

10/1/08  
8:55 pm

This is Special Agent Tim Bisswurm, Minneapolis FBI. Today's date is October 1, 2008. Time is approximately 8:55 pm. Robert White will be making a consensual telephone call to Tom Petters at telephone number 612-741-3200.

Tom

Petters: Hey man.

Bob

White: Hey Thomas.

Petters: How you doing?

White: Ah, better days, as always. I guess um...

Petters: What?

White: I've had better days. Hey, ah, I'm trying to talk Robyn into what we were talking about.

Petters: Yeah.

White: Yeah. Do you think it really has to be by this weekend? I..that's hard to get her mind around that this fast.

Petters: Oh. Um, I'll know tomorrow morning (UI) cannot tell Joe Freidberg I said that.

White: Yeah. I know. You said that, yeah.

Petters: Well, here's, she doesn't have to be with this weekend. Ahh I don't know...

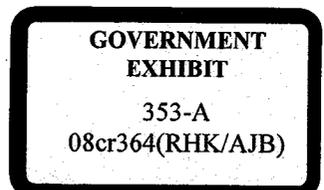
White: No, but...

Petters: I mean...

White: Okay.

Petters: I mean, you know what...

White: No, what I'm...



Petters: Let me put to you. Fuck. My lawyer asked me if I told you that.

White: Oh.

Petters: I said, um, no. He said, I hope you're not lying to me.

White: Okay.

Petters: It was because ah he'll have the Feds snap you up tomorrow. I said, why. He said, because ah I think you trust people too way, way too much. You would have never been in this situation if I would have talked to you a long time ago. And I said, well, I trust Bob White. I said, I don't, you know, I-I-I really think everything he's ever told me. He goes, yes. Like I'm gonna go out, you know, he goes, if everything he ever told you is true then you guys are both full of shit. And he goes, I said, well maybe everything I told him isn't true and maybe everything he told me isn't true. Let's leave it at that. He goes, okay, that's better. And I said, I said, I believe him. Um, that he's not doing something to harm me. And I'm not doing something to harm him. And he goes, okay. So I just said ah, and then again, I go, are you ah sure about this? And he goes, a miracle will change it. Now I don't know if these guys are playing me or not...for money. I haven't given my lawyer any money and they won't take any deal of merchandise or boats or cars or anything. And ah the last twelve years of doing it. He goes, listen. Now I don't know why your lawyer's asking you for it. But he goes, Joe (UI) fifty grand and getting him to transmit and the judge doesn't really give a shit. He goes, cuz they'll lay all of your stuff down, he goes, and I'll tell you what, he goes, um. Did you find your passport?

White: Yeah, yeah.

Petters: Good.

White: So.

Petters: Anyway ah, you know, the reason I spoke you about. I don't want that to happen.

White: Yeah. I understand.

Petters: And I wish that ah if I'm not, if you're not recording

my call, which I assume you're not.

White: But, Tom, what um...

Petters: What?

White: Oh, I'm just, I-I-I'm trying to figure out whether I, whether I gotta do something immediately, or whether I have, whether...

Petters: (UI) I'm saying it'll be Monday when it happens.

White: Yeah.

Petters: I mean I, I mean, uh...

White: You, you'll, yer, you can know better tomorrow, maybe. And...

Petters: Yeah.

White: Cuz, cuz if I'm trying to get...

Petters: But there's stuff I don't want to talk about it on the phone really because I don't, Bob, ya know, everything I, we say ah I'll, did your lawyer tell you that they can hear on telephones?

White: I don't have any idea. I didn't, I didn't ask him about that.

Petters: Well, they say that digital scrambles. Not to use your home phone.

White: Well, I'm using, I'm using my cell phone. That's what I always use.

Petters: Yeah, yeah. Um, ah.

White: Hey, what's. Do you think, um, Larry would have any advice? Ah, you know (UI) Um, I mean as to how to how to cope and how to function. Is there anything that would be, if I went.

Petters: Pardon me. Anything that would be what?

White: I'm just wondering if Larry would, if Larry would be helpful to talk to.

Petters: You mean about, ah, how to function hidden?

White: Yeah.

Petters: Prison. In prison?

White: No no no no no no.

Petters: Out of the country?

White: Yeah.

Petters: Or out of the country?

White: Yeah.

Petters: Yeah. I think that ah I think that he'd be plenty ah helpful.

White: Okay. You'd...

Petters: Nah. You know. Ah, ah, ah, I don't want you to tell him that I said that that's what he's planning.

White: No, I'm not gonna do that, but I was just wondering if I went. He's over, he's at the Marriot. I was wondering if I went over there tomorrow or something and tried to look him up and talk to him a little bit.

Petters: No, I think it's a good idea.

White: Okay.

Petters: And I think that, um, you know, here's the end of the day. I mean, you take a vacation, it doesn't happen. It doesn't happen.

White: Yup. Yeah. I get it.

Petters: But if you're here and it happens, (UI) you get knocking down your door and you're not there,

White: Yeah.

Petters: ...they'll know.

White: Yeah.

Petters: I mean, you're not, there's no law against you taking a vacation. There's no law against me either.

White: No no. I understand.

Petters: The only difference between me and you (UI) be outta the country.

White: Yeah.

Petters: I mean, people are telling me you can buy stuff on the web, you know.

White: Yeah.

Petters: Is that true?

White: I don't know. Fuck, I don't know how to do that. That's for sure.

Petters: Driver's licenses on the web.

White: I'm sure you

Petters: (UI)

White: can get driver's licenses, but I don't know what good that does ya. Ya know? So.

Petters: I have one of those.

White: Yeah. Ah...

Petters: Ah well, listen. Here's, here's the deal.

White: Well, I'm...

Petters: First of all, first of all. Let me just tell you this. You somehow, you gotta, wh-, I don't know what you said, but, ah, ah, ah, you gotta get (UI). Here's what I'm afraid of with her.

White: Yeah.

Petters: That they were getting so mad, that she goes in there makes it worse.

White: Yeah.

Petters: And you gotta get her to believe that we were not, either one of us, weren't laundering money. And that (UI) tied to the hip. And we had Deanna telling us shit, and that I'm not what they're making me out to be. Because what I will do in the event that happens, I will, ah, you know, but, then, I mean, fuck, you don't know how I wish I hadn't given up my passport.

White: Yeah.

Petters: I just been reading about people who, like Rich, who went away and made a deal.

White: Yeah.

Petters: It's much easier (UI) that's a whole other situation.

White: Yeah. I get it.

Petters: You know what I mean?

White: Yeah. Yeah.

Petters: Hang on one second. Hang on one second.

White: Okay. All right.

Petters: Hey, Bob?

White: Yeah.

Petters: Um. One of the things that I'll tell you...

White: Um hum?

Petters: Ah, that, ah ah um. I got a funny feeling that if I go to jail and do a certain deal...

White: Yeah.

Petters: You know, they're not gonna give either one of us a deal.

White: I don't know.

Petters: Well, so...

White: I'm, I'm scared as could be, Tom. So I don't know.

Petters: Well, so, what I'm saying is if you were here or not I'm still gonna get hit as hard.

White: Um hum.

Petters: Um. You know, it's not going to change my deal. Ha. It's only gonna make it worse. But it's only gonna make, I just don't, I just can't, I can't look at you I wish I could talk about what Wehmhoff the same way I'm talking to you. But I can't imagine Wehmhoff serving time right now. I just, I just really want to help him.

White: Yeah.

Petters: I can't imagine me. But I, I, I, I got 15, 16 years on you that I could, you know...

White: Yeah. Yeah, I don't, I don't think I'd make it through it.

Petters: What?

White: I don't think I'd live through it.

Petters: No, I mean, that's why it's gotta be, ah, pretty easy decision for Robyn.

White: Yeah.

Petters: Say, when I talked with Tracy about it tonight.

White: Yeah.

Petters: She goes, "As long as we have our kids, we can do anything. We can start over and do anything." She can have a new life and she can just arrange to come over...somewhere else.

White: Um hum.

Petters: ...and have someone else be a diplomat. And we have immunity.

White: Yeah. Yeah. That, I don't know...

Petters: Yeah

White: That you know, I don't know what the possibilities are.

I have no frickin' idea how it works.

Petters: Well, I do. I'm studying (UI). Google Marc Rich.

White: Google who?

Petters: Marc. Rich.

White: Marc Rich, okay.

Petters: Rich.

White: Rich, like R-I-C-H?

Petters: And no one ever said that he had, um, he was, he was indicted for securities fraud...

White: Um hum.

Petters: Okay.

White: Yeah.

Petters: And he was going to do 20 years, 25 years, something like that. And the Bush Administration was in office. He gave a whole bunch of money, like...

White: Hm.

Petters: ...and it's, I think Governor or, I don't what Governor or when he was running, and it didn't do any good the first term. The second term, I can't remember...

White: Oh, when...

Petters: (UI)

White: ...when, when everybody was, when he did the whole bunch of things when, when he was leaving office.

Petters: When he what?

White: When he gave a whole bunch of immunities or whatever, whatever the word is.

Petters: A pardon. I think.

White: When he was leaving office, the last second.

Petters: Yeah, it was Marc Rich's wife that was staying with him at the White House that whole time.

White: Oh. yeah.

Petters: Ah, if Robyn wants to stay with the President some nights (UI).

White: Yeah. Yeah.

Petters: What I'm trying to say is she went in there and begged him to do it.

White: Um hum.

Petters: And he pardoned him a number, quite a few years later. And then he said, "I don't want (UI). I just want. So you know, we've helped a lot of people."

White: Yeah.

Petters: You don't know, but Oberstar's called me. Klobachar's called me. Ramstad's called me. Norm hasn't called me. Ah, Al Franken called me. He hasn't won, I don't think he will, I wish he would.

White: Yeah, I like Al.

Petters: You don't?

White: I like Al. Yeah, I'm going to vote for him.

Petters: Yeah. Is the race a dead heat?

White: Yeah, I think so.

Petters: Kay.

White: I think so. But, the, oh, the move towards Obama might help him.

Petters: What?

White: The mov-, the, there's a switch going towards Obama. Uh...

Petters: There is?

White: Yeah. The other, the states where they've done polling earlier show a widening gap towards Obama. So, maybe there's hope.

Petters: What did, what did. My Mom said Palin did something and really screwed up yesterday.

White: I don't know. I don't know what happened.

Petters: Or there was some shift and they thought something, there was, she was on MPR and something happened and they thought Palin lost a lot of ground or something.  
(UI)

White: I don't know, I, I'm she's been making...

Petters: The vice presidential debate's tomorrow night, isn't it?

White: Yep. Tomorrow night.

Petters: Or Thursday night.

White: Thursday night, so we watch. Yep.

Petters: Is today Wednesday or Tuesday or what?

White: I'm not sure, Tom, it's Wednesday or Tuesday. I'm sitting, I'm sitting, the kids are crying.

Petters: What?

White: I, I, I'm doing sitting and the kids are making some fusses and stuff.

Petters: I, I can't hear you.

White: I'm, um, I, I'm, I, I'm, ah, baby sitting and the kids are making a fuss.

Petters: Where's Robyn?

White: She ran to some meeting for the Blake School.

Petters: So, when you told her the idea, what did she say, no way or what?

White: Oh, she's not very excited about it. She's saying I

can't take the kids on the run, you know. I mean, she can't do that. That's what her reaction is. She's saying, "I'll forgive you if you do it, but, you know, if you want to go be alone, but I can't, I can't ah I can't do that to my kids." And, yeah. I don't, for me leaving without her, I don't know, it's a real, that's a very unpleasant choice for me.

Petters: Yeah.

White: Ya know.

Petters: So, so, so, so she knows that you won't be around for a long time. Did she say she was still going to be with you?

White: I don't know what she would do. I mean, the conversation was kind of short.

Petters: I mean, what, how old are the kids?

White: Six and eight.

Petters: Like, (UI) it's not like you're ripping them out of high school.

White: No, no, they're not up at the high school, that's for sure. But...

Petters: But, what, I mean, what you need to do is you need to look on the computer and find, look up that word I told you.

White: Yep.

Petters: Right now, and say and say where they have treaties and no treaties.

White: Yeah.

Petters: And, just start looking. They're all over, everywhere.

White: Okay.

Petters: And then, you need to find a place where you'd get, uh,

White: Yeah.

Petters: Somebody that'll not be, ya know, somebody like Rosco that would send you some dough and or, or, or whatever your son and somebody else would send him.

White: Yeah, okay.

Petters: And that's how you do it.

White: Yeah. I...

Petters: There you go. I, I'm not a pro on it. I never did it, but I've been reading about it.

White: Yeah.

Petters: Millions have been done and then uh happened to me in Colorado (UI) you know, (UI) in Wisconsin for three, four weeks until I got a deal with the people in Colorado and then I came back and turned myself in.

White: Yeah.

Petters: And, uh, cuz I didn't have it (UI) and that was for a \$75,000 deal.

White: Yeah. Okay. Well, I'm going to, I'll look on the internet and see what I can learn and um, uh...

Petters: You know what, though? I mean, relax, Bob, because ah the way I look at it is, um...

White: Well, they're going to hit me this weekend. That's...

Petters: Nuhuh. I didn't say this weekend. I said get out of it.

White: Oh, okay, I misunderstood you. I thought you meant they were going to arrest me this weekend.

Petters: No, I said they're going to arrest, I'm sorry. I meant the grand jury subpoenaed me Monday and then right after that being, true or untrue, I don't know. He's going to talk to him tomorrow.

White: Okay, alright.

Petters: Uh. He said, if you tell your attorney, he said we'll be picked up immediately. He called me (UI). He goes, "I, I don't share that information and"...

White: Yeah.

Petters: ...he goes, "I, I'm testing our trust right now."

White: Yep.

Petters: So I said, well, and he goes, if you need to talk to people at your office like you are. I said look, I've been asking them for fucking, you know, little (UI). And, I, I'm also worried about Polaroid crashing.

White: What happened?

Petters: I'm worried about Polaroid crashing. They don't want me talking to anybody at the fucking office.

White: Yeah.

Petters: You know?

White: Yeah, I agree.

Petters: What the fuck?

White: Alright...

Petters: What am I supposed to do?

White: Yeah.

Petters: Sit back?

White: Well.

Petters: ... the world (UI) and die.

White: Yeah.

Petters: Anyway...

White: Yeah. (UI)

Petters: ...don't have a heart attack buddy.

White: No, I'll try not to. Okay. Alright.

Petters: Listen to. Listen to me.

White: Yeah.

Petters: Here's another option.

White: Yeah.

Petters: The other option is you talk to (UI), and you're gone a little bit, she can come down and visit, just...

White: Yeah.

Petters: ...go somewhere remote and pick her up, and...

White: Yeah, that's a possibility.

Petters: (UI) you can always set it up to take a vacation.

White: Yeah.

Petters: (UI) you're going down just to take a vacation and be gone for a couple of weeks and see what happens.

White: Yeah, that's a good idea.

Petters: That, you know, that's, that's, that's really a better way to approach it. Where is your boat?

White: Uh, Chesapeake Bay.

Petters: So.

White: It's hard to just take off with a boat. You gotta do some preparations and it costs. You know, I mean, shit, there, you gotta put tons of fuel in em and everything else. You got, I mean, you gotta provision it and so on. You can't just ah, it's not like driving to the cabin.

Petters: Yeah you have to put food and everything on it.

White: Yeah, yeah. I mean, you got. It takes um, um, ah, 2,000 gallons of fuel, I mean, you got, I mean, I mean, it's just like, it's a, it's a project to get the thing ready to go. That's all, so...

Petters: So couldn't you ask someone else to get it ready to go if you wanted to go take it (UI).

White: Maybe I could, yeah. But I mean, I don't know anybody who could take, I mean, boats are, to get somebody else...

Petters: What?

White: To get somebody else to take the boat off across the country is not a simple task.

Petters: Can't you get somebody else to take the boat out? Who knows just you and Chris?

White: Yeah. Yeah.

Petters: Robyn doesn't know?

White: No, she doesn't sail. I mean, she's been on it with me, but that's a lot different than taking the boat across the ocean. I mean...

Petters: Alright, I don't know, I don't know anything about sailing.

White: Yep. Alrighty, find out what you can. Alright? You have a good...

Petters: What?

White: Find out if it's going to be...

Petters: I will, I will.

White: ...tomorrow. Talk to you. Okay. Ciao

Petters: Okay, love ya. Bye.

White: Bye.

Tim

Bisswurm: Time off is 9:15.