

1 You get in a tip, for instance, a
2 tip that a man in the case of the boot man who
3 I have on the screen, that he may have been
4 wearing a cap with SBTC on it. It is just a
5 tip at first, but it is a lead, and it is a
6 lead that should be followed to determine if
7 there is any basis for this lead at all.

8 And during the course of the
9 investigation, myself and also the Ramsey
10 investigators, and also the police, have had
11 many, many leads come in on this case. And
12 many of these leads are still unexplored at this
13 time.

14 Q. Do you believe that the Boulder
15 Police Department thoroughly investigated leads
16 that related to the potential involvement with
17 third parties other than the Ramseys?

18 A. I believe they followed some of the
19 leads, but not completely. I think there are
20 many more leads that could be followed.

21 Q. You have mentioned an individual
22 referred to as "boot man." Is that individual
23 still alive?

24 A. No. Boot man is dead.

25 Q. What is his name?

Lou Smits
Depos.
Bootman =
Helgath =
Dead



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1 A. His name is Michael Hilgoth.

2 Q. Would you please tell us about Mr.
3 Hilgoth and why he is an example of someone you
4 believe that needs further investigation?

5 A. The original -- the original
6 information that was formed as a lead came early
7 in the investigation, and it was from a tipster
8 that said that a person named Michael Hilgoth,
9 who had committed suicide, had information with
10 SBTC on the cap. And this was just a lead
11 that was in the book. And it was turned over
12 to the Boulder Police Department. It came in
13 from the Ramsey -- I am sorry. It came in on
14 a tip line, and this was a bonafide lead. But
15 many hundreds and perhaps even thousands of leads
16 have come in.

17 This person committed suicide two
18 months after the murder on the 14th of February.
19 This was the day after Alex Hunter came out
20 with an appearance on television where he said,
21 "We know who the killer is" -- or where he
22 actually said that "The hunt for the killer is
23 narrowing, and that soon only the killer's name
24 will be on our list."

25 Q. A statement, by the way, Detective

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1 Smit, that was suggested be made by Mr. Hunter
2 by members of the FBI in an effort to
3 potentially evoke a reaction from the killer;
4 right?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Continue on, please.

7 A. As far as I know, very little work
8 was done on that lead until I left the
9 investigation, and then I followed it up further
10 with the Ramsey investigator. And we obtained
11 photographs of the suicide scene of Mr. Hilgoth.
12 And a stun gun was located in a very close
13 proximity of the body.

14 This is the coroner's report of the
15 suicide and the date. And the date was
16 February 14th, 1997. This is just a portion of
17 the photograph that shows an apparent suicide.
18 I have also looked at this report, and I also
19 question whether it was a suicide.

20 In a close proximity to the -- of
21 the hand of this person is a stun gun. And
22 you can see it in this photograph.

23 And this is a blowup of that stun
24 gun.

25 This is another view into that room.

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1 And what we see in this photograph is a pair of
2 boots near the door. These are Hi-Tec boots.
3 We did obtain these boots.

4 In the basement of the Ramsey
5 residence, as I pointed out before, was a logo
6 from the imprint of a Hi-Tec shoe. The soles
7 and heels of the Hi-Tec boots found at the
8 Hilgoth crime scene were matched against that.
9 This is the match. The logo is the same. In
10 fact, not only is the logo the same, but also
11 even there is a circular portion of the logo
12 above the Hi-Tec symbol which also shows in the
13 mold in the basement. There is also a logo, a
14 circular logo on the Hi-Tec --

15 Q. A trademark?

16 A. A trademark.

17 -- which also appears on the logo in
18 the footprint in the basement. This matches
19 very, very close. This is a very strong lead.
20 This is a lead that should be followed all the
21 way.

22 Also, in Hilgoth's apartment -- this
23 apartment was not searched by the police, and,
24 eventually, this house was torn down before
25 anything could be done as far as looking at it.

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