

RP: ...Well, it stopped in Kuwait. And I remember it was sunset when we got to Kuwait; that was a short flight. There was a reason it went to Kuwait. Some of our fellows that were closer to all the transportation will tell you..air space or something. We had to fly to Kuwait, then fly out. I remember it was almost sunset. I was pinned between two big people in a three seater tourist seating. I walked to the front door of the aircraft; the stewardess got all upset because I wanted to stand at the ladder and breathe some fresh air. She finally decided she had other things to do other than make an issue out of that with me. So I remember standing there and looking around the airport. It was very pleasant; cool; the sun had gone down. It was going down, it was at the point where there was a nice breeze blowing. They took on fuel. Then we flew from there to London, no stops.

KF: Do you remember the airline?

RP: BOAC. We got to London. An EDS employee picked me up in London and took me to the Savoy Hotel. Margot was supposed to be there. Her flight was delayed. So I slept for a couple of hours and then got a car and went out to Gatwick. No, wait a minute. I was supposed to get there before Margot, I was supposed to sleep for a few hours. I did all that, and I got a car, and after I got out to Gatwick, I was dead tired, to find out that they had landed in Ireland because of bad weather, and would be there some several hours later. So I just went back and went to sleep. Braniff made arrangements to have Margot met when she arrived. We had a car there for her, and then she came into the hotel. We spent either three or four days in London. Through the whole process, Margot never once said "why are you doing this? This could destroy our family. This could create a terrible situation for the children, for me, etc." That never came up. Never had a conversation about the fact that she was frightened, couldn't sleep, so on. When we agreed to meet in London, I called her from

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Tehran. So this was all very short notice. We knew that this would be a few days we would have together. She loved London, I liked London, and it was something that would mean a lot to both of us. I think the first thing we did, they had a King-something Hall, a beautiful symphony hall.

KF: The Royal Albert Hall?

RP: We went to the symphony there.

KF: Do you remember what you heard?

RP: No, but Margot probably has the program. That was a beautiful evening. We went to some plays. We went to Annabell's every night, because Margot likes to go to Annabell's. She had very happy memories of... the first time she ever went to Annabell's, it was when Anne Armstrong was Ambassador to Great Britain. Had a great time. Churchill's grandson, who's in Parliament, was there. The descendants of the Duke of Wellington whoever the current man is, was there. A really interesting group of people that we had dinner with that night. Margot liked the food, liked the atmosphere, liked the whole thing. She thoroughly enjoyed that, and I did too. After two or three days of that, we decided we'd better get home to the children. We got home -- we've got to check this out in terms of exact dates. Her mother... now keep in mind, through this whole process, my mother's in bad shape, her mother was quite old, and Margot had planned to take her mother on a cruise. I felt very strongly that should go on and go; it was just a week. I believe Margot came back from the cruise on a Saturday before the prison break. The Sunday the whole process started, I went to Washington to see the government. Now the one thing the government had always told me "you get them out of jail; we'll get them out of the country". So Sunday I chartered an airplane and flew straight to Washington, and said "fellows, they're out of jail". Everybody said, "How did all this happen?" I said, "I don't know, but they're out of jail. And I've got them in a safe place." Now some of the generals knew by then that

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Simons was over there. Some of them are still on active duty...they were really sweet about the whole thing. Boy, they were dead interested in helping; wanted to do everything they could. I remember walking down in the basement of the Pentagon. This is where all the war plans are made; this is where the joint chiefs meet in secret session. This is where the "stuff" is that you need, and I needed some stuff that day. Everybody down there is a general. There's just a question of how many stars. By then there were two people that knew that I had Simons over there. I walked down there, and I'll never forget this one general that said, "Perot, you say your guys are out of jail and now it's up to us to make good on getting them out of the country. First thing I want to know is how they got out of jail." He said, "That Simons is something." I said, "Don't jump to any conclusions, but they're out of jail and let's talk about transportation." And he said, "We can't even think about transportation right now; we've lost all telephone communication with Tehran and General Gast is in a bunker that's totally surrounded and controlled by the revolutionaries." This is in the same place I had visited in two weeks ago. I said, "You really have no communication with Tehran?" He said, "No". I said, "Do you want me to get a message through for you, because we've got communications with Tehran." I remember they just looked at me and were just stunned and said, "How are you keeping communications?" I said, "Over the telephone system." Again, all of this was in a joking...they were serious about not having communication, but when I said "over the telephone system", they got back in the old "come on, Perot" routine. I said, "Seriously, we have a telephone line that we have kept open." They said, "Call Dallas and see if the line is still open." So I called Dallas and the line was still open. So then they had some stuff they wanted us to deliver to people and we put it over the open line and sent it to them. So then we

settled down on transportation. And they said "They've closed the airport. We can't get any military flights in or out of the country. And we can't help you." And I probably could never convey to you the genuine feeling that I felt that these fellows really felt badly that the one thing that they said they were going to be able to do, at the last minute, they couldn't do. It was something that they would have given anything if they could have done it, but they couldn't help. And I said okay. Now, there's one piece of this thing that I don't think I've ever mentioned. Is that's the point when I knew I had to have an airplane. By now, it's late Sunday afternoon. I called our people and said "I want an airplane capable of flying to the Middle East. I want this electronic equipment on it, and I want it ready to go tomorrow. And I don't care what it costs."

KF: Do you remember what electronic equipment you wanted?

RP: Oh yes. Merv can give you the list. Gary Fernandes, who had to do all this, is writing up...I told him "write up everything you did from the time I called you until you produced the airplane in Washington." He laughed and said "The first thing I'm going to put down is that if I had ever gone through the process before and had understood what was involved, I could have said 'Ross, there is no way to get it done'. He said, "I had never done this before, and for all I knew, you got it done in 24 hours. So we charged out." He didn't know it was impossible. A few hours later, he called me...this will all be in his report; he told me this the other day. He says he called me in the middle of the night and said "we've found an airplane". I said "Have the best people from American Airlines in Dallas. Go check out the engines, check out the electrical, check out the hydraulics, because this thing is gonna have to work." They said "This thing's just come out of the shop". I said, "Fine check it anyway." It had come out of this magnificent refitting on the

interior that I told you about. The gold fixtures; the circular beds, the leather beds; it was really spectacular. I hope we can find the airplane, because I'd like you just to walk through it. I don't think even with your imagination, you could conceive anything quite that opulant. And it was absolutely first class.

KF: And who was it for?

RP: Well, they take old 707's. Make them incredibly beautiful inside. Do nothing to the engines, the hydraulics, the electrical. One way or another hope you make it to Arabia. Park it at the airport, put in an auxiliary power unit, and you sell them to Arabs. They come out and entertain on the airplane. They don't fly them...or heaven help them if they do. They love to have an airplane, and they love to bring their friends out and entertain. And the main thing is to have the air conditioning unit work. Now that was a business that was going on at that time. And this airplane looked like it had been designed for a newly rich Arab. So, Gary produced this thing like that. He produced the crew just like that. I told him I needed a light airplane. Suddenly I had a whole new dimension of problems. The guys were gonna have to come out overland. We knew how to come out overland, but we never...and this can be an incredible part of your book. We thought we were going to be flown out; we were going to put everybody in Air Force or Army uniforms, they'll get on the MAC flight and leave the country. They'll leave from a U.S. military base within the country. There won't be any last-minute checking or fiddling around. Now this sounds nice and tight and suddenly it all falls apart.

KF: The Pentagon had promised you that.

RP: Yes, and they would have delivered that except the airport was closed. You're back into a revolution.



KF: The air bases were closed?

RP: Yes. They would not let the U.S. fly its airplanes in and out. Khomeini had entered the country two or three weeks earlier. What the Shah would permit, Khomeini would stop. The commitments were made to me, Khomeini was in the country...

KF: Perhaps if a U.S. airplane had tried to land or take off, it might have gotten shot down?

RP: Which leads you down to what John Carlen agreed to do, to go pick up the wounded Marine. It was an incredible thing that he agreed to do. My thought was that once this happened; now this happened on Sunday. We had all these contingency plans. We immediately sent people in to start trying to buy small airplanes and helicopter in Turkey. We sent out the call for light airplane and helicopter pilots, which we had to round up in 24 hours. Have them in Washington, have them ready to go. I needed all kinds of maps and charts that I got from friends in Washington. Like the radar patterns of under 500 feet. If you fly on the ground, you can fly around it. You have to know where it is. We could have flown right into Tehran and not put a single blip on the screen. I'll show you the map. It's easy -- you get up to 10,000 feet, you can't do that, but at 500 feet, you can do it. You have got to have people that can fly that way. You've got to have people that can fly on the deck through the mountains. We had them. All this got assembled. And it was a cold, snowy night in Washington. When you think of what was happening around me -- the men were out of jail, the air base was closed, we'd lost the transportation out, we were losing communication with Iran, it was intermittent, we weren't that sure what was happening, Col. Simons was making decisions not to take them all, just to take half of them, leave the others behind. That bothered me, I didn't know if the airport would ever open and I'd have a new problem with six people with Col. Simons out of the country. We made the

rounds to the State Department and to the White House on Monday. Trying to find some way to get the people out with the government's help.

KF: Did you personally go or did you call?

RP: I went.

KF: And who did you speak to?

RP: That would be a long list. I talked to the number two man in the State Department. <sup>Newsome</sup> Newsome I talked to the man in the White House that had been designated to do this...to help us, and he wasn't able to help us. <sup>Ginsberg</sup> Ginsberg Those were the two key people I talked to. I knew the military couldn't fly them out. I knew they would if they could. And those were my only choices; I was down to that. I remember Monday night, sitting in a hotel in Washington -- the Madison Hotel. I was sitting there with Mort Meyerson, the president of EDS. This whole thing was either going to work or not going to work. Mort was there, and we getting all our business affairs in shape because there was a possibility that I wouldn't get back. And as president of EDS, he would certainly need to be able to handle everything. Mort was concerned about the fact that my mother was getting weaker and weaker. Mort said "Why don't I go instead of you? There's nothing you can do that I can't do. Your mother's sick and you've been there once. Why don't I go instead of you?" Mort has excellent judgment; he's got everything it takes. I said, "Mort, if you're willing to do it. That's something I'd sure want to think about. Let me think about it." I called Merv and Tom Marquez and said "What's your reaction to this?" They both said, "Ross, it's the worst idea in the world. You've got things in your head that you can't tell Mort. Col. Simons doesn't know Mort." I said, "You're right. It's not for consideration." We had the chartered Lear up there, so Mort went on back on the airplane. I was sitting in the Madison Hotel. We had problems with the transponder on the big airplane, or we would

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have left earlier. They were trying to fix it. They didn't have the part. Gary Fernandes found an American Airlines employee...this was a plane owned by a charter company...found an American Airlines employer in New York City. He got up in the middle of the night, went to the warehouse, got the part, and put it on the eastern shuttle and sent it down to Washington. Just incredible examples of initiative in terms of pulling this thing together. Gary was telling me this and I said "Be sure you put down things like that." Because that brings it to life and I think he'll have it in his report. They called me really early in the morning, like 2 or 3 in the morning. Again, just solid ice. They said "you'll never get to the airport". I said, "Oh yeah, we'll get there". I just went out and got in a cab. Dulles is 40 miles from Washington. You just drive and drive and drive, and in the ice, it was really an experience. But we got there. Dick Douglas, who was the light plane pilot who I hadn't seen since 1970 in Laos. I showed you his picture; an older man with a big mustache. And Julian Kanach; they were there. I figured these fellows would be really pumping the gun and wanting to know what the deal was. They turned to me and said, "Hi Ross, how are you?" We got on the airplane and they went to sleep. Never asked me a question. They were tired; Dick had come in from California and Julian had come in from Louisiana. We had the fellows that we called the Turkish rescue team with us. We took off from Dulles airport and flew to London. Stopped in London, refueled, and got everything we needed, and flew to Turkey. By now, Col. Simons and the team were coming out overland. And the plane team was still in Tehran, living at that point in Lou Gelz' home. His home was U.S. soil technically. No one violated this concept of diplomatic immunity yet. Paul and Bill had no interest in being around the Embassy. They wouldn't stay in the Embassy, go around the Embassy, once they were out. Because they really

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had had feelings, because the Embassy held their passports and continued to hold their passports and wouldn't give us their passports for the trip out overland.

KF: Oh they wouldn't?

RP: No. You'd better get that from Paul and Bill because they will tell you in Technicolor how it feels to be an American. Now I was in Turkey...here's the goofy part of it. I got papers for them in Turkey. Our country wouldn't give them papers in Iran. We got to Turkey and <sup>Mr. Fish</sup> [redacted], the man I told you about who can put an elephant through the airport without the customs getting suspicious. I can't say that in the book or <sup>Mr. Fish</sup> [redacted] will be unemployed! I mean <sup>Mr. Fish</sup> that's all <sup>Mr. Fish</sup> [redacted] does! We'll have to mask him somehow, but boy, can <sup>Mr. Fish</sup> [redacted] lay the big fix on and around Istanbul. At the time, all I knew was that [redacted] could get it done. He met us, and he had a bus and we all went down to the best hotel, a nice hotel, but I can't remember the name. I was there; secrecy was the word. We didn't want anybody to know. And I'll never forget we went down to dinner. Ron Davis and I walked down to dinner that night. As I walked in the place where you eat in the dining room, the band struck up "The Eyes of Texas Are Upon You". And I looked at Davis and Davis looked at me and I said "Davis I don't know if they're playing that for me or not, but let's just pretend they're not." And we just walked on over and...probably had no correlation at all. A couple of days later, the telephone calls started coming back and forth. We knew that Col. Simons and the men were coming out overland.

KF: How did you get that information?

RP: From Dallas. We knew that they had started. That's when I think they had to patch through Singapore to get through to Tehran to get the message that they were leaving. We knew they were coming across.

KF: They must have used codes by now.

RP: Oh, no, we did. Didn't I tell you about the codes? The code has an interesting history. Merv had the code. Merv had the responsibility of sending the messages in the code. I hated the code. And the last thing I did, after we had everybody together in Istanbul. I sent Merv a coded message and told him to take his codebook and put it where the sun never shines. Merv was taking this down and once you know Merv, he was very serious and repeating the words back. And he'd done this so much that he had the code memorized. And when he got to the point where he could finish the sentence, he started laughing. That had been a point of contention with Merv and me all along. I'd say, "Merv, just tell me in English; I don't get the code." He'd say, "Ross, this is the way the Col. wants it" so we did it in code. They were using code, but once they sent that message from Tehran, we had no communication with them until they got to the border. Then we met them at the border. But the trip from Tehran to the border is just an incredible story that I think you'll be able to take people like Margot and keep them up all night, because it really is a great story. With a zillion incidents. The thing that I told you a couple of times about <sup>Majid</sup> [redacted] backing out because he is going to go assassinate Hoveda. There's a half dozen or more things of that quality that occurred coming out. Then they got to the border and flew back to Istanbul. I think I told you about Col. Simons' turning the money in and declaring it and then getting arrested and that's an interesting story. Then of course we'd had a great celebration in the hotel. It was kind of a reunion. It wasn't a celebration with food and liquor and all that. It was just everybody was glad to be back together again. I told you that I loaned Ron Davis my good coat.

KF: Yes. But wait a minute; you're going too fast now. We got you to Istanbul.

RP: We're in the hotel. Then we get the car. We know when they're supposed to get to the border. We move the Turkish rescue team in a chartered Turkish

airplane to Van. It's in eastern Turkey. Dick Douglas and Julian Kanach then got busy with their plan to steal helicopters and airplanes in case they needed them. Turkish rescue team was basically didn't have its mission totally pre-planned because I was going to have to decide what to do with the rescue team if Col. Simons didn't show up. And I would have had to make all those decisions after we got some information about where they were. But they were all in eastern Turkey.

KF: Your contingency plans then, you had a chartered Turkish plane...

RP: That took them to eastern Turkey and waited for them. I believe that plane waited over there.

KF: Did you stay in Istanbul?

RP: I stayed in Istanbul because I had to stay with the 707 because if anything went wrong, I had to get up in the air and talk to the guys on the ground which I could do through the 707. It was my only way to communicate to people on the ground and they wouldn't let me leave the 707 to Van.

KF: But you could have taken off from Istanbul.

RP: And I would have gone east if we had had a problem. They're all over there. Simons and crew show up right on schedule. It's just incredible; he's standing there, smoking his cigar, right on schedule. After this last incredible event where they're examining these passports of guys that look like... you've seen Paul now...the passport he had, the guy was blond, he looked like a Norwegian. The Iranian was saying "this doesn't look like your passport".

<sup>Rashid</sup> pulled the guy over and says "don't press this man; he's been sick. That's the only problem. But he's very nervous and very upset. You have my assurance that it's the same man, but the man has been very, very sick." Then Simons walked over there and he said "Look let's talk about a real problem. We've got these two cars that we're gonna have to leave here. I've got to find somebody to take care of the cars." The Iranians have been trading in Persian

rugs for 3000 years, and they know a bribe when they see one. This fellow immediately dropped everything and said "I can certainly take care of these cars for you". Everything was worked out, and Col. Simons said "We'll be back to pick them up. But in the meantime, if you'll just take care of them we have him some money for taking care of the cars". Well the fellow knew he was getting \$50,000 worth of cars just not looking at the passports. And they walked across the border. Left the cars behind. I had a bus at the border and they drove in the bus to Van which was where they went through some of the bandit country problems. They had the bandit chiefs they thought from each area on the bus. They were right more times than they were wrong. But they had a few little problems, but no serious problems. They got to Van. Got on the airplane. Went to Ankara for some reason, the airplane had to go through Ankara. I don't know everything they did at Ankara, but I do know that that's the place that they took the money out of a little plastic bag. They left the money in the oil can in the cars. I didn't know that till the other day. Now keep in mind, they just made the deal with the fellow; they get their gear out; walk across the border and Simons says "who's got the oil can?". Nobody had the oil can. So Simons said "Rashid go get the oil can." Rashid goes back across and says "we forgot the oil can!". And this Iranian says "why do you want an oil can?" He says "We've got to put it in the bus." He said, "The bus is low on oil." Very quick thinking. So Rashid got the oil can. They got to Ankara.

KF: It took some guts to go back in, didn't it? Just to pick up a can.

RP: Absolutely it did. You and I couldn't even relate to the courage it took to go to get that can. Then they got to Ankara. That's where they were trying to get the oil off the money, because oil had gotten in through the plastic bag. And the Marine, I told you the story about the Marine that came in and said his eyes just stood out on stems. Simons says, "Don't even ask, because

you wouldn't believe it." And the Marine walked away. They flew to Istanbul, came from the airport to the hotel. There we had our big reunion. Everybody was really feeling good. The greatest I have ever felt in my life. You say, what are the high points, really in terms of feeling of exhilaration. Once you leave out things like the birth of your children, things like that. This no question was the greatest. Because it was over, we thought. Everybody had made it. The risks were behind us. Boy oh boy oh boy it did feel good.

KF: Did you get any message from them before they turned up at the hotel?

RP: Oh yes. I knew they were across the border. We got a call from Ankara. Then they got to the hotel, then we got Dallas on the line and put Paul and Bill on the line. I think Paul and Bill talked to their families. We were there for maybe an hour, or an hour and a half in the hotel.

KF: In your suite?

RP: Yes. Then went out to the airport and had everything fixed. Nobody looked at your luggage; they didn't even want to see the passports. You just went through the airport, it was like going to Dallas to Houston. Got on the airplane. I told you the story about they detained Col. Simons because of the money. The Turks wanted a piece of it. I explained to them that he was carrying the money for me and who I was. And the Embassy confirmed that who I said I was. And they just walked away from the problem, which really surprised us because we thought they'd still want at least a little bribe. Maybe not a big bribe, but a little piece of the money. But they felt like this is just bringing money out of Iran and we have not captured a thief, so they walked away from it. So we had the money, we had the men.

KF: How much money was that?

RP: That's in debate. Merv will know. In the past few days, as people turn their papers in, that number has gone anywhere from \$100,000 to \$500,000. But Merv

will be able to tell you. And the reason there is confusion is because the clean team had part of the money. They had money stuffed everywhere. Keane Taylor wore cowboy boots and had it stuffed down the side of his boots. When you get into where they had put money, it was not all in the plastic bag, as it turns out. And I'm not sure every place they had money, but they had it everywhere. I'm jumping around a little bit. Now coming from London to Dallas, everybody at that point really felt like it was over. And the business hats kinda went back on and they said, "You know, the first thing we're going to have to do tomorrow is account for the money." So they got all the money out and up in the upstairs lounge of the 747. I remember Keane taking it out of his cowboy boots. There was money coming out of everywhere. Now here is poor old Bill Gaylord who's been in jail for two months. He's sitting there, watching all this. And Keane was counting the money. While Keane was pre-occupied, Bill reached down and picked up three \$10,000 stacks and stuck them in his pocket, and Keane was \$30,000 out of balance, and was just going crazy saying, "We've lost \$30,000, what are we going to do?" Bill Gaylord finally pulled it out of his pocket and handed it to him. Keane told Bill in a very colorful way he wished he'd left him back there. So that was the spirit coming back over the ocean.

Going back to Istanbul, we flew from Istanbul to Frankfurt. I have no recollection of anything significant happening between Istanbul and Frankfurt. If it did, I missed it.

When we got to Frankfurt, as we were landing, Simons turned to me and said, "Does Germany have an extradition treaty with Iran?" I said, "I don't know". He looked at me like I must be the dumbest person he had run into in his life. He didn't have to say, "Go find out". I went up, got on the single sideband radio, called Tom Luce in Dallas and asked him. He said, "Ross, I'm 99½% sure they don't." See, we were calling Dallas

on the radio just like we were talking over the radio yesterday. I went back and said, "Colonel, it's no problem. Tom Luce is 99½% sure they don't". And he looked at me again the same way and said, "Ross, you know how many men I've seen killed in my career that were 99¼% sure of <sup>a fact</sup> attack? Go find out." I got back on and Tom got back in about ten minutes and said, "Yes there is an extradition treaty." He had called the Washington lawyers who were formerly State Department lawyers. There was a treaty and if, in fact, they had found Paul and Bill in Germany, they would have no choice but to arrest them and give them back and probably arrest us. It was interesting to see the switches turn and Simons go back from an old man relaxing in an airplane to a warrior. The wheels started rolling and he organized everybody. He said, "I'll know if we have a problem when we check into the hotel". We were going to have a layover waiting for the clean team to come in.

When we checked into the hotel, they really were curious about us. Far beyond anything I have encountered in a hotel. This caught Simons' attention. That's when he had Paul and Bill put in the X-rated movies. I've told you that story?

KF: No.

RP: OK. As you go into the Frankfurt Airport there are two movie houses. If there are any more, we couldn't find them. They are both German X-rated movies. We had two men, one with Paul and one with Bill. We put one in each movie. We had two EDS'ers outside. If anybody had made a move toward looking for them in the movies, if any indication of a search had started, the fellows on the outside would go inside, get them out of the movies, go right down the stairs and catch a subway into downtown Frankfurt.

KF: Are these movie houses in the airport?

RP: In the airport.

KF: And you can go down to the subway without coming out of the movie?

RP: Here's my recollection. Here's the movie houses. There's a door over here, a door over here, an open space right over here. You can walk right out here and right down the subway steps. Literally, it's right beside the movie houses. Easy to check. I did my tour down there so I'm pretty clear of the set-up.

Then, as it turned out, the Germans weren't looking for us. We hung around the airport.

I learned something else last week I didn't know. The fellows that came out from Frankfurt, were drained because they tried to find Paul and Bill on their airplane. The Iranians told that airplane apart looking for Paul and Bill, and we had six EDS'ers on the airplane. One of the problems with a book is there's all this stuff going on in parallel.

Now, they looked for them before they got on the plane. Then our people got on the plane. Then they, at random, checked people's baggage. Then started paging over the speaker system for William Paul, I think Paul Chiapparone's name is William Paul Chiapparone. This is the way the names got mixed up. Our fellows can explain this to you why an Iranian wouldn't look for Chiapparone, wouldn't say Chiapparone. And they called Bill and his middle name, asked him to come forward. Nobody came forward. Then they did a passport search on everybody. Then they did a random baggage search. Then they made everybody in the airplane take all the baggage out and did a total baggage search. This took all day. It was to the point now where it was night. They were getting ready to close the airport. The flight might not get to take off. The plane was overloaded to the point where people were sitting in the aisles. You don't think of a situation where Pan American is going to take-off with people

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sitting in the aisles, not strapped in. This was the environment. Our six people were totally convinced that if the passengers on the airplane had thought that by turning them in, they could have gotten that airplane off the ground, they would have turned them in in a minute. Because everybody wanted to go. Our six people would have been looked on as a nuisance. Somebody used a term that I thought was good. They said that if these people had been as literate as they were religious, they probably would have found our six people. These people all got A+ on being religious fanatics, but most of them couldn't read. So, as they went through papers and looked at things, they didn't know what they were seeing.

So, the plane finally got off. The fellows were so drained, they were looking forward to getting a hotel room and Frankfurt and spending the night and I learned, just last week, that they were terribly disappointed when we waited for them and shifted them right over to another airplane to go back to the States. Nobody said that to me, but that's in the notes. That they had looked forward to stopping and weren't too happy about going straight home.

Well, anyhow, as I told you before, we had a big banquet laid on and plenty to drink, plenty of champagne. When we took off, that's when the plane started malfunctioning. <sup>Rashid</sup> [REDACTED] was in the cockpit. <sup>Rashid</sup> [REDACTED] was having the time of his life, sitting in the cockpit of a 707. Of course, he's so smart and so bright, he could probably tell you what all the instruments were because the pilots were telling him what was going on. Paul spent alot of time up there, too. I believe Paul was up there when it started malfunctioning because he seems to know alot of the details about the malfunction.

I knew the plane got very hot inside. Then they came back and told me they had real problems with the airplane and had to land. I said fine. They said we couldn't land because we had too much fuel on board and by the time we got light enough to land by dumping fuel, we would be over Heathrow and that would be the ideal place to land because of the fire fighting equipment, etc. So, that was our plan. Then we had the problem with the valve that opened to dump the gasoline wouldn't close. I am not positive, but I think we dumped gasoline the length of the runway coming into Heathrow, but I am positive that by the time we stopped, we had the full attention of everybody at Heathrow Airport. It was late at night. Nothing else was going on. Customs was there. The police were there. Here was a plane with a Grand Cayman Island tail number. To anybody in law enforcement that means a drug plane. All these people, a lot of them dressed in black, all of them filthy dirty, people without papers -- just a generally chaotic condition presented to the very tidy, orderly mind of the British customs agent and immigration agent.

My feeling is that the British public servant is a cut above what you find in a lot of places in the world. He's smart, he's bright, he's intelligent, he's courteous. But the biggest thing that was a problem us though is these people were bright. We weren't dealing with...these were very bright people. They looked at this situation, and they couldn't find anything in terms of redeeming graces about this whole problem. Everybody was just dead tired. I was probably the least tired, and <sup>Rashid</sup> [redacted] was our biggest <sup>Rashid</sup> problem. So I stayed with <sup>Rashid</sup> [redacted]. We finally got <sup>Rashid</sup> [redacted] through customs..or immigration by this technique that I think I told you that I told them finally that... There attitude was that if this man is really going to the United States, we could care less. But we're afraid that he is going into the city of London and be there as an illegal immigrant. I told them that

there was no reason to know who I was, but to check through the U.S. Embassy or check through any number of ways they could check through our own immigration and confirm that I was who I claimed I was. For them to reflect on the level of pain they could inflict on me if I did not keep my commitment to get Rashid [redacted] to the other airport....

END OF SIDE TWO, TAPE TWO