FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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FOI/PA# 1470030-000

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FD-340a (Rev. 11-12-89)

(Title) Unsub
Claude A. Hawkins - Victim

(File No.) 70A-CI-60437

Item	Date Filed	To be returned Yes	To be returned No		Disposition
				See Subfile 1A	

70A-CI-60437-1A

SEARCHED INDEXED
SERIALIZED FILED
APR 07 1992
FBI — CINCINNATI

b6
b7C

Memorandum

To : SAC, CINCINNATI (70A-CI-60437) (P) Date 3/18/92

From : SA [redacted] b6 b7C

Subject: UNSUB;
CLAUDE A. HAWKINS-VICTIM
CGR-MURDER
OO: CI

On 3/14/92, victim was fishing in the area of the Wills Creek Dam when he was shot and killed by an unknown subject. The land where the victim was killed is on the U.S. Army's Corps of Engineers' property in Coshocton, Ohio, and is federally owned property.

It is requested that this case be opened and assigned to SA [redacted] b6 b7C

2 - Cincinnati

[redacted] b6 b7C

R-6 [redacted]
OPA 70A

70A-CI-60437-1

SEARCHED [redacted] INDEXED [redacted] b6 b7C
SERIALIZE FILED
MAR 18 1992
FBI - CINCINNATI
[redacted]

Indices Search Slip
FD-160 (Rev. 7-28-89)

Date

Requested by:

To: Office Services Manager

Ext. | Squad: | File No. 70A-CI-60437

Subject: UNSUB; Claude A. Hawkins - victim

Social Security Account #

Aliases

Address	Birth Date	Birth Place	Race	Sex ☐ Male ☐ Female

☐ Exact Spelling ☐ Main Criminal Case Files Only ☐ Restrict Locality of
☐ All References ☐ Criminal References Only
☐ Main Security Case Files Only ☐ Main Security *(If no Main, list all Security References)*
☐ Security References Only ☐ Main Criminal *(if no Main, list all Criminal References)*

☒ **General Indices:** ☒ NEG ☐ POS Searched by [redacted] 3/19/92 Date	☐ **ISIS:** ☐ NEG ☐ POS Searched by Date
☐ **Confidential Indices:** ☐ NEG ☐ POS Searched by Date	☐ **OCIS:** ☐ NEG ☐ POS Searched by Date
☐ **ELSUR Indices:** ☐ NEG ☐ POS Searched by Date	☐ **IIS:** ☐ NEG ☐ POS Searched by Date
☒ **FOIN** ☒ NEG ☐ POS Searched by [redacted] 3/19/92 Date	☐ **MICRO:** ☐ NEG ☐ POS Searched by Date
☐ **GLOBAL:** ☐ NEG ☐ POS Searched by Date	☐ **REGIONAL:** ☐ NEG ☐ POS Searched by Date

Place an "X" by the Field Office(s) to Query for Regional Searches.

Northeast
- ☐ Albany
- ☐ Bern Switzerland
- ☐ Bonn Germany
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- ☐ All above

Mid-Atlantic
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- ☐ Springfield
- ☐ St. Louis
- ☐ All above

Western
- ☐ Albuquerque
- ☐ Anchorage
- ☐ Butte
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- ☐ Phoenix
- ☐ Portland
- ☐ Sacramento
- ☐ Salt Lake City
- ☐ San Diego
- ☐ San Francisco
- ☐ Seattle
- ☐ All above

File & Serial Number	Remarks	File & Serial Number	Remarks

Consolidated by Date

Reviewed by Date

File Review Symbols
I - Identical
NI - Not identical
? - Not identifiable
U - Unavailable reference

FBI/DOJ

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70A-CI-60437

[redacted] b6 b7C

The following investigation was conducted by SA [redacted]:

On March 16, 1992, SA [redacted] attended the autopsy of CLAUDE A. HAWKINS at the Franklin County Morgue, 520 King Avenue, Columbus, Ohio. The autopsy was performed by [redacted]. Also present at the autopsy were Detective [redacted], Coshocton County Sheriff's Department and Investigator [redacted], Coshocton County Prosecutors Office. b6 b7C

[redacted] indicated his initial findings supported the belief the victim died of a single gunshot wound to the back. b6 b7C

On March 17, 1992, SA [redacted] contacted [redacted] Project Supervisor, U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, Wills Creek Lake #49320, Coshocton, Ohio, 43812, work telephone [redacted]. [redacted] confirmed homicide victim CLAUDE A. HAWKINS was in fact killed on U.S. Government land.

On 3/18/92, SA [redacted] interviewed [redacted] at her apartment in Columbus, Ohio, with Det. [redacted], Coshocton Sheriff's Office. [redacted] is the sister of homicide victim CLAUDE A. HAWKINS. [redacted] has no idea who would want to kill her brother but does not believe it was racially motivated. b6 b7C

On March 19, 1992, SA [redacted] met with Det.'s [redacted] and [redacted], Coshocton County Sheriff's Office, at the PPG COMPANY in Mansfield, Ohio. Interviewed were approximately 10 co-workers of homicide victim CLAUDE A. HAWKINS. No information of significant value was obtained in the interviews with the co-workers as far as who killed HAWKINS. b6 b7C

Also interviewed on March 19, 1992, were the following individuals in Mansfield, Ohio:

1. [redacted], wife of victim CLAUDE A. HAWKINS, and son [redacted]
2. [redacted], sister of victim HAWKINS.
3. [redacted], sister of victim HAWKINS.

b6 b7C

All of the above individuals provided background information on victim HAWKINS. None of the above believed victim HAWKINS was killed for racially motivated reasons.

70A-CI-60437-2
SEARCHED [redacted] INDEXED [redacted]
SERIALIZED [redacted] FILED [redacted]
MAR 25 1992
FBI - CINCINNATI [redacted]
b6 b7C

70A-CI-60437

[redacted]

b6
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The attached document was received from Detective [redacted], Coshocton County Sheriff's Office, Coshocton, Ohio.

This document is a copy of the statement given by [redacted], wife of homicide victim CLAUDE A. HAWKINS, on March 15, 1992.

b6
b7C

70A-CI-60437-3
SEARCHED [redacted] INDEXED
SERIALIZED [redacted] FILED
MAR 25 1992
FBI - CINCINNATI [redacted]

b6
b7C

[redacted] Interview
March 15, 1992

b6
b7C

Todays dates, March the 15th, 1992. The times approximately 10:11 AM. Present is myself, Detective [redacted] and also [redacted]. We're present at Union Hospital in Dover. [redacted] you are aware this conversation is being taped?

[redacted]: Yes, unhun

b6
b7C

[redacted]: OK. Uhh. And I have prior to turning the tape on you signed a uhmm, piece of paper thats in times waiving consent to speak and you did sign your signature to that at approximately 10:10 AM, is that correct?

[redacted]: Yes

[redacted]: OK. Uhm, your date of birth [redacted].

b6
b7C

[redacted]: [redacted]

[redacted]: OK, and this questioning is concerning the death of your husband. How long where you married to him?

[redacted]: Twenty eight years.

[redacted]: OK. Can you, can you kind of start back at the beginning. Where you meet. Where you lived. You know things like that.

b6
b7C

[redacted]: Well, I lived on [redacted] in Mansfield. He was a ice cream worker. Worked down the street at the ice cream. We meet that way. And started to see each other.

[redacted]: OK. Right out of High School? Before High School?

[redacted]: Before High School, because I was married, uh at fifteen he was nineteen.

b6
b7C

[redacted]: OK. Uhh, children in the family. How many do you have and

b6
b7C

[redacted]: Four living and one miscarriage.

[redacted]: OK. Uhh, the approximately ages if you know them and their sex of the children at this present time.

[redacted]: Uhh, [redacted] - female; [redacted] - male

[redacted]: OK, his name

[redacted]: The twenty three - male?

[redacted]: Yes

b6
b7C

[redacted]: [redacted].

[redacted]: OK, and the female's name

[redacted]: [redacted]

[redacted]: OK

[redacted]: And uhm, [redacted] he uhh [redacted]. And [redacted] is [redacted]. (inaudible)

b6
b7C

[redacted]: OK. That's alright. Uhh, place of employment for your husband.

[redacted]: PPG

[redacted]: OK. PPG stand for Pittsburg Plate Glass?

[redacted]: Yea

[redacted]: And that is in Crestline Ohio.

b6
b7C

[redacted]: Umhum.

[redacted]: His occupation there.

[redacted]: Uhh, inspects glass. You know he ran this big furnace.

b6
b7C

He had to get it started, once began it run all week. He had to get it started at the beginning of the week. Then he inspects certain glass. That's all

[redacted]: How long has he been employed there?

[redacted]: Uhh, about twenty five years.

[redacted]: Always at the same job? Or different jobs?

[redacted]: Different jobs. One time he was line operator. One time he was in quality control. Different things over the years.

b6
b7C

[redacted]: OK, what shift was he presently working?

[redacted]: When we first, ohh, uhm third shift.

[redacted]: Third shift. What time would he normally go to work and what time would he normally be home,

[redacted]: He leave for work around 11:15 and get home around 8:10. But his shift was like midnight to eight****

b6
b7C

[redacted]: I guess I kind of got you off the track there. You meet when you were just prior to being fifteen and married at fifteen. Always had lived in the City of Mansfield or in that area? Uhh, have you ever been in any criminal trouble.

[redacted]: Never.

[redacted]: OK, had Claude ever been in any criminal trouble?

b6
b7C

[redacted]: Just once when he was about nineteen. He stole some tires that the only thing he had thirty days in jail for that.

[redacted]: OK., in the City of Mansfield?

[redacted]: Yes

[redacted]: OK, uhh petty theft or grand theft?

[redacted]: I think petty theft.. I nope, why don't I ** thirty days

[redacted]: And what else..

[redacted]: county jail I don't know

[redacted]: That could be either. He could have got that that a sentence he could have got a year. When he was nineteen that happened? b6 b7C

[redacted]: Yea, well maybe a little.. weren't quite, we weren't married just yet. It go back about eighteen.

[redacted]: Would have been adult. well he did time in the county jail.

[redacted]: Yea he would have been an adult

[redacted]: Did that time at the Mansfield Police Department? b6 b7C

[redacted]: Yea I think so

[redacted]: Only trouble that he has been in as far as you know? Uhh any major problems in the family over the last twenty five years between you and him or you or him and anyone else in the immediate family?

[redacted]: For instances

[redacted]: Having a rather uhh I'm not saying you know having a disagreement. But having a disagreement to the point that blows were struck or somebody hadn't spoken to somebody for for months in time or years on the time. b6 b7C

[redacted]: Not years we just like any other married couple, you know. Go for a few days and nights before. Uhm

[redacted]: Separated for any extended period of time

[redacted]: No we never separated

b6
b7C

[redacted]: Any problems uhh, between Claude and the children

[redacted]: Nothing..

[redacted]: Major..

[redacted]: Nothing he loves the children. He would have died for them

[redacted]: Uhh, I guess we are up to the present. Anybody that you know of that would do this to Claude.

[redacted]: Not that I know of. Why, if you do an investigation of people we know, as a family, and Claude was very likeable. He was very quiet. This was all he did. Fishing. He liked working on cars. Other than that anybody get along with Claude. He has a very easy going personality. As******* what went on at work. I am assuming he was the same way at work.

b6
b7C

[redacted]: You could never had anybody tell you anything different than what you know personally

[redacted]: No.. It it could be several people at work and that we know could verify what I'm saying about him.

[redacted]: OK, Uhh, a gentlemen by the name of [redacted] called the Sheriff's Department last nite. I take it that was a close friend of his. Because somebody from the family called him.

b6
b7C

[redacted]: Yea, I asked him if he seen Claude the day before, or yesterday. When we first got the report. I understood the car was missing. And so we was trying to figure out either Claude went up there with someone

[redacted]: And left his car to be worked on or something...

[redacted]: No, no no.

b6
b7C

[redacted]: OK

[redacted]: Either, either went up there with someone and had a problem and they shot him. And took the car. And I was trying to find out if he told him who he has going with. If he was going with anyone. They said no they hadn't..they saw Claude the day before. They didn't see him yesterday though.

[redacted]: OK, we have [redacted] name and address. Anybody else similar to [redacted] that might know that Claude might talk to at work or someplace else.

b6
b7C

[redacted]: Why he was close to this other guy [redacted]. All I know is his name is [redacted] now. [redacted] knows him. They all worked on cars together.

[redacted]: OK, you say his names ...

[redacted]: All I know about him is [redacted]

[redacted]: OK, might be a nickname..

b6
b7C

[redacted]: It is a nickname..

[redacted]: OK

[redacted]: but they, Claude close, Claude like him alot a great deal.

[redacted]: OK, did he drink? Was he a drinker?

[redacted]: He drank, he drank beer. He wasn't a drinker you know what I mean. I don't ..not, when he go over there I think I think he drank beer you know how they...

[redacted]: I mean he, he didn't come, get off work on Friday, uhm well it'll be...

b6
b7C

[redacted]: Friday

[redacted]: I guess,

b6
b7C

[redacted]: Friday

[redacted]: Friday morning and go to the bar and spend his

[redacted]: No

[redacted]: paycheck drinking away in the bar..

[redacted]: No. Claude never went to a bar.. b6 b7C

[redacted]: OK..

[redacted]: never went to a bar

[redacted]: OK..

[redacted]: never went to a bar.

[redacted]: Uhh, you mention [redacted]. Anybody else that, anybody from work you know. Names that was close to Claude. b6 b7C

[redacted]: You'll find that Claude was a very quiet, secretive person. Uhh, so much so that uh he was type of person just go off and say, that was the reason why I didn't worry yesterday. Cause people that have known him over the years know that hes done that. He'll leave from work. He he's been known to leave straight from work. Go fishing for all day. Then come home.

[redacted]: Would be unusual if he didn't come home though, that something might be wrong?

[redacted]: If he didn't come home at all, yea something... b6 b7C

[redacted]: Or call and tell you he would have broke down, he would at least tell you that he wasn't going to be home. Or he would generally come home.

[redacted]: Sometime. Most of the time he would call and go fish because he would be too far away usually, you know, stop to make any phone calls, but. He just go and

b6
b7C

come back home when he got ready. Thats just the way things were done with us.

[redacted]: OK, the last time you saw him..

[redacted]: When he died?

[redacted]: when was?

[redacted]: Was when he got up yesterday morning.

[redacted]: OK, and the approximate time if you know.

b6
b7C

[redacted]: Imagine about five. Five thirty-six. And he uh, just got out of bed and I think he fix, he fixed oh, himself some breakfast and he left. Thats the last time I saw him.

[redacted]: OK, do you know what, what he had for breakfast?

[redacted]: I think eggs. Eggs and bacon, thats what he had.

[redacted]: OK, did you fix that, or do he normally fix it for himself.

[redacted]: He fixed it for himself.

b6
b7C

[redacted]: OK, you, you got up with him or you stayed in bed?

[redacted]: I stayed in bed.

[redacted]: Uhh, did you know where he was going when he left the house yesterday morning?

[redacted]: I don't question Claude about where he going.

b6
b7C

[redacted]: Did you know he was going fishing?

[redacted]: No I didn't know.

[redacted]: OK, would that have been unusual for him to get up

b6
b7C

that early on Saturday morning and not go fishing? Would he went, would he get normal on a Saturday morning that early and go to the garage?

[redacted]: Yea he has done that.

[redacted]: OK. you did't know where he was going when he left the house yesterday?

b6
b7C

[redacted]: No. Cause the night before he was over to the garage after, I don't know exactly what time he went over there. It must have been sometime after he got out, but he didn't get back home until about eight thirty or nine o'clock. He was over at the garage.

[redacted]: Did he, did tell you what was going on at the garage I mean..

[redacted]: No, he don't, he don't. Claude don't discuss things like that. He was a quiet. He, he was a, what do you call it, introvert?, you know a person that always kept things ...

b6
b7C

[redacted]: To himself

[redacted]: Yea

[redacted]: After he left yesterday. Can you, who else was at the house yesterday when he left. Do some of the children still live at home?

[redacted]: Oh, my son, my [redacted] year old son and my [redacted] year old daughter.

b6
b7C

[redacted]: OK, uhm, they were still home. Did they know that dad got up yesterday morning. I mean, were they up?

[redacted]: No they were not up.

[redacted]: at that early. What time would you got out of bed

b6
b7C

then? After five or five-thirty when he left.

[redacted]: Probably about oh a little before eight. Because my son and I worked out at a gym. We went and worked out at a gym. And it doesn't open up till nine. So we left. We got there maybe about quarter after nine.

[redacted]: At the gym?

[redacted]: At the gym.

b6
b7C

[redacted]: OK, uh, the son's name that was with you at the gym.

[redacted]: [redacted].

[redacted]: Got up, got dress and maybe had breakfast went to the gym.

[redacted]: I didn't have anything..

[redacted]: OK, what time would you have got home from the gym?

[redacted]: About eleven.

b6
b7C

[redacted]: What did you do after eleven?

[redacted]: I cleaned usually come home and clean. Usually and went to Wal-Mart.

[redacted]: OK, while you were home...

[redacted]: As a matter of fact I bought this outfit. Went Wal-Mart and bought this outfit.

[redacted]: OK, in between the time from when you come home from the gym and went to Wal-Mart with the children, the one, [redacted] was with you. Were was the daughter did she stay home...

b6
b7C

[redacted]: Both children was with with me all day.

b6
b7C

[redacted]: Did the daughter go to the gym too?

[redacted]: No she don't go to the gym.

[redacted]: OK, when you went to Wal-Mart then [redacted] and the daughter both went to Wal-mart with you..

[redacted]: No, no no. (inaudible) wouldn't come.

[redacted]: OK, what time would you say you left for Wal-Mart? b6 b7C

[redacted]: Maybe about, I can't be specific, it had, well around noon. Twelve thirty or one, somewhere along in there. I can't really...

[redacted]: OK, the Wal-Mart right there in Mansfield?

[redacted]: It's outside of Mansfield in Ontario. You know where Crestline is?

[redacted]: I have know idea, I'm completely lost. But thats...

[redacted]: Thats going like its going uhm, toward Toledo, you know if your going toward Toledo its going in that direction. b6 b7C

[redacted]: OK, what town is the Wal-Mart in?

[redacted]: Ontario.

[redacted]: How long were you at Wal-Mart?

[redacted]: Not very long. Just long enough to get one outfit and pay for it.

[redacted]: Thats basically the only thing you got on, I mean the only thing you bought is is the outfit you have on. b6 b7C

[redacted]: Yea

[redacted]: OK, uhh what did you do when you left Wal-Mart?

b6
b7C

[redacted]: I came home.

[redacted]: Any the children home when you got home?

[redacted]: They were both out, not at home.

[redacted]: Approximate time you would have got back home?

[redacted]: Ohh these times, uhm about two, two thirty? I'm not sure so...

[redacted]: Thats, you you tell me to the best of your recollection and..

[redacted]: Cause nobody looks at their watch when they do things, you know...

b6
b7C

[redacted]: I understand what you, its Saturday you don't look at your watch on Saturday. Uhh, so where at two thirty three o'clock what was the remainder of the day.

[redacted]: Making beds.

[redacted]: Children stay home all day long?

[redacted]: And the reason why they stayed home all day long cause [redacted] had stayed up that night until about two or three in the morning. He went he watch the midnight movies. And he was getting ready to uhm, leave yesterday when the police came along side and told him about his dad you know so.....

[redacted]: That would have been the first, the second time he left the, the first time he would have left with with you when you went to the gym so that would have been the second time that you know of

b6
b7C

[redacted]: Yes, yes, unhun..

[redacted]: You don't know if he left the house while you were gone at Wal-Mart.

b6
b7C

[redacted]: I'm pretty sure because we only have the one. We have two cars. That run, you know that runs and uhh I had one and Claude had the other one. [redacted] also had has his license under suspension. He doesn't happen to have those back yet. So no, I he wouldn't have left.

[redacted]: So basically beside the gym and wal-mart uhm

[redacted]: (inaudible)

[redacted]: up until the time the patrolman from the police department came over you never left the house.

[redacted]: I went to Krogers to get hot sauce, I only had fish and I got hot sauce later on that afternoon.

b6
b7C

[redacted]: OK, this would have been after Wal-Mart and prior to supper?

[redacted]: Yea

[redacted]: And prior to the Officers arriving.

[redacted]: Yes

[redacted]: Went to Krogers

[redacted]: Yes

b6
b7C

[redacted]: Approximate time?

[redacted]: Make it about five o'clock.

[redacted]: OK, went by yourself?

[redacted]: Yes

[redacted]: Only bought one..

[redacted]: Hot sauce..

b6
b7C

[redacted]: that was it.

[redacted]: Cause they don't like to eat fish without hot sauce.

[redacted]: And that was only thing you bought at the store?

[redacted]: Yea

[redacted]: None of the kids went with you to the store?

[redacted]: No

b6
b7C

[redacted]: Got back home around what time?

[redacted]: I did take maybe twenty five minutes because the store is right down the street Krogers from where I live.

[redacted]: Back home by five thirty?

[redacted]: Yea

[redacted]: Talk to anybody at the grocery store?

b6
b7C

[redacted]: No more than the check out people, they all know me...

[redacted]: They know you

[redacted]: over there. They know they know me when I walk in.

[redacted]: OK, what about Wal-Mart? See anybody, know anybody..

[redacted]: I saw a girl I went to school with, she could verify that I was there. People down at the gym could verify that me and my son was down there.

[redacted]: OK, the girl at Wal-Mart the friend, her name.

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[redacted]: [redacted]

[redacted]: Spelling on the last name, if you know it.

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[redacted]: [redacted]

[redacted]: Do you know where she lives at now.

[redacted]: Uhh, (inaudible) road Mansfield, Ohio.

[redacted]: OK, her husband's name. if shes married, if you know

[redacted]: [redacted]

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[redacted]: OK, her..

[redacted]: same address

[redacted]: her approximate age?

[redacted]: She is my age. [redacted], going on [redacted].

[redacted]: Type of car that you were driving yesterday.

[redacted]: Uhh, the green buick century. That's about eighty-two.

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[redacted]: Eighty-two. Register to you? Or....

[redacted]: It was register to my daughter, [redacted].

[redacted]: OK, and her last name is the same as yours?

[redacted]: Yes

[redacted]: OK, you don't know the license plate number.

[redacted]: Not off hand.

b6
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[redacted]: OK, two door, four door?

[redacted]: Four door.

[redacted]: OK, and I I don't remember - you told me a brand name of the car, did you tell me the type?

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[redacted]: Century?

[redacted]: Yea, Buick Century

[redacted]: Buick Century.

[redacted]: OK, green in color.

[redacted]: Yea, dark green

b6
b7C

[redacted]: OK, do you work any place?

[redacted]: No

[redacted]: Ever work anyplace?

[redacted]: Yea

[redacted]: What last place of employment?

[redacted]: I had different jobs. I worked for Mansfield City Schools for amount a few months. (inaudible) I think that was it.

b6
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[redacted]: That would have been the last one?

[redacted]: Yea.

[redacted]: So Mansfield Schools would have some kind of records on ya..

[redacted]: Yea

[redacted]: as for employment. Prior , prior to that...

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[redacted]: SuperX, I worked for SuperX for a while.

[redacted]: A drug store. Is that a drug store?

[redacted]: Yes

b6
b7C

[redacted]: OK, the longest place of employment you ever worked?

[redacted]: Thermadisk and that was way way way back. WAY...

[redacted]: OK, the name of it again.

[redacted]: Thermadisk, they make disk.

[redacted]: OK, a big plant in Mansfield then or.

[redacted]: Yea, its a medium size plant. (inaudible) of Mansfield.

b6
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[redacted]: How long did you work there, and approximately what time period are we talking?

[redacted]: We're talking like uhh, like uhh, between [redacted] and [redacted]. Cause my daughter was first (inaudible) was born she born in [redacted]. And I worked up until it was time became pregnant with (inaudible) second child which would have been in [redacted] so between those years

b6
b7C

[redacted]: OK, you called. Somebody called [redacted] yesterday.

[redacted]: I called him.

[redacted]: Anybody else that you notified yesterday besides the family members.

[redacted]: That's all.

[redacted]: That's the only out outside person? OK.

b6
b7C

[redacted]: Cause the only reason why I done it because. The fact that someone told me that the car was missing. And the only explanation that I could figure, could figure out that Claude went up there with someone.

[redacted]: OK

b6
b7C

[redacted]: And then shot him then took the car, you know.

[redacted]: OK, any of his fishing, you know any of his fishing buddies, or did he have a fishing buddy that he might go with, you know on a regular basis fishing with.

[redacted]: I'm not sure. Because if he did he would have picked probably left the house and picked them up. You know on the way. But I'm not sure that. Like I say he doesn't talk about. The the only reason why I know a little bit about ah this [redacted] because he would do alot of work on other peoples cars and I had had to go over there occasionally, you know.

[redacted]: [redacted] would do the work on, or Claude would do.

[redacted]: Claude, uhm, see, the one I'm talking about [redacted]. Thats the son. The father Claude was real closer. Well he passed away about six months ago.

b6
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[redacted]: OK, I think [redacted], [redacted] the boy is who I talked to.

[redacted]: Yea, [redacted], [redacted], OK. And his dad is Billy. And he passed away about six months ago. But Claude was still going over there, you know if him and [redacted] had a job to do. He was still going over there. If someone wanted them to work on a car. Or Claude had something to do with his. Yesterday he did mention that he wanted to put a radio in his car. Thats why he was over there the day before.

[redacted]: Does, do, was there a radio in the car. I mean, is there one in there that is broke or he he needs to put there. he needed to put one in it?

[redacted]: I don't know why he wanted to put one in. I thought it played fine. I don't drive because I I don't like driving a standard shifts to well. But I don't really mess with his car not unless I have to.

b6
b7C

[redacted]: From the computer records. His drivers license are

b6
b7C

suspended or he doesn't have a drivers license.

[redacted]: Yea, he its suspended. Like [redacted].

[redacted]: Can you tell me why they are suspended.

[redacted]: Because [redacted] had an accident. Just a fenderbender but we didn't have the insurance to cover it and so when they went to court [redacted] license was suspended and so was Claudes license.

[redacted]: Because it was Claude's car that he had the accident in.

[redacted]: Yea.

[redacted]: Do you know if there is an insurance policy on Claude. Do you do you have an insurance policy?

b6
b7C

[redacted]: Would PPG?

[redacted]: Through the plant.

[redacted]: Unhun, thats the only one he had.

[redacted]: OK, he don't have no personal policy.

[redacted]: No

[redacted]: Do you know what the amount is at the plant?

[redacted]: Two hundred fifty thousand dollars, I think.

[redacted]: OK. Claude's medical history, anything medical wise, major heart attacks, diabetic, uh anything along that line thats out of the ordinary?

b6
b7C

[redacted]: The only problem that he ever had was sinus. And he never been in the hospital. Uhm, oh well he has a little ulcer or a little burning in his chest at one point. But thats it. Now.

b6
b7C

[redacted]: OK

[redacted]: Nothing, nothing real serious he always kept going except at times the sinuses would get real bad.

[redacted]: He wore glasses.

[redacted]: Yea

[redacted]: Regularly? Only to drive? Only to do certain things?

b6
b7C

[redacted]: Regularly.

[redacted]: Had to wear them? What, do you know what his eye problem was, near sighted, far sighted?

[redacted]: Humm, I don't know. Is it near sighted, I guess when you had to read with them? When you have to bring things up close.

[redacted]: I don't have glasses and I don't know the answer to that.

b6
b7C

[redacted]: Ahh, its when you have to bring things that you can't you have a hard time focusing, focusing on close.

[redacted]: But wore them regularly. Wore then to drive...

[redacted]: He he wore then all the time, yea yea

[redacted]: Uhh, he has a knot on his forehead.

[redacted]: I don't know what that is. That just came out, came up one day and it just seems to been there for a while.

[redacted]: How long would you say its been there?

b6
b7C

[redacted]: Ahh, six to eight months maybe. Maybe even a year. I don't know.

[redacted]: But not, were not talking twenty or thirty years

b6
b7C

[redacted]: No, no no

[redacted]: Just within in a years time here.

(hospital intercom)

[redacted]: Do you, do is there any weapons at the home?

[redacted]: We never had any guns in the house. Never.

[redacted]: Uhm, I'm going to ask the question you already basically gave an answer too, but I'm going to ask it very pointed uhh, Did you shoot your husband yesterday?

[redacted]: No

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[redacted]: Do you have any knowledge of who shot your husband yesterday?

[redacted]: No I don't.

[redacted]: Did you hire anybody to shoot your husband yesterday?

[redacted]: No

[redacted]: Is there anything that you would like to say on the tape before it is shut off?

[redacted]: I'm just very confused, very upset. Because I don't know why this could happen. Why somebody do this to him. That's all.

[redacted]: OK, the time is ten thirty-seven. The tape statement with [redacted] will end at this time.

b6
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Transcribed by: [redacted], Administrative Secretary
Coshocton County Sheriff's Department
March 17, 1992

FD-36 (Rev. 8-29-85)

FBI

TRANSMIT VIA:	PRECEDENCE:	CLASSIFICATION:
☐ Teletype	☐ Immediate	☐ TOP SECRET
☐ Facsimile	☐ Priority	☐ SECRET
☒ AIRTEL	☐ Routine	☐ CONFIDENTIAL
		☐ UNCLAS E F T O
		☐ UNCLAS

Date 3/30/92

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI
(ATTN: LABORATORY DIVISION - FIREARMS - TOOLMARKS UNIT)

FROM : SAC, CINCINNATI (70A-CI-60437)(CRA)(P)

SUBJECT: UNSUB;
CLAUDE A. HAWKINS - VICTIM;
CGR - MURDER
OO:CI

Re telcall to Firearms - Toolmarks Unit by SA [redacted] b6 b7C on 3/30/92.

Enclosed for the Laboratory under separate cover are bullet fragments recovered from the captioned victim's body.

REQUEST OF THE BUREAU

LABORATORY DIVISION - FIREARMS - TOOLMARKS UNIT

It is requested that the enclosed bullet fragments be analyzed to determine the caliber size of the bullet used to kill captioned victim.

Also determine what type of weapon was most likely used to commit the crime.

For information of the laboratory, victim was shot and killed by an unknown gunman while fishing on 3/14/92 at the WILLS CREEK DAM, Coshocton, Ohio, which is federally owned land. The victim, a 47 year old black male from Mansfield, Ohio, with no record or criminal history, was shot once in the back, possibly with a high powered rifle, with the bullet passing through the body and exiting the chest area. The fragments were discovered by Coshocton County Sheriff's Officers while processing the crime.

3 - Bureau
(1 - Package Copy) (Encl. 1)
(2) - Cincinnati

[redacted] b6 b7C

- 1 -

Sent to Bureau 3/30/92 RMH

70A-CI-60437-4

Approved: _____ Transmitted _____ (Number) (Time) Per _____

Searched [redacted]
Serialized [redacted]
Indexed [redacted]
Filed [redacted]

scene and were found inside the victim's jacket chest area without passing through the material. There are no suspects at this time, however, family members have not bee eliminated. There are also two unsolved homicides in nearby counties that bear strikingly similar characteristics. The Behavioral Science Unit at Quantico has been contacted and they are very interested in the cases and think there could be a serial murderer involved.

Due to the possibility that the captioned case could be related to others in surrounding counties and that the Behavioral Science Unit believes a strong possibility that the homicides have been committed by a serial murderer, it is requested that this matter be given a high priority and expeditiously handled.

Please contact SA [redacted], Columbus Resident Agency, Cincinnati Division, at FTS # 923-1283, should you require any additional information. b6 b7C

Memorandum

To : SAC, CINCINNATI (66F-3481) Date 3/30/92

From : SA [redacted] (CIA) b6 b7C

Subject : BUREAU AIRCRAFT OPERATIONS
REQUEST FOR USE OF BUREAU AIRCRAFT

It is requested that the use of Bureau aircraft be approved for the following:

☐ Communications Relay ☐ Command and Control ☐ Ground Search

☐ Assist other Agencies ☐ Protect Law Enforcement Personnel

☐ Title III support ☐ Undercover flight operations

☐ Executive Transportation ☐ Surveillance ☑ Aerial Photos

Brief description:
Aerial photos of several locations in three counties re multiple homicide.

Date(s) requested, or on or about: 4/10/92

Case file number; 70A-CI-60437

ASAC/SSA/SSRA APPROVAL
Aviation Coordinator [redacted]

1-66F-3481 sub A
1-case file 70A-CI-60437

☑ Telephonic/~~expedite~~ request 70A-CI-60437-5

b6 b7C

SEARCHED [redacted] INDEXED [redacted]
SERIALIZED [redacted] FILED [redacted]
MAR 11 1992
FBI — CINCINNA [redacted]

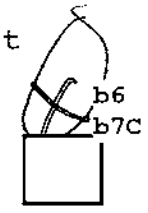
70A-CI-60437

[redacted] b6 b7C

The following investigation was conducted SA [redacted]:

On March 27, 1992, SA [redacted] went to Coshocton, Ohio, and met with Detective [redacted] and Captain [redacted] of the Coshocton County Sheriff's Office. The following items were discussed: b6 b7C

1. Investigation conducted by the Coshocton Sheriff's Office has revealed similarities to two other unsolved homicides in Tuscarawas County and Belmont County. The FBI's Behavioral Science Unit in Quantico was contacted by Captain [redacted] and at the request of the Unit, Capt. [redacted] will be going to Quantico to present the case to the Profiling Unit, date unknown.


b6 b7C

2. The recovered bullet fragment from victim CLAUDE HAWKINS' body was given to SA [redacted] by Det. [redacted] for submission to the FBI Laboratory Division to determine caliber and weapon type.

3. The Coshocton County Sheriff's Office is requesting FBI assistance in polygraphing [redacted] and possibly two other suspects for purposes of elimination. Attempts are being made to get SA [redacted], CI Division, to go to Coshocton for this purpose. No date has been set. b6 b7C

4. SA [redacted] will ensure that appropriate VICAP forms are completed for submission to the Bureau with regards to the homicides in Coshocton, Tuscarawas, and Belmont Counties. b6 b7C

5. SA [redacted] will contact the Corpus Christi, Texas, local and state police to determine the existence of any unsolved homicides in the area matching the characteristics of those in Ohio. This is reference to an individual who has ties to the Ohio and Texas areas and could possibly be a suspect in the Ohio homicides.

The attached reports and photographs were received from the Coshocton County Sheriff's Office.

70A-CI-60437-6
SEARCHED [redacted] INDEXED [redacted]
SERIALIZED [redacted] FILED [redacted]
APR 2 - 1992
FBI - CINCINNA [redacted]
b6 b7C

IMMEDIATE HOMICIDE INFORMATION
CLAUDE HAWKINS

Coshocton County Sheriff's Department received information on 3-14-92 at 17:33 hours that a black man had been found out at Wills Creek dead by two fishermen. One of the fishermen that found him went down to the road several miles to the store and called 9-1-1 while the other fisherman stayed there at the scene.

Upon arrival of officers, Mr. Hawkins was located down along the creek, apparently fishing. It was cold and windy. Rain blowing that day. Snowflakes in the air. Mr. Hawkins was dressed in a pair of coveralls. Underneath the coveralls: pants, sweat shirt, a blue jean jacket. Both the blue jean jacket and the sweat shirt had a hood on them. He also had a ball cap on. Hooked to his pants was a fish stringer, which was actually still in the water upon our arrival. On the fish stringer were two fish which were alive. His fishing pole and line were still in the water.

Mr. Hawkins's vehicle was up on the county road directly behind him, locked up. Laying on the front seat was a 35 mm camera and other items. Also in Mr. Hawkins's possession, on him, he had approximately $300.00 worth of cash, so robbery was immediately ruled out as a motive.

It appeared that Mr. Hawkins was shot with a high powered rifle. The bullet was recovered. Tentatively from the measurement done by us we're looking in the neighborhood of a 25 caliber, 257 diameter. We have a total weight collected of the bullet and fragments of 114.2 tenths grains.

Transcribed by: [redacted], **Administrative Secretary** b6
Coshocton County Sheriff's Department b7C
March 30, 1992.

VICTIMOLOGY

Claude Hawkins was born in West Virginia. Moved to Mansfield relatively early in his childhood life. Father died when when he was young. Mother worked outside the house. Basically was raised with the aide of an older sister that helped. There is 5 or 6 other kids in the family.

At the age of 19 married his present wife, [redacted]. She was 15 at the time of their marriage. Has four children alive. One child was miscarried. The oldest child being [redacted], female. Presently lives in Toledo, Ohio with her boyfriend. Goes to school at Bowling Green University. Is studying accounting there. The next child would be [redacted], also known as [redacted]. He lives in East Lansing, Michigan where he attends the University there studying criminology, to become a police officer. Those two children have been out of the house several years. Next child is [redacted]. He's [redacted] years old, a senior at Mansfield High School. Plays football there. The next child is [redacted], she is [redacted] years of age and still lives at the residence with [redacted] his mother, and prior to Claude's death, with her father.

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Claude appeared to have a relatively, at this point in the investigation, simple lifestyle. He worked midnight shift at Pittsburgh Plate & Glass at Crestline, about 10 miles away from where he lived. Worked 5 to 7 days a week, depending on what the shift requirements were on overtime. Was in an Inspector at the glass plant, meaning he inspected the glass.

When we went to the plant and talked with the personnel people there, they indicated that Claude was a good employee. Had no problem. Would have no intentions of firing him. Just felt that he was a good, valuable employee. Sick leave and attendance wise was not a problem, as a matter of fact he was given several accommodations for his attendance which would be an indicator that there was no substance abuse or serious substance abuse or problems with him.

Basically got off work and either went straight home or went fishing. We did interview about 10 to 12 people that he worked with including one or two supervisors, and the rest co-workers. Majority of the people described Claude as an easy going man. Relatively quiet, to himself. Never saw him verbally assault anybody. Would speak his peace of mind if he felt he was right, however did not believe that he would physically fight unless it was a very necessity. As a matter of fact if he had a choice to walk away from a confrontation, normally he would walk

away from it. Was described as somewhat of a loner, in his own thought process. Tried to keep as much stuff to himself as he could. Sort of somewhat secretive about his life. None of the people at the plant that we talked to could find any indications why anybody would want him dead. Said that basically three things, four things that he done. He worked. He enjoyed his kids. He fished. And he liked to take pictures with a 35 mm of the area that he fished. Nobody at the plant was really a friend so to speak. They all liked him.

Claude was involved with the Jehovah Witnesses for awhile. However, he smoked and they found out about it so the disfellowshipped him is what we heard, but nobody felt that, that was a real big issue, as far as at work. Said that if we wanted to know anything about him, probably the people to talk to would be his family. They would know more.

His income was in the neighborhood of 15 to 16 dollars an hour under straight time. Did work some overtime.

The two oldest kids that were in college basically he did help [redacted] get started going to school here awhile back but now she's under a grant and/or scholarship program. [redacted] is putting himself through school so at this point it did not seem that Claude was helping with income as far as the two oldest children in college. b6 b7C

Talking to the family, they indicated that basically he didn't frequent any bars. Had no use of drugs to their knowledge. Was not past drinking a beer or so with a few of his friends, but did not frequent any type of bar or lounge. Basically they did say it was quite common for Claude not to come home from work, to go straight fishing somewhere. And normally they didn't know where but usually he would show up in the evenings or in time to eat supper and go to sleep, and that this was not an every day occurrence but it did happen once or twice a week on a regular basis. Nobody normally knew where he was going fishing at, that type of thing.

He did participate in the athletic boosters at the Mansfield High School for his youngest son, [redacted], who was involved in the sports program there and was usually quite supportive in [redacted] endeavors in the extra curricular activities of sports at school, and tried to make as many games b6 b7C

as he possibly could make. Usually went by himself to these games and was unaccompanied by his wife.

Basically appeared to us from what we could gather that he was a relatively simple man in dress. Was not flamboyant. One of the other things he really liked to do I guess, was he went over to these people's garage that also lived in Mansfield. A little back yard garage in a low income area of town. People worked on their automobiles there. Hung out. He worked on his car there. We interviewed 4 people at that garage. Basically what they said was that he'd come over and in the summer time they stand around and pitch horse shoes and work on a few cars. In the winter time they'd start the heat in the garage and somebody would pull a car in and they'd work on it. Quite common for Claude to be over there 3 to 4 times a week, 2 or 3 hours a day. They felt that they knew him as well as anyone. Had no indication of why anybody would want him dead. Knew of no money he owed anybody or serious drug or alcohol problems. Didn't know too much about his family in regards to it. Had met them on occasion once or twice when they came over looking for him to get money or something to go shopping with. They didn't know where he fished at. Said it was not uncommon for Claude to show up one day and say well I was at the Maumee fishing today and I caught this or I was down on the Kokosing, or I was at Piedmont Lake. Said that he'd just take off and go fishing whenever the time suited him and he usually wouldn't tell anybody.

Could find no girlfriend of Claude. Could find at this time no boyfriend of his wife, [redacted]. b6 b7C

Claude, early in his life, at the age of about 18 did have one previous criminal history. He got caught for stealing a pair of tires and was arrested for petty theft and spent 30 days in city jail at Mansfield.

He drove two automobiles. Basically they were older cars. High mileage cars, that type of thing. Tried to keep them running.

Could find no significant trauma in his life. A death of a friend or family member or getting fired or threatened to get

fired or anything to that nature.

Were able to determine that Claude and his wife probably did not have the type of marriage that everybody would like to have. It appears to us, the investigators at this time, that the marriage was held together by the kids. Nobody including the family or friends of any signs of physical abuse from Claude or from [redacted]. Just felt there was probably not a lot of love there. That Claude went to work, went fishing and done what he wanted. I think [redacted] probably resented that but didn't, could not find a lot of love between Claude and [redacted] including in her statement, she admits that they had not talked about love and a matter of fact didn't talk a lot. They did get along. Would go for several days without talking to one another once in a while because they were mad about something, but basically just done what needed to be done. Went to work, took care of the kids, that type of thing. b6 b7C

In regards to his wife, she does not work. Goes to gym. Started going to an iron pumping gym in January of this year, working out. Basically could find no bars that she frequents, or anything in regards to that.

At this time this concludes the statement.

Transcribed by: [redacted], Administrative Secretary b6
Coshocton County Sheriff's Department b7C
March 27, 1992.

DESCRIPTION OF COSHOCTON COUNTY

The description of Coshocton County and the City of Coshocton in general is that Coshocton County covers roughly 542 square miles. Has a population base, including all villages and cities within its boundaries of about 36 to 37,000 people. The City of Coshocton has a population of about 12 or 13,000 of that total 36 to 37,000 figure.

Our county is basically a semi hilly area of southern Ohio presently with somewhat of a depressed economy. There is no major transportation systems in the area. We have one small community airport. They do land some business type jets, lears and etc. there but no major transportation system out of that. There is a railroad that runs through the county, however there is no service available for boarding passengers, only service to the local factories, etc.

Racial and ethic make up of Coshocton County is basically the majority being white populated, blue collar type of environment. Very few Hispanics or other oriental population people. Approximately 2,000 to 2,500 people make the black population in the county.

Main economic base would have to be farming and factories. There's approximately 30 to 40 local factories here, a lot of them relatively small that employ the majority of the county residents. Several of them are major factories, one being U.S. Cyclops which is a modern, updated all electric steel processing center. Also, Stone Container Paperboard. Pretty Products Rubber Queen. Edmont Glove, and the like. Basically some being union, some non-union.

Majority of people go out of town for any major shopping. Driving either to Newark, Zanesville, Columbus, or Akron-Canton area. There is no major malls or large shopping centers within the county boundaries of Coshocton. No Universities. No institutions either of prison or military bases.

Population held basically steady with maybe a slight decrease in the population since the early 50's.

Majority of the criminal activity in the community: We average probably one to two murders a year. Maybe three. The high has been seven in the last 20 years. We went several years without any. We have, like every other community, a significant drug problem. Basically marijuana is grown in this county in

large proportions. We use helicopters to radicate it. We have cocaine quite frequently in this county and this agency does make numerous arrests. The largest seizures we've ever done is that we've bought a pound of LSD, a relatively popular drug. There are also many bars within this community.

Most of the criminal activity in this community is basically vandalism, thefts, assaults, and until recently, and when I say recently = the last several years, did not have a lot of crimes against persons. More against property. Here in the last several years we feel we've noticed an increase in the number of purse snatchings: pushing elderly people down, grabbing their purses and run, along with more serious assaults and that type of thing, but nothing that most other communities in the area are not experiencing.

Transcribed by: [redacted], Administrative Secretary
Coshocton County Sheriff's Department
March 27, 1992

b6
b7C

CRIME SCENE DESCRIPTION
RE: WILLS CREEK DAM AREA -- CLAUDE A. HAWKINS

My name is Captain [redacted]. Coshocton County Sheriff's Department. The following is a description of the crime scene area where Claude A. Hawkins of Mansfield, Ohio was shot on March 14th, 1992. b6 b7C

General description of where he was shot just below Wills Creek Dam, along the bank. The area would be the tail waters below the dam. The fast moving current right below the dam, several hundred yards. Rocky area, lined with rock put in there by the U.S. Corps of Army Engineers to hold the banks in place from the fast moving current.

The dam area itself, it would up stream about 200 yards. As you're looking at the dam from the tail water side, not the lake side, there would be county road that would run parallel to the river, up an incline area to the dam. You can continue up that road which is County Road 274 and into Muskingum County or you can turn left and go across the dam face itself.

The area is basically a hilly region of the southern most part of our county, bordering Muskingum County. The majority of the ground and land around it has all been stripped by Peabody Coal Mining operation, starting back in the 50's to supply coal to the Columbus & Southern Electric Plant which also sits in our county down by the little village of Conesville.

As you come up County Road 274, as you're heading toward the dam the victim, Claude Hawkins, would be off to your left down over a pretty good incline. There's been paths cut down over that incline by the Army Corps of Engineers to allow fishing access to the area.

This area has been wrote up in the state magazines, such as Outdoor Life and etc. for its fishing potential, particularly for spring run Saugeye or Walleye fishing. Does get a lot of fishing pressure, also a lot of fishing pressure from out of county residents, particularly during the nice weather months.

Further describing the very immediate area, it's partially wooded down off the bank of County Road 274 to the water's edge where Claude was found, however if you look at the area, look at photographs taken from there, that most of the tree branches are cut up high, allowing relatively easy access for someone with a high powered rifle to shoot Claude from the county roadway on 274.

If you go up to the dam area itself and go across the top of dam, if you look at a picture, you have an unrestricted view down stream to where Claude was fishing of about 250 yards.

Across the river it's relatively a flat lying field for several hundred yards before it goes into old strip mine ground. That side of the river is lined with some trees back away from the river and some brush, 10 or 15 yards away from the river bank.

Further description of the crime scene area. There's several access ways into the crime scene itself. One of them being County Road 274 coming from the Conesville vicinity. If you're looking at the county map. Another would be to come down State Route 83, turn onto 429 which intersects with 274 and come into it that way. The third way would be to continue on down State Route 83 until you reach almost to the Muskingum County, Coshocton County line, turn right on to Township Road 15 which winds in along the lake itself. Winds in and out of Coshocton and Muskingum Counties, eventually ending up coming across the dam itself. The fourth way is coming in from Fern Cliff Road in Muskingum County. All four of these have limited access township or county highways with no direct state route into the area.

Transcribed by: [redacted], Administrative Secretary
Coshocton County Sheriff's Department
March 27, 1992.

b6
b7C

[redacted] PHONE INTERVIEW
RE: 92-579
MARCH 26, 1992

b6
b7C

[redacted]: Still there [redacted]? Hello [redacted].

[redacted]: Yeh.

[redacted]: Still there?

[redacted]: Yeh.

[redacted]: Okay, uh I'm going to put a leader here on the tape. The time's approximately 8:08 a.m. The date's March the 26th, 1992. This is Detective [redacted] and I'm talking to [redacted] uh [redacted]?

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[redacted]: That's right.

[redacted]: And, [redacted] you are aware this conversation is being taped?

[redacted]: Yeh.

[redacted]: And you're on a pay phone someplace in Millersburg, is that correct?

[redacted]: That's right.

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[redacted]: Okay. Uh, your present address [redacted].

[redacted]: [redacted], Zanesville, Ohio.

[redacted]: And a phone number there?

[redacted]: I have no phone.

[redacted]: Okay. On your statement you gave us on March the 14th, you had a different address and a phone number. Who would that be?

[redacted]: Well, which address did I give?

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b7C

[redacted]: [redacted].

[redacted]: Oh no, I didn't give that address, they uh. That's

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b7C

off my driver's license.

[redacted]: Okay.

[redacted]: And uh, I don't live there anymore at [redacted].

[redacted]: Okay, and the phone number is, I've already called it, is your ex-wife at a business. Is that correct?

[redacted]: That's right.

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[redacted]: Okay, and if she doesn't mind if I call her there, she has contact with you generally on a daily basis, is that correct?

[redacted]: Yeh, if you can put up with the answering machine, (laugh)

[redacted]: (laugh) Okay. Uh. Your date of birth [redacted].

[redacted]: [redacted].

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[redacted]: And your present occupation?

[redacted]: I'm a tree climber.

[redacted]: Okay, and you work for what company?

[redacted]: Tree Preservation.

[redacted]: And that's out of someplace, New York.

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b7C

[redacted]: Okay, something, I don't even know. I'm not an official employee for 6 months.

[redacted]: Uh, you and a gentleman by the name of [redacted] were in Coshocton County on March the 14th, 1992. Is that correct?

[redacted]: Yeh.

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[redacted]: And you were in the Wills Creek Dam area.

[redacted]: Uh-huh (meaning yes)

[redacted]: And you and [redacted] were going to go fishing but you had your daughter, who is age [redacted] with you, and you couldn't stop the first time through. Is that correct?

[redacted]: That's right.

[redacted]: And can you describe to me again as how you got into Wills Creek that day.

[redacted]: Uh, drove down uh where my girlfriend's house, drove down Stone Church Road and you follow that to the other road, and I'm not really sure what the name of it is, but there's an old coal belt, conveyor belt, and that's the only way I know it's right road. You turn uh left there. It takes you straight past Wills Creek Dam over to Bob's Bait Shop.

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[redacted]: Okay, when you're coming by the dam, the dam would then be on your right hand side?

[redacted]: Yeh, that's right.

[redacted]: And you don't actually go across the top of the dam, you come down along side of it?

[redacted]: Uh-huh (meaning yes)

[redacted]: Okay. Uh, what time would you say you were at Wills Creek Dam when you went by the first time?

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[redacted]: It was right around 4 o'clock.

[redacted]: Okay, and to your recollection you seen no cars or no people around there at that time?

[redacted]: I, I didn't see nothing. In fact I even, I commented

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b7C

on it cause it was like hey, we've got the whole place to ourselves.

[redacted]: Okay, and you went to Bob's Bait and bought a 12 pack of Busch beer you believe?

[redacted]: Yeh, it was Busch.

[redacted]: Okay, did you go in by yourself or did, did [redacted] go in with you?

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[redacted]: Uh, we went in together.

[redacted]: Okay. Uh. And your daughter would have been with you?

[redacted]: Yeh.

[redacted]: Okay. And you came back. Turned around and came back up by the dam uh what time would you say it would have been then?

[redacted]: Oh, it would have only been 15 minutes or so. We weren't there that long.

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b7C

[redacted]: Okay, and there again, you didn't see no cars or no people around?

[redacted]: No. Not that I, not that I recall. And, and I always look for that stuff cause I got, I got roughed up down there a couple weeks ago and uh I was making sure that, (inaudible) happen again.

[redacted]: Did you file a report here at the Sheriff's Department when you got roughed up?

[redacted]: Huh-uh (meaning no) It wasn't that serious.

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[redacted]: Was it somebody you knew?

[redacted]: I'm sorry?

b6
b7C

[redacted]: Was it somebody you knew that roughed you up or?

[redacted]: No uh. I was down there fishing by myself and uh bunch of uh I call them punks come around and, and uh they were using a lot of abusive language and uh I was trying to fish and I turned around and I told them to shut the blankity up and uh that was a bad move. Cause there was quite a few. There was probably 9, 10 of them and uh there was only me so they started kicking my, my stuff around. My tackle box and my bucket and I just picked up my stuff and left.

[redacted]: Okay. No blows were actually struck?

[redacted]: Oh no.

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[redacted]: Okay.

[redacted]: No, I, I wouldn't let that happen, if. If there had been 2 of them, yeh probably but that's why I took [redacted] with me. (laugh)

[redacted]: Okay. Uh, took your daughter back to your girlfriend's house and, and came back to Wills Creek. Is that correct?

[redacted]: Yeh, that's right.

[redacted]: What time would you say you got back to Wills Creek?

[redacted]: Uh. It was about 5:30.

[redacted]: Okay.

[redacted]: Around there.

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[redacted]: And at this time, the second trip...

[redacted]: ...(inaudible)

[redacted]: Yeh. This, at this time, the second trip back to the

b6
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dam, uh there were Sheriff's vehicles and ambulances and things like that already there, correct?

[redacted]: Yes, that's right.

[redacted]: And what, what did you do?

[redacted]: Walked down to go fishing. I didn't know. I mean, I didn't know what was going on. I thought somebody had an accident or a wreck or something.

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b7C

[redacted]: Okay.

[redacted]: Cause you couldn't see. They had everything blocked off.

[redacted]: Okay. And the type of vehicle you were in that day?

[redacted]: Uh it's a Mercury Marquis.

[redacted]: And it's a 2 tone black and gray?

[redacted]: Yeh it's also got 2 tone rust.

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[redacted]: Okay. Two door or four door?

[redacted]: Four door.

[redacted]: And it's registered to you?

[redacted]: Uh, yeh.

[redacted]: Do you know the license plate number by chance?

[redacted]: Uh, no I don't.

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b7C

[redacted]: Okay. Uh, year of the car?

[redacted]: I'm sorry?

[redacted]: The year of the car.

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b7C

[redacted]: I believe it's an 80, 83.

[redacted]: Okay. Any, any uh pass any vehicles on your way to and from Wills Creek that day? Anything you know.

[redacted]: Well I, hell I couldn't remember that.

[redacted]: You mean you don't remember anything down around the dam there that you would have passed at any time?

[redacted]: No, I. I don't remember anything like, like that. You know. I mean, I wasn't even thinking about it, so.

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[redacted]: Okay. Have any weapons in your, in your car that day?

[redacted]: No.

[redacted]: Okay. Alright, are you going to be at your, your present address for a period of time? You know say 6, 8 even a year from now?

[redacted]: Am I going to be still living where I'm living now a year from now?

[redacted]: Yeh.

[redacted]: I don't know. I, I hope not.

[redacted]: Okay. Uh. Could generally get a hold of you through your ex-wife, at the phone number I've got?

[redacted]: Yeh, we. We stay very close.

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b7C

[redacted]: Okay. And that phone number is a business, am I correct?

[redacted]: It's also her residence.

[redacted]: Okay.

b6
b7C

[redacted]: See, that. Her, her business is at her house. She also works another job but uhm yeh, that's, that's right.

[redacted]: Okay. So I can generally get a hold of you through her?

[redacted]: Yeh. I'm hoping to get a phone in a month or so but I'm still kind of getting my stuff caught up.

[redacted]: Okay, do you have family in Zanesville?

[redacted]: Well, I have kids.

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b7C

[redacted]: A mother or father?

[redacted]: No.

[redacted]: Okay.

[redacted]: They live in Cleveland.

[redacted]: Okay. A phone number for your mom or dad in Cleveland.

[redacted]: I don't know. I don't remember it.

[redacted]: Okay. An address?

[redacted]: It's, they live in uh, uh place called [redacted]. It's near uh Rock Creek. That would be on the, it's not Cleveland, it's actually in Ashtabula County. They just moved there not too long ago, that's why I don't know their telephone number.

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b7C

[redacted]: Okay, dad and mom's uh first names?

[redacted]: Uh, my father's first name is [redacted], and my mom's first name is [redacted].

[redacted]: Okay. The reason I asked that is if at some point you move and I can't find you, I can call mom and

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b7C

dad and they can generally find you, is that correct?

[redacted]: Yeh, I suppose. I don't talk to them too much.

[redacted]: Okay. I appreciate you calling me [redacted]. Uh, that is all I really I need. Uh. If I have to get back a hold, I'll try to get a hold of you through your wife. I don't expect to have to get back a hold of you right at the present time.

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b7C

[redacted]: Okay.

[redacted]: Thank you.

[redacted]: Thank you, bye.

[redacted]: Time is 8:16.

TAPE OFF

Transcribed by: [redacted], Administrative Secretary
Coshocton County Sheriff's Department
March 30, 1992.

b6
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[redacted] INTERVIEW b6 b7C
RE: 92-579
MARCH 26, 1992

Today's date is March the 26th, 1992. This is Detective [redacted] and I'm talking [redacted]. Is that correct [redacted]?

[redacted]: Yes sir.

[redacted]: And you're at a pay phone in Millersburg, is that correct?

[redacted]: Yes sir. b6 b7C

[redacted]: And you are aware this conversation is being taped?

[redacted]: Yes sir.

[redacted]: Okay. And on March the 14th, 1992, you gave a statement to one of our officers, is that correct?

[redacted]: Yes I did.

[redacted]: Do you know what that statement said or basically what that statement said?

[redacted]: Well, I don't. You know I don't recollect word for word what it said but uh.

[redacted]: That you and [redacted] uh, and I'm not sure on the pronunciation of his last name, [redacted]? b6 b7C

[redacted]: [redacted].

[redacted]: Were fishing at Wills Creek around 4 p.m. near the dam and you seen no cars or no people, is that correct?

[redacted]: Yes sir, see uh we, we went down to check out, you know to see what the you know the water level was and stuff and then we went on back and [redacted] had his little girl with him and we had to drop her off at the babysitters and then go back on out. b6 b7C

[redacted]: Okay. Let, let me stop you there for a second. Your present address [redacted]?

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b7C

[redacted]: Uh, mine right now is 23, no. Hold on. That's [redacted], Dresden, Ohio.

[redacted]: Okay, do you have a phone there?

[redacted]: Yeh it's uh [redacted].

[redacted]: Okay. And your occupation?

[redacted]: Uh, I'm a foreman.

[redacted]: Okay. And you work for a tree trimming service, is that correct?

[redacted]: Yes sir.

[redacted]: And the name of the tree trimming service?

b6
b7C

[redacted]: Uh, Tree. That's Tree Preservation.

[redacted]: Okay, and where is their main office or an address for their main office?

[redacted]: Uh, their main office is Granite Briar Cliff. Briar Cliff, New York.

[redacted]: Okay. Do you have a local officer here someplace?

[redacted]: Uh, what they're doing is the, the G.S., our down at the Best Western in Room 103.

[redacted]: In what city?

[redacted]: Uh, that's Zanesville.

b6
b7C

[redacted]: Zanesville?

[redacted]: Yeh.

[redacted]: Do you have a phone number there to the office?

[redacted]: Uh, the phone number down there, hold on just one

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b7C

second...

[redacted]: ...Okay...

[redacted]: ...got it right here in my pocket.

[redacted]: No problem.

[redacted]: That would be uh 614 area code, and 452-4511.

[redacted]: Okay, and what do you basically do?

[redacted]: Uh, trim trees and cut the brush underneath the uh, uh power lines for Ohio Power.

[redacted]: For Ohio Power, okay. Uh. Let's get back to uh March the 14th. How did you and [redacted] get hooked up that day?

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b7C

[redacted]: Well we was, we was going to go fishing.

[redacted]: Okay. Did you, did he come to your house? Did you go to his house?

[redacted]: I went to his house.

[redacted]: Okay. Do you know where his house is at?

[redacted]: Yeh. (speaking to [redacted]: Hey [redacted]. What uh, what is your address?) ([redacted]: My address? [redacted]) [redacted] and that's in Zanesville.

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b7C

[redacted]: Okay. And uh what time did you go to his house that day?

[redacted]: Well, I went over to his house uh early that morning and we went down to the bait store there in Zanesville and picked up a lures and just got fishing stuff.

[redacted]: Okay.

[redacted]: Went back to his house and then uh, well we was

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b7C

waiting on was his girlfriend lives out there on uh Church Hill Road. (speaking to [redacted]: Is it Church Hill?) ([redacted]: inaudible) It's off of a Stone Church Road, it's called uh Timbucktoo Lane or something like that.

[redacted]: Okay.

[redacted]: We was waiting on her to get home so she could watch his little girl.

[redacted]: Okay. What time did you leave his house to go fishing?

[redacted]: (speaking to [redacted]: What time did we leave your house to go out there? About. About a quarter til 3?) ([redacted]: Yeh) It was about a quarter til 3, 3 o'clock when we headed out that way.

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b7C

[redacted]: Okay and it was you and [redacted] and [redacted] young daughter?

[redacted]: Yeh, it was me and [redacted] and uh his little girl.

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b7C

[redacted]: Approximate age on the little girl?

[redacted]: [redacted]

[redacted]: Okay. And who's vehicle were you in?

[redacted]: Uh, [redacted].

[redacted]: And can you describe [redacted] vehicle to me?

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b7C

[redacted]: Yeh, it's a, it's a Ford Marquis.

[redacted]: It's a Ford Marquis?

[redacted]: Yes.

[redacted]: And the color on it?

[redacted]: (speaking to [redacted]: Is that color blue? Dark blue?) ([redacted]: inaudible) (speaking to [redacted]: black and gray?) Yeh, it's a two tone. It's black and gray.

[redacted]: Two door or four door?

[redacted]: Four door.

[redacted]: Okay, and you came to the area of Wills Creek, is that correct?

[redacted]: Uh, yes sir, see we stopped. We stopped down to [redacted] girlfriend's house and she wasn't there yet so there's a little uh bait store down there, it's Bob's Bait Store. We went down there and got some beer and then we went back and waited on uh his girlfriend to get back.

[redacted]: Where's Bob's Bait at? Is that, that's not in Coshocton County is it?

[redacted]: Yeh, it's right up past Wills, right up past the dam. (speaking to [redacted] What is that? About 2 miles up the road from the dam?) ([redacted]: inaudible) It's about a mile up the road on the right hand side from the dam.

[redacted]: Okay, is you're at the dam and you're. Do you know. How did you come in to Wills Creek? Did you come in off 83?

[redacted]: No, we, we came from uh well it would be, we come. (speaking to [redacted]: What. How, how did we get up through there?) ([redacted]: inaudible) (speaking to [redacted]: Yeh. We didn't, we didn't come up 83 we come...) ([redacted]: ...Hell no, down (inaudilbe)...) Down (inaudilbe)... ([redacted]: Then we turned uh left down Stone Church...) Left on Stone Church... ([redacted]: followed that (inaudible) Wills Creek (inaudilbe) whatever it is) Yeh, then we followed that up to Wills Creek Drive or whatever they call that road.

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b7C

You know. Then we straight on past the dam. We went in to Bob's. We got a 12 pack and then on the way back through, see that's when we was checking out, looking down over the hill, looking at water and stuff.

[redacted]: What time would you say you were at Bob's Bait?

[redacted]: Now that there, we was down there about, right around 4.

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b7C

[redacted]: And what, what all did you buy at the store?

[redacted]: What all did we buy?

[redacted]: Yeh.

[redacted]: Uh 12 pack of beer.

[redacted]: That's it?

[redacted]: I think it was Busch, yeh a 12 pack of Busch beer.

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b7C

[redacted]: Okay. And then you went back to [redacted] girlfriend's house?

[redacted]: Yes sir.

[redacted]: Okay. In your travels by the dam twice there did you see any vehicles off to your, well it would your left side one time and your right side the other?

[redacted]: Well see uh, we didn't, we didn't see any cars when we went down through. ([redacted]: inaudible) Yeh we thought it was pretty great because there wasn't anybody down there. We'd have the whole dog gone spillway to ourselves.

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b7C

[redacted]: Okay. So you took...

[redacted]: ...That was right around 4, that was right around 4.

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b7C

[redacted]: So you took [redacted] daughter back home.

[redacted]: Well, over...

[redacted]: ...To the girlfriend...

[redacted]: ...to his girlfriend's house.

[redacted]: Okay. And dropped her off and then you came back?

[redacted]: Yeh. Now see we, we came back and it was about, right around 5:30 when we came back through.

[redacted]: Okay. And there was already police cars, err Sheriff's cars there and stuff when you got back?

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[redacted]: Uh yes sir, see there was a, well we saw the truck over there and then the Sheriff's had the road blocked and we thought maybe there was a wreck or something.

[redacted]: Uh-huh (meaning yes)

[redacted]: So we just got out of the car, mossied on down over hill and we didn't. We didn't even notice there was anybody laying over there until after we'd been fishing for about 15 minutes and then when we saw somebody laying over there.. You know, I said hey [redacted], I think maybe there's somebody dead over there and you know, and it's like. Maybe we'd better leave because they might be having an investigation, well that's when the officer hollered across...

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b7C

[redacted]: ...Yeh...

[redacted]: ...when we started leaving.

[redacted]: Yeh.

[redacted]: And you know he said hey you guys, I need to talk to you for a minute.

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b7C

[redacted]: Uh, let me ask you one, one more question uh [redacted]. We've got several reports from people that were in the area that day, uh prior to, to you guys going through. Several people had seen this gentleman's car there prior to 3:30, 4 o'clock even, even as early as 3 o'clock. Uh, any way you could have missed his car parked there?

[redacted]: You know, we. We might have but uh I, I don't think we did. Uh, well [redacted] made a comment that uh look, there aint even nobody down there.

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b7C

[redacted]: Yeh. Down here as in over the bank or just down here as far as cars?

[redacted]: Well down there as far as cars. Now if, if the gentleman didn't own a car and he was down there, then maybe he was down there before that.

[redacted]: Yeh. Okay.

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b7C

[redacted]: I don't. You know, I don't. Cause we was interested in fishing and I don't think that we could overlook a car. I know when we came down the second time there was a red truck.

[redacted]: Yeh.

[redacted]: That was parked over there and that's what the Sheriff's car was there. Well there was a couple of Sheriff's car and then there was an ambulance and I don't know what else. I can't recollect what else was there but I know there was at least a couple Sheriff's cars and an ambulance down there.

[redacted]: Alright. Uh, [redacted] is there. I, I take it you're asking him questions in the background. Correct?

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[redacted]: Yeh, because well [redacted] just moved there a while back and I wasn't quite for sure you know what his new address was. I know it's over off of Neil Avenue, but I didn't know the exact street that he

was on.

[redacted]: Are you going to be at this address in Dresden for awhile? I mean, or do you move around often?

[redacted]: Of no, now, no. Now I'm going to be there on Fridays. And Saturdays and Sundays. Starting Monday I've got to go to Canton.

[redacted]: Yeh.

[redacted]: To work during the, during the week and then we get to come home on the weekends. b6 b7C

[redacted]: Okay. Say I need to ask you a question in 6 or 8 months, where would be the best place to get a hold of you at?

[redacted]: In 6 or 8 months would probably be still right there in Dresden.

[redacted]: Okay. Do you have family that knows where you're at generally from time to time that's got a permanent residence?

[redacted]: Yes I, I do.

[redacted]: Okay, and who would that be?

[redacted]: That would be [redacted]. b6 b7C

[redacted]: Okay, and what is she to you?

[redacted]: That's my sister.

[redacted]: Okay, and where, do you have a phone number and an address for her?

[redacted]: Yeh, uh she lives at uh, uh [redacted], it's [redacted]. b6 b7C

[redacted]: In?

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b7C

[redacted]: Zanesville.

[redacted]: Zanesville, and a phone number for her?

[redacted]: Uh, the phone number is [redacted].

[redacted]: And she generally knows where you're at?

[redacted]: At all times.

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b7C

[redacted]: Okay. Alright. I appreciate talking to you, you calling me. Uh, if [redacted] is there I'd like to talk to him if that'd be alright.

[redacted]: Hey sure. (speaking to [redacted]: Hey uh [redacted]. (inaudbile) talk to you.)

TAPE OFF

Transcribed by: [redacted], Administrative Secretary
Coshocton County Sheriff's Department
March 30, 1992.

b6
b7C

[redacted] INTERVIEW
RE: 92-579
MARCH 19, 1992

Today's date is March 19th, 1992. The time is approximately 3:26 p.m. Present is myself, Detective [redacted], F.B.I. Agent [redacted] and we're talking to [redacted]. Uh, they call you [redacted]. Also present is [redacted]. And [redacted] relationship to you [redacted]? Live in boyfriend or?

[redacted]: (inaudible)

[redacted]: Uh, don't have to scream and holler but just speak up a little bit. Uh. Last time you saw Claude?

[redacted]: Last time I seen (inaudible)

[redacted]: Last, would have been (inaudbile)

[redacted]: I, I haven't seen (inaudible)

[redacted]: Your relationship with your brother? Close?

[redacted]: Close. (inaudible) close. (inaudbile) you know (inaudible)

(inaudible)

[redacted]: (inaudible) I would (inaudible)

[redacted]: Ever talk to his kids?

[redacted]: (inaudible) much about (inaudible) He worked and he fished. That's all I know. (inaudible)

[redacted]: Caught you by surprise?

[redacted]: Shocked. (inaudible)

[redacted]: Any uh reason for him to start stopping by?

[redacted]: (inaudible) All day (inaudible)

[redacted]: Got 2 other sisters. (inaudible) see Claude?

[redacted]: Claude was a loner always. (inaudible)

(inaudible)

[redacted]: (inaudible) [redacted]. [redacted] (inaudible) She (inaudible)

[redacted]: Saturday, Sunday morning (inaudible)

[redacted]: (inaudible)

(inaudible)

[redacted]: She called and she (inaudible) told me (inaudible) Uh, she told me she'd call me back. And she called me back and all she said was they found him dead. (inaudible)

[redacted]: Any reason that you can think of someone would want to kill Claude?

[redacted]: No. I couldn't (inaudible) He wouldn't argue with you. (inaudible) Nobody (inaudible)

[redacted]: Guesses as to why.

[redacted]: (inaudible) I don't understand it. Like I said he was, he was (inaudible) anything. (inaudilbe) I don't understand (inaudible)

[redacted]: A question I should ask you (inaudible)

[redacted]: (inaudible)

[redacted]: Your address is [redacted]. Mansfield, Ohio.

(inaudible)

[redacted]: [redacted]. Have. Have you talked with anybody (inaudible)

[redacted]: (inaudible) Type of person (inaudible)

[redacted]: We've talked to a lot of people and everybody that knew Claude said (inaudible) any idea.

[redacted]: I don't really know (inaudible) all. I don't believe I've ever (inaudible) When I heard about (inaudible)

[redacted]: (inaudible)

[redacted]: I (inaudible) I've never known (inaudible)

(inaudible)

[redacted]: Well, like I said Coshocton. (inaudible) Claude didn't have a (inaudible) fishing. (inaudible) fishing.

[redacted]: (inaudible) fishing (inaudible)

[redacted]: (inaudible) fishing (inaudible) Well we have to invite Claude to go fishing and he's back (inaudible) always (inaudible) fish (inaudbile) And he'd come (inaudible) Other than that, I don't know. I (inaudible) in my mind nobody knows (inaudible) [redacted], you know told you (inaudible)

[redacted]: (inaudible) anything else? Okay. The (inaudible) will end.

TAPE OFF

Transcribed by: [redacted], Administrative Secretary
Coshocton County Sheriff's Department
March 26, 1992

[redacted] INTERVIEW b6 b7C
RE: 92-579
MARCH 19, 1992

Today's date is March 19th, 1992. The time is 9:21 a.m. I'm present at uh, I forget your name already. Uh, [redacted]...

[redacted]: ...[redacted]...

[redacted]: ...[redacted]. And [redacted], you are aware this this conversation is being taped? b6 b7C

[redacted]: Yes.

[redacted]: And you were a sister, a full sister to Claude Hawkins.

[redacted]: Yeh.

[redacted]: Also present is [redacted] from the F.B.I. Your address here [redacted]? b6 b7C

[redacted]: [redacted].

[redacted]: Mansfield, Ohio.

[redacted]: Mansfield.

[redacted]: And your home phone number.

[redacted]: [redacted].

[redacted]: And your date of birth.

[redacted]: [redacted]. b6 b7C

[redacted]: And your Social Security number is you know it.

[redacted]: [redacted].

[redacted]: And how long have you lived at this present address?

[redacted]: 17 years.

[redacted]: Basically the whole time you've been married?

[redacted]: Well I'm divorced.

[redacted]: Divorced. Uh, how long have you been divorced?

[redacted]: 13 years.

[redacted]: 13 years. How many children do you have?

[redacted]: Uh. 4 altogether. I only have 3 at home.

[redacted]: Okay. The fourth one is?

[redacted]: Age?

[redacted]: Yeh.

[redacted]: Oh, I just had one. I got one [redacted]. She's sleeping. b6 b7C

[redacted]: Okay. Uh. How close were you and Claude?

[redacted]: Over the last year, a lot closer. Maybe the last 7 or 8 months, a lot closer than ever. For some reason we just. he just started coming around again because up until, uh. As a matter of fact he's been in this house except one time in 17 years. We, we saw each other at work. We worked at the same place and up until maybe 6 or 7 months ago, he never even talked very much.

[redacted]: What caused the change if you know?

[redacted]: Uhm, I can't. That's, you know, that's why this is all so mystifying. I can't understand why. I don't know it's just all of sudden and just started coming around. You know. b6 b7C

[redacted]: He never told you why?

[redacted]: Well, he. He's made statements like I don't, I don't like staying at home. I just go fishing. I just, all I want to do is work and uh pay my bills and leave home and go fishing. I just. He. He just said he

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b7C

tries to occupy his time mostly away.

[redacted]: Did he give you a reason why he wanted to stay away from his home?

[redacted]: Not really. Not really. He quiet, quiet person. He never really talks a lot. He just stated that he wanted to spend most his time away fishing.

[redacted]: Do you think there was a problem at home?

[redacted]: I don't know. I don't. I couldn't. Well see I. I thought they all were into the Jehovah Witnesses and you know it wasn't strange for people to shut themselves away from their families, and now. After he died I find they weren't in it at all. So everything that I thought was entirely different anyway so I still haven't pieced it all together.

[redacted]: Prior to the last 7 months to a year that, that you've been closer to your brother, prior to that, what kind of contact did you have with him besides at work?

[redacted]: None.

[redacted]: Never heard from him? Never had a phone call from him?

[redacted]: No.

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[redacted]: The reason for that? If you, if you have one.

[redacted]: Uh, like I said, other than his religion, his wife was kind of funny (inaudible). She didn't really like him around us (inaudible). Didn't like the family that much. For some reason, I don't know. We never had an argument or anything. So he basically kept away. You know.

[redacted]: Gave his side of the family up...

[redacted]: ...Yeh...

[redacted]: ...to I guess make his wife happy?

[redacted]: Or his religion. That's what I thought.

[redacted]: Okay. How long was he with the Jehovah Witnesses?

[redacted]: I'm not sure but it was a long time. I. I would guess possibly maybe 15, 16 years or maybe even longer. b6 b7C

[redacted]: Was it strange to you knowing that he was a Jehovah Witness, the biggest part of this time, that he didn't associate with his, his own family?

[redacted]: Yes, I thought it was very strange but you know, I would. Sometimes I would go up to him at work and try to talk to him and he was just (inaudible) I don't. (inaudible) I never did. I just (inaudible) You know. But like I said, I knew his wife wasn't too fond of the family and she didn't even want him around his family. And I guess he basically tried to do was kept her happy.

[redacted]: The last time you spoke to him. Do you know when that was?

[redacted]: Hm. See I've been laid off my job so I really haven't spoken to him. It was sometime in late summer. Around..well maybe in the fall. Around August or September was the last. b6 b7C

[redacted]: Hear anything from him around Christmas time or the holiday season?

[redacted]: (inaudible)

[redacted]: Ever spoken to his wife?

[redacted]: No I aint spoke to her and I see her (inaudible)

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(laugh) I've been over there and she didn't want to talk. (inaudible) I went over there because I want to know what happened to my brother and she hasn't managed to come down and talk to me. I guess she don't like me. I don't know why. I haven't seen her yet.

[redacted]: Okay, since this has happened. Have. Have you ever spoken to her?

[redacted]: Yeh, when I see her on the street, I spoke to her.

[redacted]: Would she talk to you back then or?

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[redacted]: Well she just. Sometimes, you know. I didn't really see her too often you know. Maybe in a grocery store or something. I would say hi. She would say hi. We have never talked. Never a conversation.

[redacted]: Been to her house?

[redacted]: When he died was the first time I've been to the house. (inaudible) never.

[redacted]: What kind of answers did you get? Who did you get your answers from when you went to the house?

[redacted]: I talked to the daughter. Oldest daughter and uh she...

[redacted]: ...Okay. And the oldest daughter is?

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[redacted]: [redacted].

[redacted]: [redacted], and the oldest son is [redacted]?

[redacted]: [redacted].

[redacted]: Okay. And when did you go to the house?

[redacted]: Sunday afternoon.

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[redacted]: Okay. What. What did they tell you?

[redacted]: She just told me that he was shot and two fishermen found him and it he was found about 6 o'clock (inaudible) And uh, they suspect that it was. Well she told me. See they was all upset because they said they all had been questioned. You know and she was saying well mom fell apart because they questioned her. I said, well you know that's kind of like routine. I kind of explained to her that that was routine, you know. I said they got to start somewhere. They got to eliminate somebody. I said that's really routine, you know and uh that's about all she could tell me. (inaudible)

[redacted]: When did you first hear about Claude's death and, and how did you come about hearing that?

[redacted]: My (inaudbile) my nephew's wife called and she said Claude was dead and I immediately called his house. And his son, [redacted], answered the phone.

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[redacted]: Okay. Let me stop you here a second. Your nephew's?

[redacted]: Wife.

[redacted]: Wife, her name?

[redacted]: [redacted] (inaudible)

[redacted]: And what would she be to Claude?

[redacted]: (inaudbile)

[redacted]: She'd be a niece if she was your...

[redacted]: A niece in law.

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[redacted]: Niece...

[redacted]: ...She's married to my other sister, [redacted]. This

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girl is married to her son.

[redacted]: Okay. Her husband's name?

[redacted]: (inaudbile)

[redacted]: What, what did she tell you when she called?

[redacted]: She said [redacted] (inaudible). Uh, I'm at Claude's house. She was at Claude's house when she called. And she said uhm a detective came here and told them that they had found Claude dead. What? Claude? How? Where, why? She said well uhm, I guess [redacted] talked to (inaudbile) as a matter of fact she was out of the house at the time. They said she had went to my other brother's house to tell him but she never did because the next day I went by (inaudbile) cause he has asthma and he was (inaudbile) And I said, what. (inaudible) And his wife said well he, he didn't know it. Somebody just came by here and told him about it.

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[redacted]: What, what time of evening did you hear about it?

[redacted]: (inaudible)

[redacted]: Okay. And who did you call when you found out about it?

[redacted]: I called my other sister, [redacted] (inaudible) I called her to let her know. Then I called back to Claude's house to speak to [redacted]. (inaudible) Oh no, I called my sister in (inaudible)

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[redacted]: Any reason for anybody to Kill Claude that you know of?

[redacted]: None whatsoever, that's, that's just so mystifying about this. I mean everybody at work you know, they. They loved him. And they've all been really sympathetic with me and expressed that. But he and I worked

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different shifts. He works on midnight shift and I worked swing shift (inaudible) But everybody out there's been close, you know, (inaudible) like family. I've talked to (inaudible) immediate supervisor. Couple of his supers. They couldn't. They can't believe it either.

[redacted]: Any suspicions as to why he was killed?

[redacted]: I can't. (inaudible) ...

[redacted]: Couple questions...

(...television game sounds in background...)

[redacted]: ...The first ...

[redacted]: ...Turn that down. Alright.

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[redacted]: The first night you found out that uh Claude had been shot, uh. You mentioned that you called. You went over there the first time to see the family. [redacted]. [redacted] was there that time but she was upstairs, wouldn't come down. (inaudbile)

[redacted]: They said she was laying down. She didn't want to be bothered (inaudible)

[redacted]: (inaudible) went back, came back later. Back to the house. Wanted to talk to [redacted]. (inaudible)

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[redacted]: (inaudible) She hadn't gotten back yet.

[redacted]: From running...

[redacted]: ...running errands. By this time it was like 1, 1:30.

[redacted]: Now which brother (inaudible) she go to? Said she left the house to go speak, go tell (inaudible)

[redacted]: (inaudible) my brother. That's my only brother [redacted]

[redacted]: [redacted]...

[redacted]: ...He's the only brother.

[redacted]: Now when you talked to him the next day...

[redacted]: ...He didn't know. You, you know he was really broken up because he heard it from some guy up the street which you know I was kind of upset cause I could have stopped and told him. They only live one street from each other. You know. Oh wow, I didn't know that. I could have stopped and told cause I didn't know he, you know, didn't know it. You know I said they had me the impression that [redacted] was at his house.

[redacted]: Now who told you she was going to go tell him?

[redacted]: Uh, her son and my niece that was there. [redacted]. That was there. They said well mom, you, you know. Cause I said well where's [redacted] now when I called. Where [redacted], like I said my niece. My nephew's called and told me first and I asked her where she was. And she told me and then when I called back, her son told me. Said well she's still at [redacted].

[redacted]: Okay, but nobody ever confirmed that she had ever been there and to your knowledge...

[redacted]: ...No they. She. She definitely was not there because, like I said, [redacted] was really, really bad. Really falling apart when I got there Sunday afternoon around 3 or 4. I went to [redacted] house. And he was falling apart. His fiance said, well he just found out. What do you mean he just found out? Oh my God. I said if I had of know that, I would have been over there cause I knew he was going

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to take it hard cause that was his only brother. But if I had of known that I would have been here and told you, you know I hate him hear it from some neighbor up the street.

[redacted]: Any idea where uh, have you heard any talk from the family about where she might have been or...

[redacted]: No, I. I've been wondering that myself. I've been wondering that myself because and they assured me. And you know, [redacted] wife said no [redacted]. I said but they told. I said all the time I tried to contact her they told me she was at [redacted] house. And they said well we. You know his wife says she wasn't here [redacted]. We were here. We never left home. She was not here. I don't understand. I couldn't figure that out.

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[redacted]: She never left there? Is that what you're telling...

[redacted]: No. [redacted] and his wife said they never left home.

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[redacted]: Oh, okay.

[redacted]: (inaudbile) couldn't have missed her.

[redacted]: Any idea where she could have gone (inaudible)

[redacted]: No. No.

[redacted]: To your knowledge uh was Claude ever involved with any other women?

[redacted]: (inaudible) He had to be the only man I know that (inaudible) (laugh) go without (inaudible) Uh, as far as I know you know but like I said we weren't exactly close for a long time. For a long, long period.

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[redacted]: Have you ever heard anything about [redacted]? Ever unfaithful to Claude (inaudilbe)

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[redacted]: Yeh, you know, you hear a lot of gossip goes around and people say things that not really nothing that (inaudible) She's had a boyfriend all this but I never did (inaudible)

[redacted]: (inaudible)...

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[redacted]: ...(inaudible)

[redacted]: Anybody? Any, any idea who (inaudible) Either find out one way or the other if it's true.

[redacted]: No really, that's what I'm saying. That's just something somebody said. I think at work somebody said it and you know (inaudible) doubt that. They was very religious you know (laugh) But like I said I. That through me because you know, as a matter of fact it was a good friend of my brother's [redacted] and that kind of through me because he said no they're not (inaudible) anymore. See I never knew that. (inaudible)

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[redacted]: So you think that maybe uh (inaudible) heard that uh [redacted] might have been unfaithful?

[redacted]: I know he really didn't tell me what he heard. You know. He talked to me Monday night. He didn't really tell me. He just, he told me he didn't like her and (inaudbile) a lot and he was very suspicious (inaudible) Well you hear gossip going around the shop and you know and I said yeh, but I don't really pay that much attention to what people say. He said well [redacted], it just don't seem right to me. He said I knew Claude. I wouldn't say anything to you (inaudible) Wanted me to know about it (inaudible)

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[redacted]: Was, was [redacted] and uh Claude close?

[redacted]: Very close from what [redacted] stopped me. You know, like. Like I said he stopped me Monday night and

talked and told me he was his best friend. He's a Jehovah Witness too. As a matter of fact he told me (inaudible) Claude was disfellowshipped, which I found out and I never even knew that.

[redacted]: Do you know why?

[redacted]: No. I've been trying to get that answer from his wife.

[redacted]: Where would we. Who would give us a straight answer as to why?

[redacted]: Only thing I can think of maybe [redacted] (inaudible) I don't know if you've got his name. b6 b7C

[redacted]: We, we've already spoken to him. (inaudible) talk to 8 or 10 people on his shift.

[redacted]: He didn't say why (inaudible)

[redacted]: I, I wouldn't. I didn't talk to him. Talked to different people. I didn't talk to him so I couldn't say.

[redacted]: I don't know, I, I. You know I asked him who's that when I was over then he was just like well that's the person, so. I, I don't know. (inaudible) nobody's business too much but when he got killed I just felt like I wanted to know everything. I wanted to find out what in the world is going on. (inaudible). Now my sister [redacted], have you talked to her yet? b6 b7C

[redacted]: No. The other, other....

[redacted]: ...She, she's a Jehovah Witness. She might be (inaudible) church with Claude.

[redacted]: Claude hadn't been close to you up until the last 6 or 7 months. Has he any different with any of

the other family members? Or was he basically the same with, with all the other family members?

[redacted]: On this side of the family he was the same. Basically.

[redacted]: Do you know if things were different on the other side of the family as far as, as her kids? Uh. Do you know, do you know?

[redacted]: I have no way of knowing. They never. I, I never seen them you know. I think, I think basically Claude is a loner. He was a loner type person. And like I said he was telling us, you know, lately that he definitely spending his time (inaudible) He was basically. I remember him telling me he's cashed in a couple personal insurance policies, and I've spent all my money you know, get my money out. I'm worth it and all that. b6 b7C

[redacted]: When did he tell you he had personal insurance policies?

[redacted]: Uh, about (inaudible)

[redacted]: Do you think he was telling you the truth then or?

[redacted]: I don't know. That's what I'm saying. I don't. He (inaudible) he cashed them and went fishing with the money. I don't know whether that's true or not.

[redacted]: Do you know if Claude and [redacted] fished together? b6 b7C

[redacted]: (inaudible)

(inaudible)

[redacted]: (inaudible) tell me (inaudbile) Could have sworn he told me that they (inaudible)

[redacted]: (inaudible) how long Claude had been going?

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[redacted]: No. I really couldn't say how long, but I. All I know is he told me (inaudible). He had mentioned going fishing. Cause he goes fishing a lot. Like I said he had just started coming over. Last summer he came to my sister [redacted] house and brought fish that he (inaudible) He (inaudible) pretty good fish. He would tell us, you know, that I'm spending a lot of time (inaudible) and he was telling us (inaudible) you know (inaudible) Where you catch all these fish at? You know. (inaudible)

[redacted]: Here's a list of about 13 names. Some of them have been identified. Uh. Does any of those names, do you know any of the people on the list? Uh, two or three work at the plant.

[redacted]: I've heard that name [redacted]. (inaudible) This is my aunt is Dayton.

[redacted]: Okay. [redacted] (inaudible)

[redacted]: (inaudible)

[redacted]: (inaudible) is an aunt in Dayton.

[redacted]: My mother's sister.

[redacted]: Anybody else (inaudible) We were at the plant this morning. Uh. Apparently the, the ratio between whites and blacks, or their uh, their black ratio is very low. Uh. Race, any racial problems at the plant? Or does people generally get along pretty good?

[redacted]: Like I said, as far as I know it's all like one little happy family. I don't know. We worked different shifts. Now I have heard people say (inaudible) about C shift. That's the shift that Claude works. But I don't. Everybody on that shift too, you know. (inaudible) I haven't heard of.

[redacted]: No major problems.

[redacted]: (inaudible) I don't know. And like I said I never heard anything, you know. Usually in a plant (inaudible)

[redacted]: Racial problems here in the city of Mansfield? Claude's neighborhood. Do you know what it's like (inaudible)

[redacted]: It's. It's mixed. Little mixed neighborhood. (inaudible) And my brother [redacted] lives the next street over. One street, one block.

[redacted]: Would you say [redacted], you don't know if [redacted] had more contact with, with Claude then you have?

[redacted]: Possibly but I don't think so. Maybe a little more just because he lives close to him and told me he asked him to go fishing with him a couple times. But not really. I don't think so. (inaudbile)

[redacted]: Did [redacted] ever go fishing with Claude?

[redacted]: You know I've never (inaudible) Like I said I wasn't around them that much. Maybe she did. From what he tells me, he. He also stated to me I can do what I want to do. I can go fishing. I don't even tell them where I'm going. I just leave and don't come back.

[redacted]: (inaudible) Have you ever had contact with (inaudbile) Coshocton, Claude. Anybody mention anything (inaudible)

[redacted]: (inaudible) area I guess. I don't know.

[redacted]: Did you hear of anything about the (inaudible)

[redacted]: (inaudible)

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[redacted]: Did you hear anything from the family that would indicate that they thought it was the work of the KKK or any (inaudible)

[redacted]: You know, about somebody in the family, yeh they did say (inaudible) and somebody told me it was a high (inaudible) area. A lot of illegal stuff going on in that area. I said what do you mean? Uh, they said well they have illegal cock fights down there and stuff like that. (inaudible) some racist down there wanted to take a shot at him. I don't think so, I mean he's been down there more than once. If there was something going on there I think he would have known. He's been there several times. I feel he would have known, you know. He, he (inaudible) wasn't like (inaudible) But I learned that by talking to [redacted] (inaudible)

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[redacted]: (inaudible) would have been about a good bit of distance. Anybody driving by (inaudible)

[redacted]: (inaudible)

[redacted]: (inaudible) implied it could be racist. The Detective here knows that area pretty well and there doesn't seem to be anything (inaudible)

[redacted]: I didn't, just you know, by my information. I didn't. I can't figure that cause he had been there too many times. And you know if there was something like that I think he would have known, you know. Some. Some people in that area (inaudible) I don't think he would have went where he didn't feel safe (inaudbile) That's the way I feel about it. I was just so hurt as first. I was thinking of all kinds of wild things. I mean everybody starting blowing everything out you know. At first 5 or 6 people, you sure his wife didn't have him killed you know. I said hey you all, quit putting these ideas in my head.

I said I don't know. Said well you got to (inaudible) you know Claude. Nobody (inaudible) dead. (inaudbile) And (inaudible) soft spoken nice guy. (inaudbile)

[redacted]: It's another one of those tragedies (inaudbile)

[redacted]: I know he don't have an enemy around here.

[redacted]: Okay. The time's 9:51 a.m. Tape statement with [redacted] will end at this time. b6 b7C

TAPE OFF

Transcribed by: [redacted], Administrative Secretary
Coshocton County Sheriff's Department
March 26, 1992.

[redacted] INTERVIEW b6 b7C
RE: 92-579
MARCH 23, 1992

Today's date is March the 23rd, 1992. Time is approximately 11:59 a.m. Present is myself, Detective [redacted], Detective [redacted], [redacted] from Mansfield Senior High School, Detective [redacted] from Mansfield Police Department. b6 b7C

[redacted]: Uh, [redacted] you are aware this conversation is being taped?

[redacted]: Yes.

[redacted]: Uh, we're going to talk a little bit about the homicide of uh Claude Hawkins. Uh, and to start with a little bit of background on you. Uh, your present address?

[redacted]: [redacted], Mansfield, Ohio. b6 b7C

[redacted]: And a phone number there.

[redacted]: [redacted].

[redacted]: Uh, your date of birth.

[redacted]: [redacted].

[redacted]: And your current age.

[redacted]: [redacted] b6 b7C

[redacted]: And you're a senior here at the high school?

[redacted]: Yes.

[redacted]: And your plans uh after you graduate?

[redacted]: Going to school, want to major in criminal justice.

[redacted]: And do you have a college picked out yet?

[redacted]: Not at the moment.

[redacted]: Do you have some ideas of where you might be going?

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[redacted]: Uh, Edinburg State or Ashland University.

[redacted]: What was the last one?

[redacted]: Ashland University.

[redacted]: Ashland. Uh, you know the Hawkins family.

[redacted]: Yes.

[redacted]: How long have you known the family?

[redacted]: Quite a few years.

[redacted]: Okay, and how did you come about knowing them?

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[redacted]: Through uh [redacted].

[redacted]: Okay and that...

[redacted]: ...that's my best friend through football.

[redacted]: Okay, and that would be uh Claude's son?

[redacted]: Yes.

[redacted]: And what grade is [redacted] in here?

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[redacted]: 12th.

[redacted]: Okay. Uh, how well do you know the family?

[redacted]: I know them very well.

[redacted]: Visit the home on a regular basis?

[redacted]: Yeh. Mostly every day.

[redacted]: Uh. Ever talk to Claude himself?

[redacted]: Sure.

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[redacted]: Ever have any conversations with him outside the home atmosphere? I mean did you, have you seen him at sporting events and things like that or? Or mostly just at the home?

[redacted]: (inaudible) football games.

[redacted]: Do you know much about the home life, uh, you've been over there uh. Did uh Mr. and Mrs. Hawkins get along alright?

[redacted]: Yeh (inaudible)

[redacted]: Never see any fights between the two of them?

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[redacted]: No.

[redacted]: You were a pall bearer at the funeral?

[redacted]: Yes.

[redacted]: Uh, first funeral you've ever been to?

[redacted]: No.

[redacted]: Been to other funerals?

[redacted]: Yeh.

[redacted]: Uh. Detective [redacted] was at the funeral uh too. Uh says he appears, you might have been nervous or, or fidgety in your seat. Would that. Would you say you were nervous at the funeral home?

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[redacted]: I was upset.

[redacted]: Upset in what way?

[redacted]: For the family.

[redacted]: Okay. Uh. How well do you know the family? Do you know everybody in the family or, or were you closer

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to, to [redacted] more than anybody else in the family?

[redacted]: I was close to [redacted] (inaudible)

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[redacted]: Okay. Do you lift weights with [redacted]?

[redacted]: Yes.

[redacted]: At a, at a gym here someplace in Mansfield?

[redacted]: Stootsie's Gym.

[redacted]: Stutsie's?

[redacted]: Stootsie's Gym (inaudible)

[redacted]: Okay. Uh. Ever been, ever go lifting with uh [redacted] and his mom? Does his mom go along with you when you go?

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[redacted]: No, she goes in the morning.

[redacted]: Okay. Uh. How did you come about to hear about Claude's uh death?

[redacted]: I heard it, [redacted] called me.

[redacted]: He called you. Do you know what time he called you about?

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b7C

[redacted]: It was around probably 7:30, 8 o'clock. I was at my house. It was [redacted]. (inaudible) it was that day.

[redacted]: Would have been last, not this past Saturday, a week ago Saturday.

[redacted]: Right.

[redacted]: Did you go directly over to their house?

[redacted]: Yeh.

b6
b7C

[redacted]: How far away do you live from their house?

[redacted]: (inaudible) 2 or 3 miles, something like that.

[redacted]: Drive over? Walk over?

[redacted]: Drive.

[redacted]: What, what kind of vehicle do you drive?

[redacted]: I drive a Chevy van.

[redacted]: Uh. What did [redacted] tell you when he called you on the phone?

b6
b7C

[redacted]: That his dad had been shot and killed.

[redacted]: What did you do once you got to the home?

[redacted]: Uh, just set there and did what I could do for them.

[redacted]: Did you make a phone call to the Sheriff's Department? Coshocton Sheriff's Department?

[redacted]: Yeh.

[redacted]: Do you know who you talked to?

[redacted]: He said his name but I forget.

[redacted]: Okay, if I repeat, if I said it was Captain [redacted] would that...

b6
b7C

[redacted]: ...Yeh...

[redacted]: ...sound like it? What took place at the house that night after, after you got there?

[redacted]: They, they had people come over.

[redacted]: Okay uh.

b6
b7C

[redacted]: There was a his daughter and his son came (inaudible)

[redacted]: Okay, and this would be uh [redacted] and uh...

[redacted]: .. [redacted].

b6
b7C

(cough)

[redacted]: [redacted].

[redacted]: Okay. They don't live at the house. They, they live outside the house.

[redacted]: Uh-huh (meaning yes)

[redacted]: What time did you leave the house that night?

[redacted]: I went, I went home and got some clothes and stayed there.

[redacted]: You stayed at that house all night long?

[redacted]: Right. (inaudible) Coshocton that morning.

[redacted]: Okay. What time did you go to your house and get clothes?

[redacted]: Uhm, 11:30.

[redacted]: Go by yourself or?

[redacted]: [redacted] went with me.

b6
b7C

[redacted]: Okay.

[redacted]: And my cousin and my sister's boyfriend.

[redacted]: Were at the house there, at Hawkins house and left and with you too?

[redacted]: Right.

b6
b7C

[redacted]: Okay. What time do you think you got back over to the house? Hawkins's house?

[redacted]: Uh, can't remember. Probably 12, 12:30.

[redacted]: Okay. Do you know if [redacted] was home when you got there?

b6
b7C

[redacted]: (inaudible)

[redacted]: Do you know if she'd left and went to the store yet?

[redacted]: Uh, no (inaudible)

[redacted]: Did she leave anytime after you got back?

[redacted]: (inaudible)

[redacted]: What, what was she doing when you got there?

[redacted]: Watching T.V.

[redacted]: Okay. Did at some, some point in the evening, did she go upstairs? I'm acting like 12 midnight, did she...

[redacted]: ...Probably to go to bed. (inaudible)

[redacted]: Okay. You don't remember when she went upstairs?

b6
b7C

[redacted]: No.

[redacted]: Any ideas of what happened to Claude?

[redacted]: No. Just know the things they told me.

[redacted]: Things the family told you?

[redacted]: Yeh.

[redacted]: What, what kind of things are they telling you or have they told you?

b6
b7C

[redacted]: They just told me that, that when I got there that Saturday, told me he got shot and killed.

[redacted]: Okay, did they know who'd done it or why it was done?

[redacted]: No.

[redacted]: Do you have any ideas as who done it or why, why it was done?

[redacted]: No.

[redacted]: Okay. Saturday, say between the time period of, of uh 11 a.m. and 5 o'clock p.m. what, what would you have been doing Saturday during that time period?

[redacted]: I was at home cause my mom didn't want me to go nowhere cause [redacted] and they wanted to something, take me out to eat supper.

b6
b7C

[redacted]: Okay. So basically you were at home all day long Saturday.

[redacted]: Right.

[redacted]: Did you go to the gym and lift Saturday?

[redacted]: No. Don't lift on Saturdays or weekends.

[redacted]: Do you own any guns?

[redacted]: Huh?

[redacted]: Do you own any guns?

[redacted]: Yes.

b6
b7C

[redacted]: What kind of guns do you?

[redacted]: 22 rifle.

[redacted]: Is that the only gun that you have/

b6
b7C

[redacted]: Yeh.

[redacted]: Dad got guns?

[redacted]: No, they got stolen when the house got broken into.

[redacted]: So the 22...

[redacted]: ...for Christmas.

[redacted]: The 22 rifle is the only, only gun you've got in the house now?

[redacted]: Yeh.

[redacted]: Have you heard or has anyone told you what Claude was shot with? (inaudible)

b6
b7C

[redacted]: Just what the family told me. That it was a rifle.

[redacted]: It was a rifle. Is that all they said?

[redacted]: Yeh. That's what...

[redacted]: ...Did...

[redacted]: ...That's what the you know (inaudible) that's about it.

[redacted]: They didn't tell you what caliber?

[redacted]: No, cause they said it was a rifle of some kind. They didn't tell me.

[redacted]: Do you know of anyone that would like to see Claude Hawkins dead?

[redacted]: No I wouldn't.

b6
b7C

[redacted]: (inaudible)

[redacted]: No I wouldn't.

b6
b7C

[redacted]: (cleared throat)

Male: (inaudible) [redacted]?

b6
b7C

[redacted]: Yes.

Male: All day? You didn't go to the store. You didn't go out and (inaudible) back after awhile and we'll pick you up and take you out to dinner?

[redacted]: I think my mom went out to the store. My dad usually doesn't (inaudible)

Male: Was there any length of time that you were home by yourself on that Saturday?

[redacted]: No, cause my sister was home with me.

Male: Okay.

[redacted]: From Columbus.

Male: She go to school down there in Columbus?

[redacted]: No, she's just a, she was supposed to go there but she got this full time schedule to work. She (inaudible)

[redacted]: Okay. The time is 12:09 p.m. The tape statement with [redacted] will end at this time.

b6
b7C

TAPE OFF

Transcribed by: [redacted], Administrative Secretary
Coshocton County Sheriff's Department
March 27, 1992.

DICTAPHONE RECORDING
RE: CLAUDE HAWKINS HOMICIDE
MARCH 14, 1992

17:29 HOURS

[redacted]: 9-1-1, what's your emergency? b6 b7C

[redacted]: Uh. I've found a dead body at Wills Creek Dam.

[redacted]: Okay. At Wills Creek Dam?

[redacted]: Yeh.

[redacted]: Okay.

[redacted]: Where the cable goes across below the dam.

[redacted]: Uh-huh (meaning yes)

[redacted]: Uh, we was down there fishing and we walked back down this (inaudible) b6 b7C

[redacted]: You're at the store sir?

[redacted]: Yeh.

[redacted]: Okay. A dead, when you say a dead a body. Can you tell me?

[redacted]: Huh?

[redacted]: Can you tell me more?

[redacted]: Uh, colored guy. Bout all I can tell you.

[redacted]: Black man?

[redacted]: Yeh.

[redacted]: Clothes? b6 b7C

[redacted]: Yeh.

[redacted]: Okay.

[redacted]: Wearing like a pair of insulated, like a pair of insulated coveralls on.

[redacted]: Okay. Is he caught on something at this time or? b6 b7C

[redacted]: Well, he's right. He's. Yeh, he aint going nowhere.

[redacted]: Okay. And you're at the store, correct?

[redacted]: Yeh. A friend of mine still down there.

[redacted]: Okay. What's your name?

[redacted]: [redacted]. b6 b7C

[redacted]: Are you from Coshocton County [redacted]?

[redacted]: No, no ma'am.

[redacted]: Okay. Okay, I need your home phone number and your address.

[redacted]: Uh. Home phone number is [redacted] and my address is [redacted]... b6 b7C

[redacted]: ...What was it again?

[redacted]: [redacted].

[redacted]: [redacted]...

[redacted]: ...Newark.

[redacted]: And where's that at?

[redacted]: Newark.

[redacted]: What town? b6 b7C

[redacted]: Newark...

[redacted]: ...Newark?

[redacted]: Yeh. Okay, I can hardly hear you. Okay sir.

[redacted]: Okay. I can hardly hear you. Okay sir, if you want to stay there, I'll have an officer meet you there. Okay? b6 b7C

[redacted]: Yeh, or I can go back up there and wait.

[redacted]: No, I need you to meet my officer there so you can take him to where ever this body is.

[redacted]: Okay.

[redacted]: Alright, if you already got somebody there by it.

[redacted]: Yeh.

[redacted]: Okay. Yeh, I'd rather you wait there for my officer. b6 b7C

[redacted]: Alright.

[redacted]: Okay?

[redacted]: Yeh.

[redacted]: It's, it's by the cable by the dam, right?

[redacted]: Yeh, where the cable goes across below the dam.

[redacted]: Uh-huh (meaning yes) Okay. Okay, right in that area?

[redacted]: Yeh.

[redacted]: Alright, we'll get everybody on their way. b6 b7C

[redacted]: Alright.

[redacted]: Thank you sir.

[redacted]: Yeh.

END

19:05 HOURS

Female: May I help you?

[redacted]: Uh, yes. This is Mansfield PD?

Female: Uh-huh (meaning yes)

[redacted]: Uh, ma'am, this is [redacted] from Coshocton County Sheriff's Department. b6 b7C

Female: Uh-huh (meaning yes)

[redacted]: Okay. We have located a Claude A. Hawkins. He would be dead. Okay.

Female: Let me transfer you to radio room.

[redacted]: Okay. Thank you.

Female: Uh-huh (Meaning yes)

(...telephone ringing...)

Male: (inaudible)

[redacted]: Uh, yes sir. This is [redacted] from Coshocton County Sheriff's Department. b6 b7C

Male: Uh-huh (meaning yes)

[redacted]: Uh, we've located a deceased male out on our Wills Creek Dam area.

Male: Uh-huh (meaning yes)

[redacted]: Uhm, he's possibly been involved in a shooting. Okay?

Male: Okay.

[redacted]: The name is Claude A. Hawkins.

Male: Hawkins?

[redacted]: Uh-huh, H-A-W-K-I-N-S.

Male: Okay.

[redacted]: Okay. His present address is [redacted], Mansfield. b6 b7C

Male: Okay.

[redacted]: Okay, we need to get some information. If you could send an officer out uhm, we need to know uhm why he was around this area.

Male: Okay.

[redacted]: If he owns property, you know, or if he was just down their fishing.

Male: Okay.

[redacted]: We need to know who, if he was with anybody.

Male: Okay.

[redacted]: Uh, or how he got there. Cause here he has no driving license. b6 b7C

Male: Okay.

[redacted]: Okay, and we also need to know what weapons he owns. Or (inaudible) that he could get to.

Male: Okay.

[redacted]: Alright? And as soon as you can get the information I need to know right away.

Male: Okay. I'll send you a TT.

[redacted]: Okay. b6 b7C

Male: This is Coshocton...

[redacted]: ...Yes, Coshocton County.

Male: Okay.

[redacted]: Okay? You want our header number?

Male: Yeh, if you've got it handy.

[redacted]: Yeh. OH...

Male: ...Uh-huh (meaning yes)...

[redacted]: ...01.

Male: Uh-huh (meaning yes)

[redacted]: 600... b6 b7C

Male: ...Okay...

[redacted]: ...00.

Male: Okay.

[redacted]: Okay?

Male: Alright.

[redacted]: Thank you sir. Bye-bye.

END

20:45

[redacted]: Yes it is. b6 b7C

[redacted]: Uh, I'm calling about uh Claude Hawkins.

[redacted]: Okay.

[redacted]: About the shooting.

[redacted]: Okay, who are you?

[redacted]: I'm a friend of uh Claude Hawkins.

[redacted]: Okay, your name?

[redacted]: [redacted]. I'm calling for his wife. b6 b7C

[redacted]: Okay. Okay, uhm. Hold on here a second.

(pause)

[redacted]: Are you on there ma'am?

[redacted]: Yes.

[redacted]: Okay, I'm going to transfer you to Detective [redacted], okay? Hold on please. b6 b7C

[redacted]: Yes.

(...telephone ringing...)

[redacted]: Hello?

[redacted]: Hello?

[redacted]: Yes ma'am.

[redacted]: Yes. This is [redacted]. b6 b7C

[redacted]: Okay, hold on please.

[redacted]: Okay. b6 b7C

(...telephone ringing...)

[redacted]: Can't get an answer. She's ringing it.

(...telephone ringing...)

Captain: Hello.

[redacted]: Hello, this is [redacted]. [redacted]. b6 b7C

Captain: Uh-huh (meaning yes)

[redacted]: Someone came by and told me earlier that my husband was shot...

[redacted]: ..[redacted]? b6 b7C

[redacted]: Yes.

[redacted]: Okay. Uhm, we're having an officer from Mansfield PD come over to your residence. Okay?

[redacted]: Alright.

[redacted]: He needs to talk to you.

[redacted]: Alright. b6 b7C

[redacted]: Okay?

[redacted]: Yes.

[redacted]: Alrighty, bye-bye.

END

21:10 HOURS

[redacted]: Sheriff's Department. [redacted]. May I help you? b6 b7C

[redacted]: Pardon me, is this Coshocton?

[redacted]: Yes it is.

[redacted]: Okay, now. I got a phone call from a friend of mine's wife saying that he was shot and killed in a park somewhere near Coshocton, Ohio.

[redacted]: Okay. Who is this?

[redacted]: This is [redacted]. b6 b7C

[redacted]: Okay. And who is your friend?

[redacted]: It's uh Claude Hawkins.

[redacted]: Okay. Uhm. All I can tell you at this time sir is we're having Mansfield PD go out and talk to his wife.

[redacted]: Pardon me?

[redacted]: We're having Mansfield PD officer go out and talk to Mr. Hawkins's wife.

[redacted]: Okay. b6 b7C

[redacted]: Okay, I can't tell you anymore. Sorry.

[redacted]: We, we just couldn't believe that it was true. You know, we just seen him earlier and uhm we just couldn't believe it was happening.

[redacted]: Okay. When did you see him?

[redacted]: We seen him, what? Last night? (speaking to someone else: Coshocton Police) It was last night.

[redacted]: Okay. Uhm. Hold on here a second.

[redacted]: Okay. (music in background) (speaking to someone else: I told them I was you) (inaudible)

(...telephone ringing...)

[redacted]: Detective [redacted]. Can I help you?

[redacted]: Yeh I. I was just talking to some lady and she I guess dispatched me to you.

[redacted]: Okay. How can I help you?

[redacted]: Yeh, I got a phone call from a friend of mine's wife. It was uh Claude Hawkins.

[redacted]: Uh-huh (meaning yes)

[redacted]: And I was under the impression he was shot and killed in some park while he was fishing or something.

[redacted]: Uh-huh (meaning yes) Yeh.

[redacted]: I was wanting to know if it was true because we find it rather hard to believe cause we just, we was just talking to him last night you know and it's kind of hard to believe.

[redacted]: Okay. Could I get some information off of you before I give you anything else? Would that be alright?

[redacted]: Yeh.

[redacted]: Your, your name sir?

[redacted]: [redacted].

[redacted]: And your address [redacted]?

[redacted]: [redacted].

[redacted]: Okay, okay the street address, err the street name

b6
b7C
b6
b7C
b6
b7C

again?

[redacted]: [redacted]. b6 b7C

[redacted]: [redacted], okay. Avenue?

[redacted]: This is Mansfield, Ohio.

[redacted]: Okay, [redacted] or [redacted]? [redacted] or [redacted]?

[redacted]: [redacted]. b6 b7C

[redacted]: [redacted]. Mansfield. And your phone number [redacted]?

[redacted]: Pardon me?

[redacted]: Your phone number.

[redacted]: It's [redacted], well area code [redacted]. b6 b7C

[redacted]: [redacted], okay.

[redacted]: [redacted]. And the zip's [redacted] if you need it.

[redacted]: Alright, that's alright. Uh. Your date of birth [redacted]?

[redacted]: Date of birth. (speaking to [redacted]: Date of birth?) ([redacted]: [redacted]) [redacted]. b6 b7C

[redacted]: [redacted] or [redacted]?

[redacted]: Correct.

[redacted]: And your Social Security number?

[redacted]: (speaking to [redacted]: What's your Social Security number [redacted]?) ([redacted]: [redacted].) Wait. Slow. ([redacted]: [redacted]) [redacted] ([redacted]: [redacted]) [redacted] ([redacted]: [redacted]) [redacted]. He's... b6 b7C

[redacted]: ...Okay, I'm not. I take it I'm talking to [redacted]. b6 b7C

[redacted]: No, he's rather upset and he...

[redacted]: ...Okay...

[redacted]: ...asked me to call.

[redacted]: Okay, and whom am I talking to then?

[redacted]: [redacted], err [redacted]. That's [redacted]. b6 b7C

[redacted]: [redacted]. And if I could have all that stuff on you. Your uh date of birth and stuff like that.

[redacted]: My date of birth is [redacted].

[redacted]: And your Social Security number? b6 b7C

[redacted]: [redacted].

[redacted]: Okay. And your address.

[redacted]: [redacted]...

[redacted]: ...Okay...

[redacted]: .. [redacted]. Uh, in Mansfield too. b6 b7C

[redacted]: Okay. Okay, and how does [redacted] know. You don't know?

[redacted]: Yeh, I know Claude very well. I've known for quite a number of years from being around the garage and everything.

[redacted]: Okay when you say. I, I. This gentleman, uh is it complete? I mean, I don't know this gentleman from, from anybody. You know. How, when you say the garage. How, how do you?

[redacted]: It's a shop that they bring their vehicles to, to get get worked on and stuff. b6 b7C

[redacted]: Mr. Hawkins brought his vehicle to this garage to have his vehicles worked on?

[redacted]: All the time.

[redacted]: Okay. And you work there at this garage?

[redacted]: No, I'm just a friend and I've known him for quite a number of years, and his wife called here and she's rather upset and I didn't quite believe her...

[redacted]: ...Okay. She called there to talk to [redacted] then?

[redacted]: Yeh.

[redacted]: Why, how does [redacted] know? b6 b7C

[redacted]: Pardon me?

[redacted]: How does [redacted] know uh Clyde?

[redacted]: Claude?

[redacted]: Yeh.

[redacted]: Just. (speaking to [redacted]: How many years have you known Claude?) ([redacted]: Quite a while) (speaking to [redacted]: What? A good 14, 15 years?) ([redacted]: yeh) A good 14, 15 years. He's more or less a friend of the family.... b6 b7C

[redacted]: ...Okay...

[redacted]: ...more part of the family. We was just really concerned if what we heard was true. I don't mind you taking all this information.

[redacted]: Yeh.

[redacted]: I just want to know if it was really true because we find it hard to believe. b6 b7C

[redacted]: He's been shot. Uh, he's dead. And it's being investigated.

[redacted]: Okay.

[redacted]: Uh. If you have any other questions I, you know I can try to answer. Some of them I can answer. There's not a whole lot that we can release at this point in time.

[redacted]: Okay.

[redacted]: Uh. If you or [redacted] have any uh ideas as to who might do this to him, you know, I. I would be more than willing to, to talk to you. I would, we would really be interested in that you know at this point in time in the investigation. b6 b7C

[redacted]: Well, personal feelings. Whoever done this needs or deserves to rot in hell.

[redacted]: Uh-huh (meaning yes) I will totally agree with you there but we got, we got to find the person first. That's, that's...

[redacted]: ...I understand that.

[redacted]: Do you. Uh, you or [redacted], neither one have any real suspects I guess or is that what you're telling me? b6 b7C

[redacted]: No. All we know is that he was supposedly fishing somewhere in Coshocton.

[redacted]: Yeh. That's what he was doing.

[redacted]: And we don't know of any lakes in Coshocton.

[redacted]: There's. There's a river at uh... b6 b7C

[redacted]: ...Oh, a river?

[redacted]: Yeh.

[redacted]: And that's all we really know. I never knew where he went fishing or anything like that.

[redacted]: Any other friends that you or [redacted] know that we could talk to, to get some background on, on. b6 b7C

[redacted]: Besides his wife, I really couldn't tell you.

[redacted]: Do you know where he was employed at or anything like that?

[redacted]: (speaking to [redacted]: Where was Claude employed?) ([redacted]: PPG) Uh. ([redacted]: PPG Plant in Crestline) The P-P-G ([redacted]: inaudilbe) Plant in Crestline. b6 b7C

[redacted]: Do you know what they do there at that plant?

[redacted]: (speaking to [redacted]: What do they do there) ([redacted]: Pittsburgh Plate & Glass) Pittsburgh Plate... ([redacted]: Fucking make plates there) Glass. b6 b7C

[redacted]: Okay.

[redacted]: (speaking to [redacted]: Calm down) b6 b7C

[redacted]: I understand [redacted] is, is you know.

[redacted]: Yeh.

[redacted]: Concerned there in the background. Uh, at this point in time there's really not a whole lot that, that we can release.

[redacted]: I understand that.

[redacted]: Uh, you know. Uh. You've got the number evidently

to the Sheriff's Department.

[redacted]: Yeh, after about 45 minutes of trying... b6 b7C

[redacted]: ...(laugh)...

[redacted]: ...messed around.

[redacted]: Okay.

[redacted]: It's uh 161, err 622-24, 11.

[redacted]: Yes.

[redacted]: Okay. After getting messed around for so long now we know.

[redacted]: Do you know if he was an avid fisher, err fisherman or anything like that? I mean, or does [redacted]? b6 b7C

[redacted]: Pardon me?

[redacted]: Do you or [redacted] know if he was an avid fisherman? I mean if this was a usual thing for him to do? To come down to Coshocton on a Saturday afternoon and go fishing?

[redacted]: (speaking to [redacted]: [redacted]) ([redacted]: Yeh) (speaking to [redacted]: Was Coshocton, err was Claude known to go to Coshocton and fish usual on Saturday afternoons?) ([redacted]: I don't know. He. He'd always go fishing everywhere) He said he goes fishing all the time and he usually goes everywhere. He... b6 b7C

[redacted]: ...Then he would be an avid fisherman.

[redacted]: Yeh...([redacted]: (inaudible) fucking (inaudible) and everything else (inaudible) b6 b7C

[redacted]: Okay. If there's any more questions, I'll try to answer them for you but you know, like I said there's

not a whole lot we can release at this time.

[redacted]: Yeh I, I quite understand that. b6 b7C

[redacted]: Okay.

[redacted]: I appreciate your time.

[redacted]: No problem.

[redacted]: Thanks.

[redacted]: Bye.

[redacted]: Bye.

END

21:22 HOURS

...(telephone ringing)...

Captain: Captain [redacted], may I help you? b6 b7C

[redacted]: Yeh, is this Coshocton Police Department?

Captain: Yes it is.

[redacted]: Uh, I'm calling to confirm about uh Mr. Hawkins, Claude Hawkins.

Captain: Okay.

[redacted]: Uh...

Captain: ...What's your name sir?

[redacted]: [redacted]. b6 b7C

Captain: Okay. Hold on just a minute [redacted], I need to get a paper and pencil. I'm not at my desk.

[redacted]: Okay. b6 b7C

Captain: I left mine lay on my desk and I'm back here just picking up phones.

[redacted]: Okay.

Captain: If can just bare with me. Somebody's trying to find me what I need.

[redacted]: Okay.

Captain: We've got 2 dispatchers normally answer, but the lines are all busy and the phones and ringing out there and they over ride into another back office.

[redacted]: Okay.

Captain: Okay. Your name is [redacted]? b6 b7C

[redacted]: Yeh.

Captain: What's your last name [redacted]?

[redacted]: [redacted].

Captain: Can you spell it for me?

[redacted]: [redacted]..

Captain: ...Uh-huh... b6 b7C

[redacted]: ..[redacted].

Captain: [redacted], [redacted].

[redacted]: Yeh.

Captain: Okay, and you're calling about what?

[redacted]: [redacted] husband. b6 b7C

Captain: Okay.

[redacted]: Claude Hawkins. b6 b7C

Captain: Yes.

[redacted]: And she, she wanted me to call and wanted to know if we should go down right now or just wait?

Captain: Uh, has the police officer came back to your house yet sir?

[redacted]: He, they're here now.

Captain: They're here now.

[redacted]: Yeh. Uh. They told us we should call and see if we should go down right now.

Captain: Hold on just a minute will you?

[redacted]: Okay.

Captain: (speaking to someone in office: Will you get [redacted]? [redacted], this is [redacted]. Okay? He's with [redacted]. Okay. The police officers are there now. Wanting to know if they want to come down right now. Uh. No, now in the morning? What, what we want them to do? Uhm.) ([redacted]: I think they only thing (inaudible) Other than that, if she could give us is the funeral home. If they make...) ...Okay... ([redacted]: ...arrangements at the funeral home) Okay. [redacted]? b6 b7C

[redacted]: Yes.

Captain: Okay, uh at this point uh it's probably a little early for us to be able to give you a lot of information. Yes. He has been shot and yes, he is dead.

[redacted]: Uh-huh (meaning yes) b6 b7C

Captain: At this point it appears to be unwitnessed. He was fishing down along the river bank by himself.

[redacted]: Uh-huh (meaning yes) b6 b7C

Captain: And uh we were notified by some more people who come in to fish at the same place but he, uh when they got there, that he was there, dead.

[redacted]: Uh. Can you tell me where the gunshot would was?

Captain: Uh, hold on just a minute. I don't know whether the Sheriff will want us to release that at that point because it's an investigation aide to us. If that information gets out, okay?

[redacted]: Uh-huh (meaning yes)...

Captain: ...It can, it can help us if, if we don't let it out. Hold on minute will you?

[redacted]: Yeh.

Captain: (speaking to someone else: Wants to know where the gunshot's at.) [redacted]? b6 b7C

[redacted]: Yeh.

Captain: At this point I can't release that. Okay? And uh the reason I say that is because if we start hearing rumors on the street...

[redacted]: ...Uh-huh (meaning yes)...

Captain: ...Okay? You know, I shot so and so some place, we know it's true. And if that information gets out to the press and the public, we're in trouble.

[redacted]: Okay. b6 b7C

Captain: Okay?

[redacted]: Yeh. b6 b7C

Captain: Uh. There is a couple things you can do.

[redacted]: Uh-huh (meaning yes)

Captain: Uh, you need to keep in mind about a funeral home. I know it's awful early. The police officers are still standing...

[redacted]: ...No, they've left.

Captain: Oh, they've left?

[redacted]: Yeh.

Captain: Okay.

[redacted]: Just left.

Captain: When you get uhm. When you get a second or a few minutes after the shock, and you understand where you're at and what's going on, uh you need to let us know here at our office for a funeral home.

[redacted]: Uh-huh (meaning yes) b6 b7C

Captain: Okay, uhm. There will be an autopsy done uh tomorrow morning at Dover Hospital at uh (inaudible)...

[redacted]: ...Okay. Can I get a pencil and paper and.

Captain: Sure. Sure. Sure. (speaking to someone: He's getting a piece of paper.).

[redacted]: Okay.

Captain: Okay.

[redacted]: Okay, what hospital are you going?

Captain: We, we're going to do an autopsy at Union Hospital at Dover, Ohio tomorrow morning.

[redacted]: Dover? b6 b7C

Captain: Dover. You know where Dover's at?

[redacted]: Yeh.

Captain: Okay. And then after that the body will be available to be released to a funeral home so by tomorrow morning, I guess we need to know who the funeral director is going to be.

[redacted]: Okay. Uh, are we supposed to go down and identify him?

Captain: You do not need to do this at this point. Uh. Will have to do that at some point though. His wallet was on him.

[redacted]: Uh-huh (meaning yes)

Captain: Okay? With all his I.D.

[redacted]: Uh-huh (meaning yes) b6 b7C

Captain: Okay?

[redacted]: Uh, uhm. She wants to know if, she wants to go down.

Captain: She wants to come down.

[redacted]: Yeh.

Captain: Uh. There's really nothing she can do. We're going to transport the body straight from here to Union Hospital.

[redacted]: Uh-huh (meaning yes)

Captain: So uh.

[redacted]: We go there?

Captain: Hold on a minute. (speaking to [redacted]: [redacted]. She wants to make sure it's him. Okay? Identify the body. Probably the best thing to do is to be go in the morning wouldn't it?) [redacted], the best thing to do is do it in the morning. b6 b7C

[redacted]: Okay.

Captain: When we go to do the autopsy right before that.

[redacted]: Okay.

Captain: Okay? At Dover.

[redacted]: What time? b6 b7C

Captain: Uh, probably around 9 o'clock I'm guessing. Normally that's procedure is 9 o'clock.

[redacted]: Okay.

Captain: Okay?

[redacted]: Okay.

Captain: And uhm. A couple quick questions.

[redacted]: Uh-huh (meaning yes)

Captain: Are you familiar with a [redacted]? A [redacted]? b6 b7C

[redacted]: Uh, hold on. (speaking to someone: [redacted]? (inaudible) Uh, [redacted] (inaudible)

Captain: You know [redacted]?

[redacted]: [redacted]? [redacted], yeh. b6 b7C

Captain: Do you, did any of you people talk to them today?

[redacted]: Yeh, I think his. (speaking to someone: Didn't your mom call [redacted]?) Yeh. b6 b7C

Captain: Okay, we were just checking because they called in here and inquired about it too, and we wondered how they found out about it.

[redacted]: Yeh, uh. They called.

Captain: Okay. Okay. The other. Couple other quick quest, questions if you don't mind.

[redacted]: Uh-huh (meaning yes)

Captain: Uhm. Do you know if he would have had any large amounts of money on him or anything like that?

[redacted]: Uh. (speaking to someone: Does your dad usually have a lot of money on him?) (inaudible) His, his uh son.

Captain: Yeh.

[redacted]: Say he has his own check today on him. b6 b7C

Captain: He had his check on him today?

[redacted]: I guess, from cashing it. I guess he had a lot of his money. His check money on him.

Captain: Okay. Do you have any idea how much that would have been?

[redacted]: (speaking to someone: Do you know how much money he usually gets?) (inaudible) (speaking to someone: Yeh, on that day. Do you know how, how much he usually gets on his check?) (person: 2 or 3 hundred) Bout 2 or 3 hundred.

Captain: 2 or 3 hundred dollars. Okay.

[redacted]: 2 or 3, his son says. b6 b7C

Captain: Okay. Uh, we don't know yet because we haven't went through his pockets.

[redacted]: Uh-huh (meaning yes)

Captain: Nor the car. It may be there. You know what I'm saying?

[redacted]: The car. You guys find the car?

Captain: Yeh. We've got the car.

[redacted]: (speaking to someone: They got the car)

Captain: The car was right above where he was fishing at. Parked on the road.

[redacted]: Uh, it was above him? b6 b7C

Captain: Yeh.

[redacted]: Where was he at? Like, was he by the bank?

Captain: Yeh, he was down by the river fishing. He was actually fishing.

[redacted]: Okay. Uh, they just want to know if, he was you know, right where he was at or was he drug or anything?

Captain: No, he uh. From our, you know, you got to understand that it was almost dark when we got down there and we had to get generating lights and stuff. Uh. He was fishing, standing right on the bank fishing.

[redacted]: Uh-huh (meaning yes)

Captain: Pole was actually in the water when he was shot.

[redacted]: Uh-huh (meaning yes) Okay. b6 b7C

Captain: Okay?

[redacted]: Uh-huh (meaning yes)

Captain: And he had 2 fish on a stringer.

[redacted]: Oh really?

Captain: Yeh.

[redacted]: Okay.

Captain: And the car was parked on the road just above him. His. His car.

[redacted]: Okay.

Captain: Uhm. Did he do a lot of fishing?

[redacted]: Yeh. He did a lot of fishing. b6 b7C

Captain: It would not have been unusual for him to be down in this, Coshocton.

[redacted]: He usually goes all around fishing.

Captain: Every weekend?

[redacted]: (speaking to someone: Does he go every weekend or anything? Fishing?) Yeh.

Captain: Okay. Does anybody have any ideas or any suspects from up there?

[redacted]: Huh-uh (meaning no) That's why the, uh the cops did down here.

Captain: Okay.

[redacted]: Don't know. b6 b7C

Captain: It's, it's caught you people totally by surprise then?

[redacted]: Yeh. Big time.

Captain: Yeh, okay, and I'm sorry to be cold about asking that question that way but you know I'm trying to get some investigative leads.

[redacted]: Uh-huh (meaning yes) I understand.

Captain: Okay, because it was in a remote area of our county.

[redacted]: Uh-huh (meaning yes)

Captain: Uhm. As far as we can tell, no one else was even in the vicinity other than the person that done the shooting.

[redacted]: Okay. b6 b7C

Captain: Or unless somebody else would have been in the, you know in the area with that person but as far as you know witnesses or people that actually saw something.

[redacted]: Uh-huh (meaning yes)

Captain: Uh, we've interviewed everybody up and down the road so far and haven't been able to come up with anything.

[redacted]: Okay.

Captain: Okay [redacted]? b6 b7C

[redacted]: Okay.

Captain: Now do we have your number here? (speaking to [redacted]: [redacted], do.) Yes, we've got your number so. Okay? And if you think of anything else that we may need tonight, go ahead and uh... b6 b7C

[redacted]: ...Call.

Captain: And tomorrow morning Dover Hospital, err Union Hospital at Dover, Ohio.

[redacted]: Okay. We'll be there.

Captain: Okay?

[redacted]: Okay. b6 b7C

Captain: Thank you.

[redacted]: Uh-huh (meaning yes) Bye.

Captain: Bye.

END

21:32 HOURS

Captain: Sheriff's Office, [redacted]. b6 b7C

[redacted]: Hi, this is Patrolman [redacted] up in Mansfield.

Captain: Yes sir.

[redacted]: Is Detective [redacted] floating around?

Captain: Detective [redacted] is standing right beside me. b6 b7C

[redacted]: Oh.

Captain: Okay? I will try. I, I'm a Captain. I don't know how to patch phones, okay? But we're going

to try.

[redacted]: Hand him the phone right?

Captain: No, we're, we're going to actually transfer one here, okay?

[redacted]: Okay.

Captain: (speaking to [redacted]: What's the number in there [redacted]? 12, I've got it. That worked.) Here we go sir.

[redacted]: If it doesn't make it I'll call back.

Captain: Okay.

(...telephone ringing...)

[redacted]: Detective [redacted].

[redacted]: Hey, it worked.

[redacted]: Yeh. (laugh)

[redacted]: (laugh) This is lowly Patrolman up in Mansfield.

[redacted]: Okay.

[redacted]: What color is this guy you've got?

[redacted]: Black.

[redacted]: He's black?

[redacted]: Yeh.

[redacted]: We got a problem.

[redacted]: Oh, don't tell me that.

[redacted]: He's a white boy. No, I'm not joking.

b6
b7C
b6
b7C
b6
b7C

[redacted]: (laugh) b6 b7C

[redacted]: I just talked to the wife. She said no, he's white. He's about 5, 10, 150. He should have a knot on his forehead.

[redacted]: Yeh, this guy's got a big knot in his forehead.

[redacted]: They just told me he was white.

[redacted]: He aint black, black as some. We were just here talking about that because everybody we've appeared to talk to tonight was white from Mansfield. And we said, now wait a minute.

[redacted]: Right... b6 b7C

[redacted]: ...But this...

[redacted]: ...the wife's black, but she just told me he's white. So did all the family that was sitting there. Half white and half black family. You got Clyde or Claude?

[redacted]: Claude.

[redacted]: Okay.

[redacted]: Yeh.

[redacted]: That's who I talked to. Works up at PPG. b6 b7C

[redacted]: Yeh. I got a, I got a wallet down the basement with a...

[redacted]: ...He's got glasses?

[redacted]: Yeh.

[redacted]: Knot on his forehead. Is he about 5, 10, 150?

[redacted]: Oh, I'd say that's close. Yeh.

[redacted]: They just told me he was white.

[redacted]: Well I think they're wrong. I think they're (laugh) I think they're too shook up. (speaking to someone: They're saying he's white)

b6
b7C

[redacted]: Cause. Well, that's what I'm looking at his. At [redacted]. Cause he's got, there's [redacted] and he's blacker than my leather. I mean. (laugh) Yeh. We're cooking now aren't we?

[redacted]: Yeh.

[redacted]: You guys got their phone number?

[redacted]: The family's?

[redacted]: Yeh. Have you talked to them at all?

b6
b7C

[redacted]: We just got. We just hung up with somebody that was at the house.

[redacted]: Okay.

[redacted]: Uh, a friend of the family was calling us to, to...

[redacted]: ...Right...

[redacted]: ...trying to get a couple of things answered which we couldn't really, you know, we couldn't tell them a whole lot.

b6
b7C

[redacted]: Right. Well uh...

[redacted]: ...We just got through hanging up with the family.

[redacted]: He asked me, you know, they keep saying well where was he shot? Where was he at?...

[redacted]: ...Yeh, we couldn't...

[redacted]: ...I kept going well I don't know. Uhm. b6 b7C

[redacted]: The, the wife wanted to come down and view the body.

[redacted]: Yeh, she wants to come down...

[redacted]: ...She wanted to come down and view the body...

[redacted]: ...identify it.

[redacted]: Yeh.

[redacted]: You know, we've got a problem that this guy is black and...

[redacted]: ...Yeh...

[redacted]: ...and she's telling me he's white? b6 b7C

[redacted]: Well, we'll just call back up to the house and talk to this friend of the family. He ought to be able to tell us pretty quick on the phone.

[redacted]: Yeh. Uhm. He works at PPG.

[redacted]: We've got that. They had no suspects, at least that's what they told us on the phone.

[redacted]: Yeh. She, she said he's real quiet. Uhm. He's now she told me he left about 6...

TAPE RAN OUT

SIDE B:

[redacted]: ...She told me he left about 6 o'clock this morning. b6 b7C

[redacted]: Okay.

[redacted]: But he just. She said he'll just get up and leave.

[redacted]: Exactly what this friend of the family... b6 b7C

[redacted]: ...She's got no idea where he goes.

[redacted]: Yeh.

[redacted]: No idea when he comes back. But see the problem I'm having is, if this guy's black he's been going. He's got friends that live out on Belmont Avenue which is a bunch of hillbillies.

[redacted]: Uh-huh (meaning yes)

[redacted]: And if this black guy showed up, they'd probably kill him. If you know what I'm saying.

[redacted]: Yeh. b6 b7C

[redacted]: That's why I'm having a problem here. And I'm tending to believe that he's, he's got to be white. She said she'd been married to him 28 years.

[redacted]: Yeh.

[redacted]: But you know that's, that's the story I'm getting. Is he's a white boy.

[redacted]: Well, we're just going to have to call the family back and ask them.

[redacted]: Yeh. But you know, she's saying no there isn't nobody you know. Owe anybody money? No. Does he drink? A couple beers here at the house. Just nothing. b6 b7C

[redacted]: Could you write us up something and, and send it down to us or whatever?

[redacted]: No, you want to ask me any other dumb...

[redacted]: ...(laughing)...

[redacted]: ...Is that it for the evening? b6 b7C

[redacted]: Yeh, that's it for it for this evening.

[redacted]: Okay.

[redacted]: We appreciate it.

[redacted]: Yeh. Let me give them a quick call.

[redacted]: Oh, one more question. Can you tell me if you have any kind of criminal record on him up there? Uh, you know, do you guys keep a, a master card on anybody as far as complaints called in and things like that... b6 b7C

[redacted]: ...If I put the phone down and walk to another phone I can call. We don't have hold.

[redacted]: Okay. I'll, I'll wait on you.

[redacted]: This, this is a major department. We don't have hold here.

[redacted]: Okay. (speaking to someone: You need to call [redacted] back and ask him if this guy is black or white) Huh? b6 b7C

[redacted]: Now she says he black.

[redacted]: Oh, okay. That's what, I. I'm glad you said that.

[redacted]: We're going back and forth here. There is another Claude Hawkins with that well, what Social Security number do you guys got? Do you know? b6 b7C

[redacted]: [redacted]...

[redacted]: .. [redacted]

[redacted]: Yep.

[redacted]: Okay, when I did that through our records section... b6 b7C

[redacted]: ...Uh-huh (meaning yes)...

[redacted]: ...they came up with a white male. And the date of birth, that's one off of what she just gave me.

[redacted]: Uh-huh (meaning yes)

[redacted]: Uh, and the only things he's got is back in 62 a petty theft and a hunting without a license.

[redacted]: Uh-huh (meaning yes)

[redacted]: So. b6 b7C

[redacted]: But that would be white male, that's not a black male.

[redacted]: Yeh, that's what they're telling me is this one is a white, and when I called her back I said now he's white right? And she said yeh, no wait a minute. I'm like, now wait a minute, something aint right here.

[redacted]: Yeh.

[redacted]: I'll be rather blunt about it.

[redacted]: Okay. You, you are the one that actually went to the house? b6 b7C

[redacted]: Yeh.

[redacted]: Both times or ?

[redacted]: Yeh, I've been there twice now cause I talked...

[redacted]: ...The wife is white?

[redacted]: No, the wife is black.

[redacted]: Okay. b6 b7C

[redacted]: The kids are all black, but there's a bunch of white people there.

[redacted]: Yeh, well the guy that called us was white too but....

[redacted]: ...Yeh that's why I'm.

[redacted]: Yeh. Okay.

[redacted]: Hillbillies don't normally...

[redacted]: ...Yeh... b6 b7C

[redacted]: ...deal with black folk in this town at all.

[redacted]: Alright. You know, like I don't know. Okay.

[redacted]: Is, is somebody trying to call her?

[redacted]: Yeh, we're on the phone to them right now at their house.

[redacted]: Yeh, cause I was on the phone and she said well, we called, and then you guys were calling.

[redacted]: Yeh. We, we, wanted to get the black and white resolved real quick. That has us curious.

[redacted]: Yeh. I don't know why they told me he was white.

[redacted]: Yeh. Your name?

[redacted]: [redacted]. b6 b7C

[redacted]: First name?

[redacted]: [redacted].

[redacted]: I asked you earlier and you gave, you gave me a no.

Would you write us something up and...

[redacted]: ...Yes... b6 b7C

[redacted]: ...send it to us?

[redacted]: Yeh...

[redacted]: ...You want an address or?

[redacted]: Uh, you guys got a fax?

[redacted]: Yes.

[redacted]: Why don't you give me your fax number. b6 b7C

[redacted]: Oh shit.

[redacted]: Oh, okay, be that way about it.

[redacted]: No, I've got it but I. Let me, let me put my phone on hold because we have a hold here.

[redacted]: Oh, I'm impressed!

[redacted]: And I'll get you, I'll get you that. Okay? Just second.

[redacted]: Okay. (speaking to someone: One of those nights)

[redacted]: [redacted]?

[redacted]: Yo.

[redacted]: [redacted]... b6 b7C

[redacted]: ...Okey-doke.

[redacted]: [redacted].

[redacted]: Okay.

[redacted]: [redacted]. b6 b7C

[redacted]: [redacted].

[redacted]: And we're in no hurry. I mean, this don't have to be done tonight.

[redacted]: Well, what we do is, we do them on tape...

[redacted]: ...Tape...

[redacted]: ...and then a secretary transcribes it.

[redacted]: Okay. b6 b7C

[redacted]: Uhm. Do we need to call you to make sure your fax is on?

[redacted]: It's on all the time.

[redacted]: Okay. Alrighty. Yeh, I'll...

[redacted]: ...Thank...

[redacted]: ...take care of it tomorrow morning.

[redacted]: Thank you very much. We appreciate it.

[redacted]: (inaudible)

[redacted]: I, I understand. That's why I said we're in no hurry. b6 b7C

[redacted]: We, we're having fun.

[redacted]: Yeh. Well this, this made our day. We...

[redacted]: ...No doubt in our mind.

[redacted]: We've got another one that happened oh right after Christmas, an 87 year old man was stabbed to death in his house and we, it's still unsolved. We

haven't had. We haven't had one unsolved for about 20 years now and this has got us nervous, and now this one will really nervous because I mean, we got nothing.

[redacted]: Congratulations. b6 b7C

[redacted]: Thanks.

[redacted]: Was he in his car?

[redacted]: No. No he was down over the bank fishing. His pole was in the water. He'd caught 2 fish. He had them on a stringer and...

[redacted]: ...Well, at least that parts right.

[redacted]: Huh? b6 b7C

[redacted]: Well, that's what she said. She said he'd be going fishing.

[redacted]: Yeh. Uh, and where he was at in relationship to the road, it's a, there's a long, it's a long bank drops down off the road. Uh, it was right below. It was about uh, probably not even quarter mile away from, there's a dam.

[redacted]: Yeh.

[redacted]: And he was just down from the spill way oh probably 400 or 500 feet probably but uh. b6 b7C

[redacted]: His car is not around?

[redacted]: Oh yeh, his car sitting there and everything.

[redacted]: Okay.

[redacted]: Yeh, it's. It's all there. Just appear, from right now, it would appear somebody plunked him from the

road and, and that was the end of it. You know, they didn't even have to get close, just point it down over the bank and plunk him.

[redacted]: Huh. Large caliber? b6 b7C

[redacted]: Uh, we, we don't know at this point.

[redacted]: Okay.

[redacted]: No.

[redacted]: Somebody out deer hunting and thought it was deer.

[redacted]: No, I don't think so.

[redacted]: Not fish (inaudible) b6 b7C

[redacted]: Yeh. Yeh. I appreciate it.

[redacted]: Yeh, I'll get you one off here.

[redacted]: Thank you.

[redacted]: It needs to go to your attention right?

[redacted]: Yeh, anybody down here will get it to the right people. We, we're not that big. (laugh)

[redacted]: Yeh (laugh) b6 b7C

[redacted]: Okay.

[redacted]: We'd loose it.

[redacted]: Okay. Thank you. Bye.

[redacted]: Bye.

END

21:40 HOURS

(...telephone ringing...)

Captain: (speaking to someone: Give my pencil back will you? Give my pencil over there [redacted].) b6 b7C

(...telephone ringing...)

[redacted]: Hello?

Captain: Hello, is [redacted] there please?

[redacted]: Uh, he just left. I think he went home. b6 b7C

Captain: Okay. This is Captain [redacted], from the Sheriff's Office in Coshocton.

[redacted]: Yes.

Captain: Whom am I speaking to please?

[redacted]: Uh [redacted], [redacted]. b6 b7C

Captain: Okay. Uh.

[redacted]: Could you hold on? I have a police officer on the other line.

Captain: Sure.

(pause)

[redacted]: Yes. b6 b7C

Captain: Yes, is he still on hold?

[redacted]: Uh no uh he just needed some information.

Captain: Okay. Uh, maybe I'm going to be asking for the same information ma'am.

[redacted]: Okay. b6 b7C

Captain: Hold on just a minute will you? Okay. We've got the information we needed. That was. We're talking to Mansfield Police Department on another line too right now.

[redacted]: Oh yeh?

Captain: And we just wanted a physical description of Claude.

[redacted]: Oh. So you don't want me to come down until tomorrow?

Captain: I don't think so ma'am. There's no. I don't think there's any need, I mean it's uh, uh matter of fact uh they're just getting ready to start transporting from our. Uh, do you know where Coshocton is at?

[redacted]: Yes. We've been looking at a map. b6 b7C

Captain: Oh, okay. And we're just getting ready to transport him. We're relatively small county far as hospital staff wise and uhm, uh we usually take uh people to uhm either Union Hospital in Dover or Columbus Hospital in uh Columbus for autopsies, and uhm since Mansfield is closer to Dover, we went that route.

[redacted]: Okay.

Captain: Okay, and so we're going to transporting him straight from here to uh, and uh [redacted]. Uhm. We talked to and he's not coming in until morning and security won't let us in tonight. b6 b7C

[redacted]: Well when I get there will you be able to give me more information? There's so many questions.

Captain: I know, I'm sure and I will try to answer as many as I can for you. Uh, right now but uh we don't have a lot of information. We. We've still got about 8 people on uh on the scene out there. Detectives

trying to gather evidence and stuff and that information is slow coming in here because we can't use our radio like a lot of agencies, because the news media can listen to it.

[redacted]: Yeh. b6 b7C

Captain: And uh so we're only operating on probably an hour's worth of delay. Uh, as I told [redacted] it appears that he was fishing. Uh, had his pole in the water. Uh was in a relatively isolated area, uh below Wills Creek Dam and we have not been able to find any witnesses whatsoever. At this point nobody heard any, any shots.

[redacted]: Uh-huh (meaning yes)

Captain: Okay? And it is not self-inflicted.

[redacted]: Okay.

Captain: I'm sure that was one of your questions.

[redacted]: Yes. b6 b7C

Captain: Is there any reason why we should suspect that?

[redacted]: No, I just you know, when something like this happens, you know. I've just had. You just. I don't know what to think. It's, it's unbelievable that anybody would, would do such a thing in the first place, you know?

Captain: Yes ma'am, and uh we're uh, it. We're shocked. Uh, we really are. I mean, we've. We've had a lot of homicides and we're somewhat shocked with the circumstances on this one.

[redacted]: Yeh. b6 b7C

Captain: Uh, can you think of anything? Uh, any reason anybody

uh would want Claude dead?

[redacted]: No. No I can't. And if, if I come up with anything, I'll, I'll let you know but he wasn't that type of person. Anyone can tell you he was a quiet person. He fished a lot. b6 b7C

Captain: Uh-huh (meaning yes)

[redacted]: Uh, he worked a lot. But that, that's it. Of course I didn't know who he associated with a lot but.

Captain: Okay.

[redacted]: I can't think of anyone.

Captain: Okay uh, when I was talking to [redacted], I asked questions about money. Okay? That he would have on him. Does he carry his money in his pockets? b6 b7C

[redacted]: Yeh, he carries his money uh in his pocket in a clip.

Captain: Okay, not in his wallet?

[redacted]: Not in his wallet. It's usually in a clip in, in one of his pockets.

Captain: Okay, the reason I asked that is because uh we're very careful when we have a homicide and we had to remove the wallet to get some identification, but we had not, the last time I was out there, went through his pockets yet. Okay?

[redacted]: Uh-huh (meaning yes) b6 b7C

Captain: And we was wanting to make sure that you know if he had money that he had it on him when, now. You understand what I'm saying?

[redacted]: Yeh. Well that's where he would have it at. He, you know, it's. It's like a silver.

Captain: Money clip.

[redacted]: Money clip that he put his money on. b6 b7C

Captain: Okay.

[redacted]: And he cashed his check yesterday so and I bought grocery and stuff, so he'd have 250, 2, maybe uh 250 on him, maybe.

Captain: Okay. Okay. Uhm. Can you think of any other questions while I've got you on the phone?

[redacted]: I would just like to know where he was shot.

Captain: Okay. Ma'am, I'm. I can't release that.

[redacted]: That, that's what [redacted] told me. That's why I was careful not to ask... b6 b7C

Captain: ...Well, don't, don't feel afraid to ask. You can ask, I mean. And if I can't tell you I will tell you, ma'am I can't. And I'll tell you reason we don't want to, to uh. I mean uh to say is normally in our homicides, we don't release uh where, you know if it was a stabbing or if it was a gunshot to what part of the body, only because uh that is an investigative aide.

[redacted]: Yeh. b6 b7C

Captain: Do you understand what I'm saying? I mean you're talking to somebody or somebody uh you get word back on the street and somebody said well, you know uh so and so was shot here. Well, that information was never released. Okay?

[redacted]: Yeh.

Captain: How did they know it? Unless they're the ones that done it, so at this point uh, and I will tell you

this, it's uh you know it would be in a general area of a gunshot. I mean it's nothing. Uh. What I want to say uh, you know it's in his torso, head area, that type of thing. You know, I'm not saying it's either one of them but you know it's not like it's in his arm or anything.

[redacted]: Now, are you sure it's Claude? b6 b7C

Captain: Uh, black man.

[redacted]: Yes.

Captain: Yeh, his uh wallet was in him, had his driver's license on him. The registration. Hold. Wait a minute. His wallet was on him. No driver's license that we've found yet, okay? The identification in his wallet said Claude. The automobile registration comes back to him.

[redacted]: Uh-huh (meaning yes)

Captain: (speaking to [redacted]: [redacted], what color is that car?) ([redacted]: Red.) (speaking to [redacted]: Red?) Red car. b6 b7C

[redacted]: Skybird, uh Skyhawk.

Captain: Yeh, red. Yeh, red Pontiac.

[redacted]: Yep.

Captain: Yep.

[redacted]: Buick, yeh. It's a Buick.

Captain: Pardon me? b6 b7C

[redacted]: It's a Buick Skyhawk, Buick.

Captain: Buick Skyhawk?

[redacted]: Uh-huh (meaning yes)

Captain: Yeh. Small red Buick.

[redacted]: Yeh. b6 b7C

Captain: And the plates come back to him.

[redacted]: Yeh. Alright.

Captain: Okay?

[redacted]: I'll be there in the morning before the.

Captain: Okay, at, at the uh hospital.

[redacted]: Yes. Uh, will you be there? Will someone?

Captain: We, we will have one of our officers, probably 2 of our officers there, yes ma'am.

[redacted]: Alright. Okay, I'll go straight there. b6 b7C

Captain: Okay?

[redacted]: Yeh.

Captain: Thank you ma'am.

[redacted]: Thank you.

Captain: Bye-bye.

[redacted]: Bye.

END

Transcribed by: [redacted], Administrative Secretary b6 b7C
Coshocton County Sheriff's Department
March 27, 1992.