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Waco Negotiation Transcripts Received from Department of Justice.

Carl Stern, Public Affairs Director

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO & FIREARMS

TAPE #128

11:03 A.M. - 2:45 P.M.

(Tape 128)

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: Okay. Just a moment.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE SPEAKER: All right.

MR. KORESH: Sheriff Harwell?

SHERIFF HARWELL: Yes.

MR. KORESH: How you doing there, Buddy?

SHERIFF HARWELL: Is this Steve?

MR. KORESH: No, this is Dave.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Oh, Dave. I didn't -- I haven't talked to you that much that I recognized your voice readily. I'm sorry.

MR. KORESH: Steve's a better orator than I am.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Oh, you're, you're all right. I, I wanted to talk to you yesterday, David. Did Steve tell you I called and, and talked to him a while?

MR. KORESH: I'm not, I'm not really sure. I've been kind of, you know, separated from the people here for a while.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Yes. Well, I just came into the negotiating office here just a little while ago and I asked that I be permitted to talk to you. I called out yesterday afternoon to talk to you, David,

and I, I'm just so determined to, to try to get this thing resolved, David, as soon as --

MR. KORESH: Well, we -- so are we. Like, like, like you understand, Mr. Harwell, that, you know, our, our beliefs are very well established in --

SHERIFF HARWELL: Sure.

MR. KORESH: -- certain scriptures.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Sure. And I respect you for that.

MR. KORESH: And the thing of it is is that these men have done nothing but lie to us, they've misrepresented us. They're, they're doing their little thing and if, and if they want blood, then our blood is here for them to shed.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Well, let me, let me talk to you from, from the standpoint of just me and you, David.

MR. KORESH: Well, I don't really know if you have that much authority.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Let me -- yes, I do. This is my county. These are my folks. You're my folks.

MR. KORESH: I appreciate that.

SHERIFF HARWELL: I've always represented you. And I have the authority to sit down and try to work something out and ask these people to, to back off

or whatever is necessary to get this thing resolved, David. And you know I have that authority. I'm the sheriff of this county. I'm not a big shot or anything, I don't like to play that role, but sometimes we have to stand up for -- and do our job, and that's what I'm trying to do.

MR. KORESH: Okay.

SHERIFF HARWELL: And what I would like to do, really, I'd like to si down and just talk face to face with you, because I think you and I have a mutual trust for each other, the, the kind of trust where we can si down and talk.

MR. KORESH: You, you've always been good to us, I have to admit that. And we just had a little misunderstanding in '88, but, you know, that's, that's nothing. We got those things straight.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Well, those things happen, David. We, we can always live tomorrow and forgive and forget on those kind of things. But this is one of those things we need to get resolved and start moving toward that same circumstance. I've talked to all these people for the last two weeks, David, about your property out there and how much I've always respected it. And even after this is over, it's going to still be you all's property.

MR. KORESH: Well they've already torn up our motorcycles, they've torn up sheds and buildings with property in it. And, you know, we, we've already seen --

SHERIFF HARWELL: Well, I regret that, David. That didn't --

MR. KORESH: You know, we've seen what they've done. And, like I say, now, our flag is flying. We stand under God and this nation, and, like I say, when they came here, you know, I was at the front door. I opened the front door, you know, I was halfway out the door.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Sure, I know that.

MR. KORESH: And when that, and when that -- of course, I heard on the radio that one of the ATF agents said that his, that his pistol fired by accident, but, you know, I, I, I can't, I can't afford to stand and talk to, to, to people that are firing at me. And so, you know --

SHERIFF HARWELL: Sure.

MR. KORESH: -- I --

SHERIFF HARWELL: David, let me assure you that when this thing is, is ended, and it has to come to an end at some time, I don't -- I would like to see it end today, I really would, because we can start

doing some things and, and providing you all with attorneys. In fact, you've got attorneys already waiting to, to work with some of you. We can provide you everything, so that your, your side of this story is going to be told. It was that way before, when all these -- that incident happened, where you, you went through the system and you won, you walked out. You go back to your, to your facilities out there and you go on with your life.

MR. KORESH: That was a really strange thing, because, like I say, they kept that going two weeks when it should have been resolved in three days, but --

SHERIFF HARWELL: Well, you see what I'm talking about, David, is you and I are still going to be here in the county when most of these folks are gone. As dedicated as these folks have been in talking to you here --

MR. KORESH: You know they, you know they cut off all negotiations with us? Everything was going fine, everything -- they even called -- they sent us a tape. You should see this tape.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Yes.

MR. KORESH: And then, all of a sudden, the lights went off what, at 11:00, Steve? That night. And it was John Cox was talking to, right?

SHERIFF HARWELL: Yes.

MR. KORESH: And so we called back up and says well, what's going on? And, and, all of a sudden, everything just changed. They just -- they were very abrupt, they were just like well, the generals -- no, the commanders, the commanders have decided that you're not acting fast enough. And, you know, the thing of it is is that after that, it's just been cold. They haven't called us or nothing and they never sent us the magazines they promised. It's just -- everything -- And they started putting these lights up and some of the guys are wanting to shoot these lights out. And, you know, and I says --

SHERIFF HARWELL: Well --

MR. KORESH: And I says no, don't shoot the lights out, just, you know, just, just let these people do what they want to do and, you know, it's in God's hands now.

SHERIFF HARWELL: You and I have enough old hard sense to sit down, David, good old common sense to sit down and talk. I would -- I told the folks here I've always trusted David enough and the folks out there that if you told me to come out there and sit down and talk to you and everything would be all right, and I would do it because I, I trust you to that

extent.

MR. KORESH: Well, I don't --

SHERIFF HARWELL: And I do right now.

MR. KORESH: I don't mind you coming to visit.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Well --

MR. KORESH: We'd like to see a happy face some time.

SHERIFF HARWELL: What I would like to do, and if this is -- I haven't talked to everyone to be sure that this can be done, cause -- and I know I can do it, but I, I would like to come out there and meet you at the gate. Just sit down and talk.

MR. KORESH: Well, I, I --

SHERIFF HARWELL: With every assurance that everything would be -- when we'd get through talking --

MR. KORESH: I wouldn't come to the gate. And the thing of it is is, like I say, you know, if that kind of mutual trust is to be established, like I say, we've asked for doctors, we've asked -- we've got a couple women here that are pregnant and, and, and Ayeesha's going to have a baby here, you know, some time this month. And --

SHERIFF HARWELL: Well understand, David, that I haven't been familiar, and I haven't been aware

of all the things that you all have talked about.

MR. KORESH: Oh, well, they, they don't tell nothing --

SHERIFF HARWELL: Well, it's, it's not because they weren't -- they didn't put confidence in me to tell me. I've had a, a department to run here.

MR. KORESH: Oh, yeah, I understand.

SHERIFF HARWELL: And we've had so many things to do that I -- even yesterday evening, after I talked to Steve and told him I wanted to talk to you, I had to leave just shortly thereafter, and I didn't know whether you had called back or whether anyone had called back to talk to me. So I have a lot of responsibilities to take care of other than, than doing this. I'm just working hard to get this thing resolved. I even talked to the Governor a little while ago. She's said to, to everybody sit down and talk common sense and get this thing over with so that no one else would get hurt.

MR. KORESH: Our position right now is we're, we're fixing to tell these guys to get off our property and go home and we'll work this out ourselves. I mean, you know, we are not afraid of the government. Like I say, if we have to die for what we stand for, we're going to. We're not going to commit suicide.

You know, it's kind of like --

SHERIFF HARWELL: David, I know that. I know you --

MR. KORESH: -- when, when you're, when you're a little kid and you walk into school, mind your own business, and the bullies come up and want your quarter. You know, they came here all decked out, dressed fine --

SHERIFF HARWELL: No one wants to hurt --

MR. KORESH: -- and for two weeks, two weeks of -- Sheriff Harwell, for two weeks -- excuse me, two months we worked with Robert Gonzalez. When the ATF agents moved in across the street, you know, when they first moved in?

SHERIFF HARWELL: Yeah.

MR. KORESH: We went over there, we made the first steps. He, he -- I was going to allow him to come and live with us. He wanted to come and stay for two weeks with the guys here, you know, to get more Bible studies?

SHERIFF HARWELL: Yes.

MR. KORESH: And I kept telling over and over again, you know, I says look, you know, you want to come here and you want to learn this book, you'll learn everything there is to know about me and about these

people. You know, we can give him a tour around the place, you know. But the fact of the weapons, we told him we had weapons. You know, he comes over and says well, I have this -- he brought this pistol over.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Yeah.

MR. KORESH: Robert Gonzalez did. And he says well, I had this thing worked at the factory and when it came back, he says, I fired it and all the rounds fired. And I go what do you think is wrong with that?

SHERIFF HARWELL: Sure.

MR. KORESH: And I told him, I says hey, I says, you better get that thing fixed, that's illegal. And I told him about the incident where we bought that hell fire System and that it we was out in the back, you know, firing with the hell fire system. Little spring thing goes on the trigger --

SHERIFF HARWELL: Um-hum.

MR. KORESH: -- and people reported that we had an automatic machine gun. And I told him, I says well, you know, Paul -- I sent Paul down there and he gave it to you all and everything and, and it says right there in the packet ATF regulation says that it's legal.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Yeah.

MR. KORESH: You know, and, and --

SHERIFF HARWELL: But, David, that's all in the past. You and I are going to have time probably to sit down and visit some. And I want to sit down and visit with you, but right now you were talking about the lady being pregnant, going to deliver some time, and I'm, I'm not totally familiar with all the injuries out there. I understand you've been injured and there are several other injuries out there that need attention.

MR. KORESH: Um-hum.

SHERIFF HARWELL: And I'm, I'm -- straight from the heart, I'm worried about you folks and you all's well being. I, I --

MR. KORESH: The FBI, in the beginning, we, we called them up and we told them to come and take their wounded. We were concerned.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Sure.

MR. KORESH: And we let them come here, and they did come in the building to take one of the guys out. They said they didn't, but that's a lie.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Yeah, that was the ATF.

MR. KORESH: No one fired on them.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Yeah, that was ATF people. Yeah, yeah.

MR. KORESH: Yeah, the ATF, right.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Yeah, it wasn't the FBI.

MR. KORESH: We, we -- you know, there was a couple of guys, two or three guys, that were held up here, guys had them, you know, held up.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Well, that showed a compassionate thing on you all's side.

MR. KORESH: (Indiscernible) to get hurt --

SHERIFF HARWELL: David, that's all going to be good in, in any proceedings after this comes out.

MR. KORESH: Ohhhh. Yeah, but (indiscernible) --

SHERIFF HARWELL: You see, you've got a lot of things working for you on this thing, if we can get you in a position where you can voice what's happened and, and have a chance to let people know what's happened --

MR. KORESH: Well --

SHERIFF HARWELL: -- from your standpoint.

MR. KORESH: People are watching.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Sure.

MR. KORESH: They slandered me on the radio, the newspapers slandered me.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Well, they've slandered me on the radio and all of us somewhat, David. I'm not

concerned about the radicals out here who are doing things like that. What I'm concerned about is David, Steve, all you folks out there who I've known as our citizens here. And, and we've always -- let me ask you, David, just straight out, man to man, what can we do right this minute to get things moving so we can get this thing maybe resolved today?

MR. KORESH: Well, you --

SHERIFF HARWELL: What, what --

MR. KORESH: You can tell these agents that if they want to come in here, we're here to fight back. Like I said, I don't mind if I die, you know --

SHERIFF HARWELL: Well, I mind if you die, David. I, I mind.

MR. KORESH: Any time Big Brother stands up and pushes me, I'm going to push back. That's --

SHERIFF HARWELL: Yeah.

MR. KORESH: Just like in 1988, I went down and asked you gentlemen for assistance 'cause George Rodin had pushed some old people off his property. Sheriff Dickerson -- I would have never -- I didn't even have a gun till that time. Sheriff Dickerson told me when, when I brought those pictures back, he said now, boys, be careful 'cause -- he told me to come back and get some more pictures of the casket. He said now,

boys, be careful, there's some dangerous customers out there.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Yeah, we were concerned about your well being.

MR. KORESH: Right. And so, and so when we brought the weapons on, it was only for a diversion. And that day that that battle took place -- this is the honest to God truth, Sheriff Harwell. That day everyone that fired was firing in the ground. The only one who fired towards George is me, and that was only because I was pushed in the corner to do so.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Sure.

MR. KORESH: See, George was firing at Stan and Floyd, who was, who was out in the open, behind that old burnt down foundation.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Um-hum.

MR. KORESH: That's the only way I could keep him behind that tree. But I did not fire at him, I fired at the tree.

SHERIFF HARWELL: And you got that all cleared up and you walked out of the courtroom a free man, to walk right back out into your facilities, David, and I wouldn't be a bit surprised if maybe that won't happen on this occasion. I don't know.

MR. KORESH: It should.

SHERIFF HARWELL: I couldn't tell you it will because I won't lie to you. I won't tell -- and I'm not skilled in, in the legal aspects of this, but I'll tell you this, that anything that I have, have control over, and I'm sure that being a citizen of McLennan County and this all happening in McLennan County, if there's any confinement or anything, it will be in, in our facilities here. And you're going to be treated just as courteously as we treated you before. You, you know that we're not mean folks.

MR KORESH: (Indiscernible)

SHERIFF HARWELL: We're humane in what we do. By the way, let me tell you about something I did yesterday with your neighbors out there. I met with a group of folks out at Elk. We met in the community center out there.

MR. KORESH: Uh-huh.

SHERIFF HARWELL: And, of course, they were concerned about -- you all been good neighbors to, to all of them out there. They haven't had any problems and --

MR. KORESH: We never had any problems.

SHERIFF HARWELL: -- and they spoke highly of the, of the living around out there and not bothering anybody. And, of course, I was real impressed. They

were concerned about their well being and what's happening. David, a lot of them out there, you know, they're farmers and cattle ranchers and what have you, and this is kind of interfering their -- interfering with their going on about their lives and, and making their livelihood out there, working their places and taking care of the stock. Those people are going to be available to talk about you all's neighborly existence out there. They have not -- not a one spoke up that I recall who had anything derogatory about your being there.

MR. KORESH: Have you talked to Mr. Perry yet?

SHERIFF HARWELL: Beg your pardon?

MR. KORESH: Have you talked to Mr. Perry, our next door neighbor?

SHERIFF HARWELL: I haven't talk to him myself, personally. I don't know whether he was out there, but there were about 120 people out there, and they all expressed the thoughts that you all were peaceful, you didn't bother anyone, they weren't afraid to drive up there on the road. They just didn't have anything bad to say about you. And, like I've always told you, I wasn't afraid to come out and visit with you. If I called you and told you I was coming, David,

I'd be treated just as nice.

MR. KORESH: If you all had called us up and said you had a warrant for us, I'd have met you in town.

SHERIFF HARWELL: David, I wish I'd -- we're talking hindsight now. I've, I've laid awake thinking about that and worrying about it.

MR. KORESH: Well, I've asked (indiscernible) Robert Gonzalez to call me because I wanted to give him a straight man-to-man talk, because I told him over and over and over again. See they wanted this, they wanted this. They wanted, they wanted some big --

SHERIFF HARWELL: Well, see, you've got me at a disadvantage because I don't -- I wasn't involved in any of the meetings. I, I don't know anything that preceded this. David, the only thing I can tell you is that I'm deeply involved from the standpoint of being your sheriff.

MR. KORESH: Right.

SHERIFF HARWELL: And I want to do everything I can. It's my job to protect life and property in this county, and it's my job to protect your life and property. It's my job to work with, with everyone, and I want to see this -- if I can, nothing would make me happier and a lot of folks out here in this county who

would be just tickled to death to see everyone come out of this and just -- let's sit down like people, communicate with each other, get this thing behind us, because I'll tell you, David, straightforward, the only times I've heard anything that would be contrary to you folks out there is the last few days some people are getting a little bit hesitant to think well, are they sincere in what they're doing? Do they really want to come out and, and resolve this thing in a logical reasonable way, through the court system, through the system that will protect you? And this is what I want to do. My job is to try to handle this thing, as the sheriff of this county, get everything resolved and get you folks back to your, to your lives. If, if you're confined, I can't tell you that, David. You've made -- I can't tell you the outcome of this thing. But I know this, that the outcome right now, as it stands right now, just don't look good. It's, it's -- I'm talking about from the standpoint of any of us. From all over the country, people are talking about this and wondering why in the world can't those folks get this thing settled?

MR. KORESH: Yeah, why can't the FBI get this thing settled?

SHERIFF HARWELL: Well, let me ask you, what

can I do? What can I do? You tell me what I can do and I'll, I'll do everything that I've got the authority to do, just about what I need to do to get this resolved. You tell me, because I'm not smart enough to figure this out, David. I'm just an old dumb country sheriff in a lot of ways.

MR. KORESH: Well, that ain't true.

SHERIFF HARWELL: I don't, I don't sit and try to compete. But all I know to do is talk to you straight from the heart, David, and I'm interested in everybody's best interest and I want to get this thing resolved. So if you will tell me, and I'm asking for your advice, I'm, I'm pleading for your advice, tell me what I can do.

MR. KORESH: Well, Sheriff Harwell, this, this originates overseas. What we believe this is is it originates overseas. Now, let me, let me try to explain just very simply, all right? As you know, you know, Lois Roden -- remember Lois?

SHERIFF HARWELL: Yes, I sure do.

MR. KORESH: See, she taught the Holy Spirit being female as a message.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Yes.

MR. KORESH: Remember that?

SHERIFF HARWELL: Um-hum.

MR. KORESH: Now, every Jewish scholar will tell you that's, that's the way it is. That's just the ancient concept of the Elohim. Now, but not to get into that, now, what I teach is I teach the Seven Seals. And I'm not trying to convert you, I'm just trying to give you a layout.

SHERIFF HARWELL: No, and I started to tell you, David, I don't want to be rude to you at all and never would I be rude to you.

MR. KORESH: Right.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Again I'm talking straight. You know I'm a, I'm a straight-shooting old fellow.

MR. KORESH: Okay.

SHERIFF HARWELL: If I -- I, I really want to get this thing resolved and let me have an opportunity to sit down with you later on, just me and you sit down, and I'll, I'll sit and talk with you. But, but right now my main interest is to get this thing --

MR. KORESH: This is where the foundation becomes resolved, okay?

SHERIFF HARWELL: Well, then --

MR. KORESH: You see -- Let me, let me explain again.

SHERIFF HARWELL: All right.

MR. KORESH: It's a political thing.

SHERIFF HARWELL: All right.

MR. KORESH: It's a political thing. You see, in all the denominations of this great nation, you know, our Constitution, our forefathers foresaw, based upon the experience of the ancient European tyrannies -- you see, used to -- the church used to have control of the government, the Papacy.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Yes.

MR. KORESH: You see, and, and the voices, Hush and Jerome, Tenda, Weinert, they were men who, who had scholarly minds, who were reading the Bible, which was, you know, the Vulgate and the manuscripts of old, and they said hey, wait a minute, the scriptures teach contrary to what the Papacy institutes. Well, when they rose their voice, the Papacy killed them. Okay, so, you know, they, they kept the freedom of speech, it just did not exist in those days.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Um-hum.

MR. KORESH: But, finally, when God arose this nation and men began to come -- they began to realize the importance that now under -- now no longer under the yoke of the Papacy, which is religio-political government, you understand? They realized the importance to protect every man's right to believe in conscience, not just for religion, but even in --

against religion. So church and state separation was, was declared. The state would be a political state for individuals, irrespective of color or creed or, or religious beliefs. But, nonetheless, the state was not to interfere with those religions who had religious conviction or freedom of conscience. Okay. So now we've got all the -- we've got, we've got the Papacy, we've got the Catholics, the Lutherans, the Presbyterians, Methodist, Baptist, you know, Church of Christ, Church of God, Armstrong, and everyone has these different viewpoints, and that's perfectly all right.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Sure, sure. I respect that.

MR. KORESH: Based -- exactly. Based upon the good old four-square gospel, Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

SHERIFF HARWELL: I respect everyone's right to, to worship and, and have their faith and to -- but back --

MR. KORESH: Now, but here, here's the point I need to make. Here's, here's the concrete point. Now, when it comes down to the Book of Revelation, very clearly in Revelation 4 and 5, John the Apos -- now, we know John was an Apostle, don't we?

SHERIFF HARWELL: Yes, but here -- let me, let me interrupt you again, David. You're talking -- I'm not scholarly, I'm just plain down to earth old folks and I, I would enjoy sitting down -- but what I, what I wanted to do, David, is is -- you see, you're going to have an opportunity, after this is resolved, I'm going to see that you have an opportunity to talk to the press --

MR. KORESH: These FBI agents have lied to us since day one.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Well, take them out of it. You're going to be here with me. They're going to be gone when this thing is resolved and, and we're going to still be living here in McLennan County. If I give you my word that you will have access for a news conference or access to -- and when I say a news conference, you're going to have access to the media and you'll have a chance down through the months. You're going to have a telephone available to you there in jail, if you stay there. You might bond out, I don't know. But you're going to have a chance to talk to folks, David, when this is over. You're not going to come out and just be cut off from the world. And these things need to be looked at after we get this resolved, but we need to get this over so that we can

look at what we can do. I can't promise you everything that I'm talking -- but I'll tell you this, I'll give you my best effort and --

MR. KORESH: Well, I understand --

SHERIFF HARWELL: -- I promise you that.

MR. KORESH: Like I say, I understand --

SHERIFF HARWELL: But we need to get this -- This is a pretty good day and we need to get this resolved. And I asked you a while ago what -- give me some idea, give me your input on what we need to do.

MR. KORESH: Well, like I say, there's people here that were going to come out. Me, I'm waiting on God. I've been told to do so. I teach the Seven Seals. Read Revelation 4 and 5, you might get an insight on what that may mean. But here's the thing. I know you don't want to talk religion, but that's all I am is religion (indiscernible). I have -- as an American citizen, somebody has stepped on my property, destroyed my property, and there's going to be some butt whooped over this.

SHERIFF HARWELL: You, you have to do it --

MR. KORESH: It's either my butt or it's going to be their butt. Now, they're here and they've flaunted the right arm of their strength and they've stood underneath my -- my flag's flying out here.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Why don't you whip butt in court, David, or in the legal process?

MR. KORESH: Now, let me tell you something.

SHERIFF HARWELL: That's the way you're going to be heard.

MR. KORESH: Now, wait a minute.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Not, not the other way. About these other people who wanted to come out, I didn't know about that, David, but --

MR. KORESH: Well, you --

SHERIFF HARWELL: Are there some other people who want to come out now?

MR. KORESH: Sheriff Harwell, there were people ready to come out. It's just -- Jim told us and one of the guys told us that at nighttime we would, we would finish it up in the morning. Now, now, now, John Cox, he waited five hours to call us from the time that Ollie was released. What's going on now?

SHERIFF HARWELL: Nothing. I'm just sitting here listening, because I'm unaware of all --

MR. KORESH: Now, now, they've just knocked down the fence. Now there's cows coming on our property now.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Who knocked down your fence?

MR. KORESH: The FBI agents over here.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Oh, my goodness. David, I'd give anything if --

MR. KORESH: I'm telling you the truth of what they're doing.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Well --

MR. KORESH: They promised us they would not come on the property, they would stay on the perimeter, and, and here they are, they come all over our property, by our lake. Everything they tell us, they've lied about.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Well, I, I --

MR. KORESH: And all they do is broadcast on the phone things that we don't say. They're making it sound like oh, honky dorey. The last two days there's been no negotiations, right, Steve? Anyway, what happened was is that that night everything was smooth. They sent us a tape. We got to see the picture of the, of the negotiators. They showed us pictures of the family and all that. We were making tapes for them. You know, the other two guys were going to come out. Other people were talking about it. They were waiting for Ollie to call back. Ollie never called back. Ollie was taken --

SHERIFF HARWELL: You're talking about Ollie,

now, he's the young man --

MR. KORESH: Oliver. Yeah, the one that they have now.

SHERIFF HARWELL: -- who came out? See, I'm not familiar with some of these things.

MR. KORESH: Right. He never called back that night. And, also, at eleven o'clock our lights were taken off. So, you know, we thought well, it might be just a fuse from the weather or something.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Well, did you talk to Ollie or have you talked to him since he's been out?

MR. KORESH: Well, let me explain what happened then.

SHERIFF HARWELL: All right.

MR. KORESH: So Steve -- I told Steve well, call John Knox up and, and we'll get this worked out. Steve called up John Knox and, all of a sudden, it was just cold. Well, matter of fact, here, let me, let me let Steve tell you real quick what --

SHERIFF HARWELL: No. Let me, let me go ahead and talk to you for a little while, David, on this because I think me and you --

MR. KORESH: No we've still got to catch up our worship here, but the thing of it is is that --

SHERIFF HARWELL: I think you and I can work

this thing out, David, if we'll just keep talking to each other.

MR. KORESH: Sure, we're going to work it out. But the thing of it is is that these guys don't scare me. I'm not afraid of their tanks, I'm not afraid of their --

SHERIFF HARWELL: I don't want to dispute you. Let me, let me do this. You tell me what we need to do to get this thing moving in the right direction, to get this thing resolved, whatever we need to do. And, like I say, I'm the sheriff of this county, I have some authority on what's going on.

MR. KORESH: Well, you tell these people to pack up, get out of here and leave us alone and let us have time to think --

SHERIFF HARWELL: Well, I can't tell them just to leave and set on it, now, David, I, I have to be honest with you.

MR. KORESH: Okay, well --

SHERIFF HARWELL: Can me and you meet or, or if not you and me, can Steve come out and talk to us?

MR. KORESH: Well, I'll tell you what. If Steve does decide to come out --

SHERIFF HARWELL: I don't mean leave. If he will just meet us. If he does decide to come out, I,

I'd want you to know about it. We wouldn't pull any tricks. I wouldn't come out there and tell you --

MR. KORESH: Well --

SHERIFF HARWELL: -- to let Steve come out and we take him. But if he'll meet us at the gate --

MR. KORESH: Here's where the deal stands. If Steve does come out and talk to you at the gate, okay?

SHERIFF HARWELL: Yeah.

MR. KORESH: And any foul play is done --

SHERIFF HARWELL: I give you my word --

MR. KORESH: -- then all these guys around here better get ready for --

SHERIFF HARWELL: David, I don't even carry a gun. I, I haven't carried a gun in years.

MR. KORESH: We don't mind if you carry, if you carry a gun. We're not, you know, we know you know how to use it. You, you wouldn't have came here and, and, and shot up our doors --

SHERIFF HARWELL: No, no.

MR. KORESH: -- and walls and all that with automatic -- what'd they have, Ouzis?

SHERIFF HARWELL: Let me assure you and I'll give you my word as solid as I ever gave it to anybody, there will be no tricks. If I give you my word -- you

see, I'm going to trust you like I want you to trust me.

MR. KORESH: Well, you can trust us.

SHERIFF HARWELL: I know it. That's why I'm willing to come out there. Do you think I would come to that gate if I didn't trust you?

MR. KORESH: Well, Sheriff Harwell, have we ever really given anybody any problems?

SHERIFF HARWELL: No. Your neighbors -- I was just telling you about your neighbors a while ago, having a meeting with them.

MR. KORESH: Mark -- what's Mark's name over there? Mark, Mark Spoon over here, we've loved him. He's been right across the street from us.

SHERIFF HARWELL: David, your neighbors out there all yesterday. You know, I was telling you a while ago they all said that you all have been good neighbors, they've not had any problems. What I would like to do, David, just to show you my good faith and what I'm trying to do, let me meet with Steve. I know you've got a physical problem where it would be difficult --

MR. KORESH: It's hard for me to get around, that's true.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Yeah.

MR. KORESH: I'm sure you --

SHERIFF HARWELL: Let me meet with Steve this afternoon, say, about four o'clock out at the gate.

MR. KORESH: Okay. Well --

SHERIFF HARWELL: Would that be all right?

MR. KORESH: -- let me let you talk to him and we'll work this out, all right?

SHERIFF HARWELL: Beg your pardon?

MR. KORESH: Let me let you talk to him and we'll work it out, okay?

SHERIFF HARWELL: All right, all right.

MR. KORESH: Okay. Nice talking with you.

SHERIFF HARWELL: You bet, David. Listen --

MR. KORESH: Thanks for calling.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Listen, let me tell you again, David, let me tell you again how serious I am. I care about you all.

MR. KORESH: Oh, I believe that.

SHERIFF HARWELL: And, and, believe me, trust me, and let me work on these other folks out here, see if we can get this thing resolved and let me work with them to do whatever we need to do in the way of the show of force and all that. I think we can resolve some of that if it will be favorable.

MR. KORESH: Well, we're not afraid of these

old tin cans out here. I mean, you know --

SHERIFF HARWELL: Well, yeah, I -- but can me and you keep talking, David?

MR. KORESH: Sure, we'll talk.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Will that be all right, for me to sit and talk with you? I'm not a negotiator, I'm just one who can just sit and talk to you and try to talk common sense.

MR. KORESH: I'd rather talk to you with a fishing pole in my hand, but that never materialized.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Well, let me talk to Steve and see if we can work it out. Now, like I say, I trust you and I trust your folks out there that I will come to the gate.

MR. KORESH: Okey doke.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Now, if I sound a little loud, Steve -- I mean David -- that's the way I talk. So don't think my, my tone of voice is something that's sounding --

MR. KORESH: There's a lot of pressures around here.

SHERIFF HARWELL: And I've been through a lot of pressure, trying to get this thing resolved without any of your folks or anyone else getting hurt. So let me keep on a talking basis with you and let's try to

use some old horse sense and work this thing out.

MR. KORESH: Okey doke. Well, here's Steve.

SHERIFF HARWELL: I appreciate it.

MR. KORESH: I know.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Bye.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Hello, Mr. Harwell?

SHERIFF HARWELL: Hello, Steve.

MR. SCHNEIDER: How you doing?

SHERIFF HARWELL: I'm pretty good. I had to leave early yesterday evening, after I talked to you.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Right.

SHERIFF HARWELL: And I didn't know whether you all had called back or not, so I came back up earlier, just a little while ago, and asked them to let me check back with you all.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Okay.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Let me ask you, Steve, people can do more looking at each other and just talking eye to eye, and I would like to come out and just meet you at the gate there, just sit and talk with you a while. I talked to David about this and he was in agreement with it and told me to talk to you and see what we could work out.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Um-hum.

SHERIFF HARWELL: And I'd like to work

something out where you, you and I could meet there at the gate. Might be one of the negotiators with me, but I assure you there will be no tricks, nothing, 'cause I'm trusting you, trusting David, and I want you all to trust us. And is there a way we could just sit down and talk eye to eye, so you can see my sincerity?

MR. SCHNEIDER: Well, sure.

SHERIFF HARWELL: So we could get a feel of what we're talking about?

MR. SCHNEIDER: I'd be willing to do anything that would help, you know, bring this to a better relationship.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Let me assure you we're not out there to pull any tricks. You'll be free to walk back in when you get ready. If you get upset at us in talking to us, we will be just straight with each other.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Okay.

SHERIFF HARWELL: And not, not pull back any, any effort whatsoever to get this thing resolved. And if we can do that, Steve, maybe we can make some progress. I -- we need to do something. We need to get this thing over, so let's try to work something out. I haven't made any arrangements for this. I need to get some folks here to make arrangements.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Okay.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Now, it might be me and Byron or one of the negotiators come out.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Byron was the first man I spoke with.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Yes. Byron's a fine man and if he -- and I trust him totally. I want you to trust us now.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Yes. Okay. If they wanted to send one, I really did like John Dolan. I mean, we got along very well.

SHERIFF HARWELL: He's -- I think he left, went back home, Steve.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Oh, he did? That's a shame because, you know, it was through him that the momentum was really picking up quickly --

SHERIFF HARWELL: Yeah.

MR. SCHNEIDER: -- and there was a real trust that was developed.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Well, Byron's been here through all this time and he's still here and he's familiar with -- he knows more about this.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Okay.

SHERIFF HARWELL: I'm not familiar with all of it, Steve, so --

MR. SCHNEIDER: That'd be fine. I saw him on the video. That'd be all right.

SHERIFF HARWELL: That's why I want to bring one who is familiar with all of it, because you might ask me some questions, 'cause, you see, I've got a department to run and I'm not here all the time to hear everything that has happened. So there may be some questions you would want to ask that I wouldn't have the answer to. If Byron would be with me, where he can -- we want to talk straight. We want to talk honest.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Let me just say this. The way the people -- to phrase it in a, in a -- just a statement or two, the way the people have seen what has happened is right to our face there was a handshake, there was friendliness, there was a look of sincerity. But on behind the back, there was nothing but total encroachment and, and a push and a shove when we were looking forward.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Steve, you all can look at my record here in McLennan County.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Right.

SHERIFF HARWELL: I've been sheriff for over 20 years and I don't think you've ever heard of anything like that from me. I've always been just one

to talk straight to people --

MR. SCHNEIDER: Right.

SHERIFF HARWELL: -- try to resolve problems in a simple sort of way, if we can, do whatever to get things back the way they should be so we can all live and go on with life. And I appreciate you for meeting us out there.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Right.

SHERIFF HARWELL: If I could let you talk with one of the other people here --

MR. SCHNEIDER: Well, you know, David himself has let me know, too, of the concern of the people about the freezers, refrigerators being cut off, all the food going bad.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Yeah.

MR. SCHNEIDER: He mentioned the (indiscernible) --

SHERIFF HARWELL: Well, maybe we can talk about that when we come out there and set and talk with you.

MR. SCHNEIDER: All right. When are you -- What, what time are you looking for? Say, today, tomorrow ?

SHERIFF HARWELL: Say at four o'clock. At four o'clock.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Four o'clock?

SHERIFF HARWELL: Yes.

MR. SCHNEIDER: As soon as that?

SHERIFF HARWELL: Yes. And what they're going to do now probably is --

MR. SCHNEIDER: Well, how, how about something like this. That you and, that you and Byron meet me about halfway down the driveway. I walk up halfway, we both walk toward each other and about -- or by that -- yeah, about halfway there.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Let me see. Let me talk to Byron and be sure he's --

MR. SCHNEIDER: All right.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Hold on just a moment. Let me -- Byron, I need to locate Byron, be sure that he's in agreement 'cause I don't want to --

MR. SCHNEIDER: All right.

SHERIFF HARWELL: -- I don't want to pull any -- tell you we'll do something and then it not work that way, Steve.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Okay. Okay.

[gap]

(Voices in background not discernible.)

SHERIFF HARWELL: Steve?

MR. SCHNEIDER: Yeah.

SHERIFF HARWELL: Let me, let me tell you what, what we need to do for this first meeting.

MR. SCHNEIDER: All right.

SHERIFF HARWELL: So that we'll all be comfortable with it. I'm comfortable, anyway we go but I want the other folks who are with me, Byron, to feel comfortable, too, Steve, because I'm talking for him.

MR. SCHNEIDER: All right.

SHERIFF HARWELL: What we would like to do is just pull down there in a Bradley. We'll get out of it. I'll step out where you can see me.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Okay.

SHERIFF HARWELL: And you come on out to the gate, because I've always respected you all's property out there. I don't want to be one to walk in on you all's property without, without proper authority or without a reasonable reason for being there. But if we work it that way, if we pull down in the Bradley, we'll get out and stand behind the Bradley. I'll step out where you can see me. Byron will be with me. You come out and whatever distance is comfortable with you, I'd like to just walk up and shake your hand myself and, and sit and talk eye to eye. Whatever distance is comfortable with you, if you feel comfortable to come on out, you'll be free to leave. If you get upset at

something we're saying and you want to go back, whatever you feel like doing.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Would you -- so there would be the two of you then?

SHERIFF HARWELL: Yes. There would be Byron, because, you see, the reason I want Byron, Steve, is because --

MR. SCHNEIDER: That's fine.

SHERIFF HARWELL: -- I haven't been here -- I explained a while ago I haven't been here and I don't know all the details.

MR. SCHNEIDER: I think -- would it be okay if Wayne Martin would be with me?

SHERIFF HARWELL: That would be fine.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Okay.

SHERIFF HARWELL: That would be fine.

MR. SCHNEIDER: All right. Then let's -- About four o'clock then, huh?

SHERIFF HARWELL: At four o'clock.

MR. SCHNEIDER: All right.

SHERIFF HARWELL: What time is it now? I said four, I want to be sure we've got time.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Okay, I have about 16 minutes to 3.

SHERIFF HARWELL: I think we'll have time.

Be there at four.

MR. SCHNEIDER: All right.

SHERIFF HARWELL: We'll call you up when we start moving out there. Or wait a minute, let me be sure I'm right on this now, Steve.

MR. SCHNEIDER: All right. Okay, we'll --

[gap]

SHERIFF HARWELL: Steve?

MR. SCHNEIDER: Yes.

SHERIFF HARWELL: As soon as we're out there, they'll call you from here and let you know we're out there. And when we see you come out of the building, I'll step out where you can see me.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Okay.

SHERIFF HARWELL: And then we'll, we'll meet at a distance that's comfortable with you all. If we can just walk straight up and shake each other's hand and, and stand and talk and, and do what we can, that's the way I would like to do it.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Okay.

SHERIFF HARWELL: And you all feel comfortable with us because I'm certainly going to feel comfortable with you all.

MR. SCHNEIDER: All right.

SHERIFF HARWELL: And, and believe me, trust

me.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Okay, we'll do that.

SHERIFF HARWELL: All right.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Okay, we'll -- I'll wait to hear from you.

SHERIFF HARWELL: They'll call you, Steve, when, when everything is worked out and when we get up there.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Okay, sounds good, Jack.

SHERIFF HARWELL: All right, Steve. Bye-bye.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Bye.

(End Tape #128.)

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO & FIREARMS

TAPE #129

3/15/93
2:45 P.M. - 7:55 P.M.

(Tape 129)

(Telephone dialed and rings two times.)

STEVE: Hello?

JOHN: Hello, Steve?

STEVE: Yes.

JOHN: Steve, this is John.

STEVE: Okay.

JOHN: How you doing?

STEVE: Not too bad. How's yourself?

JOHN: Good.

STEVE: Good.

JOHN: Steve, they're going to be out there probably in about five minutes, okay?

STEVE: About five minutes. Okay.

JOHN: All right?

STEVE: All right.

JOHN: And there's two things I wanted to mention to you. Number one, no weapons. They aren't going to have any weapons, the sheriff and Byron aren't.

STEVE: Okay.

JOHN: And they request that you don't. And there's not going to be any tricks here.

STEVE: All right.

JOHN: And as you go out there and you walk towards the Bradley, just someone will call out or, or

give you directions as you go out there.

STEVE: What do you mean, will give us directions?

JOHN: You know, you'll hear -- As you get closer, they'll just tell you, you know -- You'll probably see them there, anyhow.

STEVE: All right.

JOHN: Okay?

STEVE: So we're -- what we're going to do is Wayne Martin will be with me, we will go near the edge of the property, but we're going to stay on the property.

JOHN: Wherever you see that Bradley. But you'll, you'll be on the property.

STEVE: Right. Okay.

JOHN: All right?

STEVE: Okay.

JOHN: Okay.

STEVE: So we're about ready then to -- You say they'll be here in about five minutes?

JOHN: Yeah, they should, they should be out there in about five minutes, I believe.

STEVE: Okay. As soon as they get there, we'll start walking out.

JOHN: Can you hold on one second?

STEVE: Sure.

[gap]

JOHN: Steve?

STEVE: Yes.

JOHN: I was just advised that they said they would drive about halfway up the driveway. Is that all right with you?

STEVE: That's fine.

JOHN: Okay. So that's, that's what we'll do then, okay? And you should see them in about --

STEVE: Just one moment, please, just a moment.

JOHN: Right.

[gap]

STEVE: Okay, that's all fine.

JOHN: Okay?

STEVE: Yeah.

JOHN: All right.

STEVE: We'll wait.

JOHN: I'll talk to you.

STEVE: Okay, bye.

JOHN: Bye.

* * * * *

(Telephone dialed and rings 14 times.)

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: Hello?

JOHN: Hello, is Steve there?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: Hold on a

moment. Who's calling?

JOHN: This is John.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: All right, John, hold on a moment.

JOHN: Okay.

[gap]

STEVE: Hello, John?

JOHN: Steve.

STEVE: How's it going there?

JOHN: Doing all right. How you doing?

STEVE: Well, I'm doing a little bit better today. In fact, right now I'm in the process of talking to a few people right now and I think it would be, maybe better if I just continued to talk to them for a little bit here. Can I, can I call you back there?

JOHN: Steve, one thing I wanted to mention to you --

STEVE: Yeah, okay.

JOHN: -- is that I wanted to call and tell you that I got a message that they were going to be moving the lights and just don't worry about it. It's, you know, they just called and said that they were going to be moving the lights --

STEVE: All right.

JOHN: -- and I just wanted to let you know

about it so you wouldn't be upset about it.

STEVE: All right.

JOHN: Okay?

STEVE: Well, thank you for that.

JOHN: All right.

STEVE: And I'll be talking to you in a little while.

JOHN: Okay.

STEVE: Talk to you a little later, John.

JOHN: All right.

STEVE: Okay, bye.

JOHN: Bye.

* * * * *

(Telephone dialed and rings two times.)

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: Hello?

JOHN: Hello, is Steve there?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: Yes. Just a minute.

[gap]

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: He'll be here in a minute.

JOHN: Thank you.

[gap]

STEVE: Hello?

JOHN: Steve?

STEVE: Yeah.

JOHN: John.

STEVE: Hey, John, how's it going?

JOHN: I'm doing fine. How you doing?

STEVE: Okay, not too bad.

JOHN: You had mentioned that you were going to talk to some people. I just wanted to check back with you.

STEVE: Yeah. That's what I was -- I'm still doing th -- Man, I'm getting hoarse today. I was doing -- You know, ever since yesterday when I met with Byron and Harwell, Jack Harwell, I got to talk to a few people last night, spent some time with David and, you know, we're trying to get a trust built here again and it seems like it's going in a better direction.

JOHN: I talked to Byron and he said that it went pretty well out there and it looked --

STEVE: Yeah, it did. You know what, I missed the press conference today. I was going to listen to that. I never heard what it was about, so I did miss that and --

JOHN: Yeah. Well, you know, maybe we can do something about that.

STEVE: Okay.

JOHN: You know, as far as getting you some information on that.

STEVE: Okay.

JOHN: I haven't received it yet. All right?

STEVE: Okay.

JOHN: Okay. But Byron said it went well. How was it received in there?

STEVE: Fairly good, because when I came in they asked me how it was and I says well, I says -- This is true. Byron, I like -- Man, what a person. I liked his personality, I, I believed he's 100 percent sincere. I think he was a good representative of those that he came from, you know, the group. I saw his concern in his face and eyes. I really, you know, I believe in what he's trying to do, along with yourselves. You know, the only difficulty really has been, of course, is our spiritual views, you know, this, this concept of waiting upon his God, you know.

In the beginning, I tried to make that known. Otherwise, like I told them, we would have been out. And we're still working and I'm talking to the people again and seeing what they want to do. And it's starting to pick up again, just like it was last Friday. Remember how I was saying how it was going, how there was a different kind of a mood here?

JOHN: I'm aware of that, Steve.

STEVE: Yeah. Well, that's, that's -- It seems like it's starting to pick up, 'cause they were watching. They did say to me, by the way -- I will say

this, that when I went out there to talk to Byron and Jack Harwell, those men were so decent, their concern, the smile, the handshakes. Both Wayne and I greatly appreciated that. I appreciated the words that they had to say. They were very well thought out and meant. And, and hearing that, the only thing is every now and then I'd look up, and I understand, you know, I don't take it away, but the two guys behind sure had, I mean, one of them a stern look all the way through. I tried to crack a smile and I knew he was of your agency from what Byron said. But, you know, they were watching from a distance and I says man, those guys, what was wrong with them?

And I says it's just -- I says you've got to remember, you know, because of what's all happened maybe they feel they've got to be stern or show something or -- But anyway --

JOHN: Yeah.

STEVE: -- Byron was just on his own with, with Jack. You know, they did come across very well, they did.

JOHN: You know, Steve, the sheriff there, I've been talking to him since I've been here and he is quite a guy, I'll tell you. He's, he's an honorable man and he really means well and he's, he's become a good friend, and he wants to see the right thing done

here and see things resolved. And, as far as Byron goes, I've known him for a few years and he is representative of all of us here, but I'll tell you, Byron, I agree with you, is a good spokesman and he was very sincere and he meant everything he said.

STEVE: Oh, I believe that, I really do. I mean, the questions that I asked and the things I stated, I didn't say, you know, have a lot of say but some of the concerns I did bring up I liked his response. He was very clear in what he had to say. I, I understood it and took it very well and I, you know, the very mood and the spirit of it all was, was good. I really thought it was. And I, I see -- I believe that he's a very genuine person, I really do. So, to me, you know, it did help, you know, and like I said, you know, the people were waiting to hear how it went and I could say really nothing negative about it.

What I'm trying to work out with some of these people yet is their concern. See, it's not your agency. We've seen how you've stepped in and tried to right a wrong. I'm still trying to work it with Wayne and, and some of these people, and it'll go a long way to try and understand the workings of the ATF, what happened, what might happen, how it pertains to us, the movement, the court system. And it's helped, also, you people explaining procedure to those people that have

wanted to hear. I, I'm hearing more about it myself, you know, of course. So that's -- Right now I'm -- You know, getting to be more trust. I'm just trying to get those things out and the explanation of those things and how they work.

But, you know, there still has been, of course, that concern with the other agency, how it came about. And, and like I was telling Byron, a lot of people have listened on the radios for -- There hasn't even been a mention of a reprimand of this agency or of some of those involved. Somebody has to take some responsibility and, and see how this happened. So, you know, we're talking about those things right now more than ever, and it seems like, you know, something's coming from it. So that's what I'm hoping for, you know, keeping on talking and discussing these things and it's like the ice is being broken again.

JOHN: You know, Steve, I'm, I'm glad to hear you say that, and I hope Byron alleviated your concerns. Like I say, if he said he was going to check on those things, he meant it.

STEVE: Yeah.

JOHN: And I know that today he's been trying to do that.

STEVE: Right.

JOHN: And he's been trying to get some more

information from you -- or for you.

STEVE: Okay.

JOHN: And how did the folks in there feel the meeting went, though, everybody else?

STEVE: They thought it went, they thought it went pretty good from what they heard. We described things -- I went and talked to David about it. He had a smile. He liked Jack. I told him about Byron and he had a good response to that, too. He said now, Steve, you know, for the people that's fine, work with them, talk to them and encourage and all that. He said to me for himself, he says right now I'm still waiting. I've got to, he said. They can -- Whatever they need to do with me is fine, but he says I will -- I told them I would come out, and he says and I meant that. He says the only thing that has, has slowed me down was that, he says and pray to God one audible word, wait.

And I says well, what's happening now? I asked him again and he said well, he's still doing that, he's looking at the Bible, he's waiting for that word or whatever. But for the rest, he says now, make it plain that, you know, you talk to them, anybody wants to, encourage, whatever. So that's why, you know, I'm working with them again. We're sitting down, we're talking about these things and there seems to be a different -- a little bit different view again. More

so like it was, like I said, last week. So --

JOHN: So you think things are looking up in there as far as getting something done here, Steve?

STEVE: Yeah, that's -- You know, today was one of the better days since -- In fact, it has been the best day since Friday. Friday, to me, was the best day of all, though, because, I mean, I really felt good about what was going on and, and I'm disappointed. I told Byron I, I kind of feel it was my fault that there was that five-hour gap Friday afternoon. That might have made a difference with whoever your bosses were. But, see, those three, they were coming out and they were waiting for the return call from Kathy and I, I just -- He said to me, John, you know, John Dolan, that he would be calling back in minutes.

So I went away for just a couple minutes, came right back and waited, and nothing happened for a half hour. So I went away again and I came back about three hours later and picked up the phone. There was a dial tone, so I thought it was okay. I thought maybe they're working something else out, something, or whatever. But then when I saw the cooler -- Now, get this, John. When I saw the cooler sitting out by the tree, someone told me that they were out there, I thought well what? So that's when I went back right away and called, and here Byron is -- A couple people

told me that they had called 25 times.

JOHN: Yeah.

STEVE: Yeah, and I don't know that. So here, apparently, the ringer on my phone was not working.

JOHN: I'm sure that that was a technical difficulty.

STEVE: Yeah. Well, I, I kind of, I kind of -- If I had it to do over again, I would have checked the phone. I'd have called in to see if the problem, you know, if it was -- I never thought about it, really, but it was that evening at 11:15. And, of course, it was cut off and, all of a sudden, just a total change of, of mood, the attitude here, and I just -- I didn't know hardly what to do then, because I -- Actually, I'd said a number of things, I'd stuck my neck out, and, all of a sudden -- And these people didn't want to go.

Actually, I told Byron there were about 20, 30. I was not going to even say that until I actually had more substance, but I actually thought there might have been that many that were going to come out, seriously. And there were -- Three were going to go out Saturday and I really believed as many as that would have gone out either Saturday afternoon or Sunday. And then when that happened, that whole

business, that's when -- All of a sudden, I mean, it was like no one was really giving me the time of day. It was like I had worked something out with these guys, like John Dolan and, and either they pulled something or I was involved or my perceptions were not any good, from what I was hearing them say, but they wondered about my ability to communicate and to hear, and to also share what their concerns were.

JOHN: Steve, Byron said it was cold out there, huh?

STEVE: Oh, John, I'm -- I mean, hey, I've been in some northern winters. I mean, it gets cold. But to have rain, you know, this wetness and the dampness go through the clothes. I felt for poor Jack, being an older man like that, having a flimsy jacket on. Oh, yeah, even, you know, Byron himself was -- At least I had a goose down kind of a parka on.

JOHN: Right.

STEVE: But, yeah, it was cold. The water was dripping off our noses and, and it kept raining and -- But we, we, we managed it for about an hour or so.

JOHN: Jack got mud all over his boots, I know that.

STEVE: He mentioned that, huh?

JOHN: And the rest -- Oh, yeah.

STEVE: New boots. He was saying he might

need a new pair now.

JOHN: Yeah. But regarding that other stuff, the commanders did that. I hope you appreciate that, Steve, and it wasn't the negotiators. We're all concerned and we're all -- we all feel the same way. Byron does and we're all -- we all feel the same way here.

STEVE: I believe that.

JOHN: Okay.

STEVE: I was always -- You know, I would have liked -- Too bad that John Dolan took off because, I mean, I, I did spend a, a number of days talking with him, but --

JOHN: You know, he, he didn't take off, but he had something else going. And he wanted to stay, but --

STEVE: Uh-huh. Well, you know, some time again, you know, one of these -- Some time soon here, you know, we're working away on this now, maybe there will be the possibility of speaking with him again, huh?

JOHN: Yeah. You know --

STEVE: What about --

JOHN: -- you mentioned Friday was the, the best day yet. I think we could make today the best day yet, too. You know what I mean? A better day if we

can just get something going here. You had a question for Byron yesterday regarding some court hearings or something? I just --

STEVE: Yeah. I think we were -- Also, both Wayne and I were concerned and wondering more about the, the sealed warrant. See, David, I was talking to him this morning again and he was saying why haven't they still let me know? He says don't they think that'd go a long way as to see what my response would be? He says to this day, I never -- I still don't know what they came to serve me with. He said I opened up the door, I looked out, and then he saw them charging with the guns, of course. And this is true.

I mean, there were four people that were right behind him that witnessed this. Perry Jones, the older man, got it, in fact. He stepped -- First, he got shot in the leg, then he stepped back and he started crying, of course. He was an older guy. And he stepped back and then he got it in the stomach, and then finally, of course, he died. But they saw what happened. And David still said there was no paper -- All he saw was a lot of guys rushing toward the door. So, but anyway, he's still -- That'd go a long way, to see well, what was it exactly? What was, what was he being charged with, what's the warrant? You know, he had a few questions.

I think what I should do today, in the next hour or so, is go sit down, if he's not sleeping, write down a few things and, and a couple other questions and hand them over to you guys. Maybe you can give me an answer. I can go a lot quicker then.

JOHN: Well, you know, Steve, I was just going to say that I think Byron has got some of this stuff --

STEVE: Okay.

JOHN: -- answered for you.

STEVE: Okay.

JOHN: And there was something about the court hearings being closed or things like that?

STEVE: Right.

JOHN: And I understand that there was an open court hearing today regarding Kathy. So --

STEVE: Oh, really? How --

JOHN: Yeah.

STEVE: You know how that went then, John?

JOHN: I don't have the particulars on it. I think it's going to be at, at 3:00 or -- It's going to be held, but it is going to be open to the public, I guess.

STEVE: Oh, it is?

JOHN: Yeah.

STEVE: Is there any way you could keep

abreast on that for me, and I'll call you back? And then I'm going to take that -- That'll, that'll help a lot, too, to see what happens with that.

JOHN: Okay. And you mentioned the press conference, also?

STEVE: Yeah. I, I don't know anything about that. Are they only having one a day now or --

JOHN: Yeah.

STEVE: They are? Okay. In the morning, I guess?

JOHN: You know, in the same usual time.

STEVE: Ten thirty?

JOHN: Right.

STEVE: Okay.

JOHN: But what I wanted to ask you was --

STEVE: Sure.

JOHN: -- I understand that Byron has got some, some answers to some questions here and I just wondered would you want to meet today?

STEVE: It's possible, yeah. Is there any way I can call back?

JOHN: Well, Steve, I'm here. Whenever you want to call, we're here.

STEVE: Okay. Let me call you right back on that. It's more than likely so, in fact.

JOHN: Steve, just -- If you could call back

fairly early, okay?

STEVE: Yeah, I'm not going to leave a lot of time.

JOHN: Back to me because --

STEVE: When I say call back, I mean, you know, pretty quick here, 'cause I know you're asking the question now and they're probably available now.

JOHN: Yeah. Okay?

STEVE: The day is getting already on.

JOHN: That's right.

STEVE: Okay, I'll, I'll call you back.

JOHN: So we'll be here.

STEVE: Okay.

JOHN: All right.

STEVE: Talk to you in a bit. Bye.

JOHN: Bye.

* * * * *

(Telephone dialed and rings two times.)

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: Hello?

JOHN: Hello, is Steve there?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: Just a minute.

[gap]

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: Hello?

JOHN: Yes.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: He's downstairs discussing some things with Wayne, and it's also the

worship hour, so he said that he would call back after three.

JOHN: After 3:00?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: Um-hum.

JOHN: Okay.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: Okay?

JOHN: That's great. Thank you.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: All right. Bye-bye.

JOHN: Bye.

* * * * *

(Telephone dialed and rings five times.)

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: Hello?

JOHN: Hello. Is Steven there, please?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: He just laid down. He's been up all night and --

JOHN: Okay. I just wanted to mention one thing to him, if I could.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: You want me to pass it on?

JOHN: No. If I could talk to him personally so there's no mix-up.

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: Just a minute.

JOHN: Okay.

[gap]

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: Just a moment.

Here he is.

JOHN: Is this Rachel?

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE SPEAKER: No.

JOHN: Okay.

STEVE: Hello?

JOHN: Steve?

STEVE: Yeah.

JOHN: I just wanted to let you know that they're going to drop off those tapes and they're going to drop off a tape player with some fresh batteries in it.

STEVE: Oh, okay.

JOHN: These are the tapes, the five that I mentioned to you from the relatives.

STEVE: All right.

JOHN: Okay?

STEVE: I think it -- Was it John Cox or someone had told me about them a while ago maybe, or is that the same ones or --

JOHN: The same one.

STEVE: I see.

JOHN: Yeah, the same ones.

STEVE: Are there any names --

JOHN: There might be, there might be some new ones in there, too.

STEVE: Okay. Do they have the magazines

then or --

JOHN: No, we haven't gotten any answer on those yet.

STEVE: I see. I was told Friday, I guess, they had gone all the way to Dallas or something like that. John had told me or -- I think John Cox told me they had picked them up already.

JOHN: Sold out.

STEVE: Yeah, he said they had picked them up, though.

JOHN: Yeah, yeah.

STEVE: Okay. Well, let me know then about that. I'll send somebody as soon as they're down there and drop them off. I'll let them know.

JOHN: Yeah, yeah, they're coming now.

STEVE: Oh, okay. Okay, thanks much.

JOHN: All right.

STEVE: Okay, bye-bye.

JOHN: All right, bye.

* * * * *

STEVE: Hello, John?

MIKE: Mike.

STEVE: Mike?

MIKE: How are you, Steve?

STEVE: Not too bad. How's it going there?

MIKE: Okay.

STEVE: I was talking to John earlier and he mentioned, you know, I, I told him I'd get back if I talked to David, and I was able to talk with him.

MIKE: Okay.

STEVE: And, apparently, like you already know, you know, David's had an interest in theologians or scholars responding to what he had to say with the Seven Seals. And there might be a guy that knows something or can show contrary to what David believes are shown. He seems to be very sharp. David heard him on the, on the radio and he would like -- He was thinking about giving the guy an opportunity, if he wanted to that is -- But his name, if you wanted it -- (Loud screeching noise.) Are you okay?

MIKE: Yeah. I don't know what that was.

STEVE: Okay.

MIKE: Something's turned up too loud.

STEVE: Okay. His name was Dr. Philip Arnold. He's down in Houston. He's with the Reunion Institute.

MIKE: The Reunion Institute?

STEVE: Institute, yeah. He's a doctor of probably theology, I would imagine, but his name is Dr. Philip Arnold. He was on the radio. He seemed to have some understanding. And a couple of these other people heard it and they came and told me about it. They said

if this guy can show something else or equal or anything else or stump him, they're out of here, they told me. When I heard that, I says okay, I've got something to work with and I'm going from there because that's been the biggest thing from day one.

MIKE: What is?

STEVE: You know, his whole thing about the Seven Seals. And, really, you know, that's why the people came here. That is the bottom line. So I don't know what you -- If you want to, if you would want to get him on the phone in a dialogue with him or to record it, ask some questions, or whatever, you know, I think it'd go a long way.

MIKE: Okay.

STEVE: It doesn't have to be aired or anything of that nature. If he wouldn't -- I mean, you know, it's just -- It comes right down for the people's sake.

MIKE: Yeah.

STEVE: So if you want to pass it on to them.

MIKE: Sure. We can -- We'll look into that, Steve.

STEVE: All right.

MIKE: But you're saying that some of the people in there are aware of this individual?

STEVE: Yeah.

MIKE: Not necessarily David?

STEVE: Well, what happened was apparently early this morning he must have come on some radio station. I didn't hear what station. And the man seemed to know what he was talking about. He made comments about the Seals or about David Koresh, and it sounded like he knew what he was talking about. So some came to me. I didn't hear it, I didn't know what it was about.

MIKE: Um-hum.

STEVE: They told me about it and I says well, what's the man's name? They told me that and they thought maybe -- They says well, we'd like to hear this guy and it'd go a long way with us to making up our mind, because, they said, that's the reason why we've been here in the first place. And I says well, I'll -- I went and talked to David now. He's -- And I asked him about it. He says well, yeah, he says you know, let them hear -- if we have a speaker phone, they can hear him through that and they can hear and make up their mind. You know, the guy's definitely educated.

MIKE: Sure.

STEVE: And he's got a doctor degree, of course, and he sounds like he knows what he's talking about. So, you know, that's the only information that they gave me about the man.

MIKE: Okay. But you're also saying David would allow --

STEVE: Oh, yeah.

MIKE: -- that to occur, to have a one-sided presentation on the Seals?

STEVE: Yeah. Well, what happened is, see, they first -- they came and talked to me about it, then I, I mentioned it to him, 'cause I says there's a guy that might be able to take you on and, and show a different point of view on that or might have something or he might challenge you or ask questions that you can't answer. Are you willing for these people here to sit and listen and -- And that's when he said yeah. He says of course. And I says well, then I'm going to go talk to John, and he says well, yeah, go do so. So, you know, I just came from there, just minutes ago.

But I, I wasn't aware of it, but they told me it was on, apparently, early this morning, on one of the -- I don't know what radio station, but at least he gave where he was from, a doctor of what institute and so forth.

MIKE: Okay.

STEVE: But, you know, that was really, from the beginning, almost two weeks -- about two weeks ago, that was his main challenge and, and at least there's someone that, that's reacting of a stature that's

educated and apparently has some experience and knowledge about it.

MIKE: Yeah. Well, you know, Steve, what we don't want to get into is, is another debate.

STEVE: No, I under-- No, you know, you know, it's not really that as much as it's maybe the man can give information that can be heard or ask questions that he can't answer or show a different perspective. I mean, this is what the people are saying to me.

MIKE: Okay.

STEVE: Because, remember, the challenge was he's saying the only one that can open the Seals and show what they're about.

MIKE: Um-hum.

STEVE: And this man has reacted to that and they -- a couple of these -- See, I wished I could have heard the thing, because I don't know exactly what it was or what he said, but they're apparently convinced that the man would have a, a good shot at it. And if that's so, they said well, what's the sense in being here? That's what a few of them have told me, 'cause they're the only ones that heard. They've talked to a number of other people here, so that's how I heard about it. Then they finally came and -- I said well, what was it all about? And they told me a little bit about the man, but, you know, I mean, it's not the same

as hearing him directly.

MIKE: Okay.

STEVE: Yeah.

MIKE: What's your feelings on it, Steve?

STEVE: Well, the truth -- I'm, I'm interested myself, because the only -- I came here, you know, like six-and-a-half years ago, and the only reason I ever left Hawaii is because I was pretty convinced. I had studied a lot of religions in my life and had compared them. And the truth is when I ran into David, he was so beyond a lot of people I had met and I'd never really heard any of the scholars open up or respond to some of the questions he laid open. But, finally, after all this time -- But, of course, you know, it's always hard to know -- I mean, there's a lot of good minds out there, but where are they?

You know, you're not going to run into everybody or hear about them or --

MIKE: True.

STEVE: There's so many thousands of colleges in the United States alone.

MIKE: That's right. We could be students forever.

STEVE: Well, this is it. So, I mean, I've always been a student. I'm interested in information and --

MIKE: True.

STEVE: -- and always increasing knowledge and understanding. But, you know, with this man, apparently they saw something in what he was saying, the sincerity, the, the way he actually laid out his information. They were -- They thought that the man may have something. So I said to David, what do you thin? If the guy -- If they let him call through or if you call or they can monitor it or -- And he says sure. Sure, he said.

MIKE: This is David or others?

STEVE: This is David. But they want to hear, you know.

MIKE: Right.

STEVE: Or, or if they could, they might -- he might say well, let this person on the phone to ask you a question or something or what do you think about David's presentation. Well, it's weak, I see that it's this or that. You know, that's what they're expecting to maybe hear.

MIKE: Okay. How do you think David would react to this individual, though?

STEVE: I think -- Oh, yeah.

MIKE: But say there --

STEVE: I think --

MIKE: There may well be major differences.

STEVE: There could be, and he's -- You know, I've been with him in the past. He is cordial and decent with people. If they ask questions, he a lot of times will stop, back off, and give them their opportunity. Or if they ask him a question, you know, he will get into it. But if they want to stop and ask him something, he's, he's actually usually pretty cordial and polite.

MIKE: Um-hum.

STEVE: And I think it would go well. I know there's a lot of people here he wants -- Like, of course, you know, those that have come from Britain. There are some that have not really known him long and they've raised questions, rightly so, because they don't know him that well or they haven't heard that much. So for that reason, I thought well, you know, if they, you know, if they're starting to raise those kind of questions, that's what it all surrounded was that kind of subject matter in the first place. That's what brought them here.

MIKE: Right.

STEVE: So I, I guess that's probably about -- In fact, for me even, you know, I mean, that's why I came here, was to hear. And if someone had another perspective -- I had a couple friends at another university that I did contact in the beginning when I

heard this information and I gave them opportunity to respond, and they never did. So for that reason, after time and after my trying to nail him down, show him that he was wrong, not able to do so because of his ability to show so many chapters in context, like pulling many pieces of a puzzle together, looking at one big picture, so after a while that's how I got involved and have continued on.

MIKE: Yeah.

STEVE: And I've always said until I can prove him wrong or I can controvert it somehow -- So far, I've taken it day by day, basically, for myself.

MIKE: Yeah. I, I guess our concern here initially, and we will obviously, you know, throw this around and discuss it and make a decision --

STEVE: Okay.

MIKE: -- but our initial reaction is, you know, how, how freely are the individuals in there going to be in their reactions to what that doctor may say. You know --

STEVE: Well, what we'll --

MIKE: And again I'm going back to are we going to get into a debate.

STEVE: Yeah. What we'll do --

MIKE: Because David has consistently said this and --

STEVE: Right.

MIKE: -- now Dr. Arnold might say this.

STEVE: Well, maybe -- You know, if you guys -- if you have any suggestions, what you think might work or how, you know, definitely I would, you know, I'll talk to these people or put them on or, or if they have questions for him or whatever, you know, he would be more than willing to allow whatever, especially -- I mean, his main interest, his main interest, Mike, is spiritual things, obviously. You know --

MIKE: Sure.

STEVE: -- the Bible and, and if he's not able to open these Seals, he'll tell you he's nobody, he's nothing, this is a farce, it always has been. He'll acknowledge it right now, but he says until -- He says right now I can show the Seals. Well, maybe there's other scholars that say hey, I've studied and I think this is -- And if they're here and if it's plausible, I believe these people will look at it, weigh it out, and definitely make a, a decision and move on. There's no question.

MIKE: Do you think, do you think they would be free to make that decision?

STEVE: Positi-- I, I'd put my -- I'd stake my life on it, I'd stake my reputation, all of that on it, I would.

MIKE: Um-hum.

STEVE: I know so, because even in the discussions with him, he himself has talked about sending people out of here and -- I mean, if they, if they're even questioning at all, he thinks that they should be out there.

MIKE: Sure.

STEVE: And there's other reasons, you know, I haven't brought up and so forth. It's kind of amongst -- Some of them are having, you know, personal things and so forth, but, you know, the question was actually raised in the minds always, you know, people wonder and -- But sometimes one talks, one way to talk, another, you know, it's, you know, it's been unique here in the past two weeks, of course.

MIKE: Oh, definitely, for all of us.

STEVE: You know, sometimes one gets, you know, you get humorous and you talk about it in one manner or another, even though you don't mean half of what you say. So when I'm sitting down with these people, I'm actually trying to get to the bottom of what they want to do. But, you know, I mean, most of all, people are pretty sober and, and straight and serious about it, they really are.

MIKE: Well, I'd certainly hope so, after the --

STEVE: Oh, they are. I mean --

MIKE: -- the undertakings of the last two weeks.

STEVE: Oh, for sure, for sure.

MIKE: You know, let me clarify one thing here.

STEVE: Okay.

MIKE: I know we're still probably in the midst of talking a little bit. Would, would they want a give-and-take presentation from this or a, a -- literally a tape recording from this individual?

STEVE: Well, I think --

MIKE: Would they accept that, if, if that's all he would do?

STEVE: Possibly. It would probably help, but I think they -- A couple of them -- I didn't -- Apparently, some of them spoke to David and kind of gave like a challenge, and that's when I went and talked to him, also. And in the process, he says well, you know, let the guy, you know, if there's some way they can hear him and myself -- And I don't think it would be a debate, Mike, I really don't. I think it'd be more of a discussion where the man could open up what he, he sees, or if he had questions of David where he could -- Like, even me, from the beginning, when I met him I says yeah, but what about this, what about

that?

And the truth is he backed off from me. I, I jumped all over him. I says yeah, what are you going to do with this, what are you going to do with that? I was calling him long distance from Hawaii. My bill was nothing less than $200 a month. And a lot of times I'd think I had him nailed down and he would just come back with -- and show me a lot more in context and it closed my mouth. And then I'd go back to the drawing board again.

MIKE: Um-hum.

STEVE: That went on for me for six months, for six months, calling him back and forth between California and Hawaii where I was at. And, and I've seen him with others. I saw him like in Jerusalem and I think it was -- Yeah, it was '90 and sitting down with a number of rabbis. I mean, I was so impressed, I really was, the way he, the way he opened up, allowed them to speak. And very logical thinkers, very logical.

MIKE: Sure.

STEVE: And I really liked the dialogue I heard. I always hoped I could get back and that we could see and hear a little more from that, but it never happened. But I really believe that between the man, the way they're speaking about him, from what I've

heard about this doctor, I think that it'd, it'd go very well.

MIKE: Okay. Well, I've, I've got a feeling or at least an indicator from being around here for the length of time that we've all been here is that, is that the, the people here will, in all probability, agree to a tape recording. And we haven't even consulted Dr. Arnold. What will he agree to?

STEVE: Oh, right. Maybe you could do that and then --

MIKE: Well, we were -- Our initials thoughts are perhaps an initial tape presentation, and then, if need be, go from there.

STEVE: Okay. That, that --

MIKE: Probably follow up.

STEVE: Yeah, if you think that, you know, that's what I mean. You know, whatever -- I'm open myself to what your views or what you might think about it.

MIKE: Sure.

STEVE: But the only thing I can tell you is, you know, why the people are here in the first place. I mean, the hundred and some that are left. And I mean, the bottom line, that's why they came here, because he says he can show them all things are in the book.

MIKE: Well, he's consistently said he's the only one that can open the Seals.

STEVE: That's true, that's true. And not to -- That's totally true. So -- Well, what I'll do is I'll get back to you then in the morning --

MIKE: Okay.

STEVE: -- unless you have anything else between that time. But, you know, I've been -- I about wore myself out today. I was up really late last night. I got up extremely early this morning.

MIKE: Really?

STEVE: And, yeah, I was talking to a lot of the people, trying to get something going again and --

MIKE: That's what John passed along to me. We came on this evening and --

STEVE: Right.

MIKE: -- we understand that there's, you know, potentially a, a face-to-face meeting in the works or --

STEVE: Right.

MIKE: -- whatever that John was going to pursue in the morning with you, but --

STEVE: I'm still trying to -- We're still working on that, and --

MIKE: Okay.

STEVE: -- Wayne, I'm a little disappointed

because I was hoping he would get more views down more quickly, but he's acting like he's kind of worn out and he hasn't really done much on it. I mean, he's the one that understands more of the details of the legalistic --

MIKE: Yeah.

STEVE: -- points, so --

MIKE: Why is that, do you know? Is he just --

STEVE: I think he's, he's been up a lot himself and, apparently, today he seemed to be kind of slow and tired. I stopped in a few times and he was nodding his head most of the day, and I says well, maybe later on you can sit down and start nailing those points down so when I call back the guys in the morning I might have something and can go from there. He didn't seem too excited today, I don't know why.

MIKE: Okay.

STEVE: He just looks tired. I guess kind of forlorn and --

MIKE: Well, we're all tired.

STEVE: Oh, yeah, I'm sure. I'm sure.

MIKE: We're all tired.

STEVE: Right. So I guess by the morning, maybe you might know something, maybe not.

MIKE: Sure.

STEVE: I don't expect, but maybe, you know, you can of course --

MIKE: We might --

STEVE: Okay.

MIKE: We may well know.

STEVE: Okay.

MIKE: How's everything else? Is there anything we can do for -- We're consistently worried about the, you know, the health problems --

STEVE: Right.

MIKE: -- of Judy and Scott and the family.

STEVE: They're still there.

MIKE: Okay.

STEVE: And, you know, they're still monitoring it and we're talking to him still and --

MIKE: Okay.

STEVE: -- and they're, they're both saying they're interested in hearing this guy. And so far, he's the only one apparently they've picked up on the radio.

MIKE: I was going to say there's been a lot of it, at least what we're getting on the media.

STEVE: There has, huh?

MIKE: People, you know, presenting themselves --

STEVE: Right.

MIKE: -- as, as being knowledgeable. I mean, we just haven't pursued it because, like I say, our main concern is we don't want to get into a --

STEVE: I understand.

MIKE: -- a large, you know --

STEVE: Right.

MIKE: -- religious debate between David or, or anyone else, anyone who may want to come in and --

STEVE: Right.

MIKE: -- and express their, their opinions on it.

STEVE: Well, you know, I mean, the more I gave it thought about what they were telling me today, why they came here, and I've always known why and I know why they've stayed, because of their belief that he has this ability, so the more I thought about it, I thought well, I'm going to go over and see if he's willing to do that if, if you guys worked it out and the man would call or vice versa somehow. And he says why, sure. He says that's what I've always said. He said that's what I was trying to state plainly two weeks ago.

And I says okay, then I'm going to go talk to John or whoever is there now.

MIKE: Sure.

STEVE: He says go ahead. So I thought -- I

mean, there's no question in my mind it would be the greatest thing over any other reason or cause to get the majority, if not all of them, out of here.

MIKE: Oh, sure, that's our, our goal. Our goal at the outset is that we want you all to come out and we're --

STEVE: Yeah.

MIKE: -- we're anticipating that, you know, happening sooner or later.

STEVE: Right. If this guy has some good strong questions or statements on the Seals, I mean, that's where it is with them. It would show them that these people wouldn't care if he says he's waiting on his God or not. I mean, I go in there and talk with David a lot, and sometimes he'll say things, sometimes he'll say things I don't even agree with or, or we'll talk about things that are, you know, all sorts of dialogue I've had with him. But I've always tried to keep an open mind and listen to all different factions, compare and weigh it out and try to go by the weight of evidence. I mean, that's been more or less --

MIKE: Sure.

STEVE: -- the bottom line for me.

MIKE: Sure.

STEVE: But, so --

MIKE: As we've generally said, too, we're

not trying to, trying to, you know, alter the beliefs of everyone in there or, or shut down the, the group.

STEVE: Well, that --

MIKE: We're just trying to resolve this last two weeks, Steve.

STEVE: Yeah, I understand that. You know, the biggest difficulty, no question, has been you guys are not -- I mean, you know, this, this is a -- such a, a group that's tuned in to spiritual things or what they see as prophecies, events taking place in the final days, which they believe are here. And I know you men don't have the same background and so forth. I mean, I know you're trying to sympathize and give room for that, but I know from your perspective it would be difficult and hard.

But, you know, I mean, the reason they came here, all that they are and what they want to be revolves around what they see him showing from that book. So, and, you know, he's constantly giving them studies. People come to his door. A lot of times even if he's half sick here and they want studies and, and --

MIKE: Sure. And he's done that for them. He's been there for them --

STEVE: Yeah.

MIKE: -- when they, when they do that.

STEVE: He's always challenged them to go back and read on their own and, and challenge him or find something or -- And if they don't see it, what's the sense of being here. He's brought up that over and over again. He's actually thought about sending people out that even haven't shown an interest that they want to. I mean, that's been discussed in the last few days. And I don't -- I mean, sometimes I talk about it. You know, I'm more quiet about that than not, because I am just wanting to pick up on just definitely what's going on or what, what can be worked out here.

MIKE: Well, you know we would welcome them for, for whatever reason that they decide to come out.

STEVE: Right. That I, that I realize.

MIKE: And after the situation, you know, resolves itself, we're not saying they're not free to return to the group, go back in to the --

STEVE: Right.

MIKE: We're just -- The immediacy is to resolve this situation.

STEVE: I can -- I understand that.

MIKE: Not long term to do anything about the, the group, the organization.

STEVE: Yeah. It would have been so much --

MIKE: They'll be free to continue that.

STEVE: Right. It would have been so much

easier, as you know, if there were --

MIKE: I know.

STEVE: -- no religious aspect to this at all. I mean, well, then shoot, everybody would have been out single file that first day.

MIKE: Yeah.

STEVE: In fact, I'll tell you what, when those bullets were flying through that wall where I was, and I was ducking and trying to talk on the phone, man, I mean, if you would have heard me on the telephone with first Larry Lynch and --

MIKE: Sure.

STEVE: I mean, if you play back -- If they record that with the -- with Larry Lynch, you'd hear --

MIKE: That wasn't done. Everything that's been recorded --

STEVE: I supposed, but, you know, Wayne, I never heard him talk so high, in such a high-pitched voice. Later on I had to chuckle about it. I says Wayne, I hardly knew it was you, if I wouldn't have seen you there talking myself. And he was saying call them off and let's talk and what's going on, of course, you know, and all that. So --

MIKE: Well, I think what you just said, you know, that you would have all, barring the religious aspect of it, you would have all been out single file

the first day --

STEVE: Oh, positively, positively.

MIKE: -- you realize that can still happen. And I know --

STEVE: Yes. Well, see, that's --

MIKE: -- I shouldn't, I should not say it, but any time they're still free to do that and --

STEVE: Exactly. But, see, it's still hard, Mike --

MIKE: I know.

STEVE: -- to, to separate that. That, that is the most difficult thing, even for myself, after six-and-a-half years of traveling with him, studying, talking to theologians in London, Melbourne, all around America. Even for me, I mean, I've really challenged a lot of good minds, I really have.

MIKE: Um-hum.

STEVE: You know, there's a lot of people, as you probably -- You already know there's, you know, there's almost two billion people in this world claiming to be Christians or having some kind of contact with Christianity, and of all those people I've gotten to challenge a lot of good minds. And in the process --

MIKE: Oh, you have, huh?

STEVE: Yeah. And in the process --

MIKE: More than most.

STEVE: That's it. And in the process, they've had very few answers. Whereas, this man has actually shown one, not so much given an opinion and a theory. But he says look at this chapter in light of this chapter. So that's where the, the strength has been. That's where the weight of evidence has been for the majority that have looked and listened and gone back and compared. Like I was telling I think it was --

(End of Tape #129.)

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO & FIREARMS

TAPE #130

3/16/93
7:55 P.M. - 8:24 P.M.

(Tape 130)

MR. SCHNEIDER: So, to me, it's always been a healthy thing and, you know, it's something that he still does. But as to this latest thing that we're talking about, I'd be very interested to see how it could work out and whatever suggestions you have, you know, I'd more than want to talk about it.

MIKE: Okay.

MR. SCHNEIDER: 'Cause that's really been my area, also.

MIKE: Sure. We'd be, you know, more than happy to pursue that. We appreciate you --

MR. SCHNEIDER: Okay.

MIKE: -- bringing that up.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Okay.

MIKE: One quick thing, also --

MR. SCHNEIDER: Sure.

MIKE: -- while we have a little time that we need, but we're kind of bouncing around ideas here, just --

MR. SCHNEIDER: Okay.

MIKE: You know, I'd like your personal insights on how the face to face went.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Well, I, I don't know if you heard earlier when I -- or if it was recorded earlier when I was speaking with John-3.

MIKE: Yes.

MR. SCHNEIDER: But I really, seriously, totally I liked Byron, I really like the man. I got -- I listened to him carefully. He was very articulate --

MIKE: He is.

MR. SCHNEIDER: -- and handled himself well. His concerns, I thought he was genuine. I, I think he's probably put in a lot of years of good service. He said enough things for me to see that -- I mean, it sounded like it's a guy that I would definitely like backing me or, or being in the position he's in. And, of course, Harwell, I didn't talk to him as much as did Wayne. I never knew the man before. It was the first time I'd met him, other than speaking, speaking to him on the phone I think once.

MIKE: Okay.

MR. SCHNEIDER: But I thought it went well. And, and Wayne did, too. Wayne is more a person that wanted to probably get more into the issues, the legalities.

MIKE: That's what it sounded like.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Right. And --

MIKE: You know, those are so simple. Nothing's maybe simple, but they aren't as complex or difficult as, as Wayne may think they are.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Right.

MIKE: Those are very workable areas that, that we can resolve

MR. SCHNEIDER: Well, see, that's --

MIKE: -- very easily.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Right.

MIKE: Whatever it's going to take, you know, some written documents or promises from others in authority, in the legal, legal aspect of, of it having to do with, you know, the issues you brought up, the forfeiture or the, the evidence and stuff, the --

MR. SCHNEIDER: Right.

MIKE: -- general investigation, the trial, the documents.

MR. SCHNEIDER: David has brought up the issues again as of today. He was saying to me something about -- he was talking about his mother and the lawyer she apparently retained and about how he heard that the judge, the federal judge here said that he didn't -- I don't know if it was we at large or he himself had no rights. Pertaining to what all the issues he was talking about, he didn't make that clear to me. But that was a concern and he wanted that discussed. He wanted me to speak to both Wayne and maybe yourselves about that.

MIKE: I don't follow you on that one, Steve.

MR. SCHNEIDER: I don't really know, either.

I've got to go back and get really what, what he meant by that, because he said something to -- It was something to do with an attorney being retained for him by his mother, and something to do with a response that he heard. I don't know where he heard it from or how, but something to do with a federal judge here that, in essence, said he didn't have any rights.

He wanted to know also about -- understand more about house arrest, the condition that we're in right now, along with, you know, a great concern about -- not so much has been said about you people, but, you know, a great concern about the ATF and the part they played and where -- and about the sealed warrant. You know, these are some of the things he's still -- He says he'd still like to know why they came in the manner they did, and he never got to see anything.

He still wants to know what, what actually was the warrant for, what was he being arrested for. And, you know, you hear much through the press. Your agency hasn't told us a whole lot about that, but we've heard, of course, through the air waves and elsewhere that it's sealed. What does that really mean? It's a sealed warrant. And, you know, it definitely bothers him. Does it mean that it can be changed if they finally come here and look around, they'll change it to

what they find?

MIKE: No. No, no.

MR. SCHNEIDER: These are concerns, of course.

MIKE: Okay. I guess we made an assumption, maybe false, that Wayne might, might be knowledgeable in the sealed warrant. And the purpose for a sealed warrant in a criminal investigation, as we all, all are involved out here, we're criminal investigators, it's totally for the safe -- or the well being and safety of those agents, whether they be FBI or ATF, so that whatever the warrant is for, if it's a search warrant for a piece of property or an arrest warrant for an individual, that that warrant and the documents in support of the warrant aren't released to the public.

Once we file, we, law enforcement, file a document, any type of warrant with the court system --

MR. SCHNEIDER: Do you know --

MIKE: -- that's public, that's public information.

MR. SCHNEIDER: I see. Mike, do you know personally what it is? You probably would, wouldn't you?

MIKE: For?

MR. SCHNEIDER: The warrant itself, what it was? I mean, not that I'm asking you or that you would

give it now, but are you yourself aware of what the warrant is or the details or what it's about?

MIKE: Now, which warrant are you talking about?

MR. SCHNEIDER: I don't -- Apparently, whatever the ATF said they came to serve. That's I guess what we're talking about.

MIKE: Oh, okay. That's -- That was -- To my knowledge, that's -- that was a search warrant for the buildings out there.

MR. SCHNEIDER: And that's all it was? I mean, from your understanding, that's all it was, was a search warrant? We also heard they came with a warrant, an arrest warrant or something?

MIKE: Okay, yeah. I have been corrected by --

MR. SCHNEIDER: Okay.

MIKE: There were, there were two warrants. One was a search warrant for the premises for weapons --

MR. SCHNEIDER: All right.

MIKE: -- in violation of the statutes that, that ATF has jurisdiction to investigate. And there was an arrest warrant for David --

MR. SCHNEIDER: Okay.

MIKE: -- involving, you know, violations of

those same, same laws.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Right.

MIKE: But, you know, all, all the supporting reasons behind that, I'm, I'm not --

MR. SCHNEIDER: Oh, and that would be part of the warrant itself then?

MIKE: I don't know specifically --

MR. SCHNEIDER: Is that what you're saying?

MIKE: Yes.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Oh, I see.

MIKE: It's called, it's called an affidavit.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Okay.

MIKE: And what happens is in that case an ATF agent involved in that investigation would swear in court to that affidavit, here are the facts that we have found in our investigation in support of why we want, first, a search warrant and then an arrest warrant. That's the documents that are sealed, and they're sealed only for the safety of those agents. They would be -- Once it's executed, you know, if, if this thing would have gone as normally they do on that Sunday, and let's say David was arrested and the, and the buildings were searched, the next day in court all those documents would have been opened.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Okay.

MIKE: They would have been opened and

released in court and then to the -- or be open to the media. And the reason they don't is literally for the safety of the agents until they're what we call executed, until they're, they're carried out, an order of the court.

MR. SCHNEIDER: All right. But, of course, you know, what I want Wayne to do, I still want him to jot down or make a list of some of the concerns --

MIKE: Sure. Sure. I'm sure we can answer those.

MR. SCHNEIDER: -- and -- Right, I'm sure you can. That would help a lot. It would help a lot.

MIKE: Well, while we're talking legal things, I don't know if you're aware that your sister has retained a lawyer or counsel for you.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Right, I, I --

MIKE: Are you aware of that?

MR. SCHNEIDER: Yes, I was aware of that.

MIKE: Okay.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Is she -- Someone said she was in Waco. Is that true, or would you not know that?

MIKE: We, we can find out. I don't know that. If she was, I would tell you.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Yeah, I'm sure you would.

MIKE: We, we got all these, what we call reports of people, and I've got a couple in my lap just

as we're talking. You got a call from an old friend of yours in Hawaii, I guess.

MR. SCHNEIDER: And who is that?

MIKE: David Shideler, Shideler, S-H-I-D-E-L-E-R? University of Hawaii, Department of Religion.

MR. SCHNEIDER: David, what's his last name?

MIKE: S-H-I-D-E-L-E-R.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Shideler.

MIKE: Shideler?

MR. SCHNEIDER: I've never heard -- I can't -- Huh, interesting.

MIKE: Says he attended University of Hawaii with you and was a good friend.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Really?

MIKE: Is concerned, you know.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Well, great. Did you get his tape message?

MIKE: No, just a written one that he called.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Oh, okay. Well, that's interesting.

MIKE: Just a written one making inquiry and, you know --

MR. SCHNEIDER: Anything -- Any address or return phone number or anything of that nature?

MIKE: Yeah, there's a phone number here.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Oh, okay.

MIKE: Yeah.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Huh.

MIKE: I assume he called --

MR. SCHNEIDER: Honestly, I don't remember the last name. That's interesting. I mean, 'cause that's been a while ago, of course.

MIKE: Yeah.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Let me write that -- I'm going to write it down here on a piece of paper.

MIKE: Okay.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Okay, David, and then could you spell it one more time, please?

MIKE: Sure. S-H-I-D-E-L-E-R.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Man, I never -- I don't ever remember a name like that. Shideler, Shideler.

MIKE: Hmmm. Well, maybe they, they could have misspelled it, too.

MR. SCHNEIDER: I, I sure wish that they could have gained a little -- oh, gained a little more information on that. Very interesting.

MIKE: Then we have -- While we're speaking of that, too, and we can spend the next -- Well, we can get back with you, but we've got numerous inquiries from family and friends that we'd be more than happy to pass them on. Most of them are written, you know, just

phone calls --

MR. SCHNEIDER: Yeah.

MIKE: -- saying -- I've got one here from Judy's mother and obviously she's concerned about her welfare and your welfare and Judy's injuries.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Right. I'm sure. I mean, knowing her all these years, I was surprised that we didn't hear more about her sooner.

MIKE: Yeah. Well, she's called, and we've had just numerous inquiries. We keep a separate folder just to have them if we get into a time to pass them along, but we've --

MR. SCHNEIDER: Okay.

MIKE: -- we've had continuing inquiries, obviously, to --

MR. SCHNEIDER: Right.

MIKE: -- ask about their welfare and, and their concern, and they're all hopeful, as you and I and everyone are, Steve, that it's going to be resolved soon.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Oh, I, I surely hope so myself, I do. And that's what, you know, well, like this, this latest thing, I'm hoping that'll have a lot to do with it, play a big part of it somehow.

MIKE: Right. We're hopeful that anything we can do together will, will be helpful and we're more

than willing to explore the possibilities of Dr. Arnold coming forth and presenting --

MR. SCHNEIDER: And tell -- You can tell him of David's willingness. I'm not aware who all heard, but, anyway, he has a willingness to speak with him, to listen to him, to share anything. I think there would be a good dialogue there, I really do.

MIKE: Okay. As long as it's a good, a good --

MR. SCHNEIDER: Yeah.

MIKE: -- a good dialogue and not a, not a heated debate.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Yeah, I, I understand. You know, and first -- Number one, like you said, you'd have to contact the man even to see if he'd be willing in the first place.

MIKE: Sure. And I think there's various steps there.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Yeah.

MIKE: And my inclination is that he may be willing to sit in Houston and make a tape for his presentation.

MR. SCHNEIDER: That's true.

MIKE: And maybe the next step, if it's necessary, is, is to get into some kind of three-way conversation. And we'd have to work up the mechanics

of how, how everybody in there could, could listen to that.

MR. SCHNEIDER: That's true, that's true. That sounds good. I, I think that'd be one of the greatest -- I mean, that, to me, would be the best thing I've heard yet, seriously.

MIKE: Do you, do you -- The way you're talking you have some serious indicators that that type of situation or that type of presentation could resolve the situation?

MR. SCHNEIDER: Positively, positively, because the only reason -- I'm serious. The reason these people are here is because he has put out challenges and there's not been any response. But what kind of a response is he going to get in Waco, anyway? Isn't that true? You know what I mean?

MIKE: Yeah, yeah, I know where you're coming from.

MR. SCHNEIDER: I mean, who's here?

MIKE: Who's here?

MR. SCHNEIDER: No majority university or colleges.

MIKE: Yeah.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Or what do you have for, you know, well known theologians or anything else? I mean, unlike yourself, I haven't heard, you know, too many

responses to his tape or what he said by theologians. If they're out there on the air waves or have responded to you or to your people there, I mean, I wouldn't know that. But that's the kind of thing that would have made a difference from the beginning with these people, I mean, in leaving here, every last one of them, every last one of them.

I mean, the only thing -- the main thing has been because they have seen something that he has done, and maybe if they've seen or somebody else shows something, I mean, no question they'll look at it, because, I mean, right from the beginning, anybody that's come here they do a lot of comparing, they listen carefully, very carefully. I mean, when they listen to me, they've asked me some pretty hard questions.

MIKE: Well, that's good. Yeah, the questioning --

MR. SCHNEIDER: Exactly, exactly.

MIKE: -- what's being said and whether or not they agree with it or can't agree.

MR. SCHNEIDER: He says, he says if I'm false, how would you -- He says compare. He's always said himself listen. I mean, seriously, he's never held onto people. If anything, he'll actually chase them away. And, I mean, so these people now, the ones

I've talked to, when they mentioned this, I thought well, good, here's one of the best opportunities I've heard yet, over anything else.

I mean, I can be talking to him about, you know, relatives, about carrying on with their life, but that's not been so effective.

MIKE: That has not --

MR. SCHNEIDER: No.

MIKE: -- not been effective?

MR. SCHNEIDER: Well, you know, to a degree. Like, say, the three people that were coming out and then -- Actually, there would have been about 20, 30, and still might be. It might even --

MIKE: Well, that's what we --

MR. SCHNEIDER: I was talking to him today and he himself was even talking about sending like that many out himself.

MIKE: Hmmm.

MR. SCHNEIDER: So -- And, in fact, that, that's been the discussion, I would say, in the last two or three days, but I didn't want to say anything because I don't want to go telling you people that and then you're saying well, you're reneging, you're this and that, because, you know, I'm still talking to them. And --

MIKE: Yeah.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Pardon?

MIKE: Again, again, you know, we've talked about this before and I shouldn't have to but I'm going to, you've also realized that sending 30 people out to us tomorrow would be the greatest thing that we've done in the last 17 days --

MR. SCHNEIDER: Well, I do realize that.

MIKE: -- together. You know, we'd be doing it together.

MR. SCHNEIDER: I'll tell you the truth. I'm not joking when I say I really thought that would have happened, like by Sunday, seriously. But I now think I, I realize a little bit more what happened. I think you probably would -- From today and hereafter, I've got a feeling you guys will know what happened. I think there was a, a response to us, maybe Friday, or maybe you picked up on negative vibes or something of that nature, I don't know. But, but maybe it didn't come across clear.

MIKE: Yeah, yeah. There were decisions made on Friday, as we've referred to before, by those people that make the decisions. They literally went into a mode that they needed to see significant positive signs.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Oh, what a -- You know, I'd have given anything if just 24 more hours, Mike, could

have gone by. I'd have given anything.

MIKE: You and I both, Steve. You and I both.

MR. SCHNEIDER: I mean, I'll tell you the truth.

MIKE: We can't sit here and second guess it --

MR. SCHNEIDER: Yeah, I know.

MIKE: -- and wonder what would have happened.

MR. SCHNEIDER: If I would have known, if John or John Cox would have just said to me we have made this and we might be doing this. If I would have had that to work on, I would have known what to say to them and so forth.

MIKE: If we would have known that.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Yeah, that's true.

MIKE: Truthfully.

MR. SCHNEIDER: I could tell John --

MIKE: If we would have known and would have had the presentation or had the, the forewarning that that decision was going to be made, obviously, we would have fought it.

MR. SCHNEIDER: I believe, because John Cox --

MIKE: And we would have given you the, the

indicators in a, in a positive way, not in a threatening way, saying --

MR. SCHNEIDER: Right.

MIKE: -- we need the significant movement, the significant sign, and our decision-makers are saying that means not two or three, that means 20, 30, 40.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Right.

MIKE: And -- But it got, it got away from us.

MR. SCHNEIDER: But, you know, like for me, see, what was really going to help me -- I mean, even though I was talking to that many people, it seemed like that was going to happen, I didn't want to say anything until -- I knew that Saturday morning those three were going out, no -- They were going out. Then I was going to plan that to say okay, now, here we go, do you see this? I mean, and that's -- I'll tell you the truth. John Dolan came across very well. A lot of people, for some reason or other, were hanging around me by the telephone.

They saw the smiles, the response, the easy-going conversation and so forth. So it just seems like it picked up. And then David had apparently some things to say to some of them. So this will more than at-ease the -- start getting the ball rolling and to

look at being out like by Sunday, say.

MIKE: Sure. That's what we thought, too. We really --

MR. SCHNEIDER: Yeah.

MIKE: We thought it was going to happen.

MR. SCHNEIDER: But I think this may even be better, to tell you the truth. In fact, this is what it's always been about, this, this challenge of the spiritual, of the Bible. I mean, here's the book that's been around for a couple thousand years now. A lot of people make a lot of money off this book.

MIKE: Sure.

MR. SCHNEIDER: So, so I'd be -- Myself, I'd be interested to hear what Dr. Arnold would have to say, I really would be. I, I -- And what I'm hearing from these people, it sounds like the guy was extremely sincere. He came across very well to them and had an honesty about him. A lot of people -- In fact, probably even yourself or religious types, I don't know about you, but I'm always skeptical of those people more than almost any part of society.

MIKE: Oh, sure. Well, especially when we're established in, in, in our -- with our religious beliefs.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Exactly. Exactly.

MIKE: All of sudden, if someone comes on the

scene, it --

MR. SCHNEIDER: For sure.

MIKE: -- may cause you to question it and -- But that's part of the growing process and, like you say, the educational process of it.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Right. Well, all --

MIKE: Again, what --

MR. SCHNEIDER: Okay.

MIKE: And I don't want to beat a dead horse, but what I'm hearing you say is the possible involvement of Dr. Arnold could be the -- a significant act that might result in --

MR. SCHNEIDER: I, I really believe so, because --

MIKE: -- in a great number of people coming out now.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Right. Because let me say this even, even before this happened where, you know, that, that tragic Sunday, I mean, he was all ready -- When people come here to study, to hear him, he's always putting out that challenge. If there's anybody out there -- Like he sent a couple people out that came to hear him, when he sent them out, he says go to the theologians, go to the, to the professors, to the ministers, to the priests, the rabbis, ask them questions. Ask them to show you where the Seven Seals

are. And for that reason, you know, this is why some of the people have gone back and haven't heard from some.

They've wanted to hear a response themselves. There's a lot of people that -- They always keep an open ear and an open mind.

MIKE: Sure.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Because if they heard this guy, who's, who's to say there's not another 20 minds in this world that are beyond or that have something they can show that is more solid, or that have another perspective that's just as viable.

MIKE: Right.

MR. SCHNEIDER: So --

MIKE: Right. You know, and the possibility exists that however this Dr. Arnold may, may be willing to present --

MR. SCHNEIDER: Right.

MIKE: -- his side of it that those that do come out, the 30 or 40 or whatever, the possibility exists that he could meet with them in person after they've come out.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Sure.

MIKE: And they can get into a dialogue and then let those 30, 40, 50 people --

MR. SCHNEIDER: Anything's possible.

MIKE: -- make up their mind what they want to do.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Yeah. Anything's possible.

MIKE: Next week, next month.

MR. SCHNEIDER: So, you know, if he's got -- If he wants, if he wants to make a tape and raise questions or if he's got even good responses, that -- You know, even if the man said he might -- David might have something there, they would, they'd listen all the more. Or if he wants to raise more questions to David or whatever, you know, any -- Whatever format there, you know -- in all his elements.

MIKE: Sure. Okay. Well, we'll, we'll explore several formats.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Okay, sounds good.

MIKE: Again, my concern is that, that coming from our decision-makers that we've been told people are coming out before and it didn't happen, whether it just took a little longer than they thought it should or whatever. But, you know, that's what we're going to have to present to them now.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Right.

MIKE: Saying that this could may well be the break through.

MR. SCHNEIDER: You know, you know that I could never emphasize enough how disappointed I was --

MIKE: Right.

MR. SCHNEIDER: -- because they should have been out. Not maybe. I mean, that's -- Not, not maybe at all. I gave those names because they told me to give their names. And they had made up their mind and, I mean, I just plopped down that next morning. I'm serious. If you would have heard my -- the way I came across the deck all that afternoon, I was so frustrated, disgusted. I, I didn't even know what to do. I just felt like throwing my hands in the air and saying okay, I'm going to just go lay down and sleep this off.

MIKE: Well, you know, again, that's a concern as, you know, are we back to square one if David, you know, doesn't agree with Dr. Arnold or, or --

MR. SCHNEIDER: No, I think --

MIKE: -- can't seem to counter him.

MR. SCHNEIDER: I don't think, in honesty, that will happen.

MIKE: We don't want to start on day one again. We're on day 17.

MR. SCHNEIDER: No, I realize, I realize. But, you know, this has really been his personal challenge even from the beginning. And I was -- Even --

MIKE: David's?

MR. SCHNEIDER: Yeah.

MIKE: Okay.

MR. SCHNEIDER: And I've even thought myself what could be done to alleviate that or to bring in another perspective or to counter. And I know, of course, you men aren't into that aspect, but you're into working things out, doing what you can.

MIKE: Right.

MR. SCHNEIDER: And I know you don't run into every day some kind of a religious group of people that are so buried into the Bible that it might seem lopsided to you and their total perspective of things, but, I mean, this is what, you know, what it's really been from the beginning, is people that really want to see that book and understand it because they, they see there's something to that book that seems to be very truthful. Meaning the Bible. So if there's other minds out there that, that see something, understand something, that can raise some really good questions --

MIKE: You know, we have, though --

MR. SCHNEIDER: Yeah.

MIKE: I guess we haven't to this extent or the, the length of this negotiations, but we have dealt with, with other individuals that had their strong religious beliefs, and I can historically start talking

about them.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Right. I believe that.

MIKE: But the important part of it is that we resolved them all.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Right.

MIKE: Resolved and we were able to get through those questions and, and their beliefs and to, and to peacefully resolve the situations. They were not as large as this. I mean, you know as well as I this is probably the largest and longest situation of this type that we are aware of. Not that we haven't had other similar, but not to, not to this size and the number of people involved and the length of time.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Right.

MIKE: So we have come across individuals like David.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Okay.

MIKE: But just not on the grand scale.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Right, right. Okay.

MIKE: Okay.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Well, I'll be happy to be talking with -- I suppose it'd be -- Who tomorrow would I be talking with about 9, 10 in the morning?

MIKE: I'm assuming just the way it goes, because we're going to be rotating our people.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Okay.

MIKE: You know, people are -- John-1 is here, John-2 has been here.

MR. SCHNEIDER: No kidding?

MIKE: Sure. No one, no one left here. No one here.

MR. SCHNEIDER: All right.

MIKE: We just wanted to get a fresh voice.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Tell you the truth, I wouldn't mind speaking again with John Dolan or John-2, or even, of course, after speaking with Byron yesterday -- I mean, it -- you guys -- I believe you all have it together, of course.

MIKE: We do.

MR. SCHNEIDER: You wouldn't, you wouldn't be where you're at, dealing with humanity and so many personalities through the years in the way you have.

MIKE: We're here, we've all

MR. SCHNEIDER: You've got a little insight and so forth and trying to work it out.

MIKE: That's all we want.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Right.

MIKE: Obviously, the sooner the better for all of us.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Yeah.

MIKE: Both sides.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Uh-huh. You know, it's

always dealt with on our part this deep conviction we have and, you know, if it wasn't for that, it would be something more, you know, familiar to yourselves. I know that, but, but, anyway, I'll, I'll be calling then in the morning. I'll definitely be calling somewhere around 9 or 10 in the morning.

MIKE: Okay, you'll give us a call, right?

MR. SCHNEIDER: Yeah.

MIKE: And if we've got something prior, we'll, we'll get back with you.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Okay. Oh, by the way, what happened with -- Apparently then it didn't -- they didn't decide to send -- Friday night I know they had gone out of their way to pick up a Newsweek and a Time magazine. I guess they didn't drop that off when they went to pick up the, apparently the tapes and -- I think it was tapes. I don't know what else was in there.

MIKE: Today?

MR. SCHNEIDER: Yeah.

MIKE: Yeah, they were just tapes, and my understanding is that the magazines had been there but weren't there or weren't included in the package. Something got lost in the translation.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Right.

MIKE: And I'll check and see what or where

they are.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Well, you know, it dawned on me, of course, that they mentioned something about having to get them in Dallas or some other place far away. But it dawned on me that there are people living here using this address that both get Time and Newsweek. There's a Novella Kipsman (phonetic sp.).

MIKE: The mail for your people? Oh, okay.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Yeah. And there's always Wayne Martin, Jr., who -- Between the two of them, one gets Time, one gets Newsweek. So -- But, anyway, however you'd want to work it.

MIKE: We'll have to research that whole thing. I thought that was one of those things on last week, it was all sent on Friday.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Right.

MIKE: And it's kind of gotten beyond us and I, I don't know --

MR. SCHNEIDER: Yeah, John -- Even John Cox was going to send it around that night even, Friday night, even though it was late. He said well, that's no problem. He says we'll just -- He says it'll take maybe an hour. I says well, I'll probably be up still.

MIKE: I know initially we couldn't find one, they were such a popular item in the newsstands. They were sold out.

MR. SCHNEIDER: I'm sure that from David's perspective or about him, it's going to be extremely --

MIKE: Sure.

MR. SCHNEIDER: So what? You know, so what?

MIKE: Yeah. And as far as my belief with, with the mail that's, that's being held for, for any of you, I can -- That's literally a violation of law. We can't go in and get that mail, believe it or not.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Uh-huh.

MIKE: We'd have to go through a rigmarole of authorization, written, probably from Wayne or whoever to pick up his mail. You know, that's, that's a minor thing.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Right. Well, you know, I'm concerned about myself and bills and other things. And, you know, two weeks have gone by. You know, you start wondering about what's going to be happening with all of that.

MIKE: That's true, yeah. There's another, another reason to, to get this resolved quickly.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Right.

MIKE: We've got the same thing back at home, wherever our various homes are.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Yeah, I'm sure you do. I'm sure you do.

MIKE: Bills sitting there waiting for us.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Right. Well, you can have mine, Mike.

MIKE: You want to trade?

MR. SCHNEIDER: No, I don't want to do that. I don't want to do that. No. Yeah, pass on that I'll be calling in the morning for sure.

MIKE: Okay, will do, Steven.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Okay.

MIKE: We really sincerely appreciate you bringing up Dr. Arnold's name as, as a suggestion, and we can, we can get over the hump here and get, get the bypass over with.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Or if you even -- You know, if you know -- Mike, if you know of any other names of someone that knows something about those seals or has some -- that is really informed or spent a lot of years dealing with the Bible or that topic or that subject matter, you know, that is what I really believe will work more than anything. I say this name because that's what they brought up.

MIKE: Okay. Well, that's, that's an indicator. You know, I'm sure we could find other individuals.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Yeah.

MIKE: There have been numerous who have, who have come to us, you know, over the phone or in

writing, saying that they could, and --

MR. SCHNEIDER: Seriously, you know, if I'd have known that, I mean, that's what the main thing has been right from the beginning.

MIKE: But, again, we didn't want to get --

MR. SCHNEIDER: Yeah, I understand. And, you know, for him, though, it doesn't have to be, you know, this doesn't have to be aired or anything, from what I understand. So, you know, anyway, if you have suggestions in that area --

MIKE: Okay.

MR. SCHNEIDER: -- you know --

MIKE: Sure. Okay?

MR. SCHNEIDER: Okay. Okay, I'll be talking to you probably tomorrow maybe then.

MIKE: Good, Steve.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Okay.

MIKE: Good hearing from you.

MR. SCHNEIDER: Okay, bye.

MIKE: Take care. (End of Tape #130.)

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE TREASURY
BUREAU OF ALCOHOL, TOBACCO & FIREARMS

TAPE #131

3/16/93 - 3/17/93
9:30 P.M. - 9:25 P.M.

(Tape 131)

RACHEL: Hello.

JOHN: Hello, is Steve there?

RACHEL: Just a minute.

[gap]

RACHEL: Hello. Hello.

JOHN: Hello.

RACHEL: Sorry. He said he'll call you back in a few minutes.

JOHN: Okay. Do you know exactly when, did he just say a few minutes, or...?

RACHEL: That's what I was told.

JOHN: Okay. Who is this?

RACHEL: This is Rachel.

JOHN: Okay, Rachel.

RACHEL: Who's this, John-3?

JOHN: This is another John. Okay, that'll be fine.

RACHEL: Okay.

JOHN: All right?

RACHEL: All right.

JOHN: Bye-bye.

RACHEL: Bye.

* * * * *

UNIDENTIFIED AGENT: They gonna get that thing in gear? That other phone? What's the matter

with it, do they know? I think it's good that he's trying to call on that phone myself. Away from David.

UNIDENTIFIED AGENT: I'd like to have that set up in here, I'll tell you that.

UNIDENTIFIED AGENT: There is, (inaudible). That's why we came in here in the first place.

UNIDENTIFIED AGENT: Just Mr. Murphy we have floating around here today. Johnny me boy.

RACHEL: Who is it?

JOHN: Hello, this is John. Is Steve there please?

RACHEL: Just hang on. I'll go get him.

JOHN: Okay.

[gap]

JOHN: (to the background) They're listening to the press conference. We had a phone problem when we were there, right?

[gap]

RACHEL: John?

JOHN: Yes.

RACHEL: He's listening to the press conference right now.

JOHN: Okay.

RACHEL: So he said he'll ring you back.

JOHN: Could I tell you something? If there's a problem with that other phone, I don't know

if Wayne or Steve tried to call on that, but they got our telephone repair guy and he didn't know what was going on.

RACHEL: Okay.

JOHN: Okay?

RACHEL: Okay.

JOHN: So if he'd just give me a call back when the press conference is done we'll be all set.

RACHEL: All right.

JOHN: All right?

RACHEL: Okay.

JOHN: Thanks, Rachel.

RACHEL: Okay, bye.

JOHN: Bye-bye.

* * * * *

JOHN: -- here.

STEVE: All right.

JOHN: This is, we had several attorney's call in, okay?

STEVE: Okay.

JOHN: Stating they represented people, and some of the letters from the attorneys were sent up, up forward, I guess, but I have copies of them.

STEVE: Oh, really. Good, good.

JOHN: And one of them is from Jack Zimmerman, who is a Houston attorney, --

STEVE: Okay.

JOHN: -- that your sister, Susan, --

STEVE: Right.

JOHN: -- has contracted to represent you. Now, there's an attorney, Gary Richardson, out of Tulsa, Oklahoma, to represent David Thibodeau.

STEVE: Okay.

JOHN: What I would like, and I'll give you these other one's and then I'll explain something to you.

STEVE: Okay.

JOHN: Okay, an attorney, Jeff Kearney (Phonetic) out of Fort Worth, representing Rachel, Ms., Rachel's mother contacted Jeff Kearney to represent Rachel.

STEVE: Rachel who?

JOHN: Rachel, well, Rachel Koresh.

STEVE: Oh, okay.

JOHN: Rachel Jones Koresh.

STEVE: Okay, and who contacted, who did that for her?

JOHN: Mrs. Mary Jones.

STEVE: I see, okay.

JOHN: Her mom.

STEVE: Okay.

JOHN: And apparently this was through Dick

DeGuerin, who's representing, well, I don't know whether he's representing, anyhow, David's mother contacted DeGuerin, who's apparently one of the top criminal lawyers in the state, and then we've got the Henry family who I saw on the video, the people from England?

STEVE: Um-hum.

JOHN: The mother, dad and their youngsters. There's a Robert Bennett from Houston, Texas, who has been contacted by Mr. Samuel Henry in Manchester, England --

STEVE: I see.

JOHN: -- to represent them.

STEVE: That would be the father, the husband, right?

JOHN: Yeah, huh-huh, and then, of course, DeGuerin from Houston, representing David.

STEVE: Right.

JOHN: Now, what I'd like to ask you, do you think it would be possible for me to tell either Mr. or Mrs. Henry this information, and for me to tell David Thibodeau this information?

STEVE: Sure.

JOHN: We don't have to, I know we, I don't have to discuss it anymore with David because he's fully aware of what's been done along those lines.

STEVE: Okay. If you'd like, okay.

JOHN: But, Rachel, David Thibodeau and the Henrys, and if you have any questions, I'll be happy to read the letter to you.

STEVE: You mean from Zimmerman?

JOHN: Yes.

STEVE: Yeah, I'd like to hear it.

JOHN: Okay. Let me snap it out here.

STEVE: Okay.

JOHN: Okay. It was sent to us.

STEVE: Okay.

JOHN: And it's, we have been requested by the family of Steven Schneider, through his sister, Mrs. Susan Yvonne Johnson, to represent Mr. Schneider. By this letter, we're formally requesting a meeting with your or your representatives such such date, in Waco, or at any other time, a place convenient to you.

The purpose of the meeting will be to discuss with you how we, as representatives of Mr. Schneider, may be of assisting, assistance in defusing a clearly dangerous situation.

Our goal would be to assist in the ending of a current crisis involving Mr. Schneider and others in the Mt. Carmel compound without further violence and loss of life.

And then they, they basically say you can reach us

at such such number, --

STEVE: Okay.

JOHN: -- and, you know, at other places.

STEVE: Okay.

JOHN: And, so, we just wanted to make sure that you're aware, these other people are aware, and if it's possible, if you can just let me tell them, --

STEVE: Sure, let --

JOHN: I'd like to be able to do it.

STEVE: -- to do that right now.

JOHN: Okay.

STEVE: Let me go get them, I'll put the phone down --.

JOHN: Okay.

STEVE: I'll put you on hold just for a moment.

JOHN: That's fine.

STEVE: Okay, just a moment.

[gap]

JOHN: (to the background) Oops. Hold on, hold. (inaudible) No, just hang up. Disconnected.

* * * * *

DAVID JONES: Hold on, just a second.

JOHN: Okay, who's, David?

DAVID JONES: Yeah.

JOHN: John.

DAVID JONES: David Jones.

JOHN: David?

DAVID JONES: Yeah.

JOHN: This is David, talked to you before, David?

DAVID JONES: Oh, yeah.

JOHN: How're you feeling?

DAVID JONES: I'm the mailman.

JOHN: How are you feeling?

DAVID JONES: Oh, I'm feeling pretty good.

JOHN: Good, good. I was talking to Steve and he had set the phone down to go get someone and it disconnected and that's why I called back in there.

DAVID JONES: Yeah, I heard him and --

JOHN: I'm sorry.

DAVID JONES: -- went to get everybody so that everybody ought to be here.

JOHN: Okay.

DAVID JONES: The reason I didn't answer immediately is I was hoping they'd walk up but they didn't, so I answered it.

JOHN: Well, how's your injury?

DAVID JONES: Oh, I got the least of anybody, thank goodness.

JOHN: Yeah. Yeah. It's healing all right?

DAVID JONES: Yeah, I'm, I'm feeling okay.

JOHN: Good.

DAVID JONES: These other people I'm worried about. Me, I got a scratch compared to everybody else.

JOHN: Really?

DAVID JONES: Yeah.

JOHN: Well, --

DAVID JONES: It wasn't a scratch -- it went in. It hit me in the bone and knocked me on the floor.

JOHN: I've seen --

DAVID JONES: That's how hard it hit me, --

JOHN: Yeah.

DAVID JONES: -- but it didn't go into the bone.

JOHN: You got the one in the rear end?

DAVID JONES: Yeah.

JOHN: 'Cause I think, I thought, Steve was telling us you didn't realized had happened what had happened.

DAVID JONES: Well, I knew it happened, I knew what had happened when it happened, I mean, the thing knocked me on the floor.

JOHN: Yeah.

DAVID JONES: But, within ten minutes, I could, --

JOHN: Yeah.

DAVID JONES: -- you know, I'm laying there

and everything's (indiscernible), I'm going, what's going on?

JOHN: Yeah.

DAVID JONES: And I started moving myself and I noticed I could move and I'm going, I'm shot. That thing hit me so hard, you know, or something hit me so hard, and by the time all the firing was over I, I, it didn't hurt as bad and I got up and I could move and I could walk and I, whoa, what was that all about? I looked back there and I could see just some threads torn on my pants pocket in the back.

JOHN: Right.

DAVID JONES: I thought there was just threads tore, so it was like three days before I pulled my britches down and, on the, on the inside of the pocket, you know, there's two layers, right?

JOHN: Yeah.

DAVID JONES: On the inside, there's a perfect round hole and in my underwear was a perfect round hole, and --

JOHN: Where did it go in, right at the pocket?

DAVID JONES: Yeah, it went in in the pocket from the rear.

JOHN: Uh-huh.

DAVID JONES: And hit --

JOHN: Did it actually hit, hit the bone?

DAVID JONES: Yeah. That's what --

JOHN: Or you think it did anyhow?

DAVID JONES: Well, it felt like somebody hit me with a hammer.

JOHN: Yeah.

DAVID JONES: It knocked me on the floor.

JOHN: Yeah.

DAVID JONES: Anyway, they, they dug it out. Finally, about a week later I got to digging around back there, you know, once I found the hole, so they pulled out. Here's (inaudible)

JOHN: Sounds like Steve just wandered in.

DAVID JONES: Just a second, John.

JOHN: Okay.

DAVID JONES: (to the background) What are you saying, Scott? What do I do? Hang, hold, he said everybody's at, --

JOHN: They're at the other phone?

DAVID JONES: Yeah, and they want me to hang up.

JOHN: Okay.

DAVID JONES: Okay?

JOHN: I'll get back with the other phone, then.

DAVID JONES: Okay, sir.

JOHN: Thanks for talking to me.

DAVID JONES: Yes, sir.

JOHN: Okay.

DAVID JONES: Bye, John.

JOHN: You take care.

DAVID JONES: Yes, sir.

* * * * *

JOHN: (to the background) You just have to switch to the other line.

(End of tape 131.)