

INTERVIEW (Taped interview with ELIZABETH H. KLOEPFER)

RE: Homicide

Q: (Detective Thompson) ...or anything like this?

A: Never...

Q: Okay. His habits, would you say if he's out with a group or he's with somebody, is he a loner or is he one to get, you know, gets in, mixes in with the crowd, or, or what would you say?

A: He mixes in, he doesn't have a lot of close friends.

Q: He doesn't have a lot of close friends?

A: No, well he didn't up here 'cuz we were together most of the time...

Q: But if he was out with a group, he would, he would get along with them or mix in with them for that time? Is he quite athletic?

A: Yes.

Any particular sports?

A: Well he plays tennis...handball, plays football.

Q: And he plays handball?

A: Yes.

Q: Has he ever played racquet ball?

A: Not that I know of...

Q: Since he moved, now he moved from here in September of 1974, right? What contact have you had with him, since that time, just telephone contact?

A: Yeah, we've talked on the phone a lot...and he came back up here right after the last quarter(?). I went down there...

Q: Last Christmas?

A: Yeah. He came up in January...he came up at the end of June.

Q: You were down there in August and December?

Um hum.

Q: August of 75 and December of 74.

A: Uh huh.

Has he ever mentioned, since he was down there during that time, what he was doing, telling you with his time what he was doing, just studying, and what was

A: No.

Q: Did he ever make any comments about any friends he had made,

A: Yeah.

Q: And what he had done in Salt Lake?

A: Yeah, he said something I wanted to talk to you about, he was smoking a lot of dope...

Q: He was smoking pot quite a bit?

A: Yeah, these guys that live across the hall...and he was smoking it...

Q: Do you know if he's been (?) ?

A: (?).

Q: Did he mention much else what he did with his time down there?

... (?)

Q: Did he ever mention any girlfriends or if he had any or did you ever ask him?

A: Yeah, I wanted to ask him, that's another thing, is that, was that picture you showed me yesterday, is that girl's name Gloria Ann?

Q: Is her name what?

A: Gloria Ann.

Q: No it isn't.

A: Okay, well he had a project with this law student, girl, her name was Gloria Ann.

Q: Gloria Ann, she's from Salt Lake?

A: Um hum. He made a lotta friends, a lotta friends that were girls,...

Q: Has he ever made a comment to you about the missing girls in the Washington area, has he ever talked about this at all? You said that he thought he was being questioned or a suspect in regards to this in Seattle? Has he ever made any comments?

A: Well, since he's been being investigated?

Yeah. Or before.

A: Well before, when he came up here in June, he went over to (?) for three days, his old landlady, landlord, and he came back and he said that he's discovered its not a good thing to be named Ted in Seattle, and that's all, first we ever talked about it...he had talked about that quite a bit. The only

Q: Did he, go ahead, I'm sorry.

A: The only time that he's mentioned it since he's been arrested is that, um, when I told him that I knew he'd been arrested he called, the reason I knew was because his landlady told me, and he called her to see Kathy had asked the landlady, and she told him...he was a suspect, and then he mentioned at that time, and we didn't talk about it, speechless, and then he had a friend of his who works, well she writes crime stories, she contacted Kathy to find out what was going on, and he mentioned that it was routine, but Ann (?) had told me that it was a routine investigation.

Q: Do you know who this friend is that writes these crime stories?

A: Yeah, her name's Ann Rule.

Q: Its what?

A: Ann Rule.

Q: Rule?

A: Um hum.

Q: Do you know, is she from Salt Lake?

A: No, she's from here. They had worked together at the Crisis Center up here.

Q: What is she, a writer for just her own or a paper or works for somebody?

A: No, she writes for just crime magazines, yeah,...she's written a whole book on the missing girls.

Q: That she has written a book on this, you don't know if she has or you don't know what the book is or anything?

A: No.

Q: Is she a pretty good friend of his?

Mary what?

A: Mary Ann (?).

Q: What was the last name? How do you spell it?

A: C-H-I-L-S (?).

Q: And she went down to Salt Lake and heard about this stuff?

A: Um hum.

Q: Have you talked to her much about him?

A: Yeah.

Q: What does she think?

A: Oh, she doesn't know, I mean,

Q: Does she have a doubt?

A: Yes.

Q: Has she known Ted very long?

... No, we've both known him for...But its really good that I have her because I've forgotten a lot of things...

Q: Does she work up here somewhere?

A: Yes.

Q: I wonder if it would be beneficial if we talked to her, do you think it would?

A: (?).

Q: Do you know where she lives?

A: Yeah, [REDACTED]

Q: [REDACTED]

A: Um hum.

Q: What's her phone number there?

A: [REDACTED]

Q: Now you stated he had a boat or a raft or something and he had in Salt Lake. Can you describe that to me?

A: Yes, it's a four-man rubber raft.

Oh, its a rubber raft.

A: Yeah...

Q: Has he ever mentioned the name or the town of Bountiful, Utah?

A: Uh uh.

Q: Okay, going back to that mustache you said he had, what color was that, do you recall?

A: Brown.

Q: It was brown?

A: Um hum.

Q: Was it, I know you said the other day it looked more like a brush or something, do you know, what it one that come to the end of the lips or a little one inside?

A: It just ended squared off

Q: At the lips, the end of the lips?

A: Yeah, it didn't come down like,

Q: It didn't droop down but it came to the

A: Yeah, it was like straight, it was not (?) at all, like a straight mustache.

Q: Now, going back to that sack of clothes you told me that you thought was clothes that, that there was a bra on the top, do you have an idea when this was, 73, 74, or

A: Yeah, it was the Fall of 73.

Q: It was 73? That was before the girls in Seattle came up missing? Okay.

Has he ever been in California?

A: Yeah.

Q: Do you know when?

A: Yeah, he was there in 73, he went to San Francisco...

Do you know how long he lived down there or just vacation?

A: Oh no, it was just a few days.

Q: He was just down there a few days. Any other time you know that he was down there?

Not since I've known him,...the summer before I met him.

Q: That was in the summer of 73, do you think?

A: Which.

Q: That he was in San Francisco?

A: Oh, yeah, no, I think it was in the spring.

Q: Spring of 73? And you met him when, 6 years ago, didn't you say?

A: Yeah.

Q: He was down there in 73?

A: Um hum.

Q: A week or two or a day?

A: No, just about four days.

Q: Okay. What did you want to ask me?

A: Um, what you write everything down for...

Q: Well that's, like I say, I'm a, my memory isn't the greatest in town either.

A: Okay. Oh, this is the most important thing, my father used to, um, in June, before he came up here, he told me in great detail about that he'd heard on the news, just one time only, about some rapes on First Avenue, which he lives on, and he says they were all college girls, and aah, he said something like the guy had a beard, so that lets me out, and he says that he thought he had an idea who might have done it... retarded people around the corner from him, and one of the guys that was a (?), he had heard on the news.

Q: He called you and told you about this?

A: Yes.

Q: In June of this year?

A: Yes. So he told me that, I can't remember, if he came up or asked me to come up, he says that he called a detective down there, a woman, who was handling the case, and she contacted him...about this possible suspect. In June he started growing a beard and when he was up here he said that this guy he thought was a possible suspect

had shaved his head, and he said, "Doesn't that seem really odd to you that he would do that right after the news had come ^{out,} / and I wanted to say no...beard.

Q: And he was growing a beard in June?

A: Um hum.

Q: Last year?

A: Of this year.

Q: Of this year, rather.

A: Um hum...suspicious of this case of rapes?

Q: Now that would have been handled by the Salt Lake City Police, and they did have some rapes in the Avenues last summer, or this summer, I don't know the month and I don't have any details in regards to the suspect, whether he had a beard, I'll have to check that out. There is a woman detective down there that works rapes. Her name is Pat, and that I don't know, but yes they did have what they called an "Avenue Rapist."

A: Oh.

Q: Okay, but I don't have the details on the thing.

What else did you want to ask me, Liz?

A: Oh, um, he asked me yesterday if I thought there was two separate (?), and I do, ^{put} like, I couldn't/ my finger on it until I was talking to Mary Ann about it, but like he was insanely jealous of me.

Q: Very jealous?

A: Yeah, and it, like um, he went so far as to follow me when I went out sometimes, you know, and I thought, I thought that was odd, and the other thing is that he used to take naps in the day, and so therefore he was wide awake at night and he used to go out walking around a lot late at night. A couple of times when I was walking home from meetings he snuck up on me and scared the hell outta me... He was out a lot late at night and it bothered me.

Q: (Can't hear question)

A: Uh uh.

Q: Were the girls up here in the Seattle area publicized to the point that publicity gave the dates when they turned up missing?

A: Um hum.

Q: Okay, and you being familiar with the dates, you told me the other day that those particular dates, the ones you could remember, he wasn't with you. Do you remember anything about those particular dates, the next day if he got a hold of you, his comments, any way he acted unusual, or did he make any comment about it?

A: No. I'm really, I, the only dates that I know anything about is the July 14th one, because by that time I was ^{just} a little bit suspicious, and I reconstructed what had happened, but I, I can't find anything, and I've really looked hard, you know, to give me any memories about the other dates.

Q: July 14th when you remember well.

A: Yeah.

What can you tell me about him on that?

A: On that day?

Q: Um hum.

A: He came over in the morning and I was just getting ready to go to church.

Q: That was a Sunday?

A: Yes, and it was a sunny day. We had an argument the night before because I wanted to do something and he didn't, um, well anyway so he came over early in the morning and I said well I'm going to church and then I'm gonna go lay out in the sun. So he asked me where I was going, I thought maybe he'd meet me there, but he didn't, and I didn't, we quarreled again that morning, and I was really mad at him so I was really surprised when I got home he called me about oh six and said let's go eat, and I was surprised at this, I thought he was mad at me; and so we went out and ate that night.

Q: At six o'clock?

A: Yeah.

Q: Was there anything unusual about him that night?

Well, he looked really wiped out, he was gettin a bad cold, which really turned into a whopper, but I asked him what he had done and he said he'd laid around and rested, but he looked just so tired, and aah, he told me his (?) were gone.

Q: Okay, let me ask you another personal question, Liz; in regards to his sex life, was he a type of an individual that, from sex that he could go one right after the other continue, or was he an individual that wasn't, what I'm trying to say, unusual for the fact that a man that if he had intercourse with a girl that he could have one right after the other, or would he be more less the normal type, did he have an extra strong situation in that line?

A: Its hard to tell, when we first met each other, I mean

Q: Right, no, I realize that.

A: Yeah right, well after 6 years, you know, he was normal.

Q: Okay. Maybe I shouldn't do this, I hope I got your confidence enough, that you, like I told you yesterday, that you won't talk to him, and perhaps that we can get the doubt out of your mind and maybe a doubt out of ours both, one way or the other. Maybe this will help you. I have a picture here of all the items that we took from his car, and one particular item here you don't know about, and I wanted to ask you something about it. But I will let you look at them first.

A: What's all this stuff?

Q: Okay now I can tell you. This stuff here is bit of sheets torn in about one or two inch strips, and there are some, that's what basically all that stuff is, and then this is, there is cord and rope in small sections. Its the handcuffs and its the punch, the gloves, the ski mask, this is a pair of women's nylon pantihose with eye holes and a mouth cut out. This is, like a canvas gym bag they were all in. This is a bag of those garbage can liner bags, 30 gallon garbage can liners. This is a flashlight and that's the crowbar. Have you ever seen that crowbar before?

A: No.

Q: Have you ever seen any of that stuff before?

No.

Q: He doesn't have the book, do you know? Has he ever said he's had it or seen the book?

A: Uh uh. *No*

Q: Has he ever made any kind of comments about what the police have in regards to these investigations, that they don't have anything, or anything at all about how they, any details on where any of them have been killed and how they've been killed or anything like this?

A: Uh uh. *No*

Q: He's never said anything about that. His Volkswagen, have you ever known it to be any other color than what it is?

A: No.

Q: How about, has he ever mentioned, you told me the other day his comments about he liked you with your hair long and girls with long hair. Has he ever mentioned anything particular about any girls he does not like or any particular ones that he commented about, something unusual or is there a certain type he doesn't like, or anyone that bothers him?

A: No.

Q: He's never mentioned anything like that. Okay now they told me there was a friend of yours that, I can't remember whether she went to Salt Lake and she heard about the girl we had missing down there. Was she from Salt Lake or was she up here and down to Salt Lake and she heard about the girl we had missing down there? Was she from Salt Lake or was she up here and down to Salt Lake visiting?

A: She's from up here and she was

Q: She was down there visiting. Is she up here now?

^
A: Yes.

Q: What's her name, do you mind giving it to me?

A: No, Mary Ann...

... Yes, I've seen the gloves and I've seen the gym bag.

Q: Have you ever seen what's in that gym bag?

A: No, it was usually empty, he has another one that he carries his, you know, athletics stuff in.

Q: Okay, now this might enlighten you to why we suspect something wrong, very highly unusual, would you say, that any man would have these things, other than for what reason, an armed robber maybe? Very much, armed robberies are handled daily with these and these. Of course we didn't come up with any gun or anything else. And the handcuffs, the rope bindings, what would you surmise they might be in a person's possession for? To tie somebody up, I would assume. So, I can't answer that, but those are the things that was in his car, and those are the things that he was arrested for, and the statute we use is what we call Burglar Tools, at 3:00 o'clock in the morning, on the west side of Salt Lake, and his explanation was, "I was just driving around, couldn't sleep." I cannot tell you what he was doing. I have no idea. But that's basically one of my concerns. I don't buy his explanation for them. Like I say, even the nylon pantihose he had an explanation, that he put them on to keep his ears and his face warm when he was skiing, and I says you don't ski in August. "But I just still had them in my car." So I, that's my concern.

A: What about the ice pick?

Q: I can't answer that either.

A: What'd he say?

Q: It was just a house tool, just a thing that he had in his car. But I can't answer that either, I don't know why or what the, but you have never seen the ice pick or any of these other items?

A: Uh uh. I told Kathy, and I double checked, when he used to drive my car, I noticed that the crowbar, I mean the jack hammer, was taped with adhesive tape, and it still is to this day.

Q: Where's your car?

In the parking lot.

Q: Far from here?

A: Its not walking distance.

Q: You say its not in walking distance?

A: No, it is, yeah.

Q: Long ways?

A: Yeah.

Q: Okay. And that's a Volkswagen lug wrench.

A: (Can't hear answer)

Q: Okay. We'd like to look at it before we leave, some way or another.

A: Okay.

Q: Okay?

A: Alright.

Q: But its taped, where is it taped?

A: I don't know, one end.

Q: Okay, but you noticed it, that since he drove your car and that that it was taped?

A: Yeah, no that was, I mean its been taped for years.

Q: (Detective Beal) Does it look similar to this to where it has the part that you undo the lugs with and it just comes up and curves right to there?

A: I don't remember, It seems to me its straight, not curved on the end. We can go look at it. I can, I don't know, I remember one time

Q: (Detective Thompson) Did you ever confront him about it?

A: Yeah I asked him about it and he says it, well this is a long time ago we were having student riots up here, and he said you never know when you can get caught in the middle of one.

Okay now where did he keep it?

A: In the trunk of my car.

Q: Your trunk, but you never noticed it when he had it it was in the front or under the

seat or anything?

A: I think it was in the front of the car at one time. Then there was another, a tire iron, I mean a, I don't know what it was, but he used to sleep in front of my house, and it was sitting there, this is a long time ago but its just weird, and he left my house late at night and then he came back and I opened the door to see what he was doing and he came back to get that, and he looked really sick, you know, like he was hiding something, and I says what have you got in your pocket, and he wouldn't show me and I reached in and grabbed it and it was pair of surgical gloves. Weird.

Q: He had them in his pocket? What did he say he was doing with them?

A: I think he turned around and left, I can't

Q: And this was in the middle of the night?

A: Yeah, it was late at night. It seems incredible as I say all this that I didn't, you know, say you're weird, go away.

Well no, I realize these things, you know, of course a lot of things you don't have explanation for, you know, and you don't think and with someone else you think, well what the hell, you know, something, you don't think of them until later, and that's why, like I say, as things come up just like myself, I think of things different, and you probably will too, and I hope that I can still communicate with you. Like I say, if you think of anything, or you want to ask me any questions, and you think of anything else that may be of interest, if you'll call me, and call me collect, you, now you have that card.

A: Um hum.

Q: I don't think I put my area code on that, let me see.

A: I know what it is, its 801.

Q: You would know the area code there. Let's see which office number I have on there, Liz. Okay, now let me tell you the best time, if you want to call me there, to get me, in which our time, we're an hour later than you, is I'm always in my office at 8 or 5 after, about quarter after 8, between 8 and 8:30 you will always catch me

in my office, in the morning is the very best time; other than that I could be in or out, you see what I mean.

A: Um hum.

Q: But if you do call there and I am not there, if you want to leave a message with the secretary I'll certainly call you back. But if you want to call and ask for me, and like I say call collect, they probably wouldn't accept the call, but if you call and ask for me and I'm there, why I will.

A: Okay.

Q: And so I can get it that way. Or I have, I will give you an address. If you want to write anything, you would like to write to me there at the Sheriff's Office, I would appreciate it, and like I told you before, there's no way I'm going to tell Ted that I communicated. If you do, that's up to you. I don't think it would be a good idea, but I can't tell you what to do.

Yeah, I know that.

Q: But I hope you don't communicate with the man, because there is a doubt in your mind, and frankly you've put a good doubt in my mind, and I, he is one of ten thousand suspects that we have worked on, and a lot of them have looked good and a lot of them have went down the drain. Here again, but you have put a strong doubt in my mind, and as an investigator I won't quit until I'm convinced that I'm wrong or I come up with the right answer, one way or the other, the same as we do on others, when we can definitely eliminate an individual, then we just eliminate him and keep the file, but until I can do that, I won't quit.

A: You keep all the files?

Q: Yes we do.

A: Forever (?)

Q: Well, I can't say how long. At the time, which I hope we find the individual, then the ones that didn't have nothing to do with it, I'm sure we're going to do away with, because of the office space, but until that time, I'm sure we'll hang onto

them for some time.

A: Yeah, I have wondered, I read in the paper long ago that there was a girl in Salt Lake that had gotten away, that she'd been abducted and the guy tried to handcuff her to him...and I wondered if you had shown his picture to her.

Q: Yes.

A: And?

Q: You put me on a spot, don't you. I can't tell you Liz.

A: Oh God.

Q: I know what you're going to say.

A: The next thing you ask me

Q: You're going to tell me I can't tell you, Jerry, I can't tell you. I'll tell you this much, I will let you know, but I can't tell you right now. I will communicate with you and let you know at a later date, but I cannot tell you and not only can I not tell you, I can't tell anyone, even fellow officers other than my partner on the case, just what all we're doing and what we have, because we can't take a chance in such a case, any kind of a leak or anything else or losing a piece of evidence publicity wise or anything else, so that's, not that I don't want to tell you and not that I don't want to do this or that, but I just can't. And I hope you can understand my position in that, but I promise you I, like I say, I hope to keep communicating with you and I will let you know, but I cannot tell you right now.

Has he ever mentioned anything about that individual to you?

A: Uh uh.

Q: Now you read this in the paper?

A: Yeah (?)

Q: Did it mention what we...(end of tape) END OF INTERVIEW.