

**TAPE # BL.1103.0400.4**

**Brian Lyons**

**Interview**

**JIM WHITAKER, Producer/Director**

**PROJECT REBIRTH**

04.02.04 PICTURE UP

04.02.16 BRIAN: So like every hotel uh, didn't have hardly anybody staying there, and so two things happened. One is they gave discount rooms like to anyone who wanted them. And then they gave rooms up for volunteers that were volunteering down here, you know?

04.02.32 So uh, I think my brother came down from Massachusetts and, and you know, through the recovery guys down here we got them a room to stay in. Like uh, somewhere like in the East Village, but it was like one of those hotels you, you went into the lobby, they give you the number. Oh, this is the hotel uh, it's on like uh, uh, Christopher (?) and you know, you know, Ash Street or something. So he would go up there and you go in there, and, and you sign in like yeah, you know, the people from Ground Zero you know, gave me this number for the, for the free hotel room.

04.03.04 And it's like all this weird artwork and stuff in the, in the hotel lobby. I'm looking at my brother like you're gonna stay here? (LAUGHS) It's a free place to crash, you know? So uh, you get in like this one-man elevator going up the back entrance way and put him in there. I was like, ok, I'm going back to the site, I'm sleeping in a Red Cross thing. I'll see you later (LAUGHS). So he, he stayed up there.

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

04.03.32 BRIAN: And, and he stayed there. I'm like calling him up, where are you? You're supposed to be with me. We're like, you know, gonna move the crane in a little while. Oh, man, I'm staying in bed for a little while, man, like you know? Montiel uh, Williams is on or whatever on TV. He's watching the end of it. (LAUGHS) 'Cos you know, he was exhausted and stuff, to, but. You know that, that was funny.

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

JW: How are you doing?

04.04.11 BRIAN: Good today, man, very good. I got to get on that train, 2 o'clock. Like I said, I, I've rode the train a bunch of times on test runs, but this is very good day. It was kind of surreal, the first, this whole week, you know? It's like you're in the Super Bowl. But you're playing the game.

04.04.30 The rest of the world's setting up for parties and you know, it's a big triumph for the whole season, but for us we were in like the trenches, so it really wasn't open 'til it was open type of thing. And uh, it'll be nice to see you know, the public walking down there very shortly here, next couple of hours, so. It's gonna be a, it's definitely very exciting. I'm excited.

JW: What was it like watching everybody and how did you feel about it?

04.04.58 BRIAN: Oh, it was great, man. I was just thinking of my brother, Michael. Yes. We did this one. So uh, there's like I was telling some people it's uh, the first of the phase one, really. The first rebuild after, after the uh, collapse, you know? Getting something working again, getting Lower Manhattan going again, you know? Getting the PATH people you know, the PATH is a division of the Port Authority, and they're like a little family themselves. Now they feel a little whole again.

04.05.29 We, we've worked with the PATH over the last couple of years, a lot of the employees with the Port Authority. And uh, you know, it was a big important thing for them to get their railroad back, you know? Their little niche back into New York City and back. So you know, they probably feel really good themselves.

JW: Did you hear the speeches?

04.05.51 BRIAN: Oh, yeah, that was, it was good. I was surprised that Governor of New York didn't come. He was here Friday. But uh, you know, that was the, the guy that was speaking like

the general was the governor of New Jersey. McGrievy. So uh, you know, I thought it was good.

JW: We can go back in time over the last year. What has happened, the emotional up and down points?

- 04.06.27 BRIAN: The uh, well, about a year ago we were, we were uh, the World Trade Center site was uh, was just coming out of the ground, still. There was probably one or two pedestals of concrete. But the tunnels and the Exchange Place site of the project was well underway. So the Exchange Place side which was uh, involved in tunneling underneath uh, of uh, office buildings in Jersey City was a major accomplishment. We had to actually uh, use road header machines that had big grinding heads that ground away the rock.
- 04.06.59 And we took that ground up uh, material, had to put it on rail cars, and ship it 2 ½ miles to a uh, remote yard. Take it off, get that shipped out, bring the empty cars back in. And put some more of the material on it. So uh, you know, there was no communications in the tunnels. Your radios, your phones didn't really work. So uh, that was a very difficult uh, obstacle to overcome. The communication efforts of it. So uh, the, there was things that you could do, but you know, keeping cost controls down, we couldn't put our own walkie talkie system in.
- 04.07.36 We couldn't put our radio antennas in. It was just, it was hundreds of thousands of dollars to get it to work down the tunnels where everybody was. So uh, we had a deal with uh, the plan using runners and stuff like that. So that was a pretty big obstacle to over come, you know? And the tunnels was like the hidden, the hidden work. No one ever, they, they're a mile long there's two tunnels.
- 04.08.00 So there's two miles of tunnels under the Hudson River. And uh, out of sight, out of mind, no one knows about the tunnels. No one would walk them because it's a dirty, cold, smelly, dark place. But it all had to be rebuilt. So, you know, my hats are off to the tunnel crews that, that actually worked on them day in, day out, during the night. Weekends (CLEAR'S THROAT) lot of hours went into them tunnels to get them to be rebuilt totally. Totally gutted. They're hundred-year old tunnels. And now they're like brand new.

04.08.29 So uh, that was a big accomplishment of getting those all back, back to source. And then the World Trade Center itself working in the bathtub, reminding the workers where they are every week. Week after week. You know, bringing the temporary station out of the ground. You know, people don't think it's temporary, but it's just really a uh, steel beam framed structure, with some platforms and signs and electric lights. Uh, I guess the uh, design of the new station will involve a lot more closed in areas.

04.09.02 A uh, some type of design that's being designed by a Spanish architect, and it will make it like a full circle, like a full Grand Central (?) Grand Central terminal type of station. And I, I'm looking forward to uh, seeing that design.

JW: So the station we looked at today is temporary?

04.09.21 BRIAN: Temp, absolutely temporary, yeah. (~JW~) It's open (?) to the elements. There's a couple of little areas that have uh, spot heaters over some benches for the passengers. But uh, in uh, in whole, it's a uh, it's a temporary station.

JW: Some highlights from the building, other than the tunnels?

04.09.45 BRIAN: Well, there, uh, there was (?) the placing of the first beam. That was some time in August, 2002. I wrote Michael's squad number, Remember Mike Lyons, Squad 41. That's still there. Someone took a picture of it and gave it to me.

04.10.01 A lot of guys signed it. So that, that was definitely a uh, a triumph. And then there was different steps along the way. When we first turned the power on. That was like in August of this year, 2003. We finally got (?) power, energy back in the bathtub that came through the tunnels. And then Labor Day weekend, I think it was September 2<sup>nd</sup> or so, we actually turned the lights on for the first time in the station since 9-11.

04.10.29 So that was definitely a big accomplishment. And at my 9 o'clock meeting I brought that up, that you know, everyone should be proud, we got power, we got lights. That was like September 2<sup>nd</sup> this year, so uh. From there 'til now we just finished up the rest of the systems to get the train to run for the public, so. There was a couple of good highlights there.

JW: What about those 9 o'clock meetings? Can you take me through a day?

- 04.10.57 BRIAN: Sure, sure. The uh, you know, a lot of people don't realize on a project this size, you have to have some you know, major coordination. So uh, usually people have different meetings, but you have to have the right people there, you have to have the people that can come with the answers, decision makers. So uh, my, my theory is always when I come on project, I always have uh, a coordination meeting in the morning time. This happened to be at 9 o'clock. We did one for the tunnels, we did one for Exchange Place, and then the third phase which was the World Trade Center we started one at 9 o'clock there, too.
- 04.11.31 Which was mainly uh, much more uh, activity at the Trade Center because it was such a bigger, a little bit bigger project than the tunnels and Exchange Place. We had 15 subcontractors, we had the PATH people there, the Port Authority, interfacing with the city of New York. MTA. 'Cos of the subway interfaces and so on. So you know, when the morning you would arrive on site, we'd have a uh, meeting prior to 7 o'clock with our own superintendents to get the men working for the day.
- 04.12.03 Then you do a walk through to find out issues that you need to have. And then at 9 o'clock you would go over the same agenda, which I had on the board, safety was always first. We'd start off with safety. You know uh, needed lighting in some areas. Uh, uh, there was fall hazards different places. Uh, ladders were not tied up securely, whatever the issue might be. People uh, on man lifts or boom lifts, not operating them properly, so we would address that.
- 04.12.30 Then you would go into working hours, your subcontractors, who's working today, how many men? Where are they working? So inspectors and people that were wandering around the site, knew what to expect for the day. And then we would go into systems. Fire alarms, staircases, elevators, platforms, plumbing, heating. You know, sewer water, you know, under (?) drainage, track work, whatever it was. And we would touch each topic, and if anyone had any questions about that topic will remind you of a certain drawing or uh, issue with that, or uh, you know, parts that were missing.
- 04.13.06 We, we would bring that up and go in detail. If there were some outstanding issues, we would write them on the board, and people were designated to get answers for them, to bring them back the next day at the 9 o'clock meeting, to solve those problems. So we had that

from pretty much the beginning of the project all the way 'til Friday, which was the last 9 o'clock meeting, because we were gonna open up.

04.13.29 So we'll continue with some minor coordination meetings to finish up the final phases, the last trim or painting or punch list items of that. But was very, very uh, uh, useful and uh, then after the 9 o'clock meeting, you would go out and walk, walk the job, take care of union issues, coordination issues that, that arise from the, the things that you worked out at the 9 o'clock meeting. And uh, you know, move, move forward with that the rest of your day.

JW: It's a huge job?

04.14.02 BRIAN: Oh, absolutely, absolutely. Lot of interfaces with uh, you know, between unions and other agencies and egos and, you know, which is right and designers and drawings and not the right copies and everyone doesn't have the right copies, and you know uh, timing of stuff and deliveries and you know, working hours and night shift and day shift and weekend work, and you know, the whole, the whole nine yards.

04.14.28 So uh, definitely uh, have to stay focused on that.

JW: Had you done anything of this size before?

04.14.35 BRIAN: Uh, none in particular. I guess if you break things down in phases it's uh, you have to take a big project and make it into small (?) accomplishable goals. That's the way we kind of did this, you know? So uh, you know, I would try to take, you would take a building of the substation, break it into smaller parts like uh, and try to initiate that to the individuals you, you're trying to get to help you build that. So (AUDIO?) you can accomplish those goals. So the, the massiveness of this uh, no, I definitely would say I don't think I was involved with anything prior to this, of this magnitude. You know, we went from the recovery to this. And uh, you know, I don't think there was too many places in the Tri-state area that has projects going on like this right now.

JW: You were in the transition from recovery to building? What about the feelings?

- 04.15.39 BRIAN: Yeah, that was, that was definitely, I can think back about that. That was uh, during the recovery, we spent a good year, like, removing debris. It was, you were tearing things down all the time. Tearing pieces down, putting them on trucks and getting them out of here. Finally we came to the phase where now we're gonna be building things.
- 04.16.00 So that was a better (?) I, I felt better about that. We actually were taking stuff and pouring concrete and putting metal onto it and, and erecting something out of the ground. Like we would say, out of the ground she comes. Whether it was a, a pedestal for the station or, or a piece of steel for the substation or, you know, a piece of the rail coming for Exchange Place. Building number 7. Out of the ground it comes.
- 04.16.26 So uh, it's definitely a much better feeling of you know, accomplishment, trying to put stuff together and build it than having to take things apart and keep tearing stuff down and trucking garbage away like in demolitions. So. That was uh, that was a transition you had to get, you had to get used to.

JW: From looking at the other interview, it's remarkable that you came to this from the outside and ascended to his position?

BRIAN: Oh, absolutely. Yeah, you just (~JW~)

JW: What was the learning curve and emotionally what it feels like to have gone through this?

- 04.17.20 BRIAN: Yeah, I don't know uh, I always used to say, you know, to my boss, I'm not you know, uh, I'm not learning anymore. I'm here to like uh, I have the experience, I have the know-how, you know, to, to do these type of things, you know what I mean? It's, for me it's kind of like instinct. I don't know, I don't know what it is. Like, you know, like when I arrived September 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>, those first couple of days, you know, I just was instant for me to come into a chaotic situation and try to organize it. And you know, just step up to the plate, stand on the barrel, try to take controls of some situations and uh, you know, move forward with them.

- 04.18.01 You have to take something and just keep going whether it's right or wrong, just do something. So uh, I don't know uh, when you try to look back and say, you know, how did I, I get here? It's like, you know, no one gave me these positions. I had to work all the way through them, you know? Like I was telling Croi, we were coming up the elevator uh, I walked these stairs two or three times to the 45<sup>th</sup> floor. When uh, we were first few days, when Tower One put a big chunk in the American Express building.
- 04.18.30 We'd have to walk up and survey that area. It's a long walk (LAUGHS) 45 (?) 45 flights. Same with the other buildings. The Deutsch bank, up 30 flights a couple of times the first days. Ninety West Street, 2 and 3 times up to the roof and the building's on fire. So you just got caught up in, in those situations. But uh, you know, I'm not one to give up, so once you're starting up those flight of stairs, you know, you're there for the duration. Do what you've got to do. If you got to go up and come down a few times. You know?
- 04.19.00 Like I, I was the guy that if we got up to the 45<sup>th</sup> floor and someone hey, said, I needed a drawing, I needed this, I was like, I'll be right back. And I would go down the stairs, go find a drawing, walk back up the 45 flights of stairs. Someone had to do it. So I wasn't even, you know, we weren't looking for volunteers. I was the one, I just took it on. You know? So that, that's kind of where I was coming from with that.

JW: Was that the way you were before 9-11?

- 04.19.25 BRIAN: Yeah, yeah, I think so. I was always like that, you know? Uh, you know, growing up you, no one ever had to tell you, like to uh, to do things. I was always volunteering, going to construction sites, trying to volunteer to help the guys clean up or shovel the concrete for them. You know, you were hoping maybe they were gonna give you a dollar or something, you could buy some something to eat or something, but (LAUGHS). And we grew up in a, in a poor Irish neighborhood in Yonkers, so. You know, you were always trying to help someone or, you know, volunteer or do something.

JW: Have you been thinking about your brother, Michael?

04.20.01 BRIAN: Every day, yeah. Today especially. Every day, though. You know and today is a uh, it's a good day that you know, this is Phase one, or you know, I keep saying it's phase one, but it's, it's accomplishment. It's finally working, you know, this, this, this is, this project is done. So I feel, I feel really good. I know Mike's looking down real proud about that, absolutely.

JW: You've had some moments during the year connected to Michael with respect to the area where you found his halligan?

04.20.42 BRIAN: Oh, right, found the halligan from Squad 41 and uh, you know, digging through the debris and finding some of the tools and some people from Squad 41. And uh, you know, keeping that area always on my mind uh, I have it marked out in the bathtub where that particular area is.

04.21.02 I have a drawing with it marked. The uh, uh, longitude and (?) longitude and latitude of the exact location on a drawing.

JW: Why is that?

04.21.14 BRIAN: I just wanted to keep that as a memory and I'm gonna show his children and stuff and give a copy to his wife.

JW: Michael's remains have not been found yet?

04.21.30 BRIAN: We believe we found a lot of them, but it, not, nothing's identified. So we're trying to uh, he was a bone marrow donor and there is a vial of his blood in the bone marrow vault. It's frozen. And we're looking to uh, probably after the holidays, try to recover that and, and uh, bury the vial of blood in a coffin in a cemetery so the children have some place to visit the rest of their life.

JW: He was involved with the program before?

04.22.01 BRIAN: Yeah, so before uh, I think, I believe before 9-11 it was a few weeks before the fire department uh, uh, was accepting donations from different firefighters for the bone marrow program, and he happened to be one of them. And there's so many of, so uh, a couple of dozen of the guys that were lost here were in that program. So they happen, they happen to have vials of their blood which is actually a very good sample for DNA.

04.22.31 So he had like the best sample of DNA because it was strictly from his blood, along with the other guys. So if there was any remains that got found, ok, and if there was anything for a good match, we had like 100 out of 100 points to uh, to match. But we just haven't been able to find uh, uh, a match for the remains that we believed that was from Squad 41, for those guys.

JW: You found a lot of other things?

04.22.59 BRIAN: Tools, and metal devices from their, from their bunker gear and so on, yeah. I have some home, there's still some at the firehouse, Squad 41's firehouse.

JW: Anything else come to mind with respect to Michael and the gear?

BRIAN: Uh, you mean the next phases to keep coming or this one that we built?

JW: The ones you've built. I mean, today was just such a huge accomplishment, and going down there especially. Even from what I understand what you did in the last 4 or 5 days.

04.23.39 BRIAN: No, no, absolutely, right. (~JW~) The uh, you know, when you're really busy I don't get to think about Mike. I got like an hour and a half drive in, and a 2-hour ride home and that's when I always think about it. And uh, you know, as time goes on, you just got to remember not to forget. Because it's over 2 years now and uh, you know, memories of different can, can, can be lost.

04.24.02 But uh, for me, like I told uh, (Ling?) about a month or go, every morning when I leave the house and I go in, I always tuck the girls in, they sleep in bunk beds, before I leave for work. And I make sure I go in there, tuck them in, pull their covers up. I always think of Michael

like every day I'd do it. Tucking his two girls in. It's like a second thought in my back, back of my mind. So it's like I, it's just like a funny feeling.

04.24.30 Like I'm tucking them in, but it's something like he's actually tucking his girls in at the same time I'm doing mine. Uh, I always think of that. 'Cos he, he missed out on that now, you know? So uh, you know I would tuck them in and then head down to the car and hit the highway.

JW: Coffee?

04.24.47 BRIAN: Cup of coffee in the morning (LAUGHS) Cup of coffee. That was my nick uh, not a nickname, but when I was in the service, I went to Alaska like when I was 19, and it was a big Hawaiian guy that was like the boson mate on the ship. He used to call me Cup of Coffee, 'cos I had like a New York accent. (LAUGHS) It's funny.

04.25.06 Hey, Cup of Coffee.

JW: What about some stories?

04.25.13 BRIAN: Thirty-third and third, they used to say. Hey, thirty-third and third, 'cos you meet people from the military are from all, Kentucky and Tennessee and the West Coast and you know, you only get certain groups, like maybe two guys on the whole ship that are from New York, so you kind of like stick together. Everyone makes fun of your accent and stuff like that.

04.25.33 And then once again you got guys from Georgia, you're making fun of them, you know? Golly gee, Gomer, you know, and stuff like that (LAUGHS). (COUGHS)

JW: What are some stories from this year that are memorable?

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

04.26.03 BRIAN: (MID-STATEMENT) we did do a couple of things. We got this one carpenter on his birthday. He's uh, Irish Catholic, but we bought him a Bar Mitzvah cake, all right? He's

always picking on the timekeeper and he's Jewish or whatever, so it was a big joke. We got him a big Bar Mitzvah cake. But you know, that, that was funny. But uh, I'll think of some as we go along. I'll let you know.

JW: Your job is very challenging because you have to be tough with people. 'Cos it's construction, you know? This is not whatever.

BRIAN: It's not church (LAUGHS).

JW: Is that hard?

04.26.54 BRIAN: No, no, that's one of my attributes, I think. That uh, you have to have a way with different personalities and stuff. A lot of it I learned in the military. It was such diverse people that you know, you, you're dealing with someone that's from the, the Southeast. They have different ways of thinking than the people from the Northeast or the Northwest. And, and people act and, and react to different, different things. Like the Southern people are slower. There's no way you're gonna get them to move faster.

04.27.27 They just, they're in their own mood, golly gee, we're gonna get that done, you know? And there's no way you're gonna change that. So you have to deal with that and give them tasks that they can move along with that, as long as they communicate. You get guys from the Northeast, they're quick thinkers, quick movers, you know, and, and you can give them projects or expect them to do things that can, they can answer you quickly or, and, and get information done quickly, you know? So there, there's a, you know, there's a, there's a, a balance that I did learn some in the military on that.

04.28.00 You know, and, and thank god they sent me to a lot of schools. I got my engineering degree in the (?) Coastguard and military. A bunch, a bunch of training and all different, different items like that. So that, that was a very big uh, help in my career, I think.

JW: You were speaking of family. How's your family doing?

04.28.20 BRIAN: Everyone, thank god's doing very well. You know, my, my own family, you know, you know, god blessed us with two you know, good little children. I have an older daughter that's out of the house now. Uh, I have a job that I love to do. It's, if you have something that you like to do as work, it benefits not only yourself, your family, everyone around you so that, that's a very good thing that I was lucky to have. Uh, (CLEARS THROAT) Michael's family is doing well. You know, the (?) girls are there, she has a big support group, you know, family and friends and uh, you know, thank god they're all healthy.

04.28.53 And uh, so locally you know, family-wise everyone is in very good, good shape.

JW: Do you see your sister-in-law?

04.29.00 BRIAN: Yep, yep. Everyone's got birthday parties, communions you know, that type of thing, everyone's seeing each other, over the last year.

JW: You're always trying to make sure you're home for recitals and things like that. Checking out the dresses?

04.29.29 BRIAN: Oh, yeah, yeah, yeah, well, Patricia is the fashion one, she's the little one. Shoes, dresses that, that whole thing. Elizabeth's a little more quieter, but she's a little older dancer, so she is uh, today she's at a, a practice for a national (COUGHS) (?) that's gonna happen in Philadelphia the day after Thanksgiving, so we're going to that. She'll be in, she's in an 8 hand. It's 8 girls that dance like a River Dance type of uh, dancing. And they compete nationally. So it's like a national championship type of thing.

04.30.03 You know, and that they win that, they could go to another state and they could end up dancing in Ireland, so it, it's a big thing right now, you know? And.

JW: Doing it around the house?

04.30.12 BRIAN: Oh, yeah, yeah, yeah, they do it around the house. That's why I'm building my extension, I'm building a big family room so they have more room to dance around in. (LAUGHS) Now they're like circling the kitchen table (LAUGHS). So. And I think it's

important to have a big family room while the kids are younger. And they grow up very quickly, so, you know, uh, it's, it's about 50% there, maybe 60% now.

04.30.35 The extension. (~JW~) Tom said he was gonna help me cut those logs. 'Cos I'm getting them delivered in the spring. I changed the design from the actual pre-cut uh, kit ones that have tongue and groove to actual just big logs, cut them with the chainsaw myself. (~JW~) (LAUGHS) So uh, I uh.

04.31.02 I changed the design to, to incorporate these big (?) round logs.

JW: You live in a log cabin?

04.31.12 BRIAN: No, I built that log house (~JW~) 8 years ago, and now I'm putting the extension on, which is gonna be logs also. So uh, you know, I got the land, I had it, it's a whole story on getting the land and I bought it from uh, in, in the county they had uh, tax repossessions and, you know, I did a lot of research and you know, I bought my land for \$10 and then I went down there with a machete chopping the vines down.

04.31.39 I found an old foundation and I got the, the uh, the Building Department to grant me some grandfather uh, laws for the, the Department of Health for Sewer and Water. And that took 2 and 3 years to, to coordinate that. But I finally got to building permit and builded the, built the whole house. You know, this, this is the way my luck goes is I lived in Lake Carmel, and there was a little bridge, and we lived on the other side of the bridge.

04.32.04 So this bridge is there for 200 years, right around the lake. So we bought the property here. So when I came home from work, I could drive 9 seconds and get to the house where the property is to build a new house. So the day I got my building permit, they took that bridge out of service and tore it out to rebuild it. So now to go to the house, I had to drive all the way around town and come all the way to the house.

04.32.30 Before it was 9 seconds to go. When I finally built the house and finished, they opened the bridge (LAUGHS). So that's, that's like my luck for you. You know?

JW: You're finished here pretty soon. What's next?

- 04.32.50 BRIAN: Well, this phase, we open to the public, then we have some uh, some final things to do, punch lists, financial closeouts of each subcontractor, any change orders, that'll go to the end of the year, maybe one or two months into next year. Uh, I've already started pre-construction on another project up on the West Side highway. There's a department of sanitation garage, it's a \$100 and some odd million dollar four story uh, building that, that spans 56<sup>th</sup> Street. So there's a lot of coordination with New York City. It's right off the West Side highway where traffic is, so it's in an area that's a very busy area, so you have to be on your P's and Q's to, to stay out of trouble over there.
- 04.33.34 And uh, I'm volunteering with uh, uh, the New York Jets to uh, help them try to uh, build a stadium on the West Side highway. And I just started that in the last month or two, contacting them and speaking to their vice president on the construction and you know, we'll see how that goes, you know? Uh, where they're at right now is uh, way in pre-construction modes, trying to get environmental studies, permits, there's community boards that are involved that don't want the stadium.
- 04.34.03 You're trying to build over an active uh, MTA railroad yards and there's a bunch of different uh, obstacles there, so. I wanted to get involved with that because uh, Michael and myself are big New York Jet fans, and uh, we always dreamed of having a stadium in the city. And with the reconstruction of Lower Manhattan, this is a very good opportunity, if you're gonna build a stadium or get some planning into the infrastructure of New York, now's the best time to get it.
- 04.34.32 I mean, because New York itself, New York City is, is planning the big picture between ferry terminals, railroads, transportation hubs, stadiums if you will. The Olympics in the future, there's a whole bunch of items that would need a, need to be planned now. So it's a, it's a good opportunity if uh, if you want to get a piece of uh, that (?) your projects involved. Now's a good time to, to try to do that.

JW: What do you think is gonna happen here regarding the site? Do you have a sense of the plans?

- 04.35.15 BRIAN: Well, the last few days have been enlightening. Everyone, it's a secrete, no one knows, you, there's, there's models that come out for memorials and models that come out for the whole plan at Ground Zero and no one's sure about what's happening, but I.
- 04.35.32 What I know now is there is a transportation hub that's on Fulton Street that will connect to Ground Zero. That's in, that's in pre-construction phase where they are trying to get consultants together and our company's bid on it to manage that process. Nothing will go in the ground for two years on that in particular project, all right? Because you're going under Manhattan, you know? There's a lot of stuff you're going, tunneling, there's a, it's a massive project, just that phase.
- 04.36.03 Then I was speaking to someone this morning, there's a project manager for the Port Authority. He's working on the engineering aspect of the new station, taking the temporary PATH station and evolving that into the permanent station that's designed by the Spanish architect. So that's in, that's in the planning stages. Obviously the Freedom Tower, we're all hearing about that, that has some uh, substance to its design.
- 04.36.32 That incorporates the tearing down of the parking garages that were under Building uh, 5 and 6. So uh, we're speaking to one of the engineers that's involved in coming up with the demolition plan on that. So some of those things might come out after the holidays. So we're all keeping our ear close to the rail on that Uh, talking to different consulting firms.
- 04.36.56 Participating in uh, uh, phone calls and, and conversation with engineers on you know, who's gonna be involved, what companies are being involved, what bids are coming out, you know, that, that type of thing. So and, and that'll take us from now for ten years, 'til, 'til this all evolves.

JW: Any thoughts about what is planned?

- 04.37.22 BRIAN: Well, my, my general feeling and statement is this. I believe that the, the outline of what they want to put here is something that I probably believe in a little bit. One is uh, definitely a memorial that uh, would reflect uh, the feelings of the victims' families and they have a part on picking. So I don't in particular have any uh, one in mind or whatever, but you know, I would like to see water, I would like to see private places for the victims' families. I'm sure it will be beautiful, whatever it is.

04.38.02 Then you got the other buildings and museums they want to put down here. A tall building that's internationally renown, so New York becomes like the power city again that it was. That's very important to me. Uh.

JW: Why is that important?

04.38.18 BRIAN: That's, I grew up in New York, you know, the Twin Towers I admired them since I was a little kid, you know, New York City, just like, you know, you're a baseball team, you're a football team, you think they're the greatest. You want them to win the Super Bowl, the World Series.

04.38.33 New York City, we wanted to be the biggest, best city in the world, forever. We live here, work here. That's what we want it to be. And, and unless we had a tower or some items down here that would, that would put New York City back on the radar screen as an international uh, city renown city, then you know, we would just be, you know, second place to some other tall building in the world.

04.39.00 So I, I believe that you know, it's important to try, to try to get that uh, you know, phase here that, that redevelops Lower Manhattan in, into a renown city.

JW: How do you think the city's doing/

04.39.15 BRIAN: I don't know. The city, Lower Manhattan, if you, if you drive around the city and you're in Midtown or Uptown, and you get to Lower Manhattan, you realize, probably people never realized that it's very hard to get here.

04.39.28 There's one or two trains, buses stop in Midtown, the, the outer trains, Metro North, Long Island railroad, they only come to Midtown. It's very hard to get to Lower Manhattan. After 5, 6 o'clock, there's not a lot of things down here for people to come to. So if you could get museums uh, uh, sports arenas, uh, you know, different activities and different things that would bring people, it would revitalize the whole of Lower Manhattan.

04.40.02 Ferry terminals, ferries, you know, this was the busiest harbor in the world at one time, you know what I mean? There's a couple of ferry boats that run around. So you know, if you look around the water line all up and down the East River, there's all abandoned (LAUGHS)

things. I was in the Coast Guard and one of my last duty stations was in Governor's Island, and I always used to say, man, why can't we rebuild these shorelines, 'cos you know, you would go to Baltimore or you'd be up in Michigan somewhere, and you got nice water lines that have all these activities.

04.40.35 Parks with running places along the edge of the water, malls, uh, you know, different aquarium museums, different type of things. So ships and so on, like we have the Intrepid, that, that's evolved over the last 10 years or so. So they, they, and, and they are focusing on that now. You need to like revitalize the shorelines, like it was years ago.

04.40.57 You know, that's my feeling.

JW: You've been working a lot of hours. Has it been hard to take Saturdays and Sundays off?

04.41.15 BRIAN: Yeah, well, we took, I took a lot of Saturdays and Sundays off, it's been hard. I've had to work some Saturday's but. It wasn't like the last ten years. I was working 7 days a week, so. I would, I would still be working, but I would be home. I didn't have to drive down to the city, I communicated a lot on the telephone.

04.41.33 And then if there was really a crisis, then I would come in for the weekend. So uh, it, it did work out that I was able to stay home a lot, and that helped with the kids' recitals and gymnastic on Saturdays, take them to church on Sunday, trying to get your life back into (?) a normal state. So that, that worked out well.

JW: How does it feel in general to help New York come back to being a strong city?

04.42.07 BRIAN: Oh, absolutely great, great, great. You got to you know, you got to sit back and take it in, you know? Go outside the glass and look in a little bit, and that's what I've been trying to do, you know? I'm part of this uh, you know, it's, you're definitely just a team player, no matter. On big projects like this, there's massive bureaucracy. There's lots of different players. My feeling is, I'm gonna do something I do it the best of my ability.

04.42.33 I'm adding one grand, grain of sand to the bucket. Everyone's trying to get the bucket full, and if I do the best I can, I feel better. It helps the common goal and you know, that's the way, the way I look at it. You know?

JW: What do you think this area will be like in 10 years?

04.42.53 BRIAN: That, definitely they'll it, it's all gonna come together and it's all gonna work like they, they want it to. You know, the, the economy as we know is a dynamic, a dynamic thing. No one knows for sure, like what foreign markets do to us or you know, definitely the whole world has changed, if people haven't realized that. But it hasn't changed too much. If I had enough time I would try to look back in history, like I'm sure if you, if you look back in medieval times, there was different pockets around the world that was having, if you want to call, a terrorism.

04.43.30 Vikings go into towns and taking them over, and everyone's overcome those things. We, we're almost in the same mode, but you know, people you know, are naïve about it. Like they believe uh, you know, why do we got to like go over to some other place and fight wars and this and that, but you know, and it's taken too long to get like out of Iraq, you know. You know, look up in history and see how long it took the Minute Men to overcome the British. Years and years and years, you know? We've been over there 8 months, people think it's too long.

04.44.06 It, it's the evolution of the human race and stuff, people don't take it in perspective. That, that's my feeling about it, you know? So you know, down here in the city, it's like uh, you know, 10 years from now there'll be uh, you know, there'll be a memorial. There'll be a Freedom Tower. The day that Freedom Tower opens, some other city will want to build a bigger building than that. That, that's probably already in effect.

04.44.34 So it really doesn't matter, whatever's gonna happen here will, will happen here, you know, so? Uh, you know, I think you'll see a lot of people coming back to New York. Definitely people have their eye on security, just like, you know, uh, years past, but you know, no matter what you do, like any kingdom 500 years ago, a thousand years ago, if you were the king, you know, people hated you.

- 04.45.04 You know, they wanted to assassinate the king, you know, people hate you know, or envious of people with power. Right? So if you're the United States and you're New York City, there's some people that want to bring evil to you. If you're the boss at your job, you could be the boss at McDonald's. People don't like you. They want to sabotage your own career. You know, they want to blame you for things when you're not there. It's just human nature.
- 04.45.30 You know, that's what got us into this catastrophe. So it's uh, it, it's something that my feeling the human race won't change, but all Lower Manhattan will be revitalized. There'll be a beautiful structure here. Other things will catch on. They're already doing ferry terminals and transportation hubs and, you know, it'll definitely be a uh, you know, a nice event to come down here with your family 10 years from now, absolutely.

JW: Where will you be in ten years?

- 04.45.58 BRIAN: Well, I'm trying to be down here somewhere. I'm uh, I'm staying at home. I've traveled a lot around the country, buildings things over the years, but you know, I want to be in Manhattan (LAUGHS). You know? It's an easier commute for me and uh, you know, some way or another, I'll be, I'll be down here involved with something.

JW: What's been the hardest thing this year?

- 04.46.19 BRIAN: Uh, you know, I, I had a, I had to overcome some anxiety issues. This was a massive project on an accelerated schedules and you know, not getting a lot of sleep and a lot of pressure on you, and you know, at some point I, I think at like in the middle, beginning of the summer I, I had a step back and, and take it as it comes, take, remember that you can't change things, you know, that can't be changed. Uh, you know, look at stuff in a little different light so you could coordinate better. Don't take things personally. People say a lot of things to you that want to hurt your feelings, but it's all business, you know?
- 04.46.59 So if you don't take things personally and you try to stay focused, try to get rested, you know? You can continue on with that. So you know, a few times you get caught up in things, and uh, you know, your adrenaline goes and for a week's time, uh, you know, you might come unglued. But you know, uh, you call in, you know, your, your you know, you got to

get these wagons to circle, circle the wagons, get all your you know, uh, you know, uh, people that work with you uh, you know, help you out a little bit, pull resources when, when you're in a jam.

- 04.47.33 Uh, you know, I had to do that a couple of times, you know? So uh, that, that was difficult to do. But I had indigestion like ulcers, and I had to change my diet which is all done now. You know, I, I was eating onions and I didn't know it and I was like, I was like getting dizzy from heartburn and uh, I went to the emergency room one time. I was driving up the West Side highway on a Friday, and uh, I had bad indigestion and, and, and I didn't realize it, but then I got dizzy.
- 04.48.02 I thought I was having a heart attack. I pulled off, I was like going the wrong way down one way streets trying to get to the hospital, all right? I get to the hospital, it's up like Columbia Presbyterian, all right? I get up there, and I asked the guard where's the emergency room? He goes, oh, that's in the other building. You go up to the red light, two blocks down, make a right turn, so I just leave my truck there, and get all the way over there.
- 04.48.28 I go into the guy, I go listen, I think I'm having a heart attack. Heart Attack? That line over there. No, no, you don't understand. I have a pain in my chest, I think. Yeah, you have pains in your chest? You get on that line, ok? Fifty people on that line. So I'm having a heart attack, I got to get in line. I wait on that line for an hour and 20 minutes. All right? The lady in front of me is like complaining, 'cos she's pregnant. The one in front of her was complaining she needs to go first 'cos she's pregnant with twins, the doctor said. So she was one up on the other one.
- 04.48.59 It was almost hilarious if I wasn't waiting in an emergency room thinking I'm having a heart attack behind 50 people. Ok? It's like New York City. I said to myself, I'd been better off laying on the road on the West Side highway. The ambulance would have took me right in the emergency room. It turned out to be like indigestion and, and stress and stuff. So uh, I went to the doctor, they gave me like this pill to take every morning. It helps you with your stomach acid, right? Stay away from uh, onions and beans and, and different things that cause gases.
- 04.49.33 And I've been trying to watch what I eat. And uh, that's worked. I haven't had indigestion since then. You know? So uh, you know, you, you have to kind of keep all that in perspective uh, as you go along, you know?

JW: You're feeling good these days?

04.49.47 BRIAN: Yeah. But always remember, if you want to go to the emergency room in New York City, fall on the sidewalk (LAUGHS). I'm telling you (LAUGHS). Oh, yeah, no, I feel very good. I'm on the Atkins diet now. I'm trying to lose weight, but you know, oh.

04.50.02 You're trying to eat like two pounds of bacon for breakfast. That don't seem right. It's delicious, but I'm (LAUGHS) just telling you, that thing don't seem right, but you know, we'll see how that goes. Like I couldn't get out the front door the other day. I was eating 3 pounds of bacon. (~JW~) But you're only allowed to a half of cup of salad, by the way.

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

JW: What about having your suit on?

04.51.01 BRIAN: Oh, right. The uh, I wore my suit the last 9 o'clock meeting. It was the same suit I wore that, the morning of 9-11-01, when I woke up. I had put that suit on and I went to work at One Madison Avenue. And uh, you know, when the towers fell and stuff, I came down here and went back to the firehouse. So that, that was the suit I had on the morning of 9-11. So I thought it'd be fitting at the last 9 o'clock meeting, the last field meeting in the bathtub, the foundations of the Twin Towers, to wear that suit again.

04.51.36 And uh, you know, tramping around the whole job, I always had construction boots on, dirty vest, jacket, so on. So everyone's very surprised to see why I was in a suit, everyone was wondering why you in the suit? So I, I spoke about that, and I spoke about uh, a few things that had happened. Uh, during the project from the beginning to the end.

04.51.59 And I, I contemplated all week what I was gonna do for the 9 o'clock meeting, because you know, everyone looked at me (STOPS)

04.52.10 END OF TAPE # BL.1103.0400.4

**TAPE # BL.1103.0500.5**  
**Brian Lyons**  
**Interview 11.03**  
**JIM WHITAKER, Producer/Director**  
**PROJECT REBIRTH**

05.00.57 PICTURE UP

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

05.02.13 BRIAN: Uh, I thought about the 9 o'clock meeting all, all week, what I was gonna say. And uh, I went to a dinner about a month ago, and the guy opened up with a quote from Abraham Lincoln, you know? I built a log, I chopped the cherry tree down. That was really George Washington, but so I was like, you know, he had a famous quote.

05.02.32 So uh, I thought of uh, Vince Lombardi's quote as a quote that I wrote down on a, on a uh, a big uh, poster board when I was in 9<sup>th</sup> grade of high school in football practice and I put it on the locker room wall that stayed there the four years I was in high school. it was like, you know, uh, there's no feeling like being uh, (CLEARS THROAT) laying on the battlefield, exhausted but victorious.

05.03.01 Something to that order by Vince Lombardi. Which is the well-known football coach from Green Bay Packers. And then, and I, and I thought about it and uh, I didn't know exactly what I was gonna say. And then, then it came to me, what, what I said was uh, you know, I told everyone the significance of, of my suit. How I came 9-11 to look for my brother, and I ended up running the whole, entire PATH project in the field.

05.03.31 But one of the things that always would come to me is there was one of the chief engineers from the Port Authority, Tom O'Connor uh, I was involved with from the first or second day of the recovery. He was also involved with a lot of the World Trade Center uh, construction. And the last couple of months he would come to the meeting and have questions and stuff. But no matter when he spoke, I always thought about him in this light.

05.03.55 And if you looked around the station today, there was this mesh graphics that are put on the exterior of the temporary station that had a famous quote from Walt Whitman, John (?)

Lennon, Gene Kelly, you know, Ed Koch, different people from New York City. And what I said was uh, about the second or third day of uh, after 9-11, I was trying to put a crane on the old plaza area in between 4 and 5.

- 05.04.28 And there was a lot of engineering issues, you know, no one knew if this was gonna hold it. We had to find beams that went to bedrock, and there was a lot of issues happening. So like the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> day when we had a regroup meeting at, at the, at the kindergarten classrooms that we used to work out of uh, Tom O'Connor uh, arised. He was in charge of the morning meeting. The Port Authority must have sent him there. So after the meeting, I said to him, Tom, listen, I've been working for a couple of days or 30 hours or however it was, time is hard to remember then.
- 05.04.59 Working on this crane over there, and I'm trying to get the engineers up there and (?) no meetings. No meetings. Not unless I approve them. I'm like oh, man. So the meetings went on at that the rest of that day or that morning. And, and uh, I was still trying to get people up there and, and so I let, we left the building. Everything was over. So I headed back from the, from the public school back to the site was about, it's about 3 blocks. It was an old, there's an old path that you could walk through all the dust. It's just a little pathway.
- 05.05.30 No one cleaned anything up yet over that area, so you were trudging you way, I had my brother's bunker gear on. All the way back to the site. And like halfway through, I hear someone say, hey, Lyons. I look up, and there was Tom O'Connor. He was leaning against a, a light post, smoking a cigarette, with his helmet down. He's Lyons, I took care of that for you. An engineer will meet you up there. And I said to everyone, instead of one of these famous quotes that said, you know, I walk fast on the streets of New York 'cos it's exhilarating. I believe they should have the quote from Tom O'Connor that said to me, Lyons, I took care of that for you.
- 05.06.07 I got an engineer to meet you up there. Tom O'Connor. And uh, you know, that was important to me that happened that day, and, and while he was there, even when he was speaking about other things, I always used to picture him leaning up against that light post, all right? You know, helping out. He, he was exhausted, I was exhausted.
- 05.06.29 But that's a famous quote in my book, you know, 'cos that was in the very beginning and you were trying to get things done, and I didn't know anybody. No one knew me. And anyone that would help me would you know, you know, I would you know, appreciate that. And that

was one of the things that, that he had done. And uh, you know, that, that's some of the things that I, that I spoke about at the uh, at the meeting. You know, there was an old timer, this guy, John Brady. He's well in his 60's and we were doing, you know, I made (?) John get up and stand up so everyone could recognize him and, and give him, you know, a round of applause.

05.07.04 Because he, he would take guys, 3 and 4 young laborers and drag them with a cement truck a mile into the tunnel, under the Hudson River in a 100 year-old tunnel, pour concrete all the way through. Then go out and go into the other tunnel. And there was no stopping that guy. He, he was, he's a guy that you know, you want to have him on your side, you know? Dedicated. You know? And, and stuff.

05.07.28 So you know, we picked out a few people that you know, had their heart in it, and helped me through the, some of those hard times, you know? And uh, you know, was very, it was very uh, emotional for me that 9 o'clock meeting. You know, I held my own, but it was uh, it was very good. It was very good (?) fitting, you know, going out.

JW: Was it because Tom was older and respected and made it happen for you?

05.07.57 BRIAN: Both, both. He was a little older and he uh, you know, you were uh, evolving into more organization then, (?) after the second or third day. So you needed to rely on people that they were putting in charge, ok? You know, the first couple of days, you know, people were doing anything they wanted. But then like by the 3<sup>rd</sup> day, if you wanted to organize something, you really had to have the blessing of people that were in command. And that, that's where we were at, at that level. So for him to be able to help me out, which he didn't know who the hell I even was, was something, you know, that I had appreciated and remembered.

JW: Is he still involved?

05.08.36 BRIAN: Yeah, yeah, he's still involved. He's, you know, one of the major engineers for the Port Authority.

JW: He would be recognized?

BRIAN: Oh, yeah, they know him, yeah, when he was there.

JW: Was he at the meeting?

05.08.49 BRIAN: Yeah, yeah, he was at the meeting. (~JW~) Yeah, yeah, he was sitting right next to me. He didn't know I was gonna say that. He's very surprised. He don't even remember that, but I said, you know, if you think about it, you'll remember it. 'Cos a lot of things were happening in the beginning, you know? Yeah. But he remembers the crane operations, so.

JW: Anything in general you'd like to say?

05.09.16 BRIAN: I, I guess you know, it, it's surreal for me, you know, I might take it for granted, I don't know. Like, you know, running a lot of people and organizing these things. I, I pretty much take it for granted. Some outsiders they, they look at it like, you know, how does he do all those type of things?

05.09.33 But for myself, it's like I don't know. That's kind of the way I've been. So it, it's hard for me to see what we do in general, as, as a construction companies or team players. You know, 'cos I think it's normal, but the outsiders can look in and, and see you know, an organized effort to accomplish things.

05.09.57 And I think of that sometimes, you know, but for me, it seems to be you know, just my nature to do that. And uh, you know, every day different days, every other day people are like, you know, uh, how do you do that, how do you do this, and I really don't take notice of that. But uh, you know, I, I just wanted you know, to acknowledge that you know, people are recognizing that, I guess. And uh, I guess that's a good attribute. I was always like that before, but you know, now, now that you're involved with something, and I don't let anyone really know my situation, you know?

05.10.31 I don't really publicly say I lost my brother here. That's why I'm doing that. I don't, never really comes up too much, you know, only certain people know my situation. That happens down here.

JW: How much of a motivator is it?

- 05.10.44 BRIAN: It's not really a motivator, 'cos I'm, was always like that. You know what I mean? But it's uh, it's just a special thing to be here and part of since he was down here. I always told the story about Mike, I don't know if I ever told you the story is.
- 05.10.59 In '93, when the first bombing came, he was, just got on the fire department, so he was either on probation or just after the first year and his Engine Company, 44, which was uh, it's up on 75<sup>th</sup> Street, they got called. But they only stopped around like 18<sup>th</sup> Street. They never got to come to the towers. So, you know, they were all on the edge of the seat, are we going, are we getting called, we getting called? And never got called. So for six years we would hear all the time from Michael. Yeah, we almost got called to that Trade Center one. That was the big one, we were waiting for it.
- 05.11.33 'Cos when you're a fireman, you want to be called to the big one. Everyone wants the big fire. The, the big fires, the, the townhouses that are burning down, everyone wants to be involved in those busy fires. That's a fireman's life. So when the towers, Twin Towers were on fire, this was like the big one. All right? I knew Michael was like so excited to get there that uh, at, at his eulogy I spoke about.
- 05.12.00 I could picture him getting out of the rig, grabbing his halligan and like running as fast as he could into that building you know? So it was like I, I know he was like full steam ahead. Trying to accomplish something that he had deep in his heart. And, and I always think of that when I'm down here, you know? It doesn't uh, push me to, to try to get stuff actually done, 'cos that's my nature anyway. He was the same way. So whether he was trying to get the fire out or he was trying to uh, you know, build his nursery for his, his baby that was gonna be born.
- 05.12.35 It, it was always the same thing. You were gung ho about something that you believed in. And uh, you know, the, this is something that I know that he would, he would be like to be involved with, and he was an engineer, too. And it was kind of like something that would uh, it just, it all fits together. That, that's my feeling about it.

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

05.13.10 BRIAN: We missed it, we missed the run. By a week. They all went up the river the weekend before because it was freezing cold. And it (?) was Columbus Day. I usually go every Columbus Day we try to go, 'cos you get that Monday off (~JW~) for the last ten years. (~JW~) It's October 12<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> right? The salmon run starts somewhere between, you're not Italian, right? (LAUGHS)

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

05.13.42 BRIAN: You know, every year, we try to schedule the salmon run. So I have a friend that he moved from my town up there. He retired, he has a boat. He has like a little lodge now. So you're always on the, I'm trying to get on, you know, when is the salmon, when are they starting to come? So it's very hard to tell, because the Salmon River, they have a hatchery with a power plant on the top that they open the water gates.

05.14.06 So when the water is running very quickly, the salmon come up. But if it's warmer water, not as many salmon come up. So usually Columbus Day, that first week in October, you kind of hit it no matter what you do. But the Columbus Day weekend, it was like 65 degrees out, and the water wasn't running. So like you barely see any fish. The weekend before was really cold at night, got like to like 25.

05.14.32 All the fish came up and got to the top of the river. No one could believe it. We were there for like 3 days fishing. We caught one fish. Usually we catch 20 or 30 fish. But Patricia loved it. They were, she was, we (?) got a little rowboat this time with a little motor on it. We took her out there, we anchored out. And uh, her and Elizabeth had a little pole. We just had it. We didn't want them to catch uh, a salmon. We had them with a worm on the bottom to try to catch a catfish or something. But they didn't know. They seen the salmon jumping right at them. They thought they were fishing for those things.

05.15.00 So it, it was great, though, you know? But we (?) they, wasn't enough in the river like. And a lot of times, the river's not that wide in some spots. It's only like 60 feet wide. So like say last year, last year I caught 50 fish. If there's a pool, when we went last year, there might be 300 fish in that pool. This year, there might have been 12 fish in the pool, because they were, had already moved up.

05.15.29 So I did a little bit different fishing, too. I, I did fish the streams this year. There was like different areas where there was waterfalls, and, and these two salmon, or not just two, but every time there was two. They were like right in the middle of the water, holding their own. And if they left, then two other ones would come. So we spent a good part of the day trying to hook those guys up, you know what I mean? People, different people were catching them around us, but I, we only caught one fish. But it was still fun. It was good for the kids. It was warm, they were riding their bikes. We had a campfire.

05.16.00 So you know it was a good weekend, but. No filets to bring back. (LAUGHS)

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

05.16.56 BRIAN: (MID-STATEMENT) 'cos I was thinking the other day, this is, you have, just yourself, too. You uh, initiating this project and everything, I think it's the greatest thing in the world, Jim. Fifty years from now, this, this is like the greatest thing. I know you guys are doing a lot of work on it, it's a lot of cameras, and, and the rebirth of this whole thing is like historic thing. It's like it'll be (?) unsurpassed. I mean, it's gonna be great. (~JW~) You know, I really, if you need any help with anything, you always call me, and I'll take care. If I, got to you know, pick him up from the airport, all. I you know, I'm serious. Always (~ovlp~)

(OFF CAMERA REMARKS)

05.22.37 ROOM TONE

05.23.19 END OF TAPE # BL.1103.0500.5