

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:09,640

This program is about unsolved mysteries. Whenever possible, the actual family members

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00:00:09,640 --> 00:00:13,720

and police officials have participated in recreating the events. What you are about

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00:00:13,720 --> 00:00:15,720

to see is not a news broadcast.

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00:00:15,720 --> 00:00:25,240

Tonight's cases feature ordinary people thrust into a vortex of mystery, heartbreak, and

5

00:00:25,840 --> 00:00:30,560

each one is searching for that vital clue to end a story that so far has no ending.

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00:00:30,560 --> 00:00:36,840

Perhaps you can help. Join me. You may be able to help solve a mystery.

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00:00:55,240 --> 00:01:23,000

Tonight is special report on one of the most fascinating mysteries of this century. The

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00:01:23,000 --> 00:01:28,320

case of Rudolf Hess, Adolf Hitler's second in command. Hess shocked the world in 1941

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00:01:28,320 --> 00:01:33,000

by flying to Britain on a secret peace mission. This special segment takes us to Scotland

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00:01:33,000 --> 00:01:37,360

and Germany, where experts claim that it was not Hess who made that momentous flight, but

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00:01:37,360 --> 00:01:42,880

a double impersonating it. Also two other intriguing mysteries, needing but one final clue to solve

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00:01:42,880 --> 00:01:45,960

them. Someone watching tonight may know the truth.

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00:01:53,000 --> 00:02:13,680

1933, Adolf Hitler sees his total power in Germany. By his side, Deputy Reichsführer Rudolf

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00:02:13,680 --> 00:02:19,680

Hess is close as content. Hess would come to figure in one of the most remarkable mysteries

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00:02:19,680 --> 00:02:47,520

of World War II. 1941, the world is astounded to learn that Rudolf Hess has been captured

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00:02:47,520 --> 00:02:52,000

in Scotland while attempting to deliver a peace proposal to secret contacts in the British

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00:02:52,000 --> 00:03:09,880

government. 1946, Nuremberg. Rudolf Hess is sentenced to life in West Berlin's Spandau

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00:03:09,880 --> 00:03:18,920

Prison. 1987, Rudolf Hess is found dead in Spandau's prison garden. Though the cause

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00:03:18,920 --> 00:03:23,560

of death is officially declared a suicide, his family and experts are convinced that

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00:03:23,560 --> 00:03:30,800

he was murdered. I have no sympathy for the Nazi past or any crimes that Hess may have

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00:03:30,800 --> 00:03:37,440

committed, but he was a human being, and he deserves a dignity at least to find out if

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00:03:37,440 --> 00:03:43,680

he was murdered. Who did it? The story of Rudolf Hess is a mystery that spans almost

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00:03:43,680 --> 00:03:49,600

50 years. Not only do some experts believe he was murdered in prison, but startling evidence

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00:03:49,600 --> 00:03:55,080

suggests that a man of Spandau was not the real Rudolf Hess. What ties these events together

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00:03:55,080 --> 00:04:00,520

is a global conspiracy that began at the start of World War II. It may still be going on

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00:04:00,520 --> 00:04:11,840

today. Rudolf Hess was incarcerated in Berlin's Spandau prison from 1947 until his death.

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00:04:11,840 --> 00:04:20,440

He was aloof, keeping his distance from fellow prisoners and his warders. In September 1973,

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00:04:20,440 --> 00:04:26,560

a British surgeon named Hugh Thomas made a detailed physical examination of Hess. Thomas

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00:04:26,560 --> 00:04:31,400

had earlier studied Hess' medical records and expected to find scars from bullet wounds

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00:04:31,400 --> 00:04:43,760

Hess had received in the First World War. There were no scars, no bullet wounds, nor

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00:04:43,760 --> 00:04:54,840

was there any evidence of an operation. They're not things that you can miss. At West Germany's

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00:04:55,200 --> 00:05:00,560

Berlin Document Center, Thomas uncovered the original World War I military records of Rudolf

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00:05:00,560 --> 00:05:08,440

Hess. For the first time, I became very, very seriously concerned about the identity of

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00:05:08,440 --> 00:05:15,040

the man in Spandau. The record showed that he'd sustained a through shot through the

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00:05:15,040 --> 00:05:25,400

lung in the First World War. So I'm left with a situation whereby a man has total evidence

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00:05:25,400 --> 00:05:33,680

in surgical terms of no wounding and total evidence in documentary terms of such wounding.

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00:05:33,680 --> 00:05:40,480

It can't be the same man. If the man Dr. Thomas examined at Spandau

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00:05:40,480 --> 00:05:45,440

was not Rudolf Hess, then who was he? The answer may lie in a series of events that

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00:05:45,440 --> 00:05:57,160

took place in May of 1941. On May 10th of that year, Rudolf Hess told his wife that he planned

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00:05:57,160 --> 00:06:03,960

to fly to Berlin for an important meeting and that he would be home in three days. They

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00:06:03,960 --> 00:06:21,240

would not see one another again for 28 years. The facts are that at 1745 hours, the real

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00:06:21,240 --> 00:06:27,760

Rudolf Hess took off from Augsburg in Bavaria, southern part of Germany, flying north in

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00:06:27,760 --> 00:06:34,840

the Messerschmitt 110D. We know the aircraft had the serial number 1545 and the letters

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00:06:34,840 --> 00:06:42,480

NJC11 on the side. He was tracked by German radar and defence controllers right across

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00:06:42,480 --> 00:06:47,640

Germany and across occupied Europe. And just after half past seven that evening was lost

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00:06:47,640 --> 00:06:57,160

to German radar going north over the North Sea. Four and a half hours after Rudolf Hess

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00:06:57,280 --> 00:07:04,160

left Germany, a lone Messerschmitt was picked up on British radar heading towards Scotland.

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00:07:04,160 --> 00:07:15,160

At approximately 11 p.m. the Scottish farmer caught sight of an aircraft descending rapidly.

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00:07:27,160 --> 00:07:43,160

A pilot gave his name as Alfred Horn. He asked for a meeting with a Duke of Hamilton,

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00:07:43,160 --> 00:07:59,560

a member of the British Parliament who lived in the area. Surprisingly the man calling

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00:07:59,560 --> 00:08:04,640

himself Alfred Horn carried no identification, but he was wearing the uniform of a Luftwaffe

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00:08:04,640 --> 00:08:15,000

officer. The next morning a meeting was arranged with a Duke of Hamilton who was at the time

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00:08:15,000 --> 00:08:17,960

serving as an officer in the Royal Air Force.

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00:08:17,960 --> 00:08:31,920

How's your work gentlemen? So you're Captain Horn and I believe you want to see me.

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00:08:31,920 --> 00:08:39,520

Sir I am not Captain Horn. I am Deputy Reichschurer Rudolf Hess.

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00:08:39,520 --> 00:08:49,280

I don't recognize you sir. I am here on a mission of humanity from the

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00:08:49,280 --> 00:08:56,240

Führer. The Führer fears that Hamilton ultimately was convinced that the prisoner was Rudolf

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00:08:56,240 --> 00:09:02,400

Hess. But Winston Churchill remained suspicious. He sent Yvonne Kirkpatrick, a diplomat who

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00:09:02,400 --> 00:09:07,680

knew Hess personally, to meet with a prisoner. Kirkpatrick thought the man was indeed Rudolf Hess.

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00:09:08,640 --> 00:09:15,600

Hugh Thomas disagrees. The mistakes made by the man when he arrived were incredible.

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00:09:15,600 --> 00:09:22,440

He claimed that he was born in 1899 and when he first landed said 1897, when in actual

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00:09:22,440 --> 00:09:31,400

fact the real Hess' age as you know was 1894. So there's a discrepancy there.

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00:09:31,400 --> 00:09:35,320

It is thought that Hitler and other members of the Nazi elite use doubles for security

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00:09:35,360 --> 00:09:39,960

reasons. Thomas believes that a double was recruited to impersonate Hess on the flight

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00:09:39,960 --> 00:09:47,400

to Scotland. Photographs taken upon Hess' departure support this theory as they appear

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00:09:47,400 --> 00:09:50,800

to show a different plane from the one that crash landed in Scotland.

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00:09:50,800 --> 00:10:06,760

The plane that took off in Germany was marked NJC11. Now the reason we know that is that it was

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00:10:06,760 --> 00:10:13,440

photographed taking off and also Helmut Kardon, one of the airport assistants there at the time,

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00:10:14,080 --> 00:10:23,360

logged it in his book whereby he denoted NJC11 was the plane that took off. The plane that landed

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00:10:24,240 --> 00:10:34,320

in Scotland was marked on the side of the fuselage VJ or NJOQ, a totally different plane.

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00:10:36,320 --> 00:10:41,840

The first people to get to the wreckage found an aircraft that was almost intact. The machine guns

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00:10:41,920 --> 00:10:46,400

in the nose were still packed with grease. They'd never been used. This was obviously an

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00:10:46,400 --> 00:10:51,400

aircraft that was so new it hadn't yet been devoted to operational work. British researchers know

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00:10:51,400 --> 00:10:57,560

that that aircraft was based at a fighter airfield in northern Denmark called Alborg. It was tracked

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00:10:57,560 --> 00:11:02,320

in from that direction and there really seems no reason to doubt that it came from Denmark rather

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00:11:02,320 --> 00:11:10,160

than Germany. There is more evidence that a double had replaced the real Hess. Hess was a skilled

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00:11:10,240 --> 00:11:16,480

pilot yet the man who flew to Scotland made a number of elementary mistakes. The man who approached

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00:11:16,480 --> 00:11:21,280

Britain and flew over Scotland was an amateur in every sense of the word. He did everything wrong.

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00:11:22,000 --> 00:11:26,400

He approached the British coast at the ideal height to be intercepted by radar instead of under it.

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00:11:26,960 --> 00:11:32,240

Then he power dived using far too much fuel and then he flew at only 50 feet across the Scottish

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00:11:32,240 --> 00:11:37,600

borders. Now that meant that people on the ground could observe the aircraft and track it every step

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00:11:37,600 --> 00:11:43,520

of the way but the pilot was too low to even pick up his landmarks so whoever he was he was an amateur

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00:11:43,520 --> 00:11:51,360

pilot. If the man who landed in Scotland was a double how and why was this deception engineered?

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00:11:53,680 --> 00:11:57,360

The answer may lie with the only man in the Third Reich more feared than Edel of Hitler,

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00:11:58,160 --> 00:12:03,760

the master of the dreaded SS Heinrich Himmler. In a moment we will examine a theory that Himmler

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00:12:03,760 --> 00:12:08,640

may have been at the center of a conspiracy that reached from Hitler's inner circle to England's

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00:12:08,640 --> 00:12:27,600

House of Parliament. Rudolph Hess had been Hitler's closest confidant but at the beginning of World

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00:12:27,600 --> 00:12:33,280

War II his influence began to wane. Part of the reason can be traced to SS Reichsführer Heinrich

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00:12:33,280 --> 00:12:45,680

Himmler. Hess had come to power purely by being one of the first of Hitler's loyal supporters.

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00:12:47,200 --> 00:12:52,400

In such a position he was obviously a threat to Himmler who aspired to gain control of all of

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00:12:52,400 --> 00:13:00,240

the world and from that point of view he was hated so in essence he was part of a power struggle.

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00:13:04,240 --> 00:13:15,120

In early 1941 Hitler's inner circle including Himmler were planning for the invasion of the Soviet

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00:13:15,120 --> 00:13:18,240

Union.

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00:13:33,360 --> 00:13:38,320

Hess argued that peace with England must be secured before this attack and had secretly

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00:13:38,320 --> 00:13:44,960

attempted to contact members of British Parliament. Himmler may have sensed an opportunity to eliminate

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00:13:44,960 --> 00:13:56,240

his rival. Himmler had a double ready at hand and he used this double in conjunction with Göring

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00:13:56,240 --> 00:14:03,120

to actually supplant Hess, get rid of Hess, kill off Hess and put the double into England to contain

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00:14:03,120 --> 00:14:10,240

to carry over peace proposals to the English hierarchy. According to this theory if the

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00:14:10,240 --> 00:14:14,400

double's initial peace overtures had been successful Himmler would have stepped in,

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00:14:14,400 --> 00:14:21,360

finished the negotiations and claimed the credit. Hugh Thomas believes that Adolf Hitler was unaware

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00:14:21,360 --> 00:14:26,240

that Himmler was secretly in contact with the clique of highly placed Nazi sympathizers in

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00:14:26,240 --> 00:14:32,400

Britain. According to Thomas some were members of parliament and they plotted to depose Churchill

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00:14:32,400 --> 00:14:39,600

and make their own separate peace with Germany. During the war both Franklin Roosevelt and Joseph

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00:14:39,600 --> 00:14:45,200

Stalin were suspicious of the official British account of the Hess affair. Stalin was convinced

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00:14:45,200 --> 00:14:50,240

that the British were plotting a separate peace with Germany. Dr. Thomas believes that he was

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00:14:50,240 --> 00:15:00,000

correct. The Hess affair is the key to the understanding of the whole plot that was hatched by

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00:15:00,720 --> 00:15:11,520

30 or so of the top ranking British hierarchical figures in the country designed to unite Nazi

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00:15:11,520 --> 00:15:22,960

Germany and Britain against Soviet Russia and stop the war so that expansion into Russia by Germany

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00:15:23,040 --> 00:15:32,560

could exist. There's no question that had the Hess affair gone to fruition had Himmler's plan

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00:15:32,560 --> 00:15:39,760

gone right the result would have been a Nazi Anglo bloc which would have ruled the world.

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00:15:41,440 --> 00:15:47,120

But the plan didn't work. Churchill refused to meet with Hess and his peace overture was rejected.

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00:15:47,760 --> 00:15:53,840

Despondent Hess attempted suicide a few days later. Intelligence officers and psychiatrists

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00:15:53,840 --> 00:15:59,120

continually interrogated the prisoner. He claimed amnesia and refused to answer the questions.

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00:15:59,920 --> 00:16:04,800

In 1945 Hess was brought home to Germany for the beginning of the Nuremberg trial.

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00:16:09,440 --> 00:16:13,280

During this trial Hess was forced to meet with two of his former secretaries.

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00:16:14,080 --> 00:16:16,960

Officials hoped this confrontation would jog his memory.

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00:16:16,960 --> 00:16:46,400

The prisoner's most significant lack of recognition is that of his secretaries and these women were

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00:16:46,960 --> 00:16:52,560

greatly disturbed and greatly upset and kept on at the old man to try and recognize them.

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00:16:59,680 --> 00:17:03,040

One of them showed in the picture of his son whom he didn't recognize

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00:17:03,680 --> 00:17:08,400

yet he'd carried a picture of that son with him supposedly on his flight to England.

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00:17:09,280 --> 00:17:12,800

So the man was behaving in a very bizarre fashion.

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00:17:20,880 --> 00:17:26,880

The two secretaries left upset but still certain that the man they had met was Rudolph Hess.

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00:17:30,640 --> 00:17:34,720

Hess was sentenced to life imprisonment in the converted fortress in West Berlin known as

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00:17:34,800 --> 00:17:40,240

Spandau Prison. Hess's new home was to be jointly administered by the United States,

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00:17:40,240 --> 00:17:46,800

Britain, France and the Soviet Union. One by one Spandau's six other Nazi prisoners had died

126

00:17:46,800 --> 00:17:53,840

or had been released but Rudolph Hess had his freedom blocked by a Soviet veto. In 1966 he was

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00:17:53,920 --> 00:17:58,240

Spandau's only prisoner at a cost of over one million dollars per year.

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00:18:09,440 --> 00:18:16,480

Rudolph Hess loved to walk in the garden this long trail about 267 paces around.

129

00:18:17,280 --> 00:18:25,920

To me he lived in a world by himself. For the first two years in my talking with Hess I never got

130

00:18:25,920 --> 00:18:33,520

beyond food, health and weather and everything was bad. It took me two years to even talk to him

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00:18:33,520 --> 00:18:42,400

about anything political. He lived in this eggshell. Time seemed to have stood still for him since 1941

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00:18:42,480 --> 00:18:50,400

since his flight. By the late 1960s Hess's health had greatly deteriorated. Even so he refused all

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00:18:50,400 --> 00:18:56,480

visits with his family. The reason why he didn't accept visits beforehand was simply that the

134

00:18:56,480 --> 00:19:02,320

surrounding and the circumstances under which these visits take place in Spandau were so bad that

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00:19:02,320 --> 00:19:09,280

he said it's better not to see each other and to write and after having paid these visits after

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00:19:09,360 --> 00:19:18,320

1969 I can only completely agree with him. In December 1969 when Hess's health became critical

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00:19:18,320 --> 00:19:24,480

he finally agreed to meet with his family. It had been 28 years since Frau Hess had seen her husband.

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00:19:24,480 --> 00:19:27,040

Her son Wolf had last seen his father at the age of three.

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00:19:29,760 --> 00:19:35,040

During this reunion the family was not allowed to touch one another or to discuss anything pertaining

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00:19:35,040 --> 00:19:39,600

to Hess's past.

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00:19:50,960 --> 00:19:56,960

Despite the fact that she felt his voice was lower in pitch Frau Hess still felt the managed Spandau

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00:19:56,960 --> 00:20:12,160

was her husband. I was expecting a very difficult situation with all the borders and the director

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00:20:12,160 --> 00:20:17,840

sitting around and they knew that under the circumstances the possibility is to really

144

00:20:17,840 --> 00:20:24,240

learn to know him they're limited. Mother, this is you so much. It can't be helped my son.

145

00:20:25,200 --> 00:20:30,480

I have the impression that my father was keeping some secret which he was not able to relieve

146

00:20:31,120 --> 00:20:36,240

to anybody. This is the reason why he was kept so long in prison and finally was murdered in prison.

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00:20:41,280 --> 00:20:48,000

August 17th 1987 at approximately 2 30 in the afternoon 93-year-old Rudolf Hess went out for

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00:20:48,000 --> 00:20:56,160

his daily walk in his beloved prison garden. Soviet authorities had indicated to Hess's son

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00:20:56,160 --> 00:21:00,400

the general secretary Gorbachev was on the verge of allowing his father's release.

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00:21:04,720 --> 00:21:09,840

Hess was accompanied by an American guard and as he continued his stroll the guard became distracted.

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00:21:10,080 --> 00:21:18,880

Several minutes later the guard looked for his prisoner.

152

00:21:28,640 --> 00:21:29,520

He soon found him.

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00:21:33,920 --> 00:21:37,200

Rudolf Hess was lying on the floor of a garden shed,

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00:21:37,200 --> 00:21:39,040

electrical cord wrapped around his neck.

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00:21:45,280 --> 00:21:48,800

The official inquiry declared that Rudolf Hess had committed suicide

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00:21:48,800 --> 00:21:52,320

but almost immediately charges surface that Hess had been murdered.

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00:21:57,680 --> 00:22:01,920

Now there are so many things against him committing suicide.

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00:22:02,880 --> 00:22:08,400

He could hardly open his hands because of arthritis that he was suffering under

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00:22:09,840 --> 00:22:16,000

and he couldn't raise his arms above shoulder level. Now the final report came out and said that

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00:22:16,000 --> 00:22:22,080

he'd hung himself from that little lean-to in the garden that he was sitting under where he was found dead.

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00:22:22,960 --> 00:22:29,200

Well to do that he's going to have to raise those hands, isn't he, above his head to put that

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00:22:30,160 --> 00:22:35,200

cord around something to hang himself. He wasn't capable of doing that.

163

00:22:36,800 --> 00:22:42,800

I think he was murdered. I don't know who did it but that's my true conviction.

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00:22:42,800 --> 00:22:49,520

There is every evidence that he was murdered but further than that disturbingly the cable that

165

00:22:49,520 --> 00:22:56,560

was actually used to murder him was the first thing to be destroyed on the specific orders of the

166

00:22:56,560 --> 00:23:03,440

British military governor and the British military governor also ordered the shed burnt down.

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00:23:04,960 --> 00:23:10,640

As well as that they refused all measures of identification of the prisoner.

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00:23:12,320 --> 00:23:17,760

Hess's family insisted on conducting their own autopsy and secured the services of a Dr. Spahn,

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00:23:17,760 --> 00:23:23,280

a noted German forensic pathologist. His report showed bruises inconsistent with the

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00:23:23,280 --> 00:23:33,040

official verdict of suicide. The final autopsy by Dr. Spahn shows quite clearly that the man was

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00:23:33,040 --> 00:23:40,480

strangled and the degree of deep bruising and fracturing of the bones in the neck also indicates

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00:23:40,480 --> 00:23:47,920

that he was strangled very forcibly. Dr. Thomas is convinced that the prisoner at Spahn was murdered

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00:23:47,920 --> 00:23:52,320

before his release to keep him from revealing the treasonous conduct of his secret British

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00:23:52,320 --> 00:24:02,560

contacts during the war. If the prisoner had ever revealed his part in these negotiations

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00:24:03,280 --> 00:24:12,960

it would have led to the discovery of the whole plot. It would have led to the exposure of 30

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00:24:14,240 --> 00:24:21,200

extremely powerful personages whose relatives even if they don't still exist themselves

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00:24:21,200 --> 00:24:28,560

are still in control in hierarchical control of much of British finance and government and

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00:24:29,600 --> 00:24:35,600

that would be totally and utterly unacceptable to any British government.

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00:24:41,120 --> 00:24:45,520

If the prisoner Spahn was Rudolph Hess as his family and the authorities claim,

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00:24:46,080 --> 00:24:49,680

then why were there no scars on his chest from his World War One bullet wounds?

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00:24:50,640 --> 00:24:56,240

Why did his plane take off from Germany with one set of serial numbers and land in Scotland with another?

182

00:24:57,840 --> 00:25:03,680

But if the prisoner at Spahn was an imposter, why did he remain silent for 46 years?

183

00:25:07,120 --> 00:25:11,360

The remains of prisoner number seven rest in this small Bavarian cemetery,

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00:25:11,360 --> 00:25:18,960

but who really lies in this grave? Rudolph Hess or an imposter, a willing participant in a global

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00:25:19,040 --> 00:25:25,440

conspiracy of vast proportions. The only man who could answer these questions was Sanos before he

186

00:25:25,440 --> 00:25:32,080

could speak. The inscription on his grave reads simply, it was worth the risk. History may never

187

00:25:32,080 --> 00:25:42,560

know what truly lies behind those words. One final footnote to the story. The official British

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00:25:42,560 --> 00:25:48,640

file on the Hess affair was scheduled to be made public in 1971, but that year only selected

189

00:25:48,640 --> 00:25:52,960

portions were released. The rest remaining classified at the order of the British government.

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00:25:53,760 --> 00:26:00,000

It is further stipulated that this sensitive material remained locked up until the year 2016.

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00:26:01,680 --> 00:26:05,840

Next, the story of a woman who walked away from a terrible car crash in rural Montana

192

00:26:05,840 --> 00:26:18,480

and has not been seen since. Her family believes she may be suffering from amnesia.

193

00:26:19,520 --> 00:26:25,360

April 20, 1989, a lonely country road near Circle, Montana.

194

00:26:27,280 --> 00:26:32,560

At approximately 8.15 in the evening, Peggy Buver was driving towards nearby Great Falls to visit

195

00:26:32,560 --> 00:26:42,880

her sister. Peggy's mother and father were with her. Behind her was another car driven by Carol

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00:26:42,880 --> 00:26:50,640

Heights, an off-duty police dispatcher. Carol could see Peggy's car clearly. Then she saw a car

197

00:26:50,640 --> 00:26:59,200

approaching in the wrong lane. He was car narrowly missed a head-on collision. Carol pulled over

198

00:26:59,200 --> 00:27:10,400

to the side of the road, and it was too late. Peggy's father took the wheel from the shaken

199

00:27:10,400 --> 00:27:16,720

daughter and headed back down the road. Carol had emerged from the wreckage dazed but not seriously

200

00:27:16,720 --> 00:27:24,880

injured. Then a woman emerged out of the darkness. It was the driver of the car that had hit her.

201

00:27:27,360 --> 00:27:35,200

She just stared. Never said anything. Nothing. Just stared at me. I will never forget her.

202

00:27:36,160 --> 00:27:41,040

Then the Buvers arrived.

203

00:27:44,400 --> 00:27:49,280

Peggy's father went to assist the victims, and she began to go for help. But before Peggy

204

00:27:49,280 --> 00:27:56,960

drove off, she too saw the mysterious woman. As I looked out across the accident, I noticed

205

00:27:56,960 --> 00:28:02,000

someone on the other side of the fence standing there like a spectator, not like that it had

206

00:28:02,080 --> 00:28:15,040

happened to her. The woman vanished into the night. But within half an hour, police had traced the car

207

00:28:15,040 --> 00:28:19,680

to its owner, 38-year-old Patricia Meehan. They immediately began to search for her.

208

00:28:21,360 --> 00:28:24,080

We didn't know what was out there. We didn't know whether we're looking for a

209

00:28:24,720 --> 00:28:33,200

hurt person, sick person, or a fugitive. So, four officers and myself proceeded in, and we proceeded

210

00:28:33,200 --> 00:28:39,200

in behind the dog. Approximately three-quarters of a mile from the scene, we picked up some

211

00:28:39,200 --> 00:28:44,720

tennis shoe tracks, about a size six that appeared to be fairly narrow, belonging either to a young

212

00:28:45,360 --> 00:28:51,760

boy or probably a woman. At 3 a.m. Patricia's tracks disappeared, and the search was suspended

213

00:28:51,760 --> 00:29:01,440

until the following morning. For five days, this intensive search continued, land and from the air.

214

00:29:04,240 --> 00:29:07,200

All that was ever found were Patricia's original tracks.

215

00:29:11,280 --> 00:29:14,320

Two theories were developed to explain how she eluded her trackers.

216

00:29:16,000 --> 00:29:19,840

The first is that she may have stowed away on a hay truck that was parked about a half a mile

217

00:29:19,840 --> 00:29:30,640

from the accident. The other theory is that Patricia simply hitched a ride out of the area.

218

00:29:32,960 --> 00:29:40,240

She was a very caring individual. Never wanted to hurt anyone in here. She had a very traumatic

219

00:29:40,240 --> 00:29:46,960

accident where she may have thought instantly that she hurt or killed another person,

220

00:29:47,840 --> 00:29:56,080

and her mind blocked that out. She had walked away from the scene of that accident, and has not

221

00:29:56,080 --> 00:30:04,720

been found since. Since her disappearance, Patricia Meehan has been spotted throughout the United States,

222

00:30:04,720 --> 00:30:09,520

but has made no attempt to contact her family and friends. At first it was thought that her

223

00:30:09,520 --> 00:30:14,240

flight was an attempt to evade prosecution for leaving the scene of an accident, but eyewitness

224

00:30:14,240 --> 00:30:19,040

reports that Patricia's increasingly strange behavior had given police and psychiatrists

225

00:30:19,040 --> 00:30:24,000

good reason to believe that she is no fugitive. Patricia Meehan may be suffering from a rare

226

00:30:24,000 --> 00:30:31,840

and dangerous form of amnesia. Born in Pennsylvania, Patricia moved to Oklahoma to attend college

227

00:30:31,840 --> 00:30:37,760

in preparation for her career in daycare. She worked in that field until 1985, and then due

228

00:30:37,760 --> 00:30:43,040

to her love of animals, moved to Montana to work on a ranch. Before her disappearance, family and

229

00:30:43,040 --> 00:30:49,600

friends noticed that Patricia had become depressed, withdrawn. She was, I guess, taking

230

00:30:50,240 --> 00:30:57,760

all her own life, what had she accomplished. I think she missed having children, because I think

231

00:30:57,760 --> 00:31:04,080

now she found out she really does love them. After Patricia disappeared, her family found a role

232

00:31:04,080 --> 00:31:09,680

of undeveloped film still in her camera. In this haunting self-portrait, she looks out at a world

233

00:31:09,680 --> 00:31:19,280

that she may have decided to abandon. It appears that Pat was experiencing a very

234

00:31:19,920 --> 00:31:27,760

difficult time in her life, and was involved in a rather dramatic accident, which may have

235

00:31:27,760 --> 00:31:36,000

involved a head injury. The combination of these factors may have caused amnesia. She does not know

236

00:31:36,000 --> 00:31:44,320

who she is, has lost memories of the past, and is out searching for herself throughout the country.

237

00:31:48,080 --> 00:31:53,200

Since her accident, Patricia has been spotted at least 100 times between Montana and Seattle,

238

00:31:53,200 --> 00:31:58,320

mainly at truck stops. But Patricia has managed to hitchhike out of the area before authorities

239

00:31:58,320 --> 00:32:00,160

and her family were able to intercept her.

240

00:32:06,320 --> 00:32:15,360

I don't know how she's eating. I don't know where she's sleeping. From the sightings, quite a few of

241

00:32:15,360 --> 00:32:26,560

them, she was seen crying. And that really hurts when I hear this. Any mother would be afraid for

242

00:32:26,560 --> 00:32:32,480

her child. I don't care what age she is, and it seems like she needs help more than ever now.

243

00:32:32,480 --> 00:32:39,920

One of the confirmed sightings of Patricia occurred in May of 1989 in Bozeman, Montana.

244

00:32:39,920 --> 00:32:42,480

Ironically, this was only a few miles from her home.

245

00:32:50,480 --> 00:32:57,120

Patty came in the door and wanted to be sat quickly and served quickly. She asked me if she would be

246

00:32:57,120 --> 00:33:00,880

able to be out of there and rather of a hurry, and I said, well, we do breakfast in 10 minutes,

247

00:33:00,880 --> 00:33:04,560

you'll be out very quickly. And then I made a comment to her that she must have to be back

248

00:33:04,560 --> 00:33:09,440

to work at nine o'clock, since it was almost nine, it was about 8.30 to 20 till. She said, no, I'm just

249

00:33:09,440 --> 00:33:14,320

going shopping. I couldn't understand what it was so important for her to be there right at nine o'clock

250

00:33:14,320 --> 00:33:16,800

to go shopping. You know, she was in such a huge hurry.

251

00:33:19,920 --> 00:33:23,760

Waitress Brenda Clements also noticed that Patricia was acting strangely.

252

00:33:24,880 --> 00:33:28,960

What stood out in my mind is that she seemed really disorientated, really spacey, just looking

253

00:33:28,960 --> 00:33:33,600

off into space. And I heard her like talking to herself, but I really didn't hear what she was

254

00:33:33,600 --> 00:33:38,560

saying because they had other people and other customers to take care of. She sat at that table

255

00:33:38,560 --> 00:33:43,120

for an hour and a half or more easily. She was just, you know, looking out the window, looking at

256

00:33:43,120 --> 00:33:46,960

people walking by. That's when I walked up to her and I asked her, are you okay?

257

00:33:52,960 --> 00:33:56,640

I was just wondering if there's anything I could do, you know, because she was just like lost.

258

00:33:56,640 --> 00:33:58,800

I felt like she didn't know where she was or who she was.

259

00:34:01,840 --> 00:34:04,560

From all the evidence, Patricia's condition is not improving.

260

00:34:05,920 --> 00:34:11,280

If she is not treated soon, the damage could be irreparable. For when and if Patricia's memories

261

00:34:11,280 --> 00:34:18,560

return, the shock could threaten her sanity. More than anything else in the world, I want her back

262

00:34:18,560 --> 00:34:27,040

with us. We would then know that she'd be safe, not knowing who she's going to get a ride from.

263

00:34:27,840 --> 00:34:34,640

That's my biggest worry, I think. Just praise on your mind day in and day out. You pray to God

264

00:34:34,640 --> 00:34:38,480

and hope that she's with good people.

265

00:34:49,440 --> 00:34:54,400

In a moment, the story of a woman found murdered after she was seen with a man at a local supermarket.

266

00:34:54,400 --> 00:35:04,480

Was he a friend or an unknown killer?

267

00:35:08,960 --> 00:35:16,160

Wellington, Virginia, May 11, 1988, 3 a.m. Police arrive at a local schoolyard where the body of

268

00:35:16,160 --> 00:35:21,200

a young woman has been found. She has been raped and shot once at point blank range.

269

00:35:23,040 --> 00:35:27,760

Homicide detectives Bob Carrick and Gay Mercer said about examining the physical evidence.

270

00:35:28,640 --> 00:35:33,680

I think when you arrive at a crime scene at 3 o'clock in the morning and you find a young woman

271

00:35:34,240 --> 00:35:40,000

shot to death, she was sexually assaulted and then murdered, I think you start out with kind of a

272

00:35:40,000 --> 00:35:45,840

sick feeling in your stomach. Kind of a disgust for crime in general.

273

00:35:52,640 --> 00:35:57,280

The condition of Veronica's clothing indicates that the rape was not a random act of violence.

274

00:35:58,400 --> 00:36:04,880

In most rape cases, there are some signs of force. Maybe there are tears in the clothing,

275

00:36:04,880 --> 00:36:11,120

which there were not any on the scene. It may have been more like a date rape,

276

00:36:11,120 --> 00:36:18,560

someone that she knew and it went too far. Later that day, the victim was identified as

277

00:36:18,560 --> 00:36:23,440

Veronica Jefferson, a 24-year-old government accountant recently moved to the Washington,

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00:36:23,440 --> 00:36:30,960

D.C. area from Oklahoma. Veronica had recently become a CPA and at the time of her death,

279

00:36:30,960 --> 00:36:36,960

she was working as a finance officer for the CIA. Nothing in her background suggested any motive

280

00:36:36,960 --> 00:36:43,680

for her murder. The day after the murder, Veronica's red Camaro with a distinctive

281

00:36:43,680 --> 00:36:49,440

personal place reading Ms. VLJ was discovered parked at a supermarket just two blocks from her

282

00:36:49,440 --> 00:36:57,440

apartment. The vehicle was unlocked, the keys missing. The vehicle was examined for fingerprints

283

00:36:57,440 --> 00:37:05,680

using a portable argon laser. The car appeared to have been wiped clean. The interior of the

284

00:37:05,680 --> 00:37:11,760

vehicle was also examined. John, looks like we have a receipt inside. Time and date stamped.

285

00:37:12,480 --> 00:37:19,520

This receipt showed that Veronica had left the market at 9.30 p.m. First on the left rear seat.

286

00:37:20,080 --> 00:37:23,840

Surprisingly, Veronica's cash and credit cards were found intact.

287

00:37:24,400 --> 00:37:31,120

This box cutter and the location of the car focused the investigation on workers at the supermarket.

288

00:37:34,000 --> 00:37:38,880

Detectives Carrig and Mercer began to question the store's 186 employees.

289

00:37:47,440 --> 00:37:53,440

One good suspect admitted that he had seen her the day that she was killed in the supermarket

290

00:37:53,440 --> 00:37:56,560

and he was able to describe her all the way down to her red shoes.

291

00:38:02,880 --> 00:38:09,120

When we were able to narrow the field down from 186 down to 6, it was my job to get

292

00:38:09,120 --> 00:38:16,320

a sample of their blood to either eliminate them and go on then to other investigative leads

293

00:38:16,320 --> 00:38:20,080

or possibly to find the individual that committed this crime.

294

00:38:20,560 --> 00:38:25,280

These tests were important as body fluid found at the crime scene showed a rare blood type

295

00:38:25,280 --> 00:38:31,360

common to only 4% of the population. The suspect could definitively be identified by

296

00:38:31,360 --> 00:38:36,080

cross-checking this blood type with a DNA sample also taken from the body fluid.

297

00:38:38,000 --> 00:38:42,240

However, in this instance, there were no match-ups. All six suspects were cleared.

298

00:38:42,640 --> 00:38:47,840

Four days after Veronica's murder, dramatic new evidence surfaced when an off-duty police

299

00:38:47,840 --> 00:38:52,960

officer claimed he had seen Veronica the night she was killed in the company of a man who was at

300

00:38:52,960 --> 00:38:59,760

the wheel of her car. That evening I was on my way to work. It was approximately quarter of

301

00:38:59,760 --> 00:39:05,760

10 in the evening while I was waiting to make a left. There was a car approaching me from the

302

00:39:05,760 --> 00:39:11,360

opposite direction. It had its bright lights on me. That's when I was able to see the car

303

00:39:11,920 --> 00:39:18,560

that's what first drew my attention to the car. As this car turned the corner, he ran over the

304

00:39:18,560 --> 00:39:26,160

curb and I don't mean just bumped it but really ran over the curb. As the car turned, I noticed the

305

00:39:26,160 --> 00:39:32,480

license plate on the car. They were personalized tags and they read Ms. VLJ. I figured the car

306

00:39:32,480 --> 00:39:38,160

belonged to the girl in the passenger seat. The driver was apparently very involved in conversation

307

00:39:38,240 --> 00:39:43,520

as he was driving slow and weaving up the road. It did not seem like there was any

308

00:39:43,520 --> 00:39:48,320

trouble in the car. It seemed like they were engaged in a very in-depth conversation.

309

00:39:49,920 --> 00:39:56,160

The woman got out of the car, she bent down and they had words for 15-20 seconds.

310

00:39:57,360 --> 00:40:03,280

She wasn't in any distress. She wasn't frantic. They just seemed to be friends and he was saying

311

00:40:03,360 --> 00:40:10,720

goodbye. I got tired of watching and went around the car and on my way. The more and more I thought

312

00:40:10,720 --> 00:40:16,800

about it, the more I wished that I could have pulled this person over at this time and in some way

313

00:40:17,600 --> 00:40:23,680

maybe that would have prevented the death of Ms. Jefferson. After Doug Taylor's account on what

314

00:40:23,680 --> 00:40:29,520

he saw and who was driving, we felt that it had to have been someone that Veronica was familiar

315

00:40:29,520 --> 00:40:36,320

with, a friend, an old friend, someone she really felt comfortable with in order to let her let them

316

00:40:36,320 --> 00:40:45,600

drive her car. From Veronica's roommates and family, we were able to get a list of male friends and

317

00:40:45,600 --> 00:40:52,000

acquaintances of Veronica's. All her male friends that we know of to this point have been interviewed,

318

00:40:52,000 --> 00:40:58,320

blood has been taken and all have been eliminated as suspects. After Veronica's friends were cleared,

319

00:40:58,320 --> 00:41:06,320

the investigation reached a complete standstill. But in May of 1989, a year after the murder,

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00:41:06,320 --> 00:41:11,440

two eyewitnesses came forward. They remember seeing Veronica in the supermarket less than

321

00:41:11,440 --> 00:41:18,480

two hours before she was killed. On the night in question, my wife and I both went to the supermarket

322

00:41:18,480 --> 00:41:24,960

to pick up a few items. On arriving at the deli counter, I noticed this very attractive,

323

00:41:25,760 --> 00:41:35,360

I would say beautiful girl. Hello. Hi, have you helped me? Yes. A man approached her and started a

324

00:41:35,360 --> 00:41:43,200

conversation with her. Salad, right? No. Come on, I know it's gotta be salad if you're looking at

325

00:41:43,200 --> 00:41:50,880

girl. I had the distinct impression that he was trying to pick her up because I generally had

326

00:41:50,880 --> 00:41:57,520

the feeling that he did not know her or had not been in any previous company of hers.

327

00:42:00,080 --> 00:42:05,520

A few minutes later, Mrs. Flanagan saw Veronica outside the market talking with the same man.

328

00:42:06,880 --> 00:42:14,720

I couldn't hear what they were saying, but I could watch the body language. And I've had the

329

00:42:14,720 --> 00:42:20,720

feeling that something was wrong. She continually looked around the parking lot. She looked as if

330

00:42:20,720 --> 00:42:26,320

she was searching for someone who knew her or someone to get her out of this situation.

331

00:42:27,120 --> 00:42:35,040

But she did smile at him. She did laugh. And I had an uneasy feeling about it. But it wasn't

332

00:42:35,040 --> 00:42:43,280

that dramatic enough that would have made me push ahead to say, do you need help?

333

00:42:44,000 --> 00:42:52,400

According to the Flanagan's testimony, Veronica was approached by a stranger who later may have

334

00:42:52,400 --> 00:42:57,120

killed her. But Doug Taylor saw her with what appeared to be a friend at the wheel of her car.

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00:42:58,560 --> 00:43:02,960

Did she meet two different men that night? And how did they escape detection?

336

00:43:05,440 --> 00:43:12,080

There's a possibility that the suspect was once involved with Veronica and no one else knew that.

337

00:43:12,960 --> 00:43:16,480

He feels that his identity will never be known because of that fact.

338

00:43:19,040 --> 00:43:23,520

The man described by the Flanagan's was a black male approximately six feet three inches in height

339

00:43:23,520 --> 00:43:28,640

and weighed about 170 pounds. He was described as a clean cut bodybuilder type.

340

00:43:31,680 --> 00:43:38,880

We continue to investigate unsolved homicides until the end. They may not be solved, but they're

341

00:43:38,880 --> 00:43:48,160

never forgotten. I think it's important that the killer understand that we will not stop looking for

342

00:43:48,160 --> 00:43:54,080

him. And it's important for him to know that so he doesn't think that because a year has passed

343

00:43:54,080 --> 00:43:59,280

that he's gotten away with this crime because he has not. We are still looking and we will find him.

344

00:44:08,880 --> 00:44:28,000

For every mystery there is someone somewhere who knows the truth. Perhaps that someone is watching.

345

00:44:28,960 --> 00:44:29,680

Perhaps it's you.

346

00:45:08,880 --> 00:45:10,340

You