

QBall Talked In Prison about the murder of Eddie Peltier

He tried to make it sound like it was a car accident because he was in enough trouble for being a rapist and being a murderer would about finish him. He had already been stabbed once in the chest, and nearly killed. Still has those scars. He liked to brag about how his brother, James, as Chief of Police, enabled him and his family to get away with—murder. Here is but one interview.

Informant served time from 1999 to the present in federal prisons for a drug convictions, with short breaks in between. He served most of his sentence at the federal penitentiary in Oxford, Wis., which he entered in 2000. His cell or living quarters were across the hall and three doors down from Quentin Yankton, who had a room to himself because of his seniority at the prison.

One day Informant heard Yankton arguing with some other inmates – one of them, he believes, was named Whiteman – about the Eddie Peltier murder. “He was arguing with some guy Whiteman from Fort Totten. They were arguing over the Eddie Peltier thing.”

A short time later, Informant went to QBall’s room. QBall was drinking wine or “hooch.” Informant said he asked, “What are you arguing with those fools about?” Yankton answered, “Oh, that fucking Eddie Peltier case.” Informant said Yankton went on to say, “Yeah, that motherfucker was walking down the road. They said they hit him. His face impacted into the grill.” *(Note: In order to be walking and have your face hit the grill of the Blazer, Eddie would have to have been less than 4 ft. tall.)*

QBall didn’t say where Peltier was killed, referred to his brother Roger and to a Bruce, no last name given. The men had to clean blood off; they went to a woman’s house, saying they had hit a deer on the highway, and asked to clean up. “Their hands and stuff.”

Yankton referred to his brother as the “chief of police,” on the reservation, and brought his Blazer to Fargo to get fixed. Yankton said some parts were removed, and James Yankton took them with him. “He said they brought it up here,” Informant said, meaning to Fargo. “They had the guy fix it. They brought it up here.” Informant didn’t know the name of the mechanic or shop. *(*Note: His half-brother, Lemon Longie worked there at the time so it was easy to get this taken care of with no suspicion being raised)*

Informant didn’t know which parts were removed, though presumes one part involved the grill, where Peltier’s head struck. “I wasn’t really asking questions. I thought he was talking drunk and stupid.” *(NOTE: They removed all the seats, the carpet and the head liner as well as replaced the dash. Lemon’s expertise was in upholstering. The carpet had been pulled out at the police station and burned in the parking lot that morning. The smoke was visible and it stank as fabric soaked in blood would have to.)*

I asked Informant if it was clear whether Peltier had been struck by accident or intentionally. Informant said the way Yankton spoke of the incident led him to believe it was not an accident. “He said the motherfucker won’t be stopping us again.” Yankton said Peltier had been a cop in Devils Lake, and was always pulling people over.

At least twice Informant said it wasn't clear whether Quentin Yankton was present when Peltier was killed, though Yankton was present when the body was moved and the men had to clean up. He said he presumed the body was moved and the clean-up was performed to avoid suspicion. "The way he made me think was that they killed him," Informant said, meaning Roger Yankton and Bruce, "but he helped move the body."
(NOTE: It was James, Roger and Bruce, as well as Celeste at the house when he was murdered. QBall likes to pretend it happened on the highway, but remember: NOT ONE DROP of blood was ever found on the highway on, near, or around Eddie's body. Just because Qball admits to murder or being part of the murder or clean up doesn't mean he isn't lying about his involvement in order to minimize his consequences.)

He speculated that the Yankton's possible motive for want to kill Peltier, and he again mentioned the Yanktons' resentment of Peltier's actions as a cop. "He said he was messing with people on the rez. He made it sound like it was their family."

Why had Qball talked so openly about his role in a crime? Had the Informant befriended QBall? Had QBall had taken him into his confidence.

That wasn't the case. "I didn't like him because I knew he was a pervert," Informant said, referring to QBall's conviction of raping a girl. After that conversation, in fact, QBall avoided Informant. "He just stayed away from me."

Informant attributed QBall's candor to the fact he allowed himself a little gloating while drinking alcohol. QBall brimmed with confidence that his family would escape prosecution for Peltier's death. "He said they would never find that Blazer. That's all he said," Informant added.

Informant returned to the ambiguity of QBall's role in Peltier's death. "Half the time he made it sound like it was he who ran into him, and half the time he would say they. But then he'd say he helped move the body."

QBall didn't say why they moved the body, but Informant presumed it was to delay detection of the body, so the Yanktons would not fall under suspicion. "They stopped at some woman's house, he said, and said they hit a deer."

At first, Informant gave little thought to QBall's boastful conversation in prison. "I thought he was drunk, talking crazy," Informant said. He clarified that QBall was intoxicated enough to be unguarded, but not so intoxicated that he lost connection with reality. "He was buzzed up but he wasn't sloppy drunk or nothing."

Informant returned to QBall's comments about his brother James, and how James Yankton's status as a police officer enabled the family to get away with Peltier's death. "He made it seem to me that because his brother was who he was, that's how they got away with it." Informant said this matched his experiences with reservation police officers and their tendency to look out for family members. "They're all crooked on the rez anyway," he said. "When it's family like that they all cover up for each other. That's how it is on any rez."