



DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
CRIMINAL JUSTICE DIVISION

REPORT OF INTERVIEW

CASE/FILE NO.: AS0003-85

PERSON INTERVIEWED: BYRON, Barbara Jean, aka Barbara Jean Hawkins, aka, Ma Makima, DOB/[REDACTED] and BYRON, Helen, aka, Ma Idam Shunyo Sante Fe, New Mexico Telephone: [REDACTED]

OTHERS PRESENT: John P. Salle, Detective, Oregon State Police

DATE/TIME/PLACE OF INTERVIEW: December 9, 1985/4:00 p.m.

INVESTIGATOR: Randy Banks

DATE DICTATED: December 11, 1985

Helen BYRON and Barbara HAWKINS were interviewed at the High Mesa Motel in Sante Fe, New Mexico. Helen BYRON is the mother of Barbara HAWKINS. BYRON and HAWKINS furnished the following information:

Barbara HAWKINS is married to Trevor HAWKINS, aka, Swami AMRIT, and both are living with Helen BYRON in Sante Fe, New Mexico. All were Sanyassins and left Rajneeshpuram in 1981, after a dispute with several of the leaders. Trevor HAWKINS is a medical doctor and worked in that capacity while at Rajneeshpuram. Barbara HAWKINS was head of the Rajneesh Medical Corporation in Poona, India, and was relieved of that position shortly after arriving in Oregon.

Barbara HAWKINS told us that while she was in Poona, India, she did not get along with Ma Anand SHEELA for various reasons. HAWKINS stated SHEELA frequently told her not to listen to the Rajneesh doctors. SHEELA decided that she wanted Barbara HAWKINS replaced at the Rajneesh Medical Corporation by PUJA and proceeded to "push" Barbara HAWKINS out. After Barbara and Trevor

HAWKINS, and Helen BYRON left Rajneeshpuram, they became involved in civil litigation with Rajneeshpuram. HAWKINS and BYRON declined to discuss this litigation with investigators per the advice of their attorney and we complied by asking no question about this subject.

They told us that this civil trial began in May 1985. They arrived in Portland, Oregon, May 20, 1985, (Monday) and left the following Saturday. Trial began on May 21, 1985, in Portland, Oregon. Trevor HAWKINS also traveled to Oregon and stayed with them for the duration of this trial.

BYRON and the HAWKINS' stayed in separate rooms at the Marriot Hotel. BYRON and the HAWKINS' were joined in Portland at this same motel by the following persons: Brian GIBBS, aka, Swami PRAMOD; Sharon TRINKA, aka, Ma Prem MARGA; Maryanne FORBES, aka, Ma NANDAN; Dee (LNU), and her unknown friend. Most of the aforementioned persons were anticipated witnesses to be called by the plaintiff in this case. They believed that TRINKA and GIBB shared another room at this hotel.

On May 25, 1985, this trial ended and a verdict favored to BYRON was returned at approximately 5:00 p.m. At this time, all the aforementioned persons, Mark CUSHING (BYRON's attorney), Adam (CUSHING's aid), and Kathy CUSHING (Mark's wife) went to the Library Lounge at the Marriot Hotel in downtown Portland, Oregon, where they pulled several tables together. The purpose of this get together was to celebrate their victory in the civil litigation. After the aforementioned persons were at the lounge for awhile, they were joined by Les ZAITZ and Scotta McALLISTER, reporters for the Oregonian newspaper. ZAITZ and McALLISTER congratulated BYRON on her victory in court.

Barbara HAWKINS and BYRON told us that they were concerned about their safety because of prior threats made against them by SHEELA. Testimony was given on this subject during trial. After HAWKINS and BYRON left Rajneeshpuram in 1981 they returned to New Mexico. Prior to this travel, a friend of HAWKINS' and BYRON, Maryanne FORBES, aka, Ma NANDAN, had approached SHEELA while she was in a meeting with unknown top executives and asked about setting up a temple or Ashram in New Mexico. SHEELA implied that this was initiated by BYRON and HAWKINS and told them that she would "get even with them." For these and other reasons, HAWKINS and BYRON watched people closely during the course of civil litigation. They did not observe any current or ex-Sannyasins that they knew at the hotel or restaurants. Many Sanyassins were in the courthouse during litigation and harassed BYRON, HAWKINS, and witnesses.

Barbara HAWKINS is acquainted with Swami ANUGITEN and states she did not like him and that he was part of SHEELA's inner circle. HAWKINS told us she could identify ANUGITEN unless he wore an elaborate disguise. Neither HAWKINS nor BYRON knew YOGINI or AVA, but stated that they have heard the name YOGINI mentioned before.

Barbara HAWKINS and Helen BYRON told us that they left the Library Lounge around 8:00 p.m. They believe that BYRON, TRINKA, DEE and Kathy CUSHING left in a taxi. They believe the others left on foot and all met at a Chinese Restaurant nearby. The persons on foot stopped at some taverns while enroute and they described this as "barhopping." They ate dinner at the Chinese Restaurant and BYRON paid for it with her American Express card. They all sat at the same table and ate dinner together. ZAITZ and McALLISTER were not present for this dinner.

All the aforementioned persons left this restaurant prior to 10:00 p.m., so that they could watch the 10:00 p.m. news. Upon leaving, they again split up in groups. They believe that BYRON, TRINKA, and DEE took a taxi back and the others walked. Some of the persons walking took a bus for a short distance. When they all arrived at the hotel they watched the 10:00 p.m. news in Barbara HAWKINS' room.

Barbara HAWKINS, TRINKA, and some others in this group went to the discotheque at the Marriot Hotel to dance and drink. Helen BYRON remained behind in her room. They returned for the 11:00 p.m. news and all persons retired for the evening after this.

The HAWKINS' and BYRON left on Saturday at approximately 1:00 p.m., on Western Airlines for New Mexico. They used the shuttle bus for transportation to and from the airport.

Barbara HAWKINS and BYRON told us that on the evening of their victory in court, it would have been impossible for someone to poison their food, except at the discotheque. When they were at the Library Lounge and the restaurant, there was always a group at the table.

BYRON does not recall a female complimenting her about her shoes. She does recall that Mark CUSHING complimented her about her shoes.

Barbara HAWKINS and BYRON told us that approximately one week before trial, they had a suspicious incident occur at their residence just outside of Sante Fe, New Mexico. This involved a light colored pickup behind a wire gate at their residence. There were two men and one woman in this pickup truck. The per-

son driving was a female. HAWKINS told us that if someone were sent from Rajneeshpuram that it would be more than one person and the woman would probably drive. At this time, HAWKINS and BYRON had two carpenters working at their residence. They alerted the carpenters and their housekeeper to this suspicious vehicle. The two carpenters went up to this vehicle and challenged it with HAWKINS watching from the residence. The persons in this vehicle stated they were from the Sante Fe City Tax Department and were asking questions about improvements and true value of this residence. They stated they were lost and were asked by carpenters how they could be lost one minute and assessing on a specific address another minute. The carpenters noticed that these persons had new-looking identification badges which made them even more suspicious. The carpenters asked for additional identification from these persons. At this point, the suspicious persons declined further identification and immediately left the area. BYRON and HAWKINS later checked with the city Tax Department and were told that they were not doing tax assessment during this time period. BYRON and HAWKINS also told us that their property was not even located inside the city limits. HAWKINS was told by one of the carpenters that one of the occupants used the name "BACA." HAWKINS and BYRON told us that "BACA" is a very common name in the Sante Fe, New Mexico, area.

HAWKINS stated that these carpenters worked for John O'DELL, who is a local contractor. One of the carpenters had the first name of "Jim." They also told us that their housekeeper, Gertrude LUCERO, witnessed this incident.

Just prior to this trial, HAWKINS and BYRON began receiving phone calls with no one answering on the other end. Some of these phone calls came as late as 3:00 a.m. They also told us that TRINKA started to experience the same type of telephone calls just before trial. They have never experienced this type of telephone problem before or since. They also told us that persons from Rajneeshpuram knew what their home phone number in New Mexico was.

BYRON and HAWKINS told us that approximately one month after their trial, Ma Prem SAMADHI and another unknown female from Rajneeshpuram showed up at their residence. They were not wearing Rajneesh clothing and stated that they had been away from Rajneeshpuram for a long time. They further stated that they were enroute to Carmel, California, to meet with ANITA and ANUBHAVA.

SAMADHI and the unknown female stayed at the residence long enough to drink several cups of coffee. HAWKINS stated her husband, Trevor, was also present. HAWKINS was very suspicious of the visit and never took her eyes off of SAMADHI and the unknown

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female. She would not leave them alone except when SAMADHI used the bathroom. SAMADHI did take a long time to use the bathroom. HAWKINS and BYRON described the unknown female as being approximately 5'3", heavysset (short and solid), with light brown hair.

The day after SAMADHI and her friend left the BYRON residence, they (BYRON and HAWKINS) were contacted by ANITA and ANUBHAVO. ANUBHAVO and ANITA stated that SAMADHI and this unknown female had just visited with them in Carmel, California. ANITA and ANUBHAVO stated it was a short visit and that they drove SAMADHI and this unknown female to the airport where they were believed to have caught a plane back to Rajneeshpuram. ANITA and ANUBHAVO told BYRON and HAWKINS that it was a very suspicious trip and that they had caught SAMADHI and her friend lying about their activities.

HAWKINS stated she believed Swami DEVAM (Harold Carmel) might be involved in some illegal activity with prescription drug abuse with PUJA. DEVAM was the only doctor who went along with everything PUJA said. DEVAM did whatever PUJA told him to do.

At this same interview, we were provided with motel receipts from the Marriott Hotel by Helen BYRON.

This interview was terminated because HAWKINS was late for classes at school. We agreed that we could discuss this subject at a later time and date by telephone and/or in person.

Randy Banks
Investigator

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