

BEVERLY HILLS POLICE DEPARTMENT
CONTINUATION REPORT

1. CASE NUMBER

8907101

NCIC/CII CA0191000

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED], I/Os contacted to the Baralt's residence with a friend who was later identified as Gregory Guest. I/Os advised Lyle that it was the desire of I/Os to ask him specific questions concerning the events of 8-20-89.

The interview began by Lyle being asked what his immediate and future plans were. His response was that he was not going to go back to Princeton University immediately. He stated that he might travel around the world and try to get his mind and his affairs in order. Lyle stated that he wanted to put the deaths behind him and that he wanted the crime solved but didn't want to know the identity of the person or persons responsible.

Lyle described the scene of the murder as real messy. He was asked how close he walked up to his parents and his response was he walked right up to the couch where his father was seated. He said he did not touch anything and that Erik was standing behind the couch and he was standing at the front. Both of them left the den and immediately went upstairs and called the police from his parent's bedroom. Lyle doesn't remember talking to Mark Heffernan but he believes he (Lyle) is the one who placed the call to the police.

I/Os told Menendez that recently it was learned that he had an argument with his mother which lasted all night. Lyle stated that he did have an argument, but that it did not last all night. He stated that it was about being locked out of the house as he often forgot his house key. This led to arguing about girlfriends and other things which Lyle could not remember. Lyle did not think the argument was that big a deal that his mother would tell someone else. Generally Lyle would get along with his parents but like most parent/son relationships there would be disagreements on occasion.

Lyle said that Jose Menendez was a person which Lyle admired greatly. He was a self-made man and rose from having nothing to being a highly respected businessman in his field. Lyle stated that because of his beginnings his father was very frugal for the most part but that he would pay for most things which either he or Erik wanted.

I/Os asked about the activities of the family on Saturday 8-19-89 and Sunday 8-20-89. Menendez stated that the family left for a fishing trip at approx. 3:00 p.m. on Saturday. The trip was on a chartered boat out of Marina Del Rey and was for shark fishing.

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Lyle admitted that he didn't want to go but that he did have a good time. The family returned at approximately 1:00 a.m. on Sunday morning, and that he spent the night in the main house as he was too tired to go to his bed which is in the guest house. Sunday was an uneventful day and that his mother and father spent most of the day watching tennis on television. He and Erik didn't do anything in particular, and decided to go to the movies on Sunday night.

I/Os asked about the sleeping habits of both his parents. Lyle stated that his father was a very sound sleeper and that he was not an early riser. His mother on the other hand usually rose early and would wake up easily and didn't sleep much. When asked if his father and mother would sit in the positions that they were discovered in, Lyle stated that they did but that his mother would sit next to his father on the couch and not on the floor where she was found. Mr. Menendez would sometimes fall asleep on the couch while seated.

Lyle stated that Perry Berman called him and wanted he and Erik to go to the Taste of L.A. function at the Santa Monica Civic as there was something that Berman wanted to talk to him about. Menendez when questioned further about the reason for Berman wanting to meet stated that he doesn't recall and that he last saw him approximately one to two weeks earlier.

I/Os asked Lyle if he had seen the movie Batman before. His response was that he had, but that he and Erik originally went to see the feature, Licence to Kill, but that they found it to be sold out, so they waited for approximately 10 minutes and saw Batman for a second time. When asked about the ticket stubs for the movie, Lyle stated that he figured that we (Police) would ask about them so he believes they are possibly in Erik's car. Lyle stated that they left the house at approximately 8:00 p.m. for the movie and that when it was over he and Erik drove directly to the Santa Monica Civic Auditorium but were unable to find Perry Berman, so he called him from a pay phone at the auditorium.

Lyle said that Berman wanted to meet, so Lyle decided to meet him at the Cheesecake Factory in Beverly Hills, but told him he and Erik had to go home and pick up Erik's fake I.D.. When asked why they needed the I.D. Lyle said that since his brother was not 21 years old, he (Lyle) didn't know if Berman wanted to go to a club or bar for drinks. When they arrived back at the house, they parked Erik's car at the curb, and the two of them went inside. Lyle recalls that all the lights inside the house were on and the television was playing in the den. Moments later Erik discovered their parents.

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I/Os asked Lyle about the purchases of the Rolex watches. His response was that he bought them to take his mind off of what happened and that he had given one of the watches to Erik. When asked about the body guard service, Lyle said that they (he and Erik) were being followed and because of the murders they were afraid. Lyle added that he only had the service for one week as he felt that whoever was following them was no longer doing so. He also had heard that the former owner of the company Strawberries had been assassinated.

Upon completing the interview with Lyle Menendez, I/Os contacted Erik Menendez (W-2) who was also at the Baralt residence at approximately 1615 hours. As in the interview with Lyle moments earlier, I/Os explained to Erik that the reason for the interview was to clear up some questions which needed to be resolved concerning this incident.

Erik stated that he was not going to attend college immediately because of what had happened. He said that he probably was going to train in tennis and try to enter the pro tennis circuit.

Erik Menendez stated that the family went on a chartered boat trip out of Marina Del Rey on Saturday afternoon on 8-19-89. The family had a good time and no problems arose during the day. Erik stated that the family returned home at approximately midnight and that everyone went to bed. On Sunday morning, his father rose at approximately 10:00-11:00 a.m. and his mother got up early as she normally does. His parents watched tennis most of the day on the T.V. and he and Lyle were in and out of the house all day long.

Lyle and he decided to go to the movies to see the movie Licence to Kill, but it was sold out so they saw Batman for a second time. After the show, the two of them went to Santa Monica to meet a friend of Lyle's named Perry. Erik stated he drove and that he got lost on the freeway as he believed that where he was going was at 3rd and 4th streets in downtown Los Angeles and didn't realize his mistake until they were going downtown. When the two of them arrived in Santa Monica, Perry was gone. Lyle made a phone call from a payphone in the area, but Erik doesn't recall the location. Erik waited in the car while Lyle spoke to his friend.

Lyle and Perry decided to meet at the Cheesecake Factory, so Erik drove back home as he had no identification. Once at the house, he and Lyle entered the front door which was unlocked. Erik noticed a yellowish smoke haze and noted a smell which he believes was gunsmoke. I/Os asked if he had ever smelled gunsmoke before, and Erik said he had not. Erik walked into the

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den while his brother went upstairs. Menendez stated he saw his father sitting in his normal position on the couch and saw that his mother was lying on the floor next to his dad. Erik observed a large amount of blood and saw a shot through his fathers left thigh. He walked behind the couch and observed blood all over the floor and wall. At this point Erik remembers screaming and was joined a few moments later by Lyle. The two of them left this room, ran upstairs and called the police.

Erik stated that he is haunted by his parents' death and thinks about it constantly. He said that he has nightmares nightly and is afraid to sleep. Erik said he loved both of his parents and cannot understand why anyone would kill either one of them. I/Os asked about the portable phone which was found on the couch adjacent to his parents. He said his mother often would carry this with her as the house received a lot of calls daily from his father's business.

I/Os concluded the interview by asking about the purchases of the watches and the fake I.D. Menendez stated that on that day he and Lyle went to Bullocks to buy clothes for the memorial services. On the way back Lyle suggested that they stop at the jewelers and buy watches as it might help them get their minds off things. Erik didn't want to do this but he agreed and went with his brother. Erik stated he took one of the watches and Lyle took the other two. He told I/Os that the I.D. wasn't fake, but it was an Illinois drivers license which belonged to his cousin, Timothy Andersen. He stated he resembled him, so he used his I.D. Erik stated he has since returned the drivers license.

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