

TAPE #5
INTERVIEW WITH BILL GAYLORD
NOVEMBER 2, 1981

KF At some point euphoria about getting out must have changed back to the same old worry. Worry, anxiety, fear..what was it?

BG It was a little bit of each. Yes, we were still euphoric, and being out made us feel good and the adrenalin was flowing, but there was the..the danger on the street, of say simply being shot, hit by a stray bullet. There was supposed to be a curfew enforced that had been announced on the radio that day, to start at four o'clock. And I think we had watches, and I think we knew what time it was, we didn't know whether that curfew was going to be in effect or not, and whether we had to be off the streets or what have you. We didn't know whether it might be better, simply to duck into the shell of a building being constructed, and hide until it got dark and then try to make our way north in the dark, whether we would be better off doing that or keep going. And it was just kind of a, let's just keep going a while longer, we seem to be doing alright, let's keep going and see how far we can get. And sooner or later we got to a section of the city where it seemed to be a more affluent, instead of close in like a row of houses, they were separate villas. We'd see kids on bicycles that were American or English bicycles. They'd maybe have a cap or a T-shirt that had something, Southern California, you know, an emblem or something that appeared to be westernized. In this part of the neighborhood there was no firing, there didn't seem to be any shooting going on, it seemed to be kind of a quiet, residential neighborhood. We began to see some cars that were perhaps European or western cars. And frankly, we were getting tired, we had walked a long way, at a pretty good clip, not running, but walking fast. And it was a judgement on our part that it was now, perhaps, with discretion we should try to hitch hike a ride.

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KF How were you dressed?

BG Pretty much...blue jeans, a sweater and an overcoat of some type, and just ordinary business shoes.

KF How was your mustache coming along at that point?

BG It was pretty good, it looked about like...this picture was taken immediately upon my return to the United States, so it was a good two to three weeks growth of mustache. Probably a little scraggly.

KF Did you have a tan? No, you wouldn't have had a tan, you'd been in jail. So, you still look pretty American.

BG Yes, there was no doubt that I was American. Iranian's are shorter. It was one of the few countries I've ever been in where when you are on an elevator, I was the tallest person on the elevator instead of one of the shortest. They were darker. Now Paul, with black hair, and he's darker complected, he could have pretty much melted into the crowd without a great deal of trouble, if somebody hadn't challenged him and he had to speak a lot, he probably could have walked down the street and no one would have given him a second glance. But with my white skin and hair and what have you, there was no doubt that I was a foreigner.

KF How far had you walked when you got to that affluent neighborhood and you felt tired, how many miles do you think that would have been?

BG We'll have to work that out on the street map of Tehran, just general path and get some feel. It was maybe, three, four, five or six miles.

KF Okay, let's go on from the affluent neighborhood.

BG Two men did stop, two Iranians stopped and we got in the back seat. I think they immediately realized that we were Americans, and they spoke a little bit of English. Paul offered them cigaretts, trying to strike up some generosity and friendship. We told them we were trying to go to the northern part of the city, we did not mention the hotel. At first we told them we were trying to go to the Tash Riche area, which was kind of a bizarre area up in the northern part of the city.

English

KF Paul doesn't smoke, does he?

BG Yes.

KF Oh, he does. I wondered if maybe he just kept cigaretts as the users currency, that way.

to use as

BG No, I did that. I don't smoke, but the cigaretts were a method of payment. It was also a method for us to get money.

KF Okay, you told the two Iranians, was this in a truck or a car?

BG It was in a car.

KF In a car...that you were trying to get to the north of the city.

BG And they said that they were on their way in that direction, but they couldn't go that far, they had to...they had an errand, they were going to someone's house, but they could take us part of the way. And they did. They took us to an area of the city that we were very familiar with, not too far from where Paul lived, and let us out. And there is one thing not written here that was humorous at the time, and I think a real incident in the story. After they let us out and we're walking north on this main street, there are a lot more people and there is more traffic, and so we're walking at first, and we're

BG going to use some discretion before we start hitch hiking again. But cont. we see a car coming down the street, right there beside us, and driving the car is one of the guards, one of the officers from the prison, and Iranian. He's in civilian clothes, he's got his friends with him, and it's like they'd become the revolutionaries now, they are out with the crowds, hustling and bustling and having a good time, and he waved to us, hello Mr. Bill, hello Mr. Paul, and it's, you know, it's undeclared truth, I won't tell who you are if you don't tell who I am, you know, type plans traded back and forth. And you know, he drove on, and we chuckled and laughed about the humor of that, and kept walking.

KF But what happened first. Did you see him, or did you hear him first?

BG I think it was almost simultaneous.

KF Did you think of hiding?

BG No, there wasn't time, we were right there on the street, we were walking on the street like you would if you were going to hitch hike a ride.

KF And did you...were you scared?

BG No, he was smiling, and waving. It was obvious that...

KF Okay.

BG It was a good natured greeting. He knew we were out and he was out, and he thought it was great for both of us.

KF Did you hitch another ride?

BG Yes, we walked a little bit further, and finally a young couple, in another Dyane picked us up, and they at first were going to take us just up in the northern part of the city, near the Shah's palace, and that was fine, as far north as they could take us, and as close to where we were trying to go was great. They took us through some real mobs on the streets. They took us past the Niaveron Palace with the tanks still out front, and the soldiers, and passed some burning police stations up near where I lived. And as we kept talking with them and kept saying, boy, it's getting a little bit late, it sure would be nice if you all could take us all the way to the hotel, and we'd be you know, happy to thank you and give you something for taking us there, and they never asked, well, what would you give us, they finally kind of in good spirit decided, well alright, we will take you. It is fairly dangerous, it is getting late, we will take you all the way to the hotel. And they did. And they had to go through barricades and mobs in the streets, and I think they ran some risk. If they had come upon a group that was really anti-American that had seen us in the car they would have really had some explaining to do as to why they had two Americans, particularly if they later found out they were two Americans that had just escaped from a prison, in the back of the car. They didn't realize that, of course. So they drove up to the front of the hotel, and they let us out. We gave them about \$300 and they drove off, I guess, very happy and thinking they had done their good turn. And they had, they really had gone out of their way to take us that far.

Where did they get the money?

KF You are at the hotel, you go through the lobby, you say to the desk clerk, "what room is

BG I think we asked for Bob Young and John Howell.

KF And they gave you the room number, or they just told you which floor?

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BG No, they gave us the room number. Like they are up in room 706...

KF Were you beginning to feel safe yet?

BG Yes. One, the surprise of getting out of the prison, and two, the surprise of getting that far away, you know, we had lived through hours of expecting to get killed any second, and you know, to get that far was a monumental accomplishment, and surely to get to the brand new hotel..now this is a hotel that they have been building for the last three years, it is the latest, fanciest hotel in Tehran, maybe in the Middle East. It is like 30 stories tall, and just plush from top to bottom. Very impressive lobby when we come in, but almost deserted. I don't recall if we even saw anybody at first. We went over to the desk, and someone had to come out to help us. But we get on the elevator and we go upstairs, and we go to the room, and we do notice that there are some foreigners, or Americans in some of the other rooms up and down the hallway, now not a lot of them, but here and there there are people in the hotel. And we're assuming from a safety standpoint that Dadghar surely has been swept aside with all the other authorities, it is that anybody of any authority that has been overthrown today, that the revolutionaries are attacking, if you worked at a ministry, you know, they'd probably shoot you on the spot type thing. That surely, all the police, all the Army, all the government officials are high-tailing it out of the country. So, as I said before, I think we assumed that, without thinking about it a great deal, but once we got there and had a chance to digest where we were and what it meant, that the next thing we move to plan two, which is the American Military, whose been waiting to fly us right straight out of the country. And it was a real shock to find out that wasn't true.

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KF Well, but first of all you run into [REDACTED] (can't understand). What was his job with EDS?
Rashid

BG He was in a System Engineering Development Program. That is, we hire people that are like college graduate that have what looks like good potential, good intelligence, and they are trained to program, and operate computers, and eventually become Systems Analysts and Programmers. He was one of those, and one of the bright stars, I might add, he had already shown that he was above and beyond the average. But very young.

KF He took you to Bill Gayden's room.

BG Yes.

KF Who else was there?

BG The Gallagher's. Mr. & Mrs. Gallagher, Bob Young, John Howell and [REDACTED] (can't understand).
Rashid

KF Somebody was already on the phone to Dallas.

BG I don't know. I can't recall. I think...I'm trying to place, was Keane Taylor in the room at that time, was Jay Coburn in the room at that time, and I just...it seems like Keane was, I can't recall whether Jay and Joe Poshe...I know the Colonel was not there, because it wasn't until later that I saw the Colonel. And I don't believe that Joe Poshe was there. But, yes, they've got an open line to Dallas, and they are talking..I assume you know we've got a, there is a tape recording of that conversation that's...as Bill is talking before we come into the room and, he's talking, yes we've been down there and we can't find them, and we're going to go look again, and then all of a sudden we break into the room, and he said wait a minute, wait a minute, here they are, we've got them, we've got them.

KF Oh I must hear that. I didn't know that was in existence. Oh, good.

BG A moment of history.

KF Yes indeed. So there is a bit of a celebration. You talked to Tom Walter and Mitch Hart, and asked them to give messages to your wives, had a drink. Told the whole story, and then you went off to shower. And on the way down the stairs you passed an older man who looked as if he might be an Iranian house painter, or a workman. Now tell me more. Describe him in detail, this is your first sight of him.

BG First of all, as I said, this is a brand new hotel. The exterior has been completed, but not all the interior. They are evidently still working on the upper floors, finishing rooms, painting, plastering, so that's why a workman came into my mind. I think we were walking up the stairs, rather than down, and I think he was coming down. I probably wrote that backwards. But he's coming down the stairwell, and we're walking up, Keane doesn't speak to him, and he doesn't speak to us, and it wasn't until we were past him, Keane asked me, "do you know who that was, that was the Colonel", and I said, you know, what Colonel?

KF But describe him as you saw him then.

BG White whiskers, not a beard, but long whiskers, white. Large forehead, prominent ears, hair is short, but it was like the crew cut that had grown out, that was longer. Maybe somebody 60 years old, because of the white, gray hair and beard, he looked 60, maybe 60 years old, but muscled, obviously someone who worked hard for a living. That's why...with the nose and the face and everything, even though he was light skinned, he looked Iranian, and because he was what I'll call healthy and muscular, it looked like, you know, a workman popped into my mind.

KF What was he wearing?

BG He wasn't wearing paint splattered clothes, but they were casual clothes. They were not dress clothes, they were casual, or work clothes type things.

Abolhasan

KF Now then. Paul put his pajamas on. [REDACTED] arrived with his wife...No, wait a minute, we haven't...at some point you must have asked, or begun to talk about what do we do next.

BG Yes.

KF Presumably, that was after you had spoken on the phone to Dallas. Perhaps when you were sitting down having a drink.

BG While we were still there in the room we are saying, what is next, and that's when we find out the American Military does not appear to be waiting to whisk us out of the country.

KF Who would have told you that, do you remember?

BG It could have been Keane Taylor, Rich Gallagher, Bill Gayden, one of those people. Someone who would have had some normal....if we'd had anything going with the Military, someone of the people who would have been involved with that.

KF So you say..what happens next. You are told that it's still a problem to get out of the country.

BG I think our frame...Paul's frame of mind and mine at this point in time is that, you know, we are safe. It can't even enter our mind that we are anything but safe. So the fact that the American Military is not there, well that's disappointing but then the government has been a disappointment from the beginning, so its not totally surprising. So now the question is, without worrying about it a great

BG deal, okay, how will we get out of the town, do we fly out, do we
 cont. wait until commercial flights come up, you know, what do we do? And
 I don't recall having much of a discussion about it. It was maybe,
 well, that's one of the things we'll have to work out, or we have some
 alternatives that we've looked at, and we didn't at that point in time,
 go into a great deal of detail about it. There are six routes that have
 been scouted, and here's the best one. It isn't really a great deal of
 concern at that point in time. The reality of us still being in danger
 has not set in yet.

Abolhasan

KF [REDACTED] comes up. Did he come into the room where you were, or did
 somebody else tell you what had happened?

BG No, I had gone up to Keane's room, had showered, shaved and
 changed clothes. Keane had come back and had taken me down to
 these two room that were reserved in somebody's name, but, where
 Paul and I were going to stay. And I believe it was either on the way
 or when we got to the room. So I believe that Keane told me that

Abolhasan [REDACTED] had come to the hotel with his wife, and he had come to
 tell us that Dadghar had called his father, [REDACTED] Abolhasan didn't have a
 telephone, and Dadghar knew [REDACTED] Abolhasan's father, had called him, and
 said the Americans have escaped from prison, tell them they must
 turn themselves in, they should not try to leave the country, and so
 on and so forth. I didn't hear that coversation, that's just what Abolhasan
 recall the gist of it being. But I thought it was ominous that [REDACTED]
 was there. Abolhasan [REDACTED] was Iranian, and that, you know...push came to
 shove, if he was in danger with his family at risk, it didn't seem to
 be that much to conger up where he might turn us over to save
 himself.

Original

KF Do you remember what Simons said when he heard that news?

BG No, because I don't know where Simons was when he first heard it. Simons sent word down in these two rooms, Keane has orderd a...we told Keane what we want. He's called downstairs, they are still trying to hide that we are even in the hotel. Ordered us a steak there, we stay off in one room, it comes up, we come back into the room and eat, and then while we are eating the Colonel comes in, and he's there while we finish. Paul takes a bath, changes into his pajamas, coming back in, and that's when...now there are more people in the room, and I don't recall what we were talking about, I do remember some parts of what we were talking about. This hotel is right next door to the Habiene Hotel, which is full of American Military. The revolutionaries are still obviously running wild in the city, and I think there were some thoughts about what are they going to do next, will they start looting the homes, or what have you. Plus, Keane or somebody pointed out that we are very close to the Habiene Prison. I don't know whether we knew whether it had been overthrown or not, but we thought, well, you know, maybe they'll try to attack that prison too. Plus, for some reason, Keane, or Jay or somebody mentioned that there is an armory up here on the hill behind this hotel. Surely they will attack that tonight, to get their guns and what have you. So, even though we are in this fancy hotel, there begins to be kind of a feeling of, it's probably going to get pretty hot around here tonight.

EVIN

KF And then the phone rang. This is in the room which is your room.

BG Yes.

KF And nobody is supposed to know you are there, and suddenly the phone rings, now there is nobody....that room was reserved, but nobody has checked into it.

BG That's right. Keane had..they had not reserved them in my name or Paul's name. I don't remember whose name they had used, but Keane had said, we've reserved those rooms in some other names so they won't know you are there. So, whatever fictitious names they were, you know, nobody would call somebody fictitious.

KF But for some reason the phone rang. And you will now never know why.

BG And I'm not paying that great amount of attention to it. Paul and I are still coming up to speed trying to understand exactly what it is that's going on, what do we do next. We are pretty tired, and it has not been fully explained to us, nor do I fully understand what the Colonel's role is, what is this man going to do, maybe he's just a good friend of Ross' and is very knowledgeable about what to do about these things, and maybe he has a link with the military, who knows. His role is not all that clear at that point in time, that he is the leader. We are with the people that are normally the leaders. Bill Gayden is the president of EDS World. He is normally the guy calling the shots, we have our esteemed lawyer there, we have, you know, other people that were in management roles there.

KF And then the phone rang. What happened then, did everybody go quiet, did everybody look at the phone?

BG It's hard to recall exactly whether anybody moved to get it and he said stop, or it rang and, you know, the room got quiet, I can't recall that level of detail.

KF But nobody answered.

BG Nobody answered, it was like he or somebody said something like that's strange, that phone shouldn't ring, or nobody should know we were here. I had the feeling like we were all in the room, that there wasn't anybody from our group not there. So it was kind of like,

BG well, we're all here, who could be calling. And for all I knew..you
 cont. know I didn't know it was that strange that the phone was ringing,
 for all I know they had told [REDACTED] what room we were in, or you
 know, I didn't know how many more people that might be in the
 country. But to the Colonel, it was ominous that there was something
 wrong.

KF So what did he say?

BG It was kind of like he cut his eyes to Paul and I and said, get
 dressed, get your things, we are getting you out of here, or we are
 getting here. And I can remember, my first instinct was, he's got to
 be kidding. We've just gotten here, we are in safety, what does he
 mean. What is it that's happened to cause him to reach that
 conclusion. And where you might hesitate for a moment. It's apparent
 from the way everyone else is reacting, that he is in command, and
 that was the decision, and that is what we are going to do, and there
 isn't going to be a discussion about it. So we...I was still dressed,
 so there wasn't much I had to do, but Paul had to get dressed. And
 I'm standing, almost not believing this, what's going on? He's talking
 about, you all will go downstairs, he's talking to Keane and Joe
 Poshe, telling them what to do and what not to do. And we in fact,
 we go downstairs, and we walk out through the lobby to walk across
 to the parking lot that's just adjacent to get into one of the Range
 Rovers. And as we do, this jeep drives up with the revolutionaries
 jumping out having a good time, and they've got the automatic, you
 know, they got the Tommy Guns, you know and they are kind of
 joking with the Iranian doorman. And there is a bellboy there. But
 they are kind of waving the guns like we are here for a reason type
 thing, and there seems to be some business. It's not just driving up
 for the fun of it type thing. So we really, we got into the Range
 Rover and immediately got onto the street without any hesitation. It
 was, for some reason, it was a bad sign, it was like two and two,
 they added up. But I'm still in shock, you know, we are leaving this
 fine hotel that we've just gotten to. And where in the world are we
 going. Where is safer than this hotel.

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KF Were the situations on the streets still the same. It must be after curfew?

BG Yes, it's dark now, it's night time, 7:30, 8:00, maybe 8:30. I have no feeling for how much time has passed since we've been at the hotel, maybe an hour and a half, two hours. But it's dark.

KF Any street lights.

BG Yes, there are street lights on, and we drive up, this is a fairly major Stavanak Expressway that's gone by the hotel, we've gotten on it. It leads right up to a major intersection there by the Hilton Hotel. It was an intersection we had come through earlier with the young couple. And at that time there had been a burned out car in the intersection, but there had been no road block there. And so as we drove up and we saw the road block, now there is a road block, and there are some cars burning in the street, and there are a whole lot more revolutionaries in the intersection. It's obvious that things have changed considerably, just in the time frame since we'd been there earlier in the day.

KF You were stopped at this road block, the revolutionary in charge spoke with Joe, the other revolutionaries seemed to want to hassle you, but the leader told you to go on.

BG The fellow talked to us by himself for a little bit, who are you, and he kind of looked around inside the Range Rover, and looked at us, he wasn't in any hurry. He was feeling us out as to what we were about. Asked Joe where are you going, and Joe said to visit his mother-in-law down in the Bausidad (?) which, at the time he said it, I thought my God, what a thing to tell this guy, you know, what an idiotic story. But you know, it was just brass, that's what it was. And while the fellow...he's talking to us some more, before he, I think he's decided to let us go, but before he does he's going to talk some more. And I think he said, do you have any cigaretts or

BG anything, and Joe started to give him, or gave him the whole pack. I
cont. seem to remember a passing of cigarettes out the window. But then
some of the other rabble starts walking over, and you know, who is
in there and who are they, and what's this all about, and he kind of,
get back, you guys, I've got this taken care of. It's obvious that
they want to hassle us, but he finally convinces them to, no, they
are okay, let them go, and he waves us on through. And now,
behind us is the other Range Rover, you know, we have no idea....

KF Who was in the first Range Rover, again?

BG It was Paul and I, and Joe Poshe.

KF And that was all?

BG I believe the Colonel and Jay were in the one behind us.

KF And you went to the Durancheck's apartment, who are they?

BG The Durancheck's are, he is one of the managers that works for me
on the Ministry project.

KF He's American?

BG He's American. Had his wife and children over there, and both Paul
and I...we'd been to his apartment before. So I know where we are.

KF He had gone back to the States, so it was empty.

BG Yes, they had gone back when we air lifted the families out.

KF Was it an apartment or a villa?

BG It was a, well, I guess it was really a two story villa, with their
apartment being on the ground floor level with the landlord living
upstairs.

KF Oh, I see.

BG But it's not an apartment building with dozens of apartments.

KF Just tell me briefly what that apartment was like, big, small, beautifully decorated?

BG Had a small driveway, all the villa's have walls outside of them, the walls to protect you from the people on the streets.

Wall gardens.
KF Wall gardens.

BG Wall gardens, metal gates that swing open. As we drive into that, there is a small driveway so you are able to park inside. It's compound, there is a swimming pool off on the left, and as I recall it's probably empty, this was February, it's probably. A little, small garden area around. You go into the apartment, it has a master bedroom, two small bedrooms that the kids had occupied, a living room/dining room combination, one bath and a kitchen, but it's stocked. They've gone around to the apartments there in Tehran and got foods into it, and blankets, and paper back books, and drinks and it's well stocked.

KF And that's where the Colonel, Jay and Joe are staying.

BG Yes, they'd evidently been staying there.

KF Now, for the first time Mrs. Gallahad come into this. What's her name?

BG Kathy.

KF And they stayed at the Hyatt. Now there is something I must get clear here. Who is the clean team, and who is the sunshine boys?

BG Jay Coburn is probably a better authority. My understanding is that the sunshing team was the rescue team to get us out.

KF And they were....Well, there was the Colonel, Jay...

BG Joe Poshe...

KF Yes.

BG Glen Jackson and Amhad Jordan...other people in Jordan and Turkey and what have you. But in the country, Keane Taylor, Jay and Joe Poshe, and the Colonel...I'm not sure how you count Bob Young.

KF How did he go out?

BG He went out via the airport.

KF Okay, he's the clean team.

BG The clean team was a judgement that was made of all of us there in the apartment, including the Gallaghers.

KF So this decision was made this night?

BG No, that decision was made about two nights later.

KF Let's do it when we come to it then. Kathy Gallagher also had a dog.

BG Yes.

KF What was the dog's name?

BG Don't remember.

KF First lesson young reporters are taught, always ask the dogs name. What was the valuable information that the Gallagher's got from the Military at the Havine Hotel....Was that all...you tell me that the revolutionaries have got all the people in the hotel down to the lobby.

BG Kathy has been a secretary working at the American Military, with the American Military establishment there in Tehran. Her husband's background is military, he had been in the military. For the two or three years they've lived in Tehran they've made a lof of friends in the American Military, including the commanding generals and what have you. So they have, like a pipeline to the American Military in at least whatever they know, were able to gain a good part of that information. And supposedly the American Military should have been wired into Washington and what have you.

KF But it was the Gallagher's who told you..this happened in the Havine Hotel didn't it...everybody in the Havine Hotel had to come down and be matched with pictures....

BG No that was in the Crown Hyatt.

KF That was in the Hyatt. Okay, so the Gallagher's must have come over sometime during the course of that evening and said, hey, you know what happened?

BG Those hotels are immediately adjacent to each other. I think they simply telephoned over there, or they may have met later that evening and gone over the the Havine Hotel to the cocktail lounge or something like that. As far as meeting the military...to contact the military, they either saw their friends at the Havine hotel or they called over there, but what happened in the Crown Hyatt hotel...

KF They were involved in it.

BG They were there.

KF Presumably they had to come downstairs and stand up in line. But was there any information...do you recall any information they got from the Havine Hotel from their friends. It says valuable information.

BG We are at Durancheck's apartment and by telephone we are talking to these people at the Hyatt Hotel, who in turn have talked to the Military, what have you. It would have been information about are there flights leaving, or not, military and/or civilian.

KF Okay.

BG Who is in control of the government, or is anybody? Are they shooting Americans, what's happened at the American Military installations. If the hotels are in tact tonight, what is the American Military going to do. Are they going to send in helicopters to defend it, or what.

KF So basically, from the Havine Hotel, via the Gallaghers, you got a situation report on what was happening in Iran that night. Now presumably you learned that there were...well, tell me what you learned about commercial flights, about military flights, about who was in charge.

BG I didn't hear any of that first hand, so I think maybe Jay Coburn is the best....

KF I'll ask Jay. Who slept in the apartment. This is the night, Monday, the 12th of February?

BG The people that were in the cars that I mentioned. Paul and I, Joe Poshe, Jay and the Colonel. But arrangements were made that night where everybody else slept at the hotel to leave like at daybreak, the first light, you know, leaving your stuff in the rooms, come out like you are just going to go to work and get in the cars and we'll drive up there, somebody will drive up there and pick you up, and get you down here.

KF Also, the following day. This is Monday the 12th of February, the first night at the apartment was the night of Sunday the 11th of February.

BG Yes sir.

KF The next day, 12th of February, the Colonel gives these orders. At some point one of the Iranians who worked for EDS, I presume you don't remember who, perhaps don't know who, went to get the luggage from the hotel and reported the room had been shot up.

BG It was [REDACTED]. Rashid

KF Did he speak to you, were you there when he told this story?

BG I was getting this second hand through...

KF You got it second hand...

BG The Colonel, Jay.

KF During the next two days, this is the 13th and 14th, or the 12th and 13th?

BG One thing I should...at this point in time, Paul and I are like the baggage...

KF Yes I understand.

BG The Colonel and Jay and Joe were doing the plotting and the planning, they are in charge. We are...we know what's going on, but we're kind of going along for the ride at this point, helping where we can, but not in contro.

KF Now, let's come to the planning of the escape. And this is the point at which I want to make a distinction between the clean team and the dirty team for wanting a better word. The team that goes out over land, as I understand it now, is the Colonel, Jay, Joe Poshe, Keane Taylor, you and Paul, and Razi. 1024

BG With the exception of Jose Poshe was part of the clean team.

KF Joe is clean team.

BG Bill Gayden should be on that one.

KF And Bill Gayden goes out. So in these...

BG Do you have seven.

KF I have six.

BG The Colonel.

KF The Colonel, Jay, Keane, you two, you are right, that's seven, two Bill's. That's seven. Okay, the team...So who is left to out?

BG Joe Poshe, Rich and Kathy Gallagher.

KF Do they still have that dog?

BG Still have the dog. I think the dog got out alive. John Howell, the lawyer, and Bob Young. Now they are clean in that the judgement was made, they are not on the stop list, they are not on the want list, with the exception of John Howell, Dadghar has never seen them, they've never seen Dadghar, would not likely get stopped if they try to come out via the Embassy and the commercial airlines.

KF Now Kathy at some point is having serious medical problems, what are those?

BG She is hemmoraging and bleeding, and it, as I recall, she said she'd had an operation for female problems several years before. She normally has pills, and I don't know whether they are iron tablets or what, that control the problem...She's run out of her medicine, and she's beginning to hemmorage. And even though she's staying in bed it's not getting better.

KF Who's taking care of the dog? It's her dog I presume. Who is taking care of the dog.

BG Her husband is taking care of the dog, it's a little poodle just running around the apartment there.

KF Were you there when the decision was made to take no weapons and no radios?

BG Yes.

KF Tell me a bit about that discussion.

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BG Well, we're getting out, making a list and getting out of cupboards or what have you, all of the things we are going to take. We're getting a lot of warm clothing, because supposedly we are going to drive, we are going to wind up in the mountains at night, which are perhaps snow covered. We are going to be riding horse back in the darkness, it's going to be, they are telling us it's going to be cold, so get ready. There is the living room in one of the cabinets there had been these two way radios, fairly sophisticated two way radios. So they are there and that's part of what was brought out for consideration, do we take or not take. And fairly early on the Colonel decided that weapons would be a bad idea. Probably could not win a fire fight if got in a battle, we probably couldn't win it, so the best thing to do, if you can't win it is try to avoid it. And the best way to do that is to look innocent and unarmed, in fact, be unarmed. So that seemed to be the decision he arrived at fairly easily and fairly quickly. The radios was kind of a back and forth, let's consider it for a while, because part of the plan was, we will drive out, we may get out, we may get stopped. The cars may break down, we may need some way to communicate with outside of Iran, and there won't be any telephone booth that you can just stop at. We devised methods to mark the top of the cars, so that if planes came into the country they could recognize the vehicles from the air type thing, find us if we'd broken or been arrested and stopped. And in that case, or just keeping other people aware of where we were, those radios would have come in very handy. But again, the Colonel makes the judgement, no, that looks too military....END OF SIDE A--TAPE #5...