

UNSOLVED MURDERS/UNRESOLVED MURDERS (partial list)

- January 1975 * Lillian Phillips Callahan, Lou Callahan and Samuel Callahan, were found beaten to death in a wooded area. No motive was ever established but Lumberton City Police initially investigated their disappearance as a missing persons case.
- June 1978 * An unknown female, age 17, was found in a field cut to death. The autopsy report revealed traces of metal in her neck as if her throat had been cut to the spine.
- January 1979 * Vernon Moody Jackson was found shot in the head near his car on Interstate 95. He owned a music store in Lumberton.
- July 1981 * Jerry Eugene Rozier was found in his bed with one shot to the head.
- September 1981 * George Badger Sampson was found shot to death behind his home.
- September 1981 * Simon J. Devane was found beaten to death in his home.
- November 1981 * Daryl Lynn Godwin was found shot to death in a wooded area.
- February 1984 * Frank Cox, Jr. shot twice in the ear while sitting in his pickup truck.
- February 1984 * Kenneth Fountaine was found floating in the Lumber River 3 weeks after reported missing. Had been shot three times in the head.
- February 1984 * Horace Kinlaw found in his home shot through the head.
- January 1985 * Kenneth Shod Bullard was found floating in the Lumber River with a shot through the head.
- October 1985 * Donnie Lee Hunt, Woodrow Butler and Victor A. Hammonds, were found murdered in their car near the Lumber River. Hammonds had been shot 3 times with a .44 caliber weapon. Hunt and Butler were shot twice.

- October 1985 * Joyce Sinclair found dead where the KKK had held a rally. She had been sexually assaulted and stabbed four times. She had received a job promotion the same week.
- November 1986 * Jimmy Earl Cummings is killed by deputy Keven Stone, son of Sheriff Hubert Stone. He was killed while fleeing an automobile search and was unarmed.
- November 1987 * Edward Zabitosky is killed by a deputy sheriff in a "shootout" at his home.
- November 1987 * Halbert Patterson is killed by Jerry Cribbs, a white businessman after being chased down and shot in the streets. Patterson was unarmed.
- January 1988 * Billy McKellar dies of asphyxiation in the county jail. Suffering from an asthma attack, Billy was denied medical care and died hours later in the jail while waiting for an ambulance to be called.

A PARTIAL LIST OF UNSOLVED/UNRESOLVED MURDERS SINCE FEBRUARY 1, 1988

- March 1988 * Julian Pierce, an Indian attorney and candidate for Superior Court judge, found murdered in his home with three gunshot wounds, including one to the head.
- March 1988 * Kenneth Ray Oxendine, an Indian, found dead in his bed in Virginia with three gunshot wounds including one to the head.
- March 1988 * Shirley Jordan and McLean Stevens found burned to death in their home. Ms. Jordan was scheduled to meet the following day with members of the Lawyer's Bank to turn over information of corruption in Robeson County.
- May 1988 * Randolph Scott, an Indian, was found stabbed and cut to death in his home. He had telephoned the Robesonian during the hostage situation and offered information of drug involvement by local law enforcement. Just weeks prior to his death he had attempted to make contact with attorneys for Hatcher and Jacobs.
- May 1988 * Barbara Monroe, a black lady, found stabbed and cut to death in her home. Had contacted attorneys for Hatcher and Jacobs about transferring information concerning corruption in Robeson County.

DRUG ACTIVITY AND CONNECTIONS: A PARTIAL LIST

- July 1985 * Sheriff Hubert Stone testified at the trial of Carson Maynor, a known drug dealer, saying that "it was his opinion that the general character of Maynor in the community was good." Carson was indicted for possession of more than 400 grams of cocaine and other charges and was found guilty of misdemeanor possession of drug paraphernalia.
- November 1985 * Sheriff Hubert Stone sent a letter of recommendation to Florida prior to the sentencing of Jonathan Lowry, a known drug dealer. The support letter was used to try to obtain a lighter sentence for Lowry who was arrested with \$280,000 in cash when trying to buy 500 lbs of marijuana from undercover agents. He received a sentence of one year and one day.
- August 1986 * 500 grams of cocaine and more than \$3,000 is stolen from the evidence locker of the Sheriff's Department Narcotics office. Deputy Kevin Stone was one of only two narcotics agents who had keys to the locker and there was no forced entry. A trial in 1987 found one deputy innocent and no other charges have been brought.
- February 1987 * Robeson County is identified as a major Cocaine center by Asst. U.S. Attorney William Webb involving "tens of millions of dollars" and having as "pure cocaine in Robeson as you can in Miami Florida for as cheap a price."
- March 1987 * Mitchell Stephens, Deputy Sheriff, is put on trial for stealing drugs from the evidence locker. During the trial, testimony was given that reports had been received that Sheriff Stone was receiving payoffs from drug dealers and that one of the two narcotics agents were paid to assist in the theft of the drugs.

For many years citizens of Robeson County, Indian, Black and white have sought answers to questions such as; "Why will no state or federal level of government help us in our desperation?" On April 20, 1987 over 2,000 citizens of all races and ages participated in the first major civil rights march in Robeson County. Yet, the cries went unanswered.

Eddie Hatcher tried to work through the system and the system failed him. If our government is not going to protect us, what alternative do any of us have other than to protect ourselves and seek help the only way we know how. As Rev. Jesse Jackson stated during a recent visit to Robeson County, we, "have been abandoned by the law."

Please give your support to Hatcher and Jacobs by contacting The Robeson Defense Committee, PO Box 1389, Pembroke, NC 28372 and asking what you can do to help. We need your support!

Or Call 919-521-2401

On September 26, 1988, federal judge Terrence Boyle ordered the trial of USA v. HATCHER AND JACOBS to begin even though Hatcher's trial counsel William M. Kunstler was involved in trial in New York. Hatcher was forced by judge Boyle to represent himself.

The trial lasted three weeks and most of the evidence was not allowed to be presented. During the trial, the government dismissed the hostage-taking charge against Jacobs but not against Hatcher. Hatcher delivered his own closing arguments which included some statements by William M. Kunstler and law professor Barry Nakell of the University of NC at Chapel Hill.

After 5 hours of deliberation the jury returned a verdict of not guilty on all counts for Hatcher and Jacobs.

- November 1, 1988 * The family of Jimmy Earl Cummings filed suit against the Robeson County Sheriff Hubert Stone and his son deputy Kevin Stone for the wrongful death of Jimmy Earl Cummings.
- November 1, 1988 * Two young Indian men, Roger Strickland and Timmy Oxendine were found slain shot in the back of the head and one's throat slashed. No motive has been clearly established and no one charged. The father of Timmy Oxendine, Robert Oxendine, was told by a local law enforcement officer that he would end up like his son if he kept on digging.
- November 8, 1988 * Ms. Lula Cummings age 69 and mother of Jimmy Earl Cummings was arrested on 7 drug counts. She and her family attest that this was a set-up and retaliation from local law enforcement due to the civil suit.

Hatcher Attorney Vows To Fight Trial Efforts

SAN FRANCISCO (AP) — Indictment activist Eddle Hatcher's life "won't be worth ainker's damn" if he is extradited to North Carolina to stand charges of kidnapping 14 people at a newspaper office, his attorney said Friday.

Charles Garry told a news conference at the Hall of Justice that he will fight efforts by Robeson County authorities to try Hatcher on state charges of kidnapping because such a trial would amount to double jeopardy.

Garry also charged that rampant racism in Robeson County prevents a fair trial.

Hatcher, 31, of Pembroke, N.C., appeared briefly in San Francisco Municipal Court but was ordered to return May 23 after Garry has a chance to review case documents and decide whether to pursue an appellate court stay or a full extradition hearing before Jan. Garry joined the case Friday morning.

Hatcher and Timothy Jacobs, 20, of the Pembroke area, were accused of holding up to 20 hostages for 10 hours in the offices of The Robesonian newspaper in Lumberton, N.C., on Feb. 1, 1966.

The pair said they wanted to draw attention to their claims that local law enforcement officers were involved in drug trafficking and that public officials in the county were corrupt.

The two were tried and acquitted on federal charges but later charged by the state.

Jacobs pleaded guilty Thursday to all 14 state charges. He was sentenced to six years in prison, followed by a six-year suspended sentence and up to five years probation.

Hatcher was arrested March 10 in San Francisco after seeking asylum at the Soviet consulate. He is jailed on \$1 million bail.

Garry said he would appeal to Deukmejian's "compassionate side and see if it works," as well as his "Armenian sense of justice."

Garry has defended such clients as Black Panthers Bobby Seal and Huey Newton, Marc Garcia and Johnny Spain, and authored such books as "Streetfighter in the Courtroom."

The attorney said he would present "ample, reliable evidence" of the alleged racism in Robeson County. "Just saying that all these things happen without supporting evidence is just an empty word," he said.

Hatcher's mother, Thelma Clark of Pembroke attended the hearing and news conference, wearing a gray suit and white banner with red letters that read, "Eddle Hatcher is my son."

"If the governor of California sends my son back, he might as well hold a gun to his head and pull the trigger," she said.

The Rev. Ben Chavis, a San Francisco State University professor and executive director of the United Church of Christ Commission for Racial Justice in Washington, D.C., said the commission will lobby with the public on Hatcher's behalf.