

ATTACHMENT 1

Portions of
Veronza L. Bowers' 1974 Trial Transcript

56

1 question that's calculated to show whether or not Bowers had any
2 relationship to that, but as I understand it, he makes no claim
3 that he did.

4 Mr. Milano, does the Government make any claim--

5 MR. MILANO: No, they don't.

6 MR. STENDER: Very well, Your Honor.

7 THE COURT: That's Mr. Milano-- Mr. Shoher, I mean--
8 Mr. Bowers, Mr. Shoher, Stephanie Bowers, Kathy King, and I
9 understand that you make no charge that any of those parties
10 were connected to the bank robbery about which you have been
11 convicted?

12 THE WITNESS: Right.

13 THE COURT: That's as far as you need to go into detail

14 MR. STENDER: Very well, Your Honor.

15 Q Mr. Veale, after that second interview with you
16 by Agents Watkins and Weaver in this building late in September
17 of 1973, when was the next time you spoke to any law enforcement
18 connected personnel in connection with the death of the Park
19 Ranger?

20 A This past-- past week, April.

21 Q Was that the date you gave a written statement?

22 A Yes.

23 Q And where-- who were the first people you talked
24 to this last week about that?

25 A Mr. Milano.

Q Mr. Milano?

- 1 A. Yes.
- 2 Q. Did you talk to any F.B.I. Agents before that?
- 3 A. No.
- 4 Q. And how did you happen to be at Mr. Milano's office?
- 5 A. Well, I sent a note requesting to talk to him.
- 6 Q. You sent out a message of some sort?
- 7 A. Yes.
- 8 Q. From the County jail?
- 9 A. Yes.
- 10 Q. And why were you in the County jail last week?
- 11 A. I was waiting to come to trial.
- 12 Q. To come to what trial?
- 13 A. To come to trial of the murder.
- 14 Q. Pardon?
- 15 A. To come to trial for murder.
- 16 Q. The murder. You were waiting to come to trial as
- 17 a co-defendant in this case; isn't that right?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. And at that time, you sent a message to Mr. Milano
- 20 saying you wanted to talk to him?
- 21 A. Yes.
- 22 Q. And did you then meet with him?
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 Q. And who else was present at that meeting?
- 25 A. Just him.
- Q. And did you have a conversation with him?

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A. Yes.

Q. And were you previously convicted of a felony in 1969?

A. Yes.

Q. What was the nature of that offense?

A. It was robbery.

Q. And in 1971, were you convicted of another felony?

A. Yes.

Q. What was that for?

A. It was a burglary.

Q. And just this past year, in this very Court, were you convicted of a third felony?

A. Yes.

Q. And what was that for?

A. It was bank robbery.

Q. When were you arrested for that bank robbery offense?

A. In September of '73.

Q. And during the course of trial on that offense, did you have occasion to take the witness stand in your own defense?

A. Yes.

Q. And during the time that you testified at two separate trials, did you have occasion to testify as to the events that you have described to the jury here today?

A. Yes.

Q. And did you ever, during the course of those trials,

1 identify the man who had shot the Ranger?

2 A. No.

3 Q Will you tell the Court and the jury now why you
4 have decided today to tell the whole story?

5 A Well, it's like this. I just, I just hope to get
6 some consideration on the sentence I got for bank robbery, and
7 like I wanted to talk about it from the beginning a long time
8 ago when I first got arrested and right now, I feel that it
9 would just be the right opportunity to talk about it, because I
10 want a lot of people to know that I'm not no killer, you know.
11 I really didn't want the Ranger to get killed or nothing like
12 that.

13 MR. MILANO: I have no further questions. Thank you.

14 THE COURT: You may cross-examine.

15 CROSS-EXAMINATION

16 BY MR. STENDER:

17 Q Did I understand you to say, Mr. Veale, that you
18 are testifying here today because you want consideration on your
19 sentence?

20 A Yes, I would hope to; that's one reason.

21 Q And what sentence are you talking about?

22 A The twelve year sentence that I have.

23 Q And that was the sentence that you received for
24 conviction on the bank robbery charge?

25 A Yes.

1 THE COURT: I follow that practice and you are going
2 to remain here, aren't you, Mr. Harris?

3 MR. HARRIS: Yes, sir; I am going to be here at all
4 times.

5 THE COURT: All right. Let's get on.

6 MR. MILANO: May we have him brought in before the
7 jury is called, Your Honor?

8 THE COURT: Yes.

9 Have you had a chance to see him lately, Mr. Harris?

10 MR. HARRIS: Yes, I saw him for about an hour this
11 morning, Your Honor.

12 THE COURT: Turn around, Mr. Veale; let me see. Just
13 turn around the other way. You don't have handcuffs on.

14 MR. MILANO: No, that is his manner of walking, Your
15 Honor. I've noticed it before.

16 THE COURT: You had your hands behind you.

17 MR. MILANO: Just go on up to the witness stand, please

18 THE CLERK: He has not been sworn, has he?

19 MR. MILANO: No, he has not been sworn.

20 ALAN VEALE

21 called as a witness by the Court, after being duly sworn,
22 testified as follows:

23 THE COURT: Mr. Veale, are you the Alan Veale who
24 is charged with, along with Mr. Bowers, with the murder of
25 Kenneth Patrick?

THE WITNESS: Right. Yes.

1 THE COURT: What is your wish in the matter? Do you
 2 wish to waive the right to testify and go ahead and testify as
 3 a witness, or do you wish to claim your privilege against
 4 testifying, and remain silent?

5 THE WITNESS: No, I wish to testify.

6 THE COURT: That's your understanding of it, Mr.
 7 Harris?

8 MR. HARRIS: Yes.

9 THE COURT: From talking to him this morning?

10 MR. HARRIS: Yes.

11 THE COURT: Is there any question in your mind about
 12 his decision and the voluntariness of it and the fact that he's
 13 made it with full understanding of his rights after you advised
 14 him?

15 MR. HARRIS: I have no question that he understands
 16 his right and that he has made a decision to testify in this
 17 case.

18 It's also my understanding that the U.S. Attorney's
 19 office, and they will put this on the record here, will not use
 20 anything Mr. Veale says here in Court, against him in any later
 21 proceeding or the fruits of what he says here in Court, against
 22 him in any other proceeding.

23 THE COURT: Is that right?

24 MR. MILANO: That is an accurate representation.

25 THE COURT: All right.

1 Q Is that a correct statement?

2 THE COURT: Let him answer it in his own words.

3 THE WITNESS: Each time that I went back to talk to
4 Mr. Milano and the Federal officials, I was asked to come back.
5 It wasn't on my own doing.

6 MR. STENDER: Q And during the period of time that
7 they asked you to come back, you hadn't yet decided whether to
8 come to court and testify; isn't that right?

9 A On the third occasion that I visited them, I told
10 them that I would testify. I made up my mind.

11 Q And that was your fourth visit to law enforcement
12 officials; the first being the visit to the Alameda County
13 authorities, isn't it?

14 A I would say so.

15 Q And before you decided to tell them that you would
16 testify, you learned about the reward that was outstanding; isn't
17 that correct?

18 A Before?

19 Q You learned about the reward in one of those visits,
20 correct?

21 A Correct.

22 Q And some time after that, you decided to testify
23 in this case?

24 A Yes.

25 Q Okay. Do you know what the amount of that reward

1 is?

2 A. No, I don't.

3 Q. Well, when Mr. Milano and the Federal Agents told
4 you, did they not mention a figure?

5 A. Ten thousand dollars, maybe.

6 Q. Well, do you recall their mentioning that figure?

7 A. Roughly.

8 Q. Is selling dangerous drugs a profitable enterprise?

9 A. It supports me.

10 Q. And do you have a lot of money?

11 A. No, I don't have a lot of money.

12 Q. Did you, in September and October of 1973?

13 A. Have a lot of money?

14 Q. Yes.

15 A. No, I have never had a lot of money.

16 Q. If the ten thousand dollar reward were offered to
17 you on the basis of your testimony here today, would you turn
18 it down also?

19 A. Would I turn it down?

20 Q. Yes.

21 A. No, I wouldn't turn it down.

22 Q. You would take it?

23 A. Yes, I would.

24 Q. And if Judge Hove in the Alameda County Superior
25 Court puts you on probation on these charges, you would take that,

1 those reasons in my office?

2 A Yes, I did.

3 Q And did you have occasion to come back to my office
4 on more than one time and discuss whether or not you would
5 testify for the Government?

6 A Yes, I, on two occasions after that, I came to
7 your office to, you know, let you know whether I would testify
8 or not.

9 Q When you first came over to my office or even when
10 you first went to the District Attorney's office in Alameda
11 County, did you have any knowledge at all that there was a
12 reward outstanding for information concerning this case?

13 A No, I didn't.

14 Q Did you learn about the existence of such a reward?

15 A Yes, I did.

16 Q And from whom did you learn about that reward?

17 A I learned about the existence of the reward from
18 Mr. Milano, you.

19 Q And did you consider the possibility that you
20 might share in some part of the reward when you were deciding
21 whether or not you would, you would acknowledge publicly the
22 information that you had concerning this case?

23 A Would you repeat that question, please?

24 Q When you were deciding whether or not you would
25 appear in public in a courtroom and testify about this case,

1 did you consider the possibility of getting some money for it,
2 from the reward?

3 A. Yes, I did.

4 Q. You did. And did you also consider the possibility
5 that the Judge in State Court would give some consideration to
6 you if you testified for the Government?

7 A. Yes, I did.

8 Q. In fact, did I or anybody else from our office
9 represent to you that we would make sure that the Judge knew
10 about it if you testified?

11 A. Yes, you did.

12 Q. And as a result of your thinking of those things,
13 did you eventually change your mind?

14 A. Yes, I did. I eventually changed my mind.

15 Q. And did you then agree to testify in this case?

16 A. I then agreed to testify in this case.

17 Q. And when you did that, did you sign a complete,
18 written statement as to the information that you had?

19 A. Yes, I did.

20 Q. Now, from the time that you first came into my
21 office, to the time that you gave that written statement, did
22 you ever change any of the facts that you told us about?

23 A. No, I never changed a word.

24 Q. Was the story that you gave us at the end exactly
25 the same as the story that you told us at the beginning?

1 charge that was filed against you during the summer of 1973; is
2 that correct?

3 A. That is correct.

4 Q. And while you were awaiting sentencing on that
5 guilty plea, did you consider whether or not you would have to
6 go to State Prison for that conviction?

7 A. Yes, I considered it.

8 Q. And did you communicate any information concerning
9 the murder of the Park Ranger to any law enforcement officer?

10 A. Yes, I did.

11 Q. When did you do that?

12 A. I did that in September of last year.

13 Q. Who did you go to, initially?

14 A. Initially I went to the District Attorney's office
15 in Alameda County.

16 Q. And did you speak to someone there?

17 A. Yes, I did.

18 Q. Did you give them any details as to what you knew?

19 A. I don't know about details. I think-- I didn't
20 give them an in-depth outline, what I did, I just let them know
21 I knew something about the Ranger-killing.

22 Q. And after you had done that, did you have occasion
23 to speak to some other Agent or investigator?

24 A. Yes, after that, I spoke to two F.B.I. Agents who
25 came to Oakland.

Q. And do you remember how much time went by, from

1 the first time that you first went to the District Attorney's
2 office and the time you spoke to these F.B.I. Agents?

3 A I'd say about a week elapsed.

4 Q Then what was the next thing that you did, with
5 respect to the information that you had?

6 A The next thing I did was a week later I spoke to
7 the two F.B.I. Agents, and about a week after that, they asked
8 me if I would come over to San Francisco to speak to the U.S.
9 Attorney, and I agreed to do so.

10 Q And did you do so?

11 A Yes, I did.

12 Q Did you come to this building?

13 A Yes, I did.

14 Q And did you come to my office?

15 A Yes, I did.

16 Q And did you tell me in detail what you knew, con-
17 cerning the murder of the Park Ranger?

18 A Yes, I did.

19 Q And was there anybody else present when you did
20 that?

21 A Yes, there was.

22 Q Who was that, if you can remember?

23 A The F.B.I. Agent, Mr. Weaver, it was the District
24 Attorney of Alameda County-- well, the Inspector, the District
25 Attorney's Inspector from Alameda County and there was another

1 Q And with respect to the pistol crossbow, that's
2 the word that you used for it, pistol crossbow, what did you do
3 with that?

4 A I kept it. In other words, like it's at home now.

5 Q As far as you know, it's at home now?

6 A Yes, it is.

7 Q I take it it's been some while since you have been
8 at home; is that correct?

9 A Yes, it has been.

10 Q How long is that?

11 A Well, I'd say some time around sixty days.

12 Q Well, what-- what's your normal occupation, Mr.
13 White?

14 A I'm a drug dealer.

15 Q You're a drug dealer?

16 A Yes, I am.

17 Q Have you ever had any legitimate jobs; honest,
18 lawful work?

19 A Yes, I have. I've worked as a grounds man, gardener
20 for the Berkeley Unified School District and I've had jobs with
21 a poverty organizations such as OIC and NYC and things of that
22 nature.

23 Q When you say that you are a drug dealer, do you
24 handle or sell/^{some}particular kind of drug?

25 A Yes, I-- I sell what's known as methamphetamine,

1 which is commonly known on the streets as "speed".

2 Q And as a result of your having done that in the
3 past, have you been convicted of offenses involving that kind
4 of activity?

5 A Yes, I have.

6 Q In fact, during last summer, 1973, were you on
7 probation as a result of that kind of conviction?

8 A Yes, I was.

9 Q And during the course of last summer, were you
10 arrested and charged with another similar offense?

11 A Yes, I was.

12 Q And were you-- did you eventually plead guilty
13 to that charge?

14 A Yes, I did.

15 Q Did you expect that you would probably go to
16 State Prison as a result of your being found guilty or your
17 pleading guilty to that charge?

18 A Yes, I expected to go to State Prison.

19 Q Have you ever been in State Prison? Have you
20 ever served any term in State Prison?

21 A No, I haven't.

22 Q Have you done some jail terms in County jail?

23 A Yes, I've been in and out of the various jails,
24 but the most time I have ever did was a year in the County jail.

25 Q A year in the County jail. Where was that?

1 A. That was at Santa Rita, Alameda County.

2 Q. Well, did you ever have a conviction, not for a
3 felony, not for a felony, but one which could be interpreted as
4 being one involving moral turpitude, that is, forgery of a
5 check, back in 1968?

6 A. Yes, I did.

7 Q. That was in March of 1968; is that correct?

8 A. Yes, it was.

9 Q. Then later that year in July of 1968, did you
10 have another conviction, involving the possession of dangerous
11 drugs?

12 A. I'm not really sure.

13 Q. I am talking about a conviction which-- which
14 resulted from your arrest in July of 1968, and in which the
15 sentence was imposed on the 7th of April in 1969; do you recall
16 that one?

17 A. Yes, I do.

18 Q. Then was there a later conviction in July of 1969,
19 for the same kind of offense; that is, possession of dangerous
20 drugs, for which you were given a sentence of three years of
21 probation and six months in the County jail?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. And was there another one later that year in
24 November of 1969, involving-- involving something to do with
25 possession of stolen property? Can you recall that one?

1 A. Yes, I can.

2 Q. And was the sentence on that one year's court
3 probation and thirty days in the County jail?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. And was there a conviction in May of 1971 again
6 involving possession of dangerous drugs, for which you were
7 given a term of three years probation and a year in the County
8 jail?

9 A. Would you repeat that date?

10 Q. This is May of 1971, May the 12th, 1971.

11 A. Was that in San Francisco?

12 Q. Excuse me for a moment. That was in Oakland.

13 A. No, I'm not sure about that.

14 Q. You're not sure about that?

15 A. No.

16 Q. Do you recall some conviction involving the
17 possession of dangerous drugs some time in the early part of
18 1971?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. And finally, was there a conviction in December
21 of 1972, again involving the same offenses, that is, possession
22 of dangerous drugs, for which you were placed on probation for
23 twenty-four months and given 180 days in the County jail?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. Now, you say you entered a plea of guilty to the

1 day, too, and later on that evening, Jonathan Shoher came down.

2 Q That was Sunday evening?

3 A Right, right.

4 Q Okay. But before you saw Jonathan Shoher on
5 Sunday evening, you were there all day by yourself?

6 A Right.

7 Q Now, Mr. Veale, you were, in August of 1973, a
8 narcotics addict; were you not?

9 A No.

10 MR. MILANO: Objection, Your Honor.

11 THE COURT: Overruled.

12 MR. STENDER: Q You say you were not?

13 A No.

14 Q Did you, in August of 1973, regularly take drugs?

15 A I wouldn't say regularly. You know, how regular
16 do you mean? What do you mean regular?

17 Q Well, how regularly do you mean?

18 A Well, you asked the question. You said regularly.
19 I said I don't know. Maybe twice, you know, two or three times,
20 maybe, a month or two weeks, you know. Off and on. I wasn't no
21 drug addict.

22 Q Two or three times a month, you say?

23 A Yes, sometimes; sometimes more.

24 Q I am talking about particularly August of 1973.
25 Do you recall how often you were using drugs?

A Well, I'd say, you know, after the murder happened, I

1 started using drugs a little bit more.

2 Q And how often were you using drugs?

3 A Maybe two or three times a week.

4 Q Pardon?

5 A Maybe two or three times a week.

6 Q Two or three times a week?

7 A Yes.

8 THE COURT: Was that more than you used it before the
9 killing?

10 THE WITNESS: Yes. Yes.

11 MR. STENDER: Q And what kind of narcotic were you taking
12 in August of 1973?

13 A I was taking heroin.

14 Q Heroin?

15 A Yes.

16 Q And did you regularly take heroin before August of
17 1973?

18 A Sometimes.

19 Q And how often would you use heroin before August
20 of '73?

21 A Maybe, you know, two or three times a month.
22 You know, three or four times a month.

23 Q So before that time, it was once a week, perhaps?

24 A It could have been.

25 Q Three or four times a month?

A Could have been, yes.

1 Q Okay. And as a matter of fact, you continued to
2 take heroin on a regular basis two or three times a week until
3 you were arrested for the bank robbery charge; is that correct?

4 A Yes.

5 Q And you still have needle marks on your arm from
6 that heroin you used; don't you?

7 A No.

8 Q As of the time of your bank robbery trial, you
9 still had those needle marks; didn't you?

10 A I might have had some, yes.

11 Q Do you remember testifying at that time that you
12 still had needle marks on your arm?

13 A I don't remember.

14 Q Pardon?

15 A I said at the time I might have had some needle
16 marks.

17 Q As of December last year?

18 A December.

19 Q When you went through your first bank robbery trial?

20 A Oh, yes. Right.

21 Q In your opinion, did the use of heroin two or three
22 times a week in August of 1973 make you an addict?

23 A No.

24 Q You were not an addict?

25 A No.

Q You were able to stop its use just like that.