

Rough Transcript of Tape Made By David Goodman, June 27, 1964

Henry Wolff, an attorney for the Goodman family, is talking to Robert McNamara, the Secretary of Defense in the Kennedy and Johnson administrations.

David Welch, a civil rights reporter, is talking to Robert McNamara about what Buford Posey told him, and includes his taped interview with Buford.

Henry Wolff: "W"

Robert McNamara: "RM"

David Welch: "DW"

Buford Posey: "BP"

W: Mr. McNamara. Henry Wolff.

W: Suppose you play the tape and then we'll talk. (Sounds like McNamara has a tape that he's going to play for Wolff.)

RM: I think you better call me back.

W: Call you back? How long do you want? (Sounds like RM needs to switch over to some machine to play tape of conversation between himself and someone else.)

W: In a few minutes?

RM: No, immediately.

W: If you hang up, I'll hang up. I'll call you back.

Hangs up.

Calls back immediately.

RM: First question David is who killed the three workers?

W: You go ahead and I'll listen

RM: First question David, Who killed the 3 workers.

W: You go ahead and I'll listen. (They're having trouble with audio.)

RM: The first question David is, who killed the 3 workers.

(David Welch a reporter who is describing his conversation with Buford Posey. Reading from notes and quoting Posey.)

W: Can you make that a little louder?

RM: The first 15 minutes is David Welch a reporter, describing a conversation he had with Buford Posey and I asked him some questions.

W: Right.

RM Plays the tape with David Welch (Welch is often talking as though he is Posey, reporting in Posey's language, in first person what Posey said to Welch)

DW: There's a whole bunch of them. The sheriff Lawrence Rainey, two deputies, Cecil Price and Deputy Snow, Rev. Edgar Ray Killen, a southern Baptist minister, was there and so was Bob Howell and Johnny Risher, and Pete Jordan, They were all there, all of these are Klan members Sheriff Rainey, and his two deputies Edgar Ray Killen, Howell, Risher and Jordan Edgar Ray Killen and Sheriff Rainey are the leaders of the local Klan, Ku Klux Klan.

RM: How come you know this?

DW: Pardon?

RM: How come you know this?

DW: The Sheriff boasted about this, common knowledge up there that the sheriff and his deputies killed them.

DW: He Killed two nigger lovers and a nigger, and dumped their bodies in the swamp

RM: I just don't believe that

DW: Pardon?

RM: I just don't believe that.

DW: You don't believe what?

RM: That he's boasting.

DW: Hard to believe isn't it?

RM: Yes.

DW: That he said that.

Chief Deputy Price pulled the trigger with a 38 revolver, and Rainey also shot,. He heard that from Hardy Blount. A member of the KKK.

DW: Uh, Man, you don't know what terror means. I haven't slept for two weeks. (Posey said this.)

RM: He said?.

DW: Yeah.

Ask me a question.

RM: When did it happen?

DW: It happened Monday night.

RM: All night?

DW: He didn't sound like he was too sure of the date.

RM: Where did he hear this? All around the town. What did his sister say? (mistaken because Posey's cousin, Oweeda Weir was the one he talked with –see below.) In other words how much information came back from Mrs. Weir?

DW:Here's what happened.

Fuck.. Bear with me.

(David Welch talking as Buford Posey.) Uh, uh, at 2:45 in the morning I got a call from the COFO office in Meridian, said that they disappeared. Sunday night, Monday morning. I stayed awake until 7:45 in the morning and then I called Laurel Weir a lawyer in town. His wife, answered the phone. His wife's name is Oweeda. Oweeda's a cousin of mine. Oweeda said the three were still in jail and that was Monday morning. And as far as I could determine they were still in jail alive at the time. I called the FBI and

begged them to come down. I'd been threatened by Rainey. Uh, and the FBI wouldn't come down. I first reported to the FBI on April 14. I called at my expense. I made another report 24 hours before the people were murdered. I called before the people were murdered.

RM: And said what?

DW: To the FBI and if you want proof you can call the Southern Bell telephone Company. (Posey's saying he called 24 hours before the murder.) I don't know this figure 24 hours because I don't think he knows exactly when they were killed. Maybe he does now.

RM: He got a call from the COFO office?

DW: Yeah. He got a call from the COFO office at 245 in the morning. That has to be checked out. It's logical, He's buddy with Ed King. Okay.

RM: Okay. He was Ed King's secret source right?

DW: I think so. It all fits together.

Especially with what Little Norris told me. (hard to understand, sounds like he says "Norris")

RM: What did Norris say?

DW: He just said he thought it was rumored Buford was the secret source because before that it was known that the secret source was verging on psychosis.

RM: okay.

DW: Now, uh, his report to the FBI on April 14 was that he had made a speech on that day at the NAACP rally in Jackson and also spoken at Mr. Helm Baptist church and Charles Evers was there and Johnny Frazier, and he was with me in the car and he was threatened then, and I didn't get the details and he called the FBI to get protection When he called and found they were in the jail, Rainey had got elected on a platform of killing all niggers and nigger lovers in the county, and when he found they were still alive in jail on Monday morning he (Posey) called the FBI and begged them to come down, and he said that uh, the FBI didn't come down until Tuesday, they're responsible for the deaths and not me, they stayed 10 hours with me when they came down, if they moved when I called.

RM: I got it

If they moved when I called, if they moved when I called, if they'd come down at 8:00 that morning these lives could have been saved. Blood on the hands of Bobby Kennedy and J Edgar Hoover

RM: OK. Pretty wild stuff

DW: Okay. Ask me a question.

RM: Uh. They were killed by bullets? They were shot"

DW: Yeah. With a 38 caliber revolver, one 38 caliber revolver by Deputy Price and Rainey also shot them.

RM: Were they beaten before they were shot?

DW: No information.

RM: Were they killed in the jail.

DW: Not clear. He said they were but it was a leading question

RM: Who was responsible for disposal of the bodies?

DW: Don't know. The sheriff ordered the disposal of their bodies.
RM: The sheriff what?
DW: Ordered the disposal of the bodies
The burning of the church. The sheriff and their crowd burned that church. He was there. His deputy boasted of it.
DW: Did the sheriff wear a hood? At the burning of the negro church and beating of three people, there were about 20 men with hoods on, and about ten without. Is the tape recorder on?
RM: Yeah.
DW: And about ten without. The sheriff and his deputy were there. That was the Longdale area, Neshoba. County Mt. Zion Methodist church.
RM: In Oakdale?
DW: No. Longdale.
RM: Okay.
DW: Near the Longdale school. I said: Was the sheriff wearing a hood?.
Posey: He doesn't worry about wearing a hood. He's wearing a badge. Uh.
RM: Okay. I better get going and talk to Myles Horton.
DW: Really . Just let me just run down my notes, anything I've got left.
(as Posey) When I left Mississippi I get out by a fluke, by accident, within an inch of my life. I had three guns with me. He described the guns. He could shoot thirteen times without reloading. Escaped within an inch of my life. Uh. Now here's the stuff. Members of the KKK in addition to the ones already mentioned. Risher, Jordan, Price, Rainey, HP "Hammer," that's his nickname -- Brown, Clay Smith, Hardy Blount. 75 percent of white men in that county town are in the Klan
Doubt those figures. I don't know about that figure. Hard to believe anything that high (RM gets another phone call, like from a reporter asking, or someone in his office saying: "This is Ralph. Anything on that story about the guy who was supposed to be smuggled out of Mississippi?" Inaudible response from RM.)
DW: Deputy Snow has been in the pen for burglary, he has a criminal record a mile long, the sheriff is a hoodlum.
RM: Does he want the \$25,000 twenty-five thousand dollars.
DW: I didn't ask him. He said the jailer's wife is my second cousin.
RM: Okay.
DW: He said she assured me they were still alive at 8:30 Monday morning.
No no no. He did qualify that, he said that Mrs. Weir after talking with her mother assured me that they were still alive at 8:30 Monday morning.
RM: Yeah.
DW: Incidentally, he (meaning Buford) escaped from Mississippi Tuesday.
Hardy Blount, incidentally, is a dairy man in Philadelphia, he drew a gun on me on Saturday night and threatened to kill me.
RM: In front of NBC?
DW: Pardon?
RM: In front of NBC?
DW: Unfortunately not.
Woodrow Stephens of Wiggins, Mississippi. He owns a cattle ranch in Neshoba County, he's vice president of Wiggins Lumber Co in Wiggins, he raised forty four thousand

eight hundred dollars for Governor Johnson's campaign. Johnson sent Stephens as a personal investigator, Posey talked to Stephens. Stephens said I'm afraid to tell the governor all I've got. Now that's one thing.

George Bockroth a member of the executive committee of the Jackson Chamber of Commerce. He's also a member of the church of Donald A. Thompson, first Unitarian church in Jackson. Now, he's a known liberal. Thompson and Ted R. Williams, member of the Alcohol Tax Unit, (Unclear here) he is Poe and he's a member of something I didn't get that. Now he's a known liberal, Thompson.

Posey heard he was to be killed because he was a nigger lover. Rainey and Chief W.D. Rayfield, chief of police in Jackson. Rainey and Rayfield, Posey heard they hired people to kill Posey, just how he heard that I couldn't quite get it. He's very hard to understand, he heard it through Thompson and Thompson heard it from Bockroth, and I think Williams is also a member of the church and Thompson told Posey killers were being hired to kill 'em nigger lovers.

Yeah. Uh uh.

RM: Got to run.

(BACK TO ATTORNEY WOLFF AND MCNAMARA TALKING.)

Wolff (or maybe this is McNamara): Did he tell you the real names?

That Harry Wiggs and ER Poe were with the sheriff when he made the arrests about 4:00 p.m. on Sunday.

What are the names?

Harry Wiggs and ER Poe.

Sheriff Price told the New York post reporter.

DW: Okay you all set to go?

Yeah.

What?

The tape CHANGES to a radio report or interview by David Welch with Buford Posey: This is David Welch of the Civil Rights Information Service reporting from Knoxville TN.

Sitting next to me is Mr. Buford Posey. A lifelong Resident of Philadelphia, Mississippi, where three civil rights workers Michael Schwerner, James Chaney and Andrew Goodman disappeared Sunday week.

Mr. Posey left Mississippi Tuesday fearing for his life and sought sanctuary with a friend here in Knoxville.

DW: Why did you leave Mississippi?

BP: Because the Sheriff Rainey had threatened my life and the Ku Klux Klan said we got three nigger lovers unquote dead in the swamps of Neshoba County, Pearl River swamps, and you're going to be the fourth nigger lover put there.

DW: When did you hear they were missing?

BP: At two forty five a.m. in the morning this past week, that'd be on June 22, I received a call from the COFO (Council of Federated Organizations) office in Meridian Mississippi telling me these three workers had come to Neshoba County to investigate the burning of a Negro Methodist church, and they were supposed to contact me but I hadn't seen em, and I didn't know a thing about it, they never got to my home, and I

never heard a thing about it . I learned later just before they were killed they asked for me and the Klan laughed at em and said, you gonna die and Posey's next.

DW: This is common knowledge?

BP: Yes, this is common knowledge. You don't have to take my word for it.

DW: What did you do when you heard the three civil rights workers were missing from the COFO office in Meridian?

BP: Uh I didn't do anything at that time because it was early in the morning and I didn't want to cause a panic. So I uh that night for some reason I was restless, I couldn't sleep, so I, and stayed awake the rest of the night, I was already awake when the COFO office called. I didn't sleep until, I didn't sleep, that night or the next day. Anyway, the next morning the Rev. Ed King, a white Methodist minister, who's chaplain at Tugaloo College near Jackson Mississippi called me about, between 7:30 and 8:00 the next morning, Monday Morning . And told me about it and asked me to make inquiries and then call him back collect which I did. I called Mrs. Laurel, I called Laurel G. Weir, W-E-I-R, we call it "Ware" in Neshoba County. And because he married a relative of mine and he's also a close personal friend, and he was prosecuting attorney in that county for 8 years. Former prosecuting attorney, he's not now, but he was for 8 years, and I helped put him in office. And like I say a very good friend, and I called him because I knew his father-in-law and mother-in-law were the jailers in Neshoba County. In Philadelphia. And that, like I say he married their daughter, daughter of the jailer. And uh I felt like he'd know anything that happened, and he's also personal attorney for Sheriff Lawrence Rainey.

DW: Mr. Posey, did you talk with Attorney Weir?

BP: No I didn't; he was out of town on a legal matter. I talked to his wife who's a blood relative of mine, Oweeda, OWEEDA WEIR, . Oweeda told me ,said, "look, I visited mother last night at the jail."

DW: That was Sunday night? She visited her mother Sunday night.

BP: Yes, Sunday night. She said I visited Mother last night, Sunday night, June, that'd be the 21st, and said, from 7-9:00, and I saw those three nigger lovers over in the jail, and said they're all right though, and all we're gonna do is fine them, and I said, "Well, Oweeda, are they there now?" and she said, "Yeah."

DW: That was Monday morning?

BP: About 8:00 Monday morning she said they're there, and then I called Ed King and told him, the Rev. Ed King at Jackson, Mississippi, and told him they were in jail, they're just gonna fine em, and rough em up a little bit, and probably beat up the Negro James Chaney some, because the sheriff always does. That he's killed four negroes, Rainey has, in the line of duty he says. So I called Ed King and told him. I said that the only thing to do is get an attorney up here, and the FBI, and just get em out, and pay the fine and get em out, () Then I got to worrying because the sheriff had threatened my life and I've made reports to the Federal Bureau of Investigation, not only myself but the Rev. Donald A. Thompson, and Ted R. Williams, lifelong friend of mine, we've known each other since 1948, , Mississippi Southern college in Hattiesburg together.

DW: Mr. Posey, you talked to Oweeda Weir about what time on Monday morning when?

BP: About 8:00 Monday morning I made two calls, I ()

And then I talked to Ed King and I called him back collect. I made two calls, Ed King called me about 730 and I called her about 8:00 and then I got to worrying, I called Ed

King and then I called him back collect, about 8:15, check the phone records, I got to thinking Sheriff Rainey was a brutal person, a member of the Ku Klux Klan, I knew he was a member. So I called Mrs. Weir the second time, to be sure they were there.

DW: And what did she tell you?

BP: She became a little indignant, she said "Buford, you're my cousin, you're a close friend of mine, and you've been in my home many times, and have I ever lied to you before?" And I said, "Oweeda, no you haven't." "They're over in the jail and if you don't believe me, you can go up and look at em," and she said, "hell, I called mother after you called me and she said, they were still there."

DW: And did you go to the jail to verify whether they were there on Monday morning?

BP: No I did not. Because I had information and the threats and my minister, all had been reported on April 12, April 14, and they confirmed the fact that Sheriff Rainey said he was gonna kill me, and basically I was afraid to go to the jail. Otherwise I could have went, if I went I'd be thrown in jail too, so I didn't care to be picked up.

DW: Have there been any other threats on your life beside the threat from Sheriff Rainey?

BP: Well, to start with, Saturday night, for example this past Saturday night, a lifelong friend of mine, Hardy E. Blount, pulled a .38 pistol revolver on me and threatened to kill me. First he asked me if I would cooperate with the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and I told him I was. Then he pulled a gun and said "I'm gonna kill you you nigger loving son of a bitch, I'm gonna kill you right here." And I talked him, I slid to the door, in the car, and I got my pistol which I had with me, I can tell you, and he sort of backed down a little, the last words he told me "you can bet one damn thing, Sheriff Rainey and me are gonna kill you before the week's out." He said: "You're a dead son of a bitch you'll never get out of Neshoba County alive." And then on Monday, this past Monday, I was talking to Blumenthal, or something name, Ralph Blumenthal, a reporter from the New York Post newspaper, telephoned me from Meridian, a long distance call from Meridian, about 40 miles away, and while he was talking to me, and he wanted to come see me, and I said, come on ahead, and a voice interrupted us on the phone, I'm on a party line, and a voice interrupted and told me to "drop dead, you're gonna die anyway, just as well kill yourself, cuz we're going ta kill you."

DW: Mr. Posey, have there been any threats on your life from anyone outside the Philadelphia area?

BP: Uh, yes. The chief of police W.D. Rayfield, chief of police in Jackson told an executive session of the Jackson Chamber of Commerce on April 9 that he had hired a Negro to kill me. And this has been reported to the authorities by reliable people who were present and who heard it, reported to the FBI,

DW: Why would Chief Rayfield of the Jackson Police Force want to kill you

BP: I was a personal friend of the late Medgar Evers, and I know Charles Evers well, and.

..

DW: Charles Evers head of the NAACP in MS?

BP: that's right. I know Charles Evers and Johnny Frazier .

DW: Johnny Frazier, he's with the NAACP youth council is that correct?

BP: Johnny Frazier, of the NAACP, youngest member of the Board of Directors, and I know Bob Moses.

DW: Moses he's head of the MS summer project here?

BP: Yeah

DW: Mr. Posey, You mentioned several times in our previous conversations that you thought the three civil rights workers are dead Why do you think they're dead?

BP: Because the Klan in the County is boasting they're dead, and they're heroes, the people who want to kill them, Sheriff Rainey and his two deputies, This is my opinion, Sheriff Lawrence Rainey and Deputy Price, and Deputy Snow, incidentally Deputy Snow's got a long criminal record, have boasted that they killed em and they're heroes for doing it.

DW: I see. Did Sheriff Rainey actually pull the trigger according to these stories you have heard? Or Did Deputy Price or Deputy Snow actually pull the trigger on these men?

BP: Yes. The Klan boasted to me I've had about six different Klan members tell me, that Sheriff Rainey shot the sons of bitches and I was trying to, and my cooperation with the FBI was trying to get Sheriff Rainey in the penitentiary, and that's why I was going to be killed, for cooperating with the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

DW: Was anyone else in on the killings as far as you know?

BP: Yes, the governor's representative Woodrow Stephens, of the Wiggins Lumber Company, told me, this past Saturday night just before I went to Blount's home, and I talked to him from approximately 5:30-9:30, 4 hours, the past and he's the closest friend the governor of Mississippi has, and he told me definitely, I give you a little background, he's a lumberman, closest friend of Johnson, and raised \$44,800 for governor Johnson campaign fund, and personal friend as well as political. He told me the Governor sent him to Philadelphia, because he's a native of Philadelphia, and he told me Governor sent him to find out who killed the boys, and I've known him for years,

_____ rabbit when we were kids, very close friends, and told me Governor sent him to investigate who actually did the killings

And names he gave him, besides Sheriff, and Deputy Price and Deputy Snow, Snow is a part time deputy, handles liquor payoff, and he's a moonshiner himself, and so anyway, uh uh, so Mr. Woodrow Stephens told me: "Buford, you have been tried and sentenced to death by KKK and I want you to know if you don't leave you're a dead man, I don't think you can get out, but I'll still be a friend of yours. . . _____."

DW: So, what names did he give you?

BP: Here are the names of the men who killed the three civil rights workers. Sheriff Rainey, Deputy Price, Deputy Snow, Bob Howell, the Rev. Edgar Ray Killen, Johnny Risher, Pete Jordan,.

DW: What do these men do in the community of Philadelphia?

(LONG GAP IN TAPE. TAPE APPEARS TO BE PLAYING fast forward or something. The previous question is never answered.)

DW: Mr. Posey did you hear anything about what happened to the bodies once these men were supposedly murdered?

BP: Supposedly is nonsense. The fact is they were murdered period. This idea of them missing is a bunch of baloney. They're dead. Klan boasting they're dead.

And Hardy Blount, and Alvis E. Mayo, telephoned me and said those three nigger loving sons of bitches, the snakes are eating them up now, and said you're gonna be number four.

DW: In the Pearl River swamp. And what has prevented their bodies from floating to the surface of the Pearl River?

BP: They have been weighted down and dropped in there, and things tied to the bodies.

DW: Where did you hear that?

BP: Well, Hardy Blount, mean son of a bitch, and his wife, and he's a Klan member, Blount told me, a Klan member and Alvis Mayo told me, Klan member.

DW: How reliable are the reports of these men? Is it possible it's just idle boasting and that they're not telling the truth?

BP: Hell no, when a man points a gun at you and tells you you're number four, and that gun is a four inch .38 revolver, and you have to duck behind your car and get your gun, it is not a idle boast, these men are very reliable, that's the horrible part. Very reliable

DW: Is the Klan very strong in the County?

BP: As I've previously stated, I'd say 75 percent of the white male adults belong to it. Want to be conservative. The truth is there's 99 percent of the white adults -- if you don't belong your life's in danger.

DW: How Klan start? (NOT SURE THIS IS WHAT ASKED.)

BP: Started off as a protest, Edgar Ray Killen is head of the Klan in Neshoba County. Started up as a protest against me. On April 4, at 10 p.m. burned cross on court house lawn and 11 crosses in County on Saturday night April 4.

DW: You mentioned earlier that there was a burning of church in Longdale outside Philadelphia and that the three civil rights workers had gone out there to investigate the burning of a church on that day they were reported missing. Could you tell me something about that burning and beating of three Negroes which allegedly took place on previous Tuesday before disappearance?

BP: Burning took place on Tuesday, night, the sixteenth, beat up IS Bud Cole and couple others negroes, about thirty whites there. And Sheriff Rainey there.

DW: Were they wearing Ku Klux Klan hoods and robes?

BP: About twenty wearing hoods. A few didn't bother to disguise themselves didn't feel any danger. Didn't wear hoods.

DW: In other words, Didn't wear hood because they were wearing badges?

BP: Wearing a badge so didn't need to wear hood.

DW: What about burning of church later?

BP: Beat one of then negroes unconscious. Set church afire about 11.

DW: Who set the church afire?

BP: Sheriff said he did it.

Said "I did it." Boasted. Popular, Got a bunch of moon shining he's getting payoff. Wanted local population to UNINTELLIGIBLE

DW: When was Sheriff Rainey elected and what platform elected on?

BP: Past August, democratic primary, took office January 6th, and his platform was elect me sheriff and I'll kill the niggers and nigger lovers, killed two in Neshoba and two in Canton. On little police force in Canton for a while.

DW: Did you ever talk with jail keepers wife, to Mrs. Herring a cousin of yours, or hear any conversation, anything she said about missing men?

BP: On Monday I had Mrs. Blount, Bessie Blount, Hardy Blount's wife to call her while I eavesdropped, pretty nice person, even though her husband's a Klansmen, called at my request to know the latest gossip, and Mrs. Herring brought up the subject herself. And she said, "We let those three nigger lovers and that old nigger out at 10:30 thirty last night, and Sheriff Rainey don't know anything about it, got home this morning, and a lot of trouble being caused, by these damn outsiders, eighty coming in tonight, from Pennsylvania, tell Hardy your husband to get his guns ready, to shoot em when they come in."

DW: Thank you Mr. Posey. This is David Welch reporting from Knoxville TN.
END OF INTERVIEW WITH POSEY.

BACK TO DAVID WELCH TALKING WITH ROBERT MCNAMARA FOR WHOM HE'S BEEN PLAYING THE TAPE OF WELCH'S INTERVIEW WITH POSEY.

DW: Is this on tape?

Now Bob Howell. Bob Howell. Bob Howell. I asked if he was among the parties which murdered the three missing men. Then I said there were rumors to that effect and asked if there was any truth in it. And he said, "there sure ain't." he said "I wasn't even in town when those men were killed." Get that? I repeat "I wasn't even in town when those men were killed." I said, "Where were you? He said "Jackson." "Which night was that?" He said "Sunday." "Where were you Monday?" "I was here Monday." I said: "You mean they were killed Sunday night?" He said, "I didn't even know they were killed. I didn't even know they were killed."

Then I talked to the Reverend Edgar Ray Killen who says he's pastor of two churches. He says not only no truth to it, he resents me asking. Preaches gospel of love and peace. He doesn't know much about the Klan and won't admit to being a member. Neither did Howell. And have no knowledge of Klan in area.

Then we have John O. Risher. He said there was no truth to the report that he was among the party which killed the three men. Q. Where were you when they were killed? He said: "I have to think back" and then he says, "I don't even know they were killed. Most of the people here don't think they were killed, they think that it was just a publicity stunt. I didn't think I had that kind of character or reputation in the community that people would suspicion me like that."

Um, Pete Jordan: Uh, denied reports that he was among the party that killed the missing men. He was asked about rumors that he was a member of the Klan and said: "Whoever told you that is a liar, and I'd like you to bring him here and confront me with that, and I'll call him a damn liar."

Was the sheriff out there with the men when the three men were killed?

Jordan said "he might have been although I doubt it. My understanding is he was in

Meridian where his wife was in the hospital,” and then he said, “of course, I don’t even know they were killed.”

Lawrence Rainey’s telephone number won’t be released by operator, have asked that it be kept private

Deputy Price not at home and should be home later.

RM: Did you talk to Unintelligible?

DW: Sheriff’s office did not know of any Deputy Sheriff Snow. Several Snow’s around here.

Now there are three Snow’s listed, a couple of women, and Kenneth Snow, and Paul Snow, and W_____ Snow.

It’s hard to say.

END

BACK TO McNAMARA AND GOODMAN’S ATTORNEY WOLFE TALKING.

W: Hello. Mr. McNamara. I think we’ve gotten what we want

RM: That’s pretty much the story. We have a certain amount of other things going.

W: What?

RM: We have a certain amount of other things in the fire so to speak.

W: I can’t hear you.

RM: We’re very busy, been doing a lot of other work, checking out what this man is saying, looks pretty good, doesn’t look bad.

Looks like he’s a regular fellow, pretty regular, but he’s responsible

W: You’re talking about Posey? What’s his history? How old a man is he?

RM: Somewhere around fifty, he has a father who is eighty one.

W: What does he do?

RM: He’s a farmer. He sectioned A out of the army in 1941.

W: He was in the army?

RM: He sectioned A (or 8) out of the army in 1941.

W: Oh, section A.

RM: However, seems to be thought of as being responsible and has a certain following. All very tightly bred, you know the southern thing. Explains the relationship with Mrs. Weir. Did you understand that?

W: Yes. His cousin.

RM: Yeah. Mrs. Herring is a second cousin. Mrs. Weir’s relationship I don’t know. Apparently there’s a lot of cousins through the area.

RM: But, he was on the Mississippi democratic state committee.

W: You mean Posey?

RM: Yeah. For some years

Wolfe: How long ago?

RM: The last time was 1948 when he voted for Harry Truman and the rest of them voted for Strom Thurmond.

W: Uh uh. 1948?

RM: Yeah.

W: Tell me, Has any of this, or has it all been made available to the Federal Bureau?

RM: Yes. I think it all has. Now we know that some of the people we talked to today, they haven't talked to at all.

W: Uh huh, uh, huh.

RM: Which doesn't seem likely. It doesn't seem likely. But that's what the facts indicate. One man may have said the most incriminating things of all, Howell.

W: I got that. This wasn't Howell. The problem with something like that is what it really is was Welsh, reporting what Howell said.

RM: I don't understand.

W: Well, For legal effect, this is Welsh reporting what Howell told him.

RM: I don't understand.

W: Hearsay is what I mean.

RM: Well. Still and all.

W: When was it turned over?

RM: I don't understand.

W: When was it given to the FBI do you know?

RM: Uh, he keeps calling the FBI and telling them what he knows.

W: You mean Posey himself? The tape itself wasn't given to the FBI?

RM: No.

W: I see what you mean. So they've had all this from the very beginning.

W: And Posey is in TN?

RM: Yeah, Knoxville. What he's doing for us is he's giving us a lot of leads. And we assume what he's saying is credible.

W: I'm sure he really knows a good deal about the area and can be helpful. Do you have ready availability to him?

RM: Yeah. Uh uh.

W: Can I call you tomorrow?

RM: I won't be in around noon, ...

W: I'll put in a person to person call and get you somewhere

RM: What we know, the FBI knows. The newspaper reporters aren't following this, or don't have this.

W: Most of them have this don't they? I know the Post has this.

RM: What the Post is running is what he said before he left Mississippi. Now he's out of the state he's saying much more elaborate, more detailed things.

Different.

W: That's why I asked if this has been given to the FBI after he's gotten out.

Communicated with them after he got to TN?

RM: Don't know.

May not admit.

W: We'll check and see to the extent we can.

W: I'll call you tomorrow. I'll have it transcribed.

RM: Send us a copy Address is 1819 N. Larrabee Street, Chicago 14, (can't hear all)