

TAPE #38--SIDE A
JOE POCHE--NOVEMBER 13, 1981

KF Did Simons tell you what kind of religion he had been brought up in?

JP No. I don't believe so.

KF Did he tell you that he was partly Jewish?

JP No. But I got the inference from a conversation I had that he was but I never knew he was for a fact. I always assumed that he was protestant. We never did discuss what the other one was it was just a matter of that's what we perceived religion to be. That it is really very admirable to watch someone live at religion. It was very exciting to watch what we perceived people going to church just to be seen in church.

KF What does he say about politics?

JP They are all politicians. That they were politicians not statesmen. They were no, that politicians were basically looking for a way to get re-elected as opposed to do what was correct. To cause society, to cause nations to do the things that were appropriate that people were really concerned about. At lease the United States politicians were really concerned about the next election, they were not concerned about the economy as such, the public as such, it was themselves and their own existence.

KF Have any remedies for this situation?

JP Yah.

KF What did he think should be done?

JP Not to allow people to be re-elected. The president never to be re-elected and after a certain fixed time he is done. He doesn't worry about all this political background. Just go in there and do the job a President should do as an executive. An executive to run the country as opposed to having a run based on the politic things. That is a bit unrealistic in some sense, because you are always hassling. He drew a fine distinction between what a statesmen was and what a politician was. I have never really clearly had that delineated by him. One times we got Jay and the Colonel and I got into this conversation about politics and the things that were happening in politics and how our country was running with Carter and his inability to get things done. The things that happened to Nixon. One of the things that we drew as a young man you have to survive, but as you grow older your need to survive in society becomes less. So realistically, if you have a family and a desire to survive you really can't be a statesmen you have to be a politician. But once you get to a certain point in time when you have lived and made your reputation, your mark then you can afford to be a statesmen because you can in essence dictate your own destiny. I could care less at that point in time whether I survive or not, I've done the things that make sense that are correct. Not because they are politically correct, but because they are correct for the overall good of everything. That is about as close as we got.

KF Did you disagree with him on politics on any points?

JP I'm sure I did.

KF Do you remember any?

JP I don't remember.

KF Did you discuss any specific political issues? Viet-Nam war or something?

JP He talked about Viet-Nam in the sense that we were both in it. He was in it. The man was a professional soldier and that is an important thing. And he really did not care about politics in Viet-Nam. He cared about the fact that politics screwed up the military. That politically we destroyed our military. From internally and externally. We were not able to, we still suffer from that as a country. We are unable to have an effective military force. Politicians. The leaders of the military are afraid of their shadow. They will not make the decisions that are necessary. We talked a bit about the (Santi?) raid and all the political ramifications of putting that together. People were scared to death to do that. Look at all of Ross's conversations with the State Department about trying to get Paul and Bill out. They were all afraid of what it would do internationally as well as nationally. That is all hearsay from my point because I never did hear those conversations. I've read them, I've heard other people refer to them, but that is my opinion of from what I have seen going on. Sullivan, the American Ambassador, was afraid of his shadow. He had to survive politically. All of his people were the same way. There was nobody there willing to take a firm stand. They really had no use for those people. I'm not standing in the way of the flag. We are a guest in their country, I think that is important. Every country: France, England, the United States, India whatever, has to be able to have enough rapport with the country they are in to prevent their citizens from being taken over. But we have to abide by their laws too. We don't do that anymore. England doesn't do that anymore.

KF They don't do which?

JP Doesn't take a firm stand with the host government. We talked about those kind of things. We never talked about the politics about Viet-Nam other than the fact that I felt, he felt that our military bases went to part because of the politics and because of the breakdown in discipline. That is why he was never made a General because he wouldn't play the political game; he played it straight. He wouldn't say it directly, but you could tell that was going through his mind. He was not bitter about it. He did what he wanted to do. He was able to

JP to look out for people under his command, he was able to express two
Cont. ways; either the payoff of what the situation (couldn't understand)
and what this would happen to him politically and very subtle things.
He could deal with that. The aspect of people. He could be them based
on what was required at the time and get his point across. He was
very successful in his role in the military. He always said it was his
wife who was interested in him becoming a General. That he was really
never (couldn't hear). I doubt that because everybody would like to
reach a higher goal. He was not an unambitious person.

KF Did you ever talk about Communism?

JP No directly.

KF What did he say about sex?

JP Amusing about that. We obviously went to everybody's house and
unfortunately you could tell (could not understand). Every house you
went to had a large assortment of Playboys or various books of all
types of descriptions. Someone (could not understand). That was
really about all of the conversation. We read everything about 50 times
and I had never read Playboy to any extent. I had never bought
one. I read the articles and laughed. Art read this story, and that
was really what we talked about. (Could not understand). We were
bored stiff, and had something to read and chuckle about it.

KF Did he laugh much?

JP When the occasion required it. When it was something to laugh about
he didn't just sit there reading something and start rolling out
laughing. If you make a joke or do something humorous he would
laugh, the man did have a sense of humor.

KF Do you remember what you read other than Playboy?

JP I am not a reader, but I read every single newspaper, every Time and Newweek I could find.

KF Didn't read any books?

JP I read a couple of books, but I don't recall what they were. I started a couple, sat them down, picked them up and started reading them.

KF You talked about religion, politics, sex, whatelse? He was interested in history. What did he say about that.

JP I have degree in History also, he doesn't have (could not understand). We talked about history, historical facts, you know. He had asked me if I had ever read a Journal, American Journal of History, or the British Journal of History, I don't know. A magazine periodically, quarterly, or semi-annually. Published in Britian. The people put it together, actually printed it here in the United States with a good quality of paper, and pictures in it. Dealt with the American Revolution and things like that. But from both respective of what was happening here in the United States as well as what was happening in England. Things like that.

KF Did he ask you that question because he subscribed to that?

JP Yes. We talked about various things like that, I can't recall.

KF Do you remember what part of History he was most interested in?

JP Very early history. Nothing I could tell. I think a lot of his history background was more interested in military history. He never really talked about historical facts about the World War II period, European things but things prior to that. He really didn't talk about ancient history either. More about modern history, but from a colonial period.

KF What period of history did you specialize in?

JP My history is political history, diplomatic. (Couldn't understand).

KF Jay reports that at the time he was very interested in revolutions.

JP He was involved in a lot.

KF Did he talk about that?

JP Not really. He was involved in all the things that happened in Viet-Nam and whether he was involved.

KF Did he see that as a revolution?

JP Yes.

KF That is interesting. What gave you that impression? What did he say about that?

JP Well he saw it as a revolution in a sense that the early goings in Viet-Nam were much of a movement of nationalism as opposed to what we all classify today as Communism. But after a period of time it stopped being a classic revolution situation, it became a situation of ideologies became involved.

KF He did not think that ideologies were lonely involved in revolutions?

JP I can't say that as a fact. An ideology from the point of view that now you have an external force whereas in Communism becoming, being directed from not a nationalistic point of view but from a domination of another power point of view. Where in the early days when the French were first there became punching in and those guys in essence trying to expell the French. They got them swept up with the ideology of Communism but then started seeking outside help and then turned the complexity of the thing to Communist forces trying to get rid of the as opposed to nationalist. I think there is a distinction there. We saw the help of the French in the American Revolution, but we never took on the French identity, or its philosophy.

KF Do you recall conversations about the American Revolution?

JP No.

KF Did he talk to you about the politics and so on what was happening in Iran at that time?

JP No. I don't think he really attuned to politics other than the fact that he could see that it was from an external point of view, government being swept aside, the establishment being swept aside. A peoples whose thought processes were very deeply rooted in religion and from everything that he could read and things that he could see that was what causing it to happen. He was not naive enough to believe that was the only thing that was behind it, but that is basically all he could see and observe whenever we caused what caused it, where it was going, did the Americans have a role to play in it or anything like that. I'm sure that those things were on his mind. I don't know how he felt about it.

KF Jay recalls that he was thrilled to be there in the middle of the American Revolution. What did he tell you about his family?

JP Well, he told me quite a bit about his life. That he grew up in, I believe, Indiana, if I'm not mistaken. He had an older brother. His older brother was a newspaper publisher, who he thought a lot about. His older brother went to the University when he was 14. He had done quite well academically. He was very fond of his brother. He had a sister. There wasn't much rapport with her. She was his sister and he cared for her but wasn't the same type of relationship he and his brother had. He often talked about the fact that his brother voted for Nixon, and he thought Nixon was a (twitt?). And he really didn't see eye-to-eye but other than that he thought his brother was pretty cool. I really did not get an insight as to what his mother was like or what his father was like. Other than his father was probably very

JP hard to work with. Tried to provide for his family. I think in some
Cont respects there may have been a rule existence. I'm not positive of
that.

KF They were brought up in Rochester, New York. So it was suburban.

JP So I really did not get into that. The things that we talked about were
just the time he went to the University. Got out of the University and
then went to the military and started out in the Artillery. It was
interesting because that was the branch that I was in. (Pack Houser?)
unit as a Lieutenant and the things that they did in upper Washington
State and that area of the United States, the Military maneuvers they
did.

KF Was this during the War?

JP I think it was just prior to World War II. I think he got out for a
period of time.

KF Before we get to that, did he talk about World War II or talk about his
personal experiences?

JP Yah.

KF Tell me what he said.

JP Most of the things that he did in World War II were as I understand
it, he spent most of his time in the Pacific Theatre as a Ranger. The
first conversations I had about World War II is that he was on some
island and he was a Major. It may have been in the Philippines that he
kicked off the Philippines. It wasn't with (could not hear). They were
in that general area of the Pacific and they were conducting various
operations. One night all kinds of things started to happen where they
were. He was going someplace, running down a road or walking down
a road there was an explosion. His expression was, "It knocked me on
my ass." Then he got up and went on to do whatever he needed to

tP do. That was a general accounting of a certain incidence. Then he Cont. related a story where he went to this Japanese encampment the Japanese had set up as a base camp. One side was a sheer cliff the other side was a normal approach. He and a group of men scaled this cliff. To keep from making noise they had wrapped burlap around their boots and climbed up this cliff. First thing they encountered was a Japanese soldier about two in the morning going to the bathroom. They encountered this soldier, they killed the soldier, then from they assaulted the rest of them. They were all asleep and this one guy was awake. They took the position and were able to remove, in essence, an observation point the Japanese had and in a way, the preparation of the invasion of the Philippines. We talked about that, then we talked about when he was involved in the actual occupation of Japan and the things that went on there. It wasn't really too exciting so I don't remember all that. We talked about his time in Panama.

KF Was this still during the War?

JP No. It is after the War. That is basically all that we talked about was World War II. How they tried to get from one place in the Philippines Island area. They had to go by dugout canoe from place to another but they had to pass right by the Japanese. So what they did is they took off all their clothes and put some native (dye?) just paddled across this little bay and went right pass the Japanese. Now whether the Japanese saw them or not, they actually went by. He was actually on the Philippines twenty-four hours in advance of the main invasionary force and taking out various positions of small outpost so that the invasionary force would not be discovered until the last moment.

KF What impression did you get of the way he felt about (could not hear).

JP Well, he felt that he had done what soldiers were asked to do. War requires people to do things that under normal circumstances people find distasteful but it was required.

KF You see, his brother thinks that what he had to do in that war turned from an very ordinary jovial young fellow into the man who is capable of being very hard. The man who wasn't comfortable showing emotions.

JP His brother would know.

KF I was just wondering whether he might have said anything to confirm or deny that theory of Stanleys.

JP I have no idea. I've seen him show emotion in a lot of different ways. I have spent a lot of time with him. You have probably read where somebody said he like good food. The whole time we were over in Iran, I cooked for him; for myself too, not just for him. I guess the fact that somebody would think enough to do anything for him, he would come back and say thank you I really appreciate it. No matter how unflattering it looked it was something that done as a matter of joint effort of comradship and he was appreciative of that. He didn't come out and hug you or kiss you or lay flowers at your feet or anything like that, but what person does that all the time? I think the guy had emotions and showed them in his own way. I don't know what he did in World War II, nor any of his military life, what put him in the frame he was. Has another accounted to you his time as a cowboy?

KF No.

JP I don't know much about it other than he was a cowboy for a year or two.

KF Before the war?

JP Between the time he was in the packhouser group when he first joined the Army, then he got out. I think he got a break in service there.

KF A break in service in the war?

JP After the war.

KF After the war.

JP I think there was a time right after he got out of college rather than going into the military he was a cowboy in Wyoming. He said it was very solitary, very away from everything. He learned a lot of things about animals, about people. He said he didn't learn a lot from animals, about people. He is an interesting man. That animals know when people are squared away. They can tell. That was part of his philosophy. I don't know, maybe Stanley knows or whoever.

KF Stanley doesn't know, it is only a theory. Did you ever talk to him about his children?

JP Yah..

KF What did he say?

JP He never said much about Bruce except that Bruce and his family live in Canada. I guess that I am the one he talked more about Bruce in that I asked him about Bruce. I asked what he was doing up there. He said he had some children up there and they were running a logging camp and living a fairly unmodernlike. I don't know that for a fact, I just got that impression from the things he said that was happening. He talked about Harry and Mary and the divorce. That Harry was sort of a free-lance type person working on oil out in Oklahoma, New Mexico. He was enjoying that quite a bit.

KF How did he feel about those boys?

JP They are his boys, they both have different personalities. They both delt with life in different ways. I'm convinced that he loved them both as any father loves his children. I don't believe that I could tell you whether or not he cared for one more than the other. I'm sure any parent has asperations for their children and those asperations are

never quite fulfilled. Your father had aspirations for you and you maybe fulfilled them.

KF Tell me what happens (cannot understand)

JP Never. I never really knew who Bruce or Harry married. We talked about what they did, you know, he told me about the logging cabin, he told me all about it. Had I felt that it was something that he though was a good situation because it was somewhat like the time when he was a cowboy and he felt that Harry was doing the thing that Harry needed to do because Harry was out running a boat between the oil rigs and it was pretty much adventurous work, outdoor work, similar to being a cowboy. Those things did not conflict with Simons', my perception of Simon's personality whether he loved him or he had problems with him, I don't know, I mean my Dad has problems(can't understand)

KF Was Simons sincere about his children, that's what his brother's told me and I guess his brothers know, but you didn't have that impression.

JP We had normal problems as we were children, cause parents develop a lovable anxiety for their children and the children will always get to that, after all it's what their parents want.

KF Oh, I'm sure, absolutely. I'm going to meet his children next week. My suspicion is their not half as bad as he though they were. It's pretty damn disappointing. But he didn't tell you that, you didn't get that impression?

JP Not pretty damn disappointed. I wanted him to be a nuclear scientist but...

KF OK, well that may be close to the truth in Stanley's impression, who knows.

JP I only knew him for less than three months, Stanley's known him for 60 years. Harry and his brother talk a little bit..

KF Yes, they were close, I think. Did Simon's talk to you about Luceille, his wife?

JP Yes.

KF What did he say?

JP She was very understanding, very loving, very intelligible and he loved her and that she loved him. It was a sort of relationship that was good. He did make a comment to me, a strange question, he said don't wait too long to be close. God knows what that means, but that was a comment that he made to me, I think that they had a very good relationship. He felt that all the things that he did in the military and the things that he was able to accomplish and the honor that was bestowed upon him was really not that important to him but it really made Luciele feel very proud of him, very happy and he was sorry that she was dead. I think that was ... (can't understand, too low)

KF He said to () that he never understood death until she died, that's unusual seeing that alot of people die.

JP I wouldn't make that statement. He never understood why it happened or how it happened.

KF He never understood what it meant.

JP When your a soldier, people die. When your in the military, your around death all the time. People die or their killed, and they disappear, they're never spoken of, and that's a matter of survival. Whenever someone dies in the family, it's not really that way. It's not that these people are under communism and then you depend upon them when your in the military or any force that deals in death. It's just that in order to survive you have to forget about it. But when

they die in part of your family you can't forget about it because they're really part of your life.

KF But his parents have died.

JP I'm not sure that they were a part of his life. They just didn't have that same...

KF When he came out of the army after World War II, he was in civilian life for awhile, but he was never happy. Did he talk to you about that?

JP I never understood that he was unhappy as a civilian, I thought he was very happy as a civilian. My impression was that he enjoyed working in journalism and in printing and he taught himself a lot of things and was very rewarding to him.

KF That's interesting. Did he tell you why he went back into the military?

JP No. I never asked him, you know?

KF I don't know anything. I'm trying out on you the things that Stanley Simons has told me. They work together. Stanley gets paid more. Stanley says that he was never happy although that he was not sure why he was never happy in civilian life after he came out of the army after the war.

JP It's different, coming out of the military into civilian life.

KF But most people don't go back.

JP I'm not sure, well, I don't know, I can't answer. He was probably, when he got out of the army, under happy circumstances, going back into the military was easy for him. I would go back in the military if it made sense to go back into the military. I can contribute more to my country and my society in civilian life than I can in the military. The

military is basically falling apart. There's nothing there for me. You go throughout this company and you find young women who have been in the military who were forced out because of the fact of what happened to them during Vietnam. Ninety percent of this company has been in more than eight years as a military backup. That doesn't mean that we're a military company, we're saying that there is no reason to go back anymore. Society doesn't support it. It supported it in the arts. so it was a comfortable place to be. I mean you could relate to it you could accomplish things.

KF Did he talk to you at all about his life on the farm after Luceile died?

JP Yeah, he told me about what he did on the farm, what his day was like. For a long time he was very depressed, but then after that he went into his routine, what he considered his routine. He layed out this farm and worked around it, clearing some more acres, he was planning how to put more pigs on it. He worked quite a bit as a gunsmith while he was there. He had quite a few hobbies, not hobbies, things that he liked to do. They weren't hobbies in the sense that he only tinkered at them, he did them very seriously. He enjoyed working with his pigs, he enjoyed doing things as a gunsmith, he enjoyed the equipment that he had to tinker with. He enjoyed his books, his dogs. He lived pretty differently in that he wouldn't really cook for himself. He'd go and open cans. It's not that unusual. He wasn't the kind of person to bother about the aesthetics of cooking. He lived the way he wanted to live. He did the things that he wanted to do. There was no regimentation. There was only the need to take care of himself and the animal that were around and take care of the property. He mowed his grass, he had a neighbor that he socialized with from time to time. He was involved in a lesser degree with the community. He understood what was going on with the community. I don't think he was a recluse or anything because his wife died.

KF Alright, let's get back to Iran. Comming up now to the end of this period. The fighting was getting worse in the streets. Oh, we haven't talked about Ross' visit, did you see Ross while he was there.

JP Yes. Ross came and visited. I don't recall the date, it must of been late January.

KF Ross arrived the 13th of January in Tehran and stayed, I can't remember, mid January. Do you remember the conversation?

JP Which one?

KF You had more than one conversation with Ross?

JP Well, he probably had a conversation with Art where I wasn't involved.

KF But when you spoke to Ross.

JP (Sculley) and (Schwebach) and Simons and Ross and I were in the kitchen in the () lounge and Ross was talking about how he visited prison and the fact that he intended to go and visit them some more. I think when I had talked to him he hadn't visited the prison, but he was going to go the next day. He came into the house, I think Jay brought him in. He came to the house, he was wearing his overcoat, a typical coat that a business man in the United States would wear in a hundred degrees and a pair of tennis shoes and a jogging suit. I guess he had his had, too. Kind of an odd combination of clothing he was wearing. Not much of a disguise. And he talked about he had had some conversations with people in the ministry about what they were like. He asked the question if we could run the banking system - could we run a payroll system and get out the payroll for him. We all agreed that yeah, we could do that and there was alot of conversation about getting involved. My comment was do you really want to do that and we talked about that for awhile. (Can't understand next sentence-mumbling). If we ran it they'd tell us one thing, and turn around and change their mind. It was basically my opinion. Regardless of what we did, our only solution was something deceitivous because they were equally deceitivous. That was the last of the conversation. He was there maybe thirty minutes to an hour. We talked about alot of different things - it was kind of jovial - laughing and joking and some seriousness.

KF Was Sculley and Schweback looking at the apartment at that point?

JP Yes, they were.

KF When they came in and out they looked, and did they write checks.
How long were they there?

JP Three or four days at the most.

KF Did you see Reza before February 11th?

JP Probably, but not to any great extent. He was not directly involved
(end of side 1 of tape)

KF Everybody that was contacted.

JP Everybody that was contacted was contacted by Jay and other than Baktiar was the only one that I know of that Simon had direct contact with. A couple others were contacted who knew me, but did not make direct contact with Simons prior to the 11th of February that I know of.

KF Are you saying you don't think Reza did see Simons?

JP I was not with Simons if in fact he did see Reza.

KF I see, alright. Did you know what Reza and Simons were up to at that point?

JP I never knew that there was any contact.

KF So you didn't know what was happening on February the 11th. What did you do on February the 11th.

JP It was raining and what I was doing was - just all day we read alot, it was raining. There was alot of fighting in the city. It stopped raining, the sun came out and the helicopter's were flying around and shooting apart the cities, that was the day before also. A lot of fighting going on. The military, the imperial guard had taken on the airforce cadets that they - near the airfields, there was quite a battle over there. That's really the beginning of all of the war in Tehran. As a matter of fact I think it was really () I don't really recall any specific dates.

KF Well, the 11th is the day the broke out

JP It could of very well been.

KF You must remember the day because at the end of the day you saw them.

JP Right, but I don't know the calendar date is all I'm saying.

KF I see

JP I can recall the events of the day. But there was fighting all over the city the day before and they would have continued fighting that particular hour whenever they got out of prison. I was standing on the roof of the apartment building with the landlady and we were talking about all the fighting and things that were going on and commented that that was the prison and she agreed to tell me all about how terrible things were in the city and about the call..

KF Now, wait a minute, I want to know what happened before you got the call. Did Simons do nothing, did he sit and read? He, at least, knew that Reza was going to the prison, even if he didn't tell you.

JP Well, he was just reading and futzing around the house. There wasn't really anything peculiar.

KF When you and the landlady was this...

JP As a matter of fact when I was out of the house He was taking a nap.

KF When you and the landlady saw that the prison was on fire, you must of told him.

JP Why - I was only on the roof for about 30 minutes or so. Well see, you could say it was really the prison it was just that general area.

KF Still, you knew there was a possibility that Paul and Bill would get out if the prison was over, right?

JP I did tell Jay that the prison was on fire that we really ought to go over there and see if Paul and Bill had got out.

KF What did Jay say?

JP Jay said yeah we need to do that. I'll get ahold of Baktiar and we'll do something.

KF And what happened?

JP Jay basically went off to work with Baktiar and Jay came back and () the phone rang and Art answered the phone and we got a phone call from I guess (Gabe) was on, I don't know who was on the phone, I assume it was Gabe.

KF Did Jay come back then?

JP My recollection is that yes, he had

KF And what did he say?

JP He did not say anything.

KF Weren't you curious?

JP I'm curious, but I said what did you find out and he said I'll tell you later and then there was a phone call from the hotel and Simon said we're at the hotel. Jay and Simon had gone off and huddled and then we drove to the hotel. They took one truck and I took the other.

KF At the beginning of that, how did you feel about your project

JP It was really a way to see things, sitting around waiting and waiting.

KF Did you feel your were going to get Paul and Bill out? What did you feel?

JP My thoughts were that there was no way that we were going to physically extract them from prison but once they got out of the prison that we would be able to remove them from the country. My main concern and comments to Simons at that time was is if this happens very soon how are these other people, Young, Gaden, Keane, etc.

KF So you personally have kind of abandoned thinking about how Bill and Paul will get out and your mind was focusing on once they were out of jail you would get them out of the country. But still, you must have had some reaction when it seemed the prison was on fire and Jay went out to look for them.

JP Well, Jay really actually said he went to get ahold of Baktiar, whether he went to actually look for them, I don't know.

KF But still, weren't you excited?

JP It's not exciting to say when your sitting there and say there's the prison over there and there's fires and gun fighting going on. No, I wasn't excited I don't get excited in the sense that I would go emotionally crazy.

KF You must have had some emotion.

JP Yeah, my thoughts were if that is really going on over there and the prison has been broken into and they've gotten out, they knew - there had been many conversations - once that happens for them to go to a certain place. They knew where to go. They were quite physically capable of doing that. The thought that I had was what could we do, should we do anything to do that. That's why I made my comments to Jay, that's why Jay did what he did.

KF We missed out the Reconnaissance trip. Did you go on that to the Turkish boarder?

JP I stayed behind as a matter of foreign communication between Dallas and Tehran and Colonel and Jay. I did some other tasks in Tehran off and on. I lived quite freely through the city. I never had any problems.

KF Alright, now tell me about the phone call when they found out from the hotel...

JP I was not in the house. I had come down and I say Jay. Jay, Simon and Art were talking. I went back up to the roof and was watching. It was late around 6, the sun had gone down, it was a bit drizzly.

KF Presumably, Jay and Simons were talking about what they should do. I guess Jay found (?). ...You don't know..

JP Because whenever they came and got me they said John lets go they're at the hotel, I came down and picked up the things that I needed, picked up all my gear in essence to move out of the house, which was

always packed and took it with me, put it in the trunk and drove to the hotel.

KF How did you feel when you heard that they were safe and well?

JP Well, relieved. That that was a good deal. That's what they needed to be. It wasn't a rush or anything like that, it was calculated to be that way. That was the way it should have been. It was almost like it was preordained.

KF It was hardly preordained - they could have gotten killed when that prison was over run. Many people did.

JP Did they?

KF Oh yes, those guards shot at the prisoners when they were exscaping

JP Nobody said that anybody got killed - they were shot at.

KF Well, Paul saw people fall, whether they were dead or not he didn't know.

JP Paul was there so I don't know. Paul and I never talked about what happened other than the fact that there were shots in fact some shots were shots were shot through the doorway where they were standing and one of them landed at his feet. I never heard him say....

KF When the prisoners started to move out, the guards in the tower started shooting down into the courtyard and they saw people fall. It seems to me if somebody is shooting and somebody falls down the presumption is that he's been shot.

JP I never really had those conversations with Paul.

KF OK, so you went over to the Hotel. What was the sceen at the hotel?

JP In the lobby?

KF No in Gaydens room.

JP There was an open line between Dallas and Tehran and people were talking on the phone about alternative what to do and what not to do. When I walked into the hotel Paul and Bill were in the same room and they were eating supper and I walked in there and closed the curtains to the room.

KF Why?

JP We lived with the curtains closed, it was just a normal precaution from my perspective. Paul objected to that, he liked to have the curtains open. Not that anybody could really see in, we were on the 17th floor, it was a habit under those circumstances. That's why it wasn't really an emotional thing for me. It was all calculated to be prepared...Now afterwards, I had a whole lot of different feelings. When you figure out everythings going along prior to that, I wasn't excited about that. Just going through the motions of doing what instinctively said had to be done in order to make sure that now that they were out and under our control how do we keep them under, our control. At the hotel everybody was running around. Reza showed up at the hotel and made a comment about how the prison was overrun that Reza had physically been in the prison and couldn't find Paul or Bill and stated that it was the main thing that they were here safe. Everyone was very very happy for the most part. For my part, may be I'm putting words in Simons mouth, they were celebrating before there was any reason to celebrate. We'd only taken the first step.

KF Did you say that to anybody? At some point Simons decided to move them out.

JP There was a couple of events that lead up to that and the situation was we went to the hotel and went up to the rooms and then I went back with Taylor, I think and we looked for different ways to get out of the hotel if () or whatever came there how would we get out of the hotel.

KF This is you, Taylor and who else?

JP I think it was Jay and myself and Keane. I do not recall exactly who it was. I did not do it all by myself anyway. What the different ways - how would we get out, what was our route of escape. There was a power station behind the hotel there was a way to go that way. There was a revine on the other side, we could go that way. We could probably find a car on the other side to steal and take off there. Obviously, the road back where we came from, could have been avoided when we pulled out. We went back to the rooms people were talking and there was a series of phone calls and business people talking about how the prosecutor was looking for them. There was a phone call in which somebody asked for Paul and Bill. Simons, based on that piece of information said lets go.

KF Let me ask you how sure you are about that because the way you've described it Bill and Paul were eating in Gaydens room

JP No, they were in their own room.

KF Ah, cause you said when you went in somebody was on the phone to Dallas and Bill and Paul were eating, but in fact those were two separate room.

JP Yes.

KF So, they weren't eating in Gaydens suite, but later Keane got them another room. They moved to that then they all had dinner.

JP I don't know. That happened before I got there. Cause they actually had dinner in their room before I got there.

KF I see, they weren't eating when you got there.

JP They were still eating. The chain of events up to how they got to the room they were in and

KF If you had the phone call to Dallas, you must have first gone into Gaydens suite.

JP Yes, that's where I went

KF And then gone to Bill and Pauls room.

JP I went to Bill and Pauls room after I went to Gaydens and I went back and forth between Bill and Pauls several times.

KF Now the phone call..

JP Plus going downstairs and checking out how to get out of the building or routes of escape.

KF And you checked the stairwells. I gather there were lots of empty apartments and rooms.

JP Yes there was

KF Now, that phone call. The phone rings in the room that has been taken for Bill and Paul but not in their names.

JP I do not know what room the phone rang in. As you say that, I recall that was the situation because Keane said the phone just rang and the rooms that are not checked out to anybody named Bill and Paul. And he told Simons that and that was the portion of the conversation I overheard.

KF I see, At this time were you in Gayden's suite?

JP No, I was in the room next to where they were eating and they had moved from the room where they were eating to the other room.

KF So Keane comes from one room into the other. You were there with Simons. Keane says to Simons the phone just rang in that room

JP And they had asked for

KF And you're sure he said that? Your the first person to tell me that part of it.

JP That's how I recall it.

KF That makes it much more significant. I had been told that just the phone rang and nobody answered.

JP I had read that just recently, the same statement, and I don't recall it that way. What I recall what was said was they had asked for Bill.

KF Well, that makes more sense, see, because if the phone just rang - that could have been a mistake - but if somebody asked for Bill and Paul

JP That's how I recall the conversation

KF OK, I must double check that with Keane. OK, and at that point Simons just said lets go?

JP He hesitated, though about it. Went from the room where we were and then came back and said Joe get your shit, what you need and lets go and Bill and Paul need to get dressed. When that happened, I picked up what I needed and went over to the other room where Gayden was and what we said was OK I would take Bill and Paul and Art and Jay would follow in another vehicle. And Keane, Gayden, Gallaghers,

Young, and Howell will remain behind in the hotel and I would return the next morning at 6:30 to pick them up and take them to where we needed to go. So we did that within about, I went and got my truck and pulled up in front of the hotel, they came out of the hotel got in my truck, Bill and Paul, Paul in the front seat Bill in the back, Art and Jay got their truck and I drove off down the road and they followed mine.

KF Didn't some soldier or revolutionaries come in just while you were heading out to the vehicles.

JP Some drove up. Some revolutionary cars drove up as we were leaving. They didn't know conversation or anything at the time between us. The best I'm aware, they didn't really do anything at the hotel other than they arrived there and had some conversations with the management.

KF There's no indications as far as you knew that they were looking for Paul.

JP No. But there was always the suspicion the inneundo that they were because of the fact that they were armed and the fact that they were at the hotel and they had not previously ever been at the hotel.

KF I see, and were these revolutionaries?

JP I assume they were.

KF They weren't uniformed soldiers. Just guards with guns. What did they drive up in?

JP A car of some sort. I believe it was a black car or dark car. It could have been the Iranian version of a Chevrolet.

KF And about how many?

JP Four, maybe five

KF And your vehicle were Range Rovers, the ones you finally drove out.
Tell me about the drive back to the (?)

JP Simon was always ragging about the fact that I drove too fast. On several occasion he'd say don't do this or don't drive too fast. I'd say do I drive unsafe and he'd say no, I just don't want you violating the laws. I'd say what Laws? And he said just be careful. We went out and he said drive them to the house and I said ok. And the way he said it he meant do what the locals do to drive, don't run road blocks or anything like that. Pay attention to what's going on. So I got in and locked my door and drove off and Bill and Paul were with me. We didn't really say much - alot of quick conversations just driving down the road. We come up to a street called (Palavie and Crencon?) on the expressway intersection. Palavie is a four lane road and Crencon in on six lanes, three each way - you drive the intersection and your coming near to the right in the north bound lane on Palavie theres a car turned over and its on fire. There are cars blocking the roads and there is armed men and they're waving people through and questioning. There's no shots going on, some has pistols, most of them have rifles. I don't recall what kind. I think I saw an American 45 and the others some other American made weapon. Some of them Belgian weapons. Various military type things mostly. The traffic light was red so I stopped at the light. One car was in front of me and it went on after the soldier let it go on and I drove up to the traffic light, stopped, this guy came over and tapped on the window, I rolled it down, he said were are you going

KF In what language?

JP In English - clear as mine and yours. I said I was going to my mother in laws house on (LaBasivah?) and he said OK and he tried to open the door and said its locked and I tried to reach back - my legs are so short I had the seat way up so I had to reach way back to unlatch it, I got it partially unlatch and I had to grab the latch again.

Another man came up to me and started speaking to him in Farsic and the guy in English said something in Farsic. He looked at me and said do you have any cigarettes and I said no I don't smoke. He said OK go ahead and go, so we drove on. We went around the corner , normal rate of speed and sped up rapidly to the Dvoranchik house making sure that no one followed.

KF Were these uniformed soldiers?

JP No, but we did pass some uniformed soldiers parked on the side of the road.

KF These people running the road block were revolutionaries?

JP They were just dressed in civilian clothes.

KF Have you been told to give that story about the mother-in-law?

JP No

KF Just rings a bell in my memory

JP Probably cause you read it somewhere.

KF Yes, I've been told - I knew that was what you had said. I just vaguely remember somebody - may Bill or Paul said they thought it would have been a crazy story to give.

Jp Actually, later I told them that if they had asked me what was going on I would have told them that Paul was my cousin or my wife's brother. Bill was a doctor . Bills really white and pale. That was the story that I had made up in my mind to use at the time. And I made it up on the spur of the moment as I was sitting there waiting for the next car to go. That's how it came about. It was nothing we rehearsed or anything like that.

KP You got to the Dvoranchik apartment and Jay and Colonel weren't far behind.

JP Two minutes

KP What happened that evening at the apartment?

JP They talked to Dallas. Various conversations going on. Colonel, Jay talked about various things. Colonel and I and Jay and some conversations, nothing other than we had to make sure nobody was followed, tomorrow, Joe, this is what your supposed to do. Get out of bed at a certain time, drive. Leave hear so you leave exactly when curfew is over and get to the hotel at a specific time.

KP What time did () and () come?

JP 6 a.m. That's what time the sun rised. Got to the hotel at 6:30. That was the conversation for me. Paul and I went to sleep. I don't know what the rest of them did. Bill and Paul and Keane, They tried to go to sleep. I don't think that they were very successful. Matter of fact I think they went to the bedroom and slept on the bed, but Jay and I slept on the couch. We often slept on the couch.

KF Why?

JP It was warmer in there and it was convenient. We slept wherever it made sense. The Colonel often slept in chairs. There was two large chairs. Quite comfortable, he'd just go to sleep.

KF Most people find it rather uncomfortable sleeping on couches and chairs.

JP When I was in Vietnam I used to sleep on my rug sack and I thing that's the best sleep I've ever had. It fit my back just right and just lean up against a tree and go to sleep. Other than when it was raining, it wasn't quite a deal. But I found out when I came back to the states it was alot more comfortable sleeping in the bed. I enjoyed it over there, its just a matter of circumstances.

KF And the next day you went to the hotel which was the Hyatt Regency wasn't it?

JP Yes. It was the Hyatt Regency of (?) The Hilton was up by Pahalvi near the Crown

KF Now, somebody else said it was the Crown, which is it, the Crown, Hyatt Regency

JP I don't recall the name either. On the map that I have in my briefcase...There's a I think it was the Hyatt Hotel but whether it was called the Hyatt Regency or not...I think it's called the crown because the external portion has some swirls that made it look like a crown. There are many hotels ther and I dont' recall the names.

KF You went to the hotel, the rest of them were ready on time?

JP No.

KF Oh, what happened.

JP Well, I went to the hotel to pick them up they were supposed to come down at 7 o'clock I was there a half hour ahead of time. My drive there was very uneventful but the night before they had tried to break in and in fact did break in to the prison up there next to the hotel.

KF The (Habine) prison?

JP Yes. And that there was alot of shooting and when I got out there people driving around in cars shooting rifels up in the air and shooting them just everywhere. Because I wasn't really involved in anything, it was a little bit unworthly for me. I didn't really want to get shot by some of these guys fooling around. To have some guy to something out of stupidity wasn't really what I looked forward to

KF You might of got shot accidentally?

JP Yes.

KF So there was alot of shooting and you found it unerving cause you didn't want to get shot accidentally. You got there around 6:30, did you wait until 7;00.

JP yes. I parked in a parking lot behind there. There's a big parking lot faily empty. They had their two cars up closer to the building, I parked in the back.

KF What time did they show?

JP I had to be back at the house at 7:30 whether they came out or not. They came out about 7:05. It should have taken us about three minutes to get there. They were supposed to come out at 6:30. The first one happened about quarter to the hour and Butch Gallagher came out with his wife's hair dryer and things and went to the car and futzed around and went back in the hotel, another 15 minutes later the rest of them came out. I sat there and played with my prayer beads while I waited for them to come out, I had a big red beard, and followed them to Dvoranchik house. We were at the same intersection and there were no revolutionary forces there. Went back the exact same route.

KF No problems. Sounds if these revolutionaries aren't going to worry you anymore.

JP They were out by the prison, I guarantee that, but they were not where we were. The streets were basically two or three cars.

KF This is now Monday the 12th. That day and the following day most of you were at the apartment.

JP We were all there.

KF Some of you went out. Most of you stayed there all the time.

JP NObody went out that I'm aware of. Maybe Jay or Art.

KF Jay said he went out. 11 people and a dog in a two bedroom apartment. What were those two days like.

JP To me they were good because just Art and I around to talk to. We were crowded we cooked supper, we got up and cooked breakfast, people read, the Gallaghers talked to their military friends, things like that. We got alot of information that way what was happening in the military. There was alot of conversation about how to do what to where, finally we decided that we needed to do something to break up somehow. We weren't sure how to do that. We knew that we had to leave. ART and Jay and I was involved in that, the best thing to do was to get out of the country regardless of how we do it. We were sitting there with 11 people and we didn't know how to do it. It would be to conspicuous for a gang like that to go to the border. Then there was alot of conversations about could we get the American Embassy to guarantee our safety and all that stuff. Basically, they said we couldn't guarantee it. If the Iranian's wanted us they could have us. So that became a delema.

KF Did you talk to the embassy about that?

JP I, myself?

KF Yes.

JP Not specifically, No. But later the next day I got involved in the idea personally. So there was alot of conversations and alot of planning was formulated and things like that. Maybe I don't see tension or reconize it but nobody was really tense. Apprehensive, maybe, but not tense. Nothing nerve shattering or like you would find in the eye of the needle.

KF Keane was pretty tense.

JP As I said, I don't read that in people. Maybe he was. I'm sure that there were - Jay was really tense and obviously concerned. Maybe I'm just too easy - too loose.

KF I can believe that you weren't tense, but I think one or two of the others were. Do you remember the fact that you had all the dinner and didn't leave any for Paul and Keanse that cooked it?

JP Paul and Keane didn't cook.

KF Well Paul cooked spaghetti.

JP Paul and I cooked the spaghetti.

KF Oh, now Keanse says he cooked it.

JP I had done all the cooking all along and I talked Paul into helping me. But there were alot of people in the kitchen so its academic who really did. There were alot of chefs that night.

KF Paul and Keane didn't get any.

JP I don't know. Some people didn't get their fair share.

KF That was what Keane was mad about.

- KF You don't recall Keane saying anything?
- JP Keane probably said you guys didn't leave me any spaghetti what is the deal? He got mad. He didn't storm around the house and scream and holler. Everybody remembers there own part.
- KF Indeed. What was the emotion of that made Keane this way. What was the thinking.
- JP People who were vulnerable to the same situation Paul and Bill had been in previously. Simon and Jay were vulnerable obviously, but Paul and Gayden and Keane and Bill were vulnerable to putting us back in the same predicament we were in.
- KF You though that Gayden and Keane were quite likely to be arrested by (Dacqua) if (Dacqua) realized where they were.
- JP Or who they were cause Bill Gayden was a senior vice president and board of directors of EDS, Keane Taylor was basically a senior manager in EDS and was known by Dacqua to be part of a company executive responsible for bank...
- KF So you though the most senior people were the most vulnerable.
- JP None of the other over there on this other side were vulneralbe at all. We had the best intelligence that we could get and we later confirmed that.
- KF What encouragements did you have that gave you that impression.
- JP Everything that we had heard around the city and things like that was that they were after anyone and what they were really trying to accomplish was to insure that EDS remained in the country and would clone their system. There isn't anybody on this other side Bob Yungs is an unknown institute as far as their concerned was just in the country, in fact I don't think he was on a work permit there. He was

from Cuwait. There was no way they would recognize him as a senior. John Howell's an attorney whos only connection with EDS is that he was on retainer. He doesn't have a work permit. He has no real direct connections so that no ransom or anything would ever be obtained. The Gallagers are minor employees in EDs and have no significant influence in the companies policys.

KF And you?

JP God knows, I am not no authority or hold any responsibility.

KF The fact is if Rich Gallagher had been arrested instead of Paul and Bill it would have meant more or less the same to Ross.

JP You'd have to ask Ross that.

KF Well, I'm practically sure it would.

JP I would think that it would mean the same to Ross as a personality if either person on either side had been arrested it would mean the same to Ross.

KF ...Much difference between say your seniority and Keans.

JP I was a first line manager and Keane Taylor was the third or fourth line manager at the time. Keane Taylor had a hole project working for him. I only had how to process the health care piece and I wasn't even the first line manager. When I was the first line manager I had an account manager over me so of any of the managers even Bob Young could take seniority cause Bob Young was responsbile for the accounting.

KF I was just wondering if another factor there was people who had been seing alot of Dacqua

JP Primary the decision of Gayden was that he was a very senior person of the company. The other situation was that Keane was seen by Dacqua.

KF And you had never been seen by anybody?

JP No. Bob Young had been seen by Dacqua and so did Howell. The Gallaghers had been seen everywhere by everybody. I was just another face in the crowd. From Dacquars point of view nobody on the side that I was involved on was represented leverage to the Iranians.

KF So your basically trying to think how would Dacqua think?

JP Yes.

KF OK. Did anybody object to the team they were put in or want to be in the other team?

JP It went on approval.

KF OK. Then on Tuesday night the Keane team went off. NOW was that the occassion on which you had the _____?

JP What happened before that hole thing was made there were some conversations the night before about what to do one way or the other. And Gayden made contact with Lou Goelz the next day around 11 or so the next day. I drove Gayden to Lou Goelz's house and the conversation was basically Lou can you insure us safety that we will not be turned over to the Iranian Government if they come looking for us. And his answer is basically no I cannot. Can you offer us any type of assurances, asylums or anything. He said I can bring you inside the embassy but if the government of Iran presses, we'll have to turn you over to them. He is questioned to us is where is Bill and Paul, I heard they have gotten out of prison. My basic reaction is you tell us your the American Government in Iran. We're looking for them also we can't find them and you can't offer us any protection. That's

really a bad deal. The game he was trying to play, hey, you been dealing here all along, playing a role very much a hot head, your screwing up not taking care of your responsibilities and we're real concerned about our friends. What the hell is going on. Goelz by no means was totally fooled by that, he was perfectly willing not to ask the questions and he did do that. He did not ask the questions. It was quite a funny situation. Here it is this whole country's falling apart and this Lou Goelz, Senior American official, living in this environment where he has a house boy and all the food that he ever wants to eat and fairly comfortable quarters, take losses and

(end of tape)