

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:03,680

This program is about unsolved mysteries.

2

00:00:03,680 --> 00:00:06,280

Whenever possible, the actual family members and police

3

00:00:06,280 --> 00:00:09,280

officials have participated in recreating the events.

4

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

What you are about to see is not a news broadcast.

5

00:00:16,280 --> 00:00:20,580

In 1983, two beautiful young women on holiday from Sweden

6

00:00:20,580 --> 00:00:23,800

were murdered while hitchhiking in California.

7

00:00:23,800 --> 00:00:27,000

The case gathered dust until 1991.

8

00:00:27,760 --> 00:00:30,400

The case gathered dust until 1991,

9

00:00:30,400 --> 00:00:33,320

when an anonymous phone call sparked a renewed search

10

00:00:33,320 --> 00:00:36,160

for the unknown killer.

11

00:00:36,160 --> 00:00:39,080

As a young boy, Joe Saw was teased by schoolmates

12

00:00:39,080 --> 00:00:40,960

because he had been adopted.

13

00:00:40,960 --> 00:00:45,000

As an adult, Joe would learn the painful truth about his past.

14

00:00:45,000 --> 00:00:49,280

He had been bought and sold by an notorious baby broker.

15

00:00:49,280 --> 00:00:53,040

In 1974, a successful businessman named Gary Simmons

16

00:00:53,040 --> 00:00:56,400

disappeared on the same day he paid \$30,000

17

00:00:56,400 --> 00:00:58,360

for a prized horse.

18

00:00:58,360 --> 00:01:00,560

No one had any idea where he had gone

19

00:01:00,560 --> 00:01:03,840

until Gary Simmons' skeleton was found hidden in a cave

20

00:01:03,840 --> 00:01:06,600

almost 20 years later.

21

00:01:06,600 --> 00:01:08,440

Also tonight, a fascinating update

22

00:01:08,440 --> 00:01:11,640

on our story about legendary aviator Amelia Earhart, who

23

00:01:11,640 --> 00:01:14,360

disappeared in 1937.

24

00:01:14,360 --> 00:01:16,440

Recently, an aviation archaeologist

25

00:01:16,440 --> 00:01:19,400

made headlines by claiming he had solved the mystery of Amelia

26

00:01:19,400 --> 00:01:21,280

Earhart's last flight.

27

00:01:21,280 --> 00:01:25,640

Others say he was just plain wrong.

28

00:01:25,640 --> 00:01:31,280

Join me for every mystery there is someone who knows the truth.

29

00:01:31,280 --> 00:01:32,760

Perhaps it's you.

30

00:02:26,160 --> 00:02:28,320

I have some information.

31

00:02:28,320 --> 00:02:29,720

Excuse me.

32

00:02:29,720 --> 00:02:33,560

On September 26, 1991, a bizarre anonymous phone

33

00:02:33,560 --> 00:02:37,960

call came into the Swedish consulate in San Diego, California.

34

00:02:37,960 --> 00:02:39,320

Two hitchhikers?

35

00:02:39,320 --> 00:02:41,360

Yes, two Swedish girls.

36

00:02:41,360 --> 00:02:44,800

The caller went on to describe a double murder.

37

00:02:44,800 --> 00:02:47,840

Incredibly, a double murder that had taken place

38

00:02:47,840 --> 00:02:50,000

a full eight years earlier.

39

00:02:50,000 --> 00:02:53,120

This was a first solid lead since 1983.

40

00:02:56,240 --> 00:02:58,880

It all began on July 24 of that year,

41

00:02:58,880 --> 00:03:01,600

behind a gas station in the city of Commerce,

42

00:03:01,600 --> 00:03:05,040

a Los Angeles suburb.

43

00:03:05,040 --> 00:03:08,760

A station attendant went to dump trash.

44

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

He looked inside the dumpster and saw a couple of backpacks.

45

00:03:12,760 --> 00:03:16,520

Checking further, he found clothing, diaries.

46

00:03:16,520 --> 00:03:21,560

There were rolls of film, passports, wallets,

47

00:03:21,560 --> 00:03:24,360

many of the things that she would expect tourists to have

48

00:03:24,360 --> 00:03:29,840

collected in a several month tour of the United States.

49

00:03:29,840 --> 00:03:33,160

The items in the dumpster belong to two Swedish nationals,

50

00:03:33,160 --> 00:03:37,400

Marie Lillianberg 23 and Maria Vellin 25.

51

00:03:37,400 --> 00:03:39,160

They had failed to show up for the return

52

00:03:39,160 --> 00:03:40,840

flight to Sweden that day.

53

00:03:43,720 --> 00:03:46,520

The fathers of both women came to California,

54

00:03:46,520 --> 00:03:48,680

hoping to find their daughters by means

55

00:03:48,680 --> 00:03:51,160

of widespread media attention.

56

00:03:51,160 --> 00:03:52,240

They're extremely worried.

57

00:03:52,240 --> 00:03:53,480

I'll tell you that they had never.

58

00:03:53,480 --> 00:03:56,240

During the next three weeks, more than 50 sightings

59

00:03:56,240 --> 00:03:59,840

of Maria Vellin and Marie Lillianberg were reported.

60

00:03:59,840 --> 00:04:02,960

All were checked out, but none of them could be confirmed.

61

00:04:02,960 --> 00:04:04,960

That's not the nature of my daughter.

62

00:04:04,960 --> 00:04:05,600

Absolutely.

63

00:04:05,600 --> 00:04:07,880

I'll tell you that she is the one who

64

00:04:07,880 --> 00:04:10,480

stick to every promise made, that her nature.

65

00:04:12,480 --> 00:04:13,280

Hey, look at that.

66

00:04:13,280 --> 00:04:15,280

What is that?

67

00:04:15,280 --> 00:04:18,440

Oh, it's got my gun.

68

00:04:18,440 --> 00:04:23,400

Then on August 18, 1983, in Santa Barbara County, California,

69

00:04:23,440 --> 00:04:28,040

a missing person's case became a murder investigation.

70

00:04:28,040 --> 00:04:31,960

Two deer hunters noticed a skeletonized arm, probably

71

00:04:31,960 --> 00:04:35,040

a coyote had pulled one of the arms off and drug it out

72

00:04:35,040 --> 00:04:36,280

into the open.

73

00:04:36,280 --> 00:04:39,360

Checking further, they found other remains hidden

74

00:04:39,360 --> 00:04:41,400

on their brush there.

75

00:04:41,400 --> 00:04:44,320

Those remains were positively identified

76

00:04:44,320 --> 00:04:47,200

as being Marie Lillianberg and Maria Vellin.

77

00:04:48,040 --> 00:04:51,640

An autopsy showed that both women had been stabbed to death,

78

00:04:51,640 --> 00:04:53,160

as well as sexually assaulted.

79

00:04:56,480 --> 00:04:58,960

Sheriff's detectives learned that the two young women had

80

00:04:58,960 --> 00:05:03,600

met in January of 1983 at a resort hotel in Vail, Colorado,

81

00:05:03,600 --> 00:05:05,400

where they both worked as chambermaids.

82

00:05:09,120 --> 00:05:11,200

When the ski season ended, they decided

83

00:05:11,200 --> 00:05:14,360

to hitchhike around California before heading back home

84

00:05:14,360 --> 00:05:15,360

to Sweden.

85

00:05:15,520 --> 00:05:16,520

Hi, how are you?

86

00:05:16,520 --> 00:05:17,520

How are you doing?

87

00:05:17,520 --> 00:05:18,520

Fine.

88

00:05:18,520 --> 00:05:19,520

Where are you going?

89

00:05:19,520 --> 00:05:20,520

We're just touring.

90

00:05:20,520 --> 00:05:21,520

We just want to see the coast.

91

00:05:21,520 --> 00:05:22,520

It'll happen.

92

00:05:22,520 --> 00:05:23,520

Let's go.

93

00:05:23,520 --> 00:05:25,520

Marie Lillianberg and Maria Vellin

94

00:05:25,520 --> 00:05:27,520

thought that it was safe to hitchhike.

95

00:05:27,520 --> 00:05:31,120

They had been cautioned by Swedish friends and by Americans

96

00:05:31,120 --> 00:05:33,120

that it was not safe to hitchhike.

97

00:05:33,120 --> 00:05:35,520

But they felt that they would be able to size up

98

00:05:35,520 --> 00:05:37,520

persons, giving them a ride.

99

00:05:37,520 --> 00:05:39,560

They would be able to sense whether this was a dangerous

100

00:05:39,560 --> 00:05:41,560

situation or not.

101

00:05:41,560 --> 00:05:44,560

Maria Vellin carried a small knife with her,

102

00:05:44,560 --> 00:05:48,320

and she felt that she would be able to defend herself

103

00:05:48,320 --> 00:05:51,720

in any type of a situation where she was threatened.

104

00:05:51,720 --> 00:05:55,120

Young Swedes come to the United States from a culture

105

00:05:55,120 --> 00:05:58,920

which is entirely homogeneous and middle class.

106

00:05:58,920 --> 00:06:01,320

There are only 8 million people in Sweden.

107

00:06:01,320 --> 00:06:03,320

It is a more open and, if you will,

108

00:06:03,320 --> 00:06:05,720

a more trusting environment.

109

00:06:05,720 --> 00:06:08,920

They therefore tend to come to the United States

110

00:06:08,920 --> 00:06:12,520

and remain as trusting as they were in Sweden.

111

00:06:12,520 --> 00:06:15,080

So sometimes they do run into trouble.

112

00:06:15,080 --> 00:06:16,080

Hi.

113

00:06:16,080 --> 00:06:17,080

Hi.

114

00:06:17,080 --> 00:06:18,080

How are you?

115

00:06:18,080 --> 00:06:19,080

Fine.

116

00:06:19,080 --> 00:06:20,080

How are you?

117

00:06:20,080 --> 00:06:21,080

Are you going to San Francisco?

118

00:06:21,080 --> 00:06:22,080

I can take you about half way there.

119

00:06:22,080 --> 00:06:23,080

Is that cool?

120

00:06:23,080 --> 00:06:24,080

OK.

121

00:06:24,080 --> 00:06:25,080

Thanks.

122

00:06:25,080 --> 00:06:28,680

When the gas station attendant found the knapsacks

123

00:06:28,680 --> 00:06:31,560

in the dumpster, he also found a travel diary

124

00:06:31,560 --> 00:06:34,360

and two rolls of undeveloped film.

125

00:06:34,360 --> 00:06:37,640

Working from these photographs, as well as a diary,

126

00:06:37,680 --> 00:06:40,400

investigators established the women's itinerary

127

00:06:40,400 --> 00:06:42,600

and contacted several truck drivers who

128

00:06:42,600 --> 00:06:45,080

had given Marie and Maria rides.

129

00:06:50,080 --> 00:06:51,080

Hi.

130

00:06:51,080 --> 00:06:52,200

Where are you girls going?

131

00:06:52,200 --> 00:06:55,400

Mark Hansen, a trucker from San Diego, California,

132

00:06:55,400 --> 00:06:58,680

remembered them well.

133

00:06:58,680 --> 00:07:00,680

A lot of truck drivers out there have daughters,

134

00:07:00,680 --> 00:07:02,600

and if they do see girls out hitchhiking,

135

00:07:02,600 --> 00:07:04,880

they try to take care of them.

136

00:07:04,880 --> 00:07:07,560

Talked about that they shouldn't be hitchhiking.

137

00:07:07,600 --> 00:07:10,000

Maybe being too much of a big brother and a little bit

138

00:07:10,000 --> 00:07:12,800

of a lecture on the way up about that it wasn't safe.

139

00:07:12,800 --> 00:07:16,480

It wasn't like being in Europe that women didn't hitchhike

140

00:07:16,480 --> 00:07:18,200

in the United States anymore.

141

00:07:18,200 --> 00:07:21,560

And they didn't seem terribly concerned that they felt

142

00:07:21,560 --> 00:07:23,040

they would be safe being together.

143

00:07:25,560 --> 00:07:28,160

Hansen drove the women from San Diego to Compton,

144

00:07:28,160 --> 00:07:31,160

just south of Los Angeles, where he arranged another ride

145

00:07:31,160 --> 00:07:33,080

for them with a truck stop.

146

00:07:33,080 --> 00:07:34,800

Hey, could you use some company?

147

00:07:34,800 --> 00:07:35,880

Yeah, I can get them a ride.

148

00:07:35,880 --> 00:07:36,880

Great.

149

00:07:36,880 --> 00:07:39,560

Here you go.

150

00:07:39,560 --> 00:07:42,400

The second truck driver dropped the women off in Oakland,

151

00:07:42,400 --> 00:07:44,600

just across the bay from San Francisco.

152

00:07:44,600 --> 00:07:45,500

Take care.

153

00:07:45,500 --> 00:07:46,400

Bye-bye.

154

00:07:46,400 --> 00:07:48,040

You're welcome.

155

00:07:48,040 --> 00:07:50,080

Maria Vellin and Marie Lillianberg

156

00:07:50,080 --> 00:07:55,200

were last seen in Redwood City, California, July 22, 1983,

157

00:07:55,200 --> 00:07:57,880

heading back to Los Angeles so they could catch their flight

158

00:07:57,880 --> 00:08:00,680

to Sweden two days later.

159

00:08:00,680 --> 00:08:03,080

On the very day they were scheduled to depart,

160

00:08:03,080 --> 00:08:04,960

their backpacks and personal effects

161

00:08:04,960 --> 00:08:07,320

were found in the city of commerce.

162

00:08:07,320 --> 00:08:10,360

Four weeks later, the hunters discovered their bodies

163

00:08:10,360 --> 00:08:11,360

near Santa Barbara.

164

00:08:14,720 --> 00:08:16,880

For eight years, the investigation

165

00:08:16,880 --> 00:08:19,280

into the murders of Marie Lillianberg and Maria

166

00:08:19,280 --> 00:08:23,360

Vellin remained at a standstill.

167

00:08:23,360 --> 00:08:24,640

Two hitchhikers.

168

00:08:24,640 --> 00:08:27,280

Yes, two Swedish girls.

169

00:08:27,280 --> 00:08:30,240

The anonymous phone call came into the Swedish consulate.

170

00:08:30,240 --> 00:08:31,200

He was Canadian.

171

00:08:31,200 --> 00:08:32,640

Yes, he was skinny.

172

00:08:33,200 --> 00:08:36,680

He said that he knew a fellow whom he had seen on a regular

173

00:08:36,680 --> 00:08:41,720

basis, who was from Canada, who would come down every winter

174

00:08:41,720 --> 00:08:46,000

in his van to go through San Diego to Mexico.

175

00:08:46,000 --> 00:08:50,320

He said that on one occasion in 1983,

176

00:08:50,320 --> 00:08:53,320

the man had come through and mentioned

177

00:08:53,320 --> 00:08:58,840

that he had met two Swedish girls who had tried to con him.

178

00:08:58,840 --> 00:09:00,640

The caller also described the van.

179

00:09:00,640 --> 00:09:04,160

He said that he drove a white van with a green canoe on the top.

180

00:09:04,160 --> 00:09:08,520

And this was very recognizable, and a number of people knew it.

181

00:09:08,520 --> 00:09:09,520

Girls need a lift?

182

00:09:09,520 --> 00:09:10,720

Yes.

183

00:09:10,720 --> 00:09:12,800

We are going to Los Angeles?

184

00:09:12,800 --> 00:09:14,520

He gave a description of the man.

185

00:09:14,520 --> 00:09:19,000

He said he was over six feet, a slight build, 175 pounds,

186

00:09:19,000 --> 00:09:25,480

thinning red hair, long pointed nose, protruding watery eyes.

187

00:09:25,480 --> 00:09:27,760

I don't believe that the call was a hoax.

188

00:09:27,760 --> 00:09:28,760

I have to squeeze in here.

189

00:09:28,760 --> 00:09:29,840

There's not a lot of room.

190

00:09:29,840 --> 00:09:34,760

My regret is that the caller was unwilling to identify himself

191

00:09:34,760 --> 00:09:39,720

if he would step forward even now and call us again, even

192

00:09:39,720 --> 00:09:42,880

anonymously, to provide further information.

193

00:09:42,880 --> 00:09:45,360

It might be very helpful.

194

00:09:45,360 --> 00:09:47,760

It's not only frustrating that we have not

195

00:09:47,760 --> 00:09:50,520

been able to find the persons responsible for these slains,

196

00:09:50,520 --> 00:09:53,480

but also considering the probability

197

00:09:53,480 --> 00:09:57,000

that there may be other slains across the country

198

00:09:57,000 --> 00:10:01,200

that this killer is responsible for as well.

199

00:10:01,200 --> 00:10:03,920

I think the moral of the story is quite simple,

200

00:10:03,920 --> 00:10:07,000

that it is just very, very dangerous to hitchhike.

201

00:10:07,000 --> 00:10:09,000

And in the case of women hitchhiking,

202

00:10:09,000 --> 00:10:12,320

it can very easily turn up in this type of a situation.

203

00:10:16,000 --> 00:10:18,480

When we return, an aviation expert

204

00:10:18,480 --> 00:10:21,000

believes he has solved the mystery of Amelia Earhard's

205

00:10:21,000 --> 00:10:22,400

final flight.

206

00:10:22,400 --> 00:10:23,520

Others disagree.

207

00:10:27,280 --> 00:10:35,680

One of the most popular stories we have featured

208

00:10:35,680 --> 00:10:38,520

is a fascinating mystery of legendary aviator Amelia

209

00:10:38,520 --> 00:10:40,120

Earhard.

210

00:10:40,120 --> 00:10:43,400

Recently, she once again made front page news.

211

00:10:43,400 --> 00:10:46,960

Life magazine even carried an exclusive six page spread

212

00:10:46,960 --> 00:10:49,640

after aviation archaeologist Richard Gillespie

213

00:10:49,640 --> 00:10:52,440

announced to the world that he had finally solved

214

00:10:52,440 --> 00:10:54,840

the mystery of Amelia Earhard's final flight.

215

00:10:57,040 --> 00:11:00,200

Six decades ago, Amelia Earhard captured the heart

216

00:11:00,200 --> 00:11:02,840

and spirit of an entire generation.

217

00:11:02,840 --> 00:11:05,480

Part all-American girl, part daredevil,

218

00:11:05,480 --> 00:11:07,360

she was the perfect hero for her time.

219

00:11:10,720 --> 00:11:14,960

On May 20, 1937, Amelia and her navigator Fred Nuneau

220

00:11:14,960 --> 00:11:17,800

began a daring attempt to circumnavigate the world

221

00:11:17,800 --> 00:11:22,160

in this twin-engine Lockheed 10-Electron.

222

00:11:22,160 --> 00:11:23,120

They never returned.

223

00:11:23,560 --> 00:11:27,720

On July 2, they disappeared en route to tiny Howland Island

224

00:11:27,720 --> 00:11:30,080

in the South Pacific.

225

00:11:30,080 --> 00:11:33,440

A massive search turned up no trace of Amelia, Fred,

226

00:11:33,440 --> 00:11:34,840

or their airplane.

227

00:11:34,840 --> 00:11:37,600

They were officially declared lost at sea.

228

00:11:37,600 --> 00:11:39,680

But as the years passed, rumors surfaced

229

00:11:39,680 --> 00:11:42,160

that Amelia Earhard and Fred Nuneau ended up

230

00:11:42,160 --> 00:11:47,560

on the island of Saipan, 2,500 miles from Howland Island.

231

00:11:47,560 --> 00:11:50,320

At the time of Earhard and Nuneau's disappearance,

232

00:11:50,360 --> 00:11:54,240

Saipan was occupied by the Japanese Army.

233

00:11:54,240 --> 00:11:58,240

In 1944, American forces liberated the island.

234

00:11:58,240 --> 00:12:00,360

Among the soldiers stationed on Saipan

235

00:12:00,360 --> 00:12:03,640

was this man, Thomas Devine.

236

00:12:03,640 --> 00:12:05,960

Devine claims he overheard a conversation

237

00:12:05,960 --> 00:12:09,000

between two Marines outside a guarded aircraft hangar

238

00:12:09,000 --> 00:12:11,880

at a remote location on the island.

239

00:12:11,880 --> 00:12:15,680

You got Amelia Earhard to play in that hangar.

240

00:12:15,680 --> 00:12:18,040

The Marines were severely reprimanded

241

00:12:18,240 --> 00:12:19,920

by an official wearing civilian clothes.

242

00:12:19,920 --> 00:12:22,240

You come about that damn close to compromising

243

00:12:22,240 --> 00:12:23,600

the project right now.

244

00:12:23,600 --> 00:12:26,440

I'm telling you, I want you to sit down, do your jobs,

245

00:12:26,440 --> 00:12:27,340

and shut up.

246

00:12:27,340 --> 00:12:29,760

Do you understand?

247

00:12:29,760 --> 00:12:33,360

Devine claims that later that same day, he actually

248

00:12:33,360 --> 00:12:38,680

saw Amelia Earhard's plane fly overhead.

249

00:12:38,680 --> 00:12:42,000

That night, he saw the Lockheed 10-Electron again

250

00:12:42,000 --> 00:12:43,280

engulfed in flames.

251

00:12:44,280 --> 00:12:48,040

I saw that plane personally on three occasions that day.

252

00:12:48,040 --> 00:12:51,840

The last time the plane was in flames.

253

00:12:51,840 --> 00:12:56,600

This woman, Neva Bloss, has lived on Saipan her entire life.

254

00:13:00,840 --> 00:13:02,840

She claims that Earhard and Nuneau

255

00:13:02,840 --> 00:13:04,920

were captured by the Japanese espies

256

00:13:04,920 --> 00:13:08,680

and that she actually witnessed Amelia Earhard's execution.

257

00:13:08,800 --> 00:13:09,800

Who did?

258

00:13:12,160 --> 00:13:15,080

Were Amelia Earhard and Fred Nuneau taken prisoner

259

00:13:15,080 --> 00:13:18,080

and executed on the island of Saipan?

260

00:13:18,080 --> 00:13:19,800

Or did their plane, in fact, go down

261

00:13:19,800 --> 00:13:22,800

in the vast and unforgiving waters of the South Pacific?

262

00:13:26,200 --> 00:13:29,960

In 1989, the tiny uninhabited island of Niku Maroro

263

00:13:29,960 --> 00:13:33,160

became the focal point of a new and intriguing theory

264

00:13:33,160 --> 00:13:35,160

that was the beginning of the war.

265

00:13:35,160 --> 00:13:36,800

Niku Maroro became the focal point

266

00:13:36,800 --> 00:13:39,320

of a new and intriguing theory.

267

00:13:39,320 --> 00:13:43,440

Niku Maroro is located 420 miles from Holland Island,

268

00:13:43,440 --> 00:13:47,360

Earhard's intended destination.

269

00:13:47,360 --> 00:13:49,800

Aviation archaeologist Richard Gillespie

270

00:13:49,800 --> 00:13:52,000

headed an expedition to search for evidence

271

00:13:52,000 --> 00:13:56,560

that Earhard and Nuneau had been marooned on Niku Maroro.

272

00:13:56,560 --> 00:13:59,600

The expedition turned up this aluminum aircraft part,

273

00:13:59,600 --> 00:14:01,480

which at the time Gillespie believed

274

00:14:01,480 --> 00:14:03,320

may have come from Earhard's plane.

275

00:14:05,400 --> 00:14:09,200

This box doesn't constitute proof.

276

00:14:09,200 --> 00:14:13,120

What it does is constitute sufficient evidence

277

00:14:13,120 --> 00:14:18,000

to merit a return to Niku Maroro to find and photograph

278

00:14:18,000 --> 00:14:20,240

the ultimate proof of the airplane itself.

279

00:14:22,960 --> 00:14:25,680

In October of 1991, Richard Gillespie

280

00:14:25,680 --> 00:14:28,920

mounted a second expedition to Niku Maroro.

281

00:14:28,920 --> 00:14:31,160

Searchers found several intriguing artifacts,

282

00:14:31,160 --> 00:14:33,960

which Gillespie claims are indisputable proof

283

00:14:34,000 --> 00:14:36,040

that Amelia Earhard and Fred Nuneau

284

00:14:36,040 --> 00:14:40,080

died on the island while awaiting rescue.

285

00:14:40,080 --> 00:14:44,000

On March 16, 1992, Gillespie presented his findings

286

00:14:44,000 --> 00:14:47,480

at a press conference in Washington, DC.

287

00:14:47,480 --> 00:14:51,920

For you are artifacts which, along with recently discovered

288

00:14:51,920 --> 00:14:54,360

historical documents, conclusively

289

00:14:54,360 --> 00:14:59,280

solved the disappearance of Amelia Earhard.

290

00:14:59,280 --> 00:15:02,040

Among the items on display were these tattered remnants

291

00:15:02,080 --> 00:15:05,120

of a shoe allegedly worn by Amelia Earhard

292

00:15:05,120 --> 00:15:07,480

and this weathered piece of aluminum.

293

00:15:07,480 --> 00:15:10,800

According to Gillespie, it came from the fuselage of Earhard's

294

00:15:10,800 --> 00:15:13,680

Lockheed 10 Electra.

295

00:15:13,680 --> 00:15:16,680

The rivet pattern is the same.

296

00:15:16,680 --> 00:15:20,640

Four parallel rows of number three rivets.

297

00:15:20,640 --> 00:15:23,520

If Richard Gillespie is correct, then the final chapter

298

00:15:23,520 --> 00:15:26,200

of Amelia Earhard's story can be written.

299

00:15:26,200 --> 00:15:28,000

However, Gillespie's conclusions

300

00:15:28,000 --> 00:15:31,240

had been disputed by several experts.

301

00:15:31,240 --> 00:15:34,400

It was quite exciting that a new piece of evidence

302

00:15:34,400 --> 00:15:37,120

had been uncovered because there hasn't been much

303

00:15:37,120 --> 00:15:39,920

on Amelia Earhard in the last few years.

304

00:15:39,920 --> 00:15:43,680

Elgin Long, noted historian and Earhard biographer,

305

00:15:43,680 --> 00:15:46,400

was asked by Gillespie to study detailed measurements

306

00:15:46,400 --> 00:15:50,600

and photographs of the aluminum section.

307

00:15:50,600 --> 00:15:52,560

Long assembled a panel of experts

308

00:15:52,560 --> 00:15:55,960

to compare the evidence with an airplane fuselage identical

309

00:15:55,960 --> 00:15:57,200

to Amelia Earhard's.

310

00:15:57,480 --> 00:16:02,480

When we received the data, we made a template that was the exact

311

00:16:02,480 --> 00:16:05,280

same size and had all the rivet holes in it, just like the

312

00:16:05,280 --> 00:16:08,120

fragment that was found on Nicomororo.

313

00:16:08,120 --> 00:16:10,920

We put this template up to the bottom of the airplane

314

00:16:10,920 --> 00:16:13,200

and we compared the rivet lines with the rivets

315

00:16:13,200 --> 00:16:14,520

on the actual airplane.

316

00:16:14,520 --> 00:16:17,840

You notice that there's no row of fasteners along here.

317

00:16:17,840 --> 00:16:19,120

They didn't match at all.

318

00:16:19,120 --> 00:16:21,720

There was rivet holes where there shouldn't be any rivets

319

00:16:21,720 --> 00:16:24,400

and there weren't rivet holes where there should be rivets.

320

00:16:24,600 --> 00:16:26,520

What do you think?

321

00:16:26,520 --> 00:16:27,520

Oh, man.

322

00:16:27,520 --> 00:16:30,120

The panel compared the template to nearly every section

323

00:16:30,120 --> 00:16:31,120

of the airplane.

324

00:16:31,120 --> 00:16:34,320

No match could be found.

325

00:16:34,320 --> 00:16:37,800

There's no way that piece could have come from a Lockheed 10

326

00:16:37,800 --> 00:16:41,320

or Amelia Earhard's airplane.

327

00:16:41,320 --> 00:16:44,120

Richard Gillespie attributes discrepancies in the rivet

328

00:16:44,120 --> 00:16:47,120

patterns to repairs which were made on Earhard's plane

329

00:16:47,120 --> 00:16:49,600

during her first attempt to fly around the world.

330

00:16:50,600 --> 00:16:55,600

The repair had to be exactly per the engineering orders.

331

00:16:55,600 --> 00:16:59,000

Panel consultant and former Lockheed engineer Ed Werner

332

00:16:59,000 --> 00:17:00,800

disagrees.

333

00:17:00,800 --> 00:17:03,600

He argues that all repairs made on Earhard's plane

334

00:17:03,600 --> 00:17:07,000

were done to strict factory specifications.

335

00:17:07,000 --> 00:17:11,000

At first I was kind of happy that there was a controversy

336

00:17:11,000 --> 00:17:13,000

over it.

337

00:17:13,000 --> 00:17:16,000

But then I was very disappointed.

338

00:17:16,800 --> 00:17:19,800

I was very disappointed.

339

00:17:19,800 --> 00:17:23,600

Now there are some of the conclusions that can't

340

00:17:23,600 --> 00:17:26,880

be part of her airplane.

341

00:17:26,880 --> 00:17:29,880

According to Richard Gillespie, the National Transportation

342

00:17:29,880 --> 00:17:32,760

Safety Board has concluded that the aluminum fragment is

343

00:17:32,760 --> 00:17:35,280

consistent with materials used to build Lockheed 10

344

00:17:35,280 --> 00:17:36,640

electricies.

345

00:17:36,640 --> 00:17:39,240

However, they could not confirm that it came from Amelia

346

00:17:39,240 --> 00:17:40,920

Earhard's plane.

347

00:17:40,920 --> 00:17:44,120

So for now at least, Amelia Earhard's disappearance

348

00:17:44,120 --> 00:17:46,240

remains an unsolved mystery.

349

00:17:59,360 --> 00:18:02,200

On a previous broadcast, we brought you the chilling story

350

00:18:02,200 --> 00:18:04,520

of a woman named Georgia Tan.

351

00:18:04,520 --> 00:18:07,560

For more than 20 years, Tan used her well-known Tennessee

352

00:18:07,560 --> 00:18:10,840

orphanage as a front for a highly illegal black market

353

00:18:10,840 --> 00:18:13,280

baby ring.

354

00:18:13,320 --> 00:18:16,200

Thanks to our viewers, nearly 200 of the children

355

00:18:16,200 --> 00:18:18,320

placed for adoption by Georgia Tan

356

00:18:18,320 --> 00:18:22,840

have been reunited with their birth families.

357

00:18:22,840 --> 00:18:25,400

Such happy endings are certainly gratifying.

358

00:18:25,400 --> 00:18:28,240

But the appalling fact remains that Georgia Tan was not

359

00:18:28,240 --> 00:18:30,400

the only one of her kind.

360

00:18:30,400 --> 00:18:33,160

Another notorious baby broker was Bessie Bernard,

361

00:18:33,160 --> 00:18:36,240

who bought and sold thousands of children.

362

00:18:36,240 --> 00:18:37,760

One of them would learn of his adoption

363

00:18:37,760 --> 00:18:39,840

in a very painful way.

364

00:18:39,840 --> 00:18:43,320

His story begins almost 50 years ago in Nayaque, New York.

365

00:18:46,440 --> 00:18:51,920

In 1944, Joe Saul was in his first months of kindergarten.

366

00:18:51,920 --> 00:18:53,400

Why'd you do that for?

367

00:18:53,400 --> 00:18:55,480

Because you're an adopted kid.

368

00:18:55,480 --> 00:18:56,280

I'm what?

369

00:18:56,280 --> 00:18:57,840

An adopted kid.

370

00:18:57,840 --> 00:18:59,360

I didn't know what that meant, except I

371

00:18:59,360 --> 00:19:01,800

knew it was bad because of the way they said it.

372

00:19:01,800 --> 00:19:04,560

And I ran home crying.

373

00:19:04,560 --> 00:19:06,840

And I asked my mother what that meant,

374

00:19:06,840 --> 00:19:08,960

and was I, in fact, adopted?

375

00:19:08,960 --> 00:19:11,280

Still not knowing what the word meant.

376

00:19:11,280 --> 00:19:13,120

And she said, yes.

377

00:19:13,120 --> 00:19:14,800

Your real parents were killed.

378

00:19:14,800 --> 00:19:18,000

They were killed in a car crash.

379

00:19:18,000 --> 00:19:19,880

But you're safe.

380

00:19:19,880 --> 00:19:22,040

And now we're your real parents.

381

00:19:22,040 --> 00:19:25,000

And we love you so much.

382

00:19:25,000 --> 00:19:27,880

Joe had been adopted as an infant in 1939

383

00:19:27,880 --> 00:19:30,400

by Florence and Charles Saul.

384

00:19:30,400 --> 00:19:33,600

Charles was a successful attorney who died unexpectedly

385

00:19:33,600 --> 00:19:35,560

in 1960.

386

00:19:35,560 --> 00:19:38,640

It was not until 20 years later that Joe learned his birth

387

00:19:38,640 --> 00:19:42,280

parents had not died in a car accident after all,

388

00:19:42,280 --> 00:19:46,760

a fact which his mother reluctantly confirmed.

389

00:19:46,760 --> 00:19:48,560

She said that my father handled the whole thing,

390

00:19:48,560 --> 00:19:50,440

and she really didn't want to know,

391

00:19:50,440 --> 00:19:52,600

and not only that he didn't want to tell her,

392

00:19:52,600 --> 00:19:55,920

he told her that he had fixed it so that nobody could ever

393

00:19:55,920 --> 00:20:00,840

find out anything, which is very scary for me.

394

00:20:00,840 --> 00:20:02,880

Here's your father's old files.

395

00:20:02,880 --> 00:20:04,400

You can use our library if you'd like.

396

00:20:04,400 --> 00:20:06,960

Thanks a lot.

397

00:20:06,960 --> 00:20:08,800

After extensive maneuvering, Joe

398

00:20:08,800 --> 00:20:10,760

gained access to his father's records.

399

00:20:14,160 --> 00:20:18,720

Filled with anticipation, he began the search for his origins.

400

00:20:18,720 --> 00:20:20,200

I found that there was a file that he

401

00:20:20,200 --> 00:20:23,360

had left with all the letters that he had written looking

402

00:20:23,360 --> 00:20:28,560

for a baby and information on me, which the information was

403

00:20:28,560 --> 00:20:30,960

that my name was Robert Wilson when I was born,

404

00:20:30,960 --> 00:20:33,560

that my birthday was November 3rd, 1939.

405

00:20:33,560 --> 00:20:37,240

And that my mother's name was Ruth Haverman.

406

00:20:37,240 --> 00:20:41,840

And there were the adoption decree.

407

00:20:41,840 --> 00:20:43,240

I had never seen any of this.

408

00:20:43,240 --> 00:20:47,600

It just washed me with all sorts of emotion.

409

00:20:47,600 --> 00:20:48,520

Excuse me.

410

00:20:48,520 --> 00:20:49,200

Yes?

411

00:20:49,200 --> 00:20:50,880

Is this 677 Lexington Avenue?

412

00:20:50,880 --> 00:20:52,400

I know that my birth mother was supposed

413

00:20:52,400 --> 00:20:55,840

to have lived at 677 Lexington Avenue here in New York City.

414

00:20:55,840 --> 00:20:58,120

Does the name Ruth Haverman mean anything to you?

415

00:20:58,120 --> 00:20:59,520

No, no way.

416

00:20:59,520 --> 00:21:03,080

But there was never a Haverman at 677 Lexington Avenue.

417

00:21:04,040 --> 00:21:05,840

I know that there was a family named

418

00:21:05,840 --> 00:21:10,120

Habersack that lived at 677 Lexington Avenue.

419

00:21:10,120 --> 00:21:14,120

And that building apparently was an unwed mother's home.

420

00:21:14,120 --> 00:21:17,680

Dishartened, Joe went back to the old files.

421

00:21:17,680 --> 00:21:20,680

He discovered that his father had corresponded regularly

422

00:21:20,680 --> 00:21:22,800

with an adoption agent named Bessie Bernard.

423

00:21:27,080 --> 00:21:29,240

In the New York City archives, Joe

424

00:21:29,240 --> 00:21:31,160

found out more about Bessie Bernard

425

00:21:31,160 --> 00:21:34,240

than he had ever bargained for.

426

00:21:34,240 --> 00:21:38,040

As I searched to try and find out who Bessie Bernard was,

427

00:21:38,040 --> 00:21:41,440

I came across articles in the New York Times from 1949

428

00:21:41,440 --> 00:21:44,200

when she was arrested for baby selling

429

00:21:44,200 --> 00:21:46,800

and realized that I was a black market baby,

430

00:21:46,800 --> 00:21:49,640

that I was sold, which my mother confirmed,

431

00:21:49,640 --> 00:21:51,840

you know, that I was bought.

432

00:21:51,840 --> 00:21:53,800

And that was painful.

433

00:21:53,800 --> 00:21:57,960

It was, it's like, felt like a piece of property.

434

00:21:57,960 --> 00:22:00,040

It's a strange feeling to know that somebody

435

00:22:00,040 --> 00:22:01,680

paid money for you.

436

00:22:01,680 --> 00:22:04,080

That as you put in the Miami Herald, it was great.

437

00:22:04,080 --> 00:22:06,920

Bessie Bernard lived with her father in Manhattan.

438

00:22:06,920 --> 00:22:08,920

She used newspaper ads to round up

439

00:22:08,920 --> 00:22:12,520

infants for her thriving East Coast baby brokereach.

440

00:22:12,520 --> 00:22:13,800

Dad, I didn't pay too much.

441

00:22:13,800 --> 00:22:14,800

We're making lots of dough.

442

00:22:14,800 --> 00:22:15,680

It's good.

443

00:22:15,680 --> 00:22:20,120

Bessie Bernard charged each adoptive couple up to \$2,000,

444

00:22:20,120 --> 00:22:23,720

a huge sum at that time.

445

00:22:23,720 --> 00:22:26,080

She averaged 20 a month.

446

00:22:26,080 --> 00:22:27,640

She brought them in from Florida,

447

00:22:27,640 --> 00:22:29,640

from Hartford, Connecticut, Boston,

448

00:22:29,640 --> 00:22:30,600

anywhere she could get babies.

449

00:22:30,600 --> 00:22:32,240

She advertised.

450

00:22:32,240 --> 00:22:35,920

And she brought them in, had the births registered in New York,

451

00:22:35,920 --> 00:22:38,680

changed names.

452

00:22:38,680 --> 00:22:42,920

It was vicious what she did.

453

00:22:42,920 --> 00:22:45,880

By 1949, the Manhattan District Attorney

454

00:22:45,880 --> 00:22:47,280

was all to Bessie Bernard.

455

00:22:49,840 --> 00:22:50,840

Mr. Bernard?

456

00:22:50,840 --> 00:22:51,740

Yeah.

457

00:22:51,740 --> 00:22:55,960

On October 8 of that year, two police officers

458

00:22:55,960 --> 00:22:58,440

armed with a search warrant showed up at her apartment.

459

00:22:58,640 --> 00:23:01,240

Would you please stand over there?

460

00:23:01,240 --> 00:23:02,520

What's going on here?

461

00:23:02,520 --> 00:23:03,360

Are you Miss Bernard?

462

00:23:03,360 --> 00:23:04,280

Yeah, who wants to go down?

463

00:23:04,280 --> 00:23:06,000

Stand over there and get fathered, please, ma'am.

464

00:23:06,000 --> 00:23:08,680

When the detectives started to rummage through Bessie Bernard's

465

00:23:08,680 --> 00:23:11,080

purse, she went berserk.

466

00:23:11,080 --> 00:23:12,000

Hey, hey, you.

467

00:23:12,000 --> 00:23:13,880

Get out of my house.

468

00:23:13,880 --> 00:23:15,280

I want you out of my house.

469

00:23:15,280 --> 00:23:17,680

Get out of here.

470

00:23:17,680 --> 00:23:20,120

Some believe that the little black book Bessie Bernard

471

00:23:20,120 --> 00:23:22,840

threw to her father contained the names of clients

472

00:23:22,840 --> 00:23:25,480

and other vital information.

473

00:23:25,480 --> 00:23:26,760

Come on, guys.

474

00:23:26,760 --> 00:23:27,800

Come here.

475

00:23:27,840 --> 00:23:30,960

Bessie's father escaped, and the book was never recovered.

476

00:23:30,960 --> 00:23:32,560

Holy cow, guys.

477

00:23:32,560 --> 00:23:34,960

Give a couple of minutes.

478

00:23:34,960 --> 00:23:37,680

Will the defendant please step forward?

479

00:23:37,680 --> 00:23:40,520

On June 30, 1950, Bessie Bernard

480

00:23:40,520 --> 00:23:45,280

was found guilty of illegally placing children for adoption.

481

00:23:45,280 --> 00:23:47,080

At this time, is there anything you

482

00:23:47,080 --> 00:23:49,720

wish to say on your behalf?

483

00:23:49,720 --> 00:23:52,120

No.

484

00:23:52,120 --> 00:23:56,680

I hereby sentence you to one year in the women's penitentiary.

485

00:23:58,800 --> 00:24:01,720

Bessie Bernard never spent a day in jail.

486

00:24:01,720 --> 00:24:06,640

She paid a \$2,500 fine to avoid serving her one year sentence.

487

00:24:06,640 --> 00:24:11,640

Bessie Bernard died in 1989, taking her secrets with her.

488

00:24:11,640 --> 00:24:14,080

What makes me angry and fills me with pain

489

00:24:14,080 --> 00:24:16,880

is that because Bessie Bernard always

490

00:24:16,880 --> 00:24:19,720

changed things, birth dates and birth names

491

00:24:19,720 --> 00:24:24,480

and birth mother's names in places of birth that me

492

00:24:24,480 --> 00:24:30,000

and so many other people can't find their family.

493

00:24:30,000 --> 00:24:34,080

And I need to find my family.

494

00:24:34,080 --> 00:24:36,240

When I was looking through the adoption file

495

00:24:36,240 --> 00:24:39,880

in my father's office, and I saw all the letters

496

00:24:39,880 --> 00:24:43,520

that he had written to adoption agencies and orphanages

497

00:24:43,520 --> 00:24:46,040

and more relief organizations, and I finally

498

00:24:46,040 --> 00:24:48,720

understand how much they wanted a child

499

00:24:48,720 --> 00:24:50,240

and why they did what they did.

500

00:24:50,240 --> 00:24:53,640

But it's impossible to think for me

501

00:24:53,640 --> 00:24:56,920

and many other adopted people about ever leaving the world

502

00:24:56,920 --> 00:24:58,880

when you don't know how you got here in the first place.

503

00:25:01,600 --> 00:25:03,280

And my mother could be alive.

504

00:25:03,280 --> 00:25:06,840

I could have a brother or sister, cousins, aunts, uncles.

505

00:25:06,840 --> 00:25:09,160

I need to know.

506

00:25:09,160 --> 00:25:11,400

I need to know who my family is.

507

00:25:17,040 --> 00:25:19,920

Joe Saul thinks his mother's name is either Ruth Haberman

508

00:25:19,960 --> 00:25:21,680

or Ruth Habersack.

509

00:25:21,680 --> 00:25:24,560

She may have had a friend named Lucy Bint.

510

00:25:24,560 --> 00:25:27,520

Joe's father is listed as Robert Wilson, an engineer who

511

00:25:27,520 --> 00:25:29,760

worked in Hartford, Connecticut.

512

00:25:29,760 --> 00:25:31,840

Joe Saul believes he was born in Manhattan

513

00:25:31,840 --> 00:25:35,840

on November 3rd, 1939, or one week earlier in Florida.

514

00:25:49,920 --> 00:25:57,240

Next, an unexpected discovery prompts a murder investigation.

515

00:26:06,840 --> 00:26:10,360

In November of 1991, unsolved mysteries

516

00:26:10,360 --> 00:26:13,160

received a very unusual letter from a man named Tyrone

517

00:26:13,160 --> 00:26:16,600

Rollins, who wanted us to look into a case.

518

00:26:16,600 --> 00:26:19,600

Rollins had unwittingly sparked a murder investigation

519

00:26:19,600 --> 00:26:22,600

after experiencing a number of strange premonitions, which

520

00:26:22,600 --> 00:26:25,560

he simply could not explain.

521

00:26:25,560 --> 00:26:26,520

Sure, I can't get you.

522

00:26:26,520 --> 00:26:28,000

That'll get off at your 7.

523

00:26:28,000 --> 00:26:30,120

You take care.

524

00:26:30,120 --> 00:26:33,720

In 1985, Tyrone Rollins was hired as a school bus

525

00:26:33,720 --> 00:26:36,520

driver in Independence, Missouri.

526

00:26:36,520 --> 00:26:38,840

Right from the start, he had an eerie feeling

527

00:26:38,840 --> 00:26:41,680

about the rocky outcroppings behind the bus yard.

528

00:26:45,760 --> 00:26:47,200

Every time I walk past them hills,

529

00:26:47,200 --> 00:26:49,440

I get the same feeling.

530

00:26:49,440 --> 00:26:51,040

I'd be sitting up in front of my bus,

531

00:26:51,040 --> 00:26:55,440

and I'd feel like somebody watching me from behind.

532

00:26:55,440 --> 00:26:57,360

And I'd look back there, and there

533

00:26:57,360 --> 00:27:00,120

wouldn't be nobody on the bus for a while.

534

00:27:00,120 --> 00:27:03,800

I just thought I was going crazy.

535

00:27:03,800 --> 00:27:04,960

This is a strong feeling.

536

00:27:04,960 --> 00:27:07,960

Like, some pulling inside me wanted me to do something,

537

00:27:07,960 --> 00:27:09,600

and I just couldn't figure out what it was.

538

00:27:12,840 --> 00:27:16,120

Finally, on October 16, 1991, Tyrone

539

00:27:16,120 --> 00:27:19,920

was overcome by the urge to investigate.

540

00:27:19,920 --> 00:27:25,200

On the north side of the hill, he discovered a hidden cave.

541

00:27:25,200 --> 00:27:26,760

That strong feeling was back again.

542

00:27:26,760 --> 00:27:29,240

I knew I had to go in there for some reason.

543

00:27:36,080 --> 00:27:38,880

It was like an amazing adrenaline rush.

544

00:27:38,880 --> 00:27:40,200

Just the feeling of being in there,

545

00:27:40,200 --> 00:27:43,760

I didn't know if it was from not knowing what was in there.

546

00:27:47,120 --> 00:27:49,280

When I shined my flashlight towards the rocks,

547

00:27:49,280 --> 00:27:52,600

you could see little tiny specks look like crystals.

548

00:27:52,600 --> 00:27:54,760

So I started examining the rocks,

549

00:27:54,760 --> 00:27:57,480

and it was just then that I had a glance over,

550

00:27:57,480 --> 00:27:58,640

and I'd seen a pair of boots.

551

00:28:07,040 --> 00:28:09,680

It was just a shock.

552

00:28:09,680 --> 00:28:13,040

I just couldn't believe what I was seeing.

553

00:28:13,040 --> 00:28:14,800

Dental records would later confirm

554

00:28:14,800 --> 00:28:17,880

that the remains were those of Gary Simmons, a businessman

555

00:28:17,880 --> 00:28:22,000

from Overland Park, Kansas, 25 miles away.

556

00:28:22,000 --> 00:28:24,600

An autopsy revealed that he had been murdered,

557

00:28:24,600 --> 00:28:26,280

shot once in the head.

558

00:28:29,160 --> 00:28:31,000

Tyrone Rawlin's startling discovery

559

00:28:31,000 --> 00:28:34,080

was about to become a nightmare for the police.

560

00:28:34,080 --> 00:28:36,160

They were confronted with a killing that had taken place

561

00:28:36,160 --> 00:28:38,200

17 years earlier.

562

00:28:38,200 --> 00:28:42,200

Gary Simmons had mysteriously vanished in 1974.

563

00:28:42,200 --> 00:28:44,160

And at this point, investigations

564

00:28:44,160 --> 00:28:46,000

seemed almost futile.

565

00:28:46,000 --> 00:28:48,200

Yet the police had no choice.

566

00:28:48,200 --> 00:28:51,240

After all, someone had gotten away with murder

567

00:28:51,240 --> 00:28:52,480

for nearly two decades.

568

00:28:56,800 --> 00:28:59,920

In the 1970s, Gary Simmons owned and operated

569

00:28:59,920 --> 00:29:04,320

a lucrative chain of gas stations in the Kansas City area.

570

00:29:04,320 --> 00:29:09,080

His passionate application was horse trading.

571

00:29:09,080 --> 00:29:11,080

Gary always worked hard.

572

00:29:11,080 --> 00:29:14,600

And I believe he got involved in horses

573

00:29:14,600 --> 00:29:17,280

in order to have a form of relaxation

574

00:29:17,280 --> 00:29:21,960

and a means of doing something that was fun with his family.

575

00:29:21,960 --> 00:29:25,120

And it was a hobby that he had probably

576

00:29:25,120 --> 00:29:26,920

been involved in only two or three years prior

577

00:29:26,920 --> 00:29:27,840

to his disappearance.

578

00:29:27,840 --> 00:29:29,080

Hey, say, Gary.

579

00:29:29,080 --> 00:29:30,080

Hey, buddy, how you doing?

580

00:29:30,080 --> 00:29:31,000

Good, how you been?

581

00:29:31,000 --> 00:29:31,800

Good.

582

00:29:31,800 --> 00:29:33,480

Just got back from a showdown in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

583

00:29:33,480 --> 00:29:35,440

Man, I saw some of the most beautiful horses

584

00:29:35,440 --> 00:29:36,400

I've seen in a long time.

585

00:29:36,400 --> 00:29:37,200

Is that right?

586

00:29:37,200 --> 00:29:37,600

Too bad.

587

00:29:37,600 --> 00:29:39,200

Anything I might be interested in?

588

00:29:39,200 --> 00:29:43,600

On October 14, 1974, the day before he disappeared,

589

00:29:43,600 --> 00:29:47,120

Gary Simmons learned of a prize horse for sale.

590

00:29:47,120 --> 00:29:49,120

You know Tom Dixon?

591

00:29:49,120 --> 00:29:50,960

Tom Dixon.

592

00:29:50,960 --> 00:29:52,080

Yeah?

593

00:29:52,080 --> 00:29:54,080

Isn't he a member of the Apollosa Association?

594

00:29:54,080 --> 00:29:55,280

Right, right.

595

00:29:55,280 --> 00:29:57,600

He had one of the most beautiful purebred Apollooses

596

00:29:57,600 --> 00:29:58,800

I've seen a long time.

597

00:29:58,800 --> 00:30:00,240

Raised him from a colt.

598

00:30:00,240 --> 00:30:01,800

How much is he asking for?

599

00:30:01,800 --> 00:30:03,080

I'm not so sure he wants to sell him.

600

00:30:03,080 --> 00:30:04,920

He's asking \$30,000 for it.

601

00:30:04,920 --> 00:30:07,360

\$30,000?

602

00:30:07,360 --> 00:30:08,600

That must be some kind of horse.

603

00:30:09,560 --> 00:30:12,720

The next morning, an agent acting for the horse's order

604

00:30:12,720 --> 00:30:15,800

showed up at Gary Simmons' office.

605

00:30:15,800 --> 00:30:16,920

Hi, can I help you?

606

00:30:16,920 --> 00:30:18,800

Yeah, I'm here to see Mr. Simmons.

607

00:30:18,800 --> 00:30:19,800

Do you have an appointment?

608

00:30:19,800 --> 00:30:21,600

Yeah, we talked earlier on the phone.

609

00:30:21,600 --> 00:30:22,760

And your name, please?

610

00:30:22,760 --> 00:30:25,440

Tom Dixon.

611

00:30:25,440 --> 00:30:27,920

It was the beginning of an intricate transaction which

612

00:30:27,920 --> 00:30:31,160

lasted all day long and which police are still

613

00:30:31,160 --> 00:30:33,200

trying to piece together.

614

00:30:33,200 --> 00:30:35,560

Excuse me, Gary, there's a Tom Dixon here to see you.

615

00:30:35,560 --> 00:30:36,120

Oh, sure.

616

00:30:36,120 --> 00:30:37,120

Hi, Gary.

617

00:30:37,120 --> 00:30:37,880

Hi.

618

00:30:38,640 --> 00:30:43,080

At 10.15 AM, Gary Simmons left his office with Dixon.

619

00:30:43,080 --> 00:30:45,560

OK, I'll follow you.

620

00:30:45,560 --> 00:30:48,680

Simmons told his secretary that he would return shortly,

621

00:30:48,680 --> 00:30:50,680

but he did not say where he was going.

622

00:30:53,920 --> 00:30:57,440

15 minutes later, Gary Simmons telephoned his secretary

623

00:30:57,440 --> 00:31:02,000

and instructed her to make out a \$30,000 check to Tom Dixon.

624

00:31:02,000 --> 00:31:03,000

OK, \$30,000?

625

00:31:08,360 --> 00:31:09,800

Hi, can I help you with something?

626

00:31:09,800 --> 00:31:10,880

Yeah, I'm here to pick up the check.

627

00:31:10,880 --> 00:31:13,480

11 AM, Dixon picked up the check.

628

00:31:13,480 --> 00:31:14,600

You visited Gary earlier.

629

00:31:14,600 --> 00:31:15,640

Didn't he call?

630

00:31:15,640 --> 00:31:16,360

Yes, he did.

631

00:31:16,360 --> 00:31:19,120

And I'm drawing up the check, but you're

632

00:31:19,120 --> 00:31:21,760

going to have to get Gary's signature on it.

633

00:31:21,760 --> 00:31:25,160

Dixon then took the check to Gary Simmons for his signature,

634

00:31:25,160 --> 00:31:27,520

but no one knows where the meeting took place.

635

00:31:32,080 --> 00:31:36,040

At 11.30 AM, Gary Simmons was spotted at a truck stop

636

00:31:36,040 --> 00:31:37,360

10 miles from his office.

637

00:31:40,120 --> 00:31:42,800

The owner saw Gary Simmons walking back and forth

638

00:31:42,800 --> 00:31:45,040

between the counter and the window.

639

00:31:48,480 --> 00:31:51,480

He remembers that Gary Simmons was alone,

640

00:31:51,480 --> 00:31:54,360

and there did not seem to be anybody with him or waiting

641

00:31:54,360 --> 00:31:57,240

with him.

642

00:31:57,240 --> 00:32:01,040

It was the last time anyone ever saw Gary Simmons alive.

643

00:32:01,640 --> 00:32:06,440

Just before noon, Dixon showed up at Simmons Bank.

644

00:32:06,440 --> 00:32:09,960

Gary Simmons had called the president of the bank

645

00:32:09,960 --> 00:32:13,560

and had informed him that Tom Dixon was on his way

646

00:32:13,560 --> 00:32:15,800

to cash the check.

647

00:32:15,800 --> 00:32:19,320

The bank president recognized Gary Simmons' voice,

648

00:32:19,320 --> 00:32:22,560

and he did not recognize anything unusual in his voice

649

00:32:22,560 --> 00:32:24,640

to raise his suspicions either.

650

00:32:24,640 --> 00:32:28,040

\$9,900, \$10,000.

651

00:32:28,440 --> 00:32:31,960

\$9,900, \$10,000.

652

00:32:31,960 --> 00:32:34,520

\$30,000 total, Mr. Dixon.

653

00:32:34,520 --> 00:32:37,400

You don't think you'd like to open up a checking or savings

654

00:32:37,400 --> 00:32:38,320

account?

655

00:32:38,320 --> 00:32:41,240

Dixon took delivery of the money in \$100 bills.

656

00:32:41,240 --> 00:32:44,680

You need to pay off some debts.

657

00:32:44,680 --> 00:32:45,580

Thank you.

658

00:32:45,580 --> 00:32:46,480

Thank you.

659

00:32:50,640 --> 00:32:53,880

Around five hours later, Dixon showed up at a salvage yard

660

00:32:53,880 --> 00:32:55,760

11 miles from the bank.

661

00:32:55,800 --> 00:32:58,520

He was driving Gary Simmons' Lincoln Cotton Hells.

662

00:32:58,520 --> 00:32:59,420

Hey, everybody.

663

00:32:59,420 --> 00:33:00,320

You never show up.

664

00:33:00,320 --> 00:33:01,840

Well, I got busy.

665

00:33:01,840 --> 00:33:03,560

Where'd you get that Lincoln?

666

00:33:03,560 --> 00:33:04,560

It's not my car.

667

00:33:04,560 --> 00:33:06,400

It's something I need to get rid of.

668

00:33:06,400 --> 00:33:08,760

I was wondering if you could use your machine

669

00:33:08,760 --> 00:33:10,640

to sort of crush it for me.

670

00:33:10,640 --> 00:33:12,760

Yeah, I can make it flat for you.

671

00:33:12,760 --> 00:33:13,880

But if you want to get rid of it,

672

00:33:13,880 --> 00:33:16,320

you're going to have to melt it.

673

00:33:16,320 --> 00:33:19,680

If there's been keeping a real close eye on the furnace.

674

00:33:19,680 --> 00:33:21,760

You got any better ideas?

675

00:33:21,760 --> 00:33:22,920

Yeah.

676

00:33:22,920 --> 00:33:25,560

Put a brick on the accelerator and drive it to Missouri River.

677

00:33:28,400 --> 00:33:29,600

Hey, thanks for the advice.

678

00:33:29,600 --> 00:33:30,560

I'll catch you later.

679

00:33:30,560 --> 00:33:31,920

All right.

680

00:33:31,920 --> 00:33:34,280

The next day, one of Tom Dixon's friends

681

00:33:34,280 --> 00:33:37,640

dropped him off at a truck stop near Kansas City.

682

00:33:37,640 --> 00:33:40,560

Dixon said he was planning to hop a cross country rig.

683

00:33:40,560 --> 00:33:42,320

All right, we're ready to go, guys.

684

00:33:42,320 --> 00:33:45,400

It was the last time many ever saw Tom Dixon.

685

00:33:45,400 --> 00:33:46,320

Yeah.

686

00:33:46,320 --> 00:33:47,920

Can you tie that loop down here?

687

00:33:47,920 --> 00:33:49,720

Six months went by.

688

00:33:49,720 --> 00:33:54,400

Then on April 25, 1975, Gary Simmons Lincoln Continental

689

00:33:54,400 --> 00:33:56,520

was pulled out of the Missouri River,

690

00:33:56,520 --> 00:33:58,880

less than six miles from the Saudi Yard where

691

00:33:58,880 --> 00:34:01,840

Dixon had tried to get rid of it.

692

00:34:01,840 --> 00:34:07,360

All he had was two grown men that had disappeared.

693

00:34:07,360 --> 00:34:10,480

And that happens every day in America.

694

00:34:10,480 --> 00:34:12,800

It was unknown whether they had disappeared

695

00:34:12,800 --> 00:34:17,600

and not wanted to be found, or if foul play had indeed occurred.

696

00:34:20,720 --> 00:34:26,440

Upon finding Gary Simmons' body, it became a homicide investigation.

697

00:34:26,440 --> 00:34:27,520

And you had an actual crime.

698

00:34:31,040 --> 00:34:34,680

The finger of guilt appeared to point squarely at Tom Dixon.

699

00:34:34,680 --> 00:34:37,840

Police theorizes Simmons had been the victim of a bogus horse

700

00:34:37,840 --> 00:34:39,040

deal.

701

00:34:39,040 --> 00:34:41,560

The Dixon acting either alone or with a partner

702

00:34:41,560 --> 00:34:43,840

took Simmons' money and killed him.

703

00:34:43,840 --> 00:34:47,440

That in fact, there may never have been a horse at all.

704

00:34:47,480 --> 00:34:49,760

But then during the filming of this story,

705

00:34:49,760 --> 00:34:52,240

a new witness came forward.

706

00:34:52,240 --> 00:34:53,280

Oh, Gary knew a horse.

707

00:34:53,280 --> 00:34:53,960

That's for sure.

708

00:34:53,960 --> 00:34:56,440

He knew what a good horse was.

709

00:34:56,440 --> 00:34:59,760

Roy Hilton is a local rancher who says he knew both Simmons

710

00:34:59,760 --> 00:35:01,160

and Dixon.

711

00:35:01,160 --> 00:35:03,680

Didn't like and didn't care about.

712

00:35:03,680 --> 00:35:05,960

On the day that Gary Simmons disappeared,

713

00:35:05,960 --> 00:35:09,520

Roy Hilton claims he heard Simmons making calls to his office

714

00:35:09,520 --> 00:35:13,560

and to the bank from the Whispering Downs horse ranch.

715

00:35:13,560 --> 00:35:15,400

Yeah, \$30,000.

716

00:35:15,400 --> 00:35:18,760

He also states that Simmons showed him the horse he was buying.

717

00:35:18,760 --> 00:35:20,000

You just have the signature.

718

00:35:20,000 --> 00:35:21,800

Just have it ready for him, OK?

719

00:35:21,800 --> 00:35:25,600

This murder didn't come down over a \$30,000 horse deal.

720

00:35:25,600 --> 00:35:29,040

It had to come down on some black market gas.

721

00:35:29,040 --> 00:35:31,720

I'm almost positive of that because Gary was,

722

00:35:31,720 --> 00:35:35,400

Simmons was having problem getting fuel for his stations.

723

00:35:35,400 --> 00:35:38,360

Roy Hilton's testimony adds another layer of confusion

724

00:35:38,360 --> 00:35:41,120

to an already complex case.

725

00:35:41,120 --> 00:35:43,480

In the year prior to his death, Gary Simmons

726

00:35:43,480 --> 00:35:46,000

was struggling to save his chain of gas stations

727

00:35:46,000 --> 00:35:50,920

in the face of a 1973 Arab oil embargo.

728

00:35:50,920 --> 00:35:54,800

Gary was affected drastically by the embargo.

729

00:35:54,800 --> 00:35:57,080

He closed the bulk of his stations

730

00:35:57,080 --> 00:36:00,480

because of the fact of lack of gasoline.

731

00:36:00,480 --> 00:36:02,400

After Gary disappeared, there was

732

00:36:02,400 --> 00:36:04,760

numerous rumors that Gary might have been involved

733

00:36:04,760 --> 00:36:07,000

in black market gasoline.

734

00:36:07,000 --> 00:36:09,840

What Gary was involved in was buying gasoline on the spot

735

00:36:09,840 --> 00:36:10,840

market.

736

00:36:10,840 --> 00:36:13,400

And a lot of people labeled spot market gasoline

737

00:36:13,400 --> 00:36:15,640

because it was beyond government controls

738

00:36:15,640 --> 00:36:17,160

as black market gasoline.

739

00:36:17,160 --> 00:36:19,040

But it was one and the same.

740

00:36:19,040 --> 00:36:20,760

And it was a perfectly legal transaction

741

00:36:20,760 --> 00:36:22,200

to buy gasoline on the spot market.

742

00:36:22,200 --> 00:36:23,600

And most oil companies did so.

743

00:36:26,240 --> 00:36:29,440

Who murdered Gary Simmons and why?

744

00:36:29,440 --> 00:36:31,400

There may be only one man who can answer

745

00:36:31,400 --> 00:36:34,000

both of those questions.

746

00:36:34,000 --> 00:36:35,960

Tom Dixon.

747

00:36:35,960 --> 00:36:38,200

A warrant has been issued for Dixon's arrest

748

00:36:38,200 --> 00:36:40,400

on charges of auto theft.

749

00:36:40,400 --> 00:36:45,720

When he disappeared in 1974, he was 42 years old.

750

00:36:45,720 --> 00:36:48,600

This photograph has been aged to show how Tom Dixon might

751

00:36:48,600 --> 00:36:50,920

look today at 60.

752

00:36:50,920 --> 00:36:54,400

He is 5 feet 8 inches tall with brown or graying hair

753

00:36:54,400 --> 00:36:55,960

and green eyes.

754

00:36:55,960 --> 00:36:58,680

He may be working as a house painter or general contractor.

755

00:36:58,680 --> 00:37:05,680

On a previous broadcast, we featured the story of Jackie

756

00:37:05,680 --> 00:37:09,040

Dragon, who was adopted by a California couple when she was

757

00:37:09,040 --> 00:37:10,040

just an infant.

758

00:37:13,080 --> 00:37:16,200

When Jackie was 12, she came across her adoption papers

759

00:37:16,200 --> 00:37:18,520

and learned the name of the person who was

760

00:37:18,520 --> 00:37:20,440

the victim of the accident.

761

00:37:20,440 --> 00:37:22,680

And she was the victim of the accident.

762

00:37:22,680 --> 00:37:24,680

And she was the victim of the accident.

763

00:37:24,680 --> 00:37:26,680

And she was the victim of the accident.

764

00:37:27,680 --> 00:37:29,680

It was a big thing.

765

00:37:29,680 --> 00:37:30,680

It was a turning point.

766

00:37:30,680 --> 00:37:32,680

It was something that I knew from that point on

767

00:37:32,680 --> 00:37:36,680

that someday I would find those people in that paper

768

00:37:36,680 --> 00:37:38,680

and that I had to, that they were real.

769

00:37:42,680 --> 00:37:46,680

In July of 1990, after nine years of searching,

770

00:37:46,680 --> 00:37:51,680

Jackie finally tracked down her biological mother, Marge Ryder.

771

00:37:51,680 --> 00:37:52,680

Hi.

772

00:37:52,680 --> 00:37:54,680

May I speak with Marge Ryder, please?

773

00:37:54,680 --> 00:37:55,680

Speaking.

774

00:37:55,680 --> 00:37:58,680

Marge was living in Winchester, Illinois.

775

00:37:58,680 --> 00:38:01,680

The phone call from Jackie was totally unexpected.

776

00:38:01,680 --> 00:38:03,680

1964 mean anything to you.

777

00:38:03,680 --> 00:38:06,680

I was already sitting down and I felt like I had just fallen

778

00:38:06,680 --> 00:38:10,680

into a chair because it was, I've never had a shock

779

00:38:10,680 --> 00:38:13,680

like that before.

780

00:38:13,680 --> 00:38:15,680

During the course of the conversation,

781

00:38:15,680 --> 00:38:18,680

Jackie was surprised to learn that she had three sisters

782

00:38:18,680 --> 00:38:20,680

whom she had never met.

783

00:38:20,680 --> 00:38:23,680

Only the youngest, Tracy, was raised by Jackie.

784

00:38:23,680 --> 00:38:26,680

The youngest, Tracy, was raised by Marge.

785

00:38:26,680 --> 00:38:27,680

It was very exciting.

786

00:38:27,680 --> 00:38:28,680

I couldn't believe it.

787

00:38:28,680 --> 00:38:29,680

It's like, there's more.

788

00:38:29,680 --> 00:38:30,680

You're kidding.

789

00:38:30,680 --> 00:38:32,680

There's something more that I didn't know.

790

00:38:32,680 --> 00:38:34,680

During a poignant reunion with Marge,

791

00:38:34,680 --> 00:38:37,680

Jackie learned that her two other sisters, Laura May

792

00:38:37,680 --> 00:38:40,680

and Dawn Marie, had also been placed for adoption.

793

00:38:40,680 --> 00:38:41,680

Wow.

794

00:38:41,680 --> 00:38:42,680

You can definitely tell it's family.

795

00:38:42,680 --> 00:38:45,680

I would love the opportunity to find my sisters.

796

00:38:45,680 --> 00:38:48,680

I would hope, you know, I'd like to think that somewhere

797

00:38:48,680 --> 00:38:51,680

wherever they are, that they know that they're adopted

798

00:38:51,680 --> 00:38:54,680

and that they wonder where they came from.

799

00:38:54,680 --> 00:38:55,680

They were mine.

800

00:38:55,680 --> 00:38:56,680

I did love them.

801

00:38:56,680 --> 00:39:00,680

I do love them.

802

00:39:00,680 --> 00:39:04,680

And it would be nice to make the family complete again.

803

00:39:07,680 --> 00:39:08,680

Thanks to our viewers,

804

00:39:08,680 --> 00:39:10,680

Jackie, Dragan and Marge Writers' dream

805

00:39:10,680 --> 00:39:12,680

of reuniting their family finally came true.

806

00:39:12,680 --> 00:39:16,680

They were contacted by Laura May and Dawn Marie.

807

00:39:16,680 --> 00:39:18,680

Dawn Marie, who's adoptive name is Susan,

808

00:39:18,680 --> 00:39:21,680

owns her own business in Santa Barbara, California.

809

00:39:21,680 --> 00:39:23,680

Laura May, Marge's oldest daughter,

810

00:39:23,680 --> 00:39:26,680

is now married and lives in Mississippi.

811

00:39:30,680 --> 00:39:32,680

Three months after our broadcast,

812

00:39:32,680 --> 00:39:34,680

Laura May arrived at her sister Jackie's home

813

00:39:34,680 --> 00:39:36,680

in Glendale, California.

814

00:39:36,680 --> 00:39:38,680

Marge and her youngest daughter Tracy

815

00:39:38,680 --> 00:39:40,680

had flown in from Illinois

816

00:39:40,680 --> 00:39:42,680

for this very special reunion.

817

00:39:42,680 --> 00:39:43,680

How much on the call?

818

00:39:43,680 --> 00:39:44,680

Oh, yeah.

819

00:39:44,680 --> 00:39:45,680

Oh.

820

00:39:45,680 --> 00:39:47,680

This is my first time.

821

00:39:47,680 --> 00:39:48,680

Hi.

822

00:39:48,680 --> 00:39:49,680

This is your sister Tracy.

823

00:39:49,680 --> 00:39:51,680

Meeting them was really nerve-wracking

824

00:39:51,680 --> 00:39:53,680

because it's like I wasn't quite sure

825

00:39:53,680 --> 00:39:56,680

what to expect and what they would expect of me.

826

00:39:56,680 --> 00:39:57,680

Sure.

827

00:39:57,680 --> 00:39:58,680

Did you talk?

828

00:39:58,680 --> 00:39:59,680

All right.

829

00:39:59,680 --> 00:40:01,680

And then after I got here,

830

00:40:01,680 --> 00:40:03,680

it just all seemed to flow.

831

00:40:03,680 --> 00:40:05,680

It was very natural.

832

00:40:05,680 --> 00:40:06,680

Yes.

833

00:40:06,680 --> 00:40:08,680

And that's when I was like...

834

00:40:08,680 --> 00:40:10,680

The last time I remember seeing Laura,

835

00:40:10,680 --> 00:40:12,680

she was in a high chair.

836

00:40:12,680 --> 00:40:14,680

And now here she is all growing up

837

00:40:14,680 --> 00:40:16,680

and I'm still looking for this little girl.

838

00:40:16,680 --> 00:40:18,680

You know, and that's...

839

00:40:18,680 --> 00:40:20,680

It's kind of hard.

840

00:40:22,680 --> 00:40:24,680

Hi, Susan.

841

00:40:24,680 --> 00:40:26,680

Oh, it's good to meet you.

842

00:40:26,680 --> 00:40:28,680

A short time later,

843

00:40:28,680 --> 00:40:30,680

the circle was finally completed

844

00:40:30,680 --> 00:40:33,680

with the arrival of Marge's other daughter, Susan.

845

00:40:33,680 --> 00:40:34,680

Okay.

846

00:40:34,680 --> 00:40:35,680

Hi.

847

00:40:35,680 --> 00:40:36,680

Hi.

848

00:40:36,680 --> 00:40:37,680

Hi.

849

00:40:37,680 --> 00:40:39,680

I grew up knowing that I was adopted,

850

00:40:39,680 --> 00:40:41,680

but I didn't know anything about

851

00:40:41,680 --> 00:40:43,680

who my real parents were.

852

00:40:43,680 --> 00:40:45,680

And it's nice to know...

853

00:40:45,680 --> 00:40:46,680

I see.

854

00:40:46,680 --> 00:40:48,680

You know, who your family is.

855

00:40:48,680 --> 00:40:52,680

And I don't know what your background is.

856

00:40:52,680 --> 00:40:54,680

You know, learn more about them.

857

00:40:54,680 --> 00:40:57,680

I think when I first started feeling really comfortable

858

00:40:57,680 --> 00:40:59,680

was when we went out and took some Polaroids.

859

00:40:59,680 --> 00:41:01,680

And it was a really neat feeling

860

00:41:01,680 --> 00:41:03,680

to have a picture right in front of me

861

00:41:03,680 --> 00:41:05,680

and see all of us standing together.

862

00:41:05,680 --> 00:41:06,680

Get closer.

863

00:41:06,680 --> 00:41:10,680

It's a very once-in-a-lifetime kind of a thing

864

00:41:10,680 --> 00:41:13,680

to find a sister that you've never met.

865

00:41:13,680 --> 00:41:15,680

Everybody smile.

866

00:41:15,680 --> 00:41:18,680

Each one is totally individual.

867

00:41:18,680 --> 00:41:21,680

They're all strong I've found out.

868

00:41:24,680 --> 00:41:27,680

And they've done good with their lives.

869

00:41:27,680 --> 00:41:29,680

I'm proud of all four of them.

870

00:41:29,680 --> 00:41:33,680

The End

871

00:41:40,680 --> 00:41:44,680

Wholesale Medical Supply Distributor wanted.

872

00:41:44,680 --> 00:41:47,680

Investment of \$18,000 minimum

873

00:41:47,680 --> 00:41:50,680

required for necessary inventory.

874

00:41:50,680 --> 00:41:52,680

During the past year, this advertisement

875

00:41:52,680 --> 00:41:55,680

was placed in over 90 newspapers all across America

876

00:41:55,680 --> 00:41:58,680

by a company called Fidelity National Medical Supply

877

00:41:58,680 --> 00:42:00,680

Incorporated.

878

00:42:00,680 --> 00:42:02,680

The ads seemed to offer the perfect opportunity

879

00:42:02,680 --> 00:42:04,680

for enterprising individuals

880

00:42:04,680 --> 00:42:07,680

who'd always dreamed of owning their own business.

881

00:42:09,680 --> 00:42:13,680

Fidelity National was based in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

882

00:42:13,680 --> 00:42:16,680

They extended an open invitation to potential investors

883

00:42:16,680 --> 00:42:19,680

to visit the company headquarters.

884

00:42:19,680 --> 00:42:21,680

One person who took advantage of the offer

885

00:42:21,680 --> 00:42:24,680

was a man whom we will call Robert Jones.

886

00:42:24,680 --> 00:42:27,680

He has asked that we not reveal his true identity.

887

00:42:29,680 --> 00:42:32,680

On January 24, 1992,

888

00:42:32,680 --> 00:42:35,680

Robert Jones was driven to the company offices

889

00:42:35,680 --> 00:42:38,680

in a limousine provided by Fidelity National.

890

00:42:38,680 --> 00:42:42,680

Jones, who had arrived in town the day before,

891

00:42:42,680 --> 00:42:44,680

wanted to see the operation firsthand

892

00:42:44,680 --> 00:42:47,680

before making an investment.

893

00:42:47,680 --> 00:42:51,680

I checked with the Better Business Bureau in Oklahoma City.

894

00:42:51,680 --> 00:42:53,680

There was no complaints there.

895

00:42:53,680 --> 00:42:56,680

I had them checked out with a national credit firm

896

00:42:56,680 --> 00:42:59,680

and all their resources checked out the same

897

00:42:59,680 --> 00:43:01,680

with this firm.

898

00:43:01,680 --> 00:43:04,680

I was satisfied that they were legitimate.

899

00:43:09,680 --> 00:43:12,680

Fidelity National was certainly impressive.

900

00:43:12,680 --> 00:43:14,680

Orders were pouring in.

901

00:43:14,680 --> 00:43:16,680

Workers were busily taking inventory

902

00:43:16,680 --> 00:43:19,680

and answering a constant stream of phone calls.

903

00:43:19,680 --> 00:43:21,680

Robert, this is our gene room.

904

00:43:21,680 --> 00:43:23,680

I can't take you into the warehouse

905

00:43:23,680 --> 00:43:25,680

because it's a bonded warehouse.

906

00:43:25,680 --> 00:43:27,680

For security, sure.

907

00:43:27,680 --> 00:43:29,680

The warehouse was equally impressive.

908

00:43:29,680 --> 00:43:32,680

Thousands of boxes were stacked behind locked doors,

909

00:43:32,680 --> 00:43:34,680

awaiting delivery to distributors.

910

00:43:34,680 --> 00:43:36,680

You can see by the packing labels here

911

00:43:36,680 --> 00:43:38,680

that all these would be ready for the box.

912

00:43:38,680 --> 00:43:40,680

Their financials indicated that they had

913

00:43:40,680 --> 00:43:44,680

2.8 million or so of inventory in various locations.

914

00:43:45,680 --> 00:43:47,680

More comes in next weekend.

915

00:43:48,680 --> 00:43:51,680

Jones took the plunge and purchased the distributorship

916

00:43:51,680 --> 00:43:54,680

for \$54,000, his life savings.

917

00:43:54,680 --> 00:43:57,680

He was just one of more than 300 people

918

00:43:57,680 --> 00:44:00,680

who had made investments totally \$1.2 million.

919

00:44:02,680 --> 00:44:04,680

But as the money flooded in,

920

00:44:04,680 --> 00:44:07,680

the criminal investigation division of the IRS

921

00:44:07,680 --> 00:44:09,680

became increasingly suspicious.

922

00:44:11,680 --> 00:44:13,680

On February 17, 1992,

923

00:44:13,680 --> 00:44:17,680

agents from the FBI, the IRS, and the Oklahoma City Police

924

00:44:17,680 --> 00:44:21,680

made a surprise raid on Fidelity National's headquarters.

925

00:44:21,680 --> 00:44:24,680

In jail, are you lifting five or six boxes one time?

926

00:44:24,680 --> 00:44:26,680

Is nothing in any of the boxes?

927

00:44:26,680 --> 00:44:27,680

Do you can tell?

928

00:44:27,680 --> 00:44:28,680

No.

929

00:44:28,680 --> 00:44:30,680

When they went into the boxes,

930

00:44:30,680 --> 00:44:32,680

they found that they were completely empty.

931

00:44:32,680 --> 00:44:35,680

We found no evidence that Fidelity

932

00:44:35,680 --> 00:44:39,680

had in any way purchased, ordered, received, or shipped

933

00:44:39,680 --> 00:44:41,680

during the entire course of their business life

934

00:44:41,680 --> 00:44:43,680

any medical supplies.

935

00:44:43,680 --> 00:44:45,680

The inventory which we found

936

00:44:45,680 --> 00:44:48,680

when we executed search warrants at their warehouse

937

00:44:48,680 --> 00:44:50,680

would fit on the side of my desk.

938

00:44:51,680 --> 00:44:53,680

Investigators painstakingly checked

939

00:44:53,680 --> 00:44:56,680

every single box in the warehouse.

940

00:44:56,680 --> 00:44:58,680

Every single box was empty,

941

00:44:58,680 --> 00:45:00,680

and the masterminds of the operation

942

00:45:00,680 --> 00:45:03,680

had long since disappeared.

943

00:45:04,680 --> 00:45:05,680

These are not amateurs.

944

00:45:05,680 --> 00:45:08,680

These people have obviously done this in the past.

945

00:45:08,680 --> 00:45:09,680

They knew what they were doing.

946

00:45:09,680 --> 00:45:10,680

They did it very quickly.

947

00:45:10,680 --> 00:45:11,680

They knew how to get in.

948

00:45:11,680 --> 00:45:13,680

They knew how to get out.

949

00:45:13,680 --> 00:45:14,680

They knew how to set up the accounts

950

00:45:14,680 --> 00:45:17,680

without putting fingerprints on the accounts.

951

00:45:18,680 --> 00:45:20,680

We believe the leader of this operation

952

00:45:20,680 --> 00:45:23,680

was a gentleman named Richard Condia.

953

00:45:47,680 --> 00:45:52,680

The End

954

00:45:52,680 --> 00:46:01,680

Join me next time.

955

00:46:01,680 --> 00:46:05,680

Perhaps you may be able to help solve a mystery.

956

00:46:47,680 --> 00:46:52,680

The End