

SIDE A--TAPE #11
INTERVIEW WITH JAY COBURN

KF You were saying how friendly they were.

JC Yes, and I was telling you...You asked me how I ate...

KF Yes, and you had alot on your mind.

JC Yes, because I was trying to figure out how we were going to shake these guys and continue on with our original plan. So they finished feeding us and they took us to the guest quarters...Oh, and I asked them if I could stop and make a phone call. Now at this point we'd been gone for 12 hours, because it's just about dark. It's just a little after dark, in fact, we were were gone about 14 hours. And I'm supposed to check in through the contact in Tehran, and give a message to Dallas. Dallas was going to call after a certain point every hour. To ^{Gholam} [REDACTED] to see if I've left any messages. And there is only one message that I'm going to leave, and I forget even, what I'm supposed to say, but that means we are okay, and if the message is something else, well then the message would be whatever is wrong. I mean, I've got to come out into the open, and if that happens I can't get involved in code with ^{Gholam} [REDACTED], because, you know, that's not going to do any good. So, I asked if I could stop and make a phone call, and we stopped and all the lines were busy to Tehran we we couldn't make the call. And they didn't want to wait any longer, while we wait on a line, so I said, well, can you bring me back down here after we go to the guest quarters, and see if I can make another call.

KF And this would have been what in a...

JC A public phone type place. Every city had a phone..like a central phone place.

KF Like a post office..

JC That's right, and what it was, it was just a building and inside was just a number of phone booths. And it's always the busiest place in town.

KF And you pay the girl behind the counter?

JC Yes. So we went on to the guest quarters, and in fact, everybody was assigned rooms and everything, you know, everybody began to take showers, and you know, that kind of things. And in the meantime I went back downtown, you know, to try to make the call. And I got back and the Colonel was sound asleep.

KF Did you get through?

JC I never got through. I guess I got back about 2 o'clock. I stayed down there a long time to try and get the call through. Because, what I didn't want to have happen, this communications, it was not real positive. I couldn't talk directly to them, therefore, if they hadn't heard in a long period of time, well then...

KF They might start looking.

JC They start looking for us. You know, they send in the Turkish team and start looking for us. Along side the road or whatever. They are basically looking for the vehicles. And we developed a message scheme to put on top of the vehicles in the event...I forget what it is. Merv's probably got it in his notes. X means something, O means something. Simple things that we could tape on the top. Because they would be coming in by light airplane, or helicopters. And I was worried that they were going to launch into action, and everything was fine. We were supposed to be in Razaiyeh by now. And my first message back to them was something about, you know, that meant we were at Razaiyeh and everything is okay. We weren't scheduled to be to the border until the next evening. Okay, when the plant was originally layed out.

KF And that would have been the evening of the 15th.

JC We were expected at the border, correct. But I didn't get the call through. So we spent the night there, we get up the next morning and the plan is that they bring an ambulance looking vehicle, a big square vehicle. And they put a bunch of their guys in it, has a...like a red rotating beacon on it, and that's why I say ambulance looking, it was white. I don't know if it was an ambulance or not. And they, again put the guards in our vehicles with us. And we take off down the road, and in fact, we stopped at the first place to have tea, in the morning. And we do that, and we proceed on. And they escorted us all the way to Razaiyeh. And in the meantime, the Colonel was working on the guard, befriending the guard, and trying to convince him that what he needs to do when he get's to Razaiyeh, even though his boss has instructed him to, the village chief has instructed him to turn us over to the next group. Their jurisdiction only went so far, then the next group was supposed to, for our safety, they were supposed to turn us over to the next group. And the Colonel was trying to convince them to turn us over to no one, but take us to the cousin's house and, you know, we'll be fine. We were just here a few weeks ago, and we got the lay of the land, and that kind of thing. The guy never would go for it. He said no, my village chief has given me instructions, and if anything happened to you all he'd hang me by my heels, and you know, that kind of thing. So he wasn't buying that at all. So when we got into Razaiyeh...Razaiyeh had just fallen, the military had just given in a couple of days before. So they were having a big parade. And they had the military, unarmed, you know, the revolutionaries were guarding the military and parading them through the streets like it was a big deal... [And we were on the side of the road, right downtown, they had taken us to a hotel, they thought they would take us to this hotel, take us in, and then go get the other officials and bring them over to us.] So we were right downtown. And it was a mob scene. Very violent revolutionary types. You know, looking into windows. And our guards kind of, kind of, I say that loosley, kind of in a fight with these revolutionary types on what we are up to. I mean, they are really protecting us to a certain extent.

KF So now the guards are under suspicion because they are with you?

JC Exactly. And it was a, I mean, it was really a bad situation downtown. I was really getting nervous about it, because they were starting to do things like, you know, beat on the windows. You know, and the very next thing, you know, I'm envisioning what's going to happen next. The very next thing is they start rocking the vehicles, the very next thing is they turn them over. I mean, you know, when you are in that many people, and if you've ever seen the damage that a mob can do, you know, you only have to see it once, and it leaves a very vivid impression on your mind. But eventually our guards get us out of there and they take us to this mosque looking place, it's actually a school of some kind, a religious school I guess. [The hotel wouldn't take us in fact, that's what it was. ██████████ Rashid told us that. They wouldn't take Americans.] So they took us directly to the leader, the Ayatollah of the area. I have no idea what his name is. And we have to beat our way through a crowd, just about, to get in there. Because all these people are trying to get in to see the Ayatollah, or they are trying to enlist in the Army. This is the enlistment headquarters for the revolutionary group that's doing this battle over in Tabriz. So they are recruiting people for Tabriz, to go over and continue to try to get the Sebauch and the military in Tabriz to give up the ghost. So we make it inside the gate, and these people are irate, because we were able to get in, and they are still outside, if you could imagine that. And the guards at this point are wanting to get rid of us, I mean at this point we are a threat to them. So they are glad to get inside, they are glad to get rid of us, they are not real anxious to go back through the crowd they just came through, you know, that kind of thing. I'm not so sure they did even, they may have sent out the back way, who knows. But they turned us over to this group. And ██████████ Rashid, we are sitting outside watching the enlistment activities, listening to the people bang on the gates in this courtyard type affair. And watching the mullahs coming in and out of the place, doing their prayers, and that kind of thing. And ██████████ Rashid is off in the other room with these guys. And they are not buying just this note from this next neighboring guy at all. They want to call back to Tehran to check us out.

KF They want to call to the revolutionaries in Tehran.

JC That's exactly right. And it's interesting, and we found this out on our first trip. Razaiyeh is a...amongst all this area that is pro Shah and pro Bakhtiar, which is the current government...inside the city itself is where all the liberals, were all the revolutionary types are. And on the outlying areas it's pretty much the Kurds, and they are pretty much their own people, I mean, they don't....but if anything the population around is pro Shah, except right in the city. So they want to call back to the revolutionary headquarters to check us out. Well they can't get a line through, and it's taking forever. And [REDACTED] Rashid finally comes out and says, well, we're not...something like, it's okay now, they are going to take us to a hotel to spend the night...or to stay until we get this resolved is what he said. And nobody asked any questions at this point, because we don't know know who speaks English or who doesn't. And they do, they take us to a hotel and these guards are alot different from the last group. They don't even come close to speaking English, they are very...the hot headed type individual that, you know, you really question if they've got all their marbles all in one bag, whether they are playing with a full deck. I mean, you know, they are really dangerous type people to have weapons. And they were all armed. They didn't like us at all, one in particular that was in the room that I was in really tried to antagonize. He spoke enough English, he was the only one that spoke English, he didn't speak it very well, but he spoke enough that he could say things like, down with Carter, and down with Heiser, you know enough that he was trying to antagonize us. At one point, it seems to me he even did a routing with his rifle, where he tried...he was convinced that we were bad guys. We were not, regardless of what his superiors were telling him, you know, we were bad guys. We had snuck out of Tabriz, you know, where the Sabauch is held up, and we were American CIA consultants to the Sabauch in Tabriz. So he tried a number of sucker plays to try to get us to tip our hand that we were something other than we were. Some routine he had with his weapon, where he tried to get one of us, or any of

routine
Savak

JC us to help him put it back together, which would have indicated to
cont. him that we were experts on weapons. You know, he did a few things
like that. And the Colonel had told all of us just not to, you know,
be polite, not engage the guy in conversation unless you absolutely
have to, but by no circumstances do you want to have anything to do
with him. And ^{Rashid} [REDACTED] was gone a long time. Supposedly to get this
thing squared away, so we can get on our way. But I'm convinced at
this point that we're going to be here another night. I mean, this is
where we're going to spend the night tonight. That ^{Rashid} that's not going
to happen. But sure enough 4 or 5 hours later ^{Rashid} [REDACTED] came back. He
had actually made a trip to the border, and in fact, ran into...we
had forgotten to tell ^{Rashid} [REDACTED] who was meeting us at the border. Not that
it would have meant anything to ^{Rashid} [REDACTED] anyway, but it would have been
helpful had he known that one of us was going to be on the other
side, on the ^{Rashid} Turkey side. Well, the guy we had on the other side
recognized ^{Rashid} [REDACTED] right away, you know, from 50 yards away.

KF Of course this is, in fact, the evening when you are supposed to
cross over.

JC That's right.

KF So there is somebody there. Do you know who was there?

JC Ralph Bole. And we're late. We are late at this point. I mean, I'm
already supposed to be, you know, crossing well in advance of dark,
you know, and the guys are going to cross over ^{Rashid} later, by horse back
and that kind of thing. So I'm late. Well, when ^{Rashid} [REDACTED] shows up there
Ralph sees ^{Rashid} [REDACTED] and gets really confused, especially since he's being
such good friends with the revolutionary types on the other side.
And convinces the Turkish guards, even though they tried to talk
him out of it, to walk over to the Iranian side with him, not to go
across, but just to walk up to the other side. And for some unknown
reason, I'm not sure why, Ralph got panicked by something, standing
there, having this exchange with these Iranian guys, and he and
these Turkish guys.

Rashid
KF [REDACTED] is not there anymore?

Rashid
JC [REDACTED] is there, standing there.

KF But Ralph and he don't speak.

JC No.

KF Because....

JC I'm not sure why they didn't speak. They may not be close enough to carry on the kind of conversation that they need to have to determine what was going on anyway. But they did not speak to each other. And Ralph became suspicious of something. Somebody was taking pictures, or something happened, and Ralph became suspicious and turned around and left, and got far enough away where he felt a little more comfortable. And proceeded to try to engage in a shouting match at this point, with the guys on the other side, you know, asking them..at least this is [REDACTED] Rashid's account..You know he was yelling at them, where are the Americans, you know, that kind of stuff. Anyway [REDACTED] Rashid was trying to explain to these guys that that was obviously who they were supposed to meet, and we needed to get from Razaiyeh to the border, and he'd have to go back and pick us up. He was trying to grease the skids for what was going to take place later on. But it wasn't a good exchange at the border. And I don't know how we fouled that up, but it was not a good exchange between [REDACTED] Rashid and Ralph. That may have been more our fault for not telling [REDACTED] Rashid what to expect, than anything else, but who knows. Anyway, [REDACTED] Rashid makes it back and he's done the recon, and it's time to go.

KF These revolutionaries have basically released you now?

JC No, no, no...

KF Oh, but it's time to go.

JC It's time to go.

KF But you can't go.

JC We were eating if I remember right, when Reza came back to pick us up. It's getting dark. But we want to press on anyway. And that's okay with these guys. Unlike the last guys that were worried about our safety, these guys said fine, get out of here.

KF But why had they guarded you, why did they come to the hotel with you if they were just going to let you go?

JC Well, they hadn't checked us out yet. See ^{Rashid} [REDACTED] left to go back...

KF While ^{Rashid} [REDACTED] was away...

JC Instead of us waiting, you know, at the mosque, which evidentially, that must have been creating a problem for them, having Americans sitting inside there, with all the people beating on the doors or whatever, but anyway, they decided to get us out of there. And they took us to that hotel, under guard, because ^{Rashid} [REDACTED]...they weren't able to get their call through to Tehran yet, to totally check us out with the committee in Tehran. And they wanted to do that.

KF Did ^{Rashid} [REDACTED] stay at the mosque.

JC ^{Rashid} [REDACTED] went back to the mosque. He went with us to the hotel and went back to the mosque.

KF At the mosque he got clearance.

JC Ad the mosque he did probably his greatest deception, think on your feet move, he did throughout the whole ordeal. Because, since they were having trouble, they were having trouble getting in touch. ^{Rashid} [REDACTED] said, well, I know somebody on the such and such committed, why don't I try to get in touch with them. Well, what it was was a friend of his, that in fact, was on one of the committees. And they said, okay, fine, because they were getting just as fed up with trying to get back to Tehran as anybody. Anyway, ^{Rashid} [REDACTED] got in touch with the guy by telephone...

KF From the mosque...

JC From the mosque...He explained to his friend, you know, exactly what he was doing, and of course the friend didn't check with anybody, I mean it was ^{Rashid} [REDACTED], and he had no reason to disbelieve ^{Rashid} [REDACTED], and what he was doing, and what not. And he said, well, put me on the phone with these other guys, and I'll tell them that you are okay. And that's basically what he did. Now, can you believe that.

KF And the other...the people in the mosque had heard of this man on the one of the revolutionary committies?

JC Well, evidently he said the right....maybe they hand't heard of him, but he mentioned the right names, that they were satisfied that it was alright. And...See, at this point they had the central committee in Tehran, and then they had all these village committees. You know, every village had their own revolutionary committee. So, you know, it wasn't very organized. But at least there was some organization. And this guy was somehow associated with the central committee back in Tehran, and that's who they were trying to get in touch with. And that's who we didn't want them to get in touch with...We figured Dadgar, if he touched base with anybody, it was those guys, to let them know that he was looking for us. See, Dadgar had his own

JC police force, the prosecutor over there is assigned a certain number cont. of people for his activities, investigations, arresting people, things like that. So he's got his own little police organization, you know, even though it's not substantial, he's got his own people out looking for Paul and Bill.

KF So ^{Rashid} [REDACTED] comes back with the news that you are free to go.

JC Right. We checked out alright and we are free to go.

KF And presumably somebody else had told your guards that?

JC Correct.

KF Had they left, or were they still hanging around.

JC Still there when ^{Rashid} [REDACTED] got there with this other fellow. And the other fellow told the guards that, you know, once we got ready....we were in the middle of the city, and they said that they needed to see that we got out of the city.

KF Who was with ^{Rashid} [REDACTED]?

JC Somebody that he brought back with him from the mosque.

KF From the mosque. Did that man go to the border with him?

JC I don't know, I didn't ask.

KF Anyway, he comes back with an official from the mosque. The official for the mosque says to the guards, the guys have been cleared, but you have to escort them out of the city?

JC No. You have to stay with them until they get out of the hotel.

KF Okay.

JC In the meantime, by the way, I had gotten a phone call through. I asked the guard if I could go out to the lobby and make a phone call back to Tehran. And he stood right there while I made the call. So it was a very brief conversation, but I got a hold of ^{Gholam} [REDACTED], and I asked him if he'd gotten any calls from Dallas and he said, no. And that kind of bothered me. But as it turned out, as soon...shortly after we departed from Tehran, all of the communicated from the United States were cut off. All the communicates. And they were never able to get a call through.

KF And ^{Gholam} [REDACTED] was never able to get your message through to Dallas.

JC That's right, not until after we had already crossed the border. But my concern about them sending somebody in, really was unwarranted, in that...not that they weren't concerned about us, but it was an unknown. Meaning, they thought ^{Gholam} [REDACTED] probably had heard from me, but yet they couldn't get in touch with ^{Gholam} [REDACTED]. You see what I'm saying.

KF So they didn't have enough information to panic.

JC Exactly.

KF If they had been able to get through and discovered that you hadn't called it would have been serious. So better, really, that they couldn't get through.

JC Exactly. It was perfect that they couldn't get through.

KF So you all go down into the lobby, and you get in the Range Rovers...

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JC Well, ^{Rashid} [REDACTED] had stopped along the way and picked up some Kohmeine posters and what not. So we spent about 30 minutes decorating the vehicles, getting ready for this trip to the border. And we had Kohmeine pictures all over those vehicles. He didn't know exactly where all the road blocks were going to be in the city, so he did a really smart thing, he stopped a cab, and told the cab that he'd like for the cab to show him how to get out on the road to Saro, the shortest way to get out on the road to Saro, and not have to encounter any road blocks. And that's what the cab did. Just led us right through everything, out to the road to Saro. And paid the cabbie, and we went on about our way. And we are really talking about, maybe 30 miles, at the most, 30 kilometers, maybe less than 30 kilometers.

KF To the border?

JC To the border, from Rezaiyeh. It is a winding, mountainous type road. See the terrain is going up from Rezaiyeh, all the way up to the Turkish border. So we made really good time. We only had to go through a couple of villages anyway, and there weren't any road blocks, which we were kind of surprised about. And then we really got up in the mountains, and there is nothing up there. So we really felt good. I thought the next thing we would see is the border crossing point. You know, everthing was just like I remembered it on the recon trip at this point. And then...

KF Did you keep, incidentally, did you all stay in the same cars that you had started with?

JC Yes. And then we got to, it was a river up there somewhere, and a bridge in the mountains, it was the first bridge we'd come to. And all the bridges in Iran have guard stations associated with the bridges. I'm not sure why that is, I don't know what the purpose of that is. But there was a guard, and normally these things aren't manned, it must have been something held over from a long time ago, but

JC station had a guy standing by it, one guy, and he had a weapon.
cont. And the bridge had a chain across it, well, it wasn't really a chain, it was more like...it looked like a string, looked like a piece of plastic string is what it looked like to me. And the thought entered my mind that they were going to go right through it, you know, why stop, you know, big deal, you know, one guard, a piece of string, you know, just go right on through. So I had told Paul, I said, they are going to run...we hadn't slowed down, and we are getting fairly close to this thing. And is said Paul, they are going to run the string, so you know, just..if they do go, you know, take it with them. And at the last minute ^{Rashid} [REDACTED] stopped, pulled over up beside this guard. The guard starts walking over to the vehicle, well then people start coming up from each side of the bridge. They were down below the...you know how a bridge goes off...well they were down below, okay, and these guys start walking up, and they start walking out from behind the guard shack. And all these guys are armed, you know, to the teeth, they got, you know, ammunition crossing in front of them, they are really mean looking dudes. I don't know what would have happened it we'd have ran that damn...I mean, there is no telling what would have happened. But, why they had so many armed people out there, we still haven't figured out to this day.

KF You think it was an ambush?

JC Probably was. There was no reason to have...it was least 50 people, 50 armed to the teeth people. They were either waiting for somebody, or they were setting up so that they hoped somebody would run the road block, just to use that as an excuse to shoot them up, or something. I don't know. Who knows. Now we're sitting there. We pulled up right behind the other vehicle, must have been about 10 yards in between the vehicles, and they surrounded both vehicles, wall to wall with these guys. So we really couldn't see what was going on at the other vehicle, and there wasn't anybody saying anything to us. And I'm sitting, Paul is driving, and I'm sitting up here and Gayden is in the back. So I can only tell you what was happening in

JC our vehicle. This guy was standing right by the window, you know, cont. with an automatic. And they were completely surrounding the car, and something really comical happened. I didn't laugh, but it just broke me up in side. Oh, I know what it was. Gayden, from the back seat said, "Jay" and I didn't even answer him. I mean, you know, I didn't want to move. I mean here's this guy pointing this automatic weapon at this window, okay. And he says "Jay, why don't you lock the door." I thought...I tell you what, it was all I could do to just keep from cracking up. I mean, you know, here's a guy with an automatic weapon and he say's, why don't you lock the door. And I think I did say something back to him like, I don't want to make any sudden moves, or something like that. But at any rate...Eventually

Rashid [REDACTED] comes back to the vehicle, and says, "Now don't be alarmed." Those were the very first words out of his mouth. And he says, "We are waiting on someone that's going to be up here in a second, an official of some kind, and I think everything will be alright. But he didn't have a very comforting look on his face. I mean, he was...I had not seen him that concerned at any of the other places we had been. And basically, we didn't know it, we couldn't see what was going on at the other vehicle, but basically, these guys were pushing them around, and they weren't buying this act at all. See, he doesn't speak Turkish, and that's all they speak, but they understand a little bit of, you know...so they were able to communicate a little bit, and they were waiting on somebody to get there that we could communicate with, according to [REDACTED]. And we didn't know that until later anyway. So Reza went off into the guard shack with a couple of the guys, and you know, here we are sitting in the vehicles surrounded. And in a minute another vehicle pulled up, and the people got out and went in where [REDACTED] was. And in a second the guy comes out and he's got a suit on. I mean, it wasn't a nice looking suit or anything, but he had western clothing. Unlike all these other guys. These other guys are mountain men, you know, they are the true Kurd, Kurdish tribesman.

KF Baggy trousers on and all that?

JC Yes. All the same you know, their head gear is related to their tribe. So they each have the same kind of head gear. Or parts of their head gear was the same, let's put it that way. There is a color or pattern or something that's common. Anyway, the guy goes up to the first vehicle first. And by the way, that's where the thing came up about Bill being sick and all that kind of stuff. This guy was really checking the faces with the passports. And then he came back to our vehicle, went through the same routine, back there, asked each of us some questions. It was almost like he had checked passports before. Because, you know, he said, where are you from, where were you born, you know, and he was looking at the passport. So you know, I don't know who the guy was, or maybe he worked at the border. I don't know. We were very close to the border at the point. Maybe he worked there or something. Who knows. At any rate, he was asking the right questions. And the Colonel had drilled Paul and Bill on their passports, by the way. So they knew that information on the passport inside and out. And every stamp that was in there, you know, he had covered that. They knew where they were born, and where they were from, and how old they were. And then they go off, I guess he's satisfied that we are who the passport says we are. But he evidently is not the real guy in charge. He's a guy that can communicate with us, but he's not the guy making the decisions. Because this time, before...anytime that, you know, we had guards with us, they put a guard in the vehicle, we still drove the vehicle. This time they made us get out of our vehicles and that's when I thought we were in really bad shape. Get out of our vehicles and get in other vehicles. And they drove our vehicles and followed in their vehicles. So we piled in these little vehicles of theirs and headed off down this deserted road. I mean headed nowhere. And I thought, well shit, this is...You know, nobody will ever hear from us again.

KF What kind of vehicles did they have?

JC Dyane, like a Dyane station wagon. They were just crummy old beat up old vehicles. A pick up truck and just beat up vehicles. And the thought entered my mind, if nothing else, we can give them these vehicles, I mean, they'd like to have some nicer vehicles. You know, maybe we can buy our way out of this thing, or whatever.

KF But they could take them anyway.

JC That's right. No kidding. And we get to this village.

KF About how far away?

JC Oh God, it must have been 3 or 4 miles. Rough road, rough ride. We get the village, it's dark, there is no electricity, this is, you are in a remote area. And they get us out of the vehicles and they take us, to, it looks like probably the nicest house in the village, which wasn't very nice, by the way. Mud hut type looking things. These are not wood or brick structured. Grass roofs, you know, that kind of thing. And take our shoes off, and all that kind of stuff. We go in and the room is lit by kerosine, or some kind of coal oil lantern. So, not very well lit. Same kind of thing, wait on the guy in charge, and Rashid had used this little note that we'd been carrying around with us. And one guy had ran off with the note and supposedly...and didn't take Rashid with him. Supposedly to call and check us out. And in the meantime the chief guy got there. Where he was going to call, I have no idea, because based on the fact that there was no electricity there, I doubt if there were phones there. But that's what Rashid said that the guy had ran off to do. And the same kind of thing, they had the passports, you know, this guy had collected all the passports, and he spent a long time talking to the obvious guy in charge about who we were, etc. Evidentially got..the guy came back with the note and handed it back to Rashid and nodded to the other guy, and who knows what he did, maybe he went and took a leak,

KF Did they know Keane had a camera, or did they

JC They had seen it in the vehicle, when they searched the vehicle. And said the ^{Rashid} [REDACTED], you know, can you take our pictures. I don't know if that meant to them that they were going to get a copy, or, it didn't seem to make sense to me. Why would they want their pictures taken because they are not going to get the picture. But at any rate, they wanted their picture taken, okay, we'll take a picture. And Keane told ^{Rashid} [REDACTED] and me, he said, ^{Rashid} [REDACTED], I don't have any....He said take the picture anyway, Keane. I mean, you know. So Keane got out there and they all lined up and took pictures.

KF Is this still daylight?

JC No, it's dark. There was not enough light in there to take a picture with the most sophisticated camera you had. I mean, much less with this instamatic with no flash. I mean, he's taking pictures. And they bought it, you know, they thought that was great. And they had the biggest smiles on them. I wish you could have seen these guys. They had their weapons up over their head, they were, you know, yelling. Keane was taking pictures. And they let us go back in our vehicles this time and they escorted us back to the road, about a mile down the road or so, and then said, you all are on your own. And we said, well, can't you take us on to the border. I mean we wanted an escort at this point. Somebody that's checked us out that could vouch for us and all that kind of stuff. No, I'm sorry, our jurisdiction ends here. This is like a mile up the road. Their jurisdiction ends. I'm saying, oh Jesus. Because we are so close, we're on the five yardline, we are so close to the border, I mean...Oh, and by the way, the horse back and all that stuff is out the window now, because ^{Rashid} [REDACTED] has told us, when he came...when he did his trip and came back, that there are no government people at the border. I mean they are strictly locals at the border. So you don't have to worry about stop lists and passport checks, and you know, all the typical things you would worry about at the border.

JC Those people left. You know, the people in the village had taken cont. over. So there was basically no control. So we are getting close. And the last thing you want to do is have another road block. But we pass a gas station, and gas stations are not like they are here. You have to use gas station loosely. An Iranian gas station, countryside Iranian gas station, and the lights are on inside. No lights are on outside, but there are lights on inside, they have glass windows. And so we can see that there are a couple of guys standing there with weapons. And we're on the highway, you know, not going that fast. Headlights on. And ^{Rashid} [REDACTED] is already passed the service station, and I'm watching the guys inside the building. And all of a sudden the one guy comes tearing out of the building, and he is locking and and loading a round. And I told Paul to honk, so Paul honked to try to get their attention, because they are headed off. I mean they aren't stopping. Well evidently these guys got tired of guarding the road and went in to stay warm. It's cold, it's wintertime. And we kind of snuck up on them. And we were about to head right past them and they were concerned about that. Now I don't know if he would have shot at the vehicles, shot over the head of the vehicles, you know, all I know is that it was fixing to get tense. Anyway it got ^{Rashid} [REDACTED] attention and ^{Rashid} [REDACTED] stopped.

KF Who, the soldier did, or you did?

JC We...both cars stopped.

KF Did you pull in, did you stop?

JC Yes, we pulled in and stopped, and ^{Rashid} [REDACTED] stopped and backed up. ^{Rashid} [REDACTED] talked to those two guys and they got in the cars. Took us down another road off the main road, down into the village and here I'm...this group of people, unlike the other ones, where they were all armed to the teeth, looks like an ambush and what not, we pull up in front of this house and these people start coming out of the house. Some of them are armed and some of them aren't. But these people

JC you know, I don't know. But, you know, he couldn't call anybody
cont. that was on that note, because that was a totally fictitious note. But
 maybe he called back to the mosque, I don't know. But he wasn't
 gone long enough to ride to the mosque, but I don't whether they
 had phones. But they seemed to get comfortable with us and we had
 more tea at that point. In fact, I poured my tea out, I could not
 drink any more tea, I was so teaed out that...and ^{Rashid} [REDACTED] laughed, but
 you know, really I could not drink anymore tea. And of course we
 were supposed to have empty glasses, so I kind of poured it out, you
 know, in this mud hut..There was the most beautiful Persian carpet
 you have ever seen. I mean it is gorgeous. And of course that's the
 way those people over there are with their rugs. I mean they've got
 these beautiful rugs that people here probably pay 30 or 40 thousand
 dollars for them, you know, in this mud hut. I kind of slowly poured
 it out on the rug.

KF On the rug.

JC Right. As I'm sitting there with my legs crossed. And this is where
 the picture taking scene takes place. This is where Keane is doing
 his picture taking thing.

KF Did the head man ever come.

JC Yes.

KF You said that.

JC Oh yes, he came. A very nice gentleman after the tense part was
 overwith, and they had accepted us.

KF Did they ask to have their pictures taken?

JC Yes.

JC don't look like...what these people look like are bandits. I mean that's
cont. what they look like. The first thing that entered my mind, they
reminded me of bandits. And there is nobody in charge. That even
bothers you anymore. I mean, there is no one to talk to, there is no
authority. And they are waiting for the authority to come back from
some meeting that he's gone to, or whatever. And I thought, oh
shit. You know, we are so close. And we got all this money, if these
guys really are bandits, and the chief guy is not here, we're not
going to get out of this...Anyway, ^{Rashid} ██████ had been to this village in
the afternoon. Unfortunately, the guy he'd talked to was not there.
So he had told them the guys name, and so he at least had some
credibility, which stalled them long enough until this guy got back.
And then when that guy showed up everything was great, because he
remembered ^{Rashid} ██████ from that afternoon. And they hugged and the
whole nine yards. But you know, one more time...We turned tea down
this time, by the way. We were so close and ^{Rashid} ██████ felt good about
what he'd done earlier in the day.....

END OF SIDE A--TAPE #11

SIDE B--TAPE #11

JC ...made it the next couple of miles. It couldn't have been more than two miles from that last stop. Maybe not even that far to the border. It was dark, there were no lights on at any of the places...

KF Let me see if I can just clarify something. ^{Rashid} [REDACTED] had been to this village in the afternoon, but somehow he wasn't expecting a road block at that gas station.

JC There were no road blocks.

KF So he...there had been no road block when he went there, but just to be safe he had gone to the village anyway.

JC When he went to the border, the village is so close the border that they had sent the guy up. I mean he kind of hung around the border for a couple of hours that afternoon. So the guy from the village had met him up there at the border earlier.

KF I see. So now you go the last two miles.

JC Then we arrive at the border and it's dark, there are some armed people with rifles standing by the last...let's see if I can give you a picture of the border. Here's the Turkish side, and they've got like a gate, or chain like thing up on their side too. And then there are some buildings back here. And there is a guard shack right here, and this is primarily the road. And then there is a neutral, like a zone in here. And then over here on the Iranian side is the same thing, got a post, a concrete type post with a chain in it going across here to a building, to the side of a building. This thing is actually connected into the concrete building. And this is like a guard place here. And then back here leading up to this...the Turkish side was very primitive. The Iranian side has got massive

JC concrete type structures, where trucks at some point, evidently had
cont. been weighed, you know, it's that kind of operation. Warehouse, you
know, there are a couple of warehouses there right near by. And
back here before you ever get to this, an administration building of
some kind, which was probably where you processed.

KF Sounds like a fairly sophisticated customs post.

JC Right. Well there was nothing up in any of this stuff. It was dark
and there were no people. When we got up here there were some
people milling around, armed type people. And of course, the chain is
across it, so you can't just cross anyway. So we pull up to the
chain, lights are still on, get out, start talking to these guys
standing around. ^{Rashid} [REDACTED] tells them basically we'll just talk to so and
so, and ^{Rashid} [REDACTED] had been up there that afternoon, and evidently had
talked to the same guy, so it was no big deal. And it hadn't dawned
on ^{Rashid} [REDACTED] that these guys wouldn't have a key to the chain. He
thought we'd just drive across, that afternoon, see it hadn't dawned
on him. So he told them, you know, and they just kind of said,
okay, go. And ^{Rashid} [REDACTED] said, yes, but how about the chain. And of
course, they don't have a key. The officials, the government
officials, you know, didn't turn over a key, or they hadn't found it,
or maybe they didn't want to, who knows. But at any rate they
weren't unlocking it. One way or another we had this chain to
contend with. So I went to the back of the truck and got out the
hacksaw. And while they were all over there talking, started sawing
on the chain. The Colonel and I did. And they got really excited
about that. "Oh no, no," you know, once they realized what we were
doing. And told ^{Rashid} [REDACTED], you know, to get us to take a hike, you
know, we're not cutting the chain and that kind of thing. And then
we fooled around for a second, pulling the vehicles up there to
see..it had a little siding in it...we thought well maybe we can put
some boards here and somehow figure some way to get over there.
And finally we just abandoned the whole idea, and the Colonel said,
the important thing is to get across the border, guys, pull the
vehicles over to the side and grab your gear and let's go. And so

Rashid [REDACTED] is explaining this to....

KF I'm surprised that didn't occur to anybody earlier.

JC Well, this didn't...this was a short period of time. If we could have gotten the vehicles across that would be great. You know, we were going to need transportation anyhow. But at any rate. I guess all that may have taken five minutes, at the most, to go through that whole series of events. And so ^{Rashid} [REDACTED] is talking to the guys and the Colonel says, you take Paul and Bill and start walking across the border, and we're going to hang around here and get the stuff out of the truck and all that kind of stuff. So we did. And I guess we got about 20 yards across there....

KF This is you talking to...

JC Yes, I'm talking to Paul and Bill. And we're walking. And I'm talking to them, I said, you know, regardless of what happens behind us now, you guys have got to continue to walk. I mean it really doesn't matter what happens at this point. If you hear some shouting or anything like that, gun fire, anything, you run, but under no circumstances do we stop or do we go back. And that's what I had said in this 20 yards. And about that time the conversation behind us, you know, is getting a little louder, and I don't know what's going on back there, but I said, you know, you all don't turn around, don't stop, just go. And we proceeded on. And I'm still not sure what happened back there. I don't even know that it was important enough for me to ever ask. I mean the important thing was that we were across. And shortly thereafter, the rest of them came in. The Turkish guys were asleep. I mean they were all bedded down for the night. And it also just happened that they had had a power failure, so there was no power. So they had these, you know, here we come now, to spoil their whole evening, right. So they all have to get dressed, you know, we get them out of their...and the officer that was in charge, came out rubbing his eyes. We explained to him that we had to...there was a....he wanted to see our papers and all that kind of stuff. So we started going through that. Well, he got to

JC Paul and Bill...Oh, and the other thing we asked him right away
cont. was, you know, had somebody been there looking for us, and of
course he remembered Boulware. First of all Boulware is black. And
he remembered Ralph. And he said, yes, he's spending the night in
the little town up the road, and he said that if you all showed up to
give him a call up there, and he gave us a phone number, and one of
us went off to a phone booth somewhere and called, and let Ralph
know that we were there.

KF There must have been a phone booth really close by, because you
hadn't gotten the vehicles through.

JC It was walking distance, on the Turkish...Yes, it was within walking
distance.

KF What were you expecting. Were you just expecting Ralph, or did you
know that there was a whole team out there?

JC All we expected was Ralph and a bus, or something. You know, some
kind of transportation, but primarily just Ralph, initially. Now keep
in mind, we are late. We were supposed to be there before night.
And so Ralph had given up on us, that we weren't going to make it,
and had gone back to the town to bed down for the night. Also,
Ralph's transportation had broken down, and the bus he had lined
up, he had one lined up and the thing had all fallen through on it.
So we had to wait a number of hours at the border, waiting on the
transportation to get there, which was ticking the Colonel off to no
end. Because everyone was very jubilant about the fact that we were
out of the woods and all that. In the meantime the Colonel says, hey
guys, the smart guys, and the armed people and the guys that were
really on their toes, and had been fighting the war are 100 yards
from us. And if you think these guys here on the Turkish side are
going to be any....you know, if they want to take this place, and
take you back or whatever, you know, you are wrong. So he was
pretty concerned about that the whole time we were sitting there at

JC this little shack. But at any rate, Ralph finally shows up. He shows
cont. up first, the transportation shows up about, oh, I guess 7 or 8
o'clock that morning. And there are...there is...Oh, the passport
business. We decided to ditch...not produce the false...Once we were
in Turkey we're not going to break any laws, period. And so we
didn't want to use the false passports, so we told the guy that there
was a big fight going on in Rezaiyeh and we had to leave on short
notice and the guys didn't have a chance to go back in the room and
get their luggage, so they don't have passports. Oh my God, you
know, this was the end of the world to this guy, no papers, I mean,
you know. And he started calling around to various officials and that
kind of thing. Well Boulware had made arrangements to bring along
with him, the necessary officials, to get us at least through that
episode. Well, they didn't get there, of course, until the next
morning. So, you know, they all arrived on the bus together. And
then that official escorted us to the next town where we stopped for
a number of hours trying to get that passport business squared
away. Otherwise we probably just could have continued on to Van.
And Van is about 90 kilometers....This is where a plane was. So we
had to make it by bus, you know, up to that point there.

KF Okay, mark that on there.

JC I think, we may have to confirm that.

KF Our destination was Van.

JC Alright, now. I don't know how much detail he goes into in his
transcript about the trip from the Turkish border, but I'm not going
to spend alot of time on it because it wasn't my job. But I'll tell tell
you this. There was alot of people very nervous about getting to
Van. Evidentially, this area in here is loaded with bandito types, and
the military, in fact, has an operation that's not very effective, but
to try to keep the roads clear of these bandits, and keep people from
getting attacked and all this kind of stuff. And they had some kind

JC of drill...the local guy says, well, you put natives on the bus with
cont. you and that protects you. So they had brought all these natives,
you know, to put on the bus with us, which you know, I'm not sure
what kind of good that really did....

KF That was Ralph's...Ralph had organized that?

JC Yes. And we proceeded onto Van, got on the plane, we had to stop
in Ankara to get the passport business issued at the Embassy there.
And then we went on, again by plane, to Istanbul. And the Colonel
got arrested in Istanbul. That may be in there somewhere.

KF Yes. You don't remember the name of the town where you got all this
passport thing sorted out.

JC Right after the border?

KF Yes. Bill had it as 15 miles inside of Turkey.

JC Yes, it starts with a Y. It's not on this map.

KF Not on the map.

JC It starts with a "Y" and it's not very far inside Turkey. I do know
that it starts with A "Y". Yipsely, or Yipselani, or something like
that.

KF The money is still in the oil can at this point. Alright...

JC We came across that night without the money, by the way. And the
next morning ^{Rashid} [REDACTED] went back and got the money.

KF If I had been ^{Rashid} [REDACTED]....

JC Got the can. But you know, we weren't sure at that point that ^{Rashid} [REDACTED] was coming with us anyway. He hadn't made his decision. He didn't make his decision to accompany us until the very last minute. And we were all working on him.

KF You wanted him to come.

JC Oh yes. We thought he'd be crazy to go back.

KF He wasn't married.

JC No. And he didn't decide until the very last minute to come with us.

KF But I gather he's doing fine.

JC He's acclimated himself well, and he's a bright kid, hard worker, and he's doing fine. He's out of status. He doesn't have any papers toanything...Doesn't have a passport. At some point we have to get that taken care of, it's just we don't have any real good friends at the State Department. And immigration is not very soft right now on that whole issue. You know, at some point we'll get that taken care of.

KF Well maybe the book will do something.

JC Possibly. Depends how bad the book pisses the State Department off probably, I don't know.

KF But it may...we may be able to embarrass the State Department into taking....

JC That's possible.

KF I mean, if we detail how much this Iranian did to save the lives of two Americans, and we say, however....I'm going to have to talk to Ross about it, I'm not sure Ross wants anybody to know that ^{Rashid} [REDACTED] is here in Dallas.

JC That's true. And in fact, I know he doesn't. But, you know, there could be a whole series of things happen out of that. I mean...somebody greased the skids here in the states, out at the airport to get him through. He's been here all this time.

KF Yes, that's interesting. How did he get into the U.S. with no passport, no papers, no nothing.

JC I don't know. You'll have to check with Merv.

KF Well I think we may just have to say that this is Dallas, and this is EDS' town, and things can be done.

JC Yes, that is interesting. And we had a problem with ^{Rashid} [REDACTED] every step along the way, because he didn't have visas, I mean, you know, we not only stopped here in Dallas, we stopped in Europe.

KF I tell you, when I came over with my daughter, they wouldn't let me board the Concord in Paris because my daughter's visa was on my wife's passport, and my wife was in London. Not only could I not get into the States, they wouldn't let me on the plane.

JC Isn't that something.

KF You can't board a plane to the states unless you've got the papers to get you in.

JC Isn't that something.

KF Now that's Air France. Now Ross knows Braniff, so that's how that problem is overcome.

JC Yes, that's exactly right. In fact, Braniff may be the one that solved it on this end. I don't know. But he's out of status. He wasn't real comfortable initially, about claiming political asylum, and that type of thing. With time he's become more comfortable with that. And I think when we choose to get that problem taken care of that's probably the route he will go. All the rest of them...that assisted, we have subsequently taken care of. Meaning, they...one way or the other we have taken care of them. Either they've decided to claim political asylum, or we were able to get them the proper paper work, and they had valid passports, and that kind of thing. The problem with

Rashid [REDACTED] is that you can't get a passport without going to the Iranian government. And we go to the Iranian government then, you know, you've got to face all those questions that they've got, about, you know, where have you been, and all that kind of stuff.

KF And then they might get his family.

JC Might get his family. He was very concerned about that.

KF Okay. Let's go back to Istanbul.

JC Let me mention one other thing. I have a hard time remembering, I can remember bits and pieces, coming across Turkey and going across on the plane ride and all that kind of stuff, but the Colonel and I slept an awful lot. And I'm sure you'll see that in some of the pictures, because they had great fun out of taking pictures of us in various forms of sleep. Because we were exhausted.

KF Did you sleep on the plane that went from Ankara to Istanbul?

JC Yes. I slept on every plane ride. Now, we had fooled around with some kind of drug that would keep us awake. And the Colonel knew all the names of this stuff, hell, I didn't know. But on his missions he had, you know, it was important that they stay awake, and there was some kind...I don't even remember the name of it. But you didn't have to have prescriptions in Tehran for drugs. So you could get any kind of drug you wanted.

KF And that's where the dealer's stuff comes from.

JC Yes. But the Colonel had sent us down to get that stuff. That was one of the things on our list that we needed to get. Because he felt like...

KF When you were in Iran.

JC Yes. This is during the hideout period...the preparation period. And he said that, you know, once we get underway it's going to be important that we are alert and we stay awake, and all that kind of stuff. Well, we couldn't...We had been awake, partly due to the fact that you would have been awake anyway, with all the activities going on, but partly due to the fact that those things keep you awake. So it was crash time. I mean literally crash time, for me, once we hit the border and we started coming down off of that stuff. I was tired. So, you know, I remember bits and pieces of going across Turkey, like loading those idiots on the bus, and a couple of times when the Colonel got rather upset with the Turkish contact, in fact, I thought he was going punch him out. But there is somebody that is probably going to be a lot better to tell that story, coming across Turkey than I am.

KF Who though. Maybe Ralph. Because this is really...Ralph is almost in charge here, isn't he?

JC Maybe but...No, he's not in charge...

KF Still, this is his big moment, this is the part of the trip that he has organized.

JC Yes.

KF And then when you get to Istanbul really, its Ross in charge again. Maybe I should talk to Ralph about Turkey.

JC Possibly. But then again, there were enough people along. You know, the only reason I say that you better not ask me, I know I slept through alot of it. In fact, like I say, in most of the pictures that they are going to show you, you are going to see the Colonel and I asleep. Especially when we got on the planes. You know, the movement, and what not, on the plane, it was zonker time for me.

KF Were you and the Colonel the only people who took pills?

JC Yes.

KF You don't remember what pills they were. You had bought them, but you have just forgotten the name.

JC Yes.

KF And you bought them in a drug store?

JC Yes. He gave me..in fact, he wrote three names down on a piece of paper, he said any of these will do. I went in there and the first one on the list, the guy gave them to me, and we went on about our way. I don't know if he took his or not, he basically left that up to us, you know, in terms of whether we needed it or not. And I couldn't tell you whether he...

KF But nobody else took them.

JC No.

TAPE IS TURNED OFF AND THEN BACK ON.

HRP These pictures didn't come out.

JC Oh no, they didn't they didn't turn out. A lot of the pictures that were taken at the border, none of that film came out.

KF Who took pictures at the border?

JC Schwebach had a camera that he borrowed from the co-pilot.

KF Which border.

JC Remember the co-pilot didn't want to loan it.

KF Which border.

JC The Turkish border. Now there are some pictures...

KF Schwebach was at the Turkish border?

JC Yes.

KF Well who came on that bus. I thought it was just Ralph.

JC Sculley, Schwebach, Davis...

HRP Everybody was on the bus.

KF It's the rest of the team. Glen Jackson

HRP No, Glen was still in Jordan, standing by with the two famous Leer Jets. So if they did not have a commercial flight out of Iran we were going to try to pick up the clean team with the two Leer Jets.

KF Okay.

JC Glen was the only team member that was not there.

KF My next question to you is going to be about when you came back to Dallas then. You told me something over lunch....You told me about how well organized everything was when you came back to Dallas.

JC Yes, and I guess we need to get that on tape, but I didn't really have much more to say than that, except that....The plane landed, we got a briefing, I think it was from Ross, that said basically to stay away, don't make any comments to reporters, there probably will be a mob scene, and that kind of thing. And that somebody will meet you and guide you where you need to go and that kind of thing. Of course, you know you had to go through customs and everthing first anyway. So that took a long time. But after we got through all that, didn't take that long. Somebody had the skids greased fairly well. And we didn't have that much luggage. Everything I owned was in one plastic bag.

KF And there was somebody to meet you. He took you to a bus.

JC Right.

KF On the way he have you your wedding ring, which the Colonel had told you to leave behind when you left Dallas. He gave you your wedding ring, you put it on, he took you to a bus, and that was who? Your family.

JC Right.

KF Which is?

JC My wife and my four kids. No, I thought you meant who met me to take me, and I was sitting here trying to think of the name of the guy. I can see the scene, and I can't believe I can't remember the fellows name. But each person had somebody assigned to make sure they got to the right place and any messages, and that kind of thing. Then on my bus, seems like that Margot, Ross' wife and girls were on that bus. My family was on that bus, and somebody else's family. There were three sets of families on that bus. And there were a bunch of buses lined up out there. I mean, you know, many more buses that you would have actually needed. But again, they wanted to have some privacy for that initial greeting to get to see your family since it had been a long time.

KF Merv must have organized all that.

JC Merv did organize all that. He's an unsung hero out of all that, as far as I'm concerned. But then the bus....it was the shortest chartered bus ride in the history of busing. Because the bus went from, let's say out of DFW, the Braniff terminal, went from Gate 13 to Gate 6. Now that's all the far we went. And we got off the buses, and again, somebody led us, kind of single fileish, into this room that had been reserved. And inside the room the scene was marvelous, it's priceless, it's really good stuff. They had a mast, a bunch of EDS employees, and again, I don't know how many it was. But they were everywhere, filled up this whole big room, auditorium type thing. And they had a little isle through the people where we had to walk through to get up to the front where Ross was standing. And that was really a neat experience. Everybody was clapping and patting you on the back, and you know, getting to see some familiar faces, and it was really a neat scene. And of course when Paul and Bill walked in, you know, standing ovation. It was really neat to see him with his kids again, and that kind of thing. And then we...Ross said some things and then introduced all the

amassed

JC team members. Basically told the story to the EDS employees. Now
cont. keep in mind, no one knew a thing about any of this. Most of the
employees were aware that Paul and Bill had been arrested, and that
there was a tremendous amount of negotiation and efforts underway to
them released and that kind of thing, and that was it. So this was
all, you know, you talk about people that were all ears, I mean these
were the first people to hear about this whole episode. So he layed it
all out, introduced all the team members and sent us on our way. But
that was really neat, how they put all that together. I don't know
how they got all these people out there.

KF Let's run over a couple more things. You told me a story at lunch
about explosives, and I think it was Jim Schwebach.

JC Right.

KF Tell me that again. He was trying to figure out some kind of home
made....

JC That's right. We needed a diversion at the scene of our first plane,
so that the people on the streets and the guards potentially would be
diverted in that direction as opposed to our direction. And we wanted
to do that with materials that we could get readily inside the country,
as opposed to have smuggle anything in. So he was experimenting
around that...with that with the Colonel's directions. And we got
some Tide, we put Tide in the gasoline...it was a jellied gasoline type
of explosive. We put Styrofoam, you know, we'd break up some
Styrofoam...we experimented around with some way to jelly the
gasoline. And what we decided on, I think, was Tide. That seemed to
work the best.

KF The soap powder.

JC Yes. Tide right in the gasoline, and it jellies really nice. Instant napalm is exactly what it is. And that was in a jar, and on top of the jar was a piece...this is what he ended up with, who knows how many apparatus he went through. Then on top of the jar was a piece of waxed paper, very tightly drawn across the top. And then sitting on the waxed paper was a piece of aluminum foil mashed very compactly, tightly into a cone that had a candle tightly driven down into the top of this little cone. Well, inside the comb he had shaved match heads down, with a knife, just shaved them off in the tin foil before he compacted it up in the cone shape and stuck the candle in it. And then most of the time was spent on timing the candle, to see how long it took to burn down since we wanted this thing to go off at a presupposed time.

KF The candle would burn down, when the wick got down to the aluminum foil the heat would heat up the aluminum foil, cause the match heads inside to burn, the heat of that would burn through the waxed paper and the whole blazing mass would drop down into the jellied gasoline and explode. And that would burn, that would make alot of smoke and stuff.

JC Oh yes. And we were going to put it inside a vehicle, okay, a parked vehicle on the side of the road. And then, of course, the jellied gasoline and stuff inside the car, and the tires, and all that, you know it would make a nice little fire. And that was the whole purpose of that.

KF Can we run down the four Iranians...you were in charge of personnel then in Iran.

JC Yes.

KF So you are the best person to tell me about the four Iranians who were on the list. Top of the list was ██████████^{Majid}. And you told me that he was a man of about 50.

JC Right.

KF And you liked him alot.

JC Um-hum. He worked directly for me, in fact.

KF What was his position.

JC He was the person...any time you are operating in a foreign country you have alot of things surrounding visas, and things you have to do at the police department and things like that. Well, he was our man that could get everything done, in record time. You know, getting people in and out of the country, and recorded..get their work visas, all that kind of stuff. And that's primarily...

KF What did he look like?

JC He is a fellow of about 5'6" or 7" tall. Black with a little graying in the hair. Short cropped hair, a big mustache looking thing, which they all, you know, most of the Iranians have mustaches, he had a nice mustache. Stocky build, short but stocky built fellow. Had the most....he had blue eyes that were almost catchy blue eyes, I mean they were unusual, to say the least, to have an Iranian that had blue eyes, and really they would catch your attention. And just an extremely nice person, there's hardly anything that ^{Majid} would not do for me. And on numerous occasions did do alot of things from a personal point of view to help my family get acclimated in the country, when we were living there, besides the fact that he worked for me and did a good job. Very resourceful individual, knew alot of people.

KF His background came from?

JC He came from the [REDACTED] area of Iran. His last name was [REDACTED], and the [REDACTED] tribe, and also the [REDACTED] rug, Persian rug, is a very famous rug...you know, they name their rugs after towns, the Persian rugs. Ghome, or Tabriz, I mean, they name them after the towns, or the villages, or tribes. And his family, being a famous Iranian family, and ^{Majid} [REDACTED] being a senior member of that family at this point, was fairly well off from a landholding point of view, at one point in time.

KF Alright, so his family had a certain amount of land.

JC Yes, and when the Shah's land reform came about, alot of that land was taken away, and redistributed and what not. And as a result the family revolted somewhat against that, probably more than somewhat in ^{Majid's} [REDACTED] case, and had actually spent some time in prison.

KF In the fortress actually.

JC Yes, in the actual prison where Paul and Bill were being held. By the way, he said it hadn't changed much since....

KF Did he get to kill Havaden?

JC No, they didn't actually. What happened was, they made the raid on his house, they captured him and they turned him over to the revolutionary types, which obviously wanted him alot more than Majid [REDACTED] did, and eventually, I believe, he was executed, but I would not swear to that. I think he was one of the very first people to be executed.

KF Okay, I can get my researchers (?) (can't understand)

JC Right.

^{Majid}
KF [REDACTED]...Oh, and he had a nice family, a wife and how many children?

JC A wife and five children.

KF Second on the list was...

JC His wife spoke perfect English, by the way. Really a nice lady. She was educated in England, in fact, ^{Majid} [REDACTED] has a sister in England, who I've talked to off and on, and ^{Majid} [REDACTED] right now is in Paris, I believe, and his family is still back in London.

KF Second on the list was ^{Sayyed} [REDACTED].

JC Yes.

KF Tell me about him, how old was he?

JC Oh, ^{Sayyed's} [REDACTED] about 33, somewhere in that vicinity.

KF Married?

JC No, single. Comes from a wealthy Iranian family, his father was a Senator from the northwest part of Iran. All of his father's brothers were generals in the Army. A very well...western education, ^{Sayyed} [REDACTED] had a western education, I believe, from some school in England, and was employed with EDS as a Systems Engineer, had gone through our Systems Engineering Training Program in Iran, and was working as a Systems Engineer on one of our accounts there. He is, oh, I guess about the same...he's about 5'8" tall, has black hair with some graying along the temple area also. Got less hair than Ahmir, thinned out quite a bit, I might add, prematurely. He had kind of a British accent, I guess that's from going to school, but when he speaks he has definitely a British accent when he is speaking in English.

KF Good looking?

JC Yes.

KF Mustache?

JC No, he doesn't have a mustache. He's...I guess the thing that sticks out most about ^{Sayyed} [REDACTED] is we used him quite a bit for translation and that kind of thing. He became a real ally during the period of time when our employees were going on strike. This is during the revolution. Some of our own employees were going on strike. Very popular thing to do, and our company is one of the last that had a problem with that. But when it was happening, since I was very involved in that for Paul Chiapparone, trying to find out what the employee's grievances were, and all those kinds of thing. [REDACTED] ^{Sayyed} was very, very helpful to me as a conduit to the employees in determining what some of the problems were, and what the wishes were and those kind of things, and that's where I really got to know him. And I might add was very well connected, at least in the Shah's regime, so on occasion that was helpful, because I went to him to find out information about various things from an official point of view. I mentioned to you that my responsibility was intelligence within the city on security and what was happening and that kind of thing, and he was a very good source of information.

KF Third on the list is [REDACTED], the cycle man.

JC Now we weren't ranking these people in terms of who we trusted, or anything like that. These people were probably all equal. It's just that I listed them out in that order...

KF Tell me about the cycle man. How old was he?

Rashid

JC He's the youngest..Well, I'm not sure about that, [REDACTED] was the younger one. He's probably 25. He's about 5'7" tall, he's got brownish curly, close cropped hair, mustache, very physically fit individual, talks with a southern accent when he talks English. Or he talks with a Puerto Rican accent, or whatever accent you want him to talk in. He's a very street wise individual. More westernized than any of the four individuals. He went to school here for a short while.

KF Where, in Dallas?

JC In California. When he was 11, 12, or 13 years old. Lived with an uncle here for a while. His objective...when I first met him over in Iran, his objective was to get to the United States. And he went to work for a good company and he wanted to get to the United States. And he saw that as a....And he didn't mind pulling any, you know, he didn't pick anything apart, he just came out and told you, that's my objective.

KF Is he here now?

JC Yes he is. He achieved his objective.

KF What's his background?

JC He was one of the few people that we had that didn't have a college degree that was hired as a Systems Engineer into the training program. But he was a very bright guy and passed all the aptitude tests and was a fine Systems Engineer, in fact, he's a Systems Engineer here in the States now. So he's a very, very smart, capable person. But his biggest attribute is that he's very outgoing, aggresstive, street smart person. He understands what it takes to survive on the streets.

KF And he was single at that time.

JC Yes.

Rashid

KF And finally, [REDACTED].

JC Also single. About 5'8" 9 inches tall, got black hair, jet black hair, more dark complected than any of the others. And also was working for us in Iran as a Systems Engineer. Went through our Systems Engineering Training Program over there. He is an extremely aggressive worker, hard worker, good work ethic..

END OF SIDE B--TAPE #11