

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 --> 00:00:16,840

to see is not a news broadcast.

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00:00:16,840 --> 00:00:26,360

When Brian Broffle, a wealthy New York businessman, bought a farm in rural Vermont, local residents

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00:00:26,360 --> 00:00:31,240

were instantly charmed by his easy manner and good-natured attempts to adopt country

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00:00:31,240 --> 00:00:37,200

ways. But in 1990, an early morning raid on Broffle's farm left his friends and neighbors

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00:00:37,200 --> 00:00:44,280

stunned. The congenial city slicker was apparently a major player in the international drug trade.

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00:00:44,280 --> 00:00:50,920

In the summer of 1988, tensions in the Persian Gulf were at the boiling point. On July 3rd,

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00:00:50,920 --> 00:00:56,200

Captain Will Rogers of the USS Vincennes, believing his ship was about to be attacked,

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00:00:56,200 --> 00:01:01,560

mistakenly ordered his gunners to shoot down an Iranian airliner, leaving 290 civilians

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00:01:01,560 --> 00:01:08,280

dead. Several months later in San Diego, a car bombing that is no accident, the target

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00:01:08,280 --> 00:01:12,240

is the wife of the American ship's captain.

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00:01:12,240 --> 00:01:18,520

In police radio code, it's known as 211 armed, a robbery in progress. Two masked gunmen are

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00:01:18,800 --> 00:01:23,520

about to terrorize the customers and employees of a restaurant, clean out the cash register,

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00:01:23,520 --> 00:01:29,200

and then escape, unmolested and unidentified.

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00:01:29,200 --> 00:01:35,480

Since August 23rd, 1991, the same scenario has unfolded no less than 29 times in and

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00:01:35,480 --> 00:01:41,080

around the city of the Lakewood, California. In every case, the robbers brandished handguns

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00:01:41,080 --> 00:01:47,080

of semi-automatic weapons. And in almost every case, the target was a pizza restaurant.

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00:01:47,080 --> 00:01:53,440

Join me for these fascinating stories. Perhaps you may be able to help solve a mystery.

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00:02:17,080 --> 00:02:24,080

Thank you.

21

00:02:48,080 --> 00:02:55,080

Orleans County, Vermont, lies on the United States border with Canada. Its quiet countryside

22

00:02:57,320 --> 00:03:02,760

is dotted with small farming towns whose families have lived here for generations. In these

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00:03:02,760 --> 00:03:08,560

parts, a stranger is guaranteed to cause a stir. But no one was prepared for the whirlwind

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00:03:08,560 --> 00:03:14,240

that would follow the arrival of a man named Brian Brofil.

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00:03:14,240 --> 00:03:20,560

In August of 1986, the wealthy New Yorker bought a 30-acre farm in West Glover. He told

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00:03:20,560 --> 00:03:24,760

people he had made his fortune manufacturing toothbrushes and had come to the country to

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00:03:24,760 --> 00:03:31,200

put down roots. His unassuming manner soon won the trust of his neighbors.

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00:03:31,200 --> 00:03:37,720

He loved Vermont, and he really became friendly with a lot of the local people. He had this

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00:03:37,720 --> 00:03:41,120

easy way about him that made people very comfortable.

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00:03:42,120 --> 00:03:49,120

Nancy Buckley met Brian. When he called him on a puppy, she advertised in the local paper.

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00:03:51,120 --> 00:03:58,120

He was open and friendly and was either knowledgeable in an area that you were interested in, or

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00:03:58,680 --> 00:04:04,880

he was very curious and wanted to learn about something that you knew a lot about. And both

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00:04:04,880 --> 00:04:09,320

of those things ingratiate him to you.

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00:04:09,320 --> 00:04:16,160

He was an accident waiting for a place to happen. He knew nothing about country life,

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00:04:16,160 --> 00:04:23,160

but he was willing to learn. But Brian's idea of learning was to ask you to help him do

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00:04:24,720 --> 00:04:28,320

something and then stand and watch you do it.

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00:04:28,320 --> 00:04:32,120

I think there's something wrong with this saddle. This doesn't feel right.

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00:04:32,120 --> 00:04:37,320

Frank and Susan Midor, who also owned a farm in Virginia, were Brian's nearest neighbors.

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00:04:37,320 --> 00:04:41,320

They probably knew him better than anyone in the area.

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00:04:41,320 --> 00:04:47,320

Emmanuel Labor was not in his vocabulary. But he didn't in such a likable way, you didn't

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00:04:47,320 --> 00:04:54,320

object to it. He was very obviously a city boy. He couldn't hide that.

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00:04:59,920 --> 00:05:04,800

Brian Brofil was definitely a hard man to figure. He knew next to nothing about country

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00:05:04,800 --> 00:05:09,480

life. Yet he went out and spent thousands of dollars to buy a single horse of a special

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00:05:09,480 --> 00:05:13,480

breed, a warm blood.

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00:05:13,480 --> 00:05:19,480

What a great big warm blood. He's wonderful.

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00:05:19,480 --> 00:05:26,160

Brian then paid thousands more to board the horse with another neighbor, Peggy DuPont.

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00:05:26,160 --> 00:05:32,600

There were a couple things about Brian that seemed a little strange. The first thing was

48

00:05:32,680 --> 00:05:39,680

that he paid in cash for his board. He had two horses, so he would pay me \$500 in cash

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00:05:39,840 --> 00:05:44,200

for the boarding. And my husband immediately said, oh, he's a drug dealer. And I said,

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00:05:44,200 --> 00:05:48,280

he's not a drug dealer. You're out of your mind. He's a nice person. And besides, he

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00:05:48,280 --> 00:05:55,280

had to go to the bank first to get the money. He told me so.

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00:05:55,280 --> 00:06:01,960

Peggy DuPont's husband had no idea how right he was. On February 12, 1990, twenty heavily

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00:06:01,960 --> 00:06:08,960

armed Vermont state police, DEA agents and U.S. marshals paid a visit to Brian Brofil's

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00:06:08,960 --> 00:06:13,960

farm.

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00:06:13,960 --> 00:06:20,960

The agents burst in on a crop of more than 2,000 marijuana plants. It was a biggest bust

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00:06:21,320 --> 00:06:28,320

in Vermont history. At that very moment, Brofil was with the Midors at the farm in Virginia.

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00:06:28,320 --> 00:06:35,320

At 8.30 a.m., a friend from Vermont telephoned with stunning news of the raid.

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00:06:35,320 --> 00:06:42,320

Why would they want to know if I've seen Brian? Are you kidding?

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00:06:42,320 --> 00:06:49,320

I'm going to do any writing today? I don't think so. I got all that work in the corral

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00:06:49,320 --> 00:06:56,320

to finish tomorrow. I'll be a bit of it. That was weird. There was a marijuana bust in

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00:07:00,320 --> 00:07:07,320

West Charleston. They're looking for you, Brian. What's going on?

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00:07:08,320 --> 00:07:14,320

I don't know. I better make a phone call.

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00:07:14,320 --> 00:07:21,320

He was calm. I better make a phone call. He came back and said, you're going to have

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00:07:23,200 --> 00:07:27,720

to take me to the airport. I'm going to have to straighten this mess out.

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00:07:27,720 --> 00:07:33,440

He said he was worried about his reputation and what is somebody trying to do to him.

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00:07:33,440 --> 00:07:37,520

This can't be right. I've got to get home and straighten out my reputation. It was

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00:07:37,520 --> 00:07:41,280

at that. I mean, I sincerely believed him.

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00:07:41,280 --> 00:07:47,080

The Midors unwittingly drove Vermont's biggest pot dealer to the airport. Brian Brofil then

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00:07:47,080 --> 00:07:52,240

dropped from sight. Meanwhile, authorities were just beginning to realize the scope of

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00:07:52,240 --> 00:07:54,360

his enterprise.

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00:07:54,360 --> 00:08:01,360

The agent's initial reaction was just one of pure awe. Nobody's ever seen such an operation

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

nationwide. It was one of the most sophisticated operations that has ever been seen.

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00:08:10,040 --> 00:08:15,760

Brofil had spared no expense. His marijuana plantation featured automated irrigation and

74

00:08:15,760 --> 00:08:22,760

lighting. A heating system sheltered the plants from Vermont's hard winters. Authorities estimated

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00:08:23,160 --> 00:08:30,520

that the operation had been grossing as much as a quarter of a million dollars a month.

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00:08:30,720 --> 00:08:36,680

Agent Labir sifted through Brofil's private papers, trying to pick up the fugitives' trail.

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00:08:36,680 --> 00:08:43,560

I was looking for anything that would tell me who Brian Brofil was, or is, or will be.

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00:08:43,560 --> 00:08:49,480

I found volumes of information. I tracked down each piece of information, and each piece

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00:08:49,480 --> 00:08:53,840

of information led me to a dead end.

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00:08:53,840 --> 00:08:59,520

Agent Labir expected Brofil would have a well-documented criminal past. However, FBI

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00:08:59,520 --> 00:09:06,520

and various state records revealed only a single conviction for drunk driving. Convinced

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00:09:06,560 --> 00:09:12,120

Brofil was wanted somewhere for something. Agent Labir contacted Interpol, the international

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00:09:12,120 --> 00:09:18,040

law enforcement agency. He was stunned to discover that the giant marijuana operation

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00:09:18,040 --> 00:09:23,780

was little more than a hobby. Just a small part of an illicit drug empire masterminded

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00:09:23,780 --> 00:09:26,600

by Brian Brofil.

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00:09:26,600 --> 00:09:32,560

What I learned is that he initially began smuggling in the late 1970s and early 1980s.

87

00:09:32,560 --> 00:09:37,600

He got involved with a group of people who were living a good lifestyle. He traveled

88

00:09:37,600 --> 00:09:41,960

to a few exotic places with these people and got addicted to their lifestyle. He wanted

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00:09:41,960 --> 00:09:48,960

to become a playboy. The quickest way he could do that was to become a narcotics smuggler.

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00:09:50,600 --> 00:09:55,440

Initially Brian traveled to Southeast Asia in the South Pacific, where he procured small

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00:09:55,480 --> 00:10:00,760

amounts of narcotics. He would take these narcotics and tape them to his body and walk

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00:10:00,760 --> 00:10:07,760

through customs. He did this in countries that execute people for drug activity. Brian

93

00:10:08,080 --> 00:10:14,200

would walk through customs without sweating a bead and making friends.

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00:10:14,200 --> 00:10:19,160

By the time Brofil moved to Vermont, he had developed one of the world's largest drug-smuggling

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00:10:19,160 --> 00:10:26,160

networks. After months of painstaking research, Agent LeBeer was able to penetrate Brofil's

96

00:10:27,360 --> 00:10:30,080

shadowy world and recruit an informant.

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00:10:30,080 --> 00:10:33,320

This is what I found out. He's working on his mother load.

98

00:10:33,320 --> 00:10:35,320

His mother load?

99

00:10:35,320 --> 00:10:38,720

Yeah, his mother load. He talked about this one for a while. This is the one he's going

100

00:10:38,720 --> 00:10:41,360

to retire on. He brings the drugs in on the West Coast.

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00:10:41,360 --> 00:10:46,560

The male's disclosures were frustratingly incomplete. Both were planned to smuggle some

102

00:10:46,600 --> 00:10:52,960

\$20 million worth of heroin into the United States, perhaps along the Oregon coast. But

103

00:10:52,960 --> 00:10:59,280

Agent LeBeer could never pin down the exact place or time.

104

00:10:59,280 --> 00:11:05,800

He confirmed our speculation that Brian is a major narcotics smuggler and is continuing

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00:11:05,800 --> 00:11:12,360

to smuggle narcotics. What we didn't learn is the specifics. We know that Brian's out

106

00:11:12,360 --> 00:11:17,360

there right now smuggling narcotics, peddling his narcotics, but we don't know exactly

107

00:11:17,360 --> 00:11:20,200

where he is.

108

00:11:20,200 --> 00:11:27,200

When all of this happened, I was in shock and I just couldn't believe that he could live

109

00:11:27,200 --> 00:11:29,360

such a double life.

110

00:11:29,360 --> 00:11:36,360

I feel sorry for Brian. I feel sorry for him because his life, his total life was a lie.

111

00:11:36,800 --> 00:11:43,800

He lived this lie so perfectly that he obviously had no life of his own. The Brian that we

112

00:11:43,800 --> 00:11:50,800

liked did not exist, so I can't certainly feel sorry for him being caught.

113

00:11:50,800 --> 00:11:54,800

On the Night Brofils story aired, our foam setter switchboards lit up with calls from

114

00:11:54,800 --> 00:12:00,800

Paso Robles of Central California. Alert viewers there recognized Brian Brofils as one of their

115

00:12:00,800 --> 00:12:05,800

neighbors. Local authorities immediately called the police to investigate Brian's death.

116

00:12:06,240 --> 00:12:12,240

The authorities immediately moved in to make an arrest, but Brofils had vanished again.

117

00:12:12,240 --> 00:12:16,240

Our understanding is that Brian watched the show. The show aired at 8 o'clock and Brian

118

00:12:16,240 --> 00:12:23,240

was gone at 8 to 15. He had left all his personal belongings behind and was just gone.

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00:12:24,440 --> 00:12:30,000

In Paso Robles, Brofils went by the name Brian Jenkins. He found work as a handyman at local

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00:12:30,000 --> 00:12:35,000

horse ranches and became an accepted member of the community. Brofils never once drew

121

00:12:35,000 --> 00:12:42,000

the attention of police. He was living comfortably with no fears. We weren't even close to him.

122

00:12:42,560 --> 00:12:49,560

He could have wrote a textbook on how to hide. He was that good.

123

00:12:50,320 --> 00:12:55,800

But Brian Brofils wasn't good enough. After he fled Paso Robles, viewer tips helped authorities

124

00:12:55,800 --> 00:13:00,560

track the fugitive South of Carlsbad near San Diego, where he was arrested on December

125

00:13:00,560 --> 00:13:07,560

19, 1993. Three weeks later, Brian Brofils was extradited to Vermont. If convicted on

126

00:13:08,480 --> 00:13:15,480

all charges, he faces a prison term of 20 years to life.

127

00:13:23,680 --> 00:13:30,180

Next, a car bombing in San Diego. The suspect's international terrorist seeking revenge.

128

00:13:30,560 --> 00:13:37,560

Summer 1988, the Persian Gulf. Just three months earlier, an American ship had been badly

129

00:13:46,240 --> 00:13:52,160

damaged when it ran afoul of an Iranian mine. Now the Gulf's sworn with United States naval

130

00:13:52,160 --> 00:13:57,840

vessels and aircraft. Their mission? Protect U.S. flagged oil tankers from increasingly

131

00:13:57,840 --> 00:14:04,640

hostile Iranian forces. The centerpiece of the United States naval presence in the Gulf

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00:14:04,640 --> 00:14:10,520

was the USS Vincennes, a state of the art guided missile cruiser, fully armed with surface

133

00:14:10,520 --> 00:14:17,520

to air missiles. What happened on July the 3rd, 1988, would claim 290 lives, alter the

134

00:14:19,040 --> 00:14:25,720

face of Middle Eastern politics, and deeply affect Will Rogers, captain of the USS Vincennes.

135

00:14:25,720 --> 00:14:30,800

By chance, a Navy film crew was aboard the ship that day. They documented the hellish

136

00:14:30,800 --> 00:14:34,920

events.

137

00:14:34,920 --> 00:14:39,640

Started out in a benign fashion. We were en route to Bahrain to celebrate the ship's

138

00:14:39,640 --> 00:14:46,400

birthday. And as we had approached the southern end of the Gulf, I received a radio call

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00:14:46,400 --> 00:14:53,320

that the USS Montgomery was having some difficulty with Iranian Revolutionary Guard small craft.

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00:14:53,400 --> 00:14:59,920

We were directed by higher authority to develop a tactical picture and relay this information

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00:14:59,920 --> 00:15:03,560

back to Bahrain.

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00:15:03,560 --> 00:15:08,600

The Vincennes dispatched a reconnaissance helicopter. It was immediately attacked by at least 7

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00:15:08,600 --> 00:15:16,640

Iranian gunboats. Captain Rogers sought and received permission to return fire.

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00:15:16,640 --> 00:15:21,880

What ensued was a rather violent service engagement between myself, USS Montgomery, and about

145

00:15:21,920 --> 00:15:25,480

7 small high speed craft.

146

00:15:25,480 --> 00:15:30,880

Almost simultaneously, an unidentified aircraft showed up on the ship's radar screen. The

147

00:15:30,880 --> 00:15:37,880

plane appeared to be gathering speed and descending straight toward the Vincennes.

148

00:15:38,400 --> 00:15:43,920

Initially didn't pay much attention to it. It was of some interest, but not very tactically

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00:15:43,920 --> 00:15:49,400

significant, particularly in the middle of this surface engagement we were involved in.

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00:15:49,440 --> 00:15:54,440

The Navy commenced to issue radio warnings, asking it to divert from its course, heading

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00:15:54,440 --> 00:16:00,440

directly at us, received no response. In the meantime, the service engagement continued.

152

00:16:00,440 --> 00:16:07,440

I was very concerned about damage to my ship, injury of my crew. When the aircraft had

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00:16:08,120 --> 00:16:13,240

reached 20 nautical miles, I had permission to engage it from higher authority. I simply

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00:16:13,240 --> 00:16:19,240

couldn't believe that this was happening. Elected not to engage. When the aircraft had

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00:16:19,240 --> 00:16:25,360

reached close to about 12 nautical miles, the decision had to be made, and I chose to

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00:16:25,360 --> 00:16:28,360

engage it with missiles.

157

00:16:35,360 --> 00:16:41,320

The crew's jubilant mood quickly turned somber. Information began to come in over the radio

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00:16:41,320 --> 00:16:48,320

about an Iranian passenger plane which had failed to show up at its appointed destination.

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00:16:50,240 --> 00:16:58,240

It became obvious to us that something was badly wrong. What the pieces of the puzzle

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00:16:58,800 --> 00:17:05,000

began to add up to was this overdue airliner was the result of the missile engagement that

161

00:17:05,000 --> 00:17:08,000

we in fact had destroyed as a civilian airliner.

162

00:17:08,000 --> 00:17:12,000

President hold the ship crossing the Iranian declared war zone line.

163

00:17:12,000 --> 00:17:16,440

The men aboard the Vincennes had come face to face with the unspoken fear that haunts

164

00:17:16,440 --> 00:17:23,440

every military man. They were responsible for the death of innocent civilians. 290 passengers

165

00:17:23,840 --> 00:17:29,520

aboard a commercial Iranian Airlines flight were dead. Their baggage and personal effects

166

00:17:29,520 --> 00:17:33,520

creating an eerie wake in the blue waters of the Gulf.

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00:17:33,520 --> 00:17:40,520

Most people accepted the downing of Iranian Air Flight 655 as a tragic error. The flight

168

00:17:41,440 --> 00:17:46,560

was not running at a scheduled time. It had not responded to repeated requests to identify

169

00:17:46,560 --> 00:17:51,480

itself. And the Vincennes radar screen could not differentiate between the large passenger

170

00:17:51,480 --> 00:17:58,080

plane and smaller Iranian fighter jets. Inside Iran itself however, response to the incident

171

00:17:58,080 --> 00:18:03,520

was quite different. One high ranking Iranian official even stated that his country would

172

00:18:03,520 --> 00:18:09,160

not forgive and claimed the right to revenge.

173

00:18:09,160 --> 00:18:14,120

In San Diego, California, Captain Rogers wife Sharon, a fourth grade school teacher, tried

174

00:18:14,120 --> 00:18:20,120

to cope with the news. A few weeks later she would have chilling reason to take the Iranian

175

00:18:20,120 --> 00:18:24,680

rhetoric seriously.

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00:18:24,680 --> 00:18:31,680

It was about a month after July 3rd. It was one o'clock in the morning the phone rang.

177

00:18:32,680 --> 00:18:39,680

There was a man on the other end of the phone with a mid-eastern accent. He wanted to know

178

00:18:40,120 --> 00:18:45,960

if this was the home of Captain Rogers. And then he said, are you the wife of the murderer?

179

00:18:45,960 --> 00:18:52,960

And at that time I hung up.

180

00:18:53,120 --> 00:19:00,120

My worst nightmare was coming true. I had feared that there was someone out to make a

181

00:19:01,800 --> 00:19:08,160

retribution for what had happened in the Gulf. At this point, with someone calling me, I

182

00:19:08,160 --> 00:19:15,160

thought possibly they know where our home is, they know where I live. And possibly someone's

183

00:19:15,920 --> 00:19:21,800

in the city. It didn't sound like a long distance telephone call to me. Needless to say, I didn't

184

00:19:21,800 --> 00:19:25,400

sleep the rest of the night.

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00:19:25,400 --> 00:19:30,560

The Naval Investigative Service was called in to secure the Rogers home. Agents checked

186

00:19:30,600 --> 00:19:35,880

the mail and monitored incoming phone calls. They recommended that Sharon Rogers always

187

00:19:35,880 --> 00:19:40,880

keep her car securely locked in the garage when she was at home.

188

00:19:40,880 --> 00:19:47,880

Ten weeks went by. No further phone threats were received and on October 24th, 1988, Sharon

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00:19:49,280 --> 00:19:56,280

Rogers was at the dock to welcome the USS Vincennes and her husband home.

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00:19:56,280 --> 00:20:00,880

At the period of relative calm, the Rogers continued to observe safety precautions and

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00:20:00,880 --> 00:20:06,120

to keep both cars garaged.

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00:20:06,120 --> 00:20:13,120

Then on March 9th, 1989, their stringent attitude momentarily relaxed.

193

00:20:15,280 --> 00:20:22,280

Will and I had a commitment at the Navy base for a Navy meeting. And we got back home around

194

00:20:22,280 --> 00:20:29,280

9.30, we were both exhausted. In it, I had parked my van on the driveway.

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00:20:33,800 --> 00:20:40,800

To make a long story short, we were very tired. We decided not to put the cars in the garage.

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00:20:43,200 --> 00:20:50,200

It was the first night since July 3rd that we had not parked the cars in the garage.

197

00:20:51,160 --> 00:20:56,640

And the only night, the only time.

198

00:20:56,640 --> 00:21:01,720

At 7 o'clock the next morning, Captain Rogers, as was his custom, left the house and drove

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00:21:01,720 --> 00:21:08,720

his wife's van to a local market to buy breakfast pastries.

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00:21:09,480 --> 00:21:16,480

Will came back to the house. We exchanged a few words. It was time for me to go to work.

201

00:21:16,480 --> 00:21:23,480

Got into the van, pulled out of the driveway, took my normal route to school. Everything

202

00:21:27,920 --> 00:21:34,920

seemed fine. Pulled up at a red light at La Jolla Village Drive in Genesee. And it was

203

00:21:35,160 --> 00:21:42,160

then that I heard the explosion.

204

00:21:42,160 --> 00:21:48,400

I knew that if I'd ever do anything right, I'd better do this one right because I realized

205

00:21:48,400 --> 00:21:55,400

I didn't have many seconds left before I could get out of that van a lot.

206

00:21:56,600 --> 00:22:00,800

Sharon Rogers threw open the driver's side door, but forgot that she had her seatbelt

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

on. As she struggled to free herself, a few ever precious seconds slipped away.

208

00:22:08,440 --> 00:22:14,560

I jumped from the cab of the van. Then I ran to the curb where there was a construction

209

00:22:14,560 --> 00:22:21,560

worker. He took me and placed me in the cab of his truck, put his jacket around me, and

210

00:22:26,160 --> 00:22:33,160

asked if there was anyone I wanted to call. About that time a police woman approached

211

00:22:33,160 --> 00:22:40,160

me. I told her who I was, that I was the wife of the captain of the Vincennes. She immediately

212

00:22:44,720 --> 00:22:51,720

called a halt to everything and told everyone to move away, get away. She then began calling

213

00:22:52,680 --> 00:22:58,880

in the Naval Investigative Service, the FBI, everyone else.

214

00:22:58,880 --> 00:23:04,600

At the time I simply couldn't grasp it, could not fathom that in fact the van had been bombed.

215

00:23:04,600 --> 00:23:10,080

I was convinced that the catalytic converter had exploded. But then very shortly I noticed

216

00:23:10,080 --> 00:23:17,080

laying in the street a link to pipe about like this, which is split from end to end,

217

00:23:17,400 --> 00:23:24,400

and that was no catalytic converter. An FBI investigation revealed that indeed a large

218

00:23:25,160 --> 00:23:30,640

pipe bomb had been strapped to the underbelly of the van.

219

00:23:30,640 --> 00:23:36,800

Sharon Rogers was extremely lucky. The blast from the bomb went up just behind her seat

220

00:23:36,800 --> 00:23:42,680

through the roof of the van and out to the right side of the van. The bomb was definitely

221

00:23:42,680 --> 00:23:49,680

designed to kill someone and was not a prank. It was placed underneath the vehicle located

222

00:23:49,680 --> 00:23:56,680

probably just behind where the driver's seat was.

223

00:23:57,240 --> 00:24:01,600

The FBI learned that less than two months before the bombing incident, a stranger had

224

00:24:01,600 --> 00:24:07,600

been asking questions on the Rogers Street.

225

00:24:07,600 --> 00:24:12,600

Excuse me. Yes.

226

00:24:12,600 --> 00:24:16,440

Would you happen to know which house the captain lives?

227

00:24:16,480 --> 00:24:21,080

Captain, I'm sorry, I don't think I can help you with that.

228

00:24:21,080 --> 00:24:24,960

I was told that a Middle Eastern family lives in this neighborhood. Would you know which

229

00:24:24,960 --> 00:24:26,360

house that might be?

230

00:24:26,360 --> 00:24:30,960

Well, you might try the grey house on the right, the third house up. I believe there's

231

00:24:30,960 --> 00:24:33,880

a Middle Eastern family that lives there.

232

00:24:33,880 --> 00:24:36,880

Thank you very much.

233

00:24:36,880 --> 00:24:43,880

You bet.

234

00:24:44,640 --> 00:24:50,320

The FBI produced this drawing of the man based on the description given by the Rogers neighbors.

235

00:24:50,320 --> 00:24:55,800

The man was thin, five feet nine and a half inches tall with dark eyes and hair and receding

236

00:24:55,800 --> 00:25:00,560

hairline. He had a pronounced Middle Eastern accent.

237

00:25:00,560 --> 00:25:06,600

A second man waited for him in the passenger seat of a BMW with California license plates.

238

00:25:06,600 --> 00:25:13,600

The BMW was an unusual color known as Bronze Bay. Both men appeared to be in their thirties.

239

00:25:13,600 --> 00:25:20,600

You should be stressed that neither man is ordered for any crime, only for questioning.

240

00:25:22,120 --> 00:25:27,440

We would like to identify the two individuals who spoke to the neighbors as that's one piece

241

00:25:27,440 --> 00:25:34,440

of our puzzle that we need to solve. And in addition to that, we would like anybody that

242

00:25:34,720 --> 00:25:39,840

has any information at all relative to the bombing or to the individuals involved in

243

00:25:39,840 --> 00:25:44,200

it to give us a call.

244

00:25:44,200 --> 00:25:50,200

I think we both fervently hope that it results in the arrest and conviction and ultimate

245

00:25:50,200 --> 00:25:57,200

imprisonment of the people responsible for the attempt on Sharon's life. The FBI and

246

00:25:57,840 --> 00:26:02,000

the NIS have worked very hard to bring this case to a conclusion and we certainly hope

247

00:26:02,000 --> 00:26:08,600

that somebody out there sees something, knows something, passes that information.

248

00:26:08,640 --> 00:26:15,640

This was a case of attempted murder. It was a terrorist act and we need to apprehend someone.

249

00:26:16,160 --> 00:26:21,120

They need to be convicted as Will said. They need to be imprisoned and we have to send

250

00:26:21,120 --> 00:26:28,120

a very strong message to terrorism that you're just not going to win here in the United States.

251

00:26:31,920 --> 00:26:36,680

When we return, the inspiring story of a young man's second chance at life and his search

252

00:26:36,760 --> 00:26:43,680

for the mystery woman who saved him.

253

00:26:48,040 --> 00:26:53,120

Rock and roll musician John Lennon once said, life is what happens when you're making other

254

00:26:53,120 --> 00:27:00,120

plans. You're about to meet a vibrant inspiration in a young man named Philip Macri. Six years

255

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

ago, Philip was a high school basketball star and a hot college prospect whose life was turned

256

00:27:05,120 --> 00:27:11,440

upside down in a split second. It happened on August 28th, 1987 during a weekend vacation

257

00:27:11,440 --> 00:27:18,440

in Virginia Beach, Virginia that was suddenly and terribly wrong.

258

00:27:25,280 --> 00:27:32,280

We went to the beach a day before the softball tournament and just went down there to try

259

00:27:32,360 --> 00:27:39,360

to get a nice tan and check out the babes on the beach. I dove into the water with my

260

00:27:40,880 --> 00:27:47,880

hands out forward breaking the wave. That was the last movement I had because when

261

00:27:51,480 --> 00:27:58,480

I dove into the wave, I broke my neck instantly and couldn't feel anything. I opened up my

262

00:27:59,480 --> 00:28:06,480

eyes on the water and it was real dark and black and all I heard was the ocean going.

263

00:28:09,320 --> 00:28:16,320

I didn't know why I wasn't moving. In my mind, I felt like I was moving my arms and swimming

264

00:28:17,040 --> 00:28:22,480

but I wasn't getting nowhere and I just kept remembering that. I was going to go way out

265

00:28:22,480 --> 00:28:29,480

into the ocean. I was going to be by sharks. My life was going to be over. My basketball

266

00:28:29,480 --> 00:28:36,480

career was going to be over because that's all I love to do is play basketball.

267

00:28:38,400 --> 00:28:42,600

Just the previous season, Philip Macri had led his Newcastle, Pennsylvania high school

268

00:28:42,600 --> 00:28:48,840

team into the state playoffs. He seemed destined to win a college basketball scholarship. Philip's

269

00:28:48,920 --> 00:28:54,120

most glorious moment had come during a matchup with his team's arch rival. With a score tied

270

00:28:54,120 --> 00:29:01,120

and only seconds remaining in the game, Philip stole the ball.

271

00:29:12,000 --> 00:29:17,640

Eight months later, Philip found himself unable to move his arms and legs, buffeted by waves,

272

00:29:17,720 --> 00:29:24,720

but knowing whether he would live or die. I do remember when I was under water I was

273

00:29:25,120 --> 00:29:32,120

saying help, somebody help me, help, I was screaming. No one knows if Philip's calls

274

00:29:32,280 --> 00:29:37,560

for help are actually heard, but miraculously they were answered by a woman whose identity

275

00:29:37,560 --> 00:29:44,560

remains a mystery to this day. I was looking out into the water and I saw

276

00:29:45,200 --> 00:29:51,000

some lady pulling Philip out of the water, but the only reason I knew it was him was

277

00:29:51,000 --> 00:29:57,120

from his swimming trunks that he had been wearing. And when I saw the swimming trunks

278

00:29:57,120 --> 00:30:02,120

I just ran. What happened here? I don't know, I think

279

00:30:02,120 --> 00:30:09,120

it was body service. Philip, Philip, step back. Can you move your toes? Move something.

280

00:30:09,520 --> 00:30:15,520

And I heard my sister saying Philip, Philip, move something, move your arms, move your

281

00:30:15,520 --> 00:30:22,520

legs. I was gasping for air and I responded by saying I can't, I can't move anything.

282

00:30:25,760 --> 00:30:32,760

And that was it. Can you move your feet? Can you move your fingers?

283

00:30:33,160 --> 00:30:37,520

What's wrong with him? With everyone's attention on Philip, the

284

00:30:37,520 --> 00:30:44,520

quiet rescuer was all but forgotten. She disappeared before anyone could ask her name.

285

00:30:45,400 --> 00:30:50,440

I've often thought about the woman that saved Philip. Now I regret that I didn't think

286

00:30:50,440 --> 00:30:57,440

her at that time, but my mind and my thoughts were just all for Philip.

287

00:30:58,440 --> 00:31:04,440

I got the telephone call from Virginia Beach. The doctor was on the phone. He says to me,

288

00:31:04,720 --> 00:31:11,720

Mrs. Macri, and I says, yes. He says I need your verbal consent to do something on Philip.

289

00:31:12,320 --> 00:31:18,320

And I says, you have it. What do you do? Break an arm or a leg? He says, no ma'am, he's paralyzed.

290

00:31:18,320 --> 00:31:21,320

Broke his neck.

291

00:31:28,440 --> 00:31:35,440

When I saw my parents for the first time, it was so hard. It was like the hardest thing.

292

00:31:36,640 --> 00:31:43,640

Seeing them, you know, hovering over me crying and telling me that I'd never walk again.

293

00:31:43,640 --> 00:31:49,920

It was devastating all around. I mean, maybe men aren't supposed to cry, but I cried more.

294

00:31:49,920 --> 00:31:52,720

I never cried so much in all my life as I did then.

295

00:31:53,000 --> 00:31:58,400

For three days, doctors pumped sand from Philip's stomach. For two weeks, he was wrapped in

296

00:31:58,400 --> 00:32:05,400

ice blankets to counter raging fevers, resulting from multiple infections. Finally, Philip's

297

00:32:05,400 --> 00:32:10,800

condition improved enough for doctors to surgically stabilize as crushed vertebra, but the damage

298

00:32:10,800 --> 00:32:17,800

had been done. More than five years have passed since a mysterious stranger gave Philip a

299

00:32:18,520 --> 00:32:24,600

second shot at life. In that time, Philip has had to redefine his aspirations, but he pursues

300

00:32:24,600 --> 00:32:29,600

him with the same determination he once brought to the basketball court.

301

00:32:29,600 --> 00:32:35,600

When I was in the hospital in Virginia, I had like three or four goals. The first goal

302

00:32:35,600 --> 00:32:42,600

was to get off the respirator. My second goal was to get in a wheelchair and don't be so

303

00:32:43,320 --> 00:32:50,320

depressed and knowing that, you know, it's all right to be in a wheelchair. And my last

304

00:32:50,320 --> 00:32:55,720

goal was to go to college and get a degree and get a job.

305

00:32:55,720 --> 00:32:59,640

Mrs. Philip McCree coming from the campus of Westminster College, and here are today's

306

00:32:59,640 --> 00:33:03,680

sports headlines. The Chicago Bears of Cancun, Mike Dicker.

307

00:33:03,680 --> 00:33:09,200

Philip is majoring in telecommunications at Westminster College near his home in Pennsylvania.

308

00:33:09,200 --> 00:33:14,400

In the fall, he will return to the sport he loves, this time as a play-by-play announcer

309

00:33:14,400 --> 00:33:21,080

for local high school basketball games. Philip McCree has made the most of his gift of life,

310

00:33:21,080 --> 00:33:25,800

but he still hopes to accomplish one very important goal. He would like to personally

311

00:33:25,800 --> 00:33:30,520

thank the woman who saved him.

312

00:33:30,520 --> 00:33:36,520

It's very important to find this lady who pulled me out of the water because, again, I wouldn't

313

00:33:36,640 --> 00:33:43,640

be able to fulfill my goals of becoming a sports broadcaster. I wouldn't be able to

314

00:33:44,240 --> 00:33:49,560

be here with my family today. I wouldn't be able to do the things that I always wanted

315

00:33:49,560 --> 00:33:53,160

to do in life if she wanted to save my life.

316

00:33:53,160 --> 00:33:58,000

On the night of our broadcast, Philip was overjoyed to learn that he would finally get

317

00:33:58,000 --> 00:34:03,960

his chance to say thank you. Forty-three-year-old Linda Potts called our telecenter and identified

318

00:34:03,960 --> 00:34:07,400

herself as the unknown rescuer.

319

00:34:07,400 --> 00:34:14,400

On March 27, 1993, Philip and Linda met face-to-face for the first time since Philip nearly drowned

320

00:34:14,400 --> 00:34:17,440

at Virginia Beach.

321

00:34:17,440 --> 00:34:24,440

When she pulled out in the car today when I first met her, it just gave me tingling all

322

00:34:24,440 --> 00:34:31,440

through my body. It made me feel real good to know that I could thank her for saving

323

00:34:32,440 --> 00:34:34,120

my life.

324

00:34:34,120 --> 00:34:41,120

I felt like I found a member of my family, a lost member of my family that I hadn't seen

325

00:34:42,000 --> 00:34:45,480

in five years.

326

00:34:45,480 --> 00:34:51,480

That evening, Philip's parents hosted a dinner for family and friends in honor of the woman

327

00:34:51,480 --> 00:34:58,480

who saved their son's life.

328

00:34:58,480 --> 00:35:05,480

I hope to keep a close relationship with me and Mrs. Potts. I found out she's a very

329

00:35:05,480 --> 00:35:12,480

good friend.

330

00:35:14,760 --> 00:35:21,760

I hope to keep a close relationship with me and Mrs. Potts. I found out she's had some

331

00:35:23,400 --> 00:35:28,840

medical problems in her life and if there's anything I could do to help her out with her

332

00:35:28,840 --> 00:35:34,160

problems, I love to help her out with it.

333

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

Philip, Macri and Linda Potts, two strangers joined by a twist of fate.

334

00:35:40,240 --> 00:35:46,920

Philip and I will remain friends for a long, long time. If there's anything I can ever

335

00:35:46,920 --> 00:35:51,680

do for Philip, all he has to do is pick up the phone and dial my number. I'll be there

336

00:35:51,680 --> 00:35:52,180

for him.

337

00:36:05,120 --> 00:36:09,040

Recently, we brought you the story of Martha Doe Roberts, who was kidnapped from her home

338

00:36:09,040 --> 00:36:15,160

in Eads, Tennessee, on the morning of August 7, 1992.

339

00:36:15,160 --> 00:36:20,440

Since our broadcast, several strange developments have surfaced in this case. Friends and relatives

340

00:36:20,440 --> 00:36:24,440

of Mrs. Roberts have received more than a dozen telephone calls from a man who claims

341

00:36:24,440 --> 00:36:31,440

to be her kidnapper. He has demanded a ransom of \$185,000 and says that Doe Roberts is still

342

00:36:31,800 --> 00:36:32,400

alive.

343

00:36:33,400 --> 00:36:39,400

Melissa Lancaster received a call from the alleged kidnapper last December.

344

00:36:39,400 --> 00:36:44,920

He said he had Doe and that she was alive and I said, well, let me speak to her. He said,

345

00:36:44,920 --> 00:36:51,420

no, no, you ask questions. You ask three questions. He turned around after each one and asked someone

346

00:36:51,420 --> 00:36:55,920

to answer it and turned around and gave me the correct answer.

347

00:36:55,920 --> 00:36:59,720

Hello?

348

00:36:59,720 --> 00:37:05,760

This is an audio tape of a ransom call made on December 14, 1992. The caller always uses

349

00:37:05,760 --> 00:37:08,760

a fake, exaggerated Asian accent.

350

00:37:08,760 --> 00:37:15,760

You'll listen to the second part of the ritual. Eat these all. You want to stop this? What?

351

00:37:16,840 --> 00:37:21,600

Voice tests indicate that the caller is a middle-aged white male. In addition, several

352

00:37:21,600 --> 00:37:26,120

of his calls have cast suspicion on Doe Roberts' husband.

353

00:37:26,120 --> 00:37:33,120

In these phone calls, the caller was implicating Mr. Roberts as being responsible for the disappearance

354

00:37:33,120 --> 00:37:40,120

of his wife. The caller stated that Mr. Roberts had hired them to kidnap Doe and had not paid

355

00:37:41,560 --> 00:37:45,240

them the money that he owed them.

356

00:37:45,240 --> 00:37:52,240

Any implications that I was involved in the kidnapping of my wife is totally untrue. And

357

00:37:52,240 --> 00:37:59,240

I resent it. I love my wife. We were like one. We'd been together for 44 years and we

358

00:38:13,760 --> 00:38:20,760

was planning on another 44 years. It would be real nice if I could get my wife back.

359

00:38:21,480 --> 00:38:28,480

If the kidnapper were to see this and my wife is still alive, you let her go and I'll send

360

00:38:33,400 --> 00:38:40,400

you \$185,000 anywhere you want it. I'll do it secretly. If she's not alive and she

361

00:38:42,240 --> 00:38:49,240

did, you let me know where she's buried and I'll give you \$50,000 anywhere you want.

362

00:38:50,760 --> 00:38:57,760

On a previous broadcast, we presented the unsettling story of Athol Nation, a new

363

00:39:20,760 --> 00:39:27,080

nurse in San Antonio, Texas. During the 1950s and 60s, Nation allegedly operated a secret

364

00:39:27,080 --> 00:39:32,080

but lucrative enterprise in which he befriended young unwed mothers and then sold their babies

365

00:39:32,080 --> 00:39:36,880

for a profit.

366

00:39:36,880 --> 00:39:42,600

Our segment profiled the case of Donat Barker Lucier, who was adopted in 1966 by a childless

367

00:39:42,600 --> 00:39:49,640

couple in San Antonio. As a last desperate attempt, they had approached Athol Nation

368

00:39:49,640 --> 00:39:54,720

after years of trying to adopt through state agencies.

369

00:39:54,720 --> 00:40:01,720

There were bassinets and there were children. I think there were two twin boys and myself.

370

00:40:02,160 --> 00:40:08,080

My parents didn't, because they didn't expect that things would happen so quickly, they

371

00:40:08,080 --> 00:40:13,200

just thought they were going to go to see the baby but at that point Mrs. Nations told

372

00:40:13,200 --> 00:40:18,640

my parents that they could go ahead and take me home that night.

373

00:40:18,640 --> 00:40:23,080

When Donat turned 18, she began to search for her natural parents. She found that her

374

00:40:23,080 --> 00:40:29,080

mother's name was Gloria Cantu, the adoption papers had been notarized by Athol Nation.

375

00:40:29,080 --> 00:40:33,800

When Donat met with Nations, she was coldly informed that she should abandon her search

376

00:40:33,800 --> 00:40:37,680

because her mother had not wanted her in the first place.

377

00:40:37,680 --> 00:40:43,080

Your mother was a tramp. She didn't want you. She went there to have an abortion but it

378

00:40:43,080 --> 00:40:45,640

was just too late to have one.

379

00:40:46,640 --> 00:40:51,640

I don't understand what's happening. I told you you shouldn't have been messing around

380

00:40:51,640 --> 00:40:54,640

with something like this, you should have left well enough alone.

381

00:40:54,640 --> 00:40:59,640

Or how she could say that it hurt.

382

00:40:59,640 --> 00:41:05,640

On the night of our broadcast, several viewers called our telecenter on behalf of Donat's

383

00:41:05,640 --> 00:41:11,000

birth mother, Gloria Cantu Martinez of San Antonio, Texas. A short time later, Donat

384

00:41:11,000 --> 00:41:15,360

spoke to her mother for the very first time and learned that Gloria had never intended

385

00:41:15,360 --> 00:41:20,720

to give her up but had been tricked into signing the adoption papers. Donat was overjoyed

386

00:41:20,720 --> 00:41:26,720

to discover that Gloria wanted to see her as soon as possible.

387

00:41:26,720 --> 00:41:33,000

On November 9, 1992, Gloria flew to Washington, D.C. for a tearful reunion with Donat. For

388

00:41:33,000 --> 00:41:38,000

mother and daughter, it was an emotional end to 26 years of painful separation.

389

00:41:42,000 --> 00:41:51,000

When I was waiting for her to come out from the plane, I don't know, a million things

390

00:41:51,000 --> 00:42:01,000

were going through my mind. Just relief that it was over, that I was finally where I wanted

391

00:42:01,000 --> 00:42:05,000

to be after a long time of looking.

392

00:42:06,000 --> 00:42:27,000

I just couldn't believe it. That it was finally going to happen. What I always wanted. I've always wanted to find her and wonder what she was like.

393

00:42:28,000 --> 00:42:32,000

If she was married and she had any children.

394

00:42:36,000 --> 00:42:42,000

The reunion was made even more special when Gloria met her four grandchildren for the first time.

395

00:42:48,000 --> 00:42:53,000

Donat's dream of having her entire family together had finally come true.

396

00:42:57,000 --> 00:43:00,000

I don't know what she was like.

397

00:43:10,000 --> 00:43:15,000

In the past six months, 29 restaurants in the Vallejo, California area have been robbed at gunpoint.

398

00:43:15,000 --> 00:43:22,000

Authorities believe that the robberies are the work of a marauding street gang known to operate in northern California.

399

00:43:22,000 --> 00:43:29,000

To date, no innocent bystanders have been seriously injured, but police fear that if the holdups continue, violence is inevitable.

400

00:43:32,000 --> 00:43:42,000

The assault style robberies typically occur between 9 and 11 p.m. near closing time when the restaurant is virtually empty and the cash register is full.

401

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

Move! Get on the floor! Get on the floor!

402

00:43:48,000 --> 00:43:55,000

Police believe that in all, there may be as many as six to eight pizza bandits who usually operate

in rotating teams of two.

403

00:43:55,000 --> 00:43:57,000

Just stand up right there!

404

00:43:57,000 --> 00:44:00,000

Nobody moves, nobody freaks! Shut up!

405

00:44:00,000 --> 00:44:05,000

When the two robbers came in, they were just ordering us around, telling us to open things up.

406

00:44:05,000 --> 00:44:09,000

So if things weren't fast enough, they'd curse and tell us to do it quicker.

407

00:44:09,000 --> 00:44:13,000

So we just gave them the stuff and hoped they'd hurry up and leave.

408

00:44:13,000 --> 00:44:18,000

From the time they came in to the time they left, it probably took about two minutes.

409

00:44:18,000 --> 00:44:20,000

Alright man, I got it! Come on, let's go man!

410

00:44:20,000 --> 00:44:26,000

It was frightening, the fact that they have guns right there, they could just kill you if they wanted to.

411

00:44:26,000 --> 00:44:30,000

Some of the language they've used during the commission of these has been very specific.

412

00:44:30,000 --> 00:44:37,000

They've used terms such as don't make this a 187, which in California is the penal code section for murder.

413

00:44:37,000 --> 00:44:45,000

The pattern was fairly consistent throughout in that it involved generally two black males that would enter an establishment.

414

00:44:45,000 --> 00:44:50,000

They always wore masks, they're generally of the knit cotton ski mask type.

415

00:44:50,000 --> 00:44:57,000

Weapons have varied from handguns, revolvers, semi-automatics to more recently, oozy type weapons.

416

00:44:57,000 --> 00:45:03,000

They've gone so far as to strike people on the side of the head with the handguns, kick them when they're down.

417

00:45:03,000 --> 00:45:07,000

Whether or not they're going to get more aggressive, we always fear that.

418

00:45:07,000 --> 00:45:11,000

We don't want to encourage giving them any opportunity to escalate that.

419

00:45:11,000 --> 00:45:14,000

We don't want to see anyone acting as a hero or taking them on.

420

00:45:14,000 --> 00:45:16,000

I got it man, come on, let's go!

421

00:45:16,000 --> 00:45:23,000

The robbers seem familiar with the layout of each individual target and go about their business with brisk cold efficiency.

422

00:45:23,000 --> 00:45:30,000

Within minutes the thieves have vanished, leaving police with almost no clues, only a handful of terrified victims.

423

00:45:32,000 --> 00:45:38,000

On January 3rd, 1992, authorities finally got a break in the pizza bandit case.

424

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

A reputed member of the Vallejo gang was arrested moments after the robbery of a restaurant in nearby Fremont, California.

425

00:45:45,000 --> 00:45:51,000

The FBI has now joined in the investigation because a gang has also been linked to several bank robberies in the area.

426

00:45:51,000 --> 00:45:57,000

Two suspected gang members have been charged in connection with one of the bank holdups and are now in custody.

427

00:45:59,000 --> 00:46:02,000

Authorities believe there are at least five bandits still at large.

428

00:46:02,000 --> 00:46:05,000

All are thought to be black males in their twenties.

429

00:46:05,000 --> 00:46:08,000

All should be considered armed and dangerous.

430

00:46:21,000 --> 00:46:24,000

The end

431

00:46:32,000 --> 00:46:37,000

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