

2002 01 29 Tuesday Mel Waters Mel's Second Hole

AB: "Mel Waters comin' up.

Mel's Hole, and now a new one."

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AB: "Mel Waters has appeared on Coast to Coast AM several times over the years. Now, many may remember his accounts of the mysterious hole on his property in central Washington which appeared to have no bottom.

The hole was – by Mel's account – measured to a depth of eighty thousand feet (80,000 ft.) utilizing fishing line and a weight!

Since Mel's first appearance on the show many strange, fascinating and rather unfortunate things have happened to Mel and the people somehow related to the hole.

In a moment it's back to Mel's Hole and more ... !"

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AB: "Here he is from, ah, you know, I don't know where he is right now – Mel Waters.

Mel, welcome to the program."

MW: "I'm here in the Pacific Northwest."

AB: "Somewhere in the Pacific Northwest."

MW: "Yeah."

AB: "That'll do.

Ah, first of all, it's great to hear from you, and I guess we heard from you, Mel, because what were you – out somewhere when we did a rebroadcast of, ah, the original Mel's Hole thing?"

MW: "Yeah, yeah, I guess this was last week sometime and, um, I was coming back from, ah, Nevada. And, ah, we turned ... ah, I get a lot of rides from truckers."

AB: "Uh-huh."

MW: "You ... you ... you might find this int'resting: I look a heluva lot like Willie Nelson."

AB: "Do you?"

MW: "Yeah. I mean, you know, people will come up to me – and particularly truckers – and say: 'Do you know you look like Willie Nelson?'"

AB: "No kidding?"

MW: "And then I tell 'em: 'No, no no! I'm not Willie Nelson – *I am Mel Waters.*'"

AB: "And they know who you are?"

MW: "*Well, they know exactly who I am!* (AB chuckles).

And the next thing you know, I've got three (3) or four (4) truckers standing around me, and we're talkin', 'n' ..."

AB: "Well, how do you get them to believe you?"

I, ah, I once was out – I've got an RV [Recreational Vehicle], Mel."

MW: "Yah?"

AB: "And we talk to truckers on CB [Citizens Band radio] – you know it's real handy when you're on the road. And, ah, I encountered some truckers – my wife and I did – and we were runnin' with them. You know, you do that. You kinda run in a pack. And, ah, they wouldn't believe it was me.

I ... I ... they said: 'You're name is Art? You're from Pahrump? Are you Art Bell?'"

I said: 'Yes, I'm Art Bell.'

They said: 'No, you're not!'"

MW: "I ... I ... I haven't had any problem with it. I ... you know, it's interesting.

I don't ... I guess a lot of the ... the truckers that are listening to you aren't seeing you on your website. (AB laughs).

I ... I guess they have no mental picture of you at all, so I think, well, that's probably ..."

AB: "No, I mean, even on the radio ... on CB. We were just talkin' – on CB."

MW: "Oh! So they ... they ... they heard your voice!"

AB: “Yep! Yeah, that’s right ...”

MW: “Oh, good grief!”

AB: “... they ... they would not believe it was me.

Ah ... they finally did, but it took about an hour.”

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AB: “Any ... anyway, Mel, um ...”

MW: “Yeah, so we’re ... you know, we’re headin’ back and, ah, we’re ... we’re near Portland and he turns on the radio, **and I’m on the air!** ... you know?

At first ...”

AB: (laughs).

MW: “... I didn’t believe I was ... you know? I ... I ... I ... now this is a dream – we’ve been on the road too long.

And no, no ... no it was ... you know, we’re wrappin’ up the ... the show there and I decided: ‘Well, I’m headin’ back here. I had to see, ah, see a doctor for a check-up here and so we, ah, you know, I came up here and I decided: ‘What the heck, I’ll, ah, bring the audience up to date here.’ I kinda left people dangling there at the end of it, ah ...”

AB: “Yeah, I got a lot of: ‘Hey, I’m dangling here. What’s the story on Mel’s Hole?’

Now, um, to bring everybody just very quickly – ‘the 101’ – you found ... you had a piece of property in Washington ...”

MW: “Yeah, out ... out ... out near Ellensburg, Washington – in the center of Washington state, ah ... ah, near the Manastash Ridge, which is, ah, sort of like a mountain range that was along, ah ... ah, Ellensburg is in the Kittitas Valley.

And so you’ve got a valley. You’ve got mountain ranges and ridges and so forth. And that’s basically where the property’s located, ah, out there.

Umm ...”

AB: “Tell ’em what happened. Go ahead, tell ’em what happened.”

MW: "Wha- ... wha- ... ah, what happened with the property?"

AB: "Well, yeah, I mean you had ..."

MW: "Okay, we'll ... we'll ... we'll give ya the 'nickel tour.'"

AB: "Thank you. Thank you. Good."

MW: "Okay. Ah, ah, basically this was back in '97 [1997], so this was five (5) years ago almost ..."

AB: "Yes."

MW: "... that I sent a fax, ah, to the show here and, ah, basically I described what I had done about this hole and how I, ah, lowered some fishing line into it, because, ah, quite frankly for years and years and years and years, people were dumping stuff into the hole.

I'm talkin' refrigerators. I'm talkin' dead animals. Ah ... ah, my favorites thing to toss in there was, ah, TV picture tubes, but no matter what we tossed in there ..."

AB: "Hmpf."

MW: "... we never heard anything hit bottom!"

AB: "Let me stop you for just one second.

Mel, ah, do you have a Bible?"

MW: "Ah ... yes!"

AB: "Go get 'cher Bible – I'll wait."

MW: "I will have ... I have the Bible right here, and I will ..."

AB: "You have it that handy?"

MW: "Yes!"

AB: "Place your hand on it, Mel."

MW: "It is right on the Bible."

AB: “Do you swear to me – with your hand on that Bible, Mel – that what you are telling me, and about to tell me, is the Whole Truth, ah, the Absolute Truth ...”

MW: “Let us say ‘the Absolute Truth.’”

AB: (laughs) “... the Absolute Truth ... cute!

Ah, I’m sorry about ‘the Whole Truth’ thing.

Ah, the Absolute Truth, um, with your hand on the Bible – so help you, God?”

MW: “Yes. I do.”

AB: “All right. All right. Then let us proceed.”

MW: “I’m sorry?”

AB: “So ... so you ... you threw TV picture tubes down, but I mean, I remember cows going down ‘n’ ...”

MW: “Yes, som- ... some people threw, ah, dead cattle out there.

I had a, ah, little Mexican fellow that used to throw, ah ... ah, literally truckloads ‘a tires down there.”

AB: “And there was enough ... the hole was big enough so that you could throw something down and you wouldn’t hear it cascading off the side as it went down.”

MW: “It was ... it was nine feet (9 ft.) across and, ah, it had a retaining wall around the top of it. And, ah, the stone went down a bit, but, ah, as far as I could tell, as far as I could see ...”

AB: “No splash, no crash, no bang ... nothing.”

MW: “Nothing ... nothing.

And ... and ... and it seemed, ah, it seemed to be. And it didn’t look like it tapered. It looked, you know, from everything that I could see.”

AB: “It looked as wide as far as you could see?”

MW: “It was a hole!”

AB: "Yeah."

MW: "Oh, I ... oh, I don't know. Maybe at further than I could see, it tapered. I have no idea.

But I figured if something tapered, it eventually tapers down to nothing and things start collecting."

AB: "Well, nine feet in diameter – that's a big hole."

MW: "That's a good-sized hole."

AB: "Yeah."

MW: "That ... what three yards (3 yds.) across? That's, ah, more than the average human being is standing up, so ..."

AB: "So you had something across the hole, right?"

MW: "Yeah, we put a, ah ... ah, some corrugated metal 'n' stuff on top of it kind of to secure it, you know ..."

AB: "By the way, do you fence the hole in?"

Was there any protection? Was there a sign up that said ..."

MW: "'Beware of the Hole'? No."

AB: "Yeah, beware of the hole?"

MW: "No, ah, that's, ah, I think that would fall into the category of 'attractive nuisance.'"

AB: "Uh-huh."

MW: "You start warning people and, ah, that gets people enticed, so."

AB: "But how about protecting people? I mean ..."

MW: "Oh, well again ..."

AB: "... my God, you could just ..."

MW: "... that would be what the, ah, corrugated metal on top was for. It was secured on them pretty good ..."

AB: "Uh-huh, okay. I see."

MW: "... so you could ... you ... you couldn't open this up, ah, without basically busting the mechanism open, ah ..."

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AB: "So, you began lowering fishing line into the hole, ah, from this center piece, right?"

MW: "Yeah, ah, yeah, at first I, ah ... I, ah, I used to do a lot of shark fishing, so I had a couple of big fishing poles with a lotta line on 'em, and, ah ... ahh, what was our- ... what I was curious about is to find out, ah, if there was any water down there.

You know, what the heck, so I lowered, ah ..."

AB: "Sure."

MW: "... a big reel full of, ah, line into it, and, ah, had a roll of Lifesavers on the bottom. The ... the roll of Lifesavers was simply because if it hit water, the Lifesavers would dissolve."

AB: "Absolutely."

MW: "It would melt! You know, an old fisherman's trick.

So that's what, ah, what I did. You know, I lowered down. I emptied, ah, a reel. I assume there's about five hundred yards (500 yds.) 'a line on this particular reel there."

AB: "Right."

MW: "I did that with another reel so I connected them up there and got down to about three thousand feet (3000 ft.) and ... and same ... same result.

And then finally, I get kind of nuts about the whole thing there, so I went and bought, ah, basically monofilament in, ah, wholesale quantities at the fisher-, ah, at the sporting goods stores.

You see, they have monster reels of, ah ..."

AB: "Sure! Giant!"

MW: "So you know, basically I started lowering the stuff down there on a, ah ... ah, one pound (1 lb.) lead weight into the hole ..."

AB: "By the way, did you have any help or were you doing this all by yourself?"

MW: "Well, eh, about ... no, the ... the project was conducted by myself. I didn't, ah, I didn't have, you know (MW grins), assistance or anything like that."

AB: "Yeah, it was your own property anyway, right?"

MW: "It was ... it was ... it was my property, yeah. My ... my wife was becoming estranged from me so she wasn't hangin' around or anything. I was just sort of ..."

AB: "Umm-hmm."

MW: "... out there at the property doin' ... doin', you know, just to satisfy my own curiosity. And basically at the point where I had reached eighty thousand feet (80,000 ft.) of line into, ah ... ah, the hole.

And, ah ..."

AB: "Right."

MW: "... I had a little, ah, I don't know, for lack of a better word, I had a little 'widget' that kept track of, ah, it's ... it's just like a little ... it's not, ah ... it's not, ah ... it's like a mechanical digital counter. But it is ... it is ... was made for measuring how much line goes down.

So I know exactly how much line I put into the hole at that point."

AB: "Which was?"

MW: "Eighty thousand feet."

AB: "Eighty—thousand—feet."

MW: "Eight thousand times ten (8,000 X 10) (MW grins) or eight-zero-zero-zero-zero-zero. 80,000 feet.

Something like fifteen (15) miles of line went into that hole. (!)"

AB: "Ah, there are people who have questioned ... I mean you had a little weight of course on the end."

MW: "Yeah ... exactly."

AB: "And then you had the weight of the line itself."

Now at some point people say the line would be so heavy ...”

MW: “Right.”

AB: “... that you would have no idea whether you actually hit bottom or not.”

MW: “Well, ahh, yeah, I would ... I would think so ... you know.

And ... and ... and again the only thing I do recall is I got back to you and, ah, what I did is I actually measured the weight of the line in the hole.”

AB: “Okay.”

MW: “They had a little spring fisherman’s scale ...”

AB: “Oh, okay, I see.”

MW: “... on the thing.

And I believe I had somewhere between – with the weight on the bottom – between seventeen and eighteen pounds (17-18 lbs.) of weight attached to ...”

AB: “Okay.”

MW: “... the top.”

AB: “All right.”

MW: “So I had ...”

AB: “That would have been within the limits. All right.”

MW: “I don’t know. I mean ... I mean it ... it, you know, to me, ah, you know, I ... I think about it now and I think about what I’ve been through and I think about all these things here – and ... and I don’t know what to make of any of this stuff.

I don’t ... I don’t know why. I mean, I know ... that ... didn’t ... didn’t ’chu have somebody talk about they’re drilling like these huge deep holes in Russia or something like that?”

AB: “Oh! Absolutely!”

MW: “Okay. You got ... got ’cha yer deep holes there.

I don't know how ... what ... what the depth of the hole is.

This stuff ... the hole there has been there for as long as anybody can remember. If you talk to some people there, they say: 'Oh, yeah, this was there, you know from when ...'"

AB: "And there are people who say there are volcanic, ah, vents or whatever."

MW: "Could be."

AB: "It could be!

Ah, but still at eighty thousand feet no bottom to the hole."

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AB: "Now this hole exhibited some, ah, lack of a better term – 'paranormal' aspects."

MW: "Well ... well, yeah and ... and ... and I believe what ... what I had noted was that, ah ... ah, you know, my dogs wouldn't have anything to do with it. *You know, they wouldn't go anywhere near it.*"

AB: "Right."

MW: "Ah, the, ah, you know, birds don't ... didn't mess with the ... the retaining wall, you know? It's the kind of place birds like to go – they didn't go anywhere near it.

Ah ... ah, there were people that, ah, told me various things that, you know, when I talked to 'em about it, ah, one ... one (1) man claimed he'd thrown a dog that died into it and, ah, at some point after that he was out there hunting around there in the hills and he ... he saw, ah, the same ... exact dog just goin' through the woods like it was hunting with somebody."

AB: "So the hole then brought the dog back to life ..."

MW: "Well ..."

AB: "... is the idea?"

MW: " ... now ... now here's the thing here – I said: 'Well, did you ... did you call the dog back to you?'"

AB: "Umm-hmm."

MW: "And ... and, you know, did it ... did it come back to you?"

He said: 'It looked like it was hunting with somebody else.'

That's what he said."

AB: "Well at least it was happy."

MW: "It was ... it was there on the same places where he had gone to."

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AB: "Now you believe so strongly in, ah, in the powers of this hole, I know. That, ah, as one (1) condition ... well, I'm getting ahead of myself."

MW: "Oh we ..."

AB: "The ... the government came and took your hole. That's what I'm ..."

MW: "... there was ... there was ... there was quite a, ah, a period of time there where, ah, ... ah, af- ... after the program, ah, *all hell had broken loose*."

And, ah, yeah ... I was going back to the ... to the, ah, the hole. I actually wasn't living When I had talked to you originally, I was not living on the property. We had just had a really major snowstorm like two feet (2 ft.) 'a snow in twenty-four (24) hours. And mosta my, ah ... ah, trailer buildings 'n' stuff were all caved in on the property. So it was a real, real mess."

AB: "Mess."

MW: "So anyway, I'd taken an apartment in town. And so, you know, it was the next day or whatever, I go back there and, ah, you know, I'm drivin' up to my property and even before I get anywhere near the property, I'm met by, ah, basically, ah, uniformed people who are tellin' me that, ah, there was a plane crash on my property ..."

AB: "That's right."

MW: "... that, ah, they have to investigate, clear the accident, and that, you know, I'm not to, ah, you know, they will let me know when I can come back."

AB: "Now this ... bear in mind, everybody, this was after our ... immediately after our ..."

MW: "Oh, yeah ..."

AB: "... broadcast."

MW: "... yeah! This ... this is almost ..."

AB: "Nobody knew about the hole until the broadcast. Immediately after the broadcast, next day he goes back and they're givin' him this 'plane crash' trash."

MW: "And ... and, ah, you know, I said, you know, I mean I'm no dummy. I'm lookin' around. I don't see any smoke. I don't smell any smoke. And I didn't see any evidence of what would be a plane crash. So I'm pretty much believin' they're handing me a bill of goods."

AB: "Right."

MW: "And, ah, you know, I said: 'Look, this is my property. I wanta get onto it.'"

AB: "Hmpf."

MW: "And, ah, basically there were some threats made against me that, ah, you know, on my property there. I'm basically a ... a man who deals in herbs 'n' ... 'n' Native American, ah, herbal medicine ..."

AB: "Oh gee, they're sayin' like: 'Back off, Buddy or we got ...'"

MW: "... we got 'chu!"

AB: "... we got 'chu by the shorts."

MW: "And what could I do?"

AB: "Yeah."

MW: "You know, I mean what I had there I suppose could be construed as a 'drug lab.'"

I mean I don't know. But, ah, that's where it was."

AB: "Well, was ... was it a real drug lab, or ... ?"

MW: "Well, I had ... I had ... I had the various, ah, plants that grow native in that area there. I had some plants that I brought up from Nevada growin' over there when none of these things are anything but plants that you would find growing in a high desert environment."

- AB: "And there are a lot of ... a lot of psychedelic hallucinogenic plants ..."
- MW: "I didn't ... no, (MW grins) I did not deal with anything like that."
- AB: "Well, but that's normal. I mean, that's all over the desert. It ... it may not be widely known ..."
- MW: "Oh, yeah."
- AB: "... but it's the truth. There's all kinds of hallucinogens that grow naturally in the desert."
- MW: "Well, the ... the ... the people that know – and I ... I've, ah, worked extensively with, ah ... ah, Native Americans – and ... and you know, they can walk through, ah, an area. And they can tell you everything ..."
- AB: "Okay, so it's not like you had a 'meth lab' up there or anything?"
- MW: "No, no, that's not what they were ... they were implying there was ..."
- AB: "It was herbal stuff.

All right."

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- AB: "Well, all right, so they scare you the hell away. Then ... then how did you come to make a deal with the government?"
- MW: "Ah ..."
- AB: "How did that happen?"
- MW: "I ... I ... you know, I have a hard time figuring out, ah, what ... what led around here.
- Basically, I wasn't gonna back off. I was talking ... basically talkin' to the press. You are the press, Art Bell.
- And, ah,, so what they did is offer to lease my property from me in perpetuity for a very healthy sum of money. And I'm talking like a quarter of a million dollars a month."
- AB: "Um, lease of the property?"
- MW: "Yeah! About three million bucks (\$3,000,000) a year!"

AB: "That's a lotta money!"

MW: "And, ah, you know, ah, I had agreed for them to, ah, let me relocate in Australia – a place that I, ah, love and actually wish I could go back to, but that's neither here nor there."

AB: "Well, you did in fact go to Australia, because I had a coupla' emails ..."

MW: "Yeah ..."

AB: "... when you ... when you were there!"

MW: "... oh yeah, I would ... I would contact you from time to time ..."

AB: "Yeah! ... yeah!"

MW: "... just to let 'chu know I was okay."

AB: "And you were in Australia. I know that's true.

Um, so you ... you had taken the money and I figured you were probably, ah, sipping martinis, ah, in some nice Aussie outback location with lots of nice, young Australian ..."

MW: "Yes! Very nubile."

AB: "Yes! *And just havin' a nice life!*"

MW: "Ah, combing my beard and all that stuff like ..."

AB: "So what the hell happened?"

MW: "Well, and ... and then I, ah, you know, I was doing well. I did a lotta good work over there.

Ah, one ... one of the things that I was allowed to do is to bring some of my, ah, plants with me and, ah ..."

AB: "They ... they sent you – did they send you the money?"

MW: "Oh yeah! It appeared regularly in my account. I ... I got the money 'Johnny on the spot.' it was great, you know?"

They ... they allowed me to bring my dogs with me, which I don't know if you know about transporting dogs across the seas, but ..."

AB: "Can't do it ..."

MW: "... you normally can't bring dogs ..."

AB: "... I know.

Well, without quarantine for a long period of time."

MW: "They were not in quarantine. They just said: 'Hey ...'"

AB: "So they got you right past that."

MW: "They got me right through."

AB: "So, I mean ..."

MW: "I got the 'red carpet' treatment."

AB: "You were the 'King of the Hole', no doubt about it."

MW: "That was ... that ... that was it. I was livin' good. I ... I was happy. And, ah, you know, bas- ... basically, ah, you know, doin' fine ... doin' my work out there. Did, ah ... ah ... a lotta work out there on wombat rescue and wom- ... wombat, ah ... ah ... ah, restoration there – it was great!

And ... and ..."

AB: "How many ... how many quarter million dollar payments did they actually come through with?"

MW: "Well, I was there from, ah ... I ... I ... I haven't tallied it up there, but I was basically there from March of '97 [1997] until right before the Millenium ... I mean, the year 2000."

AB: "All right. All right.

Mel ... Mel ... hold on ... hold on. We're at the bottom of the hour.

I'm Art Bell. Mel Waters is my guest. Much more ahead."

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AB: "My guest is Mel Waters of Mel's Hole fame and he'll be right back."

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AB: "Now the keepers of the network vault of time information have informed me that Mel Waters was originally on the program February 21st of 1997,

then again February 24th – three (3) days later. Then, he wasn't on until April of, ah, 2000 – that would have been when ... I guess when he came back to the U.S. So that's the timeline that we've got. That sounds about right, Mel.

So, you know ...”

MW: “Well, actually ...”

AB: “... they paid you, ah, Mel a lot of money. I mean, there were several payments of a quarter million dollars, right?”

MW: “Oh yeah! Month ... as nice – every month it was there.”

AB: “*Well, what the hell happened to all the money?*”

MW: “Well, I'll tell ya what happened and, ah ... ah, I had come back, ah, in December ...”

AB: “Okay.”

MW: “... of, ah, what was it? When was ...? I was on ...”

AB: “It would've been 2000. You were on ...”

MW: “Right.”

AB: “... ah, April of 2000, so ...”

MW: “2000 and what?”

AB: “Well, it says 2000 here – maybe the timekeepers screwed ...”

MW: “Okay, it was right before the Millenium.”

AB: “Right!”

MW: “Okay. So in 199- ...”

AB: “No, no, no! This was the Millenium. I mean – you know, zero zero.”

MW: “In 1999 in December, I had come back. And I actually contacted you to appear on the air.”

AB: “Uh-huh.”

MW: "And I was ... I was in the USA ..."

AB: "Right."

MW: "... and I thought we'd just kind of ..."

AB: "Exactly."

MW: "Actually ... actually it would have been a boring interview.

It would have just been: 'Oh, how life was good in Australia and how wonderful things were"

AB: "Yah!"

MW: "... blah, blah, blah. But everybody would know: 'Hey, Mel's alive. He's doin' okay.'

Ah, basically at that point I was, ah, I was helping my nephew move, ah, from, ah, Tacoma to Olympia, and I went on the ... during the day before the interview."

AB: "Right."

MW: "And, ah, I, you know, we moved him down there in a U-Haul truck and I was drivin' the truck back, and I was gonna take the bus back to Olympia.

Ah, there was some strangeness that occurred on the bus. There was an altercation. Ah ... ah ... there were, ah ... ah, from what ... from what appeared to me there were, ah ... ah, policemen and transit people that came over there.

I was asked to give my statement. I said: 'No, no, no! I gotta get back to, ah, Olympia ... blah, blah, blah. I ... I ... you know, I can't miss the last bus.

They said: 'That's okay, you can talk to us. We'll drive you back in the van.'

And that was the last thing I remembered, because when I had woke up it was about twelve (12) days later (!), and I was in a real seedy part of San Francisco lying in an alley. Ah, these winos were basically tryin' ta get me to sing *On The Road Again*."

AB: "Beaten up as I recall."

MW: "I was ... I was bad. I had no teeth in the back of my mouth. No ... no molars – they were gone!"

AB: "A dentist by the way has since done some exemplary work for you."

MW: "You like that!"

He gave me some, ah, state of the art dentures – they are wonderful!"

AB: "So I mean you were abducted. You were beaten up. Ahh ... God knows what happened to you.

You found yourself in San Francisco in a disaster.

You have come back from that, obviously. But I still want to know, Mel, *what the hell happened to all the money?*"

MW: "Well, what ... what happened was that, ah, when ... when I had gone back and I was with my nephew I found out that I had been served with legal papers that said that basically the terms of my, ah, divorce with my former wife were, ah, basically they cancelled. I had lost, ah, my rights because of the various modifications that were made to the property after, ah, I was no longer using the property. (MW laughs).

Basically, septic systems were put in, there was ..."

AB: "Yah."

MW: "... various paving that was done and modifications that, ah ..."

AB: "Right."

MW: "... ah, basically I was not allowed to do."

AB: "Right."

MW: "And so I no longer had any claim on that property.

And that ..."

AB: "Ahhh ..."

MW: "... that's basically where I'm left, so ..."

AB: "Okay.

Um, still though, Mel, um, what about all the money you did receive? I mean, did you blow it on wine, women and song ... or what?"

MW: "I, ah ... well again, ah, when ya ... when ya ... when ya have a lot of money ..."

AB: "Yeah?"

MW: "... ah, I mean, you can only eat so much food and drink so much, ah, good Scotch and ..."

AB: "That's right."

MW: "... you know? I mean ..."

AB: "That's right."

MW: "And, ah, I devoted a good deal of the money I had – one, for the research I was doing. Ah, that was my ... my activity. And two, creating, ah, a facility for ... for, ah, dealing with, ah, our wombat friends in Australia."

AB: "Yeah, I know you were very concerned about that."

MW: "I did ..."

AB: "I remember your writing about wombats."

MW: "... and I am so proud of them, because if ... if you go now ..."

AB: "So your money went to the wombats really?"

MW: "Ah ..."

AB: "Basically?"

MW: "A majority of it, but right ... right after that then I tried to access my money. My money wasn't there (!)

I had, ah, sent emails to, ah, my, ah, colleagues in Australia. They said my whole facility was dismantled over there."

AB: "Oh My God!"

MW: "Everyone was given a severance check, because I had, ah, various students and various people working for me there, because you know, I'm

... I'm not a veterenarian or anything like that so Again, you can go through money, quite ... quite a bit of money there."

AB: "Oh yes!"

MW: "And I was glad to do it! I was glad to do it.

So there I am, you know, lying ... lying in ... basically lying in the gutter. No teeth. My, ah ... ah, you know, I ... I could still see the tape on my arms where they had taped down an IV [intravenous] or some sort of thing to it, so I was out of it – for the longest time.

And, ah, I contacted my nephew and he, ah, managed to get me a bus ticket back, ah, back north."

AB: "Brother, talk about going from being a 'Hole Baron' to absolute ..."

MW: "*I had nothing!*"

AB: "... nothing."

MW: "And ... and, and ... and, ah, I kinda ... that's kinda where I ... where I left everything when ... when, ah, you know, we ... we last ... last talked."

AB: "Now I ... I know that you've had contact with the Native American communities since you've been back – is that right?"

MW: "Oh, yeah ... yeah! In fact, that ... we ... we will get into that, because that leads to Part 2 of all of this.

But ..."

AB: "Yeah ... yeah I know."

MW: "... ta kinda wrap things up, I wanted to bring up some things, because you prob'ly noticed I was pretty, ah ... um, ah, ticked off that they stole my belt buckle."

AB: "Oh yeah, I remember that."

MW: "And they ... and ... and ... and, you know, a- ... amongst workin' with, ah, with herbs 'n' stuff, I'm kind of an itinerant jeweler as well, and I make things. And, ah ... ah, you know, I went back to Ellensburg and – 'cause I ... I sold a number of these similar belt buckles at the, ah, farmer's market and through little consignment jewelry stores in Ellensburg."

AB: "Right."

MW: "And so sure enough when I'm there I run into a guy who's wearing one of my belt buckles.

Now, and they were made with a silver fork. And I had ... and, ah ..."

AB: "Yeah, you'd know your own work, yeah."

MW: "Yeah, yeah, I mean, they were very unique, and this was kinda a little folk art thing, and I had, ah ..."

AB: "What is the point though?"

MW: "Well ... well the point is ... is that I ... why I kept on thinking: 'Why would they take my belt buckle?'"

AB: "Uh ..."

MW: "That ... that was the thing. I mean, this was very personal ... personal item there that would, you know ... ?"

I had another belt buckle on my belt – you see what I'm saying?

Why ... why ... why take a man's belt buckle?"

AB: "Makes no sense."

MW: "Yah! So ... so anyway I ran into this guy. I says: 'Hey, you bought one of my belt buckles!'

He says: 'Oh yeah, I love this thing!'

Anyway, so we take a look at it. And we're lookin' at it, and basically the motif on there is I had three (3) coins, you know, that had affixed to it in bezels."

AB: "Right."

MW: "There was a coin with Winston Churchill ..."

AB: "Right."

MW: "... on it. There was a coin with Joseph Stalin. And there was a coin – a dime – with Franklin Roosevelt."

AB: "Rather distinctive, yes."

MW: "Well, this ... this was folk art representing the ... the great conference that they had."

AB: "Got'cha!"

MW: "Yah. So we're ... we're lookin' at the coins there and we notice this thing there – *it is a 1943 [sic] Roosevelt dime.*"

AB: "Yeah?"

MW: **"Franklin Roosevelt was still alive in 1943."**

AB: "That's a good point. (AB pauses). Ah, are you sure ... ?"

MW: "Yes! Absolutely sure.

Absolutely sure. It was a 1943 dime."

AB: "Well that just makes no sense whatsoever."

MW: "I found a ... you know, on my property, you know, I'd cleared the land. You know, I'd found that, ah ... ah, [unintelligible] sort of a gun there. It was a P38 that I gave to the landlord as a deposit."

AB: "I recall, yes."

MW: Annnd [sic] we dig up all kinds of things, bits of metal, stuff like that.

Well, I found one time when I was diggin' around there 'n' just rootin' around ... I found one of these red Chinese lucky money envelopes. You know, the kind the Chinese give to each other on ..."

AB: "Yes."

MW: "... on, ah, on New Year's?"

AB: "Yes, yes, yes."

MW: "It had ten (10) of these dimes in it!

So I got ten (10) dimes, you know? I'm makin', you know, these belt buckles. I put one in each one there.

So we're examining this dime here with, ah, this fellow in Ellensburg, and it struck us at the same time. I mean, when I told 'chu 1943 Roosevelt dime, you thought: 'Okay, well you know, *it couldn't exist!*'

We had a dime that there's no way it could exist."

AB: "Right."

MW: "But it looked just like your normal dime, but from 1943. And the only other thing that was kinda peculiar about it was that it had a 'B' as in "Baby" mint mark on it.

Now we have 'S' for San Francisco, 'P' for Philadelphia, 'D' for Denver."

AB: "Correct."

MW: "But I have no record anywhere of a 'B' as in "Baby". ..."

AB: "Or Boston."

MW: "Boston, could be Boston – I don't know what it was. But I know of no 'B' mint mark on a dime.

So anyway, this guy is really curious. He decides to go see a 'big-time' coin dealer about this coin. And, ah, he goes in there and at ... at the, ah, coin dealer takes a look at it and he just is like ... [his] mouth is hangin' open.

This ... I'm ... I'm telling you ... I'm relating the story from my buddy."

AB: "Okay."

MW: "He looks at this thing and he's just *flabbergasted!* He's ..."

AB: "But what I don't understand is how all this relates ...?"

MW: "Well ..., it ties into why my belt ... belt buckle was taken."

AB: "Oh."

MW: "Cause it had the same coin on there."

AB: "Ohh! Now ... now are you fairly sure it was not *the* same belt buckle?"

MW: "The ... the ... I had made a series of ten (10) of them. I made one (1) ... ten 'a coin I had ten of the same coins ..."

AB: "I understand. So now was this *the* same belt buckle?"

MW: "No, it was one that he musta bought."

AB: "Okay."

MW: "Okay. He musta bought it ..."

AB: "Would you ... would you have any way of knowing if it was the same one?"

MW: "No, no. They ... they ... they were ... they were very ... they were all custom-made so each one is a little bit different.

I, you know, I ... I ..."

AB: "Got'cha! Got'cha ... okay."

MW: "I would know for a fact it was not the one I wore every day of my life."

AB: "All right."

MW: "But yeah, he took it to a coin dealer and the coin dealer was just amazed! He had no ... I mean, he couldn't even begin to grasp, ah, what ... what he was holding in front of him.

You know, he ... he ... he started tellin' him: 'Ah, I don't know, ah ... ah, this could be a prototype.'"

AB: "Well, noth- ... nothing explains it.

I mean, time travel? What would explain ... ?"

MW: "But ... but something created before Roosevelt woulda even died ... (!)

You know, when they created that dime they went to ... you know, they ... they sped up the process to get a Roosevelt dime after he died.

But there's nothing that explains it!

The guy offered him a huge amount 'a money ... the coin dealer: 'Here, I'm gonna write 'chu a very substantial check – you give me the dime.'

The guy says: "Lemme think about it, okay? I'll give you my number, you give me a call, and, you know, and I'll let 'cha know what I think.'

And to make a long story short, ah ... ah, a day or two later this guy is visited by Treasury officials there, who said they had to confiscate this coin from him for some legal reason or another. So they took the coin away from this guy."

AB: "Shoulda made the deal the day before."

MW: (grins) "He shoulda made the deal."

AB: (laughs).

* * *

MW: "Well ... well ..."

AB: "So now – God – sooo, somehow ... do you remember where you got those coins?"

MW: "Yeah, they were on my property!"

AB: "They were on the property?"

MW: "Yeah!"

AB: "Ah, just showed up laying on the property?"

MW: "No. I was actually dig- ... diggin' around there, you know? 'Cause I, you know, turned a lotta dirt over there to plant stuff and ... and ... and grow things there in ..."

AB: "You know, I ... I think about this, and nothing explains it. I mean ..."

MW: "Oh!"

AB: "... time travel would not explain it."

MW: "The only ... you know, the only thing that I, you know, I even began to think about, you know, is like over the years I didn't pay attention to it, but it was like ... you ... do you ever ... I hardly even noticed this, but in the middle of every intersection, you know, on the road ... ?"

AB: "Yes?"

MW: "There's always a little pile of nuts and bolts. If ... if you drive by, you'll notice 'em."

AB: "Yeah."

MW: "Little springs [sic?] – right in the middle of the intersection."

AB: "Yeah."

MW: "That falls off 'a cars."

AB: "Right."

MW: "And it seemed to me that property was like that. That all kinds of odds 'n' ends were over there. I mean, why would I find 'a ... an old ..."

AB: "Well, you know it's strange that you had mentioned all of this now.

I remember in your ... I remember your telling the story of your belt buckle being gone. But you didn't go into detail about your belt buckle before. Now ..."

MW: "*I know, be- ... because I didn't know the significance of it (!) I ... I just looked at it as, ah, a couple of old silver dimes. I didn't ...*"

AB: "So now suddenly you relate it back to the hole and the property?"

MW: "Exactly!"

AB: "I see."

MW: "Exactly. So I got ..."

AB: "I see."

MW: "... I got this, ah, you know, so that ... that ... that kind of explains why the buckle would be taken from me."

AB: "I suppose so."

MW: "Ahh ..."

AB: "Ah, it might be proof of ..."

MW: "Something other than it should be."

AB: "... who knows what? Yeah."

MW: "But that ... that ... that happened over there. Ah ... ah, I just want to bring it up to date."

* * *

MW: "I haven't been able to track down my former wife at all. I mean, she is just like ... vanished. I ... I don't know where she is. I don't know what name she's goin' under. I have no idea."

AB: "Hmpf."

MW: "Ahh ..."

AB: "All right."

* * *

AB: "Here's a question for you, Mel."

MW: "Yeah?"

AB: "The military obviously still is in possession of your property, yes?"

MW: "Well, let ... ah ... I'm ... you know ... you know, we ... we have been saying military ... we have been saying government."

AB: "Whatever ... whoever they are – they've got it, right?"

MW: "Yeah, there is someone in possession of the property. Yes!"

AB: "So if a person were to go to this property, ah, they would be halted or stopped before they could go and make any sort of investigation ..."

MW: "Ah ..."

AB: "... or whatever, right?"

MW: "... ah, I'm ... I'm gonna assume a number of things, ah, since I have not actually gone anywhere in, ah, five (5) miles of the property, ah, since then. That there's, ah, chain link fence around it and there's probably a sign that says: 'Agricultural Research: Do Not Enter,' or something like that. That's what I'm gonna assume."

AB: "Okay."

MW: "Okay? Ah, I'm also gonna assume that what it looked like when I owned it – or had it in my possession – doesn't look like it now."

I will also clue everybody into one (1) thing: Ah, Art, are you familiar with the 'TerraServer'?"

AB: "Ah, yes, that's ..."

MW: "Satellite imagery."

AB: "Yes, you can get satellite imagery of almost any spot on Earth."

MW: "Okay. You go to the TerraServer ..."

AB: "Yes?"

MW: "... and you go see the pictures where my property is in the Manastash, ..."

AB: "All right, well why don't you tell us how to do that."

MW: "Ah ..."

AB: "In other words, what specific photograph are we looking at? There should be a number or something?"

MW: "Well yeah, I ... I don't have that, ah, handy. But if ... if you found Ellensburg ..."

AB: "Yes?"

MW: "... and you zoomed out ..."

AB: "Right?"

MW: "... you will see where my property is. And it's very easy to see where it is ..."

AB: "And in what ... how would we identify it?"

MW: "... *because it has been expunged.*"

AB: "Whaddya mean?"

MW: "Those pictures do not appear on the satellite server. The ones taken in June of 2000."

AB: "Well instead [of] where your property ought to be, what do we see?"

MW: "Two (2) white squares."

AB: "Are you serious?"

MW: "Absolutely.

You go to 'TerraServer' – that's provided by Microsoft ... I'm not gonna give any URLs ..."

AB: "No, a lotta people know how to do it."

MW: "And ... and look up Ellensburg."

AB: "Right."

MW: "Zoom out ..."

AB: "Right."

MW: "So you get a ... and you will see over where the Manastash Ridge is ..."

AB: "Yes?"

MW: " ... **my property blanked out.**

Actually quite a bit. There's quite a few, ah ..."

AB: "Wow!"

MW: "So that is ... you know, you don't have to go by what I say, ..."

AB: "Oh no, no, listen, ah, one of my ..."

MW: "... you can look at it yourself."

AB: "Trust me when I tell you: One (1) of my listeners within the hour I can guarantee will find the exact photograph you're talking about ..."

MW: "Um-hmm. Yes!"

AB: "... if it exists ..."

MW: "Yes!"

AB: "... send me the URL, ah ..."

MW: "Yes!"

AB: "... and/or send Keith [Rowland] the URL, and we'll get it up and take a look. And you ... you're claiming ... ?"

MW: "It's not there."

AB: "But ... but that ..."

MW: "It's been expunged."

AB: "Well, expunge away they might, but that still would identify the exact location."

MW: "Well, it still covers a lotta ground there.

But where it is – and I assume that because this picture was taken in 2000 ... Okay, this I believe was in June or something of 2000 ..."

AB: "Right?"

MW: "... that there's been a lot of differences made in that area. And none of these ... see, you get a really good picture on a TerraServer."

AB: "Well, we have pretty good, ah ..."

MW: "You could see ... you could basically see a car on the road with a TerraServer."

AB: "Yeah. Yeah."

MW: "That's from the satellite."

AB: "Sure."

MW: "So I mean, you see a hole. You would see outbuildings. You would ... ah ..."

AB: "All right. All right. Let's direct people again.

Ah, let's say it again. Ah, so listeners who wanta go to TerraServer right now and help us out – tell 'em where to go again."

MW: "Ah, look up Ellensburg, Washington."

AB: "Then?"

MW: "And then ya just zoom out on the town until you see the black, ah, the white squares where my property woulda been."

AB: "And that would be exactly ..."

MW: "On the Manastash Ridge."

AB: "All right. There's a good piece of evidence we can go hunting for."

MW: "Just go there. But whoever controls the satellite and releasing it to, ah, the TerraServer people decided not to let 'em have these pictures."

AB: (softly) "Oh, isn't that something?"

MW: "Okay?"

AB: "So ..."

MW: "I mean, every listener can do this. I mean, you know, I've had, you know, ah, pe- ... people wanna, you know, wanna go out there and the only thing I tell 'em is: 'Don't go there.'"

I mean ... I mean, I don't know what's gonna happen to you. I don't know what people will do to you. Ah ..."

AB: "Gonna be nothing but grief of one sort or another."

MW: "Yeah, I mean these guys that go there to Area 51 ..."

AB: "You know, *you know that people have made treks to find Mel's Hole.*"

MW: "I ... I ... I ... right now I tell you: 'Look, you know, it's there – **don't go there. You don't have to go there.** ... *It's there.*'"

Ah ... but don't ... don't go there on my account. I ... I don't wanta be responsible for anybody.

Ah anyway, so that ... that was some- ... you know, that kinda like, you know, bringing ... bringing this into focus here, okay?"

AB: "It brings us, ah, certainly up to date, yes, ..."

MW: "And, ah, yeah ..."

AB: "... on the hole."

MW: "And, ah, you know I got ... gotta ... had a couple of other interesting things. These things are kinda loose ends, but they're no loose ends."

AB: "All right, you're gonna have to hold on, 'cause we're at the top of the hour. And then we're going to shortly get to the next hole."

Mel has a new, apparently endless hole. I'm Art Bell.

From the high desert, this is Coast to Coast AM."

* * *

AB: "Well folks, for a short time it would appear as though we brought the entire TerraServer down.

However, enough of you went and looked, and we believe we've found the frame in question. Keith has it posted right now. It covers an area it says five kilometers (5 km) southwest of Ellensburg, Washington. And I'll be damned if there isn't a big, white block missing from the center of this part of the TerraServer in the Manat-ash ... oh, I can never say that ... the Mannatash ... Manat- Anyway, the area that he was talking about.

We've got the link up there on my site right now. Go to artbell.com. Go to Programs ... Tonight's Guest Info, and you will see "Related Link: TerraServer Image of Ellensburg, Washington."

And there is a BIIIG missing area.

Now whether this is it or not, I don't know. We'll ask Mel in a moment. But it's on my website right now. Thank you!

Sorry about that, Terra Server."

* * *

AB: "All right. Ah, we've got one (1) TerraServer image, ah, which is, ah, says it's covering an area about five (5) miles, ah, southwest of Ellensburg, Washington.

Ah, does that sound right?"

MW: "That's ... that's about the neck of the woods we're talkin' about."

AB: "Well, in this neck of the woods there's one great big white blotted-out area where I presume – were I to be able to see it – and it does look like a very interesting area actually ..."

MW: "Oh yeah!"

AB: "Ah, there would be Mel's Hole. Somewhere there, huh?"

MW: "Yeah, that ... that ... I think that blotch ..."

AB: "Yes?"

MW: "... over there covers like a four (4) mile by eight (8) mile area."

AB: "My goodness."

MW: "But, ah ..."

AB: "What a blot!"

MW: "Isn't that something?"

AB: "Yes, isn't that ..."

MW: "My nephew told me about that and, ah, I said: 'Well, you son of a gun, you ...'"

AB: "Well, he's right. (MW laughs).

We've got it up on the website right now. People can go take a look for themselves.

So now we have, ah, pinned down better than ever before ..."

MW: "Hey!"

AB: "... the area where Mel's Hole actually is.

Thank you, Mel. That was, ah, that's damn good research."

MW: "Oh, by the way not too far from there on the, ah ... ah, highway that, ah, goes to Yakima – I think it's 84 or 85 ..."

AB: "Yes?"

MW: "... there's a rest stop. And I had a lotta reports from a lotta people that if they look towards the Manastash, they will see the black beam of 'light.' They have seen it.

I have had, ah, truckers ... I've had, ah, people in town say: 'That's where I was. I was lookin' towards it and I saw the flash of black 'light.'

Some ..."

AB: "Now maybe my audience is not aware, but a television crew, ah, went up to Ellensburg after we did the last program."

MW: "Umm-hmm."

AB: "And, ah, researched this. And I'll be doggoned, they didn't find the hole, but they did find, ah, near the area where you were talking about, a lot of military blueprints ..."

MW: "Yeah, oh yeah."

AB: "... and all kinds of, ah, information that would in- ... indicate that the military had been there or was there (!)"

MW: "Oh, they woulda probably seen a lot of yellow gear, treadmarks on the, um ..."

AB: "Yep."

MW: "... ah, ground."

AB: "Yep, yep, yep, yep."

MW: "You name it – it was there. But, ah, my ... my nephew, ah, coughed that little piece of information up for me, and, ah ... ah, I thought I'd pass that along to our listeners."

AB: "Ah, wait'll people get a load 'a this. Ah ..."

MW: "And ... and they can ask why is it that that pretty innocuous, I mean, from ... from, you know, all intents and purposes that there's ... there's not a military base right there."

AB: "Well, who knows?"

MW: "Well I mean, you know ... you know what I'm saying?"

AB: "Not an obvious one."

MW: "Very close to my property (AB laughs), there was a Yakima Firing Range and also expanded the, ah, the fly zone over it ..."

AB: "Uh-huh."

MW: "Correspondingly." (MW laughs).

AB: "Ah, isn't this all so interesting?"

MW: "It ... it ... it's just ... it's all ... it's all there."

AB: "All right."

* * *

AB: "Earlier in the program before you got on, Mel, ah, somebody fast-blasted me – and I consider this a really good question. ..."

MW: "Okay."

AB: "Um, it is: 'What are the odds of any single, one (1) person, ah, finding two (2) apparently bottomless or endless holes in one (1) lifetime?'

The odds against that have got to be a 'gadzillion' to one, but then I ..."

MW: "Well ... 'll ... 'll, yeah. In ... in fact, so you don't even ... you can't even consider odds, you know?"

AB: "That's ... that's right. So out of ... outlandish.

And oh, by the way, one other thing be- ... before we even get to that.

Ah, Richard Hoagland called, ah, at the top of the hour ..."

MW: "Oh!"

AB: "... and said: 'You know what, Art? Normal time travel could not explain what he [Mel] just talked about, but there is one (1) thing that could.'

MW: "And that is?"

AB: "*A parallel universe.*"

MW: "Hmm."

AB: "That is to say a universe in which similar things occurred, but, ah, with very different outcomes. And, ah, a lot of our best scientific minds now, Mel, are saying that, ah, indeed that, ah, that could very well be the case.

Ah, you know, there could be a universe in which the Nazis won the war!

And so there could be universe in which the dime that you came to be in possession of on that property ...”

MW: “So the ‘B’ on it mighta stood for ‘Berlin.’” [JS Query: But then why would the Nazis mint a coin with U.S. President’s Roosevelt’s likeness on it?].

AB: “There ya go.

Oh, by God, Berlin! ... ‘B’ I forgot about that.”

* * *

AB: “Um, all right, listen, ah, anyway ... I thought ...”

MW: “So there ... there we are and ... and, ah, the on- ... the only thing ... a few things I will add to this, ah, just to ... ta get us current, okay?”

AB: “Yes! Yes!”

MW: “Is that I had reports from, ah, some of my trucker buddies – once that he delivered a huge quantity of fiber optic cable ...”

AB: “Really!”

MW: “... to a warehouse in Ellensburg.

Now, okay, I don’t know, we’re talking a huge quantity of, ah, to a *warehouse*.”

AB: “Now let’s see, what might they wanta do with *fiber optics*?”

MW: “He told me that all the guys that were there that were in ... in the office there and ah, at the warehouse where he had to unload this stuff – they were all Israelis.”

AB: “What!”

MW: ”They were all Israelis.”

AB: “Now it’s really gonna tick me off if the Israelis have our hole.”

MW: “Well, this is what he told me ...”

AB: “I mean, that is *our* hole. It’s a U.S. hole.”

MW: "It's on our ... our land here."

AB: "That's right."

MW: "But he said that the people that took delivery of that ..."

AB: "... were Israelis."

MW: "Now, I talked with another trucker.

I love the truckers. The truckers are ..."

AB: "I can tell!"

MW: "I love 'em!"

AB: "They're good guys! – I know."

MW: "Oh, they're the best in the world!

I mean I, you know, ..."

AB: "Sure."

MW: "... so don't feel bad."

AB: "All right."

* * *

AB: "Now, now let ... in view of time here, ah ..."

MW: "Okay, let's ... let's ... let's move this forward ..."

AB: "Yeah, let's."

MW: "... ah ... ah ..."

AB: "You, ah, connected obviously because I guess of the plants that you grow there ..."

MW: "Yeah!"

AB: "... and all the rest of it with Native Americans, right?"

- MW: "Yeah, yeah, and ... and, ah, all I'm gonna tell you about them – I don't wanta give the name of the tribe, because I don't wanta buncha people running down to meet there – these are very poor people. As you know a lot of the Indians on the reservation are very poor people."
- AB: "Now this is in Nevada, right?"
- MW: "In Nevada."
- AB: "Okay, here in my state."
- MW: "Ah ... and, ah, there are tribes up there, ah, that ..."
- AB: "Well, because of the kind of work that you did, ah, the metallic work you did in belt buckles and the herbs you grow, I can easily understand the connection you would have with, ah, some Native Americans."
- MW: "Sure."
- AB: "So you ... you connected with these Native Americans ..."
- MW: "Well they connected with me.
They ... they actually contacted me through email."
- AB: "Oh? ... Oh!"
- MW: "And said: 'Look, would you be interested in coming down and discussing with us, you know, what 'chu are doing? The research that you're doing, and, you know, talk about ... you know, I ... I have no – believe me, Art – I have no commercial interest in this at all. But they do.'"
- AB: "Okay, that's fine."
- MW: "Okay?"
- AB: "Fine."
- MW: "Um, you know, there's not gonna be a patented bottle of 'Mel's Magic Elixir' here, okay?"
- AB: (laughs) "Yeah, okay. Fine."
- MW: "This is ... this is their thing. But we, you know, we swap notes. We talked around a lot. And there are some specific, ah ..."

AB: "They knew who you were because of my program ..."

MW: (laughs). "It's because of the show ..."

AB: "... and its coverage. Yeah, okay."

MW: "... and ... and so I ... I went down there and this was in early September of, ah, last year."

AB: "O-kay."

MW: "This ... this is actually before 9/11."

AB: "Right."

MW: "Okay, ah, shortly before then."

AB: "Early, early September."

MW: "I was, ah, pretty much incommunicado basically Art that whole time and strangely enough, so a lot of this stuff is news to me."

AB: "All right."

MW: "Ah, so you know we're over there and, um, you know, they ... they had done a lotta good work. they had catalogued a lotta plants. You know, we talk plants – and I'm sure all this plant stuff is boring. And I asked 'em if they knew ... ah, look, and I told them ... I said: 'The plants that seem to work the best were the plants that I had been growing on my property. And I described to 'em which ones they were and, ah ... ahh ..."

AB: "This was the hole near Washington, right?"

MW: "Yah! ... Yah!"

AB: "Okay, yeah."

MW: "And ... and, ah ..."

AB: "And so obviously you unraveled the story of the hole to them."

MW: "Well, well, they were ... they were aware ..."

AB: "They knew ..."

MW: "... they were aware of everything too."

AB: "All right. All right."

MW: "So, ah ... ah, I says: 'Can you in your gathering ... in your ... in your research and your studies – have you found this specific variety?'

And I said: 'Because this was the variety that grew by the property.

And that's where I ended up at the second hole is because they took me directly to ... not the hole, in particular ..."

AB: "Well, then it's obvious to me that they knew your reputation. ..."

MW: "Right."

AB: "They knew, ah, the whole story of the hole. And the real motivation for inviting you down there, aside from the herbs and the rest of it, was that they had a hole of their own."

MW: "Well, the ... the hole itself – and we're ... we're gonna get into the hole I guess 'deeply' for lack of a better term – but, ah ... ah ..."

AB: "Now you're guilty."

MW: "I'm sorry, Art.

Ah, but basically the hole is not on their property."

AB: "Okay."

MW: "I mean, you know, they basically ... their connection, you know, to get from the reservation or where the Indians are to the, ah, the hole is ... *they know where it is.*"

AB: "But you ... you're telling me this hole is in *my state?*"

MW: "In the state of Nevada."

AB: "In the state of ... Oh My God!"

MW: "Umm-hmm."

AB: "Okay ... !"

MW: "And, ah, if you looked at the picture of, ah ... ah, of where the Manastash is in Washington, it's ..."

AB: "Right."

MW: "... and try to find similar pictures in Nevada, you'll prob'ly find it there too."

AB: "We have very similar looking terrain to be sure."

MW: "It really is! That's why I love ... that's why I love ... I love the high desert. That's my ... my kinda land!

Um ..."

AB: "So ..."

MW: "... so anyway, I'm up there, and this land is used by members of the Basque (B-a-s-q-u-e) community."

AB: "All right."

MW: "The Basques are ... I, ah, I don't ... the Basques are interesting people and they basically came out to, ah ... ah, your state and a couple of other states, basically for, ah, raising sheep of all things."

AB: "Um-kay."

MW: "And so they are shepherds and so I am introduced to the ... what is now **'the second hole.'**"

AB: "All right.

Tell me about the ... I mean, they took you to it?"

MW: "They took me there. I was ... I was not ... I did not go all the way up to the hole, but there was [sic] conversations between, ah ... ah, the Native Americans and the Basque – and the blah, blah, blah – and basically, ah, agreed, you know, everything was as it should be. That I wasn't, you know, from CNN [Cable News Network] or the FBI [Federal Bureau of Investigation] (MW grins) or the CIA [Central Intelligence Agency] ..."

AB: "Right, right, right."

MW: "... whatever.

And so I went there and, ah ... ah ... ah, I got to see the hole.

Now ..."

AB: "All right, what's there?"

MW: "What it is is that if you, you know, walking up to it, ah ... and ... and first of all this is in a fairly pristine area, okay? So there's like, ah ... ah, no real signs of civilization around there. There's no, ah, no roads leading into it. There's no, ah ... ah ... ah ... ah, telephone wires. Nothing like that. I mean, we're ... we're talkin' pristine area, ya know?"

AB: "Right."

MW: "No signs of – except for their habitation – no signs of habitation."

AB: "Got'cha."

MW: "Okay. You're walking up to it and what you see sticking out of the ground is, ah, a nine ... well, the hole itself is the same dimension as the one in Ellensburg. ..."

AB: "Wow!"

MW: "... It's nine feet (9 ft.) wide."

AB: "Nine feet (9 ft.) in diameter?"

MW: "Nine feet in diameter.

This one had a metal collar around it."

AB: "A metal collar?"

MW: "Metal. Solid metal collar."

AB: "And it rose from how ..."

MW: "Two feet (2 ft.) high and about two feet (2 ft.) deep. Metal collar. And it had some notches in it ... that you could look like ... in my estimation you could mate something with it. You know, to lock it in place. It ... it could possibly have been like a locking collar on it."

AB: "You mean, something was, ah, in other words, it looked like something intended to lock to it from above?"

MW: "Exactly. Something would be lowered onto it ..."

AB: "WOW!"

MW: "... and locked into place."

AB: "Okay."

MW: "But ... the Basques tell me that this property or this hole here has been there for all of their experience. And they have been there since the eighteen hundred (1800s). Just the way it is ... but the same hole.

On not their land. They don't own this land, Art. This is probably government – U.S. Government – land."

AB: "Well the majority of land here in Nevada is BLM [Bureau of Land Management]."

MW: (grins). "Well, exactly."

AB: "Bureau of Land Management, ah, so ..."

MW: "It's not ... they don't own it – *they use the land*.

You know, they ... they graze sheep, blah, blah ... blah, blah. That sort of thing."

AB: "And how long have they known of this hole? Do you know?"

MW: "Well again, the one (1) fellow I know said he knew this from when he was a young man, and he was well into his late eighties (80s). And so he ... he ... he knew it from probably for the last seventy (70) years."

AB: "All right.

Because of what you did we know a lot, at least quite a bit about your hole up in, ah, near Ellensburg. But ..."

MW: "Yes!"

AB: "... this hole, whaddya we know about *this hole* other than its diameter?"

MW: "It's the diameter and apparently it is lined with that same metal as far as you can see."

AB: "You're kidding!"

MW: "It is solidly lined as far as you can see."

AB: *“So this is not a natural hole by any stretch?”*

MW: **“There ... there is nothing natural about this hole at all. Nothing at all.”**

AB: “Can you tell what kind of metal it is?”

MW: “No. But I’ll tell you one thing and it was kind of ... kind of an accident. But I dropped a box wrench on it.”

AB: “Right?”

MW: “You know, on the ledge?”

AB: “Yes?”

MW: “Made no noise.”

AB: “No noise?”

MW: “No noise whatsoever.

You know, you drop a box wrench on a metal floor?”

AB: “Clank.”

MW: “Clank ... nothing.

You know, we repeat the experiment. Clank ... nothing, nothing, nothing, nothing ... nothing! It makes no ...

You could pound on that thing with a sledgehammer, and it won’t make noise. Okay?”

AB: “Oh, Mel!”

MW: “This is what I’m telling you about right now is that this one here is so different. Ah, mostly because of this metal around it.”

AB: “When you ... when you touch the metal does it feel metallic? Is it cold as metal would ... ?”

MW: “Il, this ... this ... wow!

This ... this, is interesting because a lot ... lot of the, ah ... ah ... ah, the , um ... ah, the ... the fellows that are there – and there was ... there was

five (5) of us at, you know, towards the end of it. It started with two (2) and we ended up with five (5).

But, ah, what they say when they were up there, even in the wintertime they can ... they can like, ah, put their, ah ... ah, tent 'n' sleepin' bag right up against it. Keep 'em nice 'n' warm."

AB: "Warm! ?"

MW: "Yes, it keep[s] 'em nice 'n' warm, *but it is not hot*. You know, it's not like, you know, like a fire hot.

But the metal itself over there ..."

AB: "Ra- ... radiates, um ... ?"

MW: "I ... I ... I don't even know how to describe it there. ..."

AB: "In other words, if you touch it with your hand is it hot or does it just ..."

MW: "No!"

AB: "... produce radiant heat that ... ?"

MW: "It ... it ... there is heat around it, but it itself is not hot. How ... how does that sound?"

AB: "Aw, this is really weird, Mel."

MW: "So th- ... they are, you know, that's what, you know, that ... that's the thing there and so, ah, we have ... we have this, ah, you know, hold over there. And again, from my understanding they have known about that hole up there, ah, for, ah, it ... it has been since the 1800's. It has been known exactly the way it is.

Ahh ... I can tell you that, ah, some of the people that I talk with, ah ... ah, towards the end of, ah, everything on my way back, ah, said it was a spiritual sight for them up there. Ah, I asked the, ah, the, ah, Native ..."

AB: "Spiritual site? All right.

Hold it right there, Mel. Good cliffhanger point ... so to speak.

Sorry about that.

Mel Waters is my guest and we're beginning to hear about a second hole. Oh my goodness, right here in Nevada."

* * *

AB: "Mel has confirmed one thing for us. Ah, we found the image on the TerraServer that Mel refers to that has a big white square exactly where Mel's Hole would be in Washington.

Now, ah, Mel has connected with Native Americans here in my state in Nevada and the Basques, and they've led him to this second well [sic] covered with metal. It's got a ... a metal collar all the way around it – and get this, folks – going all the way down inside the well [sic] the metal continues for as ... as far as the eye can see, or as they have been able to thus far detect.

More in a moment."

* * *

AB: "Ah, coming up on Thursday by the way I've got Jan ... Jan Lamprecht here, who's, ah, an advocate of the 'hollow earth theory.' And that may in some way relate to what we're talking about tonight – I have no idea. We'll find out.

In the meantime, Mel, so you've ... you've got this metal around the hole ..."

MW: "Yeah."

AB: "... about you said a foot or two high?"

MW: "Two feet (2 ft.) high."

AB: "Two feet?"

MW: "Two feet high."

AB: "And two feet wide. Hole is nine feet (9 ft.) in diameter and as far as you can see, the metal continues down.

This is no geographic, ah, hole. This is no volcano vent. Or if it is, it's been modified by ... somebody."

MW: "Well, if it's been modified, it's been modified, um, I'm gonna say long before the technology that we know of today."

AB: "To do it?"

MW: "Umm-hmm."

AB: "And it looks like there was something that should be latching ..."

MW: [Unintelligible].

AB: "... to this hole from above."

MW: "Yeah, so ... so, it ... it ... the ... I'm gonna call the thing on top a collar, okay?"

And that ... that's ..."

AB: "We'll call it the collar, all right."

MW: "And it looked like there is notches in it. And it looked like you could lock something into place – line something up in it."

AB: "Got 'cha."

MW: "It didn't move, I mean, this whole thing was solid. It's solid metal. But there are places where there're notches in it, and something is meant to orient – my opinion."

AB: "All right."

* * *

AB: "What did the, ah, the Basques or the, ah, Native Americans tell you about what they knew of the depth of this hole?"

In other words, I'm sure they've thrown things into it or ..."

MW: "Oh ..."

AB: "... have experimented with tryin' to find out how deep it is or something, right?"

MW: Well, a- ... actually they didn't ... they didn't do anything with lowering, um ... ah, line in it or anything to it, but they did relate to me the same phenomena [sic] as, ah ... ah, that I had described, ah, one: the fear of animals going by it."

AB: "Uh-huh."

MW: “Ah, their dogs won’t do it. Nothin’ ... they ... they have nothin’ to do with it there.

Ah, they too have spoken of the black, ah, beam (MW grins). Ah, they’ve spoken of that. Ah ... um ...”

AB: “What kind of ... whaddya mean ‘black beam’?”

MW: “Ah ... ah ... ah, from time to time it ap- ... a black beam ... I ... I ... this ... this is a contradiction – but a black beam of light, okay? Comes from the hole. It lasts for a very short time, but it ... it just goes directly up into the sky.”

AB: “And ... and when you look at it, it looks like ... a black beam. In other words, as opposed to a lighted sky ...”

MW: “If ... if you had a flashlight and ... and it was capable of throwin’ off a black ... not a ‘black light’ like we used to have back in the sixties (1960s), you know, with all that stuff ...”

AB: (laughs).

MW: “... but black, solid black.”

AB: “Yeah, got ‘cha.”

MW: “That ... that ... that’s what ... there ... there’s no way to describe it. There’s no, ah ... ah, I am one of the few people that I had ... had other people tell me about it. I have never personally witnessed the black beam.”

* * *

AB: “You did perform some experiments on this hole, didn’t you?”

MW: “Okay, let ... lemme ... lemme talk about the first one. And ... and I’m not ... I’m not a scientist. I mean, you know, I’m kind of a researcher. But the ... the first thing that we did is we had, ah, a whole bunch of, ah ... ah, Safe - ... Safeway [supermarket] or, ah ... ah ... ah, Seven-Eleven [7-11 convenience store] bags of ice.”

AB: “Uh-huh.”

MW: “You know, the kind ‘chu buy, you know, and we had a couple bags of that.

So we had put one in a bucket on the surface and we lowered another bucket of ice into the, ah, hole. Fifteen hundred feet (1500 ft.)”

AB: "Fifteen hundred feet?"

MW: "Yeah. We ... we had access to a nice winch and about that much. We had fifteen hundred feet 'a line and that's what we ..."

AB: "What was the idea of lowering ice into it?"

MW: "Well, well, first of all, you know, my ... my curiosity was ... is that I wanted to know it was ... was it hot or cold down there?"

AB: "Okay."

MW: "So we basically waited for the ice to melt about halfway on the surface and then we would hoist up the, ah ..."

AB: "I see! So your ice ... you had test ice on the surface ..."

MW: "Yeah!"

AB: "... to see if the ice was melting."

MW: "It was ... it was two (2) bags of ..."

AB: "I got 'cha. I got 'cha. I got 'cha."

MW: "... of, ah, you know, your ... your garden variety convenience store ice, you know, ..."

AB: "Right."

MW: "... that 'chu buy anywhere and nothing magic about it or anything like that."

AB: "Right, right."

MW: "And so we lowered it down there. We waited for the ice ta ... ta melt on the surface there and it got about half-melted, you know, so it was sittin' up all in, ah, in a ... in a bucket of water with a few cubes of ice floating around – and we brought it up.

And the ice in the bucket did not melt."

AB: "It – didn't – melt?"

MW: "It was not melted. So we said ... I mean, this was on ..."

AB: Now wait a minute, now, um, the hole had been radiating, ah, in some strange way heat enough that people would camp by it ...”

MW: “Yeah! They did that in the wintertime.”

AB: “But it doesn’t melt ice?”

MW: “Didn’t melt the ice.

I’m tell- ... it came up there. It was ... we looked in the bucket.

We had cubes in there.”

AB: “Did anything come back up with the, ah, with the ice cubes?”

MW: “We ... we ... we had ice cubes. I reached in the bucket of ice cubes. I picked one up there.”

AB: “So in other words, nothing else – dirt, water ... anything else?”

MW: “No, the stuff ... the stuff appeared pretty much the way we had sent it down, with the exception of, I put my hand in the ice – *the ice wasn’t cold!*

Felt like ice ...”

AB: “What?”

MW: “It wasn’t cold.

This is what I’m saying – it wasn’t cold.

You know, you pick up a piece of ice, you put it in your hand ...”

AB: “It’s cold.”

MW: “... it melts. And It’s cold.

In fact, it makes you cold by melting.

That’s how cold works.”

AB: “R-r-right.”

MW: “Well, it ... it didn’t ... it wasn’t cold, and in the hand, it didn’t melt.”

AB: “So then it ... now they’re more like blocks of *glass*?”

MW: “Yeah ... I ... I would say so.

But we said: ‘Oh, okay, what we do here is we’ll take this bucket and we’ll stick it on the fire (!) in that little place to cook the, ah ...”

AB: “The bucket with the unmelted ice ...”

MW: “Unmelted ice.”

AB: “... you put on a ... *fire*?”

MW: “We put it on a like cookin’ fire there.”

AB: “Okay.”

MW: “We had a little table, a cookin’ area ’n’ stuff over there and, ah ... ah, so we put it on there – **and the ice catches fire.**”

AB: “What!”

MW: “The cubes catch fire. And ... and ... and I guess maybe, ah, catching fire might be the wrong ... wrong word. That ... that ... (AB scoffs) ice ...

We ... we took it off the fire right away ... and so we set it on the dirt. And the stuff in the bucket was still burning.

And again, burning might not be the right thing.

It was givin’ off heat. ...”

AB: “*Was ... was there flame?*”

MW: “It was not so much a flame as a kind of a ... a ... ooh ... have you ever used a gas stove?”

AB: “Sure!”

MW: “Okay. It was like the barest turning a gas stove on. It was like ... it was glowing like that last flicker before you turn it off completely. That’s what it was like.

Around all the cubes. And you ... you could knock the cubes around and separate ’em and each one of ’em, you know, would ... would exhibit the same properties.”

AB: "Holy smokes!"

MW: "I ... I ... I will tell you that this bucket ... well, some of the bucket there is still sitting there as far as I know today still doing what it was doing (MW grins) the day we put it into the ground and brought it up."

AB: "So ... so ..."

MW: "So this ... this was September, and this is January now. That's how long it's been doing what I ... what I call 'burning.'"

AB: (scoffs) "Ohh ... ahh ..."

MW: "What one (1) guy took some of the stuff home. He put it in his wood stove. And you know, he's got a cabin out there in, you know ... it ... it gets damn cold where he is, and the thing's been keepin' his place warm."

AB: "Yeah, northern Nevada is very cold."

MW: "Oh, it ... it ..."

AB: "I don't, ah, so ... so ... this is like giving off *eternal heat*?"

MW: "I ... I ... you know ..."

AB: "Or when it's ... if I'm get- ... I'm not sure I've got this right."

MW: "It is ... it is ... makes ... look ..."

AB: "It was neutral ... when it came out of the well [hole], it was neutral. ..."

MW: "So when ..."

AB: "In other words ..."

MW: "... you put it on the fire, and it appeared – again, my ... my terminology, this is very bad, because ..."

AB: "It acted like a *fuel*."

MW: "It looked ... it looked like – if I understand combustion – it was like it was doing combustion in a different way than ... than we ... we would attribute combustion to mixing air with fuel and creating heat and flame. It was ... but it was doing kinda the same thing is what I'd like to say."

And, ah, it's been burning like that since ... again, 'burning' is the wrong word, but that's all I got for it. I don't know how to describe this process ... since early September."

AB: "Ai-yi-yi!"

MW: "And again the gut has ... he took about, ah, a coffee can's worth of this stuff and put it ... took it home and put it into his wood stove in his cabin. You know, no wood in there ..."

AB: "Yes?"

MW: "... and the thing has been goin' since then.

Now we have tried (AB scoffs) this experiment of just the lowering the bucket, 'cause we figured: 'Boy, we'd like to have a lot of this stuff here!'"

AB: "Of course!"

MW: "You know, so ... and sometimes we would go down there and we would get ... *nothin'*.

And sometimes we would get ... *melted*. Sometimes, you know, ah, not melted but real ice.

But, every so often this process duplicates itself. So we come up with the same thing. But it isn't like, you know, every time you ... you throw, you know, you ... you lower a bucketful of stuff there ..."

AB: "That it's gonna happen every time."

MW: "*It doesn't happen every single time.*"

AB: "A quarter (1/4) of the time? An eighth (1/8) of the time?"

MW: "Oh! Um, I'd say one out of three (1/3) times."

AB: "One out of three."

MW: "One ... one out of three. And ... and I don't know ... I don't if ... if it was the amount of time down there ... ?"

AB: "Do ... do you possess any of this yourself?"

MW: "I ... I took nothing with me, Art. I ... I, ah, would not, ah ... ah, what is the word?"

I ... this is theirs for now.”

AB: “Ah ...”

MW: “Just say theirs for now, okay?”

AB: “What about noise? Did ... at any point did it make any noise?”

MW: “No. We ... we never ... we ... during ... during this ... this process that we went through, ah, *it made no noise at all*. It made no noise, and we did not notice anything – from the surface – anything particularly unusual, okay ... at all. I mean, there was, you know, it was just ..., but ...”

AB: “Were there any markings on this metal, ah, that were discernible? In other words, anything, ah, marked or scratched in English or any other language?”

MW: “Well, we ... we went ... we went ... we went at it with, ah ... ah, a hacksaw blade. You couldn't ... couldn't hacksaw it.”

AB: “You couldn't even dent it?”

MW: “No, no, it just ... the metal ... the metal itself from what I ... I can determine and ... and ... and I mean, normally if you have a metal thing that's hollow, you can tap on it and hear that it's hollow.”

AB: “Right.”

MW: “But with this thing here, you know, if you're beatin' on it with, ah, you know, like ... like a tire iron, ...”

AB: “No noise?”

MW: “... it didn't [sic] make any noise.

It doesn't ... that doesn't give you a gauge as to whether it's hollow or not.”

AB: “So it was absorbing probably all noise. I mean, there would have ...”

MW: “Maybe just sucking it up. Maybe it radiated into the ground? I have no idea. That's not my area of expertise!

All I know is what I ... what I could see with my own eyes, and hopefully, ah, by the end of tonight maybe somebody will have some ...”

AB: "Answer?"

MW: "Yes."

* * *

AB: "What ... what did the locals believe about this hole?"

MW: "Well ... well ..."

AB: "I mean, you literally just got back from Nevada what tonight or yesterday?"

MW: "Oh no, I did this last week ..."

AB: "Last week."

MW: "I ... I got home the night that you did the show, ah, as the repeat."

AB: "That's right, you told me. Okay."

MW: "And so it was ... it was one of those, ah, you know, it was prob'ly as Richard Hoagland would say: 'One of those synchronous moments there' where ooh, you know, I mean I'm talking to this guy and he's talkin' ... talkin' to Mel Waters, you know ... ?"

AB: "Yes."

MW: "... and ... in ... in the truck.

And he ... and then I ... I hear myself and ... and it's like: 'Hey!'

I mean, so it was too much, and so I ... I had to get in touch with you."

AB: "Okay."

* * *

AB: "Well again, what ... what did these locals ... what was the lore, ah, that they told you about the hole? What did they ... ?"

MW: "Well again, one (1) of ... one of the ol- ... older Basques, ah, men that I talked to and this was practically as I was heading outta town, ah, told me that was a very, ah ... ah, to him he felt it was a very spiritual place. But he ... he knew that the thing from his youth – that it was there exactly the way it is. And he was in his late eighties (80s), so I'm assuming he's known it for seventy (70) years."

AB: "Huh."

MW: "So he's known it at least for from the thirties (1930's) and from what he tells me, it's been there as long as the Basques have been in that ... in that part of the country and that goes well into the eighteen hundreds (1800's).

It has existed like that, ah ... ah, to ... to be honest, the, ah, Native Americans that I talk to were *aware* of it, but they did not want to *deal* with it. Ah, I ... they ... they did not want to, oh, interact ... interact with it – is that a good word?"

AB: "That's a word, yeah."

MW: "All ... all they would do is pick some of the, ah ... ah, the various plants that I needed that were in the general vicinity of it, because I wanted very specific ones that I had recommended, and they knew of 'em."

AB: "All right. Are they now growing some of these plants in the vicinity of this hole or what?"

MW: "Well, some of those plants are there. They ... they ..."

AB: "Ahhh!"

MW: "... appear to be indigenous to the area, so they did ..."

AB: "Ahhh!"

MW: "... harvest some, you know, ah ... ah, early on in the seasons there"

AB: "So then, again you saw similar vegetation around this hole to the one in Washington?"

MW: "Well, that's ... that's what ... that's why I asked them for, ah, ..."

AB: "Got 'chu!"

MW: "... if they knew. You know, I described to 'em what it was, you know, and the shape of the things, and you know, the size of the various ...

And they said: 'Oh, yeah! We ... we know that there,' but in terms of why ... why ... why, ah, why the *entrée* [sic], I assume that the, um, the Native Americans knew about this all along there. And I assume that they must've had some conversation with the Basques there ... you know:

'Would this be, okay? Are you interested in this guy?' Blah ... whatever. And apparently there was no objection.

So I have access to this property."

AB: "Well ..."

MW: "They wanta respect my access, okay?"

AB: "What about an experiment, Mel, similar to the one you did in Washington? Ah, lowering some sort of line – or better yet – some sort of camera on the end of a line, or ..."

MW: "Ah, ... we ... we didn't ... we didn't do that, ah, between ... between the Basques and the, ah, the Native Americans and me, we ... we, you know, we don't have, you know, too many nickels to rub together. But, ah ... ah, I will tell you what we did do.

One (1) ... one of the Basques, ah ... ah ... ah, kind of a wise- ... wiseacres – he wanted to lower some, ah ... ah, marijuana into the hole and see if it would improve its ..."

AB: "Hah!"

MW: "... smokeability."

AB: "Ha, ha, ha!"

MW: "Ah, and ... and, ah ..."

AB: "You know, then it would be a 'pothole,' right?"

MW: "Well, I guess ... I guess ..."

AB: (laughs heartily).

MW: "... ah ... ah ... he wanted to do that. And one (1) guy wanted to be lowered into the hole himself."

AB: "Ahh, well now you see in the hour preceding ..."

MW: "I heard that."

AB: "Oh, did you?"

MW: "Ahh ..."

AB: “Two (2) people who would actually like to be lowered into such a hole.

Now I know that you believe, ah, in the powers of the hole in Washington to the degree that in the original agreement – now voided I suppose – you were to be upon your death, ah, buried by being dropped into the hole, right?”

MW: “How I wanted my remains to be dealt with, yes.”

AB: “Now that apparently is not going to happen, 'cause of subsequent, ah, events.”

MW: “Oh, I've ... I've got another place to go now ...”

AB: “Would 'chu really want to ... ?”

MW: “... even better.”

AB: “ Yes, would you really want to be, ah, I suppose ...”

MW: “When I'm gone!”

AB: “... with some ceremony dropped into the hole?”

MW: “Hey, you know, just, ah, give me decent ... I don't know what it is when you put someone in a hole – is that inturned, or ...?”

AB: “Ah, I don't know what 'chu'd call that.”

MW: “Yeah, I don't know either.

But one ... one of these guys wanted to go in-, you know, *literally* he wanted to be lowered into the hole. Ah, he wanted to, you know, be put in a ... a gondola or something and lowered, you know, from the winch into the, ah, the hole and go down as far as we had line, which was fifteen hundred feet (1500 ft.).

Ah ...”

AB: “I can assure you, Mel, ah, we could get sponsors for you who would, ah, get you all the line you need.”

MW: “Hey, look we ... we talked him out of goin' into the hole, because we said: 'Look see what it did to the ice.'”

AB: "That's a good point."

MW: "This is ... we ... we sent a bucket of ice down into this hole and it's sittin' up there on the surface ... **burning (!)**"

I mean, what are you made of mostly?"

AB: "Water."

MW: "Water."

What's gonna happen to ... to a human being down there?

What properties are, ah, goin' on over there?

Ah, you know, they had a , you know, but I mean ... I mean, the Basques are, ah, as a race ... *are fearless*. When the Moors invaded Spain, they refused to go into Basque country."

AB: "Well ... what did this man say his motivation was for wanting to go into the hole? I mean, obviously ..."

MW: "He ... he was just a young ..."

AB: "Stupid."

MW: "... headstrong, ah, you know, in his prob'ly late twenties (20s) – early thirties (30s) fellow that wanted to go into it. He said: 'This is gonna be a great adventure. I wanta go in here. I wanta see what's goin' on!

But he wasn't thinking with his brain."

AB: "Well, there are obviously a lot of people like that, Mel, 'cause I had two (2) of 'em in the first hour of the program. And they said they would love to be lowered into such a hole."

MW: "Oh, well ..."

AB: "And this one ... if anything, this one sounds more attractive."

MW: "Well, we, ah, we, ah, we determined to do – and I'm ashamed to admit it – ..."

AB: "Oh?"

MW: "... is that we decided to lower *a sheep* ..."

AB: "Really?"

MW: "... into the hole."

AB: "Really!"

MW: "**A living sheep ...**"

AB: "You did?"

MW: "... into the hole.

We ... we had a ... a crate. You know, the sheep would fit into, that we could attach the cables to. And we're gonna take the sheep's ... you know, stick him in a crate and then lower him down, you know, to the fifteen hundred foot (1500 ft.) level. 'Cause that's all we had."

AB: "Like the ice."

MW: "Yeah! That ... that ... that's all we had, you know what I mean?"

We ... we ... we, you know, we had enough line basically to go that far and it was stout enough to handle, you know, ah, might, you know, I ... I ... I'm no sheep guy, but I, you know, I can pick up a sheep so it might weigh about a hundred and twenty (120) ... a hundred and fifty pounds (150 lbs.). You know?

So I guess about the size of a small human, wouldn't 'cha say?"

AB: "I ... I ... I ... would ... a hundred and fifty pounds? Yes ..."

MW: "Per sheep."

AB: "Yeah, I would say that's about the size of a ..."

MW: "I ... I ... I'm no sheep expert, but you know, if I had 'a say how much does that sheep look like it weigh?"

Oh, about a hundred fifty ... a hundred twenty-five pounds. Anyway this ..."

AB: "Are you telling me you did this?"

MW: "I'm telling you that we, ah ..."

AB: "You ..."

MW: "Well, first ..."

AB: "All right, all right ... I'll tell you what – don't say a word.

Ah, good place to hang everybody up. Be sure they're here next hour.

Did he really lower a sheep fifteen hundred feet (1500 ft.) into the endless hole?"

* * *

AB: "Mondays can be pretty strange. Tuesdays obviously as well. And Wednesdays [sic] morning, early ... definitely!

My guest is Mel Waters of Mel's Hole fame – and now we've got a new hole ... and this one's really something!

And something about a sheep coming up in a moment."

* * *

AB: "All right, just about to get back to Mel Waters, ah, and he had brought up the subject of a sheep, which apparently, ah, they were considering lowering fifteen hundred feet into the hole.

Now we were having fun last week with Mel's Hole talking about it a little bit. We knew he was going to be on. And somebody said: 'Well, why not toss a cat down Mel's Hole and see what happens?'

Now, of course, you know I'm a cat lover and ... and so this is not cruelty, because nobody is seriously suggesting tossing a cat down Mel's Hole. But some very creative person with a sound blaster and some talent 'n' a little manipulation created what it would sound like IF a cat were to be tossed in Mel's Hole. It's, ah, meant obviously as 'pure comedy.' This is not actually a cat being tossed into Mel's Hole, but here is the way he represented it would sound:

SCREEEEEEEEEECH! ...

Meow ... !"

AB: (laughs). "It's the second one that gets me – not the first one.

The first one is pretty good as you hear the, ah ... ahh, the ... the ... the ... sort of the ... the echo of the cat disappearing down the hole.

It's the second little one ... there he goes. (AB laughs). That was what somebody thought it would sound like, Mel. (AB laughs more).

MW: (subdued) "Oh my goodness!"

AB: "Anyway, um ... so, ah, you decided that you would lower a sheep fifteen hundred feet (1500 ft.) down as low as the ice had gone into the hole."

MW: "Well, we ... we had, ah, we had decided that we were gonna take the sheep 'n' put him in a crate 'n' lower him into the hole.

We led the sheep to the hole and it just started freaking out. I mean, you know, we ..."

AB: "Like every other animal."

MW: "Yeah, it ... but I mean it was like totally ... totally ..."

AB: "Not happy?"

MW: "It was not happy.

And ... and, you know, I have a lot of respect for animals and ... and, um ... ah ... ah, *it's amazing what animals, ah, really know, um, and what they sense.*"

AB: "Well, you're right about that. And so if it was, ah, terrified ... ?"

MW: "**It was terrified.** So that, ah, the Basque got the sheep away from the hole and ... and again, a lot of what I'm going to say now, ah, I am thoroughly ashamed of, ah, and ... and, ah ..."

AB: "That's all right."

MW: "He ..."

AB: "Just give us the raw ... the raw truth."

MW: "... he basically, ah, stunned, ah, the sheep by knockin' it between the eyes."

AB: "Hmpf."

MW: "Got into the crate. Ah, you know, got the, ah ... ah, cable and line hooked up to it so you know, it was all securely attached and, ah ..."

AB: "Right."

MW: "... just about when we got to the hole, the sheep just started making horrible noises.

So he stunned it, but he didn't kill the sheep, okay? He just knocked it out."

AB: "Yeah?"

MW: "So it was alive when it went into the box and then it stirred when it got to the hole."

AB: "Yeah."

MW: "Anyway, we ... it was just makin' the worst, god awful noises. We were getting it about ready to let it go into the hole."

AB: "Yeah?"

MW: "And, ah ...?"

AB: "Even though it had been hit in the head?"

MW: "*It stirred* by the time, ah, you know, we, you know, we got it crated up into the crate.

There was enough room to ..."

AB: "My God!"

MW: "... lie down and I guess if it wanted to it could stand up – I don't know. I ... I ..."

AB: (sighs).

MW: "Again, this is not ... this is not pleasant to talk about, but, ah ... ah, we ... we did take the sheep, ah, and it's screaming and just the most piercing, horrible ghastly noises coming out of this crate."

AB: "Oh my God!"

MW: "Until we get it right over where we're going to let it into the hole and then everything just stops dead silent."

AB: "Ohh ..."

MW: "There's not a sound coming out of that box."

AB: "Yeah?"

MW: "There's movement coming out of the box. You could still tell ..."

AB: "But no sound."

MW: "There's no sound anymore."

AB: "Well, there's somethin' about this hole and sound, isn't there?"

MW: "Ah, I ... I ... I ... I guess we ... we ... we will make that assumption.

And, ah, so we started winching this **sheep down** into the hole and, ah, you could feel from the line as we're lowering it that the thing is struggling, ah, fighting. I don't know if it's screaming down there, but we're not hearing ..."

AB: "Yeah."

MW: "... this thing screaming. And, ah, then we got about halfway down into the hole and, ah, I was about to say seven hundred feet (700 ft.), and then the, ah, any ... any movement that mighta been coming from the, ah, crate, we couldn't, ah ..."

AB: "Couldn't feel it anymore?"

MW: "No."

AB: "Ah."

MW: "No. We couldn't feel anything, so I ... I don't know at seven hundred feet (700 ft.) or so – about half the line – what ... what happened over there.

When we got to, ah, at this point here the original experiment with the ice, you know, we were kinda nonchalant about it, you know, we just kinda lowered down there. Well, with this one here we were all gathered around the top of the hole there lookin' around to see what's goin' on ..."

AB: "Probably ver- ... very apprehensive."

MW: "You know, this is, ah, you know, *this is a serious business here.*

When we hit the bottom, we ... we felt, ah, up ... up there, we felt like a vibration on the col- ... on the ... on the collar at a point in time when it was down there. It ... it's ... it's kinda hard to describe."

AB: "Well, what do you mean 'when you hit the bottom'?"

MW: "When we hit the bottom of the rope."

AB: "Oh!"

MW: "The ... the cable line assembly that we had."

AB: "You mean when it was all the way played out?"

MW: "Yeah, yeah when we got there we felt ... and ... and it vibrated or we ... it felt like a vibration. And sort of like a ... a staticy, electricity-type kinda feeling.

Does that make sense?"

AB: "Yes."

MW: "That ... that we could feel up there."

AB: "Yeah."

MW: "And ... and so we ... we got it down to, ah, you know, fifteen hundred feet (1500 ft.) and ... and we left it there for about half an hour (30 min.)."

AB: "Hmpf."

MW: "Ah ... and then we decided to, ah, you know, bring it back up."

AB: "Right, sure."

MW: "So we are hoisting this thing up, crankin' away, gettin' this thing up on there. And it's ... it's kinda a job so, ah, you know we finally get up to the surface. We, ah, we got, ah, the box outta there, and you know, the one thing we noticed this is ... there isn't any movement in the box, okay?"

AB: "Nooo ..."

MW: "There's no box ... we got the box there.

And, ah, but the box from the outside looked pretty ... pretty, ah, pretty normal. You know, it didn't look like some weird transformation had occurred or anything."

AB: "Right."

MW: "I wanted to describe to you, ah, we ... we ... how ... how ... tell you about the ice that came up that ... that didn't melt ..."

AB: "Right."

MW: "... what it felt like.

You ... you get a lot of electronic equipment and you get those, ah, 'Do Not Eat' packets?"

AB: "Oh yes."

MW: "The desiccant?"

AB: "Yes."

MW: "Ever take the desiccant out of the packet?"

AB: "Nah, never."

MW: "Well, if you take it out there and you feel the desiccant between your fingers, that's kinda what it felt like.

That's the best thing I could describe it as. It had that sort of ... you try it some day."

AB: "All right."

MW: "And you'll, ah ..."

AB: "Yeah, I've always just thrown those away."

MW: "Oh! Well you don't eat them obviously!"

AB: "No, no, no."

MW: "Okay. So we ... I ... I ... I ... I [sic] just struck me there that ... you know I'm tryin', you know, tryin' to describe this thing in the detail that I can and so I just slid back to the, ah, the desiccant.

Ah, but we open up the crate and the sheep is dead. It looks like a sheep, okay? It looks like a normal sheep over there.”

AB: “Right.”

MW: “And, ah ...”

AB: “And it’s dead?”

MW: “It’s dead. There’s ... there’s no ... there’s no sign of life. You know, you poke at it ... there’s nothing, ah, nothing going on with this ... this sheep here ... he’s dead. Ah, well I’m saying ‘he,’ but that’s a generic ‘he.’ And I ... I don’t know from sheep, okay? (MW grins).

Show me a sheep – I can’t tell what it is.”

AB: “Got ‘cha.”

MW: “Ah ...”

AB: “Me neither.”

MW: “Okay.

Ah, but, ah, we take it outta the box and the ... one of the Basques lays it on the table that we have over there. And he is going to dissect the sheep.”

AB: “Oh?”

MW: “Now on the outside the sheep looked just fine. You know the ... the hair, you know, that the wool ... whatever sheep has looks fine.

It looked ... looked like ... we said: ‘The sheep looked like how he looked when we sent him into the hole.’”

AB: “Minus a bop on the head, yeah.”

MW: “Well ... yeah. And ... and he ... he stirred from that.

But he started cutting into the sheep ...”

AB: “Umm-hmm.”

MW: “... and it looked like the sheep had been cooked. It was ...”

AB: “Cooked?”

MW: "... the flesh was hot underneath, you know, when he started cutting ... cutting through the sheep, here it looked like the sheep had been cooked."

AB: "Oh, my!"

MW: "Now ... now these Basque guys, they're ... they're pretty good at butchering a sheep there and they know their way around a sheep, and so they, ah, pretty much, ah, can butcher a ... and they know what to expect when ya open up a sheep."

AB: "Right."

MW: "You know, so ... you know, we ... we got the sheep on this, ah ... ah, table that we, you know, eat at and, ah ... ah, you know, this guy's cuttin' the sheep open here. And, ah ... ah, he ... he gets it so he can look inside and see the internal organs like he's gonna eviscerate the sheep."

AB: "Right."

MW: "*Except they're not what we expected (!)*"

AB: "Whaddya mean?"

MW: "It looks like there was gel in the ... the cavity there. And something that looked like this huge tumor. And ..."

AB: (exclaims) "Ahhh ..."

MW: "... almost taking up the entire length of the, ah, the body cavity."

AB: "Aww, Mel!"

MW: "I mean, it's pretty hideous."

AB: "Oh God!"

MW: "Ah, I didn't ... I didn't, ah ... I'm ... I'm gettin' you know, I'm gettin' kinda sick ... I get kinda sick thinkin' about this thing too, but I was gettin' kinda sick when I was there, so I was kind ... I wasn't as close to all this as I wanta, you know, would wanta be if I was a scientific observer.

But there's this *huge tumor* takin' up most of the ... where the internal organs would be. The ... the so forth, ah, the heart, the lungs, whatever parts the sheep comes with – they weren't there."

AB: "And what of these Basque guys, who were doing this, saying at this point?"

MW: "Well, they're, you know, some of them are muttering plenty of expletives over here."

AB: "Uh-huh."

MW: "And, ah, you know, they're ... they're, you know, they're freaked out there and, ah, I, you know, I remember saying: 'See, I told 'chu he didn't wanta go into that hole.' You know?"

AB: "That's right.

And then the two (2) guys who volunteered my first hour prob'ly are rethinking it right now too."

MW: "Well, if they want to collect on some, ah, life insurance – fine. Go for it. But ..."

AB: "That's what one of 'em said, yeah."

MW: "Ahhh ... anyway so we ... we got ... we got this gel, and you know, the guy's ... the guy's good with a knife here and he kind of is able to get the tumor out of this thing here."

AB: "Yeah?"

MW: "And I'd say it's about as big as the sheep's cavity. I don't know – two feet (2 ft.) long?"

AB: "In other words, the ... the ... the tumor was almost taking up ..."

MW: "Looked like a tumor."

AB: "... the entire inside of the ..."

MW: "Yeah."

AB: "Oh! ... euuuh!"

MW: "Okay, so you got this tumor and ... and ... and we could detect ... we could see that the tumor had some movement to it."

AB: "What!"

MW: "Yes – we had movement to it. And ... and I'm ... I'm gonna describe it like a heart beating."

AB: "Aaah!"

MW: "There's not a beating of a heart ..."

AB: "Aah!"

MW: "... just like a pulsing from this tumor."

AB: "A pulsing tumor ...

Oh my God, Mel."

MW: "So we ... we get to the point where we got this tumor out there and, ah, you know, we ... he's workin' on ... on tryin' to cut it open. It's really a tough, ah ... ah, thing to cut into, but he was finally able to get into it."

AB: "Yeah! ?"

MW: "And, ah ... boy, I'm gonna tell you here He opens it up there and inside this tumor is what appeared to be **a fetal seal**. Like, you know, like ..."

AB: "A fetal what?"

MW: "Seal. Like, ah ... ah ... ah ... ah, a pinniped. Ah ... ah ... ah, a thing that lives in the ocean"

AB: "Yes."

MW: "Balances balls on his nose."

AB: "Yes."

MW: "It was about eighteen inches (18 in.) long. You know, it's got the flippers on it. *And it looks like a little seal!*"

AB: "Huh? My ... !"

MW: "You know, it looks just like your ... your ... basically, your little seal.

Except it had what ... and ... and, I ... I don't know, I don't want people to ... to freak out, but it had what looked to me like human eyes."

AB: "Aaah!"

MW: "Like ... like, you know, a human being?"

AB: "Yeah!"

MW: "You know what cat eyes look like?"

AB: "Oh yeah!"

MW: "You know what dog eyes look like?"

AB: "Oh yeah!"

MW: "I don't know what seal eyes look like, but I know what human eyes look like."

AB: "Sure ya do."

MW: "And this looks like it had human eyes. And the thing was alive, but it was connected to the tumor like with this umbilical cord."

AB: "HOLY MACKEREL, MEL!"

MW: "And we could see the seal moving his eyes, and it was ... I'm calling it a seal, okay, but I have no idea ..."

AB: (gasps).

MW: "... what the heck this thing is. I'm calling it a seal.
It's opening its eyes, it's closing its eyes, its flippers are moving, it's still in ... connected to its tumor there."

AB: "Aagh!"

MW: "And then we noticed – and I noted – that it seemed to be studying us. It seemed to be looking at us. That ... that was the feeling I got. It seemed to be regarding us, while ... while we were looking at it. And so that's the feeling I got off of the seal.

And then, this thing separated from the tumor without our assistance, because we thought: 'Well, maybe we will cut this thing free.'"

AB: "Right there on the table."

MW: "It was right there and it moved about a little on the table."

AB: "Yah!"

MW: "You know, so we're ... we're ... we're all standing back at that point, 'cause this thing is loose, you know?"

AB: "I'd be way back."

MW: "And, ah, and you know, we're watchin' this seal and again that's the only way I can describe it, 'cause it looked like a seal to me."

AB: "Human eye."

MW: "And then I felt, ah ... ah, well, I just felt I was in the presence of something extraordinary ... something beyond extraordinary. Something like ... I ... I don't know. It ... it ... it ... I'm not a religious man, but it felt in that category of having a religious thing there. This was just such a stunning thing to witness."

AB: "Well, something that far from our understanding would appear to be magic or religion or whatever you wanta call it I'm sure, yeah.

So what did ... what in God's name happened to this thing?"

MW: "Well, we ... we ... we left it there, and it began to, you know, it just kinda looked at us there. And, ah, you know, ah, one of the Basques suggested we kill it, ya know. And, ah ..."

AB: "Uh-huh."

MW: "... you know, just gonna club it and unfortunately and, ah ... but, ah, you know, ah ..."

AB: "Is that what they did?"

MW: "No. They ... basically cooler heads prevailed.

The thing was movin' around on the table and it finally moved to the edge of the table."

AB: "Yah?"

MW: "You know, it was kinda like struggling, but it got to the edge of the table."

AB: "Yeah?"

MW: "And it looked like it was going to fall off."

AB: "R-right."

MW: "So I go up ... I go up to it at this point, 'cause I'm just like outta my head with I don't know what I'm ... I'm in the presence of. And it looked directly at me when I got up to it and it seemed ... you know it just seemed to have a contact with me and I got this compelling feeling to pick it up and place it on the ground. And I did that.

I took this thing and I put it on the ground by a table."

AB: "Yeah?"

MW: "And my hands were slimy from this ... from the seal, 'cause it had like this goo. It was not only in the cavity, but also inside the tumor.

And I'm just calling it a tumor, because I have no vocabulary for this."

AB: "Right."

MW: "And I just moved my hands past ... past my face before I decided to wipe 'em off on ... on the ring at the table there"

AB: "Right."

MW: "And it smelled like ozone."

AB: (whispers) "Like ozone?"

MW: "You know what ozone smells like?"

AB: (normal voice) "Ozone ... of course I do, yes."

MW: "That's what it smelled like when ... when I ... 'cause I thought it would be some like sorta weird, organicy smell."

AB: "Yah!"

MW: "You know, some sort of like disgusting ... or ... or you know, I ... I ... I just thought it would smell disgusting. Smelled like ozone."

AB: "Okay."

MW: "So the thing is lying on ... on the ground and we're all lookin' at this thing here and it's like looking at each of us in turn."

AB: "In other words, intelligently."

MW: (softly) "Yes! ... (normal voice) yes."

AB: "Hmmm."

MW: "We ... we ... we must've been there just absolutely transfixed by this – I'll call it a 'creature' now – for like two (2) hours. Just [unintelligible]."

AB: "And what was it doing during those two (2) hours?"

I mean it ... it ..."

MW: *"It studied each one of us."*

AB: "It wasn't moving around that much?"

MW: "Just its head.

'Cause we had gathered, ah ... ah ... ah, oh, this is cowardly, but a safe distance away from it, but not too safe, you know?

So ... so we ... we could easily see it and it could easily see us. 'Cause at this point here even the bravest Basques were like, you know, kinda freaked out."

AB: "I'd 'a ... I'd 'a been long gone, Mel."

MW: "Well again, the Basques are great ... !"

AB: "All right. Well, hold ..."

MW: "They have no fear."

AB: "Hold it. Hold it right there, Mel.

Ah, here's this ... this thing on the ground now. Not moving around much, but carefully studying each and every one of them who have by now retreated to a safe distance.

That's where we'll pick up when we get back. I'm Art Bell."

* * *

AB: "I knew that Mel had found another hole, but I didn't know anything about all of this. *This is incredible!* [Unintelligible] pretty freaky stuff.

A number of questions for Mel. We'll try 'n' get to the phones in this last half hour.

Everybody stay right where you are. I'm Art Bell. This is Coast to Coast AM."

* * *

AB: "Once again, Mel Waters.

So here's this thing staring at each and every one of you, examining you, obviously intelligent in some way, and ... it looks like a seal, not like a lam- ... a sheep at all. Um ..."

MW: "Nothing like a sheep."

AB: "Yeah. So ... that came out of this godforsaken tumor that was in this thing.

Um, what did you ... wha- ... what happened?"

MW: "Well, you know, we ... I got ... I got this ... this ... this seal, and he's, you know, he's on the ground and waddles around a little bit in the direction of the hole and then he just sorta is watching us some more and we're sort of kinda of at a safe distance, but we ... we kinda encroach upon a little bit there and I'm tellin' ... I'm tellin' a Basque: 'Okay, you're the big, brave Basque here, you know, don't be afraid of this thing here. I'm just, you know ... you know, just an ordinary old guy here just, ah ...

So, we ... we ... we did ... we ... we went up to it there, and it just looked at us here. And the look that it was giving us was – the only way I can describe it was like the most compassionate look that I'd ever seen from ... from any face."

AB: "Umm-hmm."

MW: "It just ... the ... they way the eyes were looking and ... and feeling this. And so some amount of time elapsed and the ... the ... the ... the li- ... little seal there starts ta waddle again towards the hole. And I get this feeling that it wants ta go up on ... on the ledge ... on ... on the collar."

AB: "Right."

MW: “So I picked it up in my hands and I set it right ... right there on there. It ... It moves around a little bit and then we’re ... at this point we’re pretty comfortable with this thing.

I am!

And ... and my ... my ... my comrades there are pretty ... pretty comfortable with it. I mean, we’re not like freaked out any more like we were. And ... and maybe it’s just, you know, we’re over the shock or maybe we are in shock, but that look that was giving us, it didn’t ... didn’t seem like an evil thing or horrible thing, it seemed like ...”

AB: “I’m sure you were in some state of shock.”

MW: “Yeah!

So it ... it’s ... it’s up there and then it moves around – I don’t know, maybe an hour he’s on ... he ... it ...”

AB: “... is on the ledge?”

MW: “... is on the collar.

It looks at us ... *it actually nodded at us. It ... it made like a slow nod.*

Then he turned around and went back into the hole.

At this point we were close to it, so we watched him go all the way down as far as we could see and we didn’t have high-powered lights or anything, so it ... it ... none – no sound – nothing like that. It just ...”

AB: “Into the hole and that was it?”

MW: “*Into the hole!*

And so, it ... we ... we were all just ... just moved, just ... just drained. (I ... I’m drained telling you this, Art, because it ... it is such, ah ... ah, an ... an ... an enormous thing to go through.)”

AB: “You realize that it ... it sounds like an unbelievable, ah, tale from *Alien* or something. I mean, it ... it sounds ...”

MW: “Well ... well, I ... I don’t know what it sounds like, you know?

My ... my ... my ... my, ah, all ... all I can do now ...”

AB: "... is tell it."

MW: "... is to relay it."

AB: "Yep."

MW: "And then ... and then ... and then try to stand back from it."

AB: "All right."

* * *

AB: "Question for you, Mel."

MW: "Yeah?"

AB: "Ah, does anybody have any photographs of this hole?"

MW: "We ... we ... I ... I went up there from the natives to the hole. I basically camped at that property."

AB: "Right."

MW: "I didn't come and go. No one came and go. We had what we had over there."

Ah, and so we ... we didn't bring photographs.

I ... personally, I ... I didn't want to, you know, I, you know, I thought ... thought to myself: 'Look, this would be great! We get this all on ... on ... on film, on video ... whatever.'

AB: "Right, right."

MW: "But I ... I did not want [to] encroach upon what they had. You know?"

And if they came to me and said: 'Ah, look ... look, Mel, why don't we go ... go to town, go home, get our stuff, you know, and try to video what ... what ... you know?' Fire! I ... I woulda said that.

But I was not going to broach the subject with them, you know? I mean, I ... I ... I did, you know, I mean to me it was an enormous privilege to go where I'd gone at that ..."

AB: "Understood."

Are you likely to go back to the hole?"

MW: "Yes!"

AB: "You're going to?"

MW: "I will. I, ah ... ah, I ... I will let 'cha know that we ... at first we decided we thought we would bury the ... the sheep carcass and ... and, the, ah ... ah, the tumor."

AB: "Yeah?"

MW: "We still had that.

And we ... and we decided it was just best to take the whole thing and put 'em in ... put everything back into the hole where it all came from."

AB: "Yeah."

MW: "So I just, you know, we just let it ... let it be.

We had a ... a tarp on the, ah, that we just dumped the whole ... everything back into the hole where it came from.

I ... I didn't know what else to do.

We ... again, we thought about burying it and it just didn't ... I don't know, it just didn't seem right.

I ... I thought it ... and so that's what we did.

* * *

MW: "Ah, I want ... I wanta tell ya something that is ... is I believe realted to ... to this experience."

AB: "All right."

MW: "And that is prior to going to Nevada. This was in late August. *I was diagnosed with a particularly lethal form of esophageal cancer.*"

AB: "Oh, I'm so sorry!"

MW: "This was a (6), you know, like the kind that they say you have six (6) months to live. But, you know, they're ... they're just telling you that.

Ah, you know, that there's, you know, like ... like nothing they can do, but it was very fast ... fast-growing.

And one of the reasons I came back here was to see the same doctor, because I started feeling a lot better. And my last examination with me cancer-free. I can't explain it ..."

AB: "Then you could document this right, because ..."

MW: "He had the ... yes ... yes! Because they had whatever stuff diagnosing, ah ... ah ... ah, the cancer. And I went back to the doctor and they could find no evidence of any cancer ..."

AB: "Is it your feeling that your, ah ... ah. proximity to the hole, um, or something about the hole, changed this?"

MW: "I think it was ... **I think it was the seal.**"

AB: "The seal?"

MW: "Think it was the seal."

AB: "The seal!"

MW: "I ... I ... I ... I described this thing as this huge tumor. And that's what I had.

But I described it as a tumor, because that was the only vocabulary I had to describe it with."

AB: "Got 'cha."

MW: "And I handled this ... this ..."

AB: "That's right, you did."

MW: "And ... and I smelled the 'ozone' from ... from it. An- ... and it just ... *the look that it gave me – there was something going on.*

I didn't ... I ... I ... I can't say: 'Look, I was communing with the seal and I was, you know, had this conversation with the seal.

No, I can't say that.

But what I can say is that I had this feeling of such incredible compassion from this seal that ... that ... that ultimately went back into the, ah, the hole. We ... we just said, you know, that was it and ..."

AB: “And what was the conversation like after all this was over, Mel, ah, between the Basques and the Native Americans, and yourself ...?”

MW: “Okay. Well ... well, first of all, the Basques that I were with, they were ... they were young guys, okay? And, ah, you know I ... I think before this kind of your kinda shiftless sort of characters, you know partiers and ... and ...”

AB: “Hmm ...”

MW: “... all that.

They were just like profoundly moved. I mean, they were just, ah, had ... had stuff going on in their mind after that ... that ... you know, they had been to another place, another time, another ... anything. *The reality had all been changed (!)*

Now I had the opportunity before I left Nevada to speak, ah, right before I left ... you know, I went back in- ... into civilization and spoke with a Basque elder.”

AB: “Yes?”

MW: “And this ... this ... this was the elderly fellow that I was referring to that told me some of the history of that. That he was in there, you know, for, ah, you know, he remembered it from being a young man and he described it to me and all of this stuff here. And, ah, we ... we had, ah, an ... 'cause his ... his thing was he ... he, himself, would go there to that area for spiritual connection. That there was something very spiritual, very primal that was going on.

He ... he was a tough guy ta talk to in some ways because he ... he was more schooled in Basque than he was in English. But he got English out ... out enough for me ta ... ta understand. And so we ... we ... we ... we talked actually at great length, ah, about, ah, the meaning of this.

Um, we did have some of the, ah ... ah ... ah, the Native American people that I was work- ... at that particular thing, 'cause this was kinda like a party sort of atmosphere out there. You know, we were drinkin' what they liked to drink, 'n' you know, and eatin' a good Basque food 'n' all of that. 'N' every ... you know, it was a ... it was a good experience there ta kind of, ah, decompress from all of this.

And so, ah ... ah, but he could not relate to me any experience like what we had, except he knew ... he almost expected what it was that I was

telling him. You know, I mean he just totally, firmly, completely believed what it was that I was telling him.

Ah ... ah, there was no surprise to him at all in ... in this thing here. I got this like, you know, really old Basque guy there and he's ... he's just taking all of this in stride and nodding, and you know ..."

AB: "Yeah."

MW: "So he knows there's some – ... something enormous, of ... of ... of great enormity there and, ah, my ... my goal is, ah, to ... to go back. I ... I have agreed, ah, to work with the people I was working with ... with ... with the ... with the herbs and ... and ... and, ah ... ah, live amongst them and spend some time with, ah, the ... the tribal members and some time with the Basques. And ... and ... and ... and spend it and ..."

AB: "Are you going to do anything else with the hole itself?"

MW: "With ... with the one in Nevada?"

AB: "Yes."

MW: "Well, I'm at this point ... I don't know what we're going to do, you know?"

I ... I come back, you know, I'm overjoyed that I'm cancer-free. Ah, I felt ... I felt so good after that experience that I knew something happened to my body, so I, ah, was glad to get back 'n' ... 'n' have it confirmed that the doctor said: 'Yes.'

Ah, but I ... I do plan to go back. I do plan to study it. I ... I ... I hope to be a better human being, ah, about this and not send innocent animals into it or ... or what have you. Then ... then to me, I guess, I ... I ... I still can't, ah, believe that I allowed that to happen – but I did, you know? And ... and ... and, ah ..."

[JS note: But if it didn't happen, would the fetal seal ever have appeared and healed Mel's cancer?]

AB: "Well I appreciate your telling the story straight out this way. Ah, that's the only way to do it."

MW: "That's the only way to do it. And ... and ... and, you know, you ... I ... I got to tell you I'm ... I'm not selling a book."

AB: "Obviously."

MW: "I ... I ... I ... I don't have a newsletter."

AB: "Right."

MW: "There are no 'Mel's Hole' T-shirts, 'Mel's Hole' ..."

AB: "Not that you've produced anyway."

I think, ah ..."

MW: "Well, nothing that I've done. There are no 'Mel's Hole' diaper pails or anything like that. (AB laughs)."

I mean ... I mean ..."

AB: "Ha!"

MW: "... to me ..."

AB: (laughing) "Mel's Hole diaper pail! ... Mel!"

MW: "Well, I mean, you know, they will commercialize everything in the world and ..."

AB: "Yeah."

MW: "... and I have no part in this."

This has been ... just an extraordinary ride for me. Okay? It's been like nothing I could have ever imagined it in anyone's life. To go where I've been, to be where I was, to go up, to go down, to be in the presence of such, ah, an amazing thing. *And ... and my ... my only goal is to leave a permanent record of what happened.*"

AB: "Well, how closely are you willing to identify the location of this new hole?"

MW: "Well ..."

AB: "Just northern Nevada? Is that as ..."

MW: "I ... I'm ... I'm gonna put it there. I don't want ... I don't want, ah ... ah ... um, I don't want the, ah, the ... the peop- ... the tribal people up there to be overwhelmed by ... by people, you know, rushin' outta Reno to get up there and, ah ..."

AB: "Right, right ... which they would."

MW: "Ah ... ah, and ... and doin' all 'a that.

Ah, I am ... I am going to go back."

AB: "Do you think you could politely approach the Basques, ah, and without identifying the specific area get photographs?"

MW: "I ... I ... if I feel comfortable I will ... I will do that.

I would ... I will also at this point – and ... and I just have a little bit of what I have that happened in my Nevada experience left, but I ... I know we're running out of time – is that anyone that can help me understand some of these things, if they can send an email to me, I'd appreciate it."

AB: "All right. You have an email address, right?"

MW: "Yeah. It is melwaters ..."

AB: "Right."

MW: "... @attbi – that's like "ball igloo" – bi ... attbi.com."

AB: "That's melwaters @att – that's 'Tom Tom' ..."

MW: "Right."

AB: "... 'b' as in boy, 'l' as in India ... attbi.com. Right?"

MW: "Right. And ..."

AB: "melwaters@attbi.com".

MW: "I ... I can- ..."

AB: "*What is it you want?*"

MW: "I cannot promise, you know, like a whole ... you know, like to maintain a dialogue with people, but ..."

AB: "Well, what do you want then?"

MW: "... there are other people out there that have had any type of understanding of this. That can make some sense to me, that knows what's goin' on, I'm gonna listen with fascination to your program on the, ah ... ah, the 'hollow earth' business ..."

AB: "Yes."

MW: "'Cause that's something I don't know about, but I'd sure like to know."

AB: "Well, there may be a relationship obviously."

MW: "Uhh, and so that ... that ... that I'm gonna look at ..."

AB: "But I mean, what do you want in email?"

Do you want some support? Do you want ..."

MW: "Oh, yes!"

AB: "... you're gonna get media contacts. You're gonna ..."

MW: "Well, I ... what I really want is the ... the people that have good, serious opinions about this, ahh, that have ... that ... that ... that understand some of this.

I described a lot of things that occurred. I don't understand any of 'em. I only described 'em. You know?

I mean, goin' back to what I started with talkin' about Ellensburg and bringin' it up today."

AB: "Yeah. I, um ... well, I get it, so ..."

MW: "I put it out ..."

AB: "You want somebody who might understand ..."

MW: "Right ..."

AB: "... all of this."

MW: "... and ... and ...and that, you know, may have been studying these types of matters. That have had theories ... whatever!"

That's good!

But I'm gonna be away from civilization for a good part 'a time, so it's gonna be difficult, 'cause I'm gonna be goin' back probably mid-March ... mid-February, mid-March ... somewhere in that timeline. And then I'm gonna go up there for a period of time.

"I'll prob'ly give you, ah ... ah. another contact when I get back to some sort of civilization. Prob'ly from Nevada. But I prob'ly will get in touch with you again."

AB: "Okay."

* * *

AB: "Ah, by all means, Mel, please ... try and see if they will allow you to – I mean, without identifying the area – just to get some kind of ..."

MW: "You just want like a photo?"

AB: "Some kind of photographic evidence ... yeah ... yeah."

MW: "Now I'm ... I'm gonna be afraid that people are gonna be scouring that TerraServer now that I ... I got that out there."

AB: "Well, they probably will."

MW: "Ah, I ... I wanta ... I wanta ... I wanta bring ... that the final thing because we were talking about the, ah ... ah, the ... the Basque elder that I was talkin' to, 'cause it was a very profound experience for me to talk with him. And, ah, though he was not that much older than me, I felt that he was a great deal older than me."

AB: "Wiser?"

MW: "Beyond ... beyond that.

No I know, ah, I could respect that. But we were sitting, you know, there in ... talking well into the night, drinkin' a good Basque drink that they like to drink, and all that good stuff."

AB: "Yes?"

MW: "And he got tired and he was gonna retire for the night ...

And he took my hand, you know, to ... to clasp it, and in my hand ... he put something in my hand when we were ... when we were leaving."

AB: "Yes?"

MW: "And he closed my hand."

AB: "Yes?"

MW: "And he just told me: 'Put that away.' So he says: 'Put that away.'

So I just like, you know, put it in my pocket and sat around talking with his family. And, ah, someone said: 'Aren't 'cha gonna look at what, you know, the great grandfather gave you?'"

AB: "Uh-huh."

MW: "I say: 'Oh! ... oh, okay.'

And so I take ... take it out of my pocket, **and it's a 1943 Roosevelt dime (!)**

They told me he had found a similar packet of Roosevelt dimes ..."

AB: "Oh my god!"

MW: "... up there in Nevada. Chinese red envelope. And they said ... and I said to 'em ... I said: 'You know what this would sell at a coin auction?'

They said: '*No, you have to have it! You need to have this.*'"

AB: "Do you have it now?"

MW: "I have it. ... It's in my hand as we speak."

AB: (pleading) "How about a photograph of that, Mel?"

MW: "If I can scan a 1943 dime ..."

AB: "Yah?"

MW: "... *you'll have it!*"

AB: "Ah, or get somebody who's got a really ..."

MW: "Yeah?"

AB: "... ah, good quality, ah, digital camera, go to the macro, ah, setting, and take a very close photograph of it."

MW: "Close-up, Art."

AB: "Can you do that?"

MW: "I will do everything I can do to do that. I ... I ..."

AB: "You know ... you know my email address, right?"

MW: "Yes. We ... we ... we can do that and, ah ... but that's what he left me with.

And he said to me that it was very, very, very important. Or they told me, 'cause they ... finished the rest of it. *Told me this was something I had to have (!)*

Now I hadn't told them anything. In fact, outside the fellow in Ellensburg, no one else knew about the ... the dimes and ... and the ... the red envelope ..."

AB: (laughs).

MW: "... he found goin' out there – *and he had it for years!*

I think he had it since the forties (40s) to be honest with ya. Late nineteen-forty- (194?), you know, forty-three! (1943)."

* * *

AB: "Mel, all I can tell you is we are outta time."

MW: "Ohhh!"

AB: "This was one heluva story."

MW: "I ... I'm ... I'm drenched."

AB: "Ah, you know I can tell. I can hear it in your voice."

"Ah, Mel, thank you for being here tonight. Thanks for catching us up on what was and what is.

Oh my gosh!"

MW: "Okay."

AB: "Take care my friend, and I really mean: 'Take care.'"

MW: "I will."

AB: "Good Night."

MW: "Good Night, Art."

* * *

AB: “Yikes! (smirks).

All right, from the high desert I have no further comment.

I’m Art Bell. Ta-ta.”

* * *