

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:11,560

Tonight, one of the most notorious missing person cases of all time, a powerful union

2

00:00:11,560 --> 00:00:15,080

activist vanishes without a trace.

3

00:00:15,080 --> 00:00:20,120

Forty-five years later, the search for him continues.

4

00:00:20,120 --> 00:00:23,160

He's really well known across the country.

5

00:00:23,160 --> 00:00:25,040

Where is his body?

6

00:00:25,680 --> 00:00:31,480

Now, we uncover the top theories surrounding his shocking disappearance.

7

00:00:31,480 --> 00:00:38,120

Law enforcement suspects that guys use the incinerator to dispose of bodies.

8

00:00:38,120 --> 00:00:44,760

Is it possible the CIA took out all three to keep things quiet?

9

00:00:44,760 --> 00:00:52,560

Can new evidence and the investigations behind it finally bring us closer to the truth?

10

00:00:52,560 --> 00:00:58,720

I am the only person alive today that knows where the remains of Jimmy Hoffa is.

11

00:00:58,720 --> 00:01:02,400

Our investigative team is excited, that's for sure.

12

00:01:02,400 --> 00:01:05,640

They got high hopes they're gonna find him.

13

00:01:05,640 --> 00:01:07,880

Where is Jimmy Hoffa?

14

00:01:22,560 --> 00:01:29,360

Detroit, Michigan, 1975.

15

00:01:29,360 --> 00:01:35,120

The center of both the U.S. auto industry and of organized labor.

16

00:01:35,120 --> 00:01:41,080

It's also the last known location of renowned former teamster president, Jimmy Hoffa.

17

00:01:41,080 --> 00:01:46,720

Jimmy Hoffa is a legend within the labor movement.

18

00:01:46,720 --> 00:01:49,640

He is a true champion of workers' rights.

19

00:01:49,640 --> 00:01:52,240

He's known all over the country.

20

00:01:52,240 --> 00:01:58,320

Hoffa's been involved with labor unions since running his first strike as a teenager.

21

00:01:58,320 --> 00:02:04,080

By the age of 14, he had to go to work to help support his family.

22

00:02:04,080 --> 00:02:08,880

Loading and unloading strawberries, working under these terrible conditions.

23

00:02:08,880 --> 00:02:11,720

And he finally kind of has enough.

24

00:02:11,720 --> 00:02:15,080

And he organizes his fellow workers.

25

00:02:15,080 --> 00:02:17,960

They decide they're gonna stop loading and unloading these strawberries

26

00:02:17,960 --> 00:02:21,920

and just let them sit out there and bake in the hot sun.

27

00:02:21,920 --> 00:02:25,960

Management's washing their strawberries kind of molder on the dock.

28

00:02:25,960 --> 00:02:27,040

They cave.

29

00:02:27,040 --> 00:02:33,720

I think this is where Hoffa really sees the power of the people, the power of organizing.

30

00:02:33,720 --> 00:02:40,720

He was successful in his very first time out at 14 years old, and people noticed.

31

00:02:40,720 --> 00:02:48,400

By 1957, he's risen to president of the Teamsters, but his climb comes with challenges.

32

00:02:48,400 --> 00:02:53,360

A rival union appears in Detroit competing for the same workers as the Teamsters,

33

00:02:53,360 --> 00:02:59,480

and they gain so much ground that eventually, Hoffa turns to the mafia for help.

34

00:02:59,480 --> 00:03:05,240

Specifically, New York's powerful Genovese crime family.

35

00:03:05,240 --> 00:03:10,120

By forming this alliance with the mafia, the Teamsters, they win their battle.

36

00:03:10,120 --> 00:03:12,120

But it comes at a price.

37

00:03:12,120 --> 00:03:14,360

The mafia guys that he forms an alliance with,

38

00:03:14,360 --> 00:03:19,840

they're expecting access to the Teamsters pension fund in return.

39

00:03:19,840 --> 00:03:26,000

The Teamsters pension fund is like a blank check for the mafia, their own personal bank.

40

00:03:26,000 --> 00:03:31,760

Hoffa has a 14-year run with the Teamsters, working hand-in-hand with the mafia the whole time,

41

00:03:31,760 --> 00:03:35,320

but that deal is eventually his undoing.

42

00:03:35,320 --> 00:03:41,600

Hoffa is indicted for a number of charges related to mob involvement with the Teamsters.

43

00:03:41,600 --> 00:03:47,040

Hoffa goes to prison and he's out of the union, but the mob remains.

44

00:03:47,040 --> 00:03:53,840

In December 1971, President Nixon commutes Hoffa's sentence with one stipulation.

45

00:03:53,840 --> 00:03:59,080

He can't manage any labor organization until 1980.

46

00:03:59,080 --> 00:04:05,680

By 1973, Hoffa's already plotting to regain the presidency of the Teamsters.

47

00:04:05,680 --> 00:04:08,160

There's just one stumbling block.

48

00:04:08,160 --> 00:04:12,920

While in prison, Hoffa has run afoul of the Genovese family.

49

00:04:12,920 --> 00:04:20,040

And on July 30th, 1975, he waits in the parking lot of the Marcus Red Fox restaurant,

50

00:04:20,040 --> 00:04:23,880

hoping to make amends.

51

00:04:23,880 --> 00:04:29,000

He's there for a meeting with associates of the Genovese crime family.

52

00:04:29,000 --> 00:04:33,640

He wants to talk to them about returning to run the Teamsters union.

53

00:04:33,640 --> 00:04:39,560

The mafia has control of the Teamsters these days and they really don't want Jimmy Hoffa back in charge,

54

00:04:39,560 --> 00:04:41,240

but they agree to the meeting.

55

00:04:41,240 --> 00:04:44,560

Problem is, they're late.

56

00:04:44,560 --> 00:04:50,200

Witnesses see Hoffa pacing and making calls on a nearby pay phone.

57

00:04:50,200 --> 00:04:54,640

After nearly an hour of waiting, a red sedan pulls up.

58

00:04:54,640 --> 00:04:59,880

Hoffa gets in and is never heard from again.

59

00:05:00,880 --> 00:05:09,880

At 7 a.m. the next day, Hoffa's wife calls her children to say their father never came home.

60

00:05:09,880 --> 00:05:18,880

And by 7 20 a.m., Hoffa's assistant finds his car unlocked in the restaurant parking lot.

61

00:05:18,880 --> 00:05:23,880

As soon as Jimmy Hoffa is reported missing, the FBI gets involved.

62

00:05:23,880 --> 00:05:26,880

They're going to investigate the case.

63

00:05:26,880 --> 00:05:29,880

Agents start at Hoffa's office.

64

00:05:29,880 --> 00:05:35,880

His office appointment book says TG 2 p.m. Red Fox.

65

00:05:35,880 --> 00:05:41,880

Red Fox obviously refers to the Marcus Red Fox restaurant.

66

00:05:41,880 --> 00:05:48,880

TG refers to Tony Jackaloni, known as Tony Jack.

67

00:05:48,880 --> 00:05:52,880

Tony Jackaloni is a high-ranking member of the Detroit mafia.

68

00:05:52,880 --> 00:05:57,880

And in many ways, Jackaloni is Hoffa's liaison to the underworld.

69

00:05:57,880 --> 00:06:01,880

In order for Hoffa to once again become president of the Teamsters,

70

00:06:01,880 --> 00:06:04,880

he has to work things out with guys like Tony Jackaloni.

71

00:06:04,880 --> 00:06:08,880

So they set up a sit-down, try to work things out.

72

00:06:10,880 --> 00:06:17,880

But when the FBI questions eyewitnesses, they learn that Jackaloni never showed up.

73

00:06:17,880 --> 00:06:21,880

So who's in the car that picks up Jimmy Hoffa?

74

00:06:21,880 --> 00:06:26,880

Not long before 3 o'clock, there are eyewitnesses who see a maroon car,

75

00:06:26,880 --> 00:06:29,880

either a Lincoln or a Mercury, pull up.

76

00:06:29,880 --> 00:06:33,880

It's unclear exactly who was in the car.

77

00:06:33,880 --> 00:06:36,880

According to the eyewitnesses, he gets in of his own accord,

78

00:06:36,880 --> 00:06:41,880

so there's no struggle, doesn't seem like it was a kidnapping or an abduction.

79

00:06:41,880 --> 00:06:45,880

This is the last time that anyone sees Jimmy Hoffa, at least publicly.

80

00:06:45,880 --> 00:06:47,880

They know who he was supposed to be meeting with,

81

00:06:47,880 --> 00:06:52,880

and so they start questioning and wiretapping known mafia associates.

82

00:06:53,880 --> 00:06:56,880

Starting with Tony Jackaloni.

83

00:06:56,880 --> 00:07:00,880

Investigators have no idea where Tony Jack is, but they start digging,

84

00:07:00,880 --> 00:07:04,880

and they realize they do know where he was two days prior.

85

00:07:04,880 --> 00:07:07,880

They find out he was meeting with two very suspicious people

86

00:07:07,880 --> 00:07:10,880

who might provide a clue as to Hoffa's whereabouts.

87

00:07:11,880 --> 00:07:16,880

Their names, Rafaeli Quasarano and Peter Vitale.

88

00:07:16,880 --> 00:07:21,880

Federal law enforcement are keeping guys like Quasarano and Vitale under surveillance.

89

00:07:21,880 --> 00:07:24,880

They're high-ranking members of the Detroit Mafia.

90

00:07:24,880 --> 00:07:30,880

They're involved in labor racketeering, drug trafficking, gambling, loan sharking.

91

00:07:30,880 --> 00:07:34,880

The usual crimes associated with members of the mafia.

92

00:07:34,880 --> 00:07:38,880

They also have another business that raises eyebrows.

93

00:07:39,880 --> 00:07:45,880

They own a commercial incinerator in their business, Central Sanitation.

94

00:07:47,880 --> 00:07:52,880

Law enforcement suspects that guys like Vitale and Quasarano

95

00:07:52,880 --> 00:07:55,880

use the incinerator to dispose of bodies.

96

00:07:56,880 --> 00:08:03,880

Central Sanitation in Hamtramik, Michigan, is just 20 miles from the Marcus Red Fox restaurant.

97

00:08:03,880 --> 00:08:07,880

It's close enough to give the FBI a theory.

98

00:08:08,880 --> 00:08:17,880

So the fact that they meet with Tony Giacalone in the days leading up to the disappearance is very significant,

99

00:08:17,880 --> 00:08:21,880

and has led some theorists to speculate that they were talking about

100

00:08:21,880 --> 00:08:26,880

preparing the incinerator to dispose of Jimmy Hoffa specifically.

101

00:08:29,880 --> 00:08:32,880

But why would the mafia order such a brutal hit?

102

00:08:33,880 --> 00:08:39,880

Could Hoffa's disappearance be tied to a beef that started years earlier in prison?

103

00:08:39,880 --> 00:08:46,880

While he's in there, he publicly fights with a crime boss from the Genovese crime family

104

00:08:46,880 --> 00:08:51,880

named Anthony Provenzano, Tony Pro, they call him.

105

00:08:52,880 --> 00:08:57,880

Like many mobsters, Tony Pro's family is collecting a union pension.

106

00:08:57,880 --> 00:09:01,880

But when Tony goes to prison, his benefits are cut off.

107

00:09:01,880 --> 00:09:07,880

Meanwhile, Jimmy Hoffa's family is still getting his pension benefits.

108

00:09:07,880 --> 00:09:14,880

Tony Provenzano confronts Jimmy Hoffa, says, why should you be entitled to these benefits and not my family?

109

00:09:14,880 --> 00:09:20,880

Jimmy Hoffa snaps back. It's because of people like you that I'm in here in the first place.

110

00:09:21,880 --> 00:09:26,880

The Genovese crime family control the teamsters, and they don't like Jimmy Hoffa.

111

00:09:27,880 --> 00:09:31,880

And they really don't want Hoffa back in charge. They want him gone.

112

00:09:31,880 --> 00:09:39,880

So the FBI believes he was killed, and then his body transported to Central Sanitation and incinerated.

113

00:09:40,880 --> 00:09:47,880

The FBI hurries to prove their case, but unfortunately, the Genovese crime family seems to be one step ahead.

114

00:09:48,880 --> 00:09:55,880

Within a few months of Hoffa's disappearance, Central Sanitation catches fire in an arson.

115

00:09:55,880 --> 00:09:58,880

A few months after that, the whole place is torn down.

116

00:09:58,880 --> 00:10:06,880

So any hope of recovering evidence disappears. And that's as far as the incinerator theory can get.

117

00:10:07,880 --> 00:10:10,880

But that doesn't stop speculation about other possibilities.

118

00:10:11,880 --> 00:10:16,880

People still want to know where did he end up? Where did they put him?

119

00:10:17,880 --> 00:10:21,880

The Genovese crime family control the teamsters, and they don't want to be in the same place.

120

00:10:23,880 --> 00:10:30,880

Many experts believe Jimmy Hoffa is killed by members of the mafia on July 30th, 1975.

121

00:10:31,880 --> 00:10:36,880

The big questions are, who did it, and where is his body?

122

00:10:37,880 --> 00:10:43,880

Then in 1989, a former mob associate says he knows the answer.

123

00:10:44,880 --> 00:10:51,880

A hitman named Donald Franco comes out with a pretty explosive story in Playboy magazine.

124

00:10:52,880 --> 00:11:00,880

Franco's confirms the FBI's belief that Hoffa was murdered in a fight with the Genovese family over control of the teamsters.

125

00:11:01,880 --> 00:11:04,880

And he also claims to know who pulled the trigger.

126

00:11:05,880 --> 00:11:12,880

According to Franco's, Jimmy Hoffa was murdered by a gang known as the Westies on the orders of Fat Tony Salerno.

127

00:11:14,880 --> 00:11:28,880

According to the FBI, the Westies and their founder, Jimmy Coonan, are responsible for as many as 100 murders from 1968 to 1986.

128

00:11:29,880 --> 00:11:33,880

They're one of the main hit squads on the mob's payroll.

129

00:11:33,880 --> 00:11:44,880

They're involved in racketeering, and they help the mob control a lot of the major construction projects in New York at the time, like Medicine Square Garden and Javits Center.

130

00:11:45,880 --> 00:11:51,880

Franco claims he's in tight with the Westies. As a matter of fact, they wanted him to be the trigger man on Hoffa.

131

00:11:52,880 --> 00:11:54,880

But he's in prison at the time, and he can't do it.

132

00:11:55,880 --> 00:11:58,880

But he says Jimmy Coonan himself told him how it all went down.

133

00:11:59,880 --> 00:12:08,880

As we know, in little before three, Hoffa is picked up by a red Mercury marquee at the Marcus Red Fox.

134

00:12:09,880 --> 00:12:16,880

He thinks he's going to go meet with Tony Jack, but when he's driven to the meeting spot, it's Jimmy Coonan and the Westies that are waiting.

135

00:12:17,880 --> 00:12:19,880

So the Westies put two bullets in Hoffa's head.

136

00:12:20,880 --> 00:12:25,880

But rather than dump the body right away, Franco's claims that they had another plan.

137

00:12:26,880 --> 00:12:29,880

They don't just want to burn the body or hide him away.

138

00:12:31,880 --> 00:12:36,880

Franco says the Westies store Hoffa's remains for five months until they can decide what to do.

139

00:12:37,880 --> 00:12:43,880

They don't want to attract undue attention, so it's not like they can string him up or just leave his body laying in the street.

140

00:12:43,880 --> 00:12:48,880

But they do want to let other criminals know, even if you're famous like Jimmy Hoffa, we can always get you.

141

00:12:49,880 --> 00:12:53,880

And in December of 1975, they finally think they had the perfect place.

142

00:12:58,880 --> 00:13:06,880

At the time, a new giant stadium is under construction in East Rutherford, New Jersey, an area known as the Meadowlands.

143

00:13:07,880 --> 00:13:10,880

The Meadowlands were already in the middle of the city.

144

00:13:10,880 --> 00:13:15,880

The Meadowlands were already a notorious dumping ground for mob victims.

145

00:13:16,880 --> 00:13:24,880

In fact, while they were constructing giant stadium, the construction crew kept running into a lot of dumped bodies.

146

00:13:25,880 --> 00:13:32,880

Each time they found a body, they'd call the prosecutor's office and say, hey, we found another one, but then construction would have to stop.

147

00:13:33,880 --> 00:13:36,880

They'd have to wait for an investigation and it was slowing the whole thing down.

148

00:13:36,880 --> 00:13:39,880

So after the fifth body, they just stopped calling.

149

00:13:41,880 --> 00:13:44,880

And that's why timing is perfect for the mob.

150

00:13:45,880 --> 00:13:49,880

Not only have they stopped looking for bodies, but a big concrete pour is scheduled.

151

00:13:50,880 --> 00:13:54,880

And guess who's in charge of the concrete trucks? The Genevieve C family.

152

00:13:57,880 --> 00:14:04,880

Franco says that Hoffa's body is brought to New Jersey in an oil drum, just before the concrete arrives for the stadium's west end zone.

153

00:14:06,880 --> 00:14:10,880

Franco's even claimed to know exactly where they were going to put Hoffa.

154

00:14:12,880 --> 00:14:20,880

In the end zone, section 107 in the corner, right where they were scheduled to pour 30 tons of concrete,

155

00:14:21,880 --> 00:14:23,880

Franco's describes it like a sick joke amongst the mob.

156

00:14:24,880 --> 00:14:29,880

Whenever a touchdown is scored, they toast and say, hey Jimmy, that one's for you.

157

00:14:30,880 --> 00:14:36,880

While it wasn't common knowledge amongst the public, at least until this interview came out,

158

00:14:37,880 --> 00:14:41,880

it was well known throughout the criminal underworld where Jimmy Hoffa was.

159

00:14:42,880 --> 00:14:47,880

They put him in the ground and he's right there on TV every Sunday.

160

00:14:48,880 --> 00:14:50,880

And that's why you don't mess with the mob.

161

00:14:51,880 --> 00:15:02,880

But when Giant Stadium is demolished in August 2010, the FBI doesn't bother to conduct a dig.

162

00:15:03,880 --> 00:15:10,880

Demolition crews only went down about four feet and word has it that Hoffa's way deeper than that.

163

00:15:11,880 --> 00:15:16,880

I guess the FBI didn't put enough trust in Donald Franco's to excavate down that low.

164

00:15:21,880 --> 00:15:26,880

Some suggest the theory simply doesn't add up.

165

00:15:27,880 --> 00:15:34,880

I don't understand why you would risk putting a body in a vehicle and transporting it cross-country,

166

00:15:35,880 --> 00:15:41,880

especially a body with the notoriety of Jimmy Hoffa. It just doesn't make sense.

167

00:15:42,880 --> 00:15:47,880

Which leads to a very different idea on what happened to Hoffa from someone who knew him well.

168

00:15:47,880 --> 00:15:53,880

There's no doubt in my mind I know where Mr. Hoffa's body is and it's not in New Jersey.

169

00:15:54,880 --> 00:15:58,880

Marvin Elkend was Hoffa's driver during his first term as Teamster President.

170

00:15:59,880 --> 00:16:03,880

The guy spent years with Hoffa, literally sitting two feet in front of him.

171

00:16:04,880 --> 00:16:08,880

He may be closer to Hoffa than any other person left alive today.

172

00:16:09,880 --> 00:16:12,880

So if he says he's got a theory on where he ended up, I'd listen to him.

173

00:16:12,880 --> 00:16:17,880

Elkond first meets Hoffa in the late 1950s.

174

00:16:18,880 --> 00:16:22,880

I worked at the Copacabana nightclub in New York. I was a busboy.

175

00:16:23,880 --> 00:16:34,880

The Mafia guys, Frankie Carbo, Blinky Palermo, Tony Salerno and Tony Pro Provenzano, they used to come in a lot.

176

00:16:35,880 --> 00:16:40,880

I stole bottles of booze from the bar and I brought it to them and they were very big difference.

177

00:16:40,880 --> 00:16:43,880

I liked them a lot. They were nice guys.

178

00:16:44,880 --> 00:16:49,880

One day, a Genovese family bigwig offers him a new opportunity.

179

00:16:50,880 --> 00:16:57,880

I was busy working and that Tony called me and he said, Friday's your last day here.

180

00:16:58,880 --> 00:17:01,880

I said, why? I'm trying so hard to do a good job.

181

00:17:02,880 --> 00:17:08,880

He says, as of Monday, you've got a new job. You're going to be the driver for Jimmy Hoffa.

182

00:17:08,880 --> 00:17:15,880

Now, I didn't know Mr. Hoffa. I knew his reputation and when they said that, I got scared.

183

00:17:16,880 --> 00:17:23,880

Mr. Hoffa was very tight with the Mafia and the go-between was that Tony Salerno.

184

00:17:24,880 --> 00:17:31,880

First time I met Mr. Hoffa, I opened up the door and I said, good morning, Mr. Hoffa.

185

00:17:31,880 --> 00:17:40,880

He said, are you Marvin? I said, yes, sir. He said, very good start. Excellent. Remember, it's Mr.

Hoffa or sir.

186

00:17:41,880 --> 00:17:42,880

Scared the hell out of me.

187

00:17:47,880 --> 00:17:52,880

Hoffa conducts much of his business from the car and Elkend hears everything.

188

00:17:53,880 --> 00:17:57,880

The guy is low on the food chain. He's kind of an errand boy.

189

00:17:57,880 --> 00:18:02,880

But he's sitting there in the front seat right in front of Jimmy Hoffa, day in and day out.

190

00:18:03,880 --> 00:18:06,880

You can only just imagine the kind of things that he heard.

191

00:18:07,880 --> 00:18:11,880

When Elkend starts working, Hoffa has two rules.

192

00:18:12,880 --> 00:18:19,880

One rule, I never want you to be late. I don't want to be kept waiting.

193

00:18:20,880 --> 00:18:25,880

The car new rule is, wait until you hear in this car, stays in this car.

194

00:18:25,880 --> 00:18:31,880

If anything that you hear in this car gets out, you won't be around the next morning.

195

00:18:32,880 --> 00:18:36,880

Do you understand me, Marvin? I said, yes, I do, sir. This is very good.

196

00:18:37,880 --> 00:18:40,880

Today, Elkend is ready to break one of those rules.

197

00:18:45,880 --> 00:18:51,880

In the 47 years since his disappearance, Jimmy Hoffa's whereabouts remain a mystery.

198

00:18:52,880 --> 00:19:00,880

Until his former driver, Marvin Elkend says he knows and that everyone's been looking in the wrong place.

199

00:19:01,880 --> 00:19:04,880

There's no doubt in my mind I know where Mr. Hoffa's body is.

200

00:19:07,880 --> 00:19:11,880

After Hoffa's picked up by the red car, what happens next?

201

00:19:12,880 --> 00:19:20,880

According to Elkend, he's shot to death at a nearby house, stuffed into the trunk of a car, and they've already decided exactly where to put him.

202

00:19:21,880 --> 00:19:30,880

Mr. Hoffa is buried in the concrete of the Renaissance Center, which is in downtown Detroit, right across the road from the Omni Hotel.

203

00:19:36,880 --> 00:19:41,880

The Renaissance Center is mid-construction at the time Hoffa disappears.

204

00:19:43,880 --> 00:19:49,880

Under the cover of the night, in the trunk of a car, they drove Mr. Hoffa to the Renaissance.

205

00:19:49,880 --> 00:19:53,880

They put him in the planks and poured the concrete on top of him.

206

00:19:55,880 --> 00:20:03,880

The next day, practically every Union carpenter in Detroit is there just building right on top of him, completely oblivious.

207

00:20:04,880 --> 00:20:11,880

I mean, what a place to put Union hero Jimmy Hoffa. The mob really does have a sick sense of humor sometimes.

208

00:20:12,880 --> 00:20:18,880

And according to Elkend, it's that same sense of humor that gives away the mob's secret.

209

00:20:19,880 --> 00:20:29,880

In 75, we had a big convention in Detroit, and the convention took place at the Renaissance. Tony Pro, while the Mazzano was there.

210

00:20:30,880 --> 00:20:35,880

Tony Pro, the Genovese boss who had a prison feud with Hoffa.

211

00:20:36,880 --> 00:20:41,880

He's walking past the construction site where they're pouring concrete footings every day.

212

00:20:42,880 --> 00:20:48,880

Tony Pro turned to everybody and said, guys, say good morning to Mr. Jimmy Hoffa.

213

00:20:49,880 --> 00:20:54,880

We looked at the fresh concrete, and we all knew exactly what he meant.

214

00:20:55,880 --> 00:20:58,880

All the talk for actual laughing. That was all the poop I needed.

215

00:20:59,880 --> 00:21:04,880

Elkend says this all could have been avoided if Hoffa had just listened to him.

216

00:21:06,880 --> 00:21:12,880

Marvin's kept in touch with the Genovese family, and he's heard that Hoffa's a target.

217

00:21:13,880 --> 00:21:21,880

Marvin wants to have a sit-down with Hoffa. He wants to warn him that certain people aren't happy. He knows they're going to take him out.

218

00:21:22,880 --> 00:21:26,880

Shortly before he goes missing, Hoffa meets with Elkend.

219

00:21:27,880 --> 00:21:33,880

Mr. Hoffa didn't realize that he was not the number one man anymore.

220

00:21:34,880 --> 00:21:40,880

I said, Mr. Hoffa, they don't want you to be president. There was no question if he ran, he would get elected.

221

00:21:41,880 --> 00:21:46,880

The mafia had to do something about it, and that's why they had him killed.

222

00:21:47,880 --> 00:21:55,880

I told Mr. Hoffa what the word was. Mr. Hoffa's told me, Marvin, my people will never harm me.

223

00:21:57,880 --> 00:22:04,880

Mr. Hoffa went missing, and immediately the concrete was poured. Nobody has ever seen him again.

224

00:22:06,880 --> 00:22:12,880

Hoffa thought he was untouchable, that he had an army of thousands of blue collar workers behind him.

225

00:22:13,880 --> 00:22:19,880

But when the mob wants you out of the way, not even an army can protect you from a few coppers with guns.

226

00:22:19,880 --> 00:22:24,880

In 2016, another witness steps forward to back up Elkend's story.

227

00:22:25,880 --> 00:22:31,880

Former corrections officer Michael Yarbrough claims to have actually witnessed Hoffa's burial at the Renaissance Center.

228

00:22:32,880 --> 00:22:47,880

Yarbrough says that at 3.20 p.m., half an hour or so after Hoffa is picked up at the Maccas Red Fox restaurant, he's walking past the construction site and he hears a struggle.

229

00:22:48,880 --> 00:23:01,880

He looks and he sees a cement truck, a 1975 Maroon Mercury Marquis, and two guys pushing Jimmy Hoffa into a huge hole where a pillar is going to be built.

230

00:23:02,880 --> 00:23:09,880

Apparently, a third guy sees Yarbrough snooping and runs up and says, hey, you better keep moving or you're going to be next.

231

00:23:10,880 --> 00:23:13,880

So he runs out of there and he hides until they're gone.

232

00:23:14,880 --> 00:23:20,880

But once again, without a body, the Renaissance theory remains impossible to prove.

233

00:23:21,880 --> 00:23:29,880

It's a major supporting pillar of one of the most iconic and recognizable buildings in Michigan. They're never going to dig that thing up.

234

00:23:30,880 --> 00:23:43,880

On December 9th, 1982, after a seven-year investigation, Jimmy Hoffa is declared legally dead by a Michigan judge.

235

00:23:44,880 --> 00:23:52,880

But when the FBI publicly releases a report called the Hoffa X Memo detailing the leads they followed in the case, one line jumps out.

236

00:23:52,880 --> 00:23:59,880

No evidence has been developed to date which would prove that James R. Hoffa is either dead or alive.

237

00:24:00,880 --> 00:24:06,880

After years of theories on his death, is it possible that Hoffa is still alive?

238

00:24:09,880 --> 00:24:17,880

Six months into the investigation, the FBI produces this really important document known as the Hoffa X Memo.

239

00:24:18,880 --> 00:24:21,880

It's a veritable who's who of mafia names.

240

00:24:25,880 --> 00:24:30,880

It reads like a Hollywood script with every mobster you've ever heard of involved.

241

00:24:31,880 --> 00:24:40,880

Tony Pro, Tony Jack, Fat Tony, the Irishman, every mobster you've ever heard of, they're listed in the Hoffa X Memo.

242

00:24:41,880 --> 00:24:46,880

And while the memo is full of names, it's lacking in evidence.

243

00:24:47,880 --> 00:24:59,880

Eventually the investigation leads to a grand jury. They identify 95 people that they want to testify before the jury, but almost everyone takes the fifth.

244

00:25:00,880 --> 00:25:07,880

This memo lists so many people and so many theories and in the end, after each story, it says we can't cooperate any of this.

245

00:25:07,880 --> 00:25:14,880

Maybe it's this, but we can't prove it. Maybe it's that, we can't prove it. It just goes around and around in circles. It's like a smoke screen.

246

00:25:15,880 --> 00:25:20,880

But why would the FBI try to hide the truth about Hoffa's disappearance?

247

00:25:21,880 --> 00:25:24,880

Why? Because he's actually a government informant.

248

00:25:26,880 --> 00:25:32,880

Around the time of his death, many speculate Jimmy Hoffa's cooperating with the feds.

249

00:25:32,880 --> 00:25:45,880

Once again, it comes down to the Teamsters, the former source of all of Hoffa's power. He wants that power back, but Nixon's banned him from union leadership as part of the deal that gets him out of prison.

250

00:25:46,880 --> 00:25:57,880

The government has taken Hoffa's ability to lead, and if he wants it back, he's going to have to make a deal with the government. Luckily, he's got a lot of bargaining power.

251

00:25:58,880 --> 00:26:04,880

Over the years, Hoffa has had a front row seat to the inner workings of the mafia.

252

00:26:06,880 --> 00:26:15,880

Jimmy Hoffa knows where the bodies are buried. He knows they're involved in Vegas, that they're skimming money.

253

00:26:15,880 --> 00:26:27,880

He knows that they have these sweetheart pension deals and no-show jobs. He would be an invaluable asset and informant to the federal government.

254

00:26:28,880 --> 00:26:34,880

Clearly, he's in a very dangerous position, caught between the mob and the U.S. government.

255

00:26:35,880 --> 00:26:43,880

And on July 30th, 1975, some theorists believe Hoffa isn't killed. He's rescued.

256

00:26:45,880 --> 00:26:47,880

Let's go back to the mockest Red Fox.

257

00:26:48,880 --> 00:26:54,880

We know that Hoffa's mafia associates stand him up. They're not showing up to the meeting. He's upset.

258

00:26:55,880 --> 00:26:57,880

But the fact that they're late just might have saved his life.

259

00:26:58,880 --> 00:27:04,880

One of the car that shows up is not full of wise guys and mobsters, but it's actually the Justice Department.

260

00:27:05,880 --> 00:27:12,880

They've heard that there's a hit-out on Jimmy, and they swoop in to intercept him before the mobsters can get there.

261

00:27:15,880 --> 00:27:21,880

If the FBI is trying to hide Jimmy Hoffa, the question is, where?

262

00:27:22,880 --> 00:27:33,880

One theory suggests that actually Hoffa lives out his final days in Mexico or somewhere on the beach and lives happily ever after.

263

00:27:34,880 --> 00:27:36,880

I have a very difficult time accepting that theory.

264

00:27:37,880 --> 00:27:41,880

To me, the witness protection theory is laughable for a lot of reasons.

265

00:27:41,880 --> 00:27:45,880

But the main one is, how the hell do you hide Jimmy Hoffa? I mean, look at him.

266

00:27:46,880 --> 00:27:52,880

He's one of the most recognizable public figures, political leaders, but also Jimmy Hoffa loved the spotlight.

267

00:27:53,880 --> 00:27:59,880

Does he strike you as someone who would accept a deal with the federal government to spend the rest of his life in hiding?

268

00:28:00,880 --> 00:28:04,880

He wanted to be on the front lines, plus people would recognize him. It just doesn't hold up.

269

00:28:05,880 --> 00:28:11,880

Which leads to an entirely different theory involving another top secret government agency.

270

00:28:14,880 --> 00:28:25,880

This theory starts the same as the last. He gets picked up by the feds because he intends to cooperate with the government, hopefully to get permission to lead the teamsters again.

271

00:28:25,880 --> 00:28:38,880

And as it turns out, in 1975, right when Hoffa is looking to regain presidency of the union, there's a brand new Senate investigation ramping up and it gives him the perfect opportunity.

272

00:28:39,880 --> 00:28:41,880

And the perfect leverage.

273

00:28:42,880 --> 00:28:50,880

The Senate is investigating the CIA, and Hoffa knows about one of the dirtiest deals the CIA ever did.

274

00:28:51,880 --> 00:28:53,880

It's called Operation Mongoose.

275

00:28:54,880 --> 00:29:05,880

Was Hoffa planning to testify against the CIA to get back in control of the teamsters? And if so, could that have gotten him killed?

276

00:29:05,880 --> 00:29:21,880

Operation Mongoose was a collaboration between the CIA and the Italian mafia in America. It was an assassination plot to eliminate Cuban dictator Fidel Castro.

277

00:29:22,880 --> 00:29:35,880

The mafia had casinos, they had their money in banks in Cuba, and when Castro took power, he kicked them all out, arrested some of them, sold all their money.

278

00:29:36,880 --> 00:29:42,880

The mafia wants Castro out of the way so they can go back in and start up their businesses again in the vice-ranking.

279

00:29:43,880 --> 00:29:48,880

The way the CIA looked at it was, our enemy's enemy is our friend.

280

00:29:49,880 --> 00:29:59,880

A federal agent reaches out to mobster Johnny Roselli and Sam Giancana, another well-known mob personality out of Chicago.

281

00:30:00,880 --> 00:30:07,880

These guys agree to do the hit, as we know it was never completed, but the request was made and the CIA will do anything to keep that a secret.

282

00:30:08,880 --> 00:30:12,880

And some think that includes getting rid of Jimmy Hoffa.

283

00:30:12,880 --> 00:30:19,880

Hoffa and Sam Giancana have been doing business together in the back of Hoffa's car for years. He's heard all the stories.

284

00:30:20,880 --> 00:30:27,880

The question is, is he so desperate to run the teamsters again that he would tell these stories to the Senate Investigation Committee?

285

00:30:28,880 --> 00:30:34,880

According to this theory's supporters, Hoffa and his mafia associates are all planning to talk.

286

00:30:35,880 --> 00:30:42,880

Giancana, Roselli and Hoffa were all subpoena to provide testimony in front of this Senate hearing.

287

00:30:43,880 --> 00:30:45,880

But none of them make it to Washington.

288

00:30:46,880 --> 00:30:55,880

Sam Giancana was murdered in May. Hoffa was supposed to testify in August of 1975. He was murdered on July 30th, 1975.

289

00:30:55,880 --> 00:31:05,880

And then Johnny Roselli was supposed to testify in August of 1976. And his body was found floating in Biscayne Bay in a 50-gallon drum.

290

00:31:06,880 --> 00:31:10,880

Is it possible the CIA took out all three to keep things quiet?

291

00:31:14,880 --> 00:31:21,880

While we may never know the answer, one thing is clear. Any hope of finding Hoffa alive is now gone.

292

00:31:21,880 --> 00:31:27,880

Jimmy Hoffa would be 108 years old today, so if we find any remnants of him, it's going to be his bones.

293

00:31:28,880 --> 00:31:38,880

You're not going to roll into a Burger King in Kalamazoo, Michigan and find him having a whopper with Elvis and Jim Morrison. That's not going to happen.

294

00:31:39,880 --> 00:31:46,880

But one man thinks he knows exactly where Hoffa's body is. And it's not where anyone expects.

295

00:31:52,880 --> 00:32:04,880

Within days of Jimmy Hoffa's disappearance, multiple underworld tipsters claim to know his whereabouts, including Trenton State Penitentiary inmate Ralph Picardo.

296

00:32:10,880 --> 00:32:16,880

This incredible story starts August 4th, 1975. That was only five days after Hoffa's disappearance.

297

00:32:16,880 --> 00:32:25,880

Picardo's doing 20 years for manslaughter when his accountant showed up with the Andretta brothers, Stephen and Thomas.

298

00:32:26,880 --> 00:32:33,880

These guys worked for the Genovese family, Crime Boss Tony Pro, who everyone agrees had problems with Jimmy Hoffa.

299

00:32:34,880 --> 00:32:40,880

Stephen Andretta tells Picardo what happened to Hoffa a few days before. He said he knew the whole thing.

300

00:32:41,880 --> 00:32:45,880

A few months later, Picardo decided he turned states evidence.

301

00:32:46,880 --> 00:32:52,880

Now Picardo might be just looking for a lighter sentence, but he reveals the whole story as told by Andretta.

302

00:32:54,880 --> 00:32:59,880

It begins once again in the parking lot of the Moccas Red Fox on July 30th.

303

00:33:00,880 --> 00:33:06,880

Picardo tells the FBI a familiar story in the beginning. He said Hoffa was picked up in the restaurant parking lot.

304

00:33:07,880 --> 00:33:15,880

In the car are Sally Buggs, Thomas Andretta and Vito Giacalone. That's Tony's little brother.

305

00:33:16,880 --> 00:33:22,880

Hoffa thought he was going to be meeting with Tony Giac, so he wouldn't be too concerned about these extra people in the car.

306

00:33:23,880 --> 00:33:29,880

And they take him to this so-called meeting spot. There, Sally Buggs shoots him twice in the head.

307

00:33:30,880 --> 00:33:40,880

Picardo says that Genovese Crime Boss Tony Pro ordered the hit and directed the Andretta brothers to carry it out all the way from back in Jersey City.

308

00:33:41,880 --> 00:33:47,880

And according to Picardo, Tony Pro wants Hoffa's body nearby as a reminder.

309

00:33:49,880 --> 00:33:53,880

To understand what happens next, you got to understand the mob mentality.

310

00:33:54,880 --> 00:33:59,880

You think in both cases you have a body, you want to get rid of it as quick and as fast as possible.

311

00:34:00,880 --> 00:34:04,880

But sometimes these guys want to make a statement. Tony Pro hates Hoffa.

312

00:34:04,880 --> 00:34:07,880

He would have mounted his head on a wall of his den if he could have.

313

00:34:08,880 --> 00:34:10,880

Why these guys don't let this kind of thing go?

314

00:34:11,880 --> 00:34:18,880

Tony Pro also has an easy means of transportation and an ideal place to hide a body.

315

00:34:19,880 --> 00:34:24,880

The Genovese family controls a trucking company called Gateway Transportation.

316

00:34:25,880 --> 00:34:33,880

According to Picardo's story, Hoffa's body is stuffed into a 55 gallon oil drum and put onto a Gateway Transportation truck.

317

00:34:36,880 --> 00:34:38,880

Off he goes 600 miles to Jersey City.

318

00:34:40,880 --> 00:34:46,880

In Jersey City, when Tony Pro has a body he wants to get rid of, he's got a favorite spot.

319

00:34:47,880 --> 00:35:03,880

At the time of Hoffa's disappearance, Genovese soldiers Phil, brother Moscato and Paul Capola own a 53 acre waste dump under the Pulaski Skyway.

320

00:35:04,880 --> 00:35:10,880

Moscato, Capola and then Dreda brothers have been involved in burying bodies of this dump for many years.

321

00:35:11,880 --> 00:35:17,880

The FBI has been investigating these people and bodies in this dump for the past three years before Hoffa even disappeared.

322

00:35:18,880 --> 00:35:22,880

So when the FBI hears this from Ralph Picardo, they pay attention.

323

00:35:23,880 --> 00:35:30,880

Picardo would have no way of knowing that this dump was already under investigation, but the details, they all line up.

324

00:35:31,880 --> 00:35:36,880

The FBI asks Picardo for the location of the burial site within the dump.

325

00:35:36,880 --> 00:35:39,880

Whether or not Picardo knows, he won't reveal the location.

326

00:35:40,880 --> 00:35:45,880

The odds against finding the body in this place are huge. It'd be like finding the needle in the haystack.

327

00:35:46,880 --> 00:35:52,880

Unfortunately, without a more specific place to look, their search comes up empty.

328

00:35:53,880 --> 00:36:01,880

On December the 4th, 1975, the feds make a last ditch effort. They put the Dreda brothers in front of a grand jury, but they believed the fit.

329

00:36:02,880 --> 00:36:08,880

After just five months, the Jersey Dump Theory hits a roadblock for 41 years.

330

00:36:10,880 --> 00:36:15,880

But in 2016, a deathbed confession resurrects it.

331

00:36:21,880 --> 00:36:28,880

47 years after he disappeared, could Jimmy Hoffa's body finally be found in a new Jersey Dump?

332

00:36:29,880 --> 00:36:36,880

The place is mob-owned and they've got a jailhouse informant named Ralph Picardo who says that he's there.

333

00:36:37,880 --> 00:36:40,880

But they search in 1975 and simply can't find a body.

334

00:36:42,880 --> 00:36:49,880

It's tough. I mean, they faced incredible odds of 53-acre property with not even a little clue about where to look.

335

00:36:50,880 --> 00:36:55,880

This place is landfill and a toxic waste dump. It was too dangerous to dig in many places.

336

00:36:56,880 --> 00:36:59,880

Maybe that's why the mob likes to hide bodies in this dump.

337

00:37:02,880 --> 00:37:14,880

The FBI abandons the search in 1976, but 40 years later, a shocking revelation brings the Moscato Dump back to the attention of Hoffa theorists.

338

00:37:15,880 --> 00:37:21,880

Philip Moscato Jr., who's the son of the Moscato Dump owner, comes forward and claims he knows exactly where to look.

339

00:37:22,880 --> 00:37:28,880

Moscato says his father, Philip Sr., made a deathbed confession.

340

00:37:29,880 --> 00:37:33,880

The day I met my father in the hospital, it was the day before he went home on hospice.

341

00:37:34,880 --> 00:37:37,880

He said, listen, some things you got to tell you.

342

00:37:38,880 --> 00:37:41,880

And he proceeded to tell me the location where Jimmy Hoffa's buried.

343

00:37:42,880 --> 00:37:48,880

He was brought there in a drum, on a truck, and put in the ground. That's what I was told.

344

00:37:49,880 --> 00:37:54,880

Could an oil drum like this contain the remains of Jimmy Hoffa?

345

00:37:55,880 --> 00:38:04,880

It lines up with Ralph Picardo's story as well that the mob kills Hoffa in Detroit, puts him in a drum, and trucks him down to Jersey City to bury him in Moscato's dump.

346

00:38:05,880 --> 00:38:13,880

To complete the job, Moscato dumps 12 more oil drums on top of Hoffa and fills the whole thing in.

347

00:38:14,880 --> 00:38:18,880

Moscato digs deeper into his father's story.

348

00:38:19,880 --> 00:38:23,880

I started trying to put the story together in my head, like, how could this be possible?

349

00:38:24,880 --> 00:38:29,880

And over my research of the years, putting this together, it all started to make sense to me.

350

00:38:31,880 --> 00:38:36,880

The full property of the dump doesn't even exist anymore. It's been divided and used for other things.

351

00:38:36,880 --> 00:38:41,880

But there's a patch of land right under Pulaski's guideway. It's kind of shaped like a baseball diamond.

352

00:38:42,880 --> 00:38:45,880

And that's where Philip tells us that his father buried Jimmy Hoffa.

353

00:38:49,880 --> 00:38:54,880

In 2020, a search firm conducts further investigations at the site.

354

00:38:55,880 --> 00:39:00,880

Investigators had just did a ground-penetrating radar, I believe they call it.

355

00:39:01,880 --> 00:39:07,880

It's a method of sending radar pulses into the earth. It's a great way to see what's under the surface before you dig.

356

00:39:08,880 --> 00:39:14,880

Lo and behold, they find some metal. If you take the data from that session, you can make a 3D image of exactly what's down there.

357

00:39:15,880 --> 00:39:20,880

And the first thing you see, there's a large curved piece that looks just like an oil drum.

358

00:39:21,880 --> 00:39:27,880

And it's not just one, there are multiple barrels. And they're buried right on top of each other starting about four feet down.

359

00:39:28,880 --> 00:39:32,880

Could this be the final resting place of Jimmy Hoffa?

360

00:39:36,880 --> 00:39:38,880

Moscato hopes to have an answer soon.

361

00:39:40,880 --> 00:39:47,880

My belief from what I was told from my dad is that I am the only person alive today that knows where the remains of Jimmy Hoffa is.

362

00:39:48,880 --> 00:39:55,880

We're getting close to revealing that. And I'm hoping in the near future we do reveal that and we can maybe give the Hoffa family some closure.

363

00:39:57,880 --> 00:40:02,880

The Hoffa family needs to bring home their dad, bring home their husband, their grandfather.

364

00:40:03,880 --> 00:40:07,880

Bring them home to the people that he belongs to, that he should have been through all these years with.

365

00:40:14,880 --> 00:40:20,880

If Philip is correct, the Jimmy Hoffa mystery may be closer than ever to being solved.

366

00:40:20,880 --> 00:40:27,880

The FBI has conducted a site survey at the Moscato dump and may soon begin a full-scale excavation.

367

00:40:28,880 --> 00:40:34,880

And there's a chance that it could finally put Jimmy Hoffa and all the many theories on his disappearance to rest.

368

00:40:35,880 --> 00:40:40,880

I'm Lawrence Fishburne. Thank you for watching History's Greatest Mysteries.

