

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

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00:00:13,680 --> 00:00:20,880

to see is not a news broadcast.

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

September 1989, Seattle, Washington. One of the largest fires in the city's history

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

erupts at a lumber warehouse. Authorities soon attribute the blaze to an elusive master

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00:00:32,240 --> 00:00:37,200

arsonist whose reign of destruction has resulted in millions of dollars in damage and left

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00:00:37,200 --> 00:00:44,700

at least two firefighters dead. Six decades ago, Senator Huey Long of Louisiana was one

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00:00:44,700 --> 00:00:50,200

of the most powerful politicians in America. A man many believed was destined to be president.

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00:00:50,760 --> 00:00:57,000

But in 1935, Long was felled by an assassin's bullet. Now some researchers believe that the

10

00:00:57,000 --> 00:01:02,440

man thought to be Long's killer was in fact innocent and that this may have been the first

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00:01:02,440 --> 00:01:07,160

political assassination in America where the truth was concealed by a cover-up.

12

00:01:08,840 --> 00:01:15,640

In 1947, a two-year-old girl was found badly beaten and abandoned in a field in Weed, California.

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00:01:16,360 --> 00:01:21,240

Today, that little girl is a successful businessman who is still searching for her

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00:01:21,240 --> 00:01:29,960

long-lost brother whom she met only once 45 years ago. Join me for these fascinating stories.

15

00:01:30,760 --> 00:01:45,480

Perhaps you may be able to help solve a mystery.

16

00:02:16,040 --> 00:02:38,520

September 9th, 1989, Seattle, Washington. Just after 10 p.m., 20 engine companies responded to a

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00:02:38,520 --> 00:02:44,680

four-alarm blaze at the vacant black stock lumber warehouse. When the first company arrived,

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00:02:44,680 --> 00:02:48,760

the blaze appeared to be controllable, isolated in one wing of the building.

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00:02:49,400 --> 00:02:54,440

In a matter of minutes, however, it would become one of the largest fires in Seattle history.

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00:02:57,720 --> 00:03:02,040

Matt Johnson and Bill Meredith were two of the first firefighters to get inside.

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00:03:05,480 --> 00:03:13,960

We decided to explore what appeared to be a second story mezzanine type of area. While I was up there,

22

00:03:14,040 --> 00:03:17,800

there was a tremendous release of heat from somewhere.

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00:03:20,200 --> 00:03:23,960

The roof had exploded into a 5,000-degree wall of flame.

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00:03:26,440 --> 00:03:31,320

Two stories below the inferno, Meredith and Johnson were overwhelmed by a burst of radiant

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00:03:31,320 --> 00:03:39,960

heat so strong they were in danger of being baked alive. The lack of oxygen and tremendous heat

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00:03:39,960 --> 00:03:46,040

left Matt Johnson unable to move. Bill Meredith went for help and became disoriented himself.

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00:03:48,920 --> 00:03:55,400

I've been hot before, but I've never experienced that. I've had my ears blistered, but this was

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00:03:55,400 --> 00:04:00,120

something else. It was like being x-rayed with heat. It was absolutely stunning.

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00:04:02,520 --> 00:04:07,640

Bill Meredith somehow survived, despite the fact that his body temperature had climbed to a point

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00:04:07,640 --> 00:04:14,920

which normally means certain death. The next day his partner Matt Johnson would be found dead in the

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00:04:14,920 --> 00:04:22,200

rubble. He was 32 years old, married, and the father of a 15-month-old son.

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00:04:32,280 --> 00:04:37,240

At first, police suspected that the fire had been started accidentally by a vagrant trying to keep

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00:04:37,240 --> 00:04:42,840

warm, but the burned-out warehouse had a different look to one veteran investigator with the Seattle

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00:04:42,840 --> 00:04:48,840

Fire Department. To Dennis Fowler, they'd carry the distinctive signature of an elusive criminal

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00:04:48,840 --> 00:04:54,840

he'd been tracking for years, a criminal who may be the world's most sophisticated and deadly

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00:04:54,840 --> 00:05:03,880

arsonist. On a scale of 1 to 10, he's a 10 as far as his skills and his abilities go to bring a

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00:05:03,880 --> 00:05:11,400

building down. You can't put him out, and the reason you can't is because they generate so much

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00:05:11,400 --> 00:05:22,200

heat and energy that a host of water simply cannot overcome it. Fowler first encountered the work of

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00:05:22,200 --> 00:05:28,920

the arsonist in 1984, in Seattle's 40,000-square-foot carpet exchange warehouse burned to the ground

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00:05:29,000 --> 00:05:36,360

in an astounding 19-minute flat. The heat was so intense that it literally boiled concrete and vaporized

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00:05:36,360 --> 00:05:43,720

steel beams. The firefighters themselves said that it was hotter than they had ever experienced

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00:05:43,720 --> 00:05:49,960

before, and these guys were in state-of-the-art firefighting protective clothing, and they're

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00:05:49,960 --> 00:05:56,200

still outside, and they've got hose lines, and they can't get near the fire. After the Black

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00:05:56,280 --> 00:06:01,640

Stock Lumber Fire, the Seattle Fire Department took the unusual step of investigating on a

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00:06:01,640 --> 00:06:07,880

national scale. They analyzed dozens of fires across the United States and Canada, and found at

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00:06:07,880 --> 00:06:12,920

least 20 which bore the hallmark of a person some call the King of Arsonists.

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00:06:17,160 --> 00:06:21,400

The Seattle Fire Department now believed they were dealing with the most sophisticated arsonist in

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00:06:21,400 --> 00:06:28,360

the history of the United States. For firefighters, it was our worst nightmare come true. The blazes

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00:06:28,360 --> 00:06:33,640

set by this arsonist defied logic, burning hotter and faster because of the oxygen in the water

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00:06:33,640 --> 00:06:38,920

from the fire hoses. In essence, these arson fires were death traps.

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00:06:44,280 --> 00:06:49,800

One factor above all others made the arsonist extremely difficult to track. He used a fuel

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00:06:49,800 --> 00:06:56,920

of unknown origin, an accelerant which left behind absolutely no residue, burned thousands of square

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00:06:56,920 --> 00:07:02,280

feet as little as time as three minutes, and generated temperatures which topped out between

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00:07:02,280 --> 00:07:06,920

five and seven thousand degrees, three times hotter than a normal fire.

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00:07:11,160 --> 00:07:14,520

Here you can see some silicates which have boiled up out of the concrete from the high

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00:07:14,520 --> 00:07:19,000

temperatures that we have with the thermite. As the data developed, it began to narrow the

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00:07:19,000 --> 00:07:22,840

field as to what type of accelerant it might be and actually what could be happening inside

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00:07:22,840 --> 00:07:27,880

these structures. And it was something that had never been tested before. And so we went through

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00:07:27,880 --> 00:07:34,120

a series of tests involving various types of exothermic fuels, high temperature fuels that

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00:07:35,560 --> 00:07:46,760

had never been burned in building tests. On March 25th, 1990, after a year of intensive research,

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00:07:46,760 --> 00:07:52,200

the Seattle Fire Department set a test fire at an empty shopping center in Puyallup, a Seattle

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00:07:52,200 --> 00:08:00,760

suburb. The entire complex was destroyed in minutes. The fuel of test fire allowed us to

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00:08:00,760 --> 00:08:07,720

narrow the field of potential accelerants down tremendously. Although it did not exactly duplicate

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00:08:07,720 --> 00:08:12,840

what the arsonist is able to do, it reproduced close enough for us to know that this was the

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00:08:12,840 --> 00:08:16,120

type of fuel that the arsonist is using and this is what we were looking for.

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00:08:18,520 --> 00:08:23,800

The fuel, which the Seattle Fire Department has kept top secret, was an oddball mixture of

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00:08:23,800 --> 00:08:29,640

several common ingredients all readily available. But only someone with highly specialized knowledge

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00:08:29,640 --> 00:08:37,400

would know how to put those ingredients together. The sealant had some in those rafters.

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00:08:38,360 --> 00:08:42,760

He knows the fuel and how much he needs to use to take a building down.

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00:08:45,000 --> 00:08:50,520

He may not be an engineer, but he certainly knows a lot about building construction.

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00:08:52,280 --> 00:08:57,320

This person probably has no contact at all with the people who are going to burn the building or

72

00:08:57,320 --> 00:09:03,720

who actually are going to, you know, have the building burned. Once the fuel is delivered,

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00:09:04,600 --> 00:09:11,640

anybody can light it. The only one of the arsonist's fires to generate eyewitnesses was one of the

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00:09:11,640 --> 00:09:19,160

largest, the Blackstock Lumber Fire in Seattle. I read about the Blackstock Lumber Fire in the

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00:09:19,160 --> 00:09:26,440

paper and I realized that I had been in the vicinity of the fire approximately 15 to 20 minutes

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00:09:26,440 --> 00:09:34,040

before the alarm was called in. I was driving along the road Blackstock Lumber Yard is located on.

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00:09:35,160 --> 00:09:44,520

I noticed a vehicle, probably a 1970s vintage, early 80s, Mercedes coming out of a parking lot

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00:09:45,160 --> 00:09:50,040

and it just seemed out of place at the time and out of character for the neighborhood. It's

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00:09:50,760 --> 00:09:57,080

that area is an industrial area and at that time of night everything is closed down.

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00:09:58,520 --> 00:10:04,680

Another eyewitness said she saw a suspicious looking man after the Blackstock Fire was already in

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00:10:04,680 --> 00:10:11,720

progress. He paid absolutely no attention to this fire, basically just going about his business

82

00:10:12,680 --> 00:10:21,560

and she found that to be unbelievable. It would appear that the fellow was possibly somebody

83

00:10:21,560 --> 00:10:26,840

who had actually ignited the fire, waited for a crowd to gather so they could blend in and

84

00:10:26,840 --> 00:10:35,000

make a casual exit from the area. Under hypnosis, the eyewitnesses described two very different men.

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00:10:35,720 --> 00:10:39,960

Neither one is considered a suspect, but authorities would like to question them both.

86

00:10:41,800 --> 00:10:48,280

The man driving the Mercedes was between 35 and 45 years old with blonde, possibly graying hair

87

00:10:48,280 --> 00:10:52,520

and fair skin. He had a mustache and beard and a receding hairline.

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00:10:55,160 --> 00:11:01,640

The man seen leaving the fire was well dressed, six feet tall in his early or mid 30s. He had an

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00:11:01,640 --> 00:11:09,080

athletic build, a dark complexion and well groomed dark hair. There hasn't been a single one of these

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00:11:09,080 --> 00:11:12,680

fires where we haven't had a large number of firefighters who have suffered anything from

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00:11:12,680 --> 00:11:21,800

minor injuries to extensive injuries, very serious injuries. And in one of the Seattle fires,

92

00:11:22,520 --> 00:11:28,600

we had a firefighter who died. That's a murder and that's why it's important to me.

93

00:11:31,080 --> 00:11:34,600

To date, the arson fires have claimed the lives of at least two firefighters.

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00:11:35,160 --> 00:11:37,960

While a search continues for the arsonist himself,

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00:11:37,960 --> 00:11:50,520

authorities are analyzing insurance files from suspicious fires across the nation.

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00:11:53,640 --> 00:11:58,440

When we return, nearly 60 years after the death of Senator Huey Long,

97

00:11:58,520 --> 00:12:01,320

his murder remains a subject of controversy.

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00:12:10,600 --> 00:12:18,680

President John F. Kennedy, the Reverend Martin Luther King Jr. and Senator Robert Kennedy,

99

00:12:20,040 --> 00:12:23,160

political assassinations that changed the course of recent history.

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00:12:23,320 --> 00:12:27,320

However, an entire generation may not be aware that three decades earlier,

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00:12:27,320 --> 00:12:32,680

another assassination rocked this country to its foundations. A man who was killed was named

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00:12:32,680 --> 00:12:38,520

Huey Pierce Long, Senator from the state of Louisiana, and a man who might very well have

103

00:12:38,520 --> 00:12:45,400

become president. To many, he was a spirited visionary, but to others, Huey Long was a dangerous

104

00:12:45,560 --> 00:12:53,320

radical. We will not destroy the profit system. We will not destroy the capitalistic system.

105

00:12:53,320 --> 00:12:57,320

We won't destroy the Constitution of the United States. We won't destroy the

106

00:12:57,320 --> 00:13:03,160

Declaration of Independence on the contrary. We'll make the Declaration of Independence

107

00:13:03,160 --> 00:13:07,880

read in the words it was written in, instead of having an interpretation of all of it.

108

00:13:08,600 --> 00:13:16,840

Huey Long, known as the Kingfish, came to prominence in the 1920s. His down-home style

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00:13:16,840 --> 00:13:22,920

contrasted sharply with a brilliant legal mind. He completed just one year of law school,

110

00:13:22,920 --> 00:13:28,360

yet by the age of 29, he had already argued two cases successfully before the United

111

00:13:28,360 --> 00:13:35,880

States Supreme Court. When he was 34, Long was elected Governor of Louisiana. He was swept into

112

00:13:35,880 --> 00:13:40,360

office, thanks in part to his philosophy of redistributing American wealth.

113

00:13:41,560 --> 00:13:46,520

No man must be allowed to have too much. No man must be allowed to have too little.

114

00:13:47,080 --> 00:13:53,160

Unless you limit the size of the big, it necessarily means that the small people must become

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00:13:53,160 --> 00:14:00,040

more and more impoverished as time goes on. At the age of 37, Huey Long was elected to the

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00:14:00,040 --> 00:14:07,080

U.S. Senate. He was clearly a national figure and there was serious talk of a run for president in 1936.

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00:14:10,760 --> 00:14:15,960

The very thought of Huey Long and the White House prompted opposition groups in Louisiana to arm

118

00:14:15,960 --> 00:14:22,440

themselves, hoping to shatter Long's power base in his home state. To the rich and powerful, Long

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00:14:22,440 --> 00:14:28,760

was a devil incarnate, and many believed Huey Long was better dead than president. In fact,

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00:14:28,840 --> 00:14:31,720

a few were convinced it was the only way to stop him.

121

00:14:34,280 --> 00:14:41,720

I was elected railroad commissioner of Louisiana in 1918, and they tried to impeach me in 1920.

122

00:14:44,760 --> 00:14:50,040

When they failed to impeach me in 1920, they died in mid-1921.

123

00:14:50,440 --> 00:14:59,880

And when I wiggled through that, I managed to become governor in 1928,

124

00:15:01,480 --> 00:15:03,880

and they impeached me in 1929.

125

00:15:07,720 --> 00:15:13,320

Huey Long had a great compassion for a lot of people, but that compassion did not extend to

126

00:15:13,320 --> 00:15:19,720

people who crossed him. Once you crossed Huey Long, you had an enemy for life. People lost jobs,

127

00:15:19,720 --> 00:15:25,800

they lost businesses, they lost lands, they lost everything because of the vindictiveness of Huey Long.

128

00:15:28,920 --> 00:15:34,520

Judge Henry Pabby of St. Landry Parish was one of the many elected officials Long targeted

129

00:15:34,520 --> 00:15:41,720

for political destruction. By contrast, Pabby's 29-year-old son-in-law, Dr. Carl Austin Weiss,

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00:15:41,720 --> 00:15:48,440

was known to be apolitical, but it was Dr. Weiss, a respected Baton Rouge physician whose name was to

131

00:15:48,440 --> 00:15:55,320

become inextricably linked to Huey Long's. On September 8, 1935, the two men would meet for

132

00:15:55,320 --> 00:16:00,040

the first and only time. It was a meeting that would change history.

133

00:16:06,520 --> 00:16:11,800

Four days earlier, Huey Long had returned to Louisiana from Washington, DC for a special

134

00:16:11,800 --> 00:16:13,320

state legislative session.

135

00:16:18,760 --> 00:16:24,840

Despite the threats against his life, Senator Long strode boldly between the State House

136

00:16:24,840 --> 00:16:30,920

Chamber and Governor Oscar Allen's office, where history records at Dr. Carl Austin Weiss lay in

137

00:16:30,920 --> 00:16:31,320

wait.

138

00:16:31,320 --> 00:16:39,240

Oscar! Oscar! Oscar! They go boat first thing in the morning and this is the last time I'm going to do

139

00:16:39,240 --> 00:16:45,400

your job for you. You understand me? He shot me! He shot me!

140

00:16:48,440 --> 00:16:53,400

Huey!

141

00:16:57,320 --> 00:17:03,480

Dr. Carl Austin Weiss was killed instantly, shot more than 60 times by Long's bodyguards.

142

00:17:03,480 --> 00:17:06,120

His .32 caliber pistol was found beside him.

143

00:17:08,040 --> 00:17:12,360

Huey Long died 30 hours later. He was just 42 years old.

144

00:17:12,680 --> 00:17:21,960

Long's funeral drew 100,000 mourners, most of them working people.

145

00:17:24,680 --> 00:17:29,880

No one could believe that a force of nature like the Senator had been forever silenced.

146

00:17:35,720 --> 00:17:40,520

Five days after Huey Long's funeral, an inquest seemed to establish Dr. Carl Austin Weiss as

147

00:17:40,520 --> 00:17:46,360

the assassin. Some speculated that his motive was to stop Huey Long from sabotaging the political

148

00:17:46,360 --> 00:17:52,040

career of Weiss's father-in-law, Judge Henry Pave. Weiss's own family in a state of shock

149

00:17:52,040 --> 00:17:57,800

had no choice but to accept the verdict. However, today, strong evidence has been amassed which

150

00:17:57,800 --> 00:18:03,400

indicates that Huey Long may have been killed accidentally and that Dr. Weiss may have been innocent.

151

00:18:03,960 --> 00:18:08,200

Well, did you enjoy the church service?

152

00:18:08,200 --> 00:18:12,440

On the day Huey Long was shot, the Weiss family gathered as usual for

153

00:18:12,440 --> 00:18:16,920

Sunday dinner at the home of Carl's father in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

154

00:18:16,920 --> 00:18:18,440

And how was your father the judge?

155

00:18:18,440 --> 00:18:19,240

He's fine too.

156

00:18:19,240 --> 00:18:25,800

In 1933, Carl Weiss had married Henry Pave's daughter, Yvonne. At the special legislative

157

00:18:25,800 --> 00:18:31,480

session, then in progress, Huey Long was trying to gerrymander Judge Pave's judicial district

158

00:18:31,480 --> 00:18:32,360

out of existence.

159

00:18:32,360 --> 00:18:35,960

That man is taking people's jobs away, their livelihoods away, and it's coming right in

160

00:18:35,960 --> 00:18:38,120

your family. How can you not be upset?

161

00:18:38,120 --> 00:18:41,720

Papa, you just don't understand. Long is cut from a different breed.

162

00:18:42,680 --> 00:18:47,960

According to those present, it was Carl Weiss's father who was railing against Huey Long that day.

163

00:18:48,680 --> 00:18:54,040

Ironically, Dr. Weiss himself minimized Long's actions and tried to calm his father down.

164

00:18:54,040 --> 00:18:58,760

Lovely morning in church. We've got a delightful dinner here. Let's not let this destroy it.

165

00:18:59,320 --> 00:19:00,360

You're right about that, son.

166

00:19:00,440 --> 00:19:04,760

Before the day was over, Dr. Weiss would be dead and his name vilified.

167

00:19:05,560 --> 00:19:11,720

He left behind his wife and a son, Carl Austin Weiss Jr., who was granted unsolved mysteries

168

00:19:11,720 --> 00:19:12,760

a rare interview.

169

00:19:13,960 --> 00:19:22,040

Naturally, most of what I know of my father is a very second hand, but understandably, it's been

170

00:19:22,040 --> 00:19:27,400

one of my major life interests. Naturally, there's been a lot of interest focused on the

171

00:19:28,120 --> 00:19:33,000

minute-by-minute detail of my father's day where he went, what he did, etc.

172

00:19:34,040 --> 00:19:39,720

He spent the afternoon at home and then he left to visit the home of a man named Morgan,

173

00:19:40,360 --> 00:19:45,240

who was a patient of his. And I believe my father made a phone call from the Morgan home

174

00:19:45,800 --> 00:19:49,320

to make plans for the morning surgery. Thereafter, he left.

175

00:19:50,600 --> 00:19:57,080

And for reasons that I don't believe we'll ever know, he didn't go directly home but stopped.

176

00:19:57,880 --> 00:19:59,640

And the rest is, as they say, history.

177

00:20:03,080 --> 00:20:07,000

At the state capitol that evening, the career of Yvonne Weiss's father,

178

00:20:07,000 --> 00:20:13,080

Judge Henry Pobby, hung in the balance. House bill number one, the redistricting plan,

179

00:20:13,080 --> 00:20:18,040

was Huey Long's top priority. How much longer am I after waiting for House bill number one to pass?

180

00:20:18,040 --> 00:20:21,800

Oh, we just got started. I am tired of Henry Pobby sitting on that judge's bench.

181

00:20:21,800 --> 00:20:23,240

Now I thought you all was going to get him out tonight.

182

00:20:23,240 --> 00:20:25,160

We just started working on this last night.

183

00:20:25,160 --> 00:20:26,520

You got resistance on this.

184

00:20:26,520 --> 00:20:29,240

Oh, you get resistance every bill you pass. I ain't no excuse no more.

185

00:20:29,240 --> 00:20:30,520

We just got to take our time.

186

00:20:30,520 --> 00:20:31,000

Time?

187

00:20:31,000 --> 00:20:31,960

You're pushing too hard.

188

00:20:31,960 --> 00:20:35,160

I built this building fastening you boys are passing this bill. Now what's the deal here?

189

00:20:35,160 --> 00:20:37,560

Huey Huey. I don't think you understand.

190

00:20:37,560 --> 00:20:40,600

Look, we got a state constitution that tells us how to run things.

191

00:20:40,600 --> 00:20:42,760

Tell you something about this state constitution.

192

00:20:42,760 --> 00:20:45,560

I am this state constitution. You understand me?

193

00:20:45,560 --> 00:20:47,800

Now do you have the votes to pass this bill or not?

194

00:20:47,800 --> 00:20:48,280

No, I don't.

195

00:20:48,280 --> 00:20:50,600

Well then get back down on the floor with your little constitution.

196

00:20:50,600 --> 00:20:52,120

Never mind. I'll go back out on the floor.

197

00:20:52,120 --> 00:20:52,200

That's fine.

198

00:20:52,200 --> 00:20:54,200

You go right ahead. Don't you back talk me.

199

00:20:54,200 --> 00:20:56,120

I'll break you as fast as I made you.

200

00:20:56,520 --> 00:20:59,320

John. Sorry.

201

00:20:59,320 --> 00:21:01,160

How you doing?

202

00:21:01,160 --> 00:21:04,440

At 9 p.m. the special session was still going strong.

203

00:21:05,240 --> 00:21:09,880

Huey Long trod his familiar territory oblivious to the arrival of Dr. Weiss.

204

00:21:10,840 --> 00:21:15,240

Some people believe Carl Weiss went to the Capitol not to shoot Huey Long,

205

00:21:15,240 --> 00:21:17,560

but to plead his father-in-law's case.

206

00:21:19,080 --> 00:21:23,080

Carl Weiss took his position outside of the governor's office.

207

00:21:23,080 --> 00:21:25,720

He was not hidden outside of the governor's office.

208

00:21:25,720 --> 00:21:29,720

He was in plain view because he was approached by other people who knew him,

209

00:21:29,720 --> 00:21:33,560

who saw him there, approached him, shook hands with him, talked with him.

210

00:21:38,920 --> 00:21:42,040

Three times Weiss would approach Huey Long that night,

211

00:21:42,040 --> 00:21:44,440

and three times he would be brushed aside.

212

00:21:51,000 --> 00:21:54,600

On another pass, Weiss was a little bit more urgent,

213

00:21:54,600 --> 00:21:57,640

and he told Long that he really had to talk with him,

214

00:21:57,640 --> 00:22:02,040

and Long once again said he didn't have the time to talk to Weiss.

215

00:22:02,040 --> 00:22:03,320

Senator Long, can I speak with you?

216

00:22:03,320 --> 00:22:03,880

Please.

217

00:22:03,880 --> 00:22:05,800

Just Ellen got Anderson to come over to our side.

218

00:22:05,800 --> 00:22:07,640

Well, that's good, government.

219

00:22:07,640 --> 00:22:09,240

Mr. Senator, can I just speak with you for a second?

220

00:22:09,240 --> 00:22:11,080

I'm a little busy, son, but you just make self-couple.

221

00:22:11,080 --> 00:22:12,120

But dang, just a few minutes.

222

00:22:12,120 --> 00:22:15,000

Senator Long, Senator Long, this is very important.

223

00:22:15,000 --> 00:22:15,640

Just a second.

224

00:22:16,680 --> 00:22:21,640

History records the rest in some blue haze, really,

225

00:22:21,720 --> 00:22:23,720

but we're uncertain as to what happened,

226

00:22:23,720 --> 00:22:27,400

but that is how the scene was set for this particular moment.

227

00:22:27,400 --> 00:22:29,080

You know your jobs, you know what you gotta do.

228

00:22:29,080 --> 00:22:31,160

Why do I have to keep coming and tell you what to do?

229

00:22:31,160 --> 00:22:32,760

No.

230

00:22:32,760 --> 00:22:36,200

At 9.20 PM, Dr. Weiss would approach Huey Long

231

00:22:36,200 --> 00:22:37,880

for the third and final time.

232

00:22:38,680 --> 00:22:40,920

The revisionist historians who are convinced

233

00:22:40,920 --> 00:22:43,640

that Carl Weiss did not kill Huey Long

234

00:22:43,640 --> 00:22:45,320

believe it happened like this.

235

00:22:51,880 --> 00:22:54,200

All right, they're gonna vote first thing in the morning,

236

00:22:54,200 --> 00:22:56,040

and this is the last time I'm doing your job for you.

237

00:22:56,040 --> 00:22:56,760

You understand me?

238

00:22:57,400 --> 00:22:58,680

Mr. Long, I've got the talk.

239

00:22:58,680 --> 00:23:00,840

Where are you seeing me alone, you little pissant?

240

00:23:03,400 --> 00:23:04,040

He shot me.

241

00:23:04,760 --> 00:23:05,400

He shot me.

242

00:23:12,760 --> 00:23:13,480

Huey!

243

00:23:16,520 --> 00:23:17,240

Huey!

244

00:23:22,600 --> 00:23:25,000

Huey Long was taken to a nearby hospital.

245

00:23:25,000 --> 00:23:29,000

Despite his wounds, the kingfish remained very much in charge.

246

00:23:29,000 --> 00:23:31,000

You boys, you staying in here by me?

247

00:23:31,000 --> 00:23:32,600

Stick, okay, I won't fight you.

248

00:23:32,600 --> 00:23:33,720

Let's go, right?

249

00:23:33,720 --> 00:23:34,520

Come on.

250

00:23:34,520 --> 00:23:37,800

Huey Long had been briefed as to who the man was

251

00:23:37,800 --> 00:23:40,600

who was there, who they claimed had shot him.

252

00:23:40,600 --> 00:23:42,840

He had been given a lot of information.

253

00:23:42,840 --> 00:23:45,320

Somebody had to come up with a story

254

00:23:45,320 --> 00:23:47,080

as to exactly what happened there,

255

00:23:47,080 --> 00:23:48,520

and Huey Long was there.

256

00:23:48,760 --> 00:23:50,360

No matter what happens in here,

257

00:23:50,360 --> 00:23:52,360

you keep your mouth shut about the capital, you hear me?

258

00:23:52,360 --> 00:23:53,880

I'll do all the talking about that.

259

00:23:53,880 --> 00:23:54,920

Okay, all right.

260

00:23:54,920 --> 00:23:56,520

And you tell him, other boys,

261

00:23:56,520 --> 00:23:59,400

I said to shut the hell up, I'll do the talking about that.

262

00:23:59,400 --> 00:23:59,960

All right.

263

00:23:59,960 --> 00:24:02,920

Huey Long was shot around 9.20.

264

00:24:02,920 --> 00:24:06,360

He was operated on sometime around 11 o'clock.

265

00:24:06,360 --> 00:24:09,560

They went inside, found out that the colon here

266

00:24:09,560 --> 00:24:12,840

was shot by a man who had been shot by a man

267

00:24:12,840 --> 00:24:16,440

who had been shot by a man who had been shot by a man

268

00:24:16,440 --> 00:24:18,760

inside, found out that the colon had been

269

00:24:18,760 --> 00:24:21,800

punctured in two places that was a transverse

270

00:24:21,800 --> 00:24:24,920

colon that runs across the body.

271

00:24:24,920 --> 00:24:28,120

They sutured the colon in both places.

272

00:24:28,120 --> 00:24:30,280

They were cleaned up the spillage.

273

00:24:30,280 --> 00:24:33,680

They sewed up Huey Long and then pronounced him cured.

274

00:24:33,680 --> 00:24:36,760

Not really understanding what the consequences were,

275

00:24:36,760 --> 00:24:40,440

but that was to dawn on them later on.

276

00:24:40,440 --> 00:24:42,880

Too late, it was discovered that the sergen sand

277

00:24:42,880 --> 00:24:47,360

looked a serious wound to the senator's kidney.

278

00:24:47,360 --> 00:24:51,360

A day and a half later, on September 10, 1935,

279

00:24:51,360 --> 00:24:53,520

Huey Long passed into history.

280

00:24:58,800 --> 00:25:00,760

It was the end of an era.

281

00:25:00,760 --> 00:25:04,440

Life in Louisiana and possibly in the United States

282

00:25:04,440 --> 00:25:06,480

would never be the same again.

283

00:25:06,480 --> 00:25:11,280

Huey Long, the Kingfish, was gone.

284

00:25:11,320 --> 00:25:13,920

At the official inquest eight days later,

285

00:25:13,920 --> 00:25:18,400

Dr. Carl Austin Weiss was named as Long's assassin.

286

00:25:18,400 --> 00:25:20,120

However, some remain unconvinced.

287

00:25:23,000 --> 00:25:25,520

Most assassins leave a paper trail.

288

00:25:25,520 --> 00:25:29,480

They leave some hint as to what they did and why they did it.

289

00:25:29,480 --> 00:25:30,600

There was nothing like this.

290

00:25:30,600 --> 00:25:32,160

Carl Weiss was not a man who was

291

00:25:32,160 --> 00:25:34,320

preparing to shoot anybody.

292

00:25:34,320 --> 00:25:38,040

And at that dinner at noontime on September the 8th,

293

00:25:38,040 --> 00:25:39,520

he was a model of propriety.

294

00:25:39,520 --> 00:25:43,800

And really, he was in complete control of himself.

295

00:25:43,800 --> 00:25:47,520

Carl Weiss was a father of a three month old son.

296

00:25:47,520 --> 00:25:50,120

He was making provisions for the future.

297

00:25:50,120 --> 00:25:52,680

He spent a very normal Sunday.

298

00:25:52,680 --> 00:25:55,480

And there was nothing to incline anybody to believe

299

00:25:55,480 --> 00:25:58,040

that he had this on his mind.

300

00:25:58,040 --> 00:26:01,120

I think it was altogether incomprehensible

301

00:26:01,120 --> 00:26:06,160

that he could have been the perpetrator of this crime.

302

00:26:06,200 --> 00:26:09,840

No one disputes that Carl Weiss owned a gun, a .32 caliber

303

00:26:09,840 --> 00:26:13,880

pistol which he kept in the glove compartment of his car.

304

00:26:13,880 --> 00:26:17,000

However, Ed Reid believes that he has uncovered evidence

305

00:26:17,000 --> 00:26:21,680

that Huey Long was not shot by Carl Weiss's gun.

306

00:26:21,680 --> 00:26:26,640

The discrepancies can be traced back to the operating room.

307

00:26:26,640 --> 00:26:29,160

The official version makes no mention of a bullet

308

00:26:29,160 --> 00:26:31,920

being retrieved from Long's body.

309

00:26:31,920 --> 00:26:34,280

But Ed Reid has heard a conflicting story

310

00:26:34,280 --> 00:26:38,480

from a relative of one of the surgeons present.

311

00:26:38,480 --> 00:26:40,720

All right, got a bullet here.

312

00:26:40,720 --> 00:26:41,760

Indeed.

313

00:26:41,760 --> 00:26:43,560

It looks like about a .38 caliber.

314

00:26:43,560 --> 00:26:44,720

Wouldn't you say Dr. Loring?

315

00:26:44,720 --> 00:26:45,920

Yes, I would.

316

00:26:45,920 --> 00:26:47,040

All right.

317

00:26:47,040 --> 00:26:50,880

During the operation, there was a .38 caliber bullet removed

318

00:26:50,880 --> 00:26:52,240

from Huey Long.

319

00:26:52,240 --> 00:26:55,160

This is significant because Carl Weiss was

320

00:26:55,160 --> 00:26:57,440

alleged to have been carrying a .32.

321

00:26:57,440 --> 00:27:00,480

But the bodyguards were carrying .38 and .45s.

322

00:27:00,480 --> 00:27:03,400

So therefore, if a .38 was removed,

323

00:27:03,400 --> 00:27:05,560

and I believe it was, then that could not

324

00:27:05,560 --> 00:27:10,440

have come from Carl Weiss or his gun, certainly.

325

00:27:10,440 --> 00:27:12,640

According to Reid, a second bullet

326

00:27:12,640 --> 00:27:16,760

was found while Huey Long's body was being prepared for burial.

327

00:27:16,760 --> 00:27:18,760

The mortician in charge told Reid

328

00:27:18,760 --> 00:27:22,760

he was visited by Dr. Clarence L'Oreal, a close friend of Long's

329

00:27:22,760 --> 00:27:26,000

who was one of the surgeons who had operated on him.

330

00:27:26,000 --> 00:27:28,840

Merle, I'm going to have to ask you to step aside for just a moment

331

00:27:28,840 --> 00:27:31,080

while I interrupt your work here for just a moment.

332

00:27:31,120 --> 00:27:33,040

What are you planning to do, Clarence?

333

00:27:35,720 --> 00:27:38,760

Clarence, this is highly unethical.

334

00:27:38,760 --> 00:27:40,160

Just bear with me for a moment, Merle.

335

00:27:40,160 --> 00:27:41,060

Just bear with me.

336

00:27:41,060 --> 00:27:43,800

What are you looking for?

337

00:27:43,800 --> 00:27:46,600

My god.

338

00:27:46,600 --> 00:27:48,160

Is that a bullet?

339

00:27:48,160 --> 00:27:51,840

As the mortician said, he rooted around and finally came up

340

00:27:51,840 --> 00:27:53,840

with a spent slug.

341

00:27:53,840 --> 00:27:57,000

And the slug was described to me by the mortician

342

00:27:57,000 --> 00:28:00,640

as being about as big as the first joint on your index

343

00:28:00,680 --> 00:28:01,640

finger.

344

00:28:01,640 --> 00:28:04,880

And if you conclude that we're talking about 32s, 30h,

345

00:28:04,880 --> 00:28:09,480

and 45s, that would have had to be a 45, which would have had

346

00:28:09,480 --> 00:28:13,120

to come from a bodyguard's gun because that was the type of

347

00:28:13,120 --> 00:28:17,960

bullet that a lot of the bodyguards were shooting.

348

00:28:17,960 --> 00:28:20,120

To further support his conclusions,

349

00:28:20,120 --> 00:28:23,400

Ed Reid believes it is highly unlikely that anybody other

350

00:28:23,400 --> 00:28:26,080

than one of the bodyguards could have gotten into the state

351

00:28:26,080 --> 00:28:29,880

capital with a gun that night.

352

00:28:29,920 --> 00:28:33,320

Everybody who had a badge working for the state of Louisiana

353

00:28:33,320 --> 00:28:37,240

was up at the capital that night to place just crawl with them.

354

00:28:37,240 --> 00:28:42,080

How in the world could Carl Weiss come past 100 security

355

00:28:42,080 --> 00:28:45,200

people and nobody would frisk him or somebody would notice

356

00:28:45,200 --> 00:28:53,360

the outline of a 7.65 millimeter gun in a Palm Beach suit?

357

00:28:53,360 --> 00:28:55,200

Within half an hour of the shooting,

358

00:28:55,200 --> 00:28:57,480

Dr. Weiss had been tentatively identified

359

00:28:57,480 --> 00:28:59,360

as long as silent.

360

00:28:59,360 --> 00:29:03,080

Weiss's brother Tom Ed and cousin Jim heard the rumors

361

00:29:03,080 --> 00:29:05,000

and proceeded to the capital.

362

00:29:05,000 --> 00:29:09,600

They still had no idea that Dr. Weiss had been killed.

363

00:29:09,600 --> 00:29:10,760

Is this Carl's car?

364

00:29:10,760 --> 00:29:12,560

His bag's here.

365

00:29:12,560 --> 00:29:13,880

You have the keys?

366

00:29:13,880 --> 00:29:15,720

My dad's got a set at the house.

367

00:29:15,720 --> 00:29:16,640

Let's go get him.

368

00:29:21,320 --> 00:29:25,640

When Tom Ed and his cousin went back to the capital

369

00:29:25,640 --> 00:29:28,520

to try and find the cars so that they could unlock it

370

00:29:28,560 --> 00:29:32,360

and drive it back home, the car had been moved.

371

00:29:32,360 --> 00:29:33,600

It was just here not a minute ago.

372

00:29:36,600 --> 00:29:38,280

I'm not going crazy.

373

00:29:38,280 --> 00:29:42,560

Let's go around back.

374

00:29:42,560 --> 00:29:45,400

And they found the car on another side of the Capitol

375

00:29:45,400 --> 00:29:46,280

building.

376

00:29:46,280 --> 00:29:49,800

When my uncle Tom finally did open the car

377

00:29:49,800 --> 00:29:53,160

and go through the interior, he found

378

00:29:53,160 --> 00:29:58,240

that my father's instrument bag was open and in some disarray

379

00:29:58,280 --> 00:30:01,240

whereas normally it would be packed in a very orderly fashion.

380

00:30:01,240 --> 00:30:02,840

Somebody's gone through the bag.

381

00:30:02,840 --> 00:30:06,680

Carl would never leave his stuff like this.

382

00:30:06,680 --> 00:30:09,000

Weiss's brother and cousin also discovered

383

00:30:09,000 --> 00:30:12,680

that the doctor's gun was missing from the glove compartment.

384

00:30:12,680 --> 00:30:15,840

To this day, no one can be sure who removed the gun

385

00:30:15,840 --> 00:30:17,480

from the car.

386

00:30:17,480 --> 00:30:20,520

However, Eloise Sayuk, a security guard at the stake

387

00:30:20,520 --> 00:30:23,840

cap on that night, told Ed Reid that it was someone

388

00:30:23,840 --> 00:30:26,640

other than Carl Weiss.

389

00:30:26,640 --> 00:30:29,560

One of the bodyguards who is now dead is all the rest of them

390

00:30:29,560 --> 00:30:30,760

are dead.

391

00:30:30,760 --> 00:30:33,960

He told me that he felt that that gun was a throwdown gun,

392

00:30:33,960 --> 00:30:37,240

that one of the bodyguards had gone out to the car

393

00:30:37,240 --> 00:30:40,560

that Carl Weiss had driven up in, had gotten that pistol,

394

00:30:40,560 --> 00:30:43,000

and had thrown it next to the body.

395

00:30:43,000 --> 00:30:43,800

Is that it, then?

396

00:30:43,800 --> 00:30:44,560

Can I just have a moment?

397

00:30:44,560 --> 00:30:45,440

Would you please?

398

00:30:45,440 --> 00:30:47,400

Reid believes his theory is bolstered

399

00:30:47,400 --> 00:30:51,600

by Weiss's own actions inside the Capitol.

400

00:30:51,600 --> 00:30:54,440

If Carl Weiss was actually at the state Capitol

401

00:30:54,440 --> 00:30:58,920

to kill Huey Long, he had a perfect opportunity that passed.

402

00:30:58,920 --> 00:31:02,080

Huey Long had his back turned to Carl Weiss.

403

00:31:02,080 --> 00:31:04,520

It would have been very easy for Carl Weiss

404

00:31:04,520 --> 00:31:07,640

to shove his pistol up against Long's body,

405

00:31:07,640 --> 00:31:12,760

emptied out the magazine, and then made his escape.

406

00:31:12,760 --> 00:31:14,880

Because of the rumors that had been flying,

407

00:31:14,880 --> 00:31:18,480

that there would be an attempt made on Huey Long's life

408

00:31:18,480 --> 00:31:19,200

that night.

409

00:31:19,200 --> 00:31:22,760

Because of that, fuses were very, very short.

410

00:31:22,760 --> 00:31:26,360

Something that happened that night, perhaps Carl Weiss

411

00:31:26,360 --> 00:31:28,200

hit Huey Long.

412

00:31:28,200 --> 00:31:30,320

Perhaps he just moved too fast.

413

00:31:30,320 --> 00:31:32,800

And I think the bodyguards, who were without any training,

414

00:31:32,800 --> 00:31:37,080

whatsoever, in security, I think they overreacted.

415

00:31:37,080 --> 00:31:40,520

I think the bullets that entered Huey Long's body

416

00:31:40,520 --> 00:31:42,960

were the bullets that came from the bodyguards' guns.

417

00:31:47,040 --> 00:31:48,800

Ed Reid offers up what he believes

418

00:31:48,800 --> 00:31:51,160

is one final piece of evidence.

419

00:31:51,720 --> 00:31:55,960

By all accounts, when Huey Long was admitted to the hospital,

420

00:31:55,960 --> 00:31:58,280

his lip was bleeding.

421

00:31:58,280 --> 00:31:59,120

Your lip, Huey.

422

00:31:59,120 --> 00:32:01,640

That's the way he hit me.

423

00:32:01,640 --> 00:32:05,520

Was Senator Long referring to his encounter with Dr. Weiss?

424

00:32:05,520 --> 00:32:08,920

According to an affidavit, sworn to by one of those present,

425

00:32:08,920 --> 00:32:10,360

he most definitely was.

426

00:32:14,200 --> 00:32:16,600

In hindsight, there seems considerable doubt

427

00:32:16,600 --> 00:32:19,560

about who actually shot Huey Long.

428

00:32:19,560 --> 00:32:23,760

But at the time, it was essentially an open and shut case.

429

00:32:23,760 --> 00:32:26,080

Anyone who attempted to investigate further

430

00:32:26,080 --> 00:32:28,880

was stymied because all the official records,

431

00:32:28,880 --> 00:32:32,360

as well as Dr. Weiss's gun, disappeared a few years

432

00:32:32,360 --> 00:32:35,320

after the inquest and remained missing

433

00:32:35,320 --> 00:32:37,000

for more than half a century.

434

00:32:40,960 --> 00:32:45,000

In 1987, Professor James Starr, a forensic expert

435

00:32:45,000 --> 00:32:47,960

renowned for his ability to unearth missing evidence,

436

00:32:48,000 --> 00:32:51,040

began researching the case.

437

00:32:51,040 --> 00:32:54,600

In trying to find the gun and the state police files,

438

00:32:54,600 --> 00:32:57,280

I decided that the police were the prime suspects

439

00:32:57,280 --> 00:32:59,640

that should be looked at, starting from the top down.

440

00:32:59,640 --> 00:33:02,120

And I literally made a laundry list

441

00:33:02,120 --> 00:33:06,920

of the individuals with Lewis F. Geer at the top of that list.

442

00:33:06,920 --> 00:33:09,520

Lewis F. Geer had been head of the Criminal Bureau

443

00:33:09,520 --> 00:33:14,080

of Investigation in Louisiana at the time of Huey Long's death.

444

00:33:14,080 --> 00:33:16,880

Geer died in 1966.

445

00:33:16,920 --> 00:33:21,040

In 1987, an investigator engaged by Professor Starr's

446

00:33:21,040 --> 00:33:24,000

began an extensive search for Geer's will.

447

00:33:24,000 --> 00:33:29,160

When he found it, Dr. Starr's suspicions were confirmed.

448

00:33:29,160 --> 00:33:34,040

There was a listing in the inventory of miscellaneous files

449

00:33:34,040 --> 00:33:36,120

listed as no value.

450

00:33:36,120 --> 00:33:38,760

Now, being a lawyer as well as a scientist,

451

00:33:38,760 --> 00:33:41,080

I realized that inventories of estates

452

00:33:41,080 --> 00:33:43,760

do not list items of no value.

453

00:33:43,760 --> 00:33:47,920

They certainly don't list them in this kind of mysterious way

454

00:33:47,920 --> 00:33:50,080

as miscellaneous files.

455

00:33:50,080 --> 00:33:54,400

And I said to myself, those are the state police files.

456

00:33:54,400 --> 00:33:57,760

Another item in the will was not nearly so vague.

457

00:33:57,760 --> 00:33:59,880

Listed under Geer's personal effects

458

00:33:59,880 --> 00:34:03,560

was Carl Austin Weiss's gun.

459

00:34:03,560 --> 00:34:07,280

The investigations of Dr. Starr's

460

00:34:07,280 --> 00:34:13,720

led to the discovery that my father's handgun was in fact

461

00:34:14,160 --> 00:34:17,600

in existence, and its location was eventually

462

00:34:17,600 --> 00:34:21,480

traced to a safe deposit box in downtown New Orleans,

463

00:34:21,480 --> 00:34:24,880

where he had been in the possession of the daughter

464

00:34:24,880 --> 00:34:27,400

of the then chief of police, Lieutenant Geer.

465

00:34:30,800 --> 00:34:33,280

Acting on a court order, a New Orleans sheriff

466

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

opened the safe deposit box.

467

00:34:35,280 --> 00:34:41,160

After more than half a century, Dr. Carl Weiss's gun,

468

00:34:41,160 --> 00:34:44,880

a gun which allegedly killed Huey Long, had been located.

469

00:34:52,080 --> 00:34:55,320

With the gun were several unused 32 caliber bullets,

470

00:34:55,320 --> 00:34:58,920

and one spent 32 slug.

471

00:34:58,920 --> 00:35:01,160

Initially, many people assumed this was

472

00:35:01,400 --> 00:35:03,800

the bullet that killed Huey Long.

473

00:35:03,800 --> 00:35:06,760

However, ballistics tests conducted by the Louisiana

474

00:35:06,760 --> 00:35:11,080

State Police showed that the slug had not come from Dr. Weiss's

475

00:35:11,080 --> 00:35:12,080

gun.

476

00:35:14,080 --> 00:35:16,440

The discovery of the alleged murder weapon only served

477

00:35:16,440 --> 00:35:18,560

to deepen the mystery.

478

00:35:18,560 --> 00:35:22,120

If the 32 slug had not been fired by Weiss's gun,

479

00:35:22,120 --> 00:35:24,280

then where did it come from, and why

480

00:35:24,280 --> 00:35:26,000

had it been kept with a gun?

481

00:35:26,040 --> 00:35:29,160

Some believed that the answer lay with the official state

482

00:35:29,160 --> 00:35:32,080

files, which are also recovered.

483

00:35:32,080 --> 00:35:34,080

However, the Louisiana State Police

484

00:35:34,080 --> 00:35:36,040

have reviewed the files and determined

485

00:35:36,040 --> 00:35:40,760

there is nothing in them that changes the verdict of history.

486

00:35:40,760 --> 00:35:45,160

It's my opinion that Dr. Weiss was the assassin in this case.

487

00:35:45,160 --> 00:35:47,760

We believe, from a law enforcement standpoint,

488

00:35:47,760 --> 00:35:49,360

that he had motive.

489

00:35:49,360 --> 00:35:51,560

And he had the motive to kill the man.

490

00:35:51,560 --> 00:35:53,960

And he had the motive to kill the man.

491

00:35:53,960 --> 00:35:56,200

At the same standpoint that he had motive,

492

00:35:56,200 --> 00:35:58,600

we believe he had opportunity.

493

00:35:58,600 --> 00:36:01,280

And we believe he had the means to do the job.

494

00:36:01,280 --> 00:36:03,040

And we know that he was there.

495

00:36:03,040 --> 00:36:06,240

The amount of time that may have elapsed since an occurrence

496

00:36:06,240 --> 00:36:09,960

really doesn't change one's desire

497

00:36:09,960 --> 00:36:13,920

to see the truth brought out.

498

00:36:13,920 --> 00:36:19,560

And I care probably more today than I did when I was a youngster

499

00:36:19,560 --> 00:36:22,360

about the truth concerning my father.

500

00:36:24,920 --> 00:36:28,680

If I were asked whether my father shot Huey Long,

501

00:36:28,680 --> 00:36:31,440

today I would say categorically, no, he didn't.

502

00:36:36,000 --> 00:36:39,760

Perhaps we will never completely resolve the controversy.

503

00:36:39,760 --> 00:36:44,240

Did Dr. Carl Weiss acting alone murder Huey Long?

504

00:36:44,240 --> 00:36:47,680

Or did Long's bodyguards go haywire killing the man

505

00:36:47,680 --> 00:36:48,760

they should have protected?

506

00:36:54,920 --> 00:36:56,360

Update.

507

00:36:56,360 --> 00:36:59,280

A former superintendent of the Louisiana State Police

508

00:36:59,280 --> 00:37:01,200

has come forward with a startling admission

509

00:37:01,200 --> 00:37:05,400

that he believes Huey Long was killed by his own bodyguards.

510

00:37:05,400 --> 00:37:08,640

Colonel Francis Grevenberg claims he was told by two eyewitness

511

00:37:08,640 --> 00:37:11,440

state troopers that Dr. Carl Weiss was unarmed

512

00:37:11,440 --> 00:37:13,320

when Long was shot.

513

00:37:13,320 --> 00:37:15,840

The state troopers went on to tell a story that is nearly

514

00:37:15,840 --> 00:37:19,640

identical to historian Ed Reeds, that Long was accidentally

515

00:37:19,640 --> 00:37:23,480

killed by his own bodyguards who then planted a gun on Weiss.

516

00:37:23,480 --> 00:37:26,200

Grevenberg says he waited 40 years to come forward

517

00:37:26,200 --> 00:37:28,400

because the Louisiana legislature was packed

518

00:37:28,400 --> 00:37:30,920

with prolonged politicians who would not believe him

519

00:37:30,920 --> 00:37:32,960

nor support an inquiry.

520

00:37:32,960 --> 00:37:35,800

The official position of the Louisiana State Police

521

00:37:35,800 --> 00:37:37,880

is that Dr. Weiss killed Huey Long.

522

00:37:37,880 --> 00:37:53,160

Next, the compelling story of a brother and sister separated

523

00:37:53,160 --> 00:37:58,160

more than 40 years ago.

524

00:38:08,880 --> 00:38:12,080

On a warm summer's morning in 1947,

525

00:38:12,080 --> 00:38:15,280

a housewife in Weed, California took a shortcut home

526

00:38:15,280 --> 00:38:17,360

from the store through an overgrown field.

527

00:38:27,040 --> 00:38:28,400

Oh, my god.

528

00:38:28,400 --> 00:38:29,800

Oh, you poor baby.

529

00:38:29,800 --> 00:38:32,920

Hidden by the tall grass was a two-year-old girl

530

00:38:32,920 --> 00:38:36,800

who had been severely beaten and apparently abandoned.

531

00:38:36,800 --> 00:38:37,800

Look at the help.

532

00:38:42,280 --> 00:38:44,440

The toddler was taken to the nearest hospital

533

00:38:44,440 --> 00:38:46,640

and placed in intensive care.

534

00:38:46,640 --> 00:38:48,960

She had contusions on her head and face

535

00:38:48,960 --> 00:38:51,960

and lacerations all over her body.

536

00:38:51,960 --> 00:38:53,960

Traumatized and suffering from shock,

537

00:38:53,960 --> 00:38:56,760

she was unable to tell authorities what had happened to her

538

00:38:56,760 --> 00:38:58,840

or even who she was.

539

00:38:58,840 --> 00:39:04,680

The hospital staff began to call her Baby X.

540

00:39:04,720 --> 00:39:07,720

Today, the two-year-old girl, known as Baby X,

541

00:39:07,720 --> 00:39:10,080

is a successful businesswoman and mother of four

542

00:39:10,080 --> 00:39:12,800

named Mary Jane Polk.

543

00:39:12,800 --> 00:39:14,560

Mary Jane has courageously overcome

544

00:39:14,560 --> 00:39:17,800

many of the hardships suffered during her childhood.

545

00:39:17,800 --> 00:39:20,640

However, she feels that the wounds cannot be completely healed

546

00:39:20,640 --> 00:39:24,120

until she finds her brother, whom she'd met only once 45

547

00:39:24,120 --> 00:39:25,880

years ago.

548

00:39:25,880 --> 00:39:28,600

Tonight, Mary Jane tells her tragic story

549

00:39:28,600 --> 00:39:31,040

in the hope that someone in our audience can help.

550

00:39:34,680 --> 00:39:37,640

How's she doing?

551

00:39:37,640 --> 00:39:40,040

Well, physically, she'll recover, but emotionally,

552

00:39:40,040 --> 00:39:41,480

I'm not so sure.

553

00:39:41,480 --> 00:39:43,280

She's been through an awful trauma.

554

00:39:43,280 --> 00:39:45,680

They kept me in the hospital because they

555

00:39:45,680 --> 00:39:47,720

didn't know what to do with me.

556

00:39:47,720 --> 00:39:53,360

I was not able to communicate with the doctors and nurses

557

00:39:53,360 --> 00:39:57,200

anybody that I came in contact with.

558

00:39:57,200 --> 00:39:59,560

I would assume that I was very afraid and very afraid

559

00:39:59,560 --> 00:40:03,360

that if I did speak or do anything,

560

00:40:03,360 --> 00:40:06,360

that I might be heard again.

561

00:40:06,360 --> 00:40:10,200

Police had absolutely no idea who Mary Jane was.

562

00:40:10,200 --> 00:40:13,160

They distributed her photograph to dozens of newspapers

563

00:40:13,160 --> 00:40:18,160

throughout Northern California, Oregon, and Washington.

564

00:40:18,160 --> 00:40:20,480

Two weeks later, a witness came forward

565

00:40:20,480 --> 00:40:23,240

and identified Baby X as Mary Jane

566

00:40:23,240 --> 00:40:25,880

and told authorities that Mary Jane's mother was

567

00:40:25,880 --> 00:40:27,960

Lucille Medlin of Selma, Oregon.

568

00:40:28,960 --> 00:40:34,760

Lucille Medlin was staying at a logging camp in Selma.

569

00:40:34,760 --> 00:40:37,320

She had recently given birth to her third child

570

00:40:37,320 --> 00:40:39,960

and was living with a new boyfriend.

571

00:40:39,960 --> 00:40:41,560

I'm the sheriff of Siskiyou County.

572

00:40:41,560 --> 00:40:43,960

You live here?

573

00:40:43,960 --> 00:40:45,360

Yes, I do, Sheriff.

574

00:40:45,360 --> 00:40:46,760

How can I help you?

575

00:40:46,760 --> 00:40:47,760

State you to ask me.

576

00:40:47,760 --> 00:40:49,160

It's a couple of questions for me here.

577

00:40:49,160 --> 00:40:51,360

First of all, have you ever seen this little girl before?

578

00:40:51,360 --> 00:40:52,360

You recognize her?

579

00:40:52,360 --> 00:40:54,360

No, I can't say I do.

580

00:40:54,360 --> 00:40:55,360

Excuse me, ma'am.

581

00:40:55,360 --> 00:40:57,360

Could I have you come over here and just take a look at her?

582

00:40:57,360 --> 00:40:58,960

Come over here and just take a look at this photograph for me,

583

00:40:58,960 --> 00:41:00,160

please.

584

00:41:00,160 --> 00:41:02,760

When confronted with a photograph of her badly beaten

585

00:41:02,760 --> 00:41:07,560

daughter, Lucille Medlin could no longer hide the truth.

586

00:41:07,560 --> 00:41:10,160

This is my baby.

587

00:41:10,160 --> 00:41:11,560

We already have two children.

588

00:41:11,560 --> 00:41:14,760

We have more than we need, sir.

589

00:41:14,760 --> 00:41:15,960

But I didn't beat that child.

590

00:41:15,960 --> 00:41:18,760

The boyfriend denied beating Mary Jane

591

00:41:18,760 --> 00:41:21,360

but did admit that he had taken her to California

592

00:41:21,360 --> 00:41:23,520

where he abandoned her.

593

00:41:23,520 --> 00:41:25,840

Because there was going to be another child born,

594

00:41:25,840 --> 00:41:30,440

they decided that they needed to get rid of one of their children.

595

00:41:30,440 --> 00:41:31,440

That was their reasoning.

596

00:41:31,440 --> 00:41:32,640

They couldn't body train me.

597

00:41:32,640 --> 00:41:36,840

They couldn't, you know, I was an incorrigible child.

598

00:41:36,840 --> 00:41:38,440

Deputy, please come over and count this gentleman.

599

00:41:38,440 --> 00:41:39,440

Lucille, I didn't do nothing.

600

00:41:39,440 --> 00:41:40,440

I'm going to go come with this, please.

601

00:41:40,440 --> 00:41:41,840

You over here in the automobile.

602

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

Lucille, you've got to believe me, honey.

603

00:41:43,840 --> 00:41:44,840

I didn't do nothing.

604

00:41:44,840 --> 00:41:47,440

The couple was arrested on charges of child abandonment

605

00:41:47,440 --> 00:41:48,840

and assault to commit murder.

606

00:41:49,840 --> 00:41:54,840

Lucille was allowed one visit with Mary Jane in the hospital.

607

00:41:54,840 --> 00:41:56,840

Mary Jane?

608

00:41:56,840 --> 00:41:58,840

Hi, honey, it's me.

609

00:41:58,840 --> 00:42:01,840

She brought along her newborn son, Jimmy.

610

00:42:01,840 --> 00:42:05,840

It was a first and last time that Mary Jane would see her brother.

611

00:42:08,840 --> 00:42:12,840

Two weeks later, Lucille and her boyfriend pleaded guilty to all charges

612

00:42:12,840 --> 00:42:15,840

and were sentenced to 20 years in prison.

613

00:42:16,840 --> 00:42:19,840

Mary Jane, her three-year-old sister Leoma

614

00:42:19,840 --> 00:42:22,840

and her four-week-old brother Jimmy became wards of the state

615

00:42:22,840 --> 00:42:25,840

and were eventually separated.

616

00:42:25,840 --> 00:42:28,840

Mary Jane initially went to live with her biological father

617

00:42:28,840 --> 00:42:31,840

but spent most of her childhood in foster homes.

618

00:42:31,840 --> 00:42:34,840

She married at 16, and today she and her husband

619

00:42:34,840 --> 00:42:38,840

own a successful restaurant in Placerville, California.

620

00:42:38,840 --> 00:42:41,840

They have four children and 10 grandchildren.

621

00:42:41,840 --> 00:42:44,840

Several years ago, Mary Jane began to live in a house

622

00:42:44,840 --> 00:42:47,840

where she lived with her mother and sister.

623

00:42:47,840 --> 00:42:51,840

Mary Jane began searching for her missing brother and sister.

624

00:42:54,840 --> 00:42:57,840

In 1991, she finally found her older sister Leoma,

625

00:42:57,840 --> 00:42:59,840

but after more than 40 years apart,

626

00:42:59,840 --> 00:43:03,840

Mary Jane was unsure if she would be accepted.

627

00:43:03,840 --> 00:43:07,840

I worried that she was going to reject me,

628

00:43:07,840 --> 00:43:11,840

and I was ready for that, and I was willing to accept it.

629

00:43:12,840 --> 00:43:15,840

It hasn't happened.

630

00:43:15,840 --> 00:43:18,840

It's good. It feels good.

631

00:43:18,840 --> 00:43:21,840

I'm proud of her. She's beautiful.

632

00:43:21,840 --> 00:43:23,840

She's got a good life.

633

00:43:23,840 --> 00:43:28,840

She's a good, nice person, real nice.

634

00:43:29,840 --> 00:43:32,840

I have two brothers by my adoptive parents,

635

00:43:32,840 --> 00:43:34,840

but it never had a sister,

636

00:43:34,840 --> 00:43:37,840

and so it was wonderful to meet with Mary.

637

00:43:38,840 --> 00:43:41,840

To know that she's there and know that I can pick up the telephone

638

00:43:41,840 --> 00:43:45,840

and talk to her if I need to or want to is wonderful.

639

00:43:47,840 --> 00:43:49,840

Mary Jane and Leoma have joined forces

640

00:43:49,840 --> 00:43:51,840

in the search for their missing brother.

641

00:43:51,840 --> 00:43:55,840

He was born James Gilreith on June 14, 1947,

642

00:43:55,840 --> 00:43:58,840

in either Selma or Grants Pass, Oregon.

643

00:43:58,840 --> 00:44:00,840

They believe that Jimmy was adopted

644

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

out of the Wai-Rika County, California hospital

645

00:44:02,840 --> 00:44:04,840

by a family from Oregon,

646

00:44:04,840 --> 00:44:07,840

and that his first name may have been changed to Donald.

647

00:44:10,840 --> 00:44:15,840

I feel that the missing link is Jimmy to make our family complete,

648

00:44:15,840 --> 00:44:19,840

and I would like to know where he is,

649

00:44:19,840 --> 00:44:22,840

what happened to him, what kind of a life he has,

650

00:44:22,840 --> 00:44:25,840

and like him to know that we're here,

651

00:44:25,840 --> 00:44:28,840

and that we're his sisters.

652

00:44:29,840 --> 00:44:31,840

The night of our broadcast,

653

00:44:31,840 --> 00:44:34,840

Jimmy was not watching Unsolved Mysteries,

654

00:44:34,840 --> 00:44:36,840

but his adopted sister was.

655

00:44:36,840 --> 00:44:38,840

She immediately called her mother,

656

00:44:38,840 --> 00:44:40,840

who then contacted Jimmy.

657

00:44:40,840 --> 00:44:42,840

His name is now Donald Barrow,

658

00:44:42,840 --> 00:44:45,840

and he was just as anxious to meet his sisters

659

00:44:45,840 --> 00:44:47,840

as they were to meet him.

660

00:44:50,840 --> 00:44:52,840

Two weeks after our broadcast,

661

00:44:52,840 --> 00:44:55,840

Donald and his family drove from their home in Fresno, California

662

00:44:55,840 --> 00:44:57,840

to Mary's home in Placerville.

663

00:44:57,840 --> 00:45:02,840

Donald, Mary, and Leoma had not seen each other in 45 years.

664

00:45:02,840 --> 00:45:04,840

You must be Donald.

665

00:45:04,840 --> 00:45:06,840

I am.

666

00:45:06,840 --> 00:45:09,840

Oh, you think you're gonna make it?

667

00:45:09,840 --> 00:45:11,840

Oh, we're...

668

00:45:11,840 --> 00:45:14,840

The one thing that I was concerned about

669

00:45:14,840 --> 00:45:16,840

is, was it gonna be okay?

670

00:45:16,840 --> 00:45:18,840

God, you look so good.

671

00:45:18,840 --> 00:45:20,840

There is resemblance.

672

00:45:20,840 --> 00:45:24,840

And I knew when I met him out of the car that it is okay.

673

00:45:24,840 --> 00:45:27,840

And I am so happy.

674

00:45:33,840 --> 00:45:36,840

We just, we just, we didn't think, we didn't think good,

675

00:45:36,840 --> 00:45:39,840

because we just thought of that this morning.

676

00:45:39,840 --> 00:45:41,840

I just think that seeing him

677

00:45:41,840 --> 00:45:43,840

and knowing that he's had a good life,

678

00:45:43,840 --> 00:45:46,840

that was something that Mary and I both were concerned with,

679

00:45:46,840 --> 00:45:49,840

that we wanted to make sure that he'd had a good life,

680

00:45:49,840 --> 00:45:52,840

and knowing that he did makes us very happy.

681

00:45:52,840 --> 00:45:54,840

I'm not very good at emotions,

682

00:45:54,840 --> 00:45:56,840

so I don't know how to explain all of them

683

00:45:56,840 --> 00:45:58,840

that were going through my mind,

684

00:45:58,840 --> 00:46:00,840

but there were a lot of them.

685

00:46:00,840 --> 00:46:02,840

Mary?

686

00:46:02,840 --> 00:46:05,840

And they're still are.

687

00:46:05,840 --> 00:46:07,840

Oh, Mary.

688

00:46:07,840 --> 00:46:09,840

Mary.

689

00:46:12,840 --> 00:46:15,840

Now I'm gonna find out what it's like to be a baby brother.

690

00:46:15,840 --> 00:46:19,840

When I still get to be the oldest sister.

691

00:46:19,840 --> 00:46:22,840

And we all know I'm the middle child.

692

00:46:49,840 --> 00:46:52,840

And in a jail cell just 90 minutes later,

693

00:46:52,840 --> 00:46:57,840

his family and friends are convinced he was murdered.

694

00:46:57,840 --> 00:46:59,840

Join me next time for this intriguing case

695

00:46:59,840 --> 00:47:02,840

and three other fascinating stories

696

00:47:02,840 --> 00:47:05,840

on another edition of Unsolved Mysteries.