

1

00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:09,600

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

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00:00:09,600 --> 00:00:13,680

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

3

00:00:13,680 --> 00:00:20,920

to see is not a news broadcast.

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00:00:20,920 --> 00:00:28,040

In 1977, outside Tucson, Arizona, a businessman was found shot in the back of the head. 13

5

00:00:28,200 --> 00:00:33,400

years later, a computer draftsman died in a similar manner in Phoenix. The only possible

6

00:00:33,400 --> 00:00:38,640

link between the two men was Don Devereaux, a freelance journalist who now believes a

7

00:00:38,640 --> 00:00:42,240

second bullet was meant for him.

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00:00:42,240 --> 00:00:47,560

In Rochester, New York, a brazen gang of thieves made offered nearly \$11 million in a daring

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00:00:47,560 --> 00:00:54,760

daylight robbery. Perhaps you can help authorities identify three possible suspects.

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00:00:54,880 --> 00:00:59,720

Martha Brown and her twin brother Bobby spent their formative years in foster homes. But

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00:00:59,720 --> 00:01:04,480

when the twins were six, the authorities decided to separate them, and Martha embarked on a

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00:01:04,480 --> 00:01:09,240

search which has now spanned more than three decades.

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00:01:09,240 --> 00:01:14,480

Also tonight an important update. Thanks to our viewers, an alleged drunk driver wanted

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00:01:14,480 --> 00:01:20,480

in the highway desks of an elderly couple is now in custody. Join me for another edition

15

00:01:20,480 --> 00:01:22,720

of Unsolved Mysteries.

16

00:01:50,480 --> 00:01:56,480

May 14, 1990. In Phoenix, Arizona, Doug Johnston, the computer draftsman, was found in a

17

00:02:21,360 --> 00:02:27,080

front seat of his car. He had been shot once behind the left ear from a distance of at

18

00:02:27,080 --> 00:02:29,200

least 12 inches.

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00:02:29,200 --> 00:02:36,200

13 years earlier, June 18, 1977, the body of businessman Charles Morgan was found in the

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00:02:37,120 --> 00:02:44,120

Arizona desert 40 miles southwest of Tucson. He had been shot once in the back of the head.

21

00:02:44,120 --> 00:02:49,800

Ironically, he was wearing a bulletproof vest.

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00:02:49,800 --> 00:02:54,400

Two suspicious deaths, with no apparent connection.

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00:02:54,400 --> 00:02:58,960

Except that the authorities continue to hold with the unlikely possibility that both men

24

00:02:58,960 --> 00:03:05,960

committed suicide, many disagree, citing in particular the case of Charles Morgan.

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00:03:06,400 --> 00:03:11,760

It is not a very normal place to shoot oneself as a suicide. In bearing mind, he's wearing

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00:03:11,760 --> 00:03:18,760

a bulletproof vest at the time. I've never seen in all my years as a journalist a fellow

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00:03:18,760 --> 00:03:21,720

who took himself out in the desert wearing a bulletproof vest and shot himself in the

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00:03:21,720 --> 00:03:24,880

back of the head.

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00:03:24,880 --> 00:03:29,100

On a previous broadcast, Don Devereaux was a key interview in our segment about the Charles

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00:03:29,100 --> 00:03:34,680

Morgan case. Devereaux was convinced that the deaths of Morgan and Doug Johnston were

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00:03:34,680 --> 00:03:40,560

not suicides, not random killings. Devereaux believes both men were murdered and that both

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00:03:40,560 --> 00:03:46,440

were targets of a contract hit. Now, on a dramatic twist, Don Devereaux has been warned

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00:03:46,480 --> 00:03:53,400

that the bullet which killed Doug Johnston was meant for him.

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00:03:53,400 --> 00:04:00,400

The complex saga began 15 years ago in Tucson, Arizona. On March 22, 1977, Charles Morgan,

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00:04:01,360 --> 00:04:06,600

a devoted husband and father, disappeared, apparently abducted on the way to his escrow

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00:04:06,600 --> 00:04:11,400

company.

37

00:04:11,440 --> 00:04:16,440

Three days later, he returned home just as suddenly at two in the morning. He was staggering,

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00:04:16,440 --> 00:04:21,440

weak, and unable to talk.

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00:04:21,440 --> 00:04:26,280

Morgan wrote notes to his wife, telling her an hallucinogenic drug had been painted on

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00:04:26,280 --> 00:04:31,960

the back of his throat. He was afraid that dosage was lethal. Morgan wrote that if his

41

00:04:31,960 --> 00:04:38,640

wife tried to contact the police or even a physician, the entire family would be killed.

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00:04:38,680 --> 00:04:43,320

For a week, Morgan's wife fed him with an eyedropper. He still could not speak, but

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00:04:43,320 --> 00:04:47,840

began to allude to the fact that he was secretly working for the federal government. He wrote

44

00:04:47,840 --> 00:04:53,200

that his abductors had taken his treasury ID.

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00:04:53,200 --> 00:05:00,200

On June 7, 1977, Charles Morgan vanished again. Eleven days later, his body was found.

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00:05:00,560 --> 00:05:07,560

Three weeks later, two men, claiming to be government officials, showed up at Morgan's

47

00:05:10,960 --> 00:05:17,960

home. While his widows stood helplessly by, the two men ransacked the house. No one

48

00:05:17,960 --> 00:05:24,160

knows what they were looking for or what they found. The case remained mired in mystery

49

00:05:24,200 --> 00:05:31,080

until our broadcast. More than 600 calls came into the telecenter. Don Devereaux investigated

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00:05:31,080 --> 00:05:35,800

every lead. What he learned was staggering.

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00:05:35,800 --> 00:05:40,200

Morgan, it turns out, was extensively involved in money laundering activities through his

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00:05:40,200 --> 00:05:46,800

escrow company in Tucson. We also ascertained that he was doing large transactions in gold

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00:05:46,800 --> 00:05:53,360

and platinum, anywhere from weekly to monthly, for the several years between 1973 and when

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00:05:53,400 --> 00:05:59,160

he was killed in 1977. He was doing well in excess of a billion with a B, a billion dollars

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00:05:59,160 --> 00:06:05,760

a year in gold alone over that period, well in excess. And that much of it, in fact, seems

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00:06:05,760 --> 00:06:09,760

to have been coming out of Southeast Asia at the end of the Vietnam War.

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00:06:09,760 --> 00:06:13,360

Charles Morgan.

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00:06:13,360 --> 00:06:17,840

A lot of people seemed to have been involved, including renegade folks from the U.S. intelligence

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00:06:17,840 --> 00:06:23,560

community, some CIA people who were doing stuff perhaps under cover of the agency,

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00:06:23,560 --> 00:06:27,760

but probably most likely to line their own pockets. Also some indication that Vietnamese

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00:06:27,760 --> 00:06:31,600

government officials that were going into exile were involved. People from the Department

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00:06:31,600 --> 00:06:39,160

of Defense probably were involved, again, in a renegade rather than an official capacity.

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00:06:39,160 --> 00:06:43,080

Devereaux has discovered that Charles Morgan kept a set of duplicate records of all the

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00:06:43,080 --> 00:06:48,240

illicit transactions. Evidently, Morgan thought the duplicates would be his life insurance

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00:06:48,240 --> 00:06:55,520

policy. Instead, they became his death warrant.

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00:06:55,520 --> 00:06:59,680

He was clearly on the run the last few months of his life, literally on the run the last

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00:06:59,680 --> 00:07:07,680

10 days of his life, and nevertheless, somebody caught up with him.

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00:07:07,680 --> 00:07:12,520

Don Devereaux was convinced that Charles Morgan was killed because he knew too much. Somebody

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00:07:12,520 --> 00:07:18,040

wanted Morgan's silence forever. It seemed an isolated incident, and three months after

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00:07:18,040 --> 00:07:24,080

the unsolved mysteries broadcast, and 13 years after Charles Morgan died, another unusual

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00:07:24,080 --> 00:07:35,920

death occurred, right across the street from Don Devereaux's home in Phoenix.

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00:07:35,920 --> 00:07:42,760

On May 14, 1990, at 11 p.m., Doug Johnston left for work as usual. He was assigned to

73

00:07:42,760 --> 00:07:46,200

the night shift at a local computer graphics company.

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00:07:46,200 --> 00:07:58,160

An hour later, Doug Johnston was found dead in the company parking lot. He had been shot

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00:07:58,160 --> 00:08:04,080

once behind his left ear from a distance of at least 12 inches. At first glance, it appeared

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00:08:04,080 --> 00:08:10,600

to be suicide, yet oddly, Johnston was right-handed. In addition, there was no gun found at the

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00:08:10,600 --> 00:08:15,520

scene, and there was no powder residue on Johnston's hands.

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00:08:15,520 --> 00:08:20,640

As far as evidence, the only thing we found was a 25-caliber bullet casing. We did not

79

00:08:20,640 --> 00:08:27,640

find a weapon that fired that bullet. Our medical examiner determined that it was just as likely

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00:08:27,640 --> 00:08:33,360

that the gunshot wound to the head could have been self-inflicted as it was as likely that

81

00:08:33,800 --> 00:08:38,640

another person had done that. So based on that, we can't classify it either a murder

82

00:08:38,640 --> 00:08:43,360

or a suicide, and it's being maintained in our homicide files.

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00:08:43,360 --> 00:08:48,280

Doug would never commit suicide. He had just finished a year of computer-rated drafting.

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00:08:48,280 --> 00:08:53,960

He graduated with honors. He was on his way up there, and when he graduated in March,

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00:08:53,960 --> 00:08:58,720

got the job in April. Everything was going really great. We had a future starting all

86

00:08:58,840 --> 00:09:05,840

over again for us, and there's no way he would have committed suicide.

87

00:09:07,480 --> 00:09:12,080

Don Devereaux followed the investigation with great interest. He lived across the street

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00:09:12,080 --> 00:09:17,160

from the parking lot where Doug Johnston had been killed. Johnston's car was an aging

89

00:09:17,160 --> 00:09:21,680

Toyota station wagon very much like Devereaux's.

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00:09:21,680 --> 00:09:28,180

I contacted Phoenix PD within a few days of the Johnston shooting and told them that I

91

00:09:28,220 --> 00:09:32,940

was across the street, had a similar car, and was in fact working on a homicide case

92

00:09:32,940 --> 00:09:38,940

and some stuff that also involved some other substantial criminal activity at the time

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00:09:38,940 --> 00:09:45,620

that Johnston was killed. The initial read I got from Phoenix PD was one of not really

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00:09:45,620 --> 00:09:51,260

thinking that that had any bearing on the Johnston shooting. And so although I continued to track

95

00:09:51,260 --> 00:09:57,620

it for a while, over a period of time, I just sort of put it out of my mind.

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00:09:58,060 --> 00:10:02,660

The year after Doug Johnston was shot, Don Devereaux was contacted by a writer from Washington,

97

00:10:02,660 --> 00:10:08,700

D.C. named Dan Castellaro. Devereaux agreed to share the information he had uncovered concerning

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00:10:08,700 --> 00:10:14,700

Charles Morgan's illegal gold transactions. But before Devereaux could even mail his research,

99

00:10:14,700 --> 00:10:20,700

Dan Castellaro was dead.

100

00:10:20,700 --> 00:10:25,860

Castellaro was found in a hotel room with his wrist slashed deeply a dozen times. Police

101

00:10:25,940 --> 00:10:31,940

ruled the death of suicide, but to Don Devereaux and others, it seemed far more sinister.

102

00:10:31,940 --> 00:10:38,940

Dan Castellaro's brother is a doctor. The doctor tells us that Dan Castellaro was

103

00:10:40,300 --> 00:10:46,060

so squeamish that he was reluctant to allow his brother to prick his finger to do any

104

00:10:46,060 --> 00:10:52,140

kind of blood sample work on Dan over the years. I mean, that's squeamish about blood.

105

00:10:52,140 --> 00:10:56,900

Of all the ways that Dan Castellaro might have committed suicide, had he chosen to commit

106

00:10:56,900 --> 00:11:03,900

suicide, slashing his wrists a dozen times in a bathtub, and dying in that manner seems

107

00:11:05,060 --> 00:11:10,060

to me the least likely of anything he could possibly have done.

108

00:11:10,060 --> 00:11:14,220

These guys don't offer much. They don't volunteer information.

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00:11:14,220 --> 00:11:20,220

Six months after Dan Castellaro's death, Devereaux had a shocking conversation with another journalist

110

00:11:20,300 --> 00:11:24,300

who said he had a warning from a highly placed source in the CIA.

111

00:11:24,300 --> 00:11:28,300

The word I got back was that they didn't think they were getting you when they got that guy.

112

00:11:28,300 --> 00:11:32,300

It was a boss job? Yes. And these are the exact words.

113

00:11:32,300 --> 00:11:36,300

There have been, and there still are, contracts out to kill you.

114

00:11:36,300 --> 00:11:39,300

Plural? That means contracts had been out there in the past.

115

00:11:39,300 --> 00:11:43,300

It's a shocker when somebody calls you up and says, you're about to be killed.

116

00:11:43,300 --> 00:11:45,300

That doesn't mean it's going to happen tomorrow.

117

00:11:45,380 --> 00:11:50,380

My colleague told me that it looked like I had a problem, that he understood from his

118

00:11:50,380 --> 00:11:56,380

CIA contact that whatever it was, it involved something I was looking at that had both CIA

119

00:11:56,380 --> 00:12:03,380

and organized crime dimensions, and that I could be in some real trouble and to get my head

120

00:12:03,380 --> 00:12:08,380

down, maybe even get out of there for a while until he could figure out what was happening.

121

00:12:08,380 --> 00:12:11,380

It's on the street. People know that somebody's after you.

122

00:12:11,460 --> 00:12:17,460

Later, two other sources, one from the CIA and one from Israeli intelligence confirmed

123

00:12:17,460 --> 00:12:25,460

the death threats. Has Don Devereaux been targeted for murder because of his investigation

124

00:12:25,460 --> 00:12:30,960

into the Charles Morgan case? If so, then Doug Johnston may very well have been the

125

00:12:30,960 --> 00:12:35,460

innocent victim of a contract hit meant for Devereaux himself.

126

00:12:35,540 --> 00:12:39,540

His parking lot is right across the street from my parking lot.

127

00:12:39,540 --> 00:12:45,540

There's a one-digit difference in our numbers. I've gotten mail fairly frequently for the

128

00:12:45,540 --> 00:12:51,540

building across the street. He was driving a car much like my car.

129

00:12:51,540 --> 00:12:58,540

Somebody evidently was waiting for him in the dark, must have known about where he would

130

00:12:58,540 --> 00:13:02,540

be pulling in and parking. And this was not just some random shooting.

131

00:13:02,620 --> 00:13:06,620

This was a shooting that had all the characteristics of a very professional killing.

132

00:13:06,620 --> 00:13:10,620

This was a single-shot, 25-caliber, back of the left ear.

133

00:13:10,620 --> 00:13:13,620

A very slick murder.

134

00:13:15,620 --> 00:13:20,620

I can't say for an absolute fact what happened to him. I wasn't there.

135

00:13:20,620 --> 00:13:28,620

I can simply say that on the basis of what I'm looking at and hearing, I think the odds

136

00:13:28,700 --> 00:13:32,700

on him having taken his own life are virtually nonexistent.

137

00:13:35,700 --> 00:13:40,700

If Johnston was killed with a bullet that was intended for me, I feel terrible about it.

138

00:13:40,700 --> 00:13:45,700

And I feel very awful for his wife and family.

139

00:13:47,700 --> 00:13:52,700

There's so much evidence that these people were after Don instead of my husband.

140

00:13:52,780 --> 00:13:57,780

It wasn't a gang-related shooting or suicide or anything.

141

00:13:57,780 --> 00:14:01,780

It all kind of fits together that they were after Don.

142

00:14:01,780 --> 00:14:05,780

And my husband just happened to be in the wrong place.

143

00:14:05,780 --> 00:14:09,780

Thirty-some metric tons of deal, that's a hundred million dollar deals.

144

00:14:09,780 --> 00:14:12,780

That's an awful lot of stuff.

145

00:14:12,780 --> 00:14:16,780

I suspect that the same network of people, mob people, intelligence community people,

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00:14:16,780 --> 00:14:21,780

that were involved in a lot of this 1970s activities that we're focusing on in terms of

147

00:14:21,860 --> 00:14:26,860

bullying, are probably still out there.

148

00:14:26,860 --> 00:14:32,860

I am not thrilled to think that there could be, quote, a high-level CIA official, close

149

00:14:32,860 --> 00:14:39,860

quote, who knows about this, who is not himself taking official actions to correct it.

150

00:14:40,860 --> 00:14:44,860

And clearly, if there are people in the U.S. government who know and disapprove of this

151

00:14:44,860 --> 00:14:48,860

sort of thing, then they damn well should get off their butts and do something about

152

00:14:48,940 --> 00:14:51,940

it.

153

00:14:51,940 --> 00:14:56,940

For those unfamiliar with the details, some of Don Devereaux' conspiracy theories about

154

00:14:56,940 --> 00:15:03,940

the mob, run-a-gate CIA agents, smuggle gold and contract hits may seem far-fetched.

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00:15:03,940 --> 00:15:08,940

But the fact remains that Don Devereaux has tape recordings of a number of credible sources

156

00:15:08,940 --> 00:15:12,940

who warned him that he is the next target.

157

00:15:18,940 --> 00:15:25,940

In 1979, John Constable and his wife Virginia retired to Davenport, Florida.

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00:15:27,940 --> 00:15:33,940

On March 3rd, 1991, a couple left their home to visit their only daughter Linda, who lived

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00:15:33,940 --> 00:15:36,940

in Jacksonville, 200 miles north.

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00:15:36,940 --> 00:15:42,940

That same morning, 12 miles away, a man named James White got behind the wheel of his pickup

161

00:15:42,940 --> 00:15:43,940

truck.

162

00:15:44,020 --> 00:15:51,020

A house painter and handyman had a long history of drunk driving arrests.

163

00:16:04,520 --> 00:16:09,180

John Constable was pronounced dead at the scene. His wife Virginia died an hour later

164

00:16:09,180 --> 00:16:12,180

from massive internal injuries.

165

00:16:12,920 --> 00:16:19,920

The Florida Highway Patrol officer said that there had been an automobile accident and

166

00:16:21,520 --> 00:16:28,520

there was a fatality. I just remember asking which one.

167

00:16:31,380 --> 00:16:35,380

I never dreamed it would have been both of them.

168

00:16:35,380 --> 00:16:41,880

James White was transported to a nearby hospital. He suffered a fractured jaw, a broken ankle,

169

00:16:42,080 --> 00:16:47,500

and three broken ribs. Tests later revealed that at the time of the crash, White's blood

170

00:16:47,500 --> 00:16:52,500

alcohol content was twice Florida's legal limit.

171

00:16:52,500 --> 00:16:57,400

James White was eventually charged with two counts of DUI manslaughter and one count of

172

00:16:57,400 --> 00:17:04,400

driving under the influence. But just three days after the crash, White, assisted by his

173

00:17:04,400 --> 00:17:09,520

relatives, left the hospital and disappeared. His whereabouts remained a mystery until the

174

00:17:09,560 --> 00:17:16,560

night of our broadcast.

175

00:17:16,560 --> 00:17:21,560

Update, Burlington, Vermont. James White has been arrested.

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00:17:21,560 --> 00:17:27,560

Following the broadcast of Unsolved Mystery, we received some 200 phone calls about James

177

00:17:27,560 --> 00:17:32,800

White and his whereabouts. Two days after the Unsolved Mystery's broadcast, we got

178

00:17:32,800 --> 00:17:37,760

the phone call we were waiting on. James White was spotted by someone who had seen the program

179

00:17:37,800 --> 00:17:44,800

up in Burlington, Vermont. He was seen in a bar and he was arrested and taken into custody

180

00:17:45,040 --> 00:17:45,960

up there.

181

00:17:45,960 --> 00:17:49,920

I was very glad to get him off the road to think that he's not going to kill someone

182

00:17:49,920 --> 00:17:53,800

else. I think it's a terrible thing what he did. He should have stayed there and he

183

00:17:53,800 --> 00:17:57,280

should have faced the music.

184

00:17:57,280 --> 00:18:01,520

Two weeks after he was captured, James White was returned to Florida where he is scheduled

185

00:18:01,520 --> 00:18:06,800

to stand trial on all charges. White, who has two prior convictions for drunk driving,

186

00:18:06,800 --> 00:18:13,840

could receive a maximum sentence of 30 years in prison.

187

00:18:37,240 --> 00:18:44,240

Rochester, New York, June 26, 1990. At around 6.45 a.m., Armored Motor Services of America

188

00:18:47,040 --> 00:18:53,320

dispatched to transport for a scheduled delivery. Inside the truck was nearly \$11 million in

189

00:18:53,320 --> 00:18:59,760

various denominations. The events you are about to see are based on an official police

190

00:18:59,760 --> 00:19:03,440

investigation.

191

00:19:03,600 --> 00:19:08,520

Once after 7 a.m., the armored truck made an unauthorized but not uncommon stop at a

192

00:19:08,520 --> 00:19:15,520

convenience store. A guard, whom we will call Mary Wilson, went inside the store while

193

00:19:15,920 --> 00:19:20,520

the driver, Albert Ranieri, waited in the truck.

194

00:19:20,520 --> 00:19:26,720

We stopped there about once or twice a week and usually get about the same thing. That

195

00:19:26,720 --> 00:19:30,240

morning, there was no one in there when I walked in. It was just me and then a lady came in

196

00:19:30,240 --> 00:19:35,040

later on. It was normal.

197

00:19:35,040 --> 00:19:40,600

While Mary Wilson was buying donuts and coffee, a daring assault was unfolding in full view

198

00:19:40,600 --> 00:19:42,600

just 100 feet away.

199

00:19:42,600 --> 00:19:49,600

Put your hands on the wheel. Look straight ahead. We'll all get home tonight.

200

00:19:49,600 --> 00:19:56,600

Don't move or I'll kill you. Don't turn around.

201

00:20:09,400 --> 00:20:14,520

Five minutes later, Mary Wilson returned to the truck, unaware that her partner was no

202

00:20:14,520 --> 00:20:21,520

longer in control.

203

00:20:32,520 --> 00:20:37,800

Having so fast, I didn't get a chance to get scared. He pushed me to the floor and tied

204

00:20:37,800 --> 00:20:40,800

my hands and my feet together with plastic handcuffs.

205

00:20:41,080 --> 00:20:48,080

When I say drive, you drive. When I say turn, you turn.

206

00:20:51,280 --> 00:20:56,080

Albert Ranieri was forced at gunpoint to drive to a secluded location, one and a half miles

207

00:20:56,080 --> 00:21:03,080

from the convenience store. The armored truck was followed by a gray Chevrolet van.

208

00:21:04,160 --> 00:21:08,640

One couldn't have picked a better location. It was about 75 to 100 yards off the road

209

00:21:08,640 --> 00:21:15,640

and it completely disappears from sight behind a small hill. And we know that the sight had

210

00:21:15,640 --> 00:21:19,960

been prepared prior to the robbery. There are several tree branches that had been freshly

211

00:21:19,960 --> 00:21:23,960

cut to make sure that this large vehicle would fit.

212

00:21:23,960 --> 00:21:26,960

All right, get back here. Crawl through that window.

213

00:21:26,960 --> 00:21:27,960

Okay, just take it.

214

00:21:27,960 --> 00:21:34,960

Shut up. Don't talk to me. Crawl through that window. I'll kill you.

215

00:21:34,960 --> 00:21:39,080

The authorities believed that the two robbers were met at the location by at least one other

216

00:21:39,080 --> 00:21:43,580

accomplice.

217

00:21:43,580 --> 00:21:50,580

Albert Ranieri was bound and gagged and forced on top of Mary Wilson.

218

00:22:05,960 --> 00:22:11,960

At that point in time, the vehicle is unloaded and there's approximately 2,000 pounds of

219

00:22:12,480 --> 00:22:15,960

money there.

220

00:22:15,960 --> 00:22:21,680

One train in particular was full of \$100 bills. There was a million dollars in hundreds.

221

00:22:21,680 --> 00:22:28,680

There was almost \$8 million in 20s and the rest was in a variety of other denominations.

222

00:22:29,680 --> 00:22:35,080

According to Wilson and Ranieri, there was little dialogue between the robbers. The

223

00:22:35,080 --> 00:22:39,560

money was transferred with brisk efficiency.

224

00:22:39,560 --> 00:22:46,560

This was a lot of money, so we believe that it took probably in the neighborhood of five,

225

00:22:46,960 --> 00:22:53,960

maybe ten minutes to offload that amount of bulk.

226

00:22:58,680 --> 00:23:05,680

I sat there quiet and made sure I didn't hear any more voices.

227

00:23:09,760 --> 00:23:13,920

I was scared for my life. I kept thinking about my son and I just thought I was going

228

00:23:13,920 --> 00:23:16,640

to die. That's why I broke loose because I wasn't going to sit there and wait for somebody

229

00:23:16,640 --> 00:23:21,080

to come back and kill me.

230

00:23:21,080 --> 00:23:28,080

It took Mary Wilson 15 painful minutes to rip through the plastic handcuffs. Unable to

231

00:23:28,800 --> 00:23:33,680

free her partner from his restraints, she drove the armored truck to company headquarters

232

00:23:33,680 --> 00:23:39,400

and reported the robbery.

233

00:23:39,400 --> 00:23:45,400

In less than an hour, the thieves had made off with nearly \$11 million. The next day,

234

00:23:45,400 --> 00:23:51,600

the getaway van was discovered five miles away.

235

00:23:51,600 --> 00:23:57,600

The interior was littered with over \$13,000 in small bills. The leftovers of what authorities

236

00:23:57,680 --> 00:24:04,680

determined is the largest on-the-road armored car robbery in United States history. Everything

237

00:24:05,240 --> 00:24:11,240

seemed to indicate that the heist was an inside job.

238

00:24:11,240 --> 00:24:16,240

A conveniently broken porthole allowed one robber to hold the driver at gunpoint while

239

00:24:16,240 --> 00:24:23,240

the other allegedly used a key to gain entry through the truck's side door.

240

00:24:23,960 --> 00:24:30,960

Both gunmen wore clothing which was nearly identical to the uniforms worn by company

241

00:24:32,320 --> 00:24:34,320

employees.

242

00:24:34,320 --> 00:24:41,320

Finally, only a limited number of people were aware of the enormous amount of untraceable

243

00:24:41,320 --> 00:24:48,320

cash being transported that day.

244

00:24:53,240 --> 00:25:00,240

When we return, a woman needs your help to find her long-lost twin brother.

245

00:25:00,240 --> 00:25:07,240

The Dust Bowl, one of the most devastating natural disasters in American history. During

246

00:25:07,240 --> 00:25:14,240

the 1930s, years of relentless drought transformed the lush farmlands of Oakland, where the

247

00:25:14,240 --> 00:25:21,240

Texas and the Midwest into a barren wasteland. Thousands of families were forced to abandon

248

00:25:21,880 --> 00:25:28,880

their ancestral homes, desperately searching for work.

249

00:25:28,880 --> 00:25:35,880

Uprooted and impoverished, many made their way west to California's fertile San Joaquin

250

00:25:35,880 --> 00:25:42,880

Valley. 15 years later, many still remained in the area as migrant farm workers.

251

00:25:42,880 --> 00:25:49,880

Following the fruit and vegetable harvest from town to town, Ira and Dora Brown were typical

252

00:25:49,880 --> 00:25:56,880

Dust Bowl refugees. They had lost their farm in Oklahoma and never returned.

253

00:25:59,880 --> 00:26:06,880

The last time they were in the area, they were in the area of the West Coast. They

254

00:26:06,880 --> 00:26:13,880

had lost their farm in Oklahoma and never returned. By 1951, they had four children,

255

00:26:16,880 --> 00:26:23,880

and Dora was pregnant again. On July 27, 1951, Dora Brown gave birth to twins, a girl and

256

00:26:28,880 --> 00:26:35,480

a boy. The children were named Martha and Robert. With six miles to feed, the Browns

257

00:26:35,480 --> 00:26:42,480

felt they had no choice but to put the twins up for adoption.

258

00:26:42,480 --> 00:26:46,980

I think my parents gave me up out of their best interests, and they really couldn't afford

259

00:26:46,980 --> 00:26:53,980

us. I had a heart condition. I think my father finally reluctantly gave us up for adoption

260

00:26:54,120 --> 00:27:00,480

so I could get good medical treatment and get an education.

261

00:27:00,480 --> 00:27:04,980

Martha and Bobby were placed in California's foster care system. They were shuttled from

262

00:27:04,980 --> 00:27:11,980

one family to another, never knowing what it was like to live in a secure home. Finally

263

00:27:12,320 --> 00:27:17,680

in 1956, when they were five years old, Martha and Bobby came to live with Alice and Arnold

264

00:27:17,680 --> 00:27:24,680

Breitler in Reedley, California. My name is Alice, and this is Arnold, and we're very

265

00:27:24,680 --> 00:27:29,520

happy to have you here. And in the house we have some presents for you. Would you like

266

00:27:29,560 --> 00:27:35,560

to go inside and see them? Alright, let's do that.

267

00:27:35,560 --> 00:27:42,560

I can see Martha and Bobby as they came to my door. They were so pretty and so cute,

268

00:27:42,880 --> 00:27:48,880

my first time to see them. And I really fell in love with them right away.

269

00:27:48,880 --> 00:27:55,880

And this is your room, and there's your doll, and there's your truck.

270

00:27:55,880 --> 00:28:02,200

I went right to the bedroom and grabbed the doll and just hugged it. And I thought that

271

00:28:02,200 --> 00:28:09,200

was very sweet of her. I didn't at the time realize that they hadn't had toys before.

272

00:28:09,200 --> 00:28:16,200

One more brush, one more brush, is that okay?

273

00:28:16,800 --> 00:28:23,800

The social worker told us that they had been mistreated. And it took me two and a half

274

00:28:25,880 --> 00:28:32,880

hours to get the dirt off of their bodies. They were so hungry, and they just ate for

275

00:28:38,000 --> 00:28:45,000

a week. It seemed like we couldn't fill them up. As time went by, Martha would tell me

276

00:28:48,680 --> 00:28:55,680

things, that the home that they had been in, the foster home, that they had been in, they

277

00:28:55,880 --> 00:29:02,160

had to stand on the outside while the family ate their dinner. And then they would bring

278

00:29:02,160 --> 00:29:09,160

them in and give them beans. We were hungry when we got to the Brightlers,

279

00:29:10,200 --> 00:29:15,680

very malnourished. I have memories of Bobby and I going to the kitchen and sneaking out

280

00:29:15,680 --> 00:29:21,960

what food we could find. It seemed to be a nightly ritual. We were so afraid of going

281

00:29:21,960 --> 00:29:28,960

hungry again. Bobby and I were very close to each other at that time. It was like we

282

00:29:33,520 --> 00:29:40,520

were the only kids in the whole world that loved each other, and nobody else loved us.

283

00:29:41,160 --> 00:29:48,160

Years of severe neglect had taken a tremendous emotional toll on the twins, especially Bobby.

284

00:29:53,280 --> 00:30:00,280

Almost immediately, there was evidence of serious behavioral problems.

285

00:30:01,440 --> 00:30:08,440

One day they were playing out there in the backyard. I went out and here Bobby was holding

286

00:30:09,200 --> 00:30:16,200

Martha's face right down in the water, and he wouldn't let her up. I think Bobby loved

287

00:30:21,040 --> 00:30:28,040

his sister very much, but he also resented her. He'd be real sweet, and then he'd build

288

00:30:28,120 --> 00:30:35,120

himself up into these little fits like, and then they'd pass away, and then he'd be sweet

289

00:30:36,480 --> 00:30:43,480

again. It seemed to be something in him.

290

00:30:48,880 --> 00:30:53,000

Bobby's violent temper was a constant worry for both the Brightlers and the Child Welfare

291

00:30:53,000 --> 00:30:59,280

Office. In 1957, the Welfare Board, fearing for Martha's safety, decided it would be

292

00:30:59,280 --> 00:31:06,280

best to separate the twins. Bobby was sent to yet another foster home.

293

00:31:07,760 --> 00:31:12,760

I remember very well the day my twin brother left. We were sitting out on the steps, and

294

00:31:12,760 --> 00:31:19,760

I didn't know he was going to leave, and I don't know if he knew he was going to leave.

295

00:31:20,760 --> 00:31:27,760

Now be a good boy, Bobby. I'm going to miss you. Give me a hug. Now say goodbye to your

296

00:31:29,640 --> 00:31:33,840

sister. And at the last minute, Bobby gave me his

297

00:31:33,840 --> 00:31:40,840

clown outfit that we had wore that Halloween. And that was the one thing he could give me

298

00:31:42,480 --> 00:31:47,480

that was very special to him.

299

00:31:50,480 --> 00:31:55,680

I miss my twin very, very much, because it seemed like he was the only person in the

300

00:31:55,680 --> 00:32:00,000

whole world that really loved me, and he was the only person in the whole world that I

301

00:32:00,000 --> 00:32:07,000

loved. So when he left, I really missed him.

302

00:32:07,600 --> 00:32:14,600

I felt so bad, and even to this day, I feel like I wish I hadn't sent him away, but I

303

00:32:15,600 --> 00:32:22,600

mean, I'm sorry that they had me send him away.

304

00:32:24,800 --> 00:32:31,800

When the twins were eleven, Bobby and his foster family moved out of the area. Martha and the

305

00:32:31,880 --> 00:32:38,880

Breitlers never heard from him again. In 1962, Martha was legally adopted by the Breitlers.

306

00:32:39,000 --> 00:32:46,000

After the death of her adoptive father, she and her mother moved to Ashland, Oregon. But

307

00:32:47,360 --> 00:32:54,360

Martha never forgot her twin brother. When she was eighteen, Martha made a special trip

308

00:32:55,960 --> 00:33:01,760

to the welfare office in Fresno, California. She learned that Bobby had been adopted and

309

00:33:01,760 --> 00:33:08,760

eventually obtained his address.

310

00:33:09,000 --> 00:33:16,000

I wrote my twin brother to ask him if he could come to my high school graduation, and I remember

311

00:33:16,280 --> 00:33:23,280

waiting excitedly each day for the postman to bring me a letter from him.

312

00:33:24,600 --> 00:33:30,480

A few weeks later, Martha's letter was returned, unopened.

313

00:33:30,480 --> 00:33:36,120

I think I thought at that time that I had lost my twin for good, that I would never be

314

00:33:36,200 --> 00:33:40,240

able to find him again.

315

00:33:40,240 --> 00:33:45,200

Twenty years would pass before Martha was able to uncover any additional information about

316

00:33:45,200 --> 00:33:52,200

her brother. In 1989, Martha obtained copies of Bobby's birth certificate and driver's

317

00:33:52,280 --> 00:33:58,600

license. She also found that he had an address in Los Angeles.

318

00:33:58,600 --> 00:34:05,600

I was so excited. I was jumping up and down and clapping and yelling and the whole bit.

319

00:34:06,320 --> 00:34:12,320

What Martha did not realize was that the address belonged to a shelter for the homeless. But

320

00:34:12,320 --> 00:34:17,080

according to the records of the midnight mission, Bobby had not been seen there for more than

321

00:34:17,080 --> 00:34:21,800

two years.

322

00:34:21,800 --> 00:34:28,800

I think my twin brother and I, while we were little, had a special bond. I still think

323

00:34:28,800 --> 00:34:34,440

he, in his own little way, still remembers me and loves me as he did when I was a child.

324

00:34:34,440 --> 00:34:40,720

It's just very important for me to find him. It would mean the world to me if I could find him.

325

00:35:05,200 --> 00:35:12,200

Next, a murder investigation is complicated by the victim's religious beliefs.

326

00:35:21,400 --> 00:35:27,200

America's God's Crucible, the Great Melting Pot. These words, written nearly a century

327

00:35:27,200 --> 00:35:32,760

ago, are as true today as they were during the great European migration. However, woven

328

00:35:32,760 --> 00:35:38,280

into the colorful fabric of American society, a few subcultures are so self-contained and

329

00:35:38,280 --> 00:35:43,200

tradition-bound that they are shrouded in mystery for those in the mainstream and are

330

00:35:43,200 --> 00:35:49,160

all too often misunderstood.

331

00:35:49,160 --> 00:35:54,480

Orthodox Jews comprise only about one-tenth of one percent of our population. Their roots

332

00:35:54,480 --> 00:36:00,760

may be traced back 5,000 years to the time of Moses. Observant Orthodox Jews live according

333

00:36:00,760 --> 00:36:06,800

to strict codes of social and moral conduct, which have remained unchanged for centuries.

334

00:36:06,800 --> 00:36:11,760

Hours of daily prayer and a rigid dietary regime are among the ancient rituals which guide

335

00:36:11,760 --> 00:36:17,880

the Orthodox Jew through birth, marriage and death.

336

00:36:17,880 --> 00:36:23,520

To ensure the continuation of the tradition, many communities have established Yeshivas,

337

00:36:23,520 --> 00:36:28,520

schools which include an emphasis on the religious and ethical principles of Orthodox Judaism.

338

00:36:29,280 --> 00:36:39,280

On Saturday, November 1st, 1986, Don Daly, a veteran Nassau County New York police detective,

339

00:36:39,280 --> 00:36:45,880

was unexpectedly thrust into this uncommon environment. At 8 a.m., Daly was dispatched

340

00:36:45,880 --> 00:36:54,680

to Yeshiva and Long Beach, New York to investigate the murder of one of its students.

341

00:36:54,680 --> 00:36:59,680

The victim was 15-year-old Hayam Weiss of New York City. A single blow to his skull

342

00:36:59,680 --> 00:37:06,040

with a sharp object had severed his spinal column.

343

00:37:06,040 --> 00:37:10,440

Investigators found no murder weapon. There was no evidence of a robbery or signs of a

344

00:37:10,440 --> 00:37:16,440

struggle. Almost immediately, Detective Daly realized that this would be a unique investigation,

345

00:37:16,440 --> 00:37:20,280

unlike any other in his 25-year career.

346

00:37:20,280 --> 00:37:24,480

Well, I think initially we were dealing with a Saturday, which is a Sabbath. When we arrived

347

00:37:24,480 --> 00:37:28,680

at the scene sometime around 8 o'clock in the morning, it was difficult to talk to anybody

348

00:37:28,680 --> 00:37:34,440

at that particular time because, number one, the people we're dealing with, being Orthodox

349

00:37:34,440 --> 00:37:40,080

Jews, they're not able to write. We couldn't take statements from anybody. We got the impression

350

00:37:40,080 --> 00:37:46,680

a lot of the students at that time were afraid to talk to us or were a little shy.

351

00:37:46,680 --> 00:37:51,440

In the victim's room, Daly found a series of clues which indicated that the killer might

352

00:37:51,440 --> 00:37:59,160

have been familiar with the Yeshiva and the customs of Orthodox Judaism. It appeared that

353

00:37:59,160 --> 00:38:06,200

Hayam had been killed as he slept. His body was then moved, not once, but twice, first

354

00:38:06,200 --> 00:38:15,240

from the bed to the floor and later to another spot, two feet away. It also seemed strange

355

00:38:15,320 --> 00:38:21,080

that Hayam's window had been left wide open on a chilly October evening.

356

00:38:21,080 --> 00:38:26,120

We've spoken to several people about this who are involved in the Orthodox religion.

357

00:38:26,120 --> 00:38:34,760

It would be customary in the religion to open a window or a door where the dead person would

358

00:38:34,760 --> 00:38:42,560

be to let the spirit out. It would also be customary for the body to be taken off the

359

00:38:42,560 --> 00:38:49,160

bed because the body should be at the lowest point and the coolest point, the coolest point

360

00:38:49,160 --> 00:38:56,960

being the floor compared to the bed. Another ritual would result in a third peculiarity.

361

00:38:56,960 --> 00:39:01,240

One of the rabbis asked to leave a memorial candle in the room which would burn for seven

362

00:39:01,240 --> 00:39:08,320

days. The crime scene was then sealed. However, two days later, another candle mysteriously

363

00:39:08,320 --> 00:39:12,960

appeared. No one in the school ever admitted to having placed it in the room.

364

00:39:14,720 --> 00:39:22,480

If they lit that candle as a gesture of sympathy or love for Hayam, why wouldn't they come forward

365

00:39:22,480 --> 00:39:28,720

and say that? That's certainly a good thing to do. Nobody came forward with that.

366

00:39:30,800 --> 00:39:36,560

With little else to go on, Detective Daly set about piecing together the final hours of Hayam

367

00:39:36,640 --> 00:39:42,560

Weis's life. He learned that Hayam was an outgoing likable teenager who was at the top

368

00:39:42,560 --> 00:39:47,280

of his class. He had been attending the Yeshiva in Long Beach for two and a half years.

369

00:39:47,280 --> 00:39:55,280

The Hayam was loving, joyous, bright. As far as I know, the Yeshiva Hayam had no problems

370

00:39:55,280 --> 00:40:04,240

I can think of. He felt comfortable. Maybe there was some things going on which is normal

371

00:40:04,320 --> 00:40:10,880

among kids. Now go students, go. Good job, it's near. Don't forget it's Halloween.

372

00:40:10,880 --> 00:40:16,720

In 1986, Halloween fell on a Friday night, the beginning of the Jewish Sabbath. In the

373

00:40:16,720 --> 00:40:22,880

late afternoon, Hayam left class with his friends to attend services. Afterwards, he would return

374

00:40:22,880 --> 00:40:31,520

to the dormitory. Several hours later, two classmates saw Hayam reading in the hallway.

375

00:40:35,120 --> 00:40:41,360

Many of the students do that because of their religion, they don't put lights on and off at

376

00:40:41,360 --> 00:40:47,520

that time on the Sabbath. It was dark, so the lights are left on in the main hallway. The

377

00:40:47,520 --> 00:40:54,400

students sit out in the hallway and read. Hayam Weis was last seen alive at 1 a.m.

378

00:40:54,400 --> 00:41:04,080

Police speculate that the killer might have known the layout of the dormitory

379

00:41:04,640 --> 00:41:09,280

and was probably aware that Hayam was one of only two students without a roommate.

380

00:41:10,080 --> 00:41:13,920

If somebody came up through that stairwell, those rooms were all occupied by students.

381

00:41:14,640 --> 00:41:21,760

Nobody heard anything unusual, no yelling or screaming. However, we did have one student who

382

00:41:21,760 --> 00:41:28,800

felt that he heard his door open up sometime during the night and then close again, but he

383

00:41:28,800 --> 00:41:38,480

assumed it was his roommate. There are a lot of questions that we haven't been able to answer.

384

00:41:45,200 --> 00:41:47,600

We have some things that we have to put behind us here.

385

00:41:48,560 --> 00:41:52,640

A few days after the murder, Detective Daly called a meeting with the students,

386

00:41:52,640 --> 00:41:58,080

teachers and rabbis. Daly was desperate for information and implored them to come forward.

387

00:41:58,960 --> 00:42:02,480

But if anybody knows anything, we need the help.

388

00:42:04,160 --> 00:42:07,920

But almost every question he asked was answered by Stoney Silence.

389

00:42:09,840 --> 00:42:12,800

Do you feel it's really, you know, do you understand how important this is?

390

00:42:13,600 --> 00:42:19,440

We learned at one point that in their particular Orthodox religion, unless you have proof or

391

00:42:19,440 --> 00:42:25,040

another witness, mere suspicion alone is not enough to go and say anything or to accuse somebody.

392

00:42:25,920 --> 00:42:31,360

So they wouldn't talk about other students or who they might suspect or what their feelings

393

00:42:31,360 --> 00:42:38,720

were because they didn't want to put any blame on anyone without more than mere suspicion.

394

00:42:43,360 --> 00:42:48,480

Do you know if you're sure who killed Kym Weiss? No.

395

00:42:52,240 --> 00:42:57,360

Police eventually polygraphed 40 students and several of the school's teachers and rabbis.

396

00:43:00,320 --> 00:43:06,560

Did you kill Kym Weiss? God forbid. Just an answer with the answer, no answer, please. No.

397

00:43:07,520 --> 00:43:13,120

However, Detective Daly obtained no useful information from the polygraph exams.

398

00:43:14,000 --> 00:43:19,280

It seemed as if he would never find a suspect or a motive. No. We'd like to see

399

00:43:20,960 --> 00:43:26,320

anybody with any information at all, whether at that time they didn't want to tell us because

400

00:43:26,320 --> 00:43:30,880

it was mere suspicion, maybe they have a different feeling now and maybe mere suspicion would be

401

00:43:30,880 --> 00:43:34,320

helpful to us and give us those suspicions so we can go out and investigate them.

402

00:43:36,640 --> 00:43:43,600

The not knowing makes it much more difficult for me to cope. Certain things

403

00:43:47,280 --> 00:43:48,000

I accept.

404

00:43:50,960 --> 00:43:54,400

My son's dead but the murder is still loose.

405

00:43:56,640 --> 00:43:58,720

All these unanswered questions

406

00:44:01,760 --> 00:44:03,760

makes me feel very, very uneasy.

407

00:44:06,720 --> 00:44:10,000

One question above all others continues to haunt this case.

408

00:44:10,960 --> 00:44:15,360

Why would anyone brutally murder a 15-year-old boy with no known enemies?

409

00:44:16,320 --> 00:44:18,800

Police have uncovered only one significant clue.

410

00:44:19,840 --> 00:44:24,480

A jogger has stated that he saw a young man who could have been a Yeshiva student a few

411

00:44:24,480 --> 00:44:28,560

blocks from the school at 7 a.m. on the day Hyam's body was found.

412

00:44:29,520 --> 00:44:32,800

All attempts to identify the student have been unsuccessful.

413

00:44:36,560 --> 00:44:48,800

Join me next time. Perhaps you may be able to help solve a mystery.

414

00:45:36,560 --> 00:45:37,840

you