
ONE, TWO, THREE, TEST, TESTING. THIS IS, UH, DETECTIVE MILLER.
8195. TODAY'S DATE IS JANUARY THE 31ST, 1990. THIS IS REFERENCE
REPORT 90 01 31 0233. THIS INTERVIEW'S BEING CONDUCTED IN MY
POLICE VEHICLE. THE TIME NOW IS 757. THE PERSON THAT IS BEING
INTERVIEWED IS SUSAN JO, SPELLING OF THE LAST, E-R-I-S-E-N.

Q Could you, uh, state your name for the record?

A Uh, sure. SUSAN JO ERISEN.

Q And what's your address, SUSAN?

A It's, uh, 5250 South Campbell, Oh, space 242.

Q And your phone number there?

A Uh, 294-9089.

Q And what is your, uh, date of birth?

A [REDACTED]

Q And your approximate height and weight?

A Five, three...a hundred and twenty.

Q And you've got blonde hair...blue eyes.

A Blue eyes.

Q Okay, uh, what's your social security number?

A Uh, [REDACTED]

Q And your home phone number?

A 294-9089.

Q And you work, where?

A University Medical Center.

Q What's your phone number there?

A 694-6601.

Q Okay, drawing your attention to earlier, uh, today, we talked
briefly before I began the tape. Could you briefly, from
when you, uh, got up this morning, uh, tell me about coming
over here...what..what happened?

A Well I...I come every morning for...we have a Koranic study...
do our morning prayer and have a Koranic study, so I got up
and got ready to come down like usual and..I come down Park
and as I was coming down, I s..heard...uh, police cars pass
me, fire trucks pass me and I saw..it looked like they were
coming into our Mosque here. So, I...when I..I got here I
pulled in and..and ran inside the Mosque and...this(ph) was..
found a lot of policemen in there and was told I had to leave
from there. So I came back out into the parking lot and there

A I saw my friends over here that(ph) were(ph) here(ph).

Q Okay. What kind of car did you drive down?

A Uh, it's, uh, Honda Civic, a Honda SL, Civic SL.

Q Okay, what color is it?

A It's red.

Q Okay, when you parked, where did you pull your vehicle into.. the...

A I pulled it kind of off...'cause there were too many...there were too many fire trucks and police cars to park in the regular lot and sometimes we'd park there on Fridays and the lot is full. It's like under the tree...off of(ph)...

Q It's off of the street?

A Yeah.

Q But it's in the...is it off of Sixth Street?

A It's...yeah, yeah. It would be closest to Sixth Street.

Q Okay. Uh, what door did you go into when you went into the house?

A The..s..the front..the front...the..the entrance to the Mosque is off Sixth.

Q Okay, and you went in the..the front door?

A Yeah.

Q And was it..it was unlocked?

A Well see, it's...it's always supposed to be lock and..locked and a lot of us have keys so I automatically stuck my key in and walked in. It was shut.

Q Did the key, did it turn? I mean was it...was it locked or was it already unlocked do you know?

A I can't say for sure. I think it was...locked because the door was..it's supposed to automatically lock.

Q Okay.

A And it was automatic.

Q But it wasn't ajar?

A No. It was...it..

Q And...

A ...was closed.

Q And this...in the...in the Mosque, that leads you into the front of the...

A It lead(ph)..

Q What's in the front there where..the door you went in to?

A That's the...it's the room where like...like we pray. It's.. it's...I don't know how to describe it, it's like what you would call the church area that(ph) would(ph)...where we come in and pray and have studies and...and...

Q Okay, how far did you get in to the house?

A I just walked in maybe three feet...three to four feet, and was met by all the policemen. And...

Q And that's when they told you to..to leave?

A Ah-huh(ph).

Q And you went out the same door?

A Yeah.

Q Okay. Did the door lock behind you do you know or did it close?

A I closed it behind me. I asked..I..before I left, I asked one of the officers if somebody had been hurt or something. And they said, unfortunately, yes.

Q Okay.

A _____(inaud)...

Q Did you smell anything when you were in there? What type of a smell is it?

A A burning...something...I thought maybe...my first impression was like there was a fire. I thought there had been a fire or explosion or something.

Q And that's not a nor..that's not a normal smell that's in there?

A No.

Q Is there generally any smell that is in there?

A No.

Q Uh, did you notice anything while you were in there...unusual from when you normally come?

A Not that I can remember, no(ph).

Q Are there generally people here before you get here or..

A Sometimes, yeah. Sometimes.

Q Was there anybody that you recognized in there?

A No(ph).

Q Did'ya(ph)...do you know who..who was in there? Uh, who had been killed?

A At that time?

Q Right.

A No. But I was afraid...

Q Did anybody tell you?

A No. I had a feeling, but no, nobody...nobody said...

Q Why were...why did you have a feeling?

A Because they've been..for years, actually, you know there'd been threats against him. Up(ph) against RASHAD'S life, for years. Years and years and then...lately there've(ph) been a lot of...a lot of people angry..you know..a lot of people with...'cause..y..you know..things with the religion and stuff. So...

Q Could you tell me particularly things...that you're talking about?

A Well, the way we...we're...the..what the majority of..of.. Isla..what's so-called Islam in the way that they worship and..or practice it in the Middle East is not true Islam, it's not..it's..they all get into cultural things and... and..um, they..like we..we stick strictly to the Koran and what the Koran says. And like a lot of people in the Middle East, the Saudi's and a lot of..they all think you need to have other sources. This is just one example, they have other sources besides Koran. They say you need to have these other sources to explain the Koran, and we believe you only need the Koran 'cause..you know God explains, um... you know God will make the understanding, we don't need it(ph). And..and the Koran says all through it, you know, use another.. no other source besides this...but, it just made a lot..a lot of people angry and that's just one example...you know..the..

Q Okay.

A ...'cause it's...that's just one example. There isn't any.. you know..plus we believe he's a messenger of God. We believe that he is a...RASHAD is a messenger of God.

Q And that's not..according to the teachings or...

A It's..it's a very strong belief for us and a lot of people. But..a lo..it made a lo..a lot of people were angry over it, yeah.

Q Peo..other people from where? I mean...where are these other people.

A Arabs, uh, Saudi Arabians, um...uh, I..I don't know..you.. there's just..there's this...you know..I know...I don't know.

A All...I just know there's many, many people...well(ph) we got...we get letters all the time that they're angry and.. and..

Q Angry to the point of killing? I mean is that ever mentioned? Uh, are threats ever made that you're aware of?

A I have heard...I have never heard anybody actually, right in front of me, threaten him. But I have heard, um, of..you know from him...from RASHAD..you know where he would get a phone call or somebody would threaten him more..um..

Q And you would be privy to the conversation..you mean, or he would...

A I didn't...no, I did not hear the conversation. But I would hear from him or you know from other people from our Mosque who had..had heard about it or..um..things like that. So, I mean it's...

Q Was it mentioned to the point of killing?

A Yeah.

Q Any particular names that you, uh, associate with..with the killing? Uh, with the threats of killing rather?

A Uh, I don't..I can't think of anything right(ph)...I'd have to really think back...I don't(ph) know(ph)...this(ph) stuff(ph). I..I can't really think of any...particular names right in(ph) my(ph) mind(ph).

Q Anybody local? Are we talking about people who are localized or people from oth..other states or...

A Well...there's one..._____ (inaud)...the only... uh, the rec..the recent one that I know that they've...had.. there was a feeling he might've been a...spying like for the Saudi Arabian...for the government. There was a man by the name of ERIC TORN...TORNWALL or something like that. I don't know how..you know..I don't know how to spell his last name.

Q Is he a local person?

A No, actually he's..he's from...he's from Switzerland, but.. uh, he was in the United States and I think he's somewhere in Memphis right now. He was in the United States and..here in the Mosque not too long ago, and was asked to leave by Doctor KHALIFA.

Q Not too long ago meaning...last week? Last month?

A Um...during the...Christmas season...in(ph) December.

Q Was he living here?

A No...

Q Okay.

A ..only the(ph) RASHAD.._____ (inaud)...he had a hotel.

Q And he was a...he was a...he was suspect as far as..being an informant or...

A That's what we felt, yeah.

Q Who..who felt that? RA..RASHID(ph)..or RASHAD? Any..did he mention any reason, any particular..reason he suspected that?

A Well there was...uh, there are things he said and things other people said just..I mean..he had..they found numbers on him to the Saudi Arabian Embassy and they found, um, um, he...he, uh, we'd always talk about how poor he was and that he would travel first class everywhere..I don't know there were just..you know...and my..sometimes..you know..you let your mind...I..I don't know..it just..it just...feelings and things..I don't know.

Q Okay. Is there anything, else, uh, about today when you came, after you left, what did you do? After you...the police told you to leave? What did you do?

A I walked out in the parking lot and some other policeman asked me, uh, if I lived there, and I said no, I had come for the study and then I saw my friend, BEHRUZ, who does live here and I said, can I go see him. So I walked down to talk to him.

Q What's his name?

A Um, BEHRUZ. B-E...I think it's B-E-H-R-U-Z.

Q And he's a..a member...here?

A Yeah, he lives here too, in the apartments. MOFIDI, I think is his last name, I'm not sure how to spell it...M-O-F-I-D-I or something like that.

Q What did he say? Do you..did he know what was going on?

A Not completely. He told me something bad had happened to RASHAD, but we didn't really know..you know...'cause I..I was standing there and these other policemen were there and I didn't know whether...he had..he was..had died or not and..so they send(ph) the ambulance and I asked if..they were taking him to the University Medical Center 'cause I know..you know..I work there and know they have the trauma center there. And they said, no...we're(ph) not taking him there. And one of the officers said MR. KHALIFA'S dead. And that's how we knew...at that point.

Q Did, uh, did you hear...did, uh, your friend say anything else?

A He..didn't know too much, I think just that LISA had..LISA had..found him...we knew..I knew that much and...

Q LISA who? Uh, I don't know her name _____(inaud)..
A Uh, her name's LISA SPRAY, S-P-R-A-Y, and...

Q And she..she lives there too?
A Yeah, she lives there.

Q Does she live in the first apartment?
A Yeah(ph).

Q Did she normally go over there, uh...
A Yes.

Q ..in the morning, does she like open up or whatever?
A Yes.

Q Is that what her function is?
A 'C..'cause she...well, she works in the office there...with RASHAD.

Q Oh.
A They do computer work, translating. They're both working on the Koran and she was going over there. She always go in that way...in (ph)...

Q Uh, in the side door there?
A Yeah.

Q And that's the kitchen area?
A Yeah.

Q When's the last time y..you saw KHALIFA?
A Last night.

Q Last night? About what time?
A About seven-thirty.

Q In the evening?
A Yeah.

Q And that's when you left?
A He left to go home. I was still there.

Q Where does he live?
A He lives, uh, Speedway, uh, and Camino Seco. He lives east.

Q In a..in a house?
A Yeah.

Q By himself?

A No, he has a wife and two kids. They're older kids.

Q Do you know, uh...when..when he normally would come here?

A Usually comes to work...he's translating the Koran from Arabic to English. He usually comes anywhere from one to three A.M. in the morning and then works all night.

Q Is that right? Is that normal for him?

A Yes.

Q Is there normally anybody that comes there during that time period? Or is it business for all intense and purposes closed up?

A Pretty much..nobody is(ph) at that time, bec...he..that's why he likes to come because he can work here without people interrupting him.

Q D..did he make any mention or did he seemed concerned...

A Yes.

Q ...particularly last night?

A N..uh, he definitely seemed like he...part of the day he seemed like himself and part of the day he...he seemed preoccupied. He didn't say anything, but I know a lot of us have felt.. you know..there(ph)..we were concerned.

Q Uh, you mean, particularly last night or...just generally of late?

A Um, a lot of us were..no, I think...the last few days, just because of...s..a lot of..you know..all the people that don't like the things that he mails out and you know...makes a lot of people angry and..

Q Has it been coming to a head the last couple of days or..is that why...or why did you say that?

A (Sighs).

Q I don't want to put any words in your mouth..

A No, no it's okay.

Q ..but, you know..I..I..

A Okay, I..I..we were aware that some people had come here and warned him to be careful. They had said they were from the F.B.I. and had warned him that he needed to be careful.

Q That's been within...do you know...

A The last three or four days.

Q Last three or four days?

A Yeah.

Q Did you see the people?

A No, I just...was told.

Q Told that?

A Ah..I didn't see anybody or I didn't hear the conversation..I didn't...

Q Just word of mouth? What, uh, did he carry a gun? Does he have a gun, do you know of?

A Not..not that I'm aware of. He's(ph)...

Q Okay. He's not...doesn't carry any weapons....

A No.

Q ...that you're aware of?

A No.

Q Has anybody that belongs there, carry any weapons that you're aware of?

A Not that I'm aware of.

Q What kind of a relationship did you have with him? Was it strictly a..uh, _____(inaud) sense of the word pastor or..uh..

A Yeah, he was my friend, and my teacher and...I believed strongly that he was the messe...____(inaud)...that he was a messenger of God.

Q Okay. It wasn't(ph) of a strictly pretty much...in the religion?

A Yeah(ph)..he was...

Q He..

A ...he was like a father to me too.

Q A father figure?

A Yes.

Q How old is he?

A He's fifty...um, just turned fifty-four in(ph)...last November.

Q How long have you been, uh, a member here?

A Since it started. Like a...eleven, twelve years.

Q Eleven, twelve years. Has he been the only, uh, person that's been...been here?

A Leader wise?

Q Leader wise. And these apartments that are behind there...
tho..those are filled with the members?

A No, all..actually most of them are now. There's, I think,
only one that's(ph)..um, there's...somebody..you know..
they just..he just originally rented them, and little by
little more...other people from the Mosque started renting
them. I think there's only one apartment there that's not..
uh, rented by a member from the Mosque now.

Q Do you know what number that is or which apartment that is?

A Um, it's..it's...it's either three(ph)...on this side it's
the middle one, I don't know the number.

Q On the...

A Um, east...

Q ...west..

A ...wait, west side is(ph)...

Q West side..

A Yeah(ph)..

Q ..middle one on the west side of the complex. Does he own
the property, is he purchasing it?

A I don't really know. I know..he..he owns the Mosque and
apartments, he had them built, I'm pretty sure, but I don't
know what..what...whether he leases the property or owns it.
That I don't really(ph) know(ph).

Q Okay. Have there been any other difficulties that he's been...
aware of that you maybe are aware of too...lately to...?

A Difficulties?

Q With particular individuals, uh, organizations...?

A Organizations, I..the names..I don't know them all, there's
so many...the other Islamic...so-called Islamic people that
send him hate letters and threats all the time. I don't know
all their names...denouncing(ph)..but(ph)...well, he recen...
there was a..a recent...I don't know...there was, uh, some-
body that he ha..that he got into a big gree..disagreement
with, but...never(ph) uh(ph), to the point where this..this
person had...we just seen at one of the Koranic studies and..
but I think the(ph)..you know they..._____ (inaud)...

Q Do you know this person's name?

A Yeah.

Q What..what is his name?

A ADIP Yuksaw(ph).

Q A..ADIP? Do you know(ph phrase)...

A E..E-D-I-P.

Q And that's the first name?

A Yeah.

Q How do you spell the last name?

A Yuksaw, Y-U-K-S-E-L, I think, I'm not sure.

Q And there was a...some type of a blow-up between him and...

A Well, it was more a blow-up on EDIP'S part. He got angry at some things RASHAD said. RASHAD was very calm and... very calm and didn't do(ph) any(ph)..._____ (inaud).. temper(ph) back but...

Q When did this happen, do you recall?

A Wh..uh, the...the f..the first happened...what's today.. not last Saturday, but the Saturday before. I don't remember what the date...

Q Not this past Saturday but the previous...?

A Yeah.

Q And what happened..that was the first one? You said there was..was there another time when...?

A Yes.

Q Can..

A This past Friday.

Q Past Friday? Was it concerning the same...

A Issue.

Q ...issue?

A Yes.

Q And it was a..a religious type issue or...?

A Yes.

Q And some type of interpretation?

A Well, yeah. He was accusing RASHAD of saying certain things that he didn't...didn't say because I was there. I mean there were several other of us there. And...but I..I don't.. he..it seemed..I don't think he...maybe(ph) he(ph) did(ph)... s...apologized yester...couple days ago _____ (inaud)..

Q Who did?

A EDIP.

Q EDIP?

A Yeah.

Q He(ph) apologized in front of people to...

A No. No, again, this is something...

Q That you heard?

A Yeah, well, RASHAD said he apologized in a way. You know..
I(ph) _____ (inaud).

Q Is he..where does EDIP stay? D..is he..a student or what?

A He..he and...well, n..no, he..he's..he's from Turkey. He..
he..he, uh, he lives in an apartment down on...I don't know,
it's about four miles from here. He..he works..he..he's
translating the Koran from English to Turkish, so he has a
desk there in the...in the Mosque. I don't know if he'd
been in the Mosque...okay..there's...

Q Right(ph) here(ph)..

A ...and there's two desks in one part of it and he has(ph)...
he has one...

Q And he..does he come daily?

A Ah-huh(ph).

Q Does he come in the morning too?

A No, he usually doesn't come for the Koranic study in the
morning.

Q When does he generally get here?

A I don't know because I'm usually at work. I think anywhere from
seven-thirty to ten. On the weekends when I'm there, he comes
in around ten...ten, eleven. During the week, I think he comes
early...um(ph), usually at work... _____ (inaud)..

Q Do you know if EDIP has any weapons or..carries any...

A I don't...

Q ...has been associated with any, have you heard anything?

A I don't think so.

Q How old is EDIP?

A Early thirties, I think.

Q Does he have keys to the...

A Yes.

Q ...Mosque? How many people that you know have keys?

- A Just about everybody that goes to the Mosque.
- Q Oh really?
A Yeah(ph).
- Q All the members?
A Yeah.
- Q And that gives you access to the whole place?
A No, just..just that Mo..just the Mosque...in the kitchen and where his office is, in the kitchen near that door, there's a door that shuts off from the Mosque and..um, they can lock that off from the Mosque.
- Q Is that normally locked?
A Yes.
- Q So when...
A When he's n..when he's not there...even when he's there alone, yes, I think he..he keeps that locked.
- Q He keeps it locked so anybody that would enter have..would have to go through the, uh, the kitchen area door?
A Anybody that..well, any..they'd have to come in off Sixth, like I did.
- Q To go into the Mosque?
A To go into the Mosque.
- Q But if they're(ph phrase)....
A Or they'd have to knock to get in to the office and the kitchen. He..I mean he leaves it open sometime..you know..during the day when he's coming in and out from his office, the kitchen, and into the Mosque, he would sometimes leave it open, but... you know like at night...when he leaves..it's locked, always.
- Q And when he arrives, say, at one-thirty or two in the morning to begin his work, uh, what would the condition of the door normally be...the Mosque would..he would enter through the...
A He would enter through the kitchen.
- Q The kitchen door? And, uh, the other..the..rest of the place? How much would that give him access to?
A Well, he could get into..to anywhere and..I mean, but, but he would walk into..to the kitchen and the door that leads into the Mosque would be locked.
- Q Okay.
A And, but which of course, he can..all it has is a little...

Q Okay.

A ...latch though...it's a..you know..

Q Bolt lock or...?

A It's not even a..it's just like the little thing you slide across.

Q Okay.

A There is, uh, two locks there but I don't know if they have.. I think maybe they do use both of them when they leave at night.

Q And then, uh, if he goes in the kitchen door, is his office right there too, close to the kitchen..

A Yes.

Q ...off the kitchen?

A Yes.

Q And that...there's just one office area?

A There's...there's an office, there..I mean there's the kitchen, the office and then there's the back two..there's like...um, a hallway that leads into, um, there's like a bedroom or bathroom and another be...could be a bedroom but it's..I guess you'd call it a bedroom, there's like two bedrooms in the back, and a bathroom.

Q And who stays there?

A He does...usually. I mean sometimes he stay..uh, sleeps there overnight and...

Q Nobody routinely stays there?

A Uh, no.

Q Is there anybody else that you can think of recently who's had.. a particular problem with him? Any type of an argument or been unhappy with, uh...

A There's(ph) ERIC...ERIC was asked to leave and EDIP too(ph), I(ph) think(ph).

Q When ERIC was asked to leave, uh, how long ago?

A No, to no longer come to our Mosque. Um...

Q That's been since when?

A December...mid...wait, no..yeah, right around Christmas time. So, um, toward the end of December.

Q And then EDIP? And that's been the only thing..the only two people recently that...

A Yeah(ph).

Q How many members, roughly, are there?

A Uh, j..just here in Tucson?

Q That..that..

A We have people all over the world to...

Q I mean that come...yeah...that...

A Come here regularly?

Q ...basically come to...Tucson.

A Hmm..may...I don't even know if it's fifty, it's hard..no more than fifty. I don't..even know if it's that many already(ph)... thirty-five..fi..fifty..people.

Q Are there...does he basically survive on, uh, financially on.. on..the contributions or the income from the apartments or do...

A He doesn't ask for contributions.

Q Well what do you...

A He doesn't..

Q ..what do you give for instance? Is it a...is there a..a.. regular amount that people tithe or..or..?

A No.

Q Nobody? There are no tithes or anything?

A You gave if you want to. It's..he doesn't ask for money.

Q Okay.

A I don't know..you know..he..he's worked a lot of, um, I know he worked...I know for the United Nations and he worked as a chemist and...I don't know how...I don't know about his finances..

Q Okay.

A ...I don't know anything about that.

Q Did you normally give money out of the kindness of your heart..

A I do sometimes, yeah(ph).

Q ...when you have it...

A Yeah.

Q ...or...it's not a regular thing. Anything else you can think of, uh, that maybe we haven't touched on? Would you object later, I know it's an emotional time right now for you, and I hate to do..put you this but, uh, we just like to you know.. get as early as we can. Would you mind if I maybe, think of

Q something later, if I got back...

A No, not at all...

Q ..back with you?

A ...I would be glad to help any way I can.

Q Okay. I appreciate it. Uh, let me ask you again, is there anything else you can think of now that you think might be important to our investigation?

A I don't know..I..I don't know...what the circumstances exactly of how he was found and all that stuff, but...it seems to me..it had to..I mean unless somebody was watching him and knew all his...but, he's been trying to be careful, and it just seems to me it must've been somebody he knew.

Q Who knew his routine?

A Yeah. Because the door was l..I'm sure he had the door locked.

Q Does it...uh, you mean when he came in the side there?

A He had to..he wouldn't..because he tries to be careful.

Q Ah-huh.

A He wouldn't just let anybody into the office.

Q Where would the...if somebody was to break in, if they were upset over emotional, uh, or rather, uh, a religious differing, what would they most likely take? Is there an area in there that, uh, he's been doing particular work on that they might take and destroy certain things, or...

(SIDE ONE OF TAPE ENDS)

(SIDE TWO OF TAPE BEGINS)

Q This is a continuation of the interview. Uh, the time is 0827 hours. Okay, go ahead, you were saying about...we were discussing about if somebody broke in where...

A Well(ph)...

Q ...they might take things from.

A Well, I guess if they want..I mean there's..well, there's.. depending on what they were looking for, there's computer equipment in the Mosque itself there's two computers. In his office, if somebody wanted to destroy his work, there's..you know..he's working on the new translation of the Koran. See, he recently came out with a..a translation of the Koran which made

A a lot of people angry, the Arabs again, so...um, and all of his work and everything is..is in the office...that I know of. Like the work he does, he's working on the new..the new, like I said, the new translation, he's working on..I don't(ph)...all that stuff. And there's computer equipment and a fax machine and all kinds of stuff in the office in there.

Q Uh, does he keep any large amounts of money or any money in there that you know of, uh..

A I've never heard. I..I don't know, I don't think so. I..I've never heard of any.

Q Okay. And you don't know him to possess a weapon of any kind, a gun or anything that he might store in there for protection or anything?

A Not that I'm aware of.

Q Okay. Is there anything we should be on the look out for when we go in there? Uh, that, in your mind might be significant, but...us, not being familiar with the religion, uh, wouldn't be aware of normally? Something that might stand out if..if.. if something was out of place...that would normally be out of place, for instance.

A Uh...I don't know, all his translation things are right there, usually right on the computer. Um, and then the copies maybe for the new translation, I guess it's all in the computer _____ (inaud)..I don't know if they distur...I don't.. I don't know...if they did anything to the computers or something..I..I don't know.

Q Okay.

A I..I.._____ (inaud)...

Q Okay, I won't, uh, tie you up any longer. Let me get your name again for the record. Could you state your name again?

A Right(ph), it's, uh, SUSAN JO ERISEN.

Q Okay, SUSAN. Uh, the time now is approximately 830. That concludes this interview.

INTERVIEWED BY _____
DETECTIVE MILLER 8195

TRANSCRIBED BY Angela Shoffstall
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