

Volume I- Case Incident File
File 16¹⁸
POLYGRAPH- John Walsh
08/07/81

SOUTHERN INSTITUTE of POLYGRAPH

Captain Robert Mowers
Hollywood Police Department
3250 Hollywood Boulevard
Hollywood, Florida

Dear Captain Mowers:

As per your request on Friday, August 7, 1981, an extensive interview and specific polygraph examination was conducted on Mr. John Walsh. Said polygraph examination was conducted to determine, if in fact, he was criminally involved in or had guilty knowledge as to who was responsible for the abduction of his son, Adam Walsh, which occurred on or about July 27, 1981.

Prior to said examination, a pre-test interview was conducted. The following are excerpts from this interview:

Mr. Walsh stated that he was born in up-state New York, and is one of four children. He identified his father as being a very sincere and loving man, who graduated from the University of Notre Dame. During World War II he was a fighter pilot and a decorated war hero. His mother was also born and raised in up-state New York, and came from a prominent family. She was the class president and his parents were high school sweethearts.

While attending a private Catholic high school he participated and excelled in all sports and academically he had no problems.

After graduating from high school he enrolled at the University of Buffalo and considered himself an all American college student during his first two years of study there. During his last two years of study he became active in the anti-Vietnam movement, and felt very rebellious against then President Nixon. He said he let his hair grow and experimented with an assortment of illegal drugs and narcotics. On three occasions he tried LSD; smoked marijuana, and experimented with cocaine and mescaline.

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Mr. John Walsh Interview

Mr. Walsh expressed great love and respect for his father, and said as much of an American his father was, he thought he would offend him by expressing his anti-Nixon and Vietnam sentiments. On one occasion after confiding with his father, he remembers his father telling him that he also did not think that the war was just and he would not be disappointed in his son if he went to Canada and refused the draft. Rather than avoiding the draft, he and his brother, Jimmy, acknowledged their draft notice, but both failed their physical examinations and were classified 4-F.

Subject stated that he has an 80 percent hearing loss to his left ear due to injuries that he received while playing hockey.

At age 21, he met his wife who was then 17 years old and attending her senior year in high school. At that time he belonged to his college fraternity and had many girlfriends, but for some reason he was attracted to his wife and they both felt it was "love at first sight."

After graduating from college he moved to South Florida, and found employment at the Diplomat Hotel, which is located in Hollywood, Florida. A gentleman by the name of Jeff O'Reagan, who was his good friend that he knew from college, was working as a lifeguard at the Diplomat, and was able to find him a job as a beach boy and lifeguard.

While there he had occasion to come into contact with a very wealthy man by the name of Mr. Monahan, who at that time had business dealings with the Diplomat Hotel. On one particular day he saved the life of Mr. Monahan's son, who was drowning while swimming in the ocean. Soon after this incident, on July 10, 1971, Mr. John Walsh married his wife, Reva, and as a wedding gift Mr. Monahan gave them a six week paid vacation in Europe.

After they returned from Europe Mr. Walsh was offered a job from Mr. Monahan, which paid \$12,000 annually. Even though Mr. Walsh had to take a cut in pay he saw the future in working for Mr. Monahan and his company known as GAC. After two more years of employment, Mr. Monahan had a falling out with GAC and since Mr. Walsh's loyalty was to Mr. Monahan, he also quit the company.

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Mr. John Walsh Interview

Mr. Walsh immediately found employment with Out Island Promotion Board, and he found this job very rewarding; not so much financially, but the acquiring of experiences in the hotel business. In 1976, he resigned his position with this company and was offered a position with Diversified Marketing Company. He received stock in this company and was partners with a gentleman by the name of Warren Binder.

Subject stated that Mr. Binder was the type of man who would work seven days a week, 52 weeks out of the year, and after being with him for a period of time he realized that he was depriving his family by spending all of his time at work and none at home.

After discussing this with Mr. Binder they separated in good terms and he accepted employment with Hotel Management Association, Inc., which is a company out of Houston, Texas. This company also owns and manages Houston Grand and Grier Glass. A large portion of the financial backing into this company comes from Saudi Arabia.

Since his employment with Hotel Management Association, Inc., he has been able to spend a considerable amount of time with his wife and child. Subject stated on his tenth anniversary he gave his wife a half carat diamond ring, which she always wanted, and he was able to attend every sports event that his son participated in, specifically t-ball games, and for the first time he felt a strong unity between his wife, child and himself.

After his father passed way, he brought his mother, brother, who is 22 years old, and sister who is 30 years of age, to South Florida. Since his mother has never had to work and is on a fixed income, he gives her \$300 per month to help pay expenses. Mr. Walsh said that his wife is not aware of the fact that he gives his mother

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any money, but feels obligated to do this and does not feel that his wife should give an opinion as to whether or not it is necessary or justified.

At this time during the interview, Mr. Walsh became emotional concerning the pressure that has been on him in reference to the caring for his family and the supporting of his mother. He stated that he feels personally obligated to help everyone, especially family members. Besides giving his mother \$300 a month, he has given his younger brother a job and pays him a decent salary and whenever he and his wife have a family outing they include his mother, brother and sister, and he pays all the expenses. He said at times he feels he is being taken for granted but after expressing this to this examiner, a feeling of guilt came over him and he said he really does not mean it; he loves his family very much and since this is the first time he has had a chance to express himself, he is letting everything out, even though he does not mean it.

Mr. Walsh was asked if, during his marriage, he has ever had a personal relationship with a woman other than his wife. He responded that he has always liked woman and enjoys their company. He further stated that he could honestly say that up until two years ago there was a time when he did extensive traveling, and he had many occasions to spend time with females that he had just met, but their relationship was only for the physical part, and nothing ever transpired because of these relationships.

He stated that for the past two years, since he has spent less time working, he found that his relationship with his wife has improved, and he became closer to his son, Adam.

When asked specifically if during his marriage he ever had a serious girlfriend, he responded, "Yes, approximately five years ago." He considered this young lady his

girlfriend, but she is now happily married, and they haven't dated for at least five years. He stated since his son's disappearance he was contacted by her through a third party, and she asked if there was anything she could do to help. Mr. Walsh stated that he believes his wife has always been very loyal to him and his son. She had never given him reason to believe that she is seeing other men, and he has never found a time, during their marriage, where she would leave for several hours, and not be able to explain her whereabouts. He reiterated the fact that she is very close to his son, Adam, and loves him very much, and both he and his wife, Reva, are very protective of him.

Mr. Walsh described his wife as being a very loyal and understanding woman, who at the present time is active in body building. Just recently she participated in a body building tournament and came out third place, which was a pleasant surprise to everyone. She is also attending Broward Community College, majoring in interior design. She attends day classes several days a week. He said she has always worked her schedule so she could take Adam to school in the morning and pick him up in the afternoon.

Mr. Walsh stated that she has told him on several occasions that two or three of the male students have come on to her in a very pleasant way, which did not offend her, but she let it be known that she was happily married.

When Mr. Walsh was asked if he recalled any discussions with his wife concerning her purchasing a lamp at Sears, he recalled that at least a month or two prior to going to Sears she had made it known that she had wanted a particular type of lamp. They had priced this lamp at another store and it was almost twice the price that Sears sold it for. They waited until Sears had the lamp on sale, and he recalled seeing the lamp in a magazine of some type. He gave the ad to his wife, and remembered on the night prior to his son's disappearance, they discussed the fact that she was going to Sears to buy the lamp. It was the first day of the sale when she and Adam went to Sears; the same day that Adam was abducted.

He stated that he recalled his wife making a list of things she had to do, and she cut out the ad from the magazine, putting it on her blueprint table, which is located in the kitchen. Mr. Walsh remembered getting up sometime between 7 and 7:30 am, on the day in question, and Adam was still sleeping. He and his wife talked of the events of the day; then he went to work. He picked up his brother, Joe, who lives in Dania, then they proceeded to work. On or about 10 am he called his wife at home, and again she told him that she was going to Sears with Adam to buy the lamp.

When Mr. Walsh was asked who resided in their house, he said that he, his wife, Reva, their son, Adam, and a close friend by the name of Jimmy Campbell. He described Mr. Campbell as being 25 years of age, and he has known him for over ten years. Subject recalled that they met when he worked as a beach boy at the Diplomat Hotel. Jimmy was 12 or 13 at the time, and used to spend his time at the Diplomat doing odd jobs, just to be near the ocean. He said Mr. Campbell's father was a test pilot, who had crashed twice and was disabled from the Air Force, but presently lived in Hollywood, with his wife who is a registered nurse at a Broward County Hospital. He further stated that Jimmy Campbell is not good looking, rather skinny bad complexion, somewhat introvertive and overly sensitive. Campbell's younger brother, Tommy, is very good looking, athletic and just married. It was general knowledge that Jimmy's father favored his younger son, Tommy, and Mr. Walsh felt it was rather sad.

Jimmy liked to surf and was very much into diving. Subject stated that Jimmy always looked up to him and confided in him and he honestly feels that he is Jimmy's only true friend. Campbell also goes by the name of Dudley. The Walsh's gave him that name because he was so helpful and always there when needed. He was their "Dudley do-right."

When Mr. Walsh was asked if Jimmy Campbell ever made mention to him as to how he related to his family, he said that Jimmy was always offended by the fact that his father played tennis at the country club with the Jewish women, while his mother worked all the time to support the family. Jimmy always identified his brother, Tommy, as being very macho. He is the type

of guy who drinks Busch beer and could beat anyone at anything. He identified himself (Jimmy) as being passive and somewhat of a lonely boy. Mr. Walsh realized that even though Jimmy Campbell's father did not kick him out of the house he was not really accepted and the father preferred that he did not live there. After he and Reva married, since the Monahan's were mutual friends of both Jimmy Campbell and Mr. Walsh, Jimmy would come by their house and visit.

After his son, Adam, was born, the visits were more frequent, and Mr. Walsh did not mind this for he felt that his wife and son were left alone, at home, unprotected, during the night, and if Jimmy Campbell stayed there, he would feel that he family was being protected. At first, he would occasionally pay Campbell for some of the time he spent there babysitting and doing minor repair work around the house. As time went on, Mr. Campbell spent more and more time there each day, and before anyone knew it, it was taken for granted that he was living there.

Mr. Walsh stated that not only did he like and respect Mr. Campbell, he and his wife decided that he would be their child's godfather, for they realized the sincere love he had for Adam.

Subject stated that Jimmy Campbell and his parents were very good Catholics, and for a five year period, during the time he stayed with them, he became like an adopted older brother to Adam. He taught Adam how to swim and did babysit for them. He worked as a houseboy yet there was mutual respect and he was never taken advantage of. He was always considered as one of the family. Campbell coached the t-ball team that Adam played on. He taught Adam how to surf; cleaned the house and was very much accepted by the entire family. Not only by the Walsh's, but their relatives also.

When Mr. Walsh was asked when Jimmy Campbell moved from their home, he responed saying, "Reva said we needed our privacy." She asked him, "What are you going to do - you can always see Adam." Adam was getting older, his wife said. He (Jimmy) had to start pulling for himself. She stated that he had not gone to school that semester and she was disappointed in him, he was getting a little lax.

At this time and point in the interview, it was brought to Mr. Walsh's attention that from his statement, it was apparent that it was Reva's choice that Campbell move out, and he was asked what his sincere, honest opinion of the matter was.

At this time he responded saying, "I told Reva I wanted more privacy. I can't sit in my shorts in my own house. What does he need, to light a fire under him"? I was getting tired of having him around. Reva said she would talk to him. For the next 15 or 20 minutes during the interview he let it be known to this examiner that he was beginning to feel a little jealous of Campbell being around. He did not want to share his son with anyone, even though he knew that Campbell and Adam's relationship was a sincere and loving one. Mr. Walsh was somewhat apprehensive in making these admissions, but admitted this to the undersigned saying it was actually the first time he had admitted it to himself. He said, "It felt as if I was carrying the load. I was paying my mother's bills, had my brother working for me and I am responsible for everyone. I was under a lot of pressure at the time. Reva and I agreed. She said even though I need him I would have to assume more responsibilities. I told her I would. She wanted me around more. For the past year I have spent more time with my wife and child."

Mr. Walsh stated, "When we went to soccer games I paid for everyone. Sometimes it would cost me \$55.00." He stated he never told this to Reva. Reva talked to "Dudley" and he stated that he would look for an apartment. From the time she mentioned for him to leave, maybe a month went by. There was no pressure on him. He stated it wasn't as if they were kicking him out. The tentative date for him to move out was June 1, 1981. He left sometime in July.

Mr. Walsh stated after Campbell left, who is also known as Dudley, they cleaned out the room and put some of Adam's toys in it. He continued to babysit.

Mr. Walsh stated that "Dudley" is Adam's godfather and is totally distraught. Mr. Walsh stated that he knew Adam was alive and well and that he would get him back. He stated, "Whatever you want me to do, I will do." Dudley stated to Mr. Walsh that the police

probably think he is distraught running around with psychics. He would say to me, "John tell me what to do." Mr. Walsh stated that he has seen Dudley by himself crying and he has told me not to give up hope. Dudley has done everything, everyone has asked him to do.

In the beginning Walsh stated, he and his brother Joe thought they would find him. Dudley was not living with them at the time. He stated they still saw him all the time.

Mr. Walsh recalled that on the day of Adams's disappearance he was told that his wife Reva and Adam went to Sears alone. Soon after he was noticed missing, he was paged, and about ten minutes later Mr. Walsh's mother (Adam's grandmother), came to Sears. When Reva saw her she asked if she had seen Adam. Mr. Walsh believed that the police told his mother to go home and see if Adam had walked there, and it was his mother than called him at the office. Subject stated that he and his brother, Joe, went directly to Sears, after being notified of his son's disappearance. Upon his arrival, he immediately saw his wife, Reva, then he started to search the mall. Subject stated that he does not know when James Campbell was notified.

After a brief time of discussing an unrelated issue, a specific polygraph examination was conducted on Mr. John Walsh. The specific questions asked were as follows:

A. Concerning you son, Adam's, abduction, do you intend to answer my questions truthfully? Answer. Yes.

B. Do you know the individual that took Adam? Answer. No.

C. Do you know where Adam is now? Answer. No.

D. Did you conspire with anyone to cause Adam's disappearance? Answer. No.

E. Are you withholding information from the police concerning Adam's disappearance? Answer. No.

F. Do you suspect anyone of taking Adam? Answer.
No.

G. Do you know who took Adam? Answer. No.

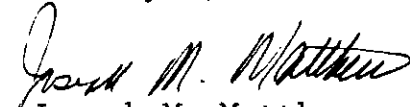
H. Did you take Adam? Answer. No

After careful analysis of said polygraph examination, it is the opinion of this examiner that Mr. John Walsh showed no physiological reactions which would be indicative of being deceptive of any of the above relevant questions asked during his polygraph examination.

It is also this examiner's opinion that Mr. Walsh was not criminally involved in nor has he guilty knowledge as to who is responsible for the abduction of his son, Adam.

If I can be of any further assistance in this matter, do not hesitate to call upon me.

Thank you,


Joseph M. Matthews
Director
JMM/mm