

SUPERIOR COURT OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA

FOR THE COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES

DEPARTMENT NO. 130

HON. EDWARD A. HINZ, JR., JUDGE

--oOo--

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA,

Plaintiff,

vs.

LESLIE VAN HOUTEN,

Defendant.

9028

NO. A253156

REPORTERS' DAILY TRANSCRIPT

Wednesday, May 13, 1977

Volume 28

Pages 4000 to 4138, incl.

APPEARANCES: (See Volume 1.)

EMANUEL J. SANZO, C.S.R. No. 1267
- and -
LOIS R. JOHNSON, C.S.R. No. 812
Official Reporters

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1 LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 1977, 10:35 A.M.
2 DEPARTMENT NO. 130 HON. EDWARD A. HINZ, JR., JUDGE

3
4 (Appearances as heretofore noted.)

5 (The following proceedings were held in
6 open court out of the presence of the jury:)

7 THE COURT: People versus Van Houten.

8 Let the record show the defendant is present,
9 represented by counsel, the People are represented by counsel;
10 we are meeting in the absence of the jury.

11 Is that at the request of counsel?
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1 THE CLERK: Your Honor, that's our fault, I guess.

2 THE COURT: All right. Let's have the jury brought out.

3 MR. KEITH: Could I approach the bench on a fairly
4 inconsequential matter, but, nonetheless, it's --

5 THE COURT: Yes, will counsel --

6 MR. KEITH: While the jury is being brought out.

7 (Bench conference not reported.)

8 (The following proceedings were held

9 at the bench with the reporter present:)

10 THE COURT: Let the record show we are at the bench.

11 Mr. Keith?

12 MR. KEITH: Yes. I would sincerely request that the
13 court reporters, Lois and Manny, change my reference to
14 Juror No. 2 from Mr. Gillespie to his actual name Mr. Miller.
15 I can't explain how I got Gillespie. Mr. Kay suggested he
16 looked like Bizzy Gillespie.

17 He says there was never any juror by that name.

18 THE COURT: All right. The record may so indicate.

19 Let's go off the record.

20 (Discussion was held off the record.)

21 MR. KEITH: Do you want this on the record?

22 MR. KAY: Yes.

23 I think before we get to that, on the record --

24 MR. KEITH: Well, we will have to have a waiver.

25 MR. KAY: We'll have to have a waiver.

26 Mr. Fart was one of her first attorneys. And
27 from my understanding, from talking with Mr. Keith and
28 Mr. Fart this morning, Mr. Fart is going to volunteer a whole

1 bunch of psychiatric opinions.

2 MR. KEITH: No, I'm not going to do that.

3 MR. KAY: Oh, you're not? Okay.

4 MR. KEITH: No. I don't think he was an intimate
5 enough acquaintance to --

6 MR. KAY: Are you just going to have him authenticate
7 the tape?

8 MR. KEITH: Authenticate, and then talk about Leslie.

9 MR. KAY: Well, I mean, are you going to get into his
10 opinions of her sanity and --

11 MR. KEITH: No. I'm going to ask him, though, if he
12 contemplated a diminished capacity defense in view of his
13 conversations with her, and if, thereafter, he was relieved
14 and supplanted by other counsel.

15 I'm going to ask him that.

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1 MR. KAY: I would object to that as being irrelevant.

2 MR. KEITH: Well, you see, there is sort of a
3 subinsub as to why, now, why didn't we do all this then.

4 And the fact of the matter is that she wouldn't --
5 Leslie wouldn't permit it.

6 MR. KAY: Um-hum.

7 MR. KEITH: And there was no cooperation at all from
8 her on the defense that is now being proffered.

9 MR. KAY: Well, you can ask your question but I'm going
10 to object.

11 MR. KEITH: All right; I will ask all the questions I
12 want to. And if the Court doesn't think they are proper --

13 MR. KAY: Okay.

14 THE COURT: All right; let's proceed.

15 (The following proceedings were held in
16 open court in the presence of the jury.)

17 THE COURT: Let the record show we are now meeting in
18 the presence of the jury.

19 All right, Mr. Keith, you may call your next
20 witness.

21 MR. KEITH: Marvin Part.

22 THE CLERK: Take the stand over there, please, sir.

23
24 HARVIN L. PART,

25 called as a witness by the defendant, was sworn and testified
26 as follows:

27 THE CLERK: Would you raise your right hand, please.

28 You do solemnly swear that the testimony you may

3-2
1 give in the cause now pending before this court shall be the
2 truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help
3 you God?

4 THE WITNESS: I do.

5 THE CLERK: Just take the stand and be seated, please,
6 sir.

7 Would you give your name for the record, please.

8 THE WITNESS: Marvin L. Part. P as in "Peter" -a-r-t
9 as in "Tom."

10 THE CLERK: Thank you.

11
12 DIRECT EXAMINATION

13 BY MR. KEITH:

14 Q Mr. Part, what is your occupation or profession,
15 please?

16 A I'm an attorney.

17 Q How long have you been an attorney?

18 A About 19 years.

19 Q At one time were you in law enforcement?

20 A I used to be a deputy district attorney for the
21 County of Los Angeles, and I was a deputy attorney general
22 for the State of California.

23 Q When were you a deputy attorney general for the
24 State of California?

25 A After I got out of law school. I believe it was
26 either 1959 or 1960, or something like that.

27 Q And thereafter did you become a deputy district
28 attorney?

1 A I was a deputy district attorney after leaving
2 the Attorney General's Office, until 1960.

3 Q And after --

4 I take it that you left the District Attorney's
5 Office in 1960 and went into private practice.

6 A That's correct.

7 Q And you are still in private practice.

8 A I am.

9 Q Do you have a specialty?

10 A I'm a criminal law specialist.

11 Q Certified by the State of California?

12 A Yes, I am.

13 Q Directing your attention to the latter part of
14 1969, in December thereof.

15 Were you appointed to represent Leclie Van Houten?

16 A Yes, I was.

17 Q As her defense counsel.

18 A That's correct.

19 Q And did that appointment take place shortly after
20 she was indicted for the homicides that are before the
21 court now?

22 A I believe so. It was sometime during the month
23 of December; I'm not sure exactly when.

24 Q After your appointment to represent her --

25 Incidentally, this was an appointment by the
26 Superior Court of the County of Los Angeles.

27 A Yes; I was appointed by Judge Keene.

28 Q And Judge Keene at that time had the so-called

1 Nanson case before him, in his court?

2 A I believe at that time he was the presiding judge
3 of the criminal section, Department 100.

4 Q Thank you.

5 After being appointed did you have conversations
6 with Miss Van Houten?

7 A Yes; I had many conversations with her.

8 Q And did she converse with you, in your opinion,
9 in a free and voluntary manner?

10 A Yes.

11 Q At sometime during the course of your representation
12 of her did you tape or cause to be taped a conversation at
13 Sybil Brand Institute between yourself and Leslie?

14 A Yes, I did.

15 Q And at the time you taped this conversation did
16 you coach her or rehearse her or do anything else to influence
17 what she told you on the tape?

18 A No.

19 What happened, actually, is I spoke to her on
20 several prior occasions without a tape recorder being there.

21 It was necessary to get a court order to have one
22 brought to Sybil Brand.

23 And so when I recorded the conversation with her
24 that you are alluding to, I just asked her to tell me what
25 she had told me in the previous occasions.

26 Q And you didn't lead her or prompt her in any way.

27 A No. There are spots on the tape where during
28 the conversation I may have asked her a question or two; but

1 I never ever told her what her answers were to be.

2 Q When you say you didn't tell her what her answers
3 were to be, you are telling us you didn't tell her what her
4 answers were to be before you taped the conversation.

4f A Absolutely not.

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1 Q All right.

2 On some occasions were you with another attorney
3 or an investigator during your conversations with Leslie
4 subsequent to your appointment?

5 A My first conversation with Miss Van Houten was
6 just she and I. Then after I heard the first conversation
7 I felt that I would need a -- I wanted someone down there to
8 hear it also. I thought I might need a witness some day as
9 to what she was saying.

10 Then after that conversation I felt it might be
11 best if I could get a tape recording just so that we could
12 record it.

13 So on one occasion I took my previous partner --

14 Q Paul Geragos?

15 A Paul Geragos, G-e-r-a-g-o-s.

16 And on another occasion, I believe, because I
17 needed a private investigator, the court appointed William
18 Stenberg, former detective from Glendale, and he was down
19 there with conversations.

20 Now, I'm not sure who was present beside myself
21 and the defendant at the time of this taped conversation.

22 MR. KEITH: Your Honor, I have a tape recording. May
23 it be marked Defendant's 501 for identification?

24 THE COURT: Yes, it may be so marked.

25 Q BY MR. KEITH: I'm showing you, Mr. Part, what
26 purports to be a tape.

27 You do not know whether that's the original or
28 a copy thereof, I gather?

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1 A No. I made an original tape at the time that we
2 were at Sybil Brand Institute. And then afterwards I made
3 either one or two copies, I'm not sure. And later, when I
4 looked through the files and gave you a tape, I wasn't sure
5 whether it was the original or a copy.

6 Q Now, did you in any way tamper with or edit or
7 splice, or whatever one does, the original tape, or any of
8 the copies you have?

9 A No.

10 To make the tape I put the cartridge into the
11 recorder, which was a different recorder than I have today --
12 this is my son's recorder -- and I pressed the button.

13 And when it stopped, I took it out and I put it
14 on the other side.

15 That's all I ever did.

16 Q All right.

17 Now, when the tape is played you will notice right
18 at the outset there is, to be accurate, a minute and 15 second
19 gap.

20 Did you do anything to create that gap?

21 A I didn't even know there was a gap until I was
22 informed today.

23 Q By me?

24 A And also by the deputy district attorney.

25 The only thing I can think of is when I made a
26 copy I didn't have any electronic equipment. I just took one
27 tape recorder and I put the tape in and I put it next to
28 another tape recorder. And maybe I had one on too soon.

1 That's the only explanation I could make. Nothing
2 was ever craned.

3 Q Don't blame yourself. It may have been me. I
4 made copies, too.

5 All right. Would you place it in the machine and
6 start it up.

7 THE COURT: Well, before you start it, will counsel
8 approach the bench.

9 (A bench conference was held, not reported.)

10 MR. KEITH: May the court please, Mrs. Johnson and
11 Mr. Sanzo made copies, transcribed that tape, and I would
12 represent to the court that both Mr. Kay and I have heard
13 the tape together and have followed the tape with the
14 transcript the court reporters made, and it is accurate.

15 I would ask that the original of the transcription
16 be identified as Defendant's 502, and I would further ask that
17 the jury be supplied with copies of exhibit 502 for identi-
18 fication.

19 THE COURT: All right.

20 The court has the original of the transcription
21 prepared by the court reporters on the bench.

22 That will be marked Defendant's Exhibit 502 for
23 identification.

24 The bailiff is instructed to supply to each juror
25 a copy of this transcription, those copies to be picked up
26 at the conclusion of the playing of the tape.

27 Ladies and gentlemen, these copies are being given
28 to you so you can read along as the tape is played. They are

1 to be collected after you have heard the tape.

2 Q BY MR. KLITH: Mr. Fart, let me ask you this
3 while the jury is being supplied with the transcripts of the
4 tape:

5 Do you remember when you made the tape?

6 A I made -- I don't remember the date. I believe
7 the date is on the tape.
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1 Q Would December 29th, 1969, refresh your recol-
2 lection as to at or about the time that --

3 A If that's the time that the tape says. Because
4 at the beginning I gave the date, the place, and I believe who
5 was present.

6 Q That's my recollection, too.

7 How long had you been appointed to represent
8 Leslie by the time you made the tape?

9 A I'd have to look at the records to be sure, but I
10 believe it was a couple of weeks, or something, like that.

11 Q All right.

12 Why don't you start.

13 THE COURT: Well, one other thing.

14 We've got a matter of privilege.

15 You want to cover that.

16 MR. KEITH: Oh, yes.

17 Leslie, we have to do this in open court.

18 Are you willing that Mr. Part play the tape to
19 the jury, bearing in mind that he was your attorney at the
20 time you had the conversation with him. And you have an
21 absolute privilege to prevent him from playing that tape, if
22 you so desire.

23 Do you waive that privilege?

24 THE DEFENDANT: Yes, I do.

25 MR. KEITH: I'll join in the waiver.

26 THE COURT: All right, you may proceed.

27 MR. KEITH: All right..

28 THE WITNESS: Would you like me to play the tape?

29 MR. KEITH: Please

1 (Tape exhibit 501 for identification
2 the transcription of which is contained
3 in exhibit 502 for identification was
4 reported and incorporated into the
5 record as follows:)

6 "MR. PART: This is 3 p.m. in the afternoon,
7 and Leslie Van Houten and myself, Marvin L. Part,
8 her court-appointed attorney, are sitting in a
9 private room at the Sybil Brand Institute. And
10 I'm going to ask Leslie some questions, and
11 she's going to give me some answers.

12 Leslie, we've had previous inter-
13 views that have not been recorded, and I want --"

14 MR. KEITH: Can we rewind it and start it over with the
15 microphone.

16 (Deiliff assists Mr. Part.)

17 "MR. PART: This is 3 p.m. in the afternoon,
18 and Leslie Van Houten and myself, Marvin L. Part,
19 her court-appointed attorney, are sitting in a
20 private room at the Sybil Brand Institute. And
21 I'm going to ask Leslie some questions, and
22 she's going to give me some answers.

23 Leslie, we've had previous inter-
24 views that have not been recorded, and I want --

25 (A one minute, 15 second hiatus
26 occurs in tape.)

27 MISS VAN HOUTEN: 'You were only waiting
28 for this moment to arrive.'

1 'And then, 'Have you seen the
2 little piggies.'

3 And at the end of the song it
4 had like tat tat tat tat tat tat, like
5 the sound of a machine gun.

6 And then further on in the album
7 it had Helter Skelter. And it's, 'When I get
8 to the bottom I go back to the top of the slide;
9 then I turn around and I go for a ride,' and
10 it's coming down fast, 'Helter Skelter.'

11 And also then the revelations --
12 Revelations 9.

13 And then when we read in the Bible,
14 it said about the four-headed locusts. And it
15 just described the Beatles so perfectly.

16 MR. PART: You say Revelations 9.

17 Did you read anything -- any title
18 in the Bible that you thought might have been
19 the Beatles' song Revelations 9?

20 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Yeah.

21 He looked up Revelation in -- in
22 the New Testament, and in the Bible we read
23 Revelations, and it talked about a four-headed
24 locust that would have hair of woman and mouths
25 of lions and faces of man and a shield of
26 protective armor.

27 And we thought it was like the
28 guitars, because their album, when we would

1 "listen to it on acid, would say so much more.

2 And someone even told me one time
3 about how it was mde to erase certain parts of
4 your mind, the way they got their different
5 electric currents going together in their
6 music.

7 And revelation -- Revolutions 9
8 is just mostly a song of sounds. And it has
9 'Rise,' and it would -- it says stuff like they
10 are standing still, and as time goes on they
11 got a little bit older and a little bit slower.

12 And we believed that once you were ~
13 perfect in your mind you didn't age any more.
14 There was no getting old.

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1 "MR. PART: Then, did you believe that the
2 Beatles were the four-headed locust and a prophet?

3 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Uh-huh, I believed it. ~

4 And also they sing a song, 'You know
5 that What You Eat You Are, What is Sweet Now Turns
6 So Sour.'

7 And Revelations 10 is when an angel
8 comes out with one foot on the sea and one foot on
9 the land, and he said to some guy, 'Eat this book that --
10 and it will taste sweet in your mouth, but when it
11 gets in your stomach it will be so sour.'

12 Like in and out of the album, they've
13 got parts of the Revelations in the Bible throughout
14 it. All right?

15 I believed that they were. ~

16 MR. PART: Now, I believe you told me that
17 during the time that you were at the Gresham Street
18 address everybody was on acid trips. Is that correct?

19 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Uh-huh. We were taking acid
20 a lot, and just listening to the album to more or
21 less --

22 Well, see, when we came back to the city
23 it was only to start, only to start --

24 MR. PART: Excuse me; let me interrupt. Don't,
25 don't put your finger over the microphone.

26 Go back to what you were saying. But
27 I want you to -- I think you told me in the past that
28 you thought you heard the Beatles sing Charlie's name.

1 "Could you elaborate on that?

2 HISS VAN HOUTEN: Yes.

3 In the Revolutions 9 there is a part
4 where the women are singing, 'Your home is where
5 you're happy.'

6 And in the one part, if you listen on
7 another track, it sounds like they are saying
8 'Charlie.'

9 You know, just -- I don't know how many
10 times they do it; just once, I think.

11 And then that's when the songs he'd
12 written many years ago was -- 'Your Home is Where
13 You're Happy.'

14 And there were just little things in
15 and out.

16 Like they were calling for their monkey.
17 And a long time ago we used to call Charlie the monkey.

18 You know, just all kinds of little things
19 that made it seem real to us to connect the Beatles
20 with us.

21 And so -- because Charles is the type
22 of person he is, like he's out front with people.
23 And a lot of people had a hard time seeing him or
24 looking at him. And that's another line that the
25 Beatles said, 'He's got to be good looking 'cause
26 he's so hard to see.' Because so many people
27 couldn't even look at him.

28 But we -- after that, we started

1 "decide -- seeing where we were in this position,
2 because we knew that we were part of this Revolutions --
3 of the Revelations in the Dible. We knew that we had
4 a part in it.

5 And so we read, and it talked about a
6 hole in the desert or going to the Kingdom.

7 We found out -- we started looking
8 into the Death Valley, what's underneath the Death
9 Valley, and we found out there was the Artagosa
10 River and blind fish and all kinds of things that
11 just made us believe that there was a whole world --
12 underneath. And that some of the Montezuma's
13 people are already under there waiting for us.

14 And that what would happen is that
15 about a couple thousand of the chosen people --
16 white people -- would go down into the center of
17 the earth and stay there for about fifty years.
18 And then there would -- Athens or -- I can't
19 remember all the names, but something was going to
20 happen. And then we were going to come back up.

21 And this was when we -- the earth would
22 be all black.

23 MR. PART: First thing is wouldn't you be
24 pretty old by that time; and second thing is why was
25 the earth going to be all black?

26 MISS VAN HOUTEN: No, we wouldn't. We wouldn't
27 be old, because we wouldn't age.

28 Because to go into the hole, you would

1 "have to be perfect in your mind and in your body.

2 And so it would be black just meaning
3 that there would be no more white people up on the
4 earth. They would all be wiped out completely.

5 And, let's see. And I was going to say
6 something else, but I can't remember what it was.

7 Oh, yeah, And the Beatles saying that
8 after the Revolutions song they say, 'Now the moon
9 begins to shine,' you know, 'Good night, sleep tight.'

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1 "It's almost like a lullaby for everyone --
2 for all the right people having their karma to be
3 completed.

4 MR. PART: What do you mean by the word
5 'karma'? I think you used it twice.

6 MISS VAN HOUTEN: It's used in India, and it's --
7 just so -- it's like, 'As you sow, so shall you reap.'

8 Like, 'What you put out you get back.'

9 Like, we, -- we being the white man --
10 have put out a lot of pressures on other groups, like
11 the Indians when we first came over, and the slavery on the
12 black man.

13 And we're going to get it back, and
14 the time has come to get it back because the cities
15 and everything is moving at such a high speed that
16 it's going to break.

17 That's what I mean by 'the karma.'

18 MR. PART: Now, how were you supposed to get down
19 to the center of the earth?

20 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Well, we hadn't quite figured --
21 it out yet. We were looking for the hole.

22 That's what we were doing in the desert
23 with the dune buggies. And that's why we needed more
24 dune buggies.

25 And we were -- we had a good idea that
26 it was in the Death Valley area, but we weren't sure
27 just where.

28 And we weren't quite -- we weren't quite

1 "sure of how it was going to work, where we're going
2 to get in there.

3 But maybe it was going to be rigged up
4 from someone who'd gone down before, that it would -
5 have water on the top and then like the water
6 would like move away -- go away somehow by some kind -
7 of mechanism.

8 And if we played around the hole enough
9 that went down there, we'd find it out.

10 And then we could just walk down it
11 and then we'd have to float down a river, one of the
12 rivers, and then it would take us down and take about --
13 I think about two weeks, we figured it out, to get
14 down to the center.

15 And then once we got to the center we'd
16 be tiny, and everything would be great big, magnified,
17 like the pearls.

18 It talks about the pearls. There's be
19 giant pearls, and we'd be just little tiny, about
20 maybe five inches compared to everything else.

21 MR. PART: You say it talks about the pearls.

22 Who talks about the pearls?

23 MISS VAN MOUTEN: At the end of Revelations,
24 in the very last book, almost to the last page, it says
25 that the Kingdom will have giant pearls.

26 I don't know who said it -- I don't know
27 who wrote it -- but it talks about that, and gold
28 everywhere.

1 "MR. PART: Now, you say that you all used to
2 sit around Gresham and the desert and talk about
3 this philosophy of going down to the center of the
4 earth,

5 Could you name some of the people that
6 used to talk about it?

7 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Gypsy and Linda and myself
8 and Katie and Charles and Tex and Glen and Snake and
9 Rachel.

10 There was -- we're the ones that
11 usually talked about it the most. Badie did sometimes;
12 but I don't know if she actually believed it or not. —

13 But all the rest of us, we really
14 believed it.

15 MR. PART: Now, to go out to the desert in
16 Death Valley and find this hole that was going to lead
17 you to the center of the earth you needed dune
18 buggies; is that right?

19 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Uh-huh.

20 MR. PART: Now, where were you going to get
21 the dune buggies?

22 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Well, we'd boughten four of
23 them, and then they got taken away. So we started
24 just taking them.

25 MR. PART: Now, I remember in one of our
26 conversations we were talking about the Hinman
27 murder.
28

1 "There was something that you said
2 about Hirman and dune buggies.

3 Could you tell me what that was?

4 MISS VAN HOUTEN: We had -- I -- just from
5 talk -- I didn't know too much about what was going
6 on; but from talk, he was wealthy. And with the
7 money he gave us, we were going to get dune buggies.

8 But he never gave us any money.
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1 MR. PART: Okay.

2 Now, is that all that you can think of,
3 or all that you remember, about this philosophy about
4 going to the center of the earth?

5 MISS VAN HOUTEN: I think so right at the time.

6 MR. PART: Now, you said something about
7 thinking that Charlie is or was Jesus.

8 Do you still believe that; and, if you
9 do, was there anything that he ever said or did that
10 made you believe it?

11 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Yeah, I still believe he is. —
12 And, you know, I can't say it in words. Only that he's
13 almost not even human.

14 I mean, you know, he's got his body
15 and all, but he's gentle. I mean he's everything.
16 He's just everything at once. —

17 It's hard, you know, I can't even
18 almost explain him. You know? And like —

19 And it's like he has no ego, meaning —
20 you know.

21 Do you know what ego is?

22 It's faces that we put on for each other. —

23 And he has none of that. He's just —
24 a person.

25 And well, it's so hard to explain why
26 I believe he is, but I know he is.

27 MR. PART: Now, did he ever say anything about
28 being Jesus except for what you just told me?

1 "MISS VAN HOUTEN: He used to -- he used to
2 say, 'I see too much; I see what's happening, and
3 I don't want it; I don't want to be in this position.'

4 He'd say, 'I wish someone else would,'

5 He'd say, 'I -- I know that I died on
6 the cross before.'

7 He told us about a suicide -- dream
8 sort of, like acid trip he had one time. This was
9 when he first got out after his seven years, --

10 And he -- he said that all of a sudden
11 he was being -- he was carrying the cross again,
12 and he was being nailed on it,

13 And Mary, the first girl that was
14 ever with him, was crying at his feet,

15 And he said he felt it all over again,
16 and he know, you know, that he had died. See.

17 And if you, if you could give up your --
18 personality and your ego and be willing to die, then
19 you were already dead; that the body didn't mean
20 anything.

21 MR. PART: Now, you say 'Mary.' Are you talking
22 about the Mary Brunner, the girl that was with him?

23 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Yes, I'm talking about Mary.

24 MR. PART: So when you say that he had the
25 dream, or the whatever it was, after an acid trip,
26 that he was again nailed to the cross, the Mary
27 that was with him is the Mary that we all know now
28 as Mary Brunner; is that right?

1 "MISS VAN HOUTEN: Um-hum, yes, uh-huh.

2 And so one time I had an acid trip
3 like that. He said that, he said that he died and
4 everybody wrote about it, and that they are using
5 him as they do, you know, Jesus, so holy and so
6 great, because they didn't, they didn't go when
7 he went.

8 But he said all his true followers went
9 with him. In other words, they said, 'If you, if
10 you crucified him you're going to crucify us, too.'

11 And so I was in Hollywood one time and
12 I had an acid trip and I, and I was up on the cross.

13 It sounds far out, but I was, for real.
14 I was feeling them do it. And I could feel the knife
15 or the sword when it went in, too.

16 I know that he is. You know, I believe —
17 that he's Christ. I never would deny it. —

18 MR. PART: Now, as you know, Charles Manson,
19 along with yourself and a lot of others, are in
20 great jeopardy in this trial.

21 And there are many indications that if
22 Manson is convicted of these first degree murders,
23 that he may die in the gas chamber.

24 Have you ever had any thoughts that
25 perhaps this would be like a second crucifixion?

26 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Yeah, many times.

27 MR. PART: Tell me about it.

28 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Well, it seems strange that

1 "it would happen again, seeing as he already died
2 once; but if it did it would be all right; because
3 what we did was because of this part of the plan
4 that we have no control of.

5 MR. PART: Now, that you mentioned 'the plan
6 that we have no control of,' tell me what you mean.

7 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Well, it seemed like after
8 we knew what was going to come down we tried talking
9 to leaders, you know, black leaders, and we saw that
10 they were stalling.

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1 "And it was almost as though we had
2 to make the first move for it to continue to develop,
3 to get bigger so that it would happen because the
4 black man loves us so much that he would be our slave
5 and do everything we said, let us beat him and
6 mistreat him for so many years that he almost doesn't
7 want to do what he has to do, but he sees that he has
8 to do it.

9 And so it was up to us to start it.

10 MR. PART: Now, you say that you talked to
11 some black leaders.

12 Who were these black leaders?

13 And you say it was up to us to start it.

14 Now, what do you mean by starting it?

15 MISS VAN HOUTEN: I don't know. All I know is
16 his name is John and he -- he's pretty big in
17 government.

18 And I don't know. He may not be, you
19 know. But we thought he was.

20 And starting -- starting it was that --
21 to just start killing people. Because it's going
22 to be blood for blood.

23 MR. PART: Now, did you believe that the -- that the
24 black people would to have to start killing the white
25 people?

26 MISS VAN HOUTEN: No, it wouldn't be that way.

27 White man would kill white man. The
28 black man would sort of be there, too, helping him

1 "along.

2 Because we -- it was -- it's like white
3 man is divided, you know. We aren't united in our
4 thoughts. And the black man is more together. They
5 are more one in their thoughts, you know.

6 They're -- they'd -- in here I've gotten
7 a lot of talk about how they call each other sister
8 and each other brother. But very seldom do two white
9 girls say, 'Hey, sister,' you know.

10 They greet you when you come in, you
11 know. Say, 'Say, sister, come on in. Want a
12 cigarette?' You know.

13 They don't do that.

14 And so white man would kill white man
15 for their beliefs. If they didn't believe the same,
16 they're going to knock each other off.

17 And then black man would be there to sort
18 of help them. —

19 Crawling in the night. —

20 MR. PART: Well, how were you going to start
21 the -- this revolution?

22 MISS VAN HOUTEN: By killing.

23 MR. PART: Could you explain that?

24 MISS VAN HOUTEN: By doing a murder that had no
25 sense behind it, and by putting words that would make
26 people scared.

27 Because the more fearful the people get,
28 the more frantic it will get, and the faster it will

1 "happen.

2 NR. PART: Now, I'm going to get -- now that
3 we've learned the theory I'm going to start talking
4 about specific events.

5 Will you tell us starting when you know
6 about the Hinman murder, then switch to what you know
7 about the Tates and after that to what you know
8 about the Labiancas.

9 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Okay.

10 I knew that three of us -- Do you want me
11 to give the names? -- Bobby and Mary and Sadie went
12 to Gary Hinman's to get some money. And anything else
13 he had. And him.

14 And if he wouldn't -- and if he wouldn't
15 come, they were going to kill him.

16 And he didn't come.

17 But they were there for a lot of days.
18 And they would call up, and they were real scared and
19 everything.

20 And Charles went over there one night
21 to tell them to, you know, relax, because he could --
22 he could keep his cool.

23 But I would never call him villainous,
24 even though all this has happened.

25 And then he came back, and about the
26 next day I think the rest came back, and they said
27 that they had killed him.

28 NR. PART: Who said that?

1 "MISS VAN HOUTEN: Sadie, Sadie came in grinning
2 saying, 'We killed him.'

3 And then I asked her what it was like,
4 you know; and she just said that it was real weird
5 and he made funny noises. ✓
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1 "MR. PART: All right.

2 There's been some talk that at one time
3 Charlie Manson had gone over there and cut off
4 Hinman's ear. —

5 Would you comment on that if you know
6 anything about it; and also would you comment on
7 anything that Sadie or Lobby Beausoleil said about
8 the actual killing.

9 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Yeah. Charlie went over
10 there --

11 I heard from someone -- I don't remember
12 who -- that Charlie had gone over there and cut off
13 Gary's ear, and that he had come back.

14 That's when I said, in just a little
15 bit before, when Charlie went over there that's
16 what happened.

17 And I guess that all I ever really
18 heard about it was they had a hard time killing him;
19 that he wouldn't die, and that --

20 I don't even remember who actually did
21 the killing or not. I never got that straight.

22 MR. PART: You told me once that Sadie was
23 always around sharpening knives, and that after
24 Hinman had died she could hardly wait till the next
25 time.

26 Could you elaborate on that.

27 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Well, Sadie was always more
28 or less the roughest of us girls.

1 "You know, she was always up front,
2 In fact, the Beatles had a song about her called
3 'Sexy Sadie.' —

4 And that song just fit her so perfect,
5 you know.

6 And after that — Well, we were all almost —
7 fascinated by the thought of killing people just —
8 because we'd been, you know, taught to stay away from —
9 it and nobody knows about death, really, you know. —

10 And when she came back she was almost
11 infatuated by it. She kept sharpening the knives,
12 getting them real sharp.

13 And she was always wanting to go creepy —
14 crawl and, you know, get credit cards or do this and
15 that.

16 She always wanted to be in on the —
17 murders. She liked to be in on the rough stuff that
18 Charlie would have us do.

19 MR. PART: Okay.

20 Now, tell us about, about the Tates, and
21 then go to the LaBiancas.

22 HISS VAN HOUTEN: Well, I don't, I don't really
23 remember how I learned exactly that the Tates had
24 been done.

25 I can't remember knowing before they
26 left that they were going to go do that.

27 I know that Charlie came in to Katie and
28 I — we were sitting in taking care of the babies —

1 and this was that night; and he said something about,
2 'Do you see why I believe that we have to kill?'

3 And we both said, 'Yes,' you know,
4 'we see.'

5 He said, 'Do you want to do it?' —

6 And we said, we said, 'No, but we
7 know that it has to be done; so, yes.' —

8 You know, in other words, we didn't
9 want to go out and actually like do somebody in, but
10 it had, it had to be done; and we were the only ones
11 that saw that it had to be done.

12 So I went on to sleep, and Katie did, too. —

13 And then Charlie came in and woke her up,
14 and I didn't know why, but I sort of had an idea it
15 was to go do some, you know, knock somebody off.

16 And then the next morning Sadie was
17 watching the news, I think. Somehow I found out
18 that they had done it.

19 Oh, no. I asked Katie, and she told me. —

20 MR. PART: What did she say?

21 MISS VAN HOUTENT She said that — that they had
22 murdered five people; that they didn't know there were
23 going to be that many at the house; and they didn't
24 know who the people were; and there were a whole lot
25 of them.

26 And it happened so quick, and it was a
27 horrible thing. You know, she was shaken up by it.

28 And then — see? — and then somehow

1 "we heard the news, and they said, 'Oh, my God, they
2 were rich,' you know, 'they were famous people,' you —
3 know.

4 That's really all that was said about it,

5 And then the next night —
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1 "Oh, but Sadie said she's left her knife
2 there. They said it was done real messy; and it
3 happened in about twenty minutes, you know.

4 I didn't really get the details too
5 good.

6 And then the next night -- Well, I was
7 feeling bad, to tell you the truth. Because Sadie --
8 because Katie was my best friend. And to think that
9 she was strong enough in her believing not -- you
10 know, to be able to go kill, I wanted to, too.

11 Because I wanted to be just like Katie.

12 MR. PART: Is that Katie or Sadie?

13 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Katie. That's Patty. I
14 wanted to be just like her.

15 And almost it was like it would make
16 myself stronger to know that I could kill somebody,
17 because at the moment I'm killing them I have to be
18 that willing to die.

19 MR. PART: Well, was Katie -- this Patricia
20 Krenwinkel -- was she out on -- in the Tate murders?

21 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Um-hmm, yes.

22 MR. PART: The so-called -- the Tate murders?

23 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Tex and Sadie and Katie
24 were on the inside, and Linda was supposed to be on
25 the outside.

26 That's the way the story went.

27 And then --

28 So I was feeling kind of bad, because

1 "I didn't get to go.

2 I was sure hoping that if we did it
3 again I could go.

4 MR. PART: Why in the world would you want to
5 go out and kill somebody?

6 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Because it had to be done. It
7 had to be done just in order for the whole thing to
8 be completed, for the whole world's karma to be
9 completed we had to do this.

10 And I wanted to do it, because I
11 thought that if I could go out and kill someone that
12 I would -- you know -- it's not an easy thing to
13 do it -- and that I -- in a sense I would be giving
14 up totally to what I believed in because I would have
15 to pay the consequences if they were
16 to come back.

17 MR. PART: You said, 'if they were to come
18 back.'

19 What do you mean by that?

20 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Well, I didn't -- you know,
21 like even after it happened I wasn't really scared
22 about being arrested for it, you know. I was never
23 hiding.

24 We were in the desert hiding, but not --
25 you know, it was almost like a game to get ready
26 for when it really came down we'd know how to hide.

27 You know, we weren't like doing a real
28 good job of hiding out there like we could have been

1 "doing.

2 MR. PART: You say, 'They were going to come
3 after me.'

4 Do you mean the people, or you meant
5 the people that were killed would come back, or what
6 do you mean?

7 MISS VAN HOUTEN: No. That the man would come
8 and try to get me for doing what I did.

9 MR. PART: What man was that?

10 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Oh, the police.

11 MR. PART: Oh.

12 So the night after the Tate killing,
13 what happened then?

14 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Well, we were all sitting
15 in the kitchen, and Charlie pulled me out to the
16 side, and he said, 'Are you crazy?'

17 And I said, 'Well, yeah.'

18 MR. PART: He said, 'Are you crazy?' and you
19 said, 'Yeah.'

20 Now, what does 'crazy' mean to you?

21 MISS VAN HOUTEN: In other words, it meant,
22 'Are you almost, to the regular person's thinking mind,
23 are you crazy enough to believe the way I believe, to
24 see the way I see, that we are, you know -- that we
25 had been sent down to start this in motion?'

26 And I said, 'Yes.' Because I -- I do.
27 I'm crazy enough to believe it.

28 And he said, 'Are you crazy enough to

1 "be able to go out and kill someone for this?"

2 And I said, 'Yeah,' that I was.

3 So he said, 'Okay. Go get two changes
4 of clothes and get in the car.'

5 so I did.

6 Do you want me to continue?

7 So there was Linda and Charlie and Tex
8 and me and Katie and Sadie and Clem. We all went
9 out that night.

10 We went driving around, We were driving
11 and --

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1 MR. PART: Now, did everybody have a change
2 of clothes; what kind of a car was it; and were there
3 any weapons in the car?

4 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Yeah. Everybody had two
5 changes of clothes.

6 And I think we only had two weapons that
7 I knew of in the car, and those were big knives. And
8 they were underneath the floor mat -- one of them was,
9 anyway -- that I was sitting on, in the back seat.

10 And it was Johnny Swartz's car, an old,
11 probably in the fifties, a Chevy or something like that.

12 And so we drove and we drove and we drove,
13 and they couldn't find any place.

14 And I was tired and most everybody was
15 tired, so we went to sleep.

16 And then when I woke up I heard Charlie
17 talking to Sadie -- or no, Tex; that's who he was
18 talking to, Tex.

19 And he said, 'Everything's -- I got
20 everything okay. And they think it's a robbery.
21 And just to tie it up, just go on in. I got
22 their wallet. They're sure it's a robbery. And
23 just tell them everything is okay so that when
24 they go don't make it so that they got to be tortured.
25 Make it quick and easy,' you know, 'for them, because
26 just as --'

27 MR. PART: Did he say anything about what had
28 happened the night before, something about Tex

1 "getting everybody all heated up?

2 MISS VAN HOUTEN: I remember talk about it,
3 but I can't really say for sure if I actually heard
4 him saying it. But it was mentioned, that he'd blown
5 it.

6 because then these people were afraid,
7 and the idea was to do it --"

8 Q BY MR. NEITH: That's the end of the first side?

9 A I guess it is; it stopped.

10 Q Would you change it and start the second side,
11 please.

12 A (Witness complies.)

13 (Side two of tape Exhibit No. 501 for

14 identification, transcription of which

15 is contained in Exhibit 502 for

16 identification was reported and

17 incorporated into the record as follows:)

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1 'They were going to go anyway
2 sooner or later because when it came down they
3 were going to get it.

4 So we tried to make it as easy --
5 like --

6 Oh, so Katie and Tex and I were
7 in the house. I didn't tell you that part.

8 So we went in --

9 No, Tex went in. Yeah, that's
10 right. Then Tex went in.

11 And Katie and I walked in.

12 And this alarmed the people. You
13 know, that two girls would be walking in if it
14 was only a robbery, you know.

15 And the woman, she turned around
16 and said, you know, 'What do you want? What
17 are you guys doing here?'

18 And we told her, 'We only want to
19 take what you got that's worth anything.'

20 She said, 'Well, we don't have much
21 money, but I'll get' -- you know, she got this
22 little box that had some change in it.

23 And Tex was real calm and cool, and
24 he was just saying, 'Everything is going to be
25 all right. We are just going to take your money.'

26 MR. PART: Now, what was Tex armed with
27 and what were you armed with?

28 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Oh, when we entered the

6-2
1 "house we hadn't gotten anything, and we hadn't
2 brought in anything, but Tex had this long knife.

3 MR. PART: Was this a bayonet?

4 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Yeah, that's what it
5 was. It was -- because it was heavy. It was
6 almost like an iron.

7 And we went in the kitchen and we
8 got the knives, some kitchen knives.

9 And then we were supposed to go --
10 we were supposed to go take the woman into the
11 bedroom and put a hood on her and then wait for
12 him to do the same thing, and at the same time
13 we'd, you know, knock them both off so that
14 they wouldn't hear each other dying.

15 And so the woman -- I was going to
16 hold the woman down, and because Katie had done
17 it before it would have been easier for her to
18 actually stab the woman because I was getting
19 kind of freaky about the whole thing.

20 And then I was watching, you know,
21 I was looking more than I was paying attention
22 to what I should have been doing.

23 And the woman, I guess she heard
24 her husband --

25 MR. PART: Now, I understand Tex was in
26 the other room with the man, and you and Katie
27 were with the woman.

28 When you talk about a hood, was

1 "that a pillowcase that you somehow fastened
2 around her head? And if you did, what did you
3 fasten it with?

4 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Yeah, it was a pillow-
5 case, and we fastened it with the lamp cord.

6 And, let's see; for some reason
7 I'm fogging out, but --

8 MR. PART: Well, did the woman hear her
9 husband die?

10 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Oh, yeah. So her
11 husband -- so the woman heard her husband --
12 the woman heard her husband --

13 She must have, because all of a
14 sudden she jumped up, and it surprised me.

15 And she got the lamp shade, and
16 she was about to knock me on the head with it,
17 and I put it back, and she kept going, 'What's
18 happening to Leo? What's happening to Leo?'

19 And we kept telling her, 'He's all
20 right, he's all right.'

21 And then Katie tried to stab her,
22 and the knife wasn't strong enough. It kept
23 bending.

24 So we called Tex in. And I can't
25 remember which one of us did it; could have
26 been me.

27 And we said, you know -- 'Tex,
28 come in,' that, 'we can't kill her; the knives

Q-4
1 "won't bend."

2 And -- but only -- she was dead
3 within a minute, it seemed. She didn't make
4 any of those breathing noises.

5 MR. PART: Well, who stabbed her?

6 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Katie did, and then
7 Tex did, although I didn't see Tex do it.

8 So I couldn't say for sure, but
9 he had the good knife.

10 MR. PART: If you were in the same room,
11 how was it that you could not see Tex do it?

12 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Well, I had run out of
13 the room.

14 Yeah; I ran out of the room to
15 tell -- you know, I'm -- it's sort of foggy,
16 that part, but this is the way I can recall it:

17 That I had run out of the room to
18 get Tex, and I had seen the man; and Tex ran by
19 me in the doorway because I remember

20 You know, like it comes in pictures,
21 and the picture I see is Katie trying to get
22 the knife in her throat and it wouldn't go.

23 And then I remember seeing her
24 laying flat in front of her closet, all bloody
25 on her stomach.

26 And then I remember the man laying
27 on the sofa gurgling that deep bloody gurgle.

28 And so then we were going to make

6-6
1 "MISS VAN HOUTEN: Well, in order to
2 create fear it had to be -- look like an obvious,
3 just an obvious murder; that there was no
4 robbery, nothing behind it; just flat out to
5 do it, to start this paranoia going.

6 And so we had been told that this
7 was the best time to use our witchcraft. —

8 MR. PART: Who told you that? When was it
9 told to you? And what is witchcraft?

10 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Well, Charles told it
11 to us; and I can't remember just when.

12 It might have been before we went
13 in the house or before we even left.

14 MR. PART: When you say 'Charles' in all
15 these conversations, dear, you mean Charles
16 Manson; is that correct?

17 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Um-hum, yes.

18 So -- and, oh, what witchcraft
19 was or is to the group was just that women are
20 more aware of than men, and that -- because they
21 know how to take care of the man.

22 So witchcraft is just all the little
23 things a woman does.

24 Like sewing would be a form of it.

25 And so he said, 'This is when you
26 can use your greatest amount of witchcraft,'
27 meaning you can use your imagination and do,
28 you know, a whole number, meaning making it

6-7
1 "look ugly.

2 But I couldn't get behind that, and
3 I don't think any of the others could, and I
4 really don't think that Charles could.

5 So I went back in the bedroom and
6 I saw the woman laying down; and Tex handed me
7 the knife and, you know, said, 'Okay,' you know,
8 'get to it.'

9 MR. PART: Now, was the woman dead at
10 that time? If you think she was dead, what made
11 you think she was dead?

12 MISS VAN HOUTEN: I'm positive she was
13 dead. She was just laying there, like the man
14 was, like I say, he was gurgling; and she was
15 just laying there.

16 She didn't even make a moan or a
17 groan. I didn't feel her, you know, her pulse,
18 or anything. And her head was covered, so I
19 didn't see her face. I kind of wished I had
20 of.

21 MR. PART: Why?

22 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Because I could have
23 seen what I had done there; you know.

24 A face shows so much more; that
25 maybe it would have stirred something more up
26 in me.

27 Do you understand what I'm saying?

28 Well, okay. I know it sounds

6-8
1 "horrible, but almost for my own punishment,
2 maybe, to see the face after it was dead.

3 And so then I was supposed to mess
4 her up.

5 And I took the knife and I started
6 stabbing. And I turned into an animal almost,
7 you know. I just completely let out on that
8 woman's back. I must have done it about ten
9 times.

10 And then --

11 MR. PART: Was the actual stabbing of the
12 woman -- did that -- was that unusual to you;
13 did it feel different than you thought it might
14 have felt?

15 MISS VAN HOUTEN: It felt so weird that I
16 blew my mind behind it; if you understand what
17 I mean by blow my mind.

18 I mean, I lost control. I went
19 completely nuts that moment. It was --

20 Do you want me to explain?

21 It was hard to get it through. Like
22 when I thought of stabbing, I didn't really have
23 any idea in my mind, but it's a real feeling.
24 It's -- it's not even like cutting a piece of
25 meat, it's much tougher. And it was -- I had
26 to use both hands and all my pressure, all my
27 strength behind it to get it in.

28 And so once I started, the feeling

6-9
1 "was so weird that I just kept doing it.

2 Like I say, I did it about ten
3 times, I think.

4 And then -- Well, do you want me
5 to continue?

6 And then I went into the other
7 room, and I noticed that there had been things
8 written on the wall. There was 'Fig' and 'Rise,'
9 and 'Helter Skelter,' and -- and that might be
10 all. There might have been something else.

11 MR. PART: Now, what do those words mean
12 to you, and what were they written in, and where
13 were they written?

14 MISS VAN HOUTEN: 'Helter Skelter' was
15 written on the refrigerator. And that was used
16 to let people know that the Beatles were the
17 prophets, and they were telling it like it was,
18 and that it's coming down fast, and you just be
19 ready, you know.

20 You know, get it on. Do whatever
21 you have to do for this whole thing to be over.

22 And 'Fig' was the white -- the
23 white businessman who hated his neighbor,
24 couldn't look at his neighbor with love, who
25 was going to get it in the end.

26 And then 'Rise' was for the black
27 man saying that it was his turn to, you know,
28 be leader after all that time.

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"And I don't remember where --
'Rise' I think was written on a wall, and I'm
not sure where 'Fig' was written, but I know
that they were written in blood,

MR. PART: Whose blood?

MISS VAN HOUTEN: Mr. LaBianca's.

1 "MR. PART: Now, all these things that
2 we've talked about, 'Helter Skelter' and 'Fig'
3 and so on and so forth, that they are all
4 things that came out of this Beattle album
5 that we have been talking about; is that right?

6 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Yeah, um-hmm.

7 MR. PART: Who wrote them?

8 MISS VAN HOUTEN: The Beatles.

9 MR. PART: Who wrote the words in
10 Mr. LaBianca's blood?

11 MISS VAN HOUTEN: I think Katie did.

12 MR. PART: Tell us about what property,
13 if any, was taken from the LaBiancas, what
14 property, if any, was left, and what you did
15 after the killings.

16 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Umm, we took some change,
17 and then I was busy with the fingerprints,
18 'cause I didn't want any to be left. And the
19 others --

20 MR. PART: What did you do with the
21 fingerprints, and who told you to do something,
22 if someone did?

23 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Umm, Katie handed me
24 a towel and --

25 No, I said, 'What about the finger-
26 prints? I left some on the lamp shade.'

27 And Katie handed me a towel and
28 said, 'Go wipe them off with this.'

6-12

1 "So I went, and I just about did
2 the whole bedroom all over and everything I had
3 touched.

4 And we did the kitchen and just
5 sort of all over, just a whole fingerprint thing,
6 'cause we hadn't worn any gloves.

7 And then Katie and Tex, when I came
8 out of the bedroom, they were taking a shower.

9 I don't know if Katie actually took
10 one, but I know Tex did.

11 And then after that we were hungry.
12 And so we went and we took some cheese and milk
13 out of the refrigerator. And we took it with
14 us. And we left out the back door and went
15 down the fence and down the sidewalk.

16 Oh, we changed our clothes inside
17 the house from our black clothes into regular
18 clothes.

19 And Tex's zipper broke, so I had
20 to give him my pair of pants, and I took a pair
21 of Mrs. LaBianca's shorts and put them on.

22 MR. FART: Tell us if Tex's clothes or
23 anybody's clothes had blood on it, and tell us
24 what you did with the bloody clothes.

25 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Uh-uh, I didn't see blood
26 on any of our clothes.

27 And we really didn't need to even
28 change them other than they were all black and

6-13
1 "dark colors.

2 And we took the clothes, and we
3 walked and walked for a couple of blocks, and
4 then we threw them in a trash can and then went
5 and we hid in the bushes. And we waited for
6 daylight to hitchhike home.

7 MR. PART: Tell us about the ride home.

8 MISS VAN HOUTEN: First ride we got was
9 from a black man. And he took us to Griffith
10 Park where the freeway starts. And then this man
11 in this funky old blue and white car picked us
12 up. And he drove us almost all -- he drove us
13 to Chatsworth Street.

14 And we even stopped and bought him
15 breakfast at some place on Topanga Canyon
16 Boulevard. I don't remember the name of it.
17 I think it starts with an N.

18 And then he dropped us off at
19 Chatsworth Street, and we went around an orange
20 grove and then over the highway real quick. And
21 then down in a creek.

22 And we walked up, and then Katie
23 went over to Devil's Canyon, and Tex walked up
24 around the dump, and I came up through the pony
25 corral.

26 You know, we all just went, you
27 know -- let's see, it was morning --

28 We all just started doing whatever

6-14
1 "we were going to do.

2 Oh, I went down to the farmhouse.

3 And the hitch -- and the man who
4 had picked us up hitchhiking came driving around.
5 He came -- but I covered up my head and played
6 like I was sleeping so he never saw me.

7 But he wondered if we were from
8 Spahn's Ranch, and we told him no.

9 MR. PART: Now, did anybody see you coming
10 back to the ranch -- when I say 'anybody,' I'm
11 talking about girls at the ranch -- see you coming
12 back, and did anybody see you and everybody else
13 leaving?

14 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Uh-huh. Cathy saw us
15 leaving, Cathy Myers.

16 And Squeaker saw me coming back.
17 That's Lynn Fromme.

18 And other than that, no, huh-uh.

19 I just went --

20 You mean when I walked up from
21 through the pony corral? Lynn saw me.

22 But other than that, everyone else
23 thought I'd just been sleeping all night.

24 MR. PART: Now, when you left with Charlie
25 in the car, was there anybody else who saw you
26 leaving?

27 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Only Cathy. And she knew.
28 'Cause she wanted to go.

6-15
1 "MR. PATE: Well, how did you know Cathy
2 wanted to go, and why didn't she go?

3 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Well, Cathy -- Cathy
4 was more or less coming and going and coming and
5 going.

6 She said she was with us, but she
7 was -- you know, she'd leave every couple of
8 weeks for a few days.

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5-16
1 "In other words, her amount of
2 loyalty to the Family wasn't complete. ↖

3 So for her to do it would almost
4 be like a risk; like she would freak out and
5 then run away, and who knows what she'd do.

6 And she was feeling bad 'cause she
7 wanted to go 'cause she wanted to help out.

8 MR. PART: Now, after you got back --
9 Strike that.

10 Were -- were any -- Was anybody
11 else who went with you that night supposed to
12 go into any other houses and commit any other
13 murders?

14 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Uh-huh. All the rest
15 were going to. They were -- I don't know where
16 they were going, they were just going to do what
17 we had done. Same thing. Only it was going to
18 be Linda and Clem and Sadie.

19 MR. PART: You say that Clem was also in
20 the car, and he was about to go out and do the
21 same thing that Charles Watson had did -- done.

22 Is that correct?

23 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Yes.

24 MR. PART: And had there been some conver-
25 sation or anything between Charles or anybody
26 as to what was going to happen that night before
27 everybody went out, and specially was Clem
28 present during any of these conversations?

6-17

1 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Yeah. We were all present.
2 We all knew what we were going to go out to do.
3 Nobody didn't know.

4 MR. PART: Well, how did you know?

5 MISS VAN HOUTEN: We all talked about it.

6 MR. PART: Tell us what you said and what
7 other people said.

8 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Well, not -- really not
9 that much was said other than the fact that we
10 were going to do it because it had to be done
11 and that we were going to do it the next night and
12 that this was just the beginning, you know.

13 But this would be probably all we'd
14 ever have to do.

15 MR. PART: Now, Kasabian, the Kasabian
16 girl was on the Tate murders but she never went
17 inside the house, at least to my knowledge.

18 And what exactly did she do in
19 regard to the LaBianca murders concerning the
20 car, or anything like that?

21 MISS VAN HOUTEN: She drove it most of the
22 time. But then she got too nervous and -- 'cause,
23 you know, Charlie was directing the driving.

24 Like he'd say, 'Turn right, turn
25 left, go straight,' you know, 'Turn around.'

26 So she got too nervous and she said,
27 you know, 'Well, then, you drive the car.'

28 So she got out and then he drove it.

EX Notes

6-10
1 "MR. PART: Now, did the Kasabian girl --
2 Her name is Linda; is that right?

3 Did Linda Kasabian have a change
4 of clothes with her that night, too?

5 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Well, the way --

6 All these, you know -- like I'm
7 not positive that every person did like they
8 were asked to do, you know.

9 In other words, I know that every
10 single person there was asked to get two changes
11 of clothes for their own well-being, you know.

12 But I can't remember actually
13 seeing everybody's two changes, you know.

14 Like they were sort of like, 'Get
15 it for yourself and keep track of it.' But I
16 pretty much remember everybody having it.

17 MR. PART: Now, in some articles I have
18 read in the newspapers and in some transcripts
19 that I've also read Susan Atkins is also known
20 to you as Sadie Glutz, says that after they let
21 everybody off at the LaBianca house that they
22 went home to -- back to the ranch.

23 But there's also been a story that
24 they stopped at another house to do the same
25 thing that you did.

26 Now, did you know anything about
27 that? Or did you hear anything about that?

28 MISS VAN HOUTEN: No, I hadn't; but I knew

1 "that was the idea.

2 And so I said, I said to Sadie the
3 next day, I said, well, you know, 'What did you
4 guys do,' you know. 'What happened with you guys
5 after you left us?'

6 And she said, 'Nothing; we just
7 came back.'

8 You know, I -- I didn't hear any-
9 thing about that other.

10 She said they looked around for
11 awhile but nothing came -- nothing happened.

12 MR. PART: Now, when we sat down here
13 before I actually turned on the tape recorder
14 I asked you if you know what the word 'remorse'
15 meant; and you said 'No.'

16 And I told you it meant feeling
17 sorry.

18 Could you tell us how you feel now
19 about what happened to the LaBiancas and all the
20 other people that were killed.

21 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Well, I can't really
22 feel sorry, because I did it, and I did it with
23 every intention of it being right. --

24 Sometimes when I think about it --

25 See, I try not to think. That sounds
26 pretty ridiculous, but I don't. I try not --
27 I try to keep my mind clear. When I think about
28 it, it makes me feel bad, you know.

6-20

1 "I can start to cry, specially
2 'cause the kids, 'cause they are my age. I
3 didn't really have any --

4 MR. PART: Now, you say you feel badly.
5 What makes you feel badly?

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1 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Well, when I start
2 thinking about the kids having to find their
3 folks, the parents. You know, that seems ugly
4 to me.

5 MR. PART: Are you talking about the
6 LaBiancas?

7 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Yeah, the LaBiancas.

8 And I heard that Mr. Tate sort of
9 blew his mind, he'd put on a hippie hairdo
10 looking for the people that did it to his
11 daughter.

12 I feel sorry for those people. ✓

13 MR. PART: How about the people that are
14 dead? Don't you feel sorry for them?

15 MISS VAN HOUTEN: I really -- I -- To be
16 honest, no.

17 MR. PART: Why don't you feel sorry for
18 the dead people?

19 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Well, all it is is a
20 body.

21 You know, I mean, that's the way
22 I feel about my life. In other words, when I
23 went out and I did them in, it's like I'm that
24 willing to have myself killed.

25 I only see all this around me as
26 just a body and just part of what I come from.

27 And what I come from is much greater.

28 In other words, I believe that you

6-22
1 "come -- I believe that you come from nothing
2 and you are going back to nothing; and while
3 you're here you almost are nothing. You're
4 just an animal. ✓

5 MR. PART: When you went out to -- and
6 were part of the group that killed the LaBiancas
7 did you think that what you were doing was
8 right? And if you did, why was it right?

9 MISS VAN HOUTEN: I thought it was per-
10 fectly right, and I thought it was perfectly
11 right because I see -- I --

12 And I even today still see the way
13 I did then. I see it coming up to the vibrations
14 of everything is coming up.

15 It's like a big tunc coming up. It's
16 going daaaaa, and it's going to get up to the
17 highest point and then it's going to break. ✓

18 And this paranoia had to be started
19 to get the vibration going even stronger; and
20 it's just part of the plan.

21 And I have no control over it.

22 MR. PART: So, then, do you think that the
23 things that you and Charlie and Sadie and the rest
24 did are kind of preordained?

25 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Uh-huh; and I think what
26 happens here is probably going to be preordained,
27 too.

28 MR. PART: When you say 'what happens here,'

6-23

1 "you mean you think that the results of the
2 trial are preordained no matter what anybody
3 does; is that right?

4 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Yeah.

5 In other words, I think that
6 everything that happens is perfect.

7 I knew it sounds probably real far
8 out, but it's true.

9 Sometimes I doubt it, and then I
10 get nervous and shakey and everything. But
11 most of the time I'm pretty sure that every-
12 thing that happens is perfect.

13 MR. PART: What do you think is going to
14 happen at the trial?

15 MISS VAN HOUTEN: I have no idea. I know
16 that I've thought a lot about the worst, not
17 that I think it's going to happen, because I
18 wasn't wrong; but I've been trying to, in case
19 it would happen, I've been trying to prepare
20 myself for such a thing.

21 MR. PART: Do you really care if -- if you
22 are given the death penalty in this case and
23 die? Do you really give a darn whether you get
24 life imprisonment or something less than that?

25 Is that -- do you really want to
26 die?

27 MISS VAN HOUTEN: I don't -- I don't want
28 to and I don't not want to.

1 "In other words, I'd love to get
2 out of this, you know. I'd love to go back on
3 the street and just mingle with people.

4 "Because, see, I love -- I love
5 everything just as much as everybody else, but
6 I just happen to see what's going to -- I just
7 happen to see what's going to be happening.

8 MR. PAKT: Leslie, if you could turn the
9 clock back and go back that night that you
10 asked Charlie to go along with him to kill the
11 LaBlancas, although you didn't know who was going
12 to be killed, dear, would you do it again?

13 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Yes, I would. I can't --
14 I can't feel sorry for what I've done.

15 And like -- like I say, I have --
16 I have no control. And like I'm not trying to,
17 you know, do like Sadie's doing and put it on
18 Charlie, 'cause I don't think Charlie has any
19 control.

20 In other words, when he talks, he
21 talks with words that, like, come from another
22 place. He doesn't like even talk with words
23 that regular people use.

24 And -- and he used to -- he used
25 to even say, umm, 'I've become an empty hole.'
26 He'd say, 'I can --' He says, 'I have no
27 control of what I'm saying.' He just says, 'I
28 have no control of my actions. I don't even

1 "think about what I'm doing or saying."

2 And -- and it was like that for a
3 lot of us, especially those of us who almost
4 gave up more to the Family. In other words,
5 gave up more of our own wants for the -- for
6 the whole group. ~~_____~~

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1 "So in other words, if the clock
2 could be put back, if I saw that this is the way
3 it was coming down, again, I'd do it again.

4 MR. FART: You'd do it again even if you
5 thought you were going to get caught and be in
6 the same position you are now?

7 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Yeah. Like, you know,
8 I hope I can -- I hope I can walk, you know,
9 out, or that I can -- in other words, I want to
10 be free.

11 But I'm not afraid to die.

12 MR. FART: You're a religious girl, I know.
13 We've talked about that.

14 Do you think that maybe you're kind
15 of like, oh, one of God's messengers carrying
16 out his will, or something like that?

17 MISS VAN HOUTEN: You're going to really
18 think I'm nuts, but, yeah, I do. I think I'm
19 an angel, so to speak.

20 Not with wings, you know. Naturally
21 I know I don't have wings.

22 But, I mean, in other words, I
23 believe I'm one of the disciples. I'm one of
24 the people spoken about in the Bible.

25 Maybe not mentioned, you know, like
26 names, but I know I'm --

27 In other words, what I feel is so
28 real. I can't -- I can't talk the reality of

1 "it, but I feel it.

2 It's a fulfillment inside me.

3 MR. FART: Is -- is there anybody else in
4 the group that you think might be an angel, too?

5 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Or, yeah.

6 Well, it's all up to the person.
7 I mean, if they believe it, then they are. ✓

8 Like Brenda does. I'm pretty sure
9 Brenda knows who's -- she's one.

10 And Gypsy would know she's one.

11 And Katie would. And Diane and
12 Rachel probably would.

13 MR. FART: Well, if Charlie's Jesus and
14 you girls are angels and you are doing God's
15 will and God's will is that the revolution
16 start so that the colored people can take over
17 the earth, why do you think that everybody's in
18 jail?

19 MISS VAN HOUTEN: Oh, I don't know.

20 You know, it would almost be for
21 the publicity, as silly as that sounds. So
22 that all --

23 See, there's no -- we were trying
24 to find out ways of letting the youth know,
25 because the people that are going to go into
26 the hole are going to be the young people.

27 And we tried with our music, and
28 nobody would put out our music. ✓

1 "And, you know, we tried lots of
2 different ways, and nothing worked.

3 But now everyone is finding out.
4 Like our music is finally coming out. And
5 Charles will be able to speak for himself at
6 the court and -- to show --

7 I guess it just happened to let
8 people know that -- that this is the way it
9 was happening. 'Cause some people will believe.

10 MR. FART: So in the way you think,
11 perhaps this trial will be a good thing, and
12 maybe some kind of a -- a way to start the
13 revolution; is that right?

14 MISS VAN HOUTEN: It will be one of the --
15 one of the movements towards starting it, yeah.
16 Like it's already happening. In jail
17 here there's a -- you can feel a lot of it.
18 The tension, the Black Panthers, and that type
19 of thing. It's already starting.

20 But by no means -- by no means
21 were we ever prejudiced or disliked the black,
22 you know. It's not that way at all. If any-
23 thing, it's we have love for them, and we're
24 giving them their turn, which they deserve.

25 MR. FART: Do you think the fact that all
26 the publicity and things about the Black Panthers
27 that started just about the same time as this
28 trial is just a coincidence, or do you think

1 "that's ordained, too?"

2 MISS VAN HOUTEN: I don't think there's
3 any coincidences. It's --

4 It just all comes together, all
5 these things. Like I don't think that the
6 Beatles' 'Blackbird Fly--' and..."

7 (End of side 2 of the tape.)
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1 MR. KAY: Excuse me, I wonder if the court at this time
2 could instruct the jury as to the purpose that this ^{tape} take was
3 received.

4 MR. KEITH: I haven't finished my --

5 MR. KAY: Well, I would like to have him instruct the
6 jury.

7 MR. KEITH: I may not.

8 THE COURT: Will counsel approach the bench and could
9 we have the court reporter, please.

10 (The following proceedings were held
11 at the bench:)

12 MR. KAY: Yes.

13 As we had previously been discussing, this tape
14 is coming in as the basis for the psychiatrists who are going
15 to consider it, and it was not for the truth of the matters
16 stated, and I would --

17 THE COURT: That was my understanding at the time.

18 MR. KAY: Yes.

19 MR. KEITH: I know it was your understanding, but I
20 would offer it for all purposes at this time.

21 THE COURT: Well, on what basis?

22 MR. KEITH: On what basis?

23 That it's an inculpatory statement. In other
24 words, although there's many areas in it that fit in with
25 the defense of diminished capacity, obviously, it's a state-
26 ment of the defendant. It's an exception to the hearsay
27 rule, even though I am playing it and Mr. Kay isn't.

28 It's the basis --

1 MR. RAY: The defendant can't offer a confession. There
2 are cases on that.

3 MR. KEITH: You may call it a confession and use those
4 terms, but it is certainly, let's say, an incriminating
5 statement. It's an exception to the hearsay rule. And I'm
6 offering it for the truth of the matter asserted.

7 If Your Honor wants to instruct the jury that
8 at least at this time it should only be considered in
9 conjunction with psychiatric testimony, that's your prerogative;
10 but I still make the offer right now.

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1 THE COURT: At this time I am going to instruct the
2 jury it can be used only as the basis for psychiatric
3 testimony.

4 And we will rule, if it is offered at another
5 time for other purposes, after it's been put into context.

6 But it is my understanding, from talking to
7 counsel in chambers, that it was being offered only for the
8 purpose of the psychiatrists; and that's why I allowed this
9 witness to really authenticate it ahead of the time the
10 psychiatrists testified.

11 MR. KEITH: I understand.

12 THE COURT: Normally the way it would be done is to get
13 the psychiatrist on, and only that part that he was using to
14 form his opinion would come in.

15 But on your representation they were going to
16 consider the entire tape, that's why I permitted this
17 out of order.

18 MR. KEITH: It's not renegeing, I'm just making a record.

19 I know what Your Honor is going to do.

20 THE COURT: Well, I thought it was in accordance with
21 what everyone thought we were going to do.

22 MR. KEITH: Yes.

23 MR. KAY: That was certainly my understanding.

24 THE COURT: All right.

25 MR. KEITH: But I still can offer it for all purposes,
26 and then get it turned down.

27 THE COURT: Well, I will let you make that offer at a
28 later time. But for purposes now, since it is the basis for

9-2
1 the psychiatric testimony, I am going to instruct the jury
2 in that regard.

3 Later, if you think it should come in for all
4 purposes --

5 MR. KEITH: All right; I will renew the motion.

6 MR. KAY: All right.

7 THE COURT: Thank you.

8 (The following proceedings were held in
9 open court in the presence of the jury:)

10 THE COURT: Ladies and gentlemen of the jury, you just
11 heard the playing of this tape. You have had copies of the
12 transcript to follow along as it was played.

13 And I must instruct you at this time that that
14 tape is being offered not for the truth of the matter that
15 is stated on the tape but it is being offered solely for the
16 purpose of being the basis for an expert opinion, a
17 psychiatrist or some other expert's opinion as to psychiatric
18 or mental issues.

19 I want you to clearly understand that; that what
20 is said on the tape is not offered to prove the truth of what
21 happened or didn't happen; it is being offered only to form --
22 as a part of the information that psychiatrists or experts
23 had before them at the time they reached certain conclusions.

24 These experts will be called later in the trial,
25 and they will refer, based on what Mr. Keith has told me,
26 will refer and rely on what was said on the tape.

27 All right.

28 Mr. Keith, you may resume.

1 MR. KEITH: Yes.

2 Q Mr. Part, I notice that the tape ends apparently
3 in the middle of a sentence by Leslie.

4 Did you run out of tape at that time?

5 A That's exactly what happened: Ran out of tape.

6 Q All right.

7 And do you remember what if anything further
8 Leslie may have told you that you were unable to record --

9 A No,

10 Q -- because of running out of tape?

11 A No.

12 Q All right.

13 Now, Mr. Part, at sometime was your -- were your
14 functions as Leslie's counsel terminated by the substitution
15 of another attorney?

16 A Yes.

17 Q And what was that other attorney's name?

18 A Mr. Reiner.

19 Q Now, how long after you recorded your conversation
20 with Leslie that the jury has just heard were you supplanted
21 by Mr. Reiner?

22 A I have no idea. Probably within a month.

23 Q That's your best recollection?

24 A That's correct.

25 Q Now, do you have any recollection of your own
26 knowledge how it came about that -- of your own knowledge --
27 that Mr. Reiner substituted in as Leslie's attorney and your
28 status was terminated?

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A I --

MR. RAY: I will object to that; that's irrelevant.

THE COURT: The objection is sustained.

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CHAIRMAN
 SENATE
 COMMITTEE
 ON
 SELECT
 COMMITTEES
 ON
 ASSASSINATIONS
 AND
 CONSPIRACIES
 1964-1975

9a-1

1 Q BY MR. KEITH: Mr. Part, after talking with
2 Leslie and hearing her and taping this conversation that you
3 had with her, did you contemplate advancing a defense for
4 Leslie, in the event you were her attorney at the trial of
5 the cause, based on her mental condition at the time of the
6 homicides?

7 A Yes.

8 MR. KAY: Well, I will object. That's irrelevant. And
9 I ask the answer be stricken.

10 THE COURT: All right; will counsel approach the bench.
11 Could we have the court reporter.

12 (The following proceedings were held
13 at the bench.)

14 THE COURT: What is the objection?

15 MR. KAY: It's irrelevant.

16 THE COURT: Well, let me ask that.

17 He apparently was replaced after one month,
18 which was long before the trial started.

19 MR. KEITH: Yes.

20 THE COURT: What would be the relevance of what he
21 contemplated during that one-month period?

22 MR. KEITH: Well, he contemplated a diminished capacity
23 defense, but he got fired because Hanson found out about it
24 and got Ira Reiner to go down and -- he didn't get Ira to go
25 down and tell Leslie, but Squeaky to go down and tell Leslie
26 she had a new attorney, to fire Part. Part got fired.

27 Ira Reiner came in as her attorney, and he
28 started to kick up his heels, and he was fired and Ron Hughes

1 took over.

2 And that was the end of it. There was no
3 diminished capacity.

4 THE COURT: Well, I am going to sustain the objection.
5 I don't think that's relevant to what the attorney either
6 did or didn't contemplate as a defense.

7 MR. KEITH: Well, it's relevant in the sense --

8 May the court please, the jury is going to wonder --

9 MR. KAY: Keep your voice down.

10 MR. KEITH: -- is going to wonder why this tape wasn't
11 used at the first trial, why didn't she have any defense,
12 why weren't psychiatrists called there.

13 THE COURT: Well, what happened with the attorney who
14 represented her at the time of the trial is something else;
15 but this man didn't represent her at the trial.

16 He only represented her for only one month,
17 which --

18 MR. KEITH: I know; but he knew what he wanted to do.

19 MR. KAY: So what?

20 MR. KEITH: The same thing I'm doing.

21 And I think it's important to show that this was
22 still part of Manson's domination, as soon as the word got
23 out that psychiatrists were going to be called and of course
24 Charlie was going to be blamed.

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1 THE COURT: All right. The objection is sustained.

2 MR. KEITH: Well, I'd like to note an exception to Your
3 Honor's sustaining the objection.

4 THE COURT: All right.

5 MR. KEITH: Even though I don't have to, it's a state
6 court, I still feel strongly enough to do so.

7 THE COURT: Very well. Thank you.

8 (The following proceedings were held in
9 open court in the presence of the jury:)

10 MR. KEITH: I have nothing further of this witness.

11 May we approach the bench, however, before counsel
12 examines?

13 THE COURT: You're getting to be steady customers. Come
14 on up here.

15 (Bench conference not reported.)

16 THE COURT: All right, you may cross-examine.

17 MR. KAY: All right.

18

19

CROSS-EXAMINATION

20 BY MR. KAY:

21 Q Mr. Part, before you recorded this -- made this
22 tape recording with Miss Van Houten, about how many conver-
23 sations did you have with her?

24 A At least two.

25 Q All right.

26 And before you recorded this tape with her, did
27 you tell her that the purpose of making the tape was that
28 you wanted to play it for some psychiatrists?

1 A I don't remember. I may have in that when I
2 talked to her and heard her story --

3 Q Well, is your answer --

4 MR. KEITH: Let him finish.

5 Q BY MR. RAY: -- yes?

6 Well, it appears that it is going to be not
7 responsive.

8 I asked you did you or didn't you.

9 A I may have.

10 MR. KAY: All right. I have no further questions.

11
12 REDIRECT EXAMINATION

13 BY MR. KEITH:

14 Q Mr. Fart, in your prior conversations with
15 Miss Van Houten, did she tell you substantially the same
16 thing as we all heard on the tape this morning?

17 A Substantially, yes. Probably the same thing.
18 I don't remember any deviations.

19 MR. KEITH: I have nothing further.

20 MR. KAY: Nothing further.

21 THE COURT: All right.

22 Any objection to excusing this witness?

23 MR. KEITH: No.

24 May he take his tape recorder with him?

25 THE COURT: Yes, take your tape recorder with you.

26 You are excused.

27 THE WITNESS: Fine, thank you.

28 THE COURT: Just leave the tape.

1 (Mr. Part deposits tape on counsel
2 table in front of Mr. Kay.)

3 MR. KEITH: Don't give it to him.

4 (Laughter.)

5 MR. KAY: Thanks a lot.

6 May the record reflect that the hiatus was on
7 the tape before I ever had it.

8 THE COURT: All right.

9 Well, ladies and gentlemen of the jury, at this
10 time we are going to recess until 1:30.

11 Bear in mind during this recess that you are not
12 to discuss this case amongst yourselves or with anyone else;
13 you are not to form any opinion concerning this matter or
14 express any opinion concerning this matter until the case is
15 finally given to you.

16 Furthermore, you must not allow yourselves to
17 read, see, or hear any news media accounts of this matter.

18 The bailiff is instructed to pick up the copies
19 of the transcript of the tape that each juror has. That will
20 be 16 copies.

21 Insofar as the audience is concerned, the court
22 will not resume this case until 2 o'clock. We have three
23 other matters at 1:30.

24 All right. The court is in recess. All jurors,
25 defendant, and counsel are ordered to return at that time.

26 (At 12:05 p.m. a recess was taken

27 until 2 p.m. of the same day.)
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11-1

1 LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA, WEDNESDAY, MAY 18, 1977, 2:23 P.M.
2 DEPARTMENT NO. 130 HON. EDWARD A. HINZ, JR., JUDGE

3 - - -

4 (Appearances as heretofore noted.)

5
6 THE COURT: People versus Van Houten.

7 Let the record show the defendant is present,
8 represented by counsel, the People are represented by counsel,
9 the jurors are in their assigned places.

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10 Mr. Keith, you may call your next witness.

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12-1
1 MR. KEITH: Thank you, Your Honor.

2 Mrs. Van Houten, would you take the witness stand,
3 please.

4
5 JANE VAN HOUTEN,
6 called as a witness by the defendant, was sworn and testified
7 as follows:

8 THE CLERK: Would you raise your right hand, please.

9 You do solemnly swear the testimony you may give
10 in the cause now pending before this court shall be the
11 truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help
12 you God.

13 THE WITNESS: I do.

14 THE CLERK: Just be seated, please.

15 Thank you.

16 Would you pull the microphone over, please,
17 directly under your chin, up as close as you possibly can,
18 and would you give your name for the record.

19 Just a second, ma'am. We have the microphone
20 turned around. The bailiff will take care of it.

21 THE BAILIFF: I'll get it.

22 THE CLERK: All right.

23 THE WITNESS: My name is Jane Van Houten.

24 THE CLERK: Thank you.

25
26 DIRECT EXAMINATION

27 BY MR. KEITH:

28 Q Jane, you are Leelic's mother?

1 A I am.

2 Q And when was she born?

3 A She was born August 23rd, 1949.

4 Q In Altadena, St. Luke's Hospital?

5 A Yes.

6 Q At that time did you live in Monrovia or else-
7 where?

8 A In Monrovia.

9 Q And what was the street address in Monrovia?

10 A 2503 Fairgreen Avenue.

11 Q And did you remain at that address until somewhat
12 recently?

13 A Yes.

14 Q All right.

15 Now, at the time Leslie was born she had an
16 older brother, Paul.

17 A Yes. She still does.

18 Q I realize.

19 And how old is Paul now?

20 A Paul is 31.

21 Q And does he live in San Francisco with his wife?

22 A Yes, he does.

23 Q Now, your husband, of course, was Paul Van Houten?

24 A Yes.

25 Q And what was his occupation at the time Leslie
26 was born?

27 A He was an auctioneer.

28 Q For automobiles?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q And he lived with you and Paul and, when Leslie
3 came home from the hospital, with all of you in Monrovia?

4 A That's true.

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13-1

1 Q Now, did Leslie, when she started to grow up,
2 attend Nonrovia schools?

3 A Yes, she did, Mr. Keith.

4 Q And, Jane, did she go to Nonrovia High School?

5 A Yes.

6 Q Did your family know Glen Peters well?

7 A Yes, our family does.

8 Q Was Glen Peters and his wife --

9 What is his wife's name?

10 A Doris.

11 Q And do they have any children?

12 A One boy.

13 Q And were they all very close to you and your
14 family --

15 A Yes.

16 Q -- when Leslie was growing up?

17 A Yes.

18 Q And did you see a lot of each other?

19 A Yes, we did.

20 Q Sometime in the 1950s did you and your husband,
21 Van, adopt two children?

22 A Yes, we did. We adopted two children from Korea.

23 Q And their names are Betsy and David?

24 A Yes.

25 Q And they are here in the courtroom today?

26 A Yes, they came with me today.

27 Q Sitting in the first row?

28 A Yes.

1 Q And how old are Betsy and David today?

2 A Betsy's 23, and David is -- 227

3 Q How did it --

4 Do you remember the year that you adopted Betsy
5 and David, you and Van?

6 A In 1957.

7 Q And how did that come about?

8 A Prior to adopting them we had family meetings
9 at our home; and at the end of the meetings we would read
10 and pray for missionaries in various parts of the world.

11 And we began to be aware that the children in
12 Korea were in desperate need of help.

13 And little by little we devised a plan to adopt.
14 First we thought one child; and then Paul and Leslie wanted
15 a brother and a sister.

16 So we arranged that we would get a boy and a girl.

17 We felt that our home was one of -- that was
18 geared to children; we didn't need anything, particularly.

19 We were not affluent, but we were very comfortable.
20 And it seemed that all of us agreed it was something that
21 we really wanted to venture into.

22 We felt it was time for us to make a statement
23 about our belief, which was that people that have a lot should
24 be able to help people that don't, in a feeling of love.

25 Q Jane, apparently you and Van were members of the
26 church in Honrovia.

27 A Yes, we were.

28 Q What church was that?

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- 1 A The Presbyterian.
- 2 Q And were you --
- 3 Did you, at least you yourself, devote considerable
- 4 time to the Presbyterian church?
- 5 A That's right.
- 6 Q And did Leslie attend Sunday school?
- 7 A Yes, and choir and --
- 8 Q Did -- Go ahead.
- 9 A -- and the youth groups.
- 10 Q Sometime in the early 1960s you and Van separated;
- 11 inn't that correct?
- 12 A Yes, we did.
- 13 Q And you were divorced in about '62 or '63?
- 14 A I believe it was '63.
- 15 Q And Leslie at that time would have been, oh,
- 16 13, 14?
- 17 A I believe 13.
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1 Q If you can, Jane, tell us something about Leslie
2 when she was growing up.

3 A We were very happy to have a girl, and our girl
4 was full of fun and small and very slender. And she was very
5 delightful to be with; she was always doing interesting
6 things.

7 Though I would say that she was very normal and
8 had to be whacked across the pants from time to time.

9 Q And as she was growing up, Jane, did she present
10 to you any particular behavioral or disciplinary problems?

11 A No.

12 Q Any more than any other child would?

13 A No, no.

14 Q Did she exhibit, as she was growing up, any, in
15 your opinion -- or in your observation -- any tendency
16 towards violence or hurting people?

17 A Not in my observation.

18 Q All right.

19 Now, when you and Van broke up, were you able to
20 observe how Leslie took your separation, if you understand
21 what I mean?

22 Did it appear to you that it was traumatic for
23 her or -- don't guess, though -- do you have any impressions
24 on how that may have affected her?

25 A I have an impression that she felt cut loose, and
26 they were very difficult times for us all.

27 But I have an impression that a lot of her
28 foundation at that time had been withdrawn from her.

1 Q Was she close to her father?

2 A Yes, she was very close to him.

3 Q Did Van move to the beach?

4 A Yes.

5 Q That would have been Manhattan Beach?

6 A Or Redondo, I'm not sure.

7 Q In that area?

8 A Yes.

9 Q Incidentally, up to the time Van left, had you
10 worked at all during the marriage?

11 A Only for community volunteer and for the church.

12 Q At some time, Jane, did you return to college
13 and obtain a degree?

14 A Yes. I began going to college prior to the
15 divorce.

16 Q And where did you go?

17 MR. KAY: Well, I'll object to that; that appears to
18 be irrelevant.

19 MR. KEITH: Well, all right, if he objects I'll bow to
20 the objection.

21 Q Did you ultimately obtain a degree?

22 A Yes, I did.

23 Q In what field?

24 MR. KAY: Well, I'm going to object. I don't see what
25 relevance ---

26 THE COURT: Well, that objection is overruled. She may
27 answer.

28 THE WITNESS: I got a B.A. in education. I got two

1 credentials at that time. And recently I got an M.A.

2 Q BY MR. KEITH: Your Master's?

3 A In special education.

4 Q And when was it that you got your Bachelor's
5 Degree?

6 A '65.

7 Q How old were you then?

8 A Forty-five.

9 Q In 1965, Leslie was still living with you at the
10 same address in Monrovia?

11 A Yes.

12 Q Along with Paul and Betty and David?

13 A I think perhaps not Paul. I think he may have
14 gone by then.

15 Q And did you start teaching, yourself, sometime
16 after receiving your degree?

17 A In '65.

18 Q Where did you teach, Jane?

19 A I taught over on the east side of Los Angeles for
20 the Los Angeles City School District.

21 Q Did you teach any particular type of person or
22 type of class?

23 MR. KAY: Well, Your Honor, I'm going to object. I
24 don't see the relevance this has to this trial.

25 THE COURT: Objection sustained.

26 Q BY MR. KEITH: Did Leslie attend --

27 She attended high school at Monrovia High, did
28 she not?

1 A Yes.

2 Q And how would you describe before she entered
3 high school, Jane, her scholastic ability?

4 This is before she entered high school; in grade
5 school.

6 A Okay.

7 Her grades were very adequate. In many of her
8 classes she did get very good grades and others less.

9 You know, just about what you would expect a
10 person with a lot of interest to do.

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1 Q I was going to ask you. Did she appear to apply
2 herself in school?

3 A Yes.

4 Q And did you help her, like mothers often do?

5 A Yes.

6 MR. KEITH: May I approach the witness, may the court
7 please, with some photographs?

8 THE COURT: Yes.

9 Have they been marked?

10 MR. KEITH: No, they haven't been marked.

11 THE COURT: Shall we mark them first?

12 MR. KEITH: I'd be delighted to.

13 I'm showing them to counsel right now.

14 (Brief pause.)

15 MR. KAY: I have seen them but of course it's been
16 many years ago.

17 MR. KEITH: I'm sure it was some years ago.

18 MR. KAY: Yes.

19 MR. KEITH: And you might have to look at them again.

20 (Brief pause.)

21 MR. KEITH: May I approach the witness?

22 MR. KAY: Here.

23 MR. KEITH: Oh.

24 I will approach the witness now. I will mark
25 them, if I may, here.

26 THE COURT: All right.

27 MR. KEITH: I will try to get them slightly
28 chronologically, which may be impossible.

15-2

1 I have a photograph, may the court please, of
2 two children on a bicycle in front of a house.

3 May that be marked Defendant's five hundred and ---

4 THE COURT: -- three.

5 Yes; it may be so marked.

6 Q BY MR. KEITH: I'm going to show you this picture.
7 Can you identify the two children shown therein
8 on the bicycle?

9 A Yes; this is a picture of Paul and Leslie.

10 Q And is that ---

11 Do you recognize the house in the background of
12 the picture?

13 A Yes; that's the house we lived in on Fairgreen.

14 Q That's the family home?

15 A Yes.

16 Q And how old would you say Leslie might have been
17 when this particular picture was taken?

18 A Four.

19 MR. KEITH: I have another picture of a little girl.

20 May it be marked --

21 THE COURT: 504.

22 MR. KEITH: -- Defendant's 504?

23 THE COURT: Yes.

24 MR. KEITH: For identification.

25 Q Showing you 504 for identification, is that a
26 picture of Les as a young child?

27 A Yes. This is a school picture of Leslie as she
28 looked about the second grade.

15-3
1 Q What grade? I'm sorry, Jane.

2 A Well, in about the second grade.

3 She was very careful to hide the fact that she
4 was missing her teeth.

5 MR. KEITH: I have another photograph of two young
6 children on a fence in front of a house.

7 May that be marked Defendant's 505.

8 THE COURT: Yes.

9 MR. KEITH: For identification.

10 THE COURT: It may be so marked.

11 MR. KEITH: Thank you, Your Honor.

12 Q Showing you 505 for identification, Jane, could
13 you identify the two young children in the foreground of that
14 photograph.

15 A In the summers sometimes we went to Laguna; and
16 this is taken in front of a house in Laguna that we had
17 rented.

18 Q And that's Leslie and --

19 A Leslie and Paul.

20 MR. KEITH: I have another photograph of two young
21 children that appears perhaps to have been commercially made.

22 May it be marked Defendant's 50 --

23 THE COURT: -- 6; yes.

24 MR. KEITH: 6; thanks, Your Honor.

25 Q And this photograph is a photograph of two
26 children?

27 A Paul and Leslie.

28 Q Yes.

1 Could you tell us approximately how old they
2 would have been?

3 A Oh, Leslie looks three; and that would make Paul
4 probably about seven.

5 Q And it looks as if this photograph is taken by
6 a commercial photographer.

7 A Yes, that's --
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1 Q Would that be --

2 A That's true.

3 MR. KEITH: And here is a little girl. I have another
4 photograph of a little girl by a house.

5 May that be marked 507 for identification?

6 THE COURT: Yes, it may be so marked.

7 Q BY MR. KEITH: Is this Leslie as a little girl?

8 A Yes.

9 Q And --

10 A This picture shows Leslie in a tutu, and I had
11 made it for her for Halloween.

12 But she got the measles and couldn't go out;
13 but she wore it to bed all the time that she was not feeling
14 well to kind of make up for the fact that she couldn't go out.

15 But she's about four, I think.

16 Q Well, I'm very ignorant; I don't know what a
17 tutu is.

18 A A ballet dress.

19 MR. KEITH: All right.

20 Now, I have another photograph of a family scene
21 in a back -- what appears to be a yard.

22 May it be marked 508 for identification?

23 THE COURT: Yes.

24 Q BY MR. KEITH: Showing you Exhibit 508 for
25 identification, that appears to be a photograph of a group
26 in a yard.

27 Could you tell us who the people are.

28 A Yes.

1 Q Starting from left to right,

2 A Okay.

3 Her father and Leslie. It looks like about her
4 third birthday.

5 The lady, who was her Godmother --

6 Q Who was that, Jane?

7 A That lady is Ceil Murphy. And then a cousin.

8 Q And that's Van on the far left of the photograph?

9 A Yes.

10 MR. KEITH: Now, I have another photograph, may the
11 court please, of a family scene in a living room, or what
12 appears to be a living room, at approximately Christmas time.

13 May that be marked -- because there is a
14 Christmas tree in the picture.

15 May that be marked Defendant's 509, Your Honor?

16 THE COURT: Yes.

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1 Q BY MR. KEITH: Showing you 509 for identification,
2 Jane, could you tell us what that photograph depicts.

3 A I believe this was the second Christmas after the
4 little kids came to us.

5 Q You mean Betsy and David?

6 A David, yes.

7 Q And who does it show?

8 A Van and me and Paul and Leslie, a dog and a cat,
9 and Dave and Betsy.

10 Q This would have been Christmas of --

11 Would you have any idea what the --

12 A I think it was about '59, '58 perhaps.

13 MR. KEITH: Now, I have what appears to be another
14 photograph of Leslie as a child.

15 May it be marked Defendant's 510 for identification,
16 Your Honor?

17 THE COURT: Yes.

18 MR. KEITH: Thank you.

19 Q Showing you 510, Jane, that's Leslie, is it not?

20 A Yes, that is. That's a school picture.

21 Q And how old would you believe she was at that time?

22 A About eight.

23 MR. KEITH: I have another photograph of four children,
24 a snapshot.

25 May it be marked -- four children within a home --
26 may it be marked 511 for identification, Your Honor?

27 THE COURT: Yes.

28 MR. KEITH: Thank you.

16-2

1 Showing you this photograph which has been marked
2 Defendant's 511 for identification, no doubt that's Paul and
3 Leslie and David and Betsy in descending order, or have I got
4 it backwards?

5 A I think you're okay.

6 At Christmas they all lined up, and then the
7 youngest got to go in first. And this is the picture of them.

8 MR. KEITH: Now, I have another photograph of two
9 children and what appears to be, if I'm not mistaken, dressed
10 as -- well, I've got the choir, but -- dressed as choir boy
11 and girl.

12 May it be marked --

13 THE COURT: 512 for identification.

14 MR. KEITH: Thank you, Your Honor.

15 Q Showing you 510 for identification, Jane, there's
16 two children in that photograph in choir outfits.

17 A Yes. This was the choir she belonged to at the
18 church.

19 Q That was the Presbyterian church?

20 A Yes.

21 Q In Monrovia?

22 A Not the Presbyterian church in Monrovia, but it
23 was down where we lived between Monrovia and Arcadia.

24 Q All right.

25 Incidentally, just -- Monrovia is a -- probably
26 most people know where it is, but just for the record --
27 it is a town about -- a residential community about, say,
28 20 miles east of here, thereabouts?

1 A Yes.

2 Q And next to Monrovia is Arcadia going west and
3 then Pasadena.

4 A Yes.

5 Q And this 512, that's Leslie on the right?

6 A That's right.

7 Q And that's not her brother on the left, though,
8 is it?

9 A No. That was another friend of the family's.

10 Q A little boy?

11 A Yes.

12 Q All right.

13 Now, Jane, I have a picture of three young girls
14 dressed in church outfits, perhaps, or I'm not sure, but may
15 it be marked Defendant's 513 for --

16 THE COURT: Yes.

17 Q BY MR. KEITH: Showing you this photograph, can
18 you identify the children depicted therein?

19 A Betsy now was in the church choir, and Leslie and
20 her friend, Charlene Mimaki, in the older choir.

21 It looks probably like the junior high choir.

22 Q And is that --

23 What choir was that, Jane?

24 A Max, I don't remember. It would just be called
25 the junior high choir.

26 Q All right.

27 And now Leslie is on the left as you look at the
28 picture?

1 A Yes.

2 Q And which girl is Betsy?

3 A She is directly in the front.

4 Q She's in the middle?

5 A Yes.

6 Q And then the girl on the right is whom?

7 A Leslie's friend, Charlene Mimaki, M-i-m-a-k-i,

8 I think.

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1 MR. KEITH: And I have another photograph, may the
2 court please, of three girls in costumes.

3 May it be marked --

4 "Costumes," I'm sure, isn't the right word; but
5 in a dress other than street dress.

6 May it be marked 514 for identification?

7 THE COURT: Yes.

8 Q BY MR. KEITH: Showing you 514 for identification,
9 can you tell us who those girls are -- young ladies are.

10 A These were members of the Job's Daughters.

11 Q Is Leslie in that photograph?

12 A Leslie is on the left.

13 Q The far left?

14 A Yes.

15 Q And then that's two other --

16 A Two other young ladies.

17 Q Whom you can't identify?

18 A No, I cannot.

19 Q What was Job's Daughters, or what is Job's
20 Daughters?

21 A I believe it's the young female part of the Masonic
22 Lodge.

23 Q And was Leslie a member of that group?

24 A Yes.

25 Q Do you have any recollection of for how long?

26 A No, I can't answer that. Maybe a year or a little
27 bit more.

28 Q Incidentally, Jane, referring back to 513, the

1 picture of Leslie and Betsy and her friend in the junior high
2 choir, how old would Leslie have been, would you say, in
3 that photograph?

4 A Oh, 12 -- 11 or 12 perhaps.

5 Q And as a Job's Daughter, how old would she have
6 been, to the best of your recollection?

7 A Perhaps 12 or 13.

8 Q In Leslie's freshman and junior -- excuse me,
9 sophomore years at Monrovia High, how did she do?

10 A She did very well. She enjoyed joining things,
11 was in the band, the marching band, enjoyed her schooling.

12 Q Did she engage in school activities?

13 A Yes.

14 Q I'm talking about her freshman -- that would be
15 ninth grade and tenth grade.

16 A Yes, she did. I believe she went for some office
17 and won.

18 I have in mind that it was the treasurer of her
19 class, though I'm not sure.

20 And she enjoyed taking part in the student
21 government.

22 Q When she was a freshman and sophomore in high
23 school, did she present any behavioral or disciplinary
24 problems to you and the rest of your family?

25 A Would you repeat that, Max.

26 Q Yes.

27 When she was a freshman and sophomore in high
28 school, this is when she'd be about 14 and 15, did she present

1 any problems to you as an individual and cause you any
2 difficulty?

3 A No more than you would expect.

4 Q Had you observed up to that time, during her
5 freshman and sophomore years in high school, any unusual
6 attitudes or beliefs or conduct on her part, and unusual in
7 the sense of, oh, different from the other children her age?

8 A Not in her freshman and sophomore years.

9 MR. KEITH: I have, may the court please, and I'll show
10 it to Mr. Kay --

11 (Brief pause.)

12 -- a book called the "'65 Monroviaan."

13 It appears to be a high school annual.

14 May this book be marked Defendant's next in order?
15 It would be, I believe --

16 THE COURT: That would be 515.

17 MR. KEITH: -- 515, yes.

18 THE COURT: It may be so marked.

19 Q BY MR. KEITH: Showing you the "'65 Monroviaan,"
20 if I describe it correctly, is that the high school annual
21 for the year 1965?

22 A Yes.

23 Q And do you see Leslie's picture on page 87?

24 A Yes, I do.

25 Q And that's at the far left?

26 A Far right.

27 Q Far right?

28 A Yes.

1 Q And this had to do with student government?

2 A Yes, it does.

3 Q And she would have been a sophomore in '65
4 apparently?

5 A Right.

6 Q And also is there another photograph, if I can
7 find it -- I probably lost it -- of her as a homecoming
8 princess?

9 A Yes. Leslie was the homecoming princess.

10 Q In her sophomore year?

11 A Yes.

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1 Q And there is a photograph in here some place
2 of her or such, if you recall.

3 A Yes, there is.

4 MR. KEITH: I won't take the time right now, but I'll
5 find it.

6 And I also have, may the court please, a 1964
7 Monrovia.

8 May it be marked Defendant's next in order?

9 THE COURT: Yes; it will be 516.

10 MR. KEITH: 516, which I will show to Mr. Kay. He may
11 have seen this in past years.

12 (Brief pause.)

13 Q BY MR. KEITH: Showing you Defendant's 516 for
14 identification, is that the 1964 Monrovia?

15 A Yes, it is.

16 Q That is the high school annual when Leslie was
17 in the 9th grade, a freshman?

18 A Yes.

19 Q And she was a freshman princess at that time?

20 A Yes, also.

21 Q And does her picture appear on page 128 as a
22 princess?

23 A Yes.

24 Q And that's her on the left?

25 A Yes, it is.

26 Q On page 129 it would be.

27 A Yes.

28 Q Right?

1 A Yes.

2 Q Jane, did you ever meet a young man by the name
3 of Bobby Mackey?

4 A Yes, of course.

5 Q And to your knowledge did Leslie fall in love
6 with Bobby?

7 A Yes.

8 Q And do you remember when that was?

9 Use as a reference the year she was -- what year
10 in high school she may have been in.

11 A I can't, you know, be too explicit, Max, but I
12 think it was towards the beginning of her junior year.

13 Q And did Leslie, to your knowledge, see, and was
14 she with Bobby Mackey for a considerable period of time?

15 "With" in the sense of boyfriend-girlfriend, or
16 even more intense, if you know.

17 A I wish I could be more explicit with you, but at
18 that point I was working and I didn't -- I didn't have the
19 time to know how much she was with him or not.

20 Q And what were you doing when you say you were
21 working?

22 A I was teaching school for retarded children.

23 Q Did you observe any change in Leslie when you
24 did see her during her junior year in high school?

25 A Yes, I did.

26 Her grades began to go down. She and I had many
27 discussions about that, but it continued.

28 She seemed very unhappy; and it was hard for me

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1 to help her feel better about things.

2 Q Were you aware that possibly part of the
3 difficulty was being with Bobby Mackey so much?

4 MR. KAY: Well, I will object. That calls for a
5 conclusion on her part.

6 THE COURT: Well, the objection is overruled.

7 THE WITNESS: I was -- Ask me again, will you?

8 Q BY MR. KEITH: All right.

9 Did you have an answer -- I will rephrase the
10 question -- for the reason why Leslie's grades were dropping
11 at that time?

12 A No, I didn't have an answer for why.

13 Q And to your knowledge did she continue to see
14 Bobby Mackey or be with him regularly during her junior
15 year in high school?

16 A I believe that's true.

17 Q And were you aware of any drug use on the part
18 of Leslie during her junior year in high school?

19 A No; I'm ashamed to say I didn't.

20 Q And when Leslie was a senior in high school did
21 she continue to see a great deal of Bobby Mackey, if you
22 know?

23 A Toward the end of the senior year much less.
24 I believe they had broken up by then.

25 Q During her senior year in high school were you
26 aware of any drug problem Leslie may have had?

27 A No, I didn't, Max.

28 Q And were you working during --

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A Yes.

Q -- her senior year?

A Yes, of course.

Q And Leslie did graduate from Monrovia High School,
did she not?

A Yes.

1 Q And during her senior year did her grades improve
2 at all, to your knowledge?

3 A Toward the end of the year they did, and she was
4 able to graduate.

5 Q Would it be fair to say that during her junior
6 and senior years of high school she did not do as well as the
7 first two years of high school?

8 A Yes, that would be fair.

9 Q And did she become involved during her junior and
10 senior years in high school in any student activities such as
11 she had during her freshman and sophomore years?

12 A No.

13 Q And was she a homecoming princess or queen, or
14 either one, during her junior or senior years?

15 A No.

16 Q Did she try to be a homecoming princess, or whatever?

17 A No.

18 Q Did she compete for any student government
19 posts during her junior and senior years, if you remember or
20 know?

21 A No.

22 Q Pardon me?

23 A I remember; and the answer is no.

24 Q And did you and Leslie have any discussions about
25 her apparent lack of interest in school?

26 A Yes.

27 Q Let me ask you this:

28 During her junior and senior years were you aware

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of whether or not -- I don't know whether this is the correct word -- whether she skipped school at all or was truant or ditched, as the expression goes?

A I wasn't aware that she was. I was not aware that she had been skipping school.

Q Did you learn later that she had skipped school from time to time?

A Yes; we had learned by the time she was -- well, into the senior year; and so she was able to graduate.

Q When you say "we had learned it," do you mean you or --

A Yes, I guess I mean me.

Q All right. That's a common thing that witnesses do. Don't worry about it.

Let's see; Leslie would have been 18 when she graduated from high school? 1967.

A Does that make her 18?

Q About, then.

A Okay; yes, then.

Q And did something very traumatic happen to her before she graduated from high school? Or was it after?

A I'm not sure what you are referring to.

Q Did Leslie have an abortion?

A Yes; Leslie was 16 when she had an abortion.

Q And did you arrange for that?

A I did arrange for it.

Q And did that involve Bobby Mackey, to your knowledge?

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A Yes.

Q And how did that experience affect Leslie?

A It was a very sobering experience for all of us.

Q Sobering to Leslie?

A Sure.

Q And yourself?

A Yes.

Q Did you --

When Leslie was seeing so much of Bobby Mackey, Jane, did you notice any difference, other than what you told us, in her behavior and attitudes?

You told us she apparently lacked interest in school and school activities.

Did you notice anything else about her that was different than the way she had been?

A Well, she was more distance from me, of course.

Q Did you --

Let me ask you this, Jane: Did you observe in her during her last two years of high school any indications of, oh, behavioral tendencies towards violence or hurting people or harming other people?

A No.

Q By word or physically.

A No.

Q Could you have described Leslie, at least up to the time she graduated from high school, as -- despite her affair with Bobby Mackey -- as a gentle person?

A Yes.

1 Q And a kind person?

2 A Yes.

3 Q And a thoughtful person?

4 A (Pause.) Yes.

5 Q Don't answer yes -- because if she wasn't
6 thoughtful tell us.

7 A Okay; I hesitated I guess because she was as
8 thoughtful as kids usually are when they are in their teens.

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1 Q Did she still see her father?

2 A Yes, she saw him.

3 Q Would he come up from the beach, or would she go
4 down there, or both?

5 A Both.

6 Q Now, after she graduated from high school, Jane,
7 did Leslie move to the beach?

8 A Leslie went to live with her father and his wife,
9 and to attend the Sawyer Business School there.

10 Q This would have been Manhattan or Redondo Beach?

11 A Yes.

12 Q Incidentally, you have not remarried?

13 A No, I have not.

14 Q Was Van still an automobile auctioneer?

15 A Yes.

16 Q And did Leslie move actually in with Van and his
17 new wife, or live downstairs from them in another apartment,
18 if you know?

19 A I know she lived downstairs in an apartment
20 adjacent, or a duplex, I believe, adjacent to where they
21 lived.

22 Q And during this period of time she attended
23 Sawyer's Business School?

24 A Yes, she did.

25 Q And is that a school to teach people to become,
26 oh, secretaries, learn shorthand, typing?

27 A Yes; she graduated from the legal secretary course.

28 Q This would have been sometime in 1968?

1 A Yes.

2 Q A year or so after she graduated from high school?

3 A Yes; she took a year's course.

4 Q And all that time did she live at the beach with
5 Van?

6 A That's true.

7 Q Did she come up to see you from time to time?

8 A She would come to the school where I was
9 teaching, and we would lunch together.

10 Q Was she still seeing Bobby Mackey during this
11 era?

12 This would be the year while she attended
13 Sawyer's Business School.

14 A I do not believe so.

15 Q Do you know anything about whether or not she
16 was taking drugs during that era? That was the year during
17 Sawyer's Business School.

18 A I can't answer that; I don't know.

19 Q In talking to Leslie when you would see her at
20 lunch or perhaps elsewhere during that year, did she express
21 to you any feeling of loneliness?

22 A At that time she didn't, though later she said
23 to me that that was the loneliest time of her life.

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1 Q At the time did she appear, on the surface at
2 least, to be contented?

3 A She seemed very busy and -- I guess that would be
4 just very busy and into her work.

5 Q Would you say that Leslie was a good student
6 when she applied herself?

7 A Yes.

8 Q And would you say that she had, if you know, a
9 superior I.Q.?

10 A Yes, I believe that she does.

11 And I think all my children are superior people.

12 Q I haven't asked you this yet:

13 At that time and do you still now love Leslie
14 very much?

15 A I do love Leslie very much.

16 Q Now, after graduating from --

17 Let me ask you this: Do you feel now that you
18 would like to have been closer to her during her junior and
19 senior years in high school and the year she spent at
20 Sawyer's?

21 MR. KAY: Well, I'm going to object to that; that
22 appears to be irrelevant.

23 THE COURT: Objection sustained.

24 MR. KEITH: What was the grounds of the objection?

25 MR. KAY: Irrelevant.

26 THE COURT: Objection sustained.

27 Q BY MR. KEITH: After Sawyer's Business School,
28 did she come back to live with you, Jane?

13-2
1 A No, she didn't. She went out to the desert to
2 live with some friends of hers.

3 Q This would have been in Victorville?

4 A Yes, I think so. And --

5 Q Did you know anything at that time about a drug
6 problem she may have had?

7 A No, I still didn't see the picture.

8 Q You didn't even suspect anything?

9 A I'm afraid not.

10 Q And do you know how long she stayed in Victorville
11 with some friends in the desert?

12 A I think it was just a matter of months, a few
13 months.

14 Q And then where did she go?

15 A She went with some of the people that had been in
16 the desert to San Francisco.

17 Q To the Haight-Ashbury district, if you know?

18 A I didn't know then, but that is where she went.

19 Q All right.

20 A And she said that she was going up there and would
21 write me when she got there.

22 And she did. She wrote me, and I wrote her back.

23 Q Was that the only communication you received from
24 her while she was in the Haight-Ashbury district?

25 A The last I heard from her she phoned and said --

26 Q Wait, now.

27 Do you have any recollection, Jane, of when Leslie
28 phoned you from Haight-Ashbury in San Francisco?

1 A Well, it must have been toward the end of the
2 Fall of '68.

3 Q I take it you are not exactly sure of the date?

4 A No, I'm not; I'm not.

5 Q And what did she say?

6 A That she had gone up to Mendocino with some people
7 and that she was going to drop out.

8 And I was very angry, and she and I had a fight
9 over the phone.

10 And then she ended up by saying, "Goodbye," and
11 hung up; and that was then the last I saw her for a while.

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1 Q I gather that you saw her again after a period of
2 time, after she had told you she was dropping out?

3 A Yes.

4 It was the next Spring, that Spring.

5 Q This would be the Spring of 1969?

6 A Yes.

7 And I received a phone call from the Reseda police.
8 And they said that my daughter was there, and would I come
9 and get her.

10 And I asked them if she wanted to come -- me to
11 come and get her, and they said yes.

12 And so I did.

13 Q Now, Reseda is a town in the San Fernando Valley?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Did you take Leslie home from the police station --

16 A Yes, I did.

17 Q -- in Reseda?

18 And how was she dressed when you saw her, if you
19 recall?

20 A I do recall that.

21 Oh, she had on blue jeans that were very soiled,
22 she was barefooted, and she had a shirt on.

23 Q Did she appear to you to be somewhat unkempt?

24 A Yes, soiled.

25 She looked like a person that had been living
26 outdoors.

27 Q So you took her home?

28 A Yes, I did.

18-5
1 Q To that same address in Monrovia on Fairgreen?

2 A Yes.

3 Q And at that time who was living in your home?

4 This would be the Spring of 1969 when you took
5 Leslie home.

6 A Dave and Bets and I.

7 Q How long did she stay with you?

8 A Just that night.

9 Q Did you talk to her?

10 A Yes, I did.

11 Q And, incidentally, did you give her some clean
12 clothes or buy some new clothes for her?

13 A She and I went shopping for several new outfits,
14 and I assumed that she was now home and was going to look for
15 a job.

16 Q Is that what she told you, or did you just
17 believe that to be --

18 A I can't answer that, Max. I assumed she was there
19 for that.

20 THE COURT: Would this be a convenient time to take a
21 recess?

22 MR. KEITH: Yes, Your Honor.

23 THE COURT: All right.

24 Ladies and gentlemen, at this time we will recess
25 for ten minutes until 25 minutes past the hour.

26 Bear in mind during this recess that you are not
27 to discuss this case amongst yourselves or with anyone else,
28 and you are not to form any opinion concerning this matter or

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1 express any opinion concerning this matter until the case is
2 finally given to you.

3 Furthermore, you must not allow yourselves to
4 read, see, or hear any news media accounts of this matter.

5 Court will be in recess until 3:25. All jurors,
6 defendant, counsel, and the witness are ordered to return at
7 that time.

8 Court's in recess.

9 (Recess taken.)

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THE COURT: People versus Van Nouten.

Let the record show the defendant is present, represented by counsel, the People are represented by counsel, the jurors are in their assigned places.

You may resume, Mr. Keith.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 10/10/00 BY 60322 JRS/STP

20f

1 MR. KEITH: Thank you, Your Honor.

2 May I approach the witness with another photograph?

3 THE COURT: Yes.

4 Q BY MR. KEITH: Jane, I forgot to show you another
5 photograph I had.

6 May the court please, this is a photograph of
7 what appears to be Leslie and a young man, as I would call it,
8 jitterbugging.

9 May this be marked Defendant's next in order?

10 THE COURT: Yes, it will be marked 517 for identi-
11 fication.

12 Q BY MR. KEITH: Just to regress for a moment, Jane,
13 does Leslie appear in that photograph of a young couple
14 dancing?

15 A Yes, she does.

16 Q She's the girl, obviously?

17 A Yes.

18 Q Do you know who the boy is, by any chance?

19 A I don't remember.

20 Q It's not Bobby Mackey?

21 A No, it's not.

22 Q And could you tell us how old Leslie may have
23 been in that photograph? Certainly in high school, but --

24 A Yes, in her later years of high school; perhaps
25 her senior year.

26 That looks -- it looks like that.

27 Q Thank you,

28 Now, Jane, back to when Leslie came home, when you

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1 took her home from the police station in Reseda, did she spend
2 the night with you?

3 A Yes, she did, Max.

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1 Q And did she leave the next day?

2 A She left while I was at school.

3 Q And did she leave without telling you that she
4 was going to leave?

5 A Yes.

6 Q Now, while she was with you, did you talk with
7 her?

8 A Yes, I did.

9 Q And did she seem different to you than the way you
10 had known her?

11 A Well, she seemed different, in that what she said
12 to me was so different from what I would have expected her
13 to say.

14 Q Did she tell you where she had been?

15 A She said she'd been on a ranch.

16 Q And did she mention the name of any of the people
17 she was staying with at the ranch?

18 A No.

19 Q Or the name of the ranch?

20 A No.

21 Q Or where it was?

22 A No.

23 Q You never heard the name of Manson --

24 A No, not at that time.

25 Q Did she tell you anything when she was with you
26 about what was going to happen to you?

27 A Well, we were talking, and before we went to bed
28 she said to me that -- she said, "Huma, do you know there is

1 going to be a revolution and the black people are going to
2 kill all the white people?"

3 And I said, "Oh, Leslie, I don't believe that."

4 And she said, "Then you'll be killed, too."

5 Q Is that the substance of what she told you?

6 A No.

7 Later on, then she said to me that where she had
8 been when she didn't want to talk to the people any more, that
9 the dogs talked to her.

10 And I assumed she meant like our dogs or cats do.

11 And I said, "Well, dogs and cats do do that."

12 And she said, "No; they speak in words so I can
13 understand them."

14 And then our conversation, you know, just had to
15 stop because there's nothing more that one could say.

16 But I thought then, at the time, then, that we
17 would have to get some help for her.

18 Q And --

19 A And then she left and I went to work.

20 Q When was the next time you saw her, Jane, or heard
21 from her?

22 A I had an idea that she had been arrested when it
23 came out in the newspapers.

24 And the next time I saw her was at Sybil Brand.

25 Q This would have been in the latter part of 1969?

26 A Yes.

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1 Q Did you see her regularly while she was at Sybil
2 Brand?

3 A As often as I could.

4 Q And did you notice anything different about her
5 than you were accustomed to when she was living with you
6 during the many times you saw her at Sybil Brand?

7 A Well, it's very hard, you know, when you're
8 speaking through a thick glass and on the phone. You don't
9 get a chance to really feel what the person is saying.

10 But she seemed very -- she always acted glad to
11 see me, but I felt a real rent in our relationship.

12 Q After Sybil Brand she went to California Institute
13 for Women in April of 1971?

14 A Yes.

15 Q And did you see her at the institute at Frontera?

16 A When she first went out there she was in a special
17 security unit. And at first I went out both Saturday and
18 Sunday and through the week, if I could.

19 Later, as I felt better about it, I went less,
20 and then toward the last part of the time I just went the once
21 a week.

22 Q And eventually was she moved from the special
23 security unit?

24 A Yes.

25 She went through a transition period in another
26 unit and then ended up on the campus, as they call the place
27 where the other girls are.

28 Q Can you tell us, as best you can recall, when it

1 was she was able to be on the campus.

2 That's with the rest of the girls at CIW.

3 A I can't tell you when that was, Max. I'm not sure
4 of the time that she was finally put over there.

5 Q All right.

6 Now, you remember when her case was reversed on
7 appeal?

8 A Yes, I do.

9 Q That was in August, I believe, of 1976.

10 Was she on the campus then?

11 A Yes, she was.

12 Q And had she been on the campus before August of
13 1976, before the reversal?

14 A Yes.

15 Q Do you have any idea about how long, how many
16 months?

17 A Four or five.

18 Q Now, when Leslie went to SSU, that's the special
19 security unit, she was under sentence of death, was she not?

20 A Yes.

21 Q And at some time later her sentence was commuted
22 to life by the Supreme Court of the State of California; you
23 were aware of that?

24 A Yes.

25 Q And would that have been sometime in 1972?

26 A It could well be.

27 Q Yes.

28 And did you feel good about that?

(Pause.)

2 Q Well --

3 A Of course.

4 Q All right.

5 A I felt that we had a chance now to make some good
6 gains.

7 Q And did you try to help Leslie --

8 A Yes.

9 Q -- during the years she was at Frontera?

10 A I met all the superintendents or acting superin-
11 tendents, and I conferred with them to get an idea how they
12 approached rehabilitation, and I wanted to be a part of it.

13 Q And do you believe you were a part of it?

14 A I do believe I was a part of it, yes.

15 Q And did you notice a gradual change in Leslie?

16 A Yes.

17 Q Could you tell us how long it was, Jane, after she
18 went to CIW at Frontera that you began to see a change
19 presumably for the better?

20 A At first it seemed to me that what I had to do was
21 to resume the loving relationship with her that we had had
22 years previous, and I tried to help her become part of my
23 family again, to know what everyone was doing, what they were
24 saying.

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1 Q Did Leslie begin to respond?

2 A Yes, though not at first.

3 First she seemed very cynical and caustic when
4 we would talk about people and the family.

5 Q That's your family.

6 A My family, yes.

7 Q Not Manson's family.

8 Did you ever talk much with her about Charlie
9 Manson?

10 A Never.

11 Q Not to this day?

12 A (No response.)

13 Q Except a little bit with me.

14 A Little bit here and there; but I never asked.

15 Q How do you feel about her now, her mental state,
16 her attitude or beliefs?

17 A I believe that she's very nearly the person she
18 would have been had not this horrible thing happened.

19 Q Do you feel in your mind, honestly feel that she's
20 free of Manson?

21 A Oh, yes, I do.

22 Q How long has it been since you could say that
23 with honesty, Jane?

24 A Several years.

25 Q As far back as 1974?

26 A I can't answer that, Max.

27 Q You have told us "several years."

28 What is it that makes you feel now that she has

23-2

1 been free of Hanson's influence for some years?

2 MR. KAY: Well, I'm going to object. That appears to
3 be irrelevant.

4 THE COURT: The objection is sustained.

5 Q BY MR. KEITH: Do you feel at the present time,
6 Jane, that your daughter is in any way dangerous or a menace
7 to society?

8 A No, I --

9 MR. KAY: Well, I'm going to object. That calls for a
10 conclusion.

11 THE COURT: The objection --

12 MR. KEITH: Well --

13 THE COURT: Do you want to approach the bench?

14 MR. KEITH: I think no, yes.

15 THE COURT: All right; will counsel approach the bench.

16 Could we have the court reporter.

17 (The following proceedings were held

18 at the bench.)

19 MR. KEITH: I don't know how Your Honor was going to
20 rule, but I think it's extremely --

21 THE COURT: All right.

22 Would you read the last question, please.

23 (Record read.)

24 THE COURT: All right.

25 MR. KEITH: This is one of the very cruxes of the
26 defense; that she's mentally healthy now.

27 Therefore, it can be inferred at the time this
28 happened -- and of course Jane is her mother, an intimate

23-3

1 acquaintance; she is entitled to testify as a lay person as
 2 to her own opinion of her mental health under the long
 3 established series of cases.

4 And I can rephrase the question, if you think
 5 it is improper in that -- in the way I phrased it.

6 THE COURT: Let me indicate that I think the question
 7 about whether or not she is dangerous, or the way the
 8 question is posed, that the objection is good to it.

9 You can ask --

10 MR. KEITH: If she is mentally healthy, then.

11 THE COURT: Yes; but not as to the other.

12 MR. KEITH: All right.

13 THE COURT: All right.

14 MR. KEITH: All right. I will abide with your ruling
 15 for a change.

16 (The following proceedings were held in

17 open court in the presence of the jury.)

18 MR. KEITH: I will withdraw the previous question.

19 THE COURT: All right.

20 The jury is admonished to disregard the question
 21 and the answer.

22 You may put your next question.

23 MR. KEITH: Yes.

24 Q Could you tell us, Jane, how you feel Leslie's
 25 mental health is now.

26 A I think Leslie's mental health is very good,
 27 in that this appeal has helped us all look forward to more
 28 good mental health for her, toward a time of -- a good time

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for looking ahead.

Q Do you feel at the present time, Jane, that despite the circumstances, Leslie's mental outlook and health and attitudes are normal? Bearing in mind what she's presently going through.

A Yes --

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1 MR. KAY: Well, I will object to that. That's
2 ambiguous, what "normal" --

3 THE COURT: Well, the objection is overruled.

4 The witness may answer.

5 THE WITNESS: Ask me again.

6 MR. KEITH: Could you read the question. I will never
7 be able to do it again.

8 THE COURT: All right.

9 (Record read.)

10 THE WITNESS: Yes, I do.

11 MR. KEITH: I have no further questions.

12 THE COURT: You may cross-examine.

13 MR. KAY: Thank you, Your Honor.

14
15 CROSS-EXAMINATION

16 BY MR. KAY:

17 Q Mrs. Van Houten, on December 12th, 1969 did you
18 still reside at 2503 Fairgreen in Monrovia?

19 A Yes.

20 Q Do you remember meeting a police officer who came
21 out to your home, a homicide officer by the name of
22 Sergeant Michael Nielsen?

23 A Very vaguely.

24 Q When he came out to your house did you tell him
25 that you would say absolutely nothing that you felt would
26 hurt your daughter, Leslie?

27 A I don't remember, Mr. Kay, what I said that day.

28 Q Are you saying you didn't say it, or you don't

1 remember?

2 A I'm saying I don't remember having said it.

3 Q Is that your state of mind today, that you would
4 say anything that would hurt your daughter, Leslie?

5 A I don't believe that would be true, no.

6 I want, I want Leslie to be rehabilitated. I
7 want her to be able to take a good place in society.

8 Q You don't want her to be --

9 A I'm not ever going to do anything that would keep
10 her from really realizing her full potential.

11 Q I take it that you don't want her to be in prison
12 any more?

13 A (No response.)

14 Q Is that right?

15 A (Pause.) I don't want her to be in prison any
16 more.

17 MR. KAY: I have no further questions.

18 THE COURT: Anything further.
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REDIRECT EXAMINATION

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1
2 BY MR. KEITH:

3 Q Have you been telling us things that aren't true
4 because you don't want her to be in prison any more, Jane?

5 A No, I've been telling the truth, and I don't want
6 her to be in prison any more.

7 MR. KEITH: Nothing further.

8 MR. KAY: Nothing further.

9 THE COURT: All right.

10 Any objection to excusing this witness?

11 MR. KEITH: No, Your Honor.

12 THE COURT: All right.

13 Thank you, ma'am, you may step down. You are
14 excused.

15 MR. KEITH: May the court please, I had Dr. Ditman and
16 I excused him.

17 I don't have any more witnesses.

18 THE COURT: All right. It's close enough to 4 o'clock,
19 We'll abide by your decision.

20 You will be ready at 10 o'clock --

21 MR. KEITH: Well, my apologies.

22 THE COURT: -- tomorrow.

23 All right. That's all right.

24 Ladies and gentlemen, we are going to recess this
25 matter until tomorrow morning at 10 a.m.

26 Bear in mind during this period of recess, as at
27 all recesses, you are not to discuss this case amongst your-
28 selves or with anyone else, and you are not to form any opinion

1 concerning this matter or express any opinion concerning this
2 matter until the case is finally given to you.

3 Furthermore, you must not allow yourselves to read,
4 see, or hear any news media accounts of this matter.

5 Have a good evening.

6 You are all ordered back tomorrow at 10 a.m. as
7 are the counsel and the defendant.

8 Court's in recess. Thank you.

9 (At 3:55 p.m. an adjournment was taken until

10 Thursday, May 19, 1977, at 10 a.m.)
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