to call, I remember that very well.

KF Who actually did the talking over the phone, and the coding and decoding?

JC Okay. Up until that day, I did all the conversations from our end and Merv did them all from this end. And, that got to be very helpful, because if you got comfortable, it saved you a lot of time if you were comfortable with using the code. And, there was always a lot of improvisations where we came up some code as we went along, it wasn't written down but we both knew what we were talking about. In fact, Gayden ended up, we didn't have a word for Gayden, and Gayden throughout the whole thing was the latest arrival because when we first started talking about Gayden he was the last person that came

into Tehran, Merv knew that, I knew that, and that's what I called him, throughout the whole thing Gayden was the last arrival.

KF But on this night, the night of the 13th through the 14th did you continue to do the conversations?

JC Off and on but I was out doing alot of things during this point we needed to be communicating alot with Dallas and I think even Paul on occassion took down some of the messages and helped with the decoding. But, Joe was my backup with the coding.

KF Okay. The money was divided between the clean and dirty teams I understand.

JC Yes.

KF Do you remember who had how much?

JC We had the majority of it, which they had very little of it.

KF So they would've had what \$50,000?

JC I had no idea. Money was a hard thing to keep up with, because there were three sources of money. We had our own funds, the team did. Keane being the In-Country Manager had a bunch of it. Mostly Iranian, and then Gayden came in at the last minute with a bunch of money, resupplied, U.S. type money, he was the last one I believe that came into the country that departed with us. He and Bob Young I think came in at the same time, and they brought a bunch of cash. And, so I'm really not sure how much there was altogether, if I had to guess, I would say it was probably pushing in cash, in gold, probably a quarter of a million, maybe a half of million. Somewhere in that range. But I don't know that anybody even counted it up.

KF Merv should know.

JC Merv, well he probably has a guess he's probably like me, he's probably like me he doesn't know for sure. and that's why the accounting process afterwards was interesting, because I mean there was money being passed around everywhere.

KF Let's go back, the clean team Joe Poche, the Gallagher's, Bob Young must have been in it, John Howell, must have been there. That gives us five who's the missing man? ██████<sup>Rashid</sup>, the Colonel, Bill, Keane, Joe, Paul, Bill Gayden, seven, Joe, eight, the Gallagher's ten, Bob, 11, John, twelve?

JC That's right?

KF You said 11 people had been there.

JC ██████<sup>Rashid</sup> was there.

KF Good. Now, from that point on you don't know too much about the clean team.

JC No. All heresay.

KF So, you get in these cars and you drive off.

JC Well not exactly. We were about 30 minutes late departing for one thing, we were scheduled to leave at six, but that wasn't too bad under the circumstances that we were 30 minutes late. But, ██████<sup>Rashid</sup> went to do a recon himself, alone to see what the streets on the way out of the city were like.

KF He went by car?

JC Yea.

KF At about five?

JC 5:30.

KF 5:30.

JC I had departed like about five to make a last rendezvous with our office manager, our Iranian office manager at this point. He was [REDACTED] Gholam [REDACTED]. One of the people that we had not levelled with but that was doing alot of things, okay. He was very apprehensive, was very apprehensive to begin with that we were all going to leave some night, you know, and he was going to get stuck with, all Iranians employees saying how am I going to get paid, little did he know he was right. But, it was time to meet the payroll, so I met him about 5:00 that morning. The evening before was when he was suppose to go and police up all our baggage and everything in the hotel, and he's the one that found out that our rooms had been shot up and you know that kind of stuff, but any rate, he was very apprehensive about things at this point, I met him on a street corner he in his car, and me in one of the Rovers. And, gave him this money settled up some last minute business type items, and said, well I'll call. He never called me I always called him. And, I said, I'll call you, I said oh, by the way, our communications with Dallas at this point is going to be through him, and he doesn't know it, okay. By the way, Dallas may be calling with a message for you, and, just take it down, and I'll get in touch with you and I'll let you know, what to do. And, he said, well I'm not going be at the office, I said, well they will probably get in touch with you at your home, or somewhere. And, in fact, the home was what we were using, was his home phone. And, he said okay fine, and we parted company. And that whole thing took a little longer, [REDACTED] Rashid's recon, me being gone, what not, anyway we didn't depart until about 6:30.

KF Was the Colonel at all edgy about that delay?

JC A little, we decided not to take the fuel at the last minute. See we had taken the fuel on a recon trip with us, and it takes up alot of room and we had the room. The real thing was that if we were a rag tag group of Americans just trying to get out of Dodge would we really have gone to the trouble of having a 50 gallon drum of fuel, I mean an extra bit of suspicion possibly since we hadn't had all that much trouble getting fuel on the way. Let's don't take the fuel, okay. So we off loaded the fuel. Long debates about where we should hide the money finally decided upon the gas can, so the very first time we had a chance we did and filled the can up with oil rather than gas. I'm trying to think about if there was anything else significant about the departure that morning. Alot of talk about who was going to be in which vehicle, etc. We had food with us, food that would not spoil. Gayden snuck a bottle of cognac as it turned out. And I guess that was about it, and we all saddled up and took off, no radios, no weapons that anybody knew about. I did in fact have my knife, the same knife I had had with me the whole time on recon trip even I had it.

KF What kind of knife was it?

JC It was a knife that we purchased that the flank security people and the Colonel went through demonstrations by the way out at the lake, for all of us, but primarily for Jim and Pat, on how you can take somebody out very quietly without them ever making a sound. And, this was a knife that he selected as the best for doing that number on somebody. So I had that with me in the scaber, quick release scaber in the middle of my back, you know for the whole trip. But, to my knowledge that was the only weapon that we had with us.

KF Is it fixed, do you have a belt underneath your shirt?

JC Yes.

KF Has it got a name, brand name?

JC It's a Gerber.

KF Gerber, okay.

JC It looks like a stuleto is what it looks like.

KF Very thin blade.

JC Yes, sharp on both sides, very pointed. The demonstration by the way, out at you know Lake Grapevine was interesting. He was showing us with one of the guys you know, live and exactly where he needed to stick the knife and...

KF And, where was that?

JC In the kidney, in the back on the soft part of the back. And, one of the guys said, I think it was Ron Davis, he said "My God that's gotta hurt, isn't the guy going to scream?" and the Colonel said "You know what it hurts so bad that there's no way he could get a sound out." And, I believed him, he had a very vivid way of going through this demonstration, but, so we had no weapons, no radios nothing, we were all dressed different. Like I had a football jersey on in fact, okay. Different forms of hats, the Colonel and I had our little black things that we had we wore right from the very beginning, he chose the head gear when we were back here, the team members all had that same headgear throughout the whole thing.

KF Which is a close fitting cap.

JC     Yea, I've got that stuff out in the car. If we go to dinner tonight or something I'll show you. In fact I've got the Walther you might be interested in, just to take a look at it all so you can say you've seen it. And, we departed uneventful. Keane had a camera with him strangely enough, a little instamatic and took some pictures along the way and those pictures are around here somewhere. Have you seen them?

KF     No.

JC     You might ought to take a look at them.

KF     I think we should put them in the book.

JC     Yea. He's got a couple of shots from his vehicle looking back at us at various point along the way. And some pictures out the window. And, the son-of-a-gun ran out of film at before we got to the point where I really wished he had had some film that's much later in the game which is another interesting story around these Kurds in one of these villages where we got stopped. It's a big, <sup>Rashid</sup> ██████ told us that it was a big deal for them to get their picture taken and they really get off on it. Of course, they never get the pictures or anything but it's neat. We get to hold their rifles up and smile, to have your pictures with a foreigner is somewhat of a big deal. So Keane is there with his instamatic no film in it, no flash, it's in the middle of the night we're in this dark room, no way these pictures, these people are so backwoodish they don't even realize that. That's how, that's where are. But, it was a real comical scene watching Keane take all these pictures knowing that he didn't have any film. And, he was hamming it up, move a little this way. It was great stuff, great stuff. But some of those pictures came out and you'll have to take a look at them. And, really, until we got, we're on the freeway, after we got on the freeway, we encountered nothing in Tehran. We saw alot of burning cars and stuff like that, you drive through the debris and through the streets. <sup>Rashid</sup> ██████ had a route picked out that would get us to the freeway, once we got on the freeway, it was clear sailing. We had to

get off, the freeway ended at Karaj and where we encountered the first roadblock was in Karaj, now that was much earlier in the game than what we had encountered in our recon trip, because Karaj is right outside of Tehran. So we encountered our first roadblock right there. And, just about at each one of these towns we encountered roadblocks of some sort or another. It wasn't serious type of stuff though, it seemed they were more interested in searching the cars for weapons according to <sup>Rashid</sup> [REDACTED] than anything else. They could care less about our story, what we were doing, where we were heading, they were primarily searching the cars for weapons. And, confiscate them.

KF So the Colonel's instinct had been right again.

JC That's right, that's right, one more time, one more time. I don't know what they would've done if they had found a radio or a hand pistol, we had so much gear, I mean we were prepared. We were really prepared, we had compasses, we had all this gear, we didn't take any of it with us. I don't know what their reaction would have been if they had found a bunch of us.

KF What about the spares for the Range Rovers, did you take them?

JC We took the spares and hid them the best we could, even on a couple of occasions they found the spare parts and tools but nobody really thought too much about it.

KF <sup>Rashid</sup> But [REDACTED] thought they were looking for weapons, and if they had found weapons, who knows.

JC Who knows, they might have just been satisfied, see most of them were just ordinary people, village type people, they may have just been happy to confiscate the weapon, you know, I don't know, you never really really know.

KF Now, as you got through these roadblocks, according to Bill Gaylord, Reza talked us through the roadblock with one story or another, and with various instructions from the Colonel regarding what to do and what not to do.

JC Keep in mind, they're in the lead vehicle. So I'm not aware of a lot of the conversations that are going on up there. However, we'd made this trip once before, okay. And, I kept all the notes on that trip, where to make the turns and all that kind of stuff, their road system is not as straightforward as it is here, in terms of signs telling you where to turn and what not. There were a couple of occasions where [REDACTED] Rashid made wrong turns and things like that where we had to flag them down and go a different direction and that kind of thing. But for the most part I'm not aware of too much of the conversation going on in the lead vehicle, on occasion the Colonel would stop, and he and I would get off to the side of the road and talk.

KF At one point, you went off the end of paved road into the mud.

JC That was when we got off going through the mountains, I don't know what [REDACTED] Rashid was, well [REDACTED] Rashid had never been on that road before that may have had a lot. But the Colonel had been on that road, he knew the road ended. And [REDACTED] Rashid, I knew the road was going to end. And [REDACTED] Rashid went flying off the end of the thing, they must have been going 40, 45, you know, and just landed in this puddle of mud and it's startling more than anything else to the passengers, I don't think they came close to turning over or anything. It was a little exciting, the Colonel was all embarrassed, because, and that's about really the only thing that I can remember about the incident. The vehicle was almost off the axle with mud, they just went off the road that simple.

KF But, you were able to drive it back on to the road.

JC Right.

KF You passed a ski lift. You stopped by a stream and had lunch. What did you have for lunch?

JC Seems to me we had a various assortment of stuff, crackers, some little cakes, these little packaged cakes, I don't know what we had to drink if anything, water maybe, it certainly wasn't lunch. In the true sense of the word it was like snack.

KF You went through a town, one town you drove through a group of people who tried to stop your car, but you didn't stop, remember that?

JC Yes.

KF What town would that have been?

JC I believe it was right here Gasmin, and the reason I say that is, on our recon trip, there's a loop that goes around the city, and if we could avoid the town that would be preferable, I mean, unless you really have to get off the road, I don't remember exactly. But there's a loop that goes around Gasmin, and we were on that loop, in fact it was very close to where the loop comes out onto the highway again. So I believe that was the town Gasmin.

KF Do you remember where the roadblock was where the revolutionaries wrote a clearance on the windshield with a magic marker?

JC Yea. It was somewhere early in the game, somewhere in here. Somewhere in between Gasmin and Karaj and I do not know the name of the place or anything, it may have been this roadblock...

KF And, then <sup>Rashid</sup> [REDACTED] made this big mistake and washed the windscreen.

JC Yea, that was after they went into the mud I think, I'm not sure.

KF After they went off the road, so he made two mistakes, well the first mistake wasn't <sup>Rashid's</sup> [REDACTED], cause he didn't know the road, the first mistake was the Colonel's because he knew the road and didn't warn [REDACTED]. Rashid And, the second mistake was <sup>Rashid's</sup> [REDACTED] because he washed the windshield.

JC Yea, I think that was right after they went into the mud.

KF And, you didn't have a magic marker, so you couldn't write it on again. At Mahabad there was a large and well organized roadblock.

JC Now, look at this, our original was to make it to Rezaiyeh in one full daylight period. Twelve hours, is what we calculated. We almost made it. So that let's you know what kind of time we were making, we were making relatively good time. Because Mahabad was where, it was dusk, and didn't, we really didn't have that much farther to go, we thought we were going to make it to Rezaiyeh, to the cousin's house, okay. And, when we got to the outskirts of Mahabad, that's where it all fell apart. Because, I think the reason it fell apart not only were they more organized, they really were. Now we're getting to the Kurd area and we're talking about Kurds and their more organized. But I think really, they were more concerned about our safety than they were about us being a threat or anything like that. I really got that impression throughout that whole ordeal, in Mahabad. Now, they put at this roadblock, we all had to get out, they searched the vehicles and we all got back in, and the put a guard in with us, and drove us somewhere downtown, like the City Hall, I don't know, somewhere downtown. We met, they made us get out they made us go into this room, we took our shoes off, which is an Iranian deal, you don't go inside a room with shoes on, so we honored their customs in that regard whenever it was practical, in this case it seemed appropriate since we were prisoners. There was a gentleman there that was a spokesman for the group that told us in English that we were going to meet with their cheif who had just escaped from prison himself.

KF Was it same the same prison?

JC Well as we put the story together after the fact, we know it's the same prison, at the time we didn't realize that, it really didn't dawn on anybody, I mean.

KF It should've!

JC I know. And of course Bill said, and it dawned on him, and he almost said something. He told me in fact his a couple of days ago, he said "You know we were sitting around in that circle, and introduced this guy and said he had just gotten out of prison. My urge was to say, well oh we have that's we have something in common." And, you know, can you imagine if he had done that. Anyway, he didn't say that, the Colonel would've killed him but, and this spokesman went on and on about what a fine gentleman this village chief was and how terrible the Shah was and kept him in this prison for 25 years, the guy had been in prison for 25 years. As it turns out, <sup>Rashid</sup> [REDACTED] tells us later, this is the head of the Communist Party in Iran.

KF Oh. Do you remember his name?

JC I think Gayden remembers the name, I know <sup>Rashid</sup> [REDACTED] would.

KF <sup>Rashid</sup> [REDACTED] would.

JC <sup>Rashid</sup> [REDACTED] would remember the name, ask him.

KF I'll ask <sup>Rashid</sup> [REDACTED].

JC He had a 45 when he came in, he was a little guy, probably 65 years old, I'm guessing, between 60 and 65.

KF Dressed in western type clothes, or robes?

JC Western. Had a 45 stuck in his belt. Clean cut, you know he could pass for a businessman, didn't speak English. Sat down, he was obviously in charge, and everybody bowed and these things that they do. And, he proceeded to ask a bunch of questions through the spokesman, and, they had collected our passports, which we were a little worried about. And, he had them stacked there, and the spokesman put them right in front of the guy, we were a little worried because Paul and Bill had fake passports, they didn't have their real passport, the real passports were still at the Embassy.

KF Stop there a minute, who had faked the passports?

JC Well we worked a long time at faking passports, and never could do it satisfactorily, so what they were were real passports of other people that looked vaguely looked like Paul and Bill okay.

KF Which other people? People in Iran.

JC People in EDS, other people that had been in Iran, we took everybody's passports and they, who brought them in? Gayden brought them in to us, in fact he was the last one to come into Tehran. Gayden brought about half a dozen passports for us to look at to see if we thought they would work, and we chose the two that looked most like Paul and Bill, Bill, Paul's was really good it looked like a young Chiapparone he really did. And, to the Iranians that didn't bother them about the picture being outdated, all their pictures are outdated anyway. They do them back when their young and even when the guy's 60 years old, his ID paper still has his picture when he's a kid. But in Gaylord's case, we didn't have anything that came very close, and really comical thing at one point. Well it wasn't comical at the time, nobody laughed at all, but later on we all had a big laugh about it. At one of these roadblocks later, somebody did notice that it didn't look the guy had the passport and Bill was sitting right here the guy looked at <sup>Rashid</sup> [REDACTED] and said "this doesn't look like the same person," or something like that in Farsic, and we don't even know

JC what was being communicated, and <sup>Rashid</sup> [REDACTED] went through this long spill how the guy had been sick and his mother, just this impassionate speech about Bill and got the guy focusing on Bill's problems, I mean you couldn't have done it any better. But at any rate, he had these passports stacked in front of them and through the translator said is this so and so, and went around the room that way. He asked who we were employed by, and we told them, and then he said, "how do I know that?" Well, it never dawned on us, we wanted to eliminate anything on our possession that said EDS, okay. So we have absolutely nothing that said who we were, now we didn't feel frightened about the Kurds finding out the fact that we were with EDS. The people that we were worried about finding out that we were with EDS were the typical revolutionary types. So we told them we were with EDS, we were with the data processing company and then we told them the name. "How do we know that?" Well, Keane pulled out his wallet, I thought the Colonel was, later on he said, Keane really messed up, Keane had kept, his ID, his medical ID card in his wallet, a card just like this. And it's got EDS on it. Showed it to the guy and of course the guy doesn't know that it's a medical ID card, but it says Electronic Data Systems right down here on the bottom and the guy thought that was really neat and the guy went on about his business. But in fact, Keane hadn't destroyed all the things that said EDS on it, and the Colonel was a little upset about that, but as it turned out, it was a good thing that he hadn't. Then after the guy became comfortable that we were really who we said we were, we got a lecture on the Shah and I mean, through the spokesman. We were asked to have tea, from that point on, I was so sick of tea, because that was the routine at every stop was to meet the village chief once they get comfortable with us, have tea. <sup>Rashid</sup> [REDACTED] said always drink it, don't hurt their feelings by turning it down, and everything would be fine. But, God, I was sick of tea. And, they, he was very concerned about letting us go, this is what he said, I don't know if that was really the case, or there was another reason but what he said was, you know you really shouldn't be out on the road after dark, there's alot of fighting going on, there's still some skirmishes, people haven't taken

JC over all of the military installations, they're still trying to do that. And, we'd like you to be our guests tonight, and the Colonel was nodding to <sup>Rashid</sup> [REDACTED], you know, that's okay, that kind of thing. So we really didn't know what to expect at this point, but we were put up at, we drove to this compound, fenced off compound around a lake it was actually a power station. In this compound was a nice looking building, very nicely landscaped, it was a beautiful place in this compound, it was really nice. And that didn't make any sense, why would these rag-tag bunch of Kurds were bringing us in this place. Evidently they had captured it a couple of days before from the authorities. And some of these people had grown up in this little town, these guards, and had never been in this place. So this is as much of an experience to them as it is for us. They get the keys for this building, what it is is the Shah's, it was a place that was built for the Shah to stay when he was there, for the dedication ceremonies, and I guess it had only been used one time or something like that, and there were clothes in there. Farahs closet, and there were robes in there and the guards were taking them out and putting them on they got a big kick about putting on her clothes. They slept in the Shah's bedroom and we slept in where the guards normally, the Shah's guards quarters were is where they put us, and they slept in the Shah's and Farahs bedroom. And, that was great fun, they were having great fun. But, we really got to know the guards quite well, one of them had just come back from school in Europe somewhere, just for the revolution, it seems like he was going to school in Finland, he was an Iranian national. Spoke fairly good English, in fact, we were waiting to find somebody that had the keys to the place. He had a G3 rifle, and I said that's neat I've never seen one of those before, and I said can I take a look at it, and he handed it to me. We were going through a thing where we were really making friends with these guys more than anything else, it wasn't antagonistic or anything after the initial questioning process. Evidently the village chief told them to take good care of us, which they did, they took us to a restaurant we ate, and we had a big meal.

HOTFOOT #10-43

KF Did you eat well?

JC Gosh, as well as I can remember, I did I had alot of things going through my mind though, because the Colonel and I hadn't had a really a chance to talk at this point. He was in a different vehicle than I am, these guys have had us and I'm trying to think ahead...

END OF TAPE