



The FBI Oral History Project

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**Interview of Former Special Agent of the FBI
William B. Anderson (1948-1975)
Brian R. Hollstein, Interviewer
February 14, 2008**

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Brian R. Hollstein/

(H): Today's date is the fourteenth of February, 2008. I'm talking with Mr. William B. Anderson, at Elizabethtown, Pennsylvania. You were in service with the Bureau from 1948-1975, is that right?

William B. Anderson/

(A): Yes. I can actually begin to dictate now because I wrote careful notes.

H: Well, what we'll do I think, if you don't mind, we'll get a little background from you and then quickly run through the totality of your career, then go back and then we'll start in with the actual interview, if we could do it that way.

Just a couple of ground rules. We ask that you'd please not use classified information. The transcript will be reviewed by the Bureau for classified information.

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A: Nothing I'm going to do today was a classification.

H: Yes. Another thing. If you refer to informants please do not use the Bureau identification numbers for the informants, or their names. We'll just make up a name for the informant if we talk about any.

A: I will not be using an informant today.

H: Okay.

A: In later things I want to.

H: Well, we'll see how we do and that's about it. I sent you a copyright release, a background form in the mail. It will come in the next day or so. If you'd please fill it out, with your year of birth, and birthplace and that type of thing.

A: Yes.

H: And throw it back in the mail and that will finish off the paperwork. So let's get started. Tell me a little bit about where you grew up and your education and then how you happened to find the FBI.

A: I was born in western Pennsylvania, a suburb of Pittsburgh, a pleasant wooded suburb of Pittsburgh.

H: Uh huh.

A: I graduated from high school in 1942. That was war time and I soon thereafter enlisted in the Marine Corps and I can say that to you briefly. At my enlistment, I had started out and had a semester at Penn State as a physics major. At that time they put me in what they considered to be an officer candidate class.

I was later called to active duty and did a semester or two more at Penn State, and then went through a long Marine Corps training program; Parris Island, Camp Lejeune, Quantico. I was commissioned a second lieutenant early in 1945, went to the West Coast and, almost on the day the war stopped, I was shipped out and went to Guam, Saipan, Kwajalein on the way to China. In China - I can rattle that on a bit - I was Commanding Officer of a platoon of Marines in a very remote area called Bridge 54, standing up against the Chinese Communist Army, keeping them from blowing up the railroad tracks. We had a few gun battles with them.

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A: Ultimately I did a year overseas and came back and picked up at Penn State and graduated in 1948. I had been a physics major at Penn State. About that time, that last part of 1947, I went to the Pittsburgh Office of the FBI and was processed to become a Special Agent. I was interviewed there and I graduated in mid-January and in February 1948, (I can't give you the exact date), I was sworn in as an Agent in Washington, D.C.

H: Okay. You went through training then at the old post office down there?

A: Yes I went through training at the, actually the Justice Department, never in the old post office but Justice Department Building. In fact we used the classroom; our classroom was the trial room used for the German saboteurs of World War II. Most of whom I think were executed.

H: Yeah, yeah. Well probably the old post office was not an old post office at the time then in forty-seven.

A: It was early forty-eight. I don't know to tell you the truth, but my recollection is I was never in that building until later. I was assigned there.

H: Yeah there was a legions of people went through that side of it. You took your training, your firearms training and some other things down at Quantico at that time?

A: Yes. We did firearms training and actually we were work crews. We helped build the Quantico firearms range on our spare time. You know how it was in the Bureau.

H: All that spare time you had, right?

A: Yeah.

H: Well, that's kind of interesting. So the ranges had not been down there, or had they moved them or something?

A: They were there but they were in the state of expansion and improvement.

H: Uh huh.

A: I remember one of the firearms instructors was John Malone, who later became Assistant Director in New York City.

H: Right he was one of our folks there in New York. Good. After you finished your training, you went to your first office, and where was that?

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A: I can give you that in a kind of direct order leading you up to the beginning of the polygraph business; something like this. See how this sounds to you.

H: Okay.

A: I first was assigned to my first office in Portland, Oregon. I worked there briefly, just a few months, and then was sent out to the Resident Agency in Umatilla, Oregon, which was a very remote area. I worked there until September or October of 1948. It was a very good experience. I got to know that very remote part of the world; worked on an Indian reservation, got good stories about the Indian reservation.

Then I got transferred to Los Angeles about September of forty-eight. I worked there until perhaps 1951, in the summer of fifty-one, and I was transferred to the Fresno Resident Agency. I worked there for about a year. Because I had done something remarkable, recruited a Communist Party member in place, I got promoted and transferred back to Los Angeles as a Field Supervisor.

H: Uh huh.

A: I worked there until 1953 when I was again commended and promoted to the FBI Headquarters. I was there in summer of 1953 until, I'm not sure of the exact dates, a date in 1955, when Inspector Nease who was in the Director's office called and asked if I was ready to go out and train to be an ASAC. I was moving pretty quickly; too quickly I thought.

H: Uh huh.

A: And I told them, no, I didn't have enough criminal experience and needed that. I had been in security work. I was in domestic intelligence. He arranged a transfer to Washington Field where I spent one year doing street crime work. Very beneficial. I learned a lot and worked with some very good men there. And after that, after I did my year, I went back to FBI Headquarters, again in the Domestic Intelligence Division.

H: Uh huh.

A: And then in the summer of 1959, I was transferred to Pittsburgh to do general criminal work and it's at that point the Special Agent in Charge there, B.C. Brown, recommended me and I was sent to FBI Polygraph Training School number 2, which was in October, 1960. Now I'll stop there.

H: Okay.

A: I'm ready to go on in detail about prep in the polygraph business.

H: Okay.

A: Is that all right with you?

H: Yes, [but] I was just thinking here though, going back to the Indian reservation times, maybe just a couple of [stories] to give us some sort of a feel of what that was like.

A: Well, Pendleton, we were across the river from Hanford, Washington where a big atomic energy plant was. The bulk of my work was doing backgrounds on atomic energy applicants; very boring and routine. It had no great interest but it was an important duty. And I did some minor criminal work there. Then I got a referenced crime from the District Attorney of Umatilla County who said he'd received a complaint that there'd been a rape and attempted murder on the Indian reservation there, Umatilla Reservation, and that was assigned to me to solve.

And, since I'm from Pittsburgh, and knew virtually nothing about Indians I'd become close friends with a Commander of the State Police there. His name was Chubb Smith. He became a very good friend of mine in an unusual way. I'll tell you that and make you laugh.

H: Okay.

A: When I went over to talk with him he said, "You're from back East there, aren't ya?" And I said, "Yes, I am." I was in a formal suit, hat all that on.

H: Sure.

A: And he was a real westerner. He said, "You fellas ever carry guns?" And I could see what was coming. And I said, "Oh yes, every FBI Agent does." He said, "Do you know anything about shooting them?" And I said, "Well yes, I do". And he was moving in the wrong direction for him because I almost fired a possible in training class, and I was very good at that. In any case he said, "Well you wanna have some target practice out behind the state police here?" And I said, "Sure, if you want I can do that."

A: So he put about twenty-five feet away a target and he took out his six shooter, half a dozen, and got a group about the size of a coffee saucer or something like that. And he said, "Now it's your turn." I was careful. I was very competent. He chose the wrong thing to contest. I shot him a target about as big as a silver dollar, very small and he was such a great guy. He looked at that and he said to me, "Anderson, you're a terrific shot. That's wonderful." He liked me because I did that. That's the quality that Chubb was. He and I became good friends over that. You know normally, they'd get pissed at ya and say, you know what's that all about?

H: Showing off now.

A: Getting huffy in a pool game or something.

H: Yeah, yeah.

A: But we became good friends. When I got this crime on the government reservation, I said to him, "I don't speak the Umatilla Indian language. I don't know squat about that. I need to have someone who could guide me in those interviews. I have to talk to the victim.

It was a woman. He said, "Well, let me think about that." And ultimately he said, "We'll get Charlie Hoskins." Charlie was the Indian police commander on the Umatilla Reservation, a big reservation. He said, "Charlie, you and I will go out there and find those people and he'll do the interview." So after, I can't remember how long, a week or ten days or so, he said to me, "It's your case so you gotta use your car, you gotta drive, we'll show you where to go." So we get in the car and toward the end of one day we drove way out on the reservation, flat, dry, just like the Hollywood vision. And here off in the tent was somebody and, as we walked up there, Charlie said, "I'll do the talking." I think her name was Vivian. I still have the assignment card so I could look it up. But in any case, he walked up to her and he said, "Vivian, Charlie Wilson fuck you the other night?" And she said, "Hell no, I never even had my pants off." He crumpled up the paper and he handed it back to me and he said, "There's your case, Anderson."

H: Rough and ready.

A: Oh boy. That Charlie Hoskins proved to be another one of my best friends. He was Indian but he was accepted. He was a member of the Elks Club. He said, "We can't xxxxx around with this anymore. Let's go back to the Elks Club and have something to drink but before we go back, we gotta do some work." And we drove around. He could see one of these old model A's and Indian passed out in there and he said, "I gotta arrest somebody."

A: Charlie and I became good friends. One time he came to visit me in Washington, D.C., when I was a supervisor, dressed up in all that cowboy regalia.

H: Yes.

A: And he came in on the Justice Department on the first floor where our office is, blew open the door and he yelled. He looked just out of the movies and he yelled, "Anderson, God dammit, get dressed, we're going out to lunch." I came back and my fellow supervisors at the headquarters, said, "What was that?"

H: It's a whole different world, isn't it?

A: It was very different then.

H: Absolutely.

A: And those people, Chubb Smith got killed arresting somebody on the highway in Oregon and Charlie Hoskins died a natural death. My brother-in-law lives in Idaho now so I knew about this.

H: Uh huh so you keep up with things a bit then.

A: That was the Indian reservation.

H: That was your reservation experience, huh?

A: Actually, I had other experiences with the ranchers around there. Because as you'd drive around and ask them things, they couldn't be more helpful. They were so wonderful. I was looking for an Army deserter, World War II. His wife said, "I think he works for us." I showed her the picture, her husband came in. He said, "Yes, he does. He's down in the Snake River Canyon here. It's about a two mile, three mile horseback ride and that's a terrible lot of trouble for you." He said, "What time do you get to work in the morning?" I said, "About eight o'clock." He said, "I'll have him up at your office at eight o'clock tomorrow morning." I got there. Sure enough they were sittin' on the front steps of the post office waiting for me. He put out his hands and I put the handcuffs on him. A different world, a different time.

H: Yeah, yeah.

A: A better world, a better time.

H: Yes, in many ways. Other ways it wasn't quite so nice but, yeah, along those lines. So you went back from there to L.A., and then out to the Fresno RA?

A: Yes. I did security work there.

H: Now that was CP (Communist Party) right?

A: Yeah.

H: Mainly?

A: The Communist Party we knew was active out there but there'd been a Resident Agent up there who was one of these personality boys and he just visited with people, didn't know what was going on. So I got sent up there to see if I could figure out what was going on. I'll tell you this briefly. I studied. I asked him before he got transferred out because of his performance. Any case I tried to get him to tell me what was going and he never did. Ultimately a deputy sheriff up there called me and said, "Anderson, you've been askin' me about xxxx?" "Yup." He said, "His wife just ran off the other day with xxxxx, here and I think xxxxx pretty moody about that, I thought you'd like to know it." Thank you very much.

I suppose this is a violation of the rules. I just drove up to his house as fast as I could and there he was in his kitchen drunk, lying on the tabletop. Ultimately he and I became very good friends. He became almost in minutes, he was an informant in place in the FBI. He did it for fifteen years. When I went out and inspected the Fresno RA they still had the assignment card and all. By then they were toothless nobodies. They wouldn't scare anyone.

H: Uh huh. But, at the time though, it was interesting. I've talked to other people about those times and there was some danger from these people, from the CP shortly after the war.

A: Yes and that was the leadership of the CP. But we were dealing with ordinary membership in the central valley of California. They were mostly intellectual Communists, what I call little old ladies in tennis shoes. As long as you knew who they were and you had them on the Security Index, all you would do is arrest the key figures if the time ever came, and the time never came.

H: Uh hmm.

A: We never arrested anybody. And rightly not, I think.

H: Well, after all if they're not actually, physically, doing something, but you know who they are and they're well penetrated, there's no reason to really give them a hard time; any harder time anyway.

- A: I think most offices in the FBI did a very thorough job. The wise guys in the press criticize the FBI for doing too good a job of penetrating the CP, knowing too much about it. I'm sure you've read that.
- H: Oh yeah. But talking to other people that they had rather active members and were directly aiding espionage efforts and they were a challenge at the time.
- A: That's correct.
- H: It's so easy after everything is over with to say well they didn't do anything - look at that. And yet they were poised to, they were a danger at one point. It's very similar to talking about 9/11. You know 9/11 occurred. Going after Middle-Easterners prior to that you know you could get some criticism but not now after everything took place. They want to know why we didn't do more. Anyway, I'm doing the interviewing; not being interviewed.
- A: I think what you're saying there comes down to a great truth. When you're in law enforcement, you're gonna get it wrong because you'll either be doing too much or not enough. And the wise asses who don't do it are the ones who know more than you do.
- H: Oh yeah, they always do.
- A: They always do.
- H: So that was a good move you made, finding and turning someone, and that brought you back to L.A.
- A: And I became good friends and he was very helpful. I went back to Los Angeles as a supervisor in Los Angeles oh, for about a year. I was in charge of the Security Index. I had, oh I think, twelve Agents. Los Angeles had a lot of CP members and some of them were very dangerous there.
- H: Let's just for people that wouldn't know what this is, what was the Security Index?
- A: Well, that was an index of persons who essentially were identified as members of the Communist Party with some certainty, and active in the Communist Party, and were doing something to show a persuasion that they would follow the dictates of the Party. So we had to know what kind of work they did, were they in a critical job, could they effect sabotage from a job for example or the public security in some way. We had to know where they were in case we were given orders to arrest them; you just go and put the cuffs on them. That never occurred but my best recollection in the Los Angeles division which was a very active CP group.

A: We had the New Yorkers out in Hollywood and that. I worked in Hollywood, Beverly Hills section. We had lots of them. My job was to have these Agents do investigations to make sure where every one of them was at all times. But you can't do that at all times; as best we could.

H: Sure.

A: We had a small clerical staff who kept systematic records ready at all times.

H: Now this Security Index was it classified in any way?

A: It's hard for me to answer that but I think the reports that we prepared; you see everybody who was on the index had to have a comprehensive investigation. I think those reports were classified and filed at the office in Los Angeles. They went to the headquarters and they were reviewed for accuracy and then a copy of that report on everyone went to the Justice Department and they had to approve their inclusion on the Security Index.

H: So it wasn't only a Bureau thing?

A: Oh, no.

H: No.

A: Close relationship with the Justice Department; all of that was approved by the Justice Department for legality matters, even though the Director had got his fingers burned back in the twenties for what was allegedly a Communist raid which wasn't justified. But this was meticulous and very careful. If you didn't do the report right, get it on time and so on, you get yourself in trouble. It was fastidious really.

H: So you'd bring them up to date on a fairly regular basis then?

A: Yes.

H: To insure that they were still where you thought they were and they were active.

A: Yes.

H: Good. So then back to headquarters - domestic intelligence there.

A: My job there was in the Domestic Intelligence Division to insure that the field offices, over which I had supervision, primarily Los Angeles, but also some in San Francisco and other places, some small offices, that they did their work as scheduled as we instructed them and it was properly written so it could be disseminated, always to the Justice Department, and sometimes to other agencies and

H: Who else might get it for example? Immigration or somebody?

A: I'll give you a classic example. I'm full of stories and this is a true one that you might like.

A: The San Francisco Division had a man named XXXXXXXXXX, who was a citizen of Finland and an active every day, very vocal CP member in San Francisco. They wrote the report and we then disseminated a copy of that report to the INS so that they could look into this alien Finnish citizen who was a very active CP member in San Francisco. The INS acted unilaterally because, lawfully they were justified, they arrested XXXX in San Francisco one day, and threw him on an airplane. When he came to, he was landing in Finland and they extradited him immediately and it hit the headlines. The press said here's this poor man in San Francisco, you threw him on the ground in Helsinki, and the American Ambassador met him and gave him his overcoat. What a terrible, terrible thing.

Well General Swing who was then head of the INS appointed by Dwight Eisenhower, another old general, got terrifically bad publicity so he wrote the Director and he said, "I want that FBI informant of yours to appear at our hearing and testify this man is an active member, XXXX.

H: Uhm.

A: I wrote a memo to the Director saying that's what Swing wanted and the San Francisco Division recommended 'no,' because this is a very important informant and the informant couldn't be spared.

H: Sure.

A: I sent that up to the Director and I said, "This is the San Francisco recommendation. I suggest we don't sacrifice that informant. It's an INS problem, they gonna have to handle it themselves." And the hullabaloo continued and General Swing complained more and it went on for about a week. Then ultimately Swing got to the President who told Hoover to turn him over.

A: Hoover was deeply embarrassed internally and they turned him over and then he wrote on my memo, "Why the delay in this?" There wasn't a delay, it was why the delay. I tried to answer but I couldn't answer well enough so I got a letter of censure for delaying the whole matter.

H: Well, you're joining a legion of people with letters of censure.

A: Oh I know that.

H: You know, here again I don't remember anybody, at least not people that I've talked to anyway, talking about letters of censure. What was a letter of censure?

A: Well, it was always signed by Mr. Hoover and it spelled out what you did wrong, at what time, and what incident and so on and so on. I think in my FBI career I had thirty letters of commendation; I think I may have told you that.

H: No.

A: Thirty letters of commendation, which is a lot, and six or seven letters of censure. What I did sometimes with those letters of censure; I had my own way of solving them. I knew what was in the envelope, so I didn't open it.

H: You don't let it get you down right?

A: I thanked myself and said, "He's wrong, I'm not gonna pay any attention to it." I think a lot of guys did.

H: Well, there was some story around, myth I guess, that if you were getting a letter of commendation, the envelope came with a blue return address on it. If you're getting a letter of censure it came in with a black return address. Do you recall that at all?

A:: I can't confirm that. That might be true but that never occurred to me.

H: Now a letter of censure though would have some effect or could have an effect on your career, could have an effect on your pay right?

A: Yes, what it did is it caused you not to be promoted or increased in pay grade. It could affect that that's right.

H: For a certain number of, I guess, it used to be six months I think when I was in.

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A: Yeah. I don't really have that clear in my mind because I took a cavalier attitude toward that. I thought just do what's right and, if they wanna criticize you, well just do it right again the next time and get a good night's sleep. What the hell. Frankly, it was very helpful to have that attitude.

H: I think so.

A: I had a disciplinarian father so I learned to stand up to people.

H: Okay. You're at headquarters with Domestic Intelligence and that mainly was CP work on the West Coast is what you're supervising there?

A: Let me see. I have a lot of stories and I don't want to digress on them at this point.

H: Okay.

A: You guide me.

H: Sure and I would like to get into the polygraph because that's the main part of the story right now. We've all got a lot of stories but it is interesting to pick up and get a feel for what your career was like.

A: I'll tell you one quick story.

When I was in Fresno, there is an agency doing security work and they had one informant. The guy used to come around and give them a lot of information and his name was XXXXXXXX. He was half Japanese and half American and one day they said, "Hey XXXX was in to give you some information. He said you should investigate so and so and so and so. He's a very dangerous Communist spy." I said, "Well wait till he comes in."

Next time he came in he said to me, "I want to tell you about so and so." Yeah I said, "I heard that." He said, "He's just a wonderful person, that's not true" and so and so. He contradicted himself. I said, "XXXXX we're so tired of you, I'm telling you never to come back here. Just don't come bug us with that. Stay away." He said, "You can't talk to me I got friends in the headquarters. You can't make me leave." So I threw him out of the office. He wrote a letter to some top brass in the Bureau he'd met in the American Legion. I never got a letter of censure for that.

- H: Yeah, there was always a pain in the neck that would show up. Yeah, I had one. We talked to him and he said, "You can't talk to me and I won't talk to you because I was an aide to Governor Rockefeller and I was with this big deal politician." I said, "Well okay. So I walked away and got a subpoena for him for Grand Jury. And I came back and I said, "You know, you won't talk to me, you can talk to the Grand Jury." He turned right around and was very pleasant. But, you know, you can't put up with that stuff.
- A: That's fascinating. I had the same experience in an extortion case.
- H: Yup. They turn around, at least these tough guys with their political connections. Anyhow back to Domestic Intelligence, you wanted do some criminal, so you went over to Washington Field?
- A: Gordon Nease was an Inspector. He said, "You ready to go out on the inspections you need to become an ASAC?" I said, "No, I don't have any criminal." So he transferred me over there. I worked on the general Criminal Squad in Washington, D.C., which was a very, very good experience for me.
- H: Oh yeah, that's a great spot to be.
- A: There were wonderful men there and we had very good agents. I became best friends with a fellow named Joe Woods. I don't know if you ever heard of him Joseph I. Woods.
- H: No.
- A: Joe was the brother of Rosemary Woods who was Nixon's secretary. You've heard of her?
- H: Uh huh. Yeah.
- A: And he and I partnered up really with him showing me the ropes. He'd been in the Marine Corps just like me and we had a good relationship. Over there did an investigation that I would like to put into this which was basically of a man who'd been to the planet Venus and came back, and worked a con-game on a woman. I ultimately arrested him and got him convicted.
- H: Well that sounds like an interesting one.
- A: Oh yeah. I can validate that one. I can even give you his picture but he was fascinating.

H: Well let's get you now out to Pittsburgh. You're doing criminal work out there then.

A: Well, at that time, I came back to the Bureau after my year in Washington Field and it was just so damn boring that I ultimately asked for a transfer to the Pittsburgh Office. I think Hoover said, "If he wants to go to Pittsburgh he can go there." That was my old town, so I went there. And I was put on general criminal work.

Our SAC was then Bernard C. Brown, B.C. Brown, a really fine man. I worked all kind of bank robberies because it's a small town with a lot of bank robberies. We all turned out for that. But I mostly did thefts from interstate shipment, other very simple things but I had good success at them. So when the Bureau said, "Pick out someone in Pittsburgh to come to Polygraph school number two," he chose me and I went there in October of 1960.

H: Okay. Now let's get down to the polygraph.

A: Yes

H: Once again people who may be reading this in the future may or may not know much about the polygraph. Can you tell us just very quickly how it works and then we'll get into the training and your experiences?

A: Sure. The way the polygraph works is it is attached to the human anatomy. It measures changes in your physical systems which are motivated by your brain and your emotional processes. We're translating emotion into a physical recording with an ink pen.

And you ask questions of the person, all of which he knows in advance. They're not surprising questions. You ask him questions which include the issue itself, that is what he's accused of doing, the issue. You ask him questions there. You ask him questions that are irrelevant, like, 'is today Tuesday?', things like that to calm him down or you ask him comparison questions which are questions that are designed to be of a similar nature about which he may not know anything. They're accusatory. Basically you're comparing his recorded results in blood pressure, heart beat, electro-dermal response; those three things. They're recorded on six-inch wide piece of paper.

You compare the various responses with each other and, based on them, you can reach a conclusion as to the likelihood that they're truth telling or not.

H: So you'd ask me for example 'is today Tuesday?' and see what my reaction is on these three different things?

A: Well let me do, let me give you a classic example that will really ring the bell for you.

H: Okay.

A: In Washington, D.C., I'm gonna say in the early sixties, a woman was kidnapped. Her body was found over in Virginia; it was interstate. She was a very nice girl and had a nice background. She was nude, chopped up into pieces and put in a homemade plywood box. Some boys found it, police came and the crime, it wasn't really an FBI crime, but ultimately they got into it. The FBI in the greater Washington area tried as hard as they could to identify the perp and they couldn't, and they worked and worked and worked.

After a couple of years, they were scraping the bottom. Then they had an arrest record come in from Warren County, Pennsylvania up north, one hundred miles from Pittsburgh. Where a man had been arrested and convicted for raping a woman up there. He was a body and fender man from New Jersey. He was a pen pal of hers. He come up, gave her dinner, and then he took her back to his motel and raped her a couple of times.

She was pretty stupid and then he got frightened and he nailed her into a plywood box and took her to a different motel and back and forth. Ultimately he raped her a number of times in different motels always using the plywood box. So they said to me, the Bureau did, "There's some similarities here. Go up there and polygraph him in the Warren County Jail and tell us if he could be the man who murdered Marta SantaCruz."

I went up there, talked to the warden, told him why I was there, got his permission, very nice man, yes I can test in his prison; the guy was being held before going over to the state penitentiary. He hadn't gone yet and he said to me, "What can I do to help you, Mr. Anderson?" And I said, "You could tell me something important. I need a control or a comparison question, something which he knows about and is embarrassed about. Doesn't know that I know about, which I could use in comparing him with – did he murder and hack to pieces Marta SantaCruz?"

So using the process I described to you, I hooked him on the machine, was asking him questions about Marta SantaCruz, did you kidnap her, rape her, chop her up and so on. I was getting little beeps, like you or I would get if we were going through that.

H: Sure.

A: It was a pretty bad question but the warden had said to me, "The thing I can tell you about him is he's [having sexual intercourse with] his mother." I said, "Oh how do you know that?" He said, "Well I read their mail back and forth. He can't wait and neither can she until he gets out and they get back in bed again." I said, "That's very helpful." So after I ran through the Marta SantaCruz questions, I said to him, "Ever have sexual intercourse with your mother?" Dead silence. He was a real lump. I thought why no move. Oh, he doesn't know that word. So I said, "Did you ever xxxx your mother?" He jumped out the chair, the ink flew in all directions, he tried to punch me. So I punched him in return and I said to him on the floor, "Don't be a dumb bastard, you should thank me. You've so responded to whether you're xxxxxx your mother, which I don't care about at all. xxxxx as much as you want and I can exclude you from murdering Marta SantaCruz. You're more concerned about your mother than you are about Marta."

That's the way the polygraph, in the best circumstances, can operate. You compare something like that with the issue at hand and as I said to him, "I don't care what you do with your mother but I can exclude you from being a suspect in Marta SantaCruz."

H: How interesting. Now the actual connections, there's a tube goes around your chest, right?

A: There's one lower around your abdomen.

H: Around your abdomen

A: And one on your chest, because you never know what clothing they have underneath, women in particular, that gets your respiration.

H: Uh huh.

A: Then you have a pair of finger clips where a low voltage current goes in one finger and out the other, which measures the changes in electrical conductivity of the cell structure of your body

H: Uh huh

A: It doesn't (**unintel**) of that. Then there's a blood pressure cuff, on your left hand usually, because it's nearest your heart, which records very precisely the action of your heart and your blood pressure. So you have sometimes four recordings; two on the stomach, one on the fingers and one on the arm. They're all done simultaneously and what you do is you write notes as you talk to them. They can't see the paper - that would be bad. You write very cryptic notes with dots and exes and so on to indicate when you ask a question, what the question was, when you stopped, when he answered, what he answered, plus or minus for yes or no, and you get at least, oh, three or four runs of that through until you have enough information. So then you can excuse him while you sit there and figure it out.

H: Ummm. Are all of these things, do they all show some sort of the change or some more indicative?

A: You almost always get changes but it's the kind of change which you can reduce to numerics that you can use. It's a complex numeric system that's a little hard to explain here casually.

H: Yeah, sure

A: That's an important thing and it's important to know that you can't always know whether or not you can give a conclusion. The important thing is, if you can't reach a conclusion with certainty, you say that, "I don't know." That prevents you from getting a false result.

H: Right.

A: Because if you can exclude them that's one thing or if you can say they did it that's another but if you just don't know, and that happens in a small percent. It happened with me. In a small percentage of the time, in and about two percent of America is insane anyhow and you really don't know.

H: Right it's hard to separate them.

A: Because they don't know themselves.

H: Okay, well let's go back and talk about the training and how were people selected for it and where was it held and that type of thing.

A: Okay. The training for me and for all FBI polygraph examiners was done at the Laboratory in the FBI Headquarters. The Laboratory supervised it. Bell Herndon, you may, did you ever hear of him?

H: Yeah oh yeah.

A: Bell can give you a lot more about the formalities of this than I can because he was not on the scene when I went through. I didn't know him then but I got to know him later and he's a very informed person.

H: Oh yeah.

A: And when I went there it took about two weeks. It was a brief course. We had instruction in psychology and human biology and anatomy. We also had a number of Agents who had been in the first class who came in and demonstrated the use of the machine, how to operate it, how to attach it, how to deal with people and that was really a very brief school. It lasted about twelve work days.

The most, what I would call the most useful instructor there, my old friend Joe Woods showed up. He was in class number one and he was a very good instructor. But there were others like him. There were, I think there were already then eight or ten in the FBI all over the United States. A couple of them, one from New York, and one from Washington Field, Joe Woods, came. I don't remember the New York instructor. I'd like to tell you his name but I can't.

H: How many people were there in your course taking the course?

A: Thirteen.

H: Thirteen?

A: Thirteen in our class.

H: And I gather from all over the country. Let me stop here just a moment. This is tape 1 and we're on side B now. I'm with William B. Anderson, Jr., and my name is Brian Hollstein and today's date is the fourteenth of February, 2008. We're just talking about the polygraph course here in Washington and the Lab. So there's thirteen people and then people who'd had experience from the first class came and helped out.

A: Yes

H: And worked with you.

A: They were all very helpful instructors. It was a good school; very intensive.

H: Was the Director particularly interested in polygraph?

A: It's hard for me to say. I tend to think he gave grudging approval. That's the best I can say to you because he never showed any great interest in it and I'll give you a time when he stopped it because he did that for awhile. But he took no personal interest that I'm aware of. It was something he didn't know about and he was always worried and doubtful of things he didn't know a lot about.

H: Well the polygraph had been around for awhile.

A: Yes. It has a long history.

H: Yes, because I remember in the Army we used it a lot in Intelligence and it had been around. You know the technology had been around for a very long time.

A: Yes, that's right. But Mr. Hoover never bet on something until it was more than a sure thing.

H: Except horses right?

A: Always lost as near as I can tell.

H: Is that right?

A: One of my friends used to take him to the track in the California, Harry Whidbe. I don't know if you ever knew Harry Whidbe. He said the Director and Tolson never made out, they just loved to bet.

H: Yeah two dollar bettors, I guess.

A: They were two bored old men, didn't know what the hell to do with themselves.

H: Yes. If it wasn't FBI, it didn't exist I guess.

A: That's about right.

H: It was something. So after your two week course you were sent back to Pittsburgh?

A: Yes. I was sent back to Pittsburgh and was told that my assigned territory to cover would be Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Ohio and upstate New York and that was where I would get the work to do. That was the territory. They were being very careful. Every polygraph test had to be approved in advance by the FBI Bureau; the Laboratory really, that's where you sent them. And the case Agent was required to make a very careful request showing that he'd done a lot of hard work in preparing this because he had to exhaust logical investigative steps, so it didn't become, as it was called, an investigative crutch.

H: Right. You skip over things right?

A: Right. They'd just shortcut it and ask somebody to come and do it for you. But the Bureau didn't approve it if that's how it was asked.

H: What was it mainly criminal or did you do any security work?

A: It was mainly criminal but we did security work. I can tell you one of those right now off the top of my head.

H: Yeah that was always a problem though, wasn't it?

A: Well it was a little difficult because, let me cite the one we had in Pittsburgh.

H: Sure.

A: It was a xxxxx matter and there was a xxxxxxxx in Pittsburgh. One of the men who worked in the xxxxxxxx was an informant of the office and the case Agent said, "I just don't think he's telling me the truth. I think he's bullshitting me for money." So he got the approval. At that point he requested approval, he got it and I gave a polygraph test in which I was required to use an interpreter. We used this xxxxxxxx interpreter who was a retired Marine Major and he was somebody I knew slightly anyhow. But he could speak xxxxxxxxxxxx; that was his background.

We gave that polygraph test and ultimately the informant confessed that almost everything he said was a lie. That was one of the rare security cases. I'd say that more frequently than anything you would have things around a bank; embezzlements were a big thing.

H: Uh huh.

A: Bank embezzlements, accounting cases things like that, bank burglaries and similar things.

H: Things where you had a very definite event.

A: Yes, there was missing money and they knew it for sure. The typical bank embezzlement would be that there was thirty thousand dollars missing and five people had access to the money. They all said they didn't take it and I would go and speak to them all. "I'd like you to take a polygraph test and the five of you are the only ones who had access to the money. So I'd like to give a test to all five of you." And, of course, the first four would say, "Yes sir, yes sir, yes sir and the fifth would say, "I'm standing on my Constitutional rights, xxxxx. I'm not gonna take that test." So I would say to the case Agent, "Well there you are, there's you're suspect." They wouldn't take the test, everyone else passed. It's the process of elimination. That was its great value. It would eliminate the innocent.

H: Right and it would, as you're talking about it, have a psychological affect.

A: Profound.

H: Which would work.

A: Yes, it did. I have had, I'm jumping ahead now I did about four hundred polygraph tests before I got to Watergate, maybe five hundred. I was very experienced. And the experience I built up there was so valuable. It's like playing the violin, or as Sophocles said, "The way to learn to play the harp is to play the harp." And that's what I was doing.

H: Okay. Are we ready now to go into the Watergate?

A: I don't think so, yet.

H: Okay.

A: I've got a few more notes that would be helpful to you.

H: Sure.

A: Because it's the training program.

H: Good.

A: I've spelled out that you had to have approval and all that sort of thing. But I got to the field, got my polygraph and I didn't feel I was fully trained the way I wanted to be. I'm a perfectionist. I was a Physics major. Everything's gotta be right.

H: Okay.

A: In any case, for the first year you were required to submit all your results, papers, etc., to the Lab. They would examine and tell you whether it was okay with them or not. But because I was not satisfied I did something which was probably prohibited. I sought out the only polygraph expert in Allegheny County, a man named Charlie MacInerney. He was Director of the Allegheny County, Pennsylvania Crime Lab. He was a very experienced examiner. He had twelve or fourteen years experience. He was the founder of what became the American Polygraph Association. I think he was once a Chairman of that.

So I took my polygraph tests to him for review and comment; probably as I said a violation of the Bureau regs. He would go over them very carefully. He was very, very helpful. No one at the FBI had his experience, I'm sure. It was just right but it came at a real price. Charlie was acerbic, you know that word?

H: Ah-ha.

A: And brutally honest. I was a freshman and he was a professor. But I showed the proper respect, paid close attention. I learned the right way and rapidly and we stayed friends. I'm forever thankful to Charlie. So I had additional on-hand, on the scene advice, so he made me a much better examiner than I would have been if I had practiced alone.

H: Yes, I could see that sure.

A: And he was in Allegheny County Law Enforcement which was largely corrupt but Charlie wasn't. He was the real thing.

H: Okay.

A: And, let me summarize it. From about fall of 1960 through 1965 I performed about four hundred polygraph tests and throughout my assigned territory as I call it. In 1965 Mr. Hoover stopped all polygraph tests after learning about serious criticism of IRS polygraph testing. Hoover was very sensitive to remote but possible polygraph criticism which might spill over to his beloved and perfect FBI. None ever developed but he stopped it.

H: Uh huh.

A: And, as I said, I did about four hundred tests then. I think all these tests, I'm stepping aside now, all those tests combine into a summary that I could prepare for you of just the choice ones that you could never get any other way. I have a lot of notes about that but that's separate. I think you want me now to go to Watergate.

H: Yes, probably and the other material if you have it written and you'd like to share it with us that would be great. We can include it in as an addendum to the material, to the actual interview here.

A: Well what I'd like to do with you is work through this one so that you're satisfied with – I know what I'm doing - and then I'll propose that one to you next and I've got half a dozen others. I got lots of it.

H: Uh huh. Okay.

A: I don't want to take all that much of your time but at this point why don't I begin for you the Watergate process?

H: Sure, that's good.

A: I have that written down now and I can dictate it very carefully to you.

H: Well, I want it live too, so, yes, we'll talk. If I can break in from time to time and ask questions.

A: Oh yeah. I'll read slowly to you.

H: Okay.

A: You can follow me and interrupt for whatever you want.

H: Okay, good.

A: I just want to make sure I get what's important to you.

A: On March 12, 1974, Special Agent J. Robert Pearce and I flew to Sacramento, California from Philadelphia to administer a polygraph test to Ed Reinecke, the Lieutenant Governor. Ronald Reagan was then the Governor and Reinecke was running to replace him. Both Pearce and I were very experienced polygraph examiners with several thousand examinations over a fourteen or fifteen year period.

A: We were sent there in FBI cooperation in support of the Federal Special Prosecutor Leon Jaworski for the Watergate Investigation. Mr. Pearce is now deceased.

A: At issue was Reinecke's testimony before the US Senate Judiciary Committee in 1972 when he told the Committee he had not discussed a pledge of \$400,000 from ITT with former Attorney General, John N. Mitchell, to fund the 1972 San Diego Republican National Convention, later shifted to Miami Beach.

Mr. Pearce and I interviewed and tested Reinecke [on] March 13 and 14 for a total of perhaps twelve hours in the private conference room of the FBI in Sacramento. Initially with him were his wife, Jean, and his attorney. As the Reinecke party left on March 14, I accompanied them to the outer door. The press had been excluded and they were surrounding the FBI Office as they exited. I followed at a distance to hear the press conference.

At the outset of the Reinecke interviews on 3/13, Mr. Reinecke was ebullient and he pointed out that Mrs. Reinecke had brought a large picnic basket lunch for us all because, "I am an engineer, not an attorney. Engineers quickly tell the truth simply, directly. Lawyers drag out lies endlessly. So this will be brief and we can have a picnic lunch together." He was so full of himself.

In the comprehensive test interview which followed, Mr. Reinecke denied any culpability for the questions prepared by the prosecutors. The polygraph results were clear. He had essentially been untruthful throughout. Mr. Pearce and I told him that thoroughly and frequently. We also informed his attorney of that.

His attorney and wife were not present during the polygraph test process. During the test process, but not during the interview process, we would send the attorney out, and do the test; otherwise the attorney might cough, sneeze, or interrupt.

Mr. Pearce and I were together in agreement and of course sent a written report of all that to Mr. Jaworski by the FBI Headquarters.

We told Reinecke at the time that everything he said of substance was wrong. He denied it. He refused to acknowledge it. As he left from the FBI Building, the press, radio, television, newspapers, etc., forty or fifty of them, were all shouting, "Did you pass, Ed? Did you pass, Ed?"

I had followed him out quietly and I could see and hear all this. They continued yelling at him. Reinecke climbed up on a little stone wall and very positively, with a smile, told the press he was sure he would be cleared. What else could he say? He did not confess or admit *any* wrongdoing to us or the press.

A: On July 27, 1974, he was found guilty of perjury by a Federal Jury in Washington, D.C. No polygraph material was used. It was inadmissible.

What the special prosecutor had wanted to do was make sure that he was on track. Accordingly, he used every verification means he could get. The polygraph was a very useful one but not one which could be evidence. But we made them (the prosecution) feel that they had Reinecke correct.

We sent the prosecutors the results so they could review it. Pearce and I worked closely with them. They were all very competent throughout. We got along very well.

I would call the prosecution non-political. My own convictions are, my dad always told me to vote straight Republican and Reinecke was a Republican. He was untruthful, however.

On July 27, 1974, Reinecke was found guilty of perjury by a Federal Jury in Washington, D.C. He then submitted his formal resignation as Lieutenant Governor of California and was given an eighteen month suspended sentence.

He also dropped out of his race for Governor of California. On December 8, 1975, about a year later, a three judge panel of the US Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia overturned Reinecke's conviction on procedural grounds. No quorum was present when he gave the allegedly perjured testimony. The court did not address itself to the question of whether he lied and that was the end of that case. He hired a really good appeal attorney in Washington, "Jiggs" Donohue, who was an ace appeal counsel. He found a hole and capitalized on it.

H: A slight procedural error can throw the whole case completely out.

A: The other one was Richard Kleindienst. On April 2 and 3, 1974, former United States Attorney General Richard G. Kleindienst appeared at the Philadelphia Office of the FBI accompanied by counsel. This was a few months after Reinecke.

A: He chose to come to Philadelphia to be interviewed and tested with the polygraph by Mr. Pearce and me in cooperation with the Federal Special Prosecutor, Leon Jaworski, for the Watergate Investigation. Mr. Jaworski's staff had provided for resolution two issues. Number one: had Kleindienst committed perjury in his Senate Confirmation Hearing for Attorney General?

And, two: had he, as Attorney General, ordered the destruction of Justice Department documents as alleged by a Justice Department Attorney, Keith Clearwaters?

A: Mr. Kleindienst was interviewed and tested at length by Mr. Pearce and me on each of these issues for several hours. Thereafter, Pearce and I were in full agreement. Mr. Kleindienst was not truthful in denying the Senate Confirmation perjury but was truthful in his denial of the Clearwaters allegation that he, as Attorney General, ordered destruction of Justice Department documents.

Thereafter, I carefully advised Mr. Kleindienst of two conclusions: “lying” to the Senate Committee and “truthful” to the Justice Department document destruction. Mr. Kleindienst then paused briefly and burst into tears and asked me, “You know why I did that?” (the tears.) I told him, “Yes, from relief.” To which he said, “Lying to the Senate is done every day here and I’m not ashamed of that, but destroy Justice documents? I would never do that. I love the Department. Thank God you believe me.”

Then he asked where he could find the nearest Episcopal Church. We directed him there. He was weeping. We found Ed Reinecke fully untruthful, but Kleindienst partially so. The nature of Kleindienst’s charge was essentially like the accusation against Reinecke. Had they reported that ITT was going to give them, the Republican Party, \$400,000 to finance the convention?

On May 16, 1974, Mr. Kleindienst pleaded guilty to a misdemeanor charge of refusing to testify accurately before the Senate. A few weeks later he was fined \$100 and given a thirty-day suspended sentence.

Two very different men Kleindienst and Reinecke. Mr. Pearce and I were officially commended for this work in the Watergate Investigation.

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