

Married To an heiress

Chapter 19

After the accidental shooting of Stoney Adamson and helping Pig Pen dispose of the body, Ross Ewen, of Franklin, Ohio, disappears. Turns out he enlists with the military and is stationed at an air force base in Germany. The police are able to track him down more than two years later. Ewen is arrested by military intelligence in Germany, and is appointed an attorney. He is interrogated four times and he finally tells the truth about the events that took place at Thor's property that night, while Thor was in Key West, Florida, on a club function. The confession matched the explanation Thor was given by Ewen and Pig Pen shortly after he returned from Key West, that Stoney had grabbed the barrel of the shotgun Ewen was pointing at him, then yelled "You haven't got the balls", causing the weapon to discharge when Stoney jerked the gun up to his throat, since Ewen had his finger on the trigger, and literally blew his own head off.

The State Attorney, Horace B. Smith, insist the interrogation of Ewen take place in Germany. And incredibly, turns down the military offer of transferring Ewen to Florida in order that he be readily available for the on-going investigation. What happens next, only the State attorney knows for sure, but the result is that Thor and Roadblock are arrested. Some months later, Ewen is questioned in front of a judge at the military court in Germany, with the participation of Thor and Roadblock's defense attorneys, plus Horace B. Smith, where Ewen suddenly changes his entire incident description.

Thor is shocked when he realizes that Ewen is the prosecutor's eye witness.

-Thor and roadblock stormed in to the room, then shot and killed Stoney. They screamed that they would kill me too if I told the cops, Ewen testifies at the hearing.

This new twist turns the investigation completely around. But the military investigators finds his new scenario so baffling that they issue a report stating that Ewen's new incident description has no credibility, and appears to have been coached by outside influences. They had conducted four separate interrogations of Ewen over a period of several weeks, where he added further details during each interview, and finally admitted in the end to what had actually taken place, never mentioning either Thor or Roadblock even once during their intense interrogations, which is totally opposite to what he testifies during the judicial hearing several months later.

Their attorney's obtain a copy of the Military Intelligence report, which is submitted in court,

and the judge has no option but to let the two men go. Bail is set at \$10,000 each, and shortly before Christmas 1977 Thor and Roadblock are released from custody.

The defense attorneys have a sneaking suspicion that State Attorney Smith is behind Ewen's sudden change of events that took place.

-This case stinks so badly that it will never make it to trial, Thor's lawyer, Robert Adams, states emphatically.

Adams is certain there will be an investigation into who has instructed Ewen to lie.

The fact that Smith refused the military's offer to send an eyewitness to Florida to be available in a first degree murder trial is unheard of, but Horace B. Smith declines; an incredible decision which is against all normal legal procedures. They will later understand why.

Thor tries to put the whole mess behind him and go on with his life. He decides on a life together with Ritchey, who bails him out of jail and is of great help financially throughout the entire ordeal. Thor was convinced that he would receive the death penalty if convicted, and is grateful for Ritchey's help. Without a good lawyer he would've been screwed, and good lawyers don't come cheap.

One day Thor proposes they get married, and she accepts. The date is set for the 4th of July, 1978 which is both Independence Day as well as Thor's father's birthday. However, they are unable to get married until July 16th 1978, because when Thor's friend David Allen Coe calls to invite him to Willie Nelson's annual 4th of July picnic, he can't refuse. Willie is the godfather of Coe's daughter, and Thor knows the whole band. On this trip he is reacquainted with Kris Kristofferson, Willie's guitar player, Jody Payne, and off course Willie Nelson. Thor is also introduced to Willie's good friend, Waylon Jennings. Willie and Waylon are portrayed as the *cocaine cowboys* by the media, and there is no doubt that their after-show parties are pretty wild.

But during Willie's 4th of July festival at Dallas stadium, Thor is having such a great time that the wedding slips his mind, you might say. If Jody Payne's attempt to lure Thor onto Willie's tour bus when they were leaving Dallas had succeeded, he might never have gotten hitched.

But he marries Ritchey. Two weeks past the date, but alas. The bride's mother is very much against the nuptials. She is a wealthy society lady with a large property on the Intercostal Waterway in Daytona Beach. The plan is that the ceremony is to take place on the lawn, but

they quickly have to change plans when Ritchey's mother locks up the house and leaves for her house in Ohio, clearly in protest. Not only is Thor an Outlaw; he's also out on bond for murder.

Thor is not at all surprised. He even understands why she has this kind of reaction, but the couple won't let a little thing like that ruin their wedding day. They drag the priest across the street to a nearby park where the ceremony takes place in the beautiful weather.

Thor's mother and his sister, Carol, are the only ones from his family attending the wedding. They are thrilled that he is finally getting married, and are hoping that he will finally settle down. Nobody from Ritchey's family attends. The rest of the guests are members of the Outlaws, with Hammer as his Best Man.

After the ceremony the wedding party moves on to celebrate at many of the bars in town. There is a big party at a topless bar, Lovely Linda's, and the big surprise is revealed. The time has come to hand over the wedding present from the club. There is a big cheer from the crowd when Niblets is handed over. Carol and Thor's mother cannot believe what they are witnessing. Thor and Richey are given a young girl as a wedding present.

Thor still laughs when he remembers the look on their faces. That's the life of an Outlaw back then. Niblets is a 20 year old girl that looks 14. The name comes from the small canned-corn called niblets, and because she is so small and looks so young. She's a beautiful go-go girl who's been having trouble with her pimp, but now the club has rescued her, and presented her to Thor and Richie as a wedding present. They already know her well and like her allot. Niblets is very happy and immediately moves in with the newlyweds.

No wonder Thor's mother and sister are shocked. It is not exactly common practice to give away people as wedding gifts. It is hard to wrap ones head around it if you are not familiar with the Outlaws lifestyle back then.

- You have to understand that this was common practice in the biker environment in the 60's and 70's. Girls had poor living conditions in the countryside and came in to the city to make money. Many of them were beautiful girls that discovered that they could make good money as go-go girls and hookers. As soon as they decided to get into that line of work, they needed protection. I never forced anyone to become prostitutes, so I never saw myself as a pimp.

We didn't give a shit about how other people saw us. The girls did it of their own free will. They were free to leave whenever they wanted to, Thor explains.

Niblets makes allot of money as one of Thor's *old ladies*. Evenings she dances at Lovely Linda's go-go bar. Her nights are spent having sex with old perverts for money. She is very popular with this particular group because of her petite size and young appearance, and she doesn't seem to mind it either.

Thor has two girls in addition to Niblets in his stable, working in Fort Lauderdale where he also has an auto body shop in Pompano Beach. Most of the members have their own little harem, and live off of the money the girls bring in, whereas Thor makes most of his living buying and fixing wrecked cars. Many of the girls move between the brothels and truck-stops in the southern states, and neither pimps nor the johns dare lay a finger on an Outlaws old lady.

Thor says that the girls are there by their own free will. If one of the guys gets tired of a girl, he can sell her, or trade her with another brother, but usually with the girl's consent. They are organized, almost like a union. Big Jim Nolan's old lady is the head of the union, and you don't want to mess with her. Thor feels that the girls are more in control over the guys than the other way around. They are more organized, in control of the money, and are excellent manipulators like most women as far as Thor is concerned. They are pretty much in control of who they want to "belong" to.

All the girls have to live with their "old man", and there is an order in the house. The lowest ranked girl has to do the menial jobs in the house. It is a very efficient system that works well. There are rarely fights and jealousy.

Niblets adjusts well into her house routines after the wedding. But after a few months she falls in love with a truck driver, and she decides to marry him, with Thor and Ritchey's blessing.

Thor has three girls working for him in Southern Florida. In Daytona he only has Richey, but she never turned tricks for a living. She has her own money, and gives up dancing after they get married. She only did it for kicks, and to combat boredom.

During this time, Ritchey gets pregnant, and Thor retires from the club to focus on his family. He has been a part of the club for over 12 years and contributed so much that nobody has any objections. He spends his days at his body shop and evenings with his family. He keeps his distance from the club to avoid focus on himself while the murder case is still pending.

A date is set for the next court hearing. He is no longer concerned that he will receive the death penalty, because of all the new evidence that has been presented. Their defense attorneys expect the case will be dismissed at the next hearing.

Here, William Snowden and Ralph Henshaw, the homicide investigators, testify they are convinced that neither Thor nor Roadblock was involved in the homicide. Thor has provided an alibi from the Key West Police, with hourly reports of his movements from when the club had been there to scare away the gay invasion of the city; The airline ticket he used when he flew home to Daytona after he sold his car to Big Jim, and Iron Mike's wife, who picked up both him, Iron Mike, and Little Billy at the airport when they arrived.

All of a sudden State attorney Horace B. Smith stands up and informs the court:

-Our eyewitness has disappeared. We bought him an airline ticket, but he never showed up at the airport. I believe these two have killed him and buried him somewhere in Germany, he says.

- However, we have to proceed with trial today. We won't find Ewen now, so a court bailiff will have to read his testimony for the jury, Smith informs the court.

-But we have an additional witness that these men are killers, who will testify about two additional murders these two have committed, Smith continues.

That's when Thor realizes why the state attorney is so smug. He has a new witness up his sleeve. A witness that apparently has already provided testimony to the grand jury. The reason for the charges is suddenly crystal clear. Smith has more than one Ace up his sleeve.

The State attorney has dusted off an old acquaintance. Gabe was a former member that Thor and his friends have been hunting for a long time, because he took off with a motorcycle he had bought from Thor when he was about to be kicked out of the club. He wasn't very popular with the other members to begin with. He seldom attended meetings, and when he took the bike without paying for it, he was in deep shit. They now find out that Gabe had disappeared to Colorado. As far as Thor is concerned, he stole the bike.

Gabe also has outstanding criminal charges against him in Daytona Beach. These charges are mostly petty crimes, but unpleasant enough for him that he is willing to testify against Thor and Roadblock in exchange for dropping these charges, in hopes they would both disappear so he could move back to Florida.

The courtroom erupts. The defense attorneys insist that Ewen must be available for cross examination, being an eyewitness in a murder case, and before his deposition can be read before a jury, there must be proof that he's been killed, and hasn't simply run away, rather than commit perjury under oath. The judge interrupts the debate and says that he accepts the

motion by the prosecutor, and will permit the deposition from Germany to be read before the jury. He also claims to have received threats himself.

-Who else would be behind those kinds of threats? The judge points in Thor and Roadblock's direction as he hits the table hard with the gavel.

Their bonds are revoked, and are placed back in custody, while the proceedings are postponed for one week. The judge never hands over a copy of the alleged threatening letters as he stated he would, and they are never mentioned again. Nothing but lies, of course.

The trial opens with a formal motion made by the prosecutor that Ewen's deposition is read to the jury by the bailiff, in lieu of his eyewitness testimony.

-Since these two has killed him it must be allowed, insists Horace B. Smith.

The defense attorneys jump to their feet, shouting

-Where's the proof that he's even dead?

This is unheard of. If the judge allows this they won't be able to cross-examine an eyewitness, in a murder trial, which is required by law.

-They had ample opportunity to cross examine Ewen at the proceedings in Germany, which is reflected in the transcript, and is more than sufficient reason given the circumstances for why this witness cannot appear in person, alluding to his claim that they had killed Ewen.

But of course, this is all pre-planned, and judge Uriel T. Blount has now clearly exposed his part in the conspiracy to send Thor and Roadblock to death row, and grants the motion.

It's time for Gabe's testimony. He takes the stand and testifies that the Outlaw bosses has also killed two other men and even showed him the bodies, and was told he would end up like them and Stoney if he didn't keep his mouth shut.

But the whole thing backfires on them when the two homicide investigators testify that they recently interviewed both of these men, who are in prison in Ohio and very much alive, and very angry at Gabe for making up these lies. Another eruption in the courtroom comes when Gabe is forced to leave the stand with his tail between his legs, totally discredited.

Pig Pen, who was present when the shooting occurred and forced Ewen to dispose of the body,

rather than call the cops since he was on the run himself, is in jail for murder in North Carolina, and the investigators present their interview report. He repeats Ewen's original admission to MI investigators, that Stony was killed when he pulled the shotgun up to his own throat.

The Key West police also confirms Thor's alibi, with detailed records of his movements the entire time he stayed in the city, from Sunday evening until they all leave on Wednesday morning, the morning when Stony is presumed to have been killed in Daytona Beach, and he observes that many members of the jury shake their heads in disbelief.

The case has literally fallen apart for Horace B. Smith, right in front of the jury.

But during closing arguments, Horace B. Smith pulls another yet rabbit out of his hat.

-They killed Stony on Sunday, *before* they left for Key West. And the only reason they left for Key West was to provide themselves with an alibi, Smith claims.

The courtroom erupts yet again. This completely contradicts the coroner's estimated time of death, that he had died within 48 hours from the body was found on Friday morning. But most important; new evidence is not allowed to be presented during closing arguments, unless the defense is given an opportunity to respond, which of course is denied by the judge.

-We'll let the jury decide, he proclaims.

The prosecutor's stunt partly works. After deliberating for only 5 hours, they are hopelessly dead-locked and are convinced they'll never agree. The state attorney was able to create enough doubt that there are 5 against 7 of the jurors who believe they could have killed Stony before they left for Key West., and have completely disregarded the coroner's testimony.

It ends with a mistrial. All twelve jurors must agree unanimously if there is to be a conviction.

The police investigators are furious. They are supposed to be working to solve crimes, but this case is beyond any rule of law. They have proof that Stony was alive two days after Smith told the jury that they had killed Stony, and Smith has known this from the beginning. Stony's girlfriend had told her foster parent, Lt. Art Dees at the sheriff's office, that she had spoken to Stony on Tuesday afternoon, two days *after* Smith claims he was killed, when Stony was on his way to pick up his unemployment check.

-The prosecutor is lying to the jury, investigators William Snowden and Ralph Henshaw state to

the media waiting outside the courtroom.

But there's more. The same investigators have also received information of how Ewen all of a sudden became a witness for the prosecution. After telling the truth in four separate interviews with military intelligence officers, State attorney Smith had a little chat with Ewen on the telephone. Apparently he offered Ewen complete immunity if he admitted what had "really" happened. Smith held nothing back. He promised him that he would be absolutely free from prosecution if he testified against Thor and Roadblock. There were many conversations between Smith and Ewen where they discussed the details of his "eyewitness testimony", even guarantying him that he wouldn't even have to be present in court to testify in person.

Thor, Roadblock, and their attorneys continue to look for more evidence. The deciding moment for Thor and Roadblock came when sheriff's Lt. Art Dees enters a meeting with their attorneys, and simply drops an envelope on the table in front of them. Thor and the others simply stare at Lt. Dees with surprise as he leaves the room without saying a word. The lawyer's open the envelope, and a big picture of Stoney falls out. It's the picture of Stoney cashing his unemployment check, giving the exact time and date. The check is being cashed on a Tuesday, while the Smith had stated in court that Stoney was killed on a Sunday, two days earlier. They now have documentary proof that Horace B. Smith had lied before the jury.

There is even a copy of a request by the state attorney's office for the FBI to analyze the signature of the check Stoney cashed, signed by none other than Horace B. Smith himself.

Thor and their lawyers are not at all surprised. This goes to show how far Smith is willing to go to achieve his political ambitions. Smith comes from a long line of public servants, and to nail the high profiled Outlaws would look great on his resume. If he can put Thor and Roadblock in the electric chair, it could put him in the Governor's chair. Thor is aware of the chances of that happening if the prosecutor had gotten away with this.

Smith is also mad at Thor for not giving up the names of two Outlaw-members that beat up three civilians who walked around with home-made Outlaw patches during Bike Week. Not to mention the Casino-business Thor had going on at the county prison farm that lead to the dismissal of Captain Waples, which all together fuels his urge for revenge. He cannot let this go. There is great prestige in it for Smith to nail Thor, and if he can get Roadblock at the same time, all the better. Roadblock is president of the Jacksonville Chapter. He and Thor very efficiently govern North Florida Outlaws under the supervision of Big Jim Nolan, the regional president.

Being in possession of this new evidence, neither they nor their attorneys have any doubt that the case will be dismissed and will be set free immediately this evidence is presented before the court. However, Thor and Roadblock have failed to take Judge Blount into account, and are forced to remain in jail until a new trial date is set, while state Attorney Smith is on a skiing vacation in Aspen, Colorado.

Another month passes before Judge Uriel T. Blount suddenly calls a court hearing.

-There is an offer from the prosecutor, and I will advise you to take it, he states from the bench.

In spite of all the evidence of Smith having manipulated the evidence, and has even lied about the victims time of death before the jury, the judge refuses to dismiss the case, and even encourages the two to accept a plea bargain.

Thor can see that the prosecutor is scribbling for dear life on a legal pad in front of him. He will drop the first degree murder charge if they plead No Contest to accessory after the fact.

In other words, they will be set free if they accept time served for the accessory charge, a charge that was dismissed early on in the proceedings because of the statute of limitations. To reopen a case that has expired under the statute is illegal according to state law, but Smith tries everything to get out of an embarrassing situation and to save his own skin, with a lot of help from the judge. They will not get the electric chair, and be free on Time Served, provided that Thor does not contest the automatic INS hearings on his US residency permit that would result from this plea agreement.

He even threatens to reopen the already disproven rape charge if he doesn't submit.

-No way, Thor responds angrily.

-Not only do I have an alibi, I have proven my innocence, and proven that you are a fucking liar, and that you even have manufactured evidence in a murder trial, Thor yells at the prosecutor.

The Court Officers drags him out of the courtroom and into a holding cell in back of the courtroom. In the meantime, the defense attorneys demands that the case be dismissed, based upon all of the new evidence, but the judge won't budge.

-I advise you to take the offer; otherwise there will be a new trial with charges of premeditated murder. Your clients could still risk the death penalty, he warns.

Thor sees this as a final attempt by both the judge and Smith to clean up their dirty laundry, and flatly refuses.

-No way. I want a new trial, he says.

Thor is aware that a plea bargain like that could lead to his deportation.

But Roadblock is adamant. His defense rested entirely on Thor's alibi after failing a lie detector test. He just wants this to be over and done with since he'll be free, without further worries about the case, not caring that Thor will have to face deportation proceedings as a result.

-Screw that stupid INS. I'm sick of this shit. I'm not going back to jail. I want to get out of here now. My family is waiting for me outside. We'll take the deal, or I'll fucking kill you if you don't, he yells at Thor, but Thor blames his outburst on the heat of the moment, knowing he doesn't mean it.

But Thor's lawyer chimes in and says that the prosecutor has made a couple of alterations, and changed the wording of the plea bargain, which contradicts itself, and he'll have it overturned on appeal.

-This is just symbolic. The prosecutor is under a lot of pressure from the media. It's all about prestige at this point. You are newly-wed to a beautiful wife. You can put this behind you now.

-This document is useless because it's so flawed. The agreement will automatically be reversed on appeal, the lawyer assures him, mostly because the accessory charge had already been dismissed on the statute of limitations, and cannot be brought back again on a whim by Smith.

Thor gives it another thought. It's tempting. He's sick of this whole mess too. But he has to take into consideration that he is a high profiled Daytona Beach Outlaws member, who needs all the help he can muster to keep the cops off his back, and this might help to do just that. He would like to settle down and raise his family after all of this mess.

-Ok. I'll go along, but you make sure you fix this on appeal, he tells his lawyer.

Thor hopes that this will give him a little breather, and that he'll be left pretty much alone in the future, if the prosecutor gets his symbolic victory. Perhaps they'll even leave the club alone for a while. Horace should think twice before he messes with either him or the club again.

After his release, Ritchey gets pregnant, and Thor retires from the club to focus on his family.

He has been a part of the club for over 12 years and contributed so much that nobody has any objections. They move to a nice house on a canal in Fort Lauderdale, and spend his days at his body shop in Pompano Beach and evenings with his family. He keeps his distance from the club to avoid too much focus on himself while the deportation case is still pending.

At the same time he promises himself that he will go after Smith legally after he's won his appeal, and perhaps even have the man's license to practice law revoked.

But Thor has a bad feeling that this isn't over yet.

It's just too good to be true. A few days after the plea agreement, unbeknownst to him, Thor's lawyer is taken to the hospital for a bad case of shell fish poisoning. Since he had to hire an attorney experienced in immigration law to handle his INS case, he knows nothing about this when he is called in for an immigration hearing a couple of months later regarding his US residency. This is standard procedure whenever a legal resident is convicted of a felony, and shouldn't be a big deal, since the reason for the hearing, the plea agreement, will be overturned on appeal.

When Thor gets there he runs into William "Buddy" Snowden, one of the sheriff investigators from the trial, who informs him of what has happened to his lawyer, and that the appeal hadn't even been filed. The defense attorney didn't file an appeal on time because of his illness. The verdict is still very much intact. The INS has a case they never should have had.

Both Lt. Henshaw and Snowden testify on behalf of Thor, and explain everything that has happened. Thor's INS attorney therefore asks to postpone the hearing until after the appeal is final, which would be normal procedure.

-Fine. You can have a postponement if you post a \$100,000 cash bond, the INS hearing officer states.

-I don't have that kind of money, Thor exclaims.

-*Rea my lips*: \$100,000 cash now or you're out of here.

-Then you'll just have to lock me up until the next hearing, Thor responds.

He is taken out of the courtroom by two INS officers. But instead of putting him in custody he is taken straight to the airport and put on the next plane to Norway, with a short layover in

Germany. It turns out that the airline ticket was purchased several days earlier, proving that they were going to deport him regardless of the outcome of the hearing.

Thor had no doubt that Smith was behind this. He had heard rumors that Smith had been in contact with a family friend, US Senator Lawton Chiles, and had him put pressure on the INS to kick Thor out of the country “for being the notorious criminal that he is”. Horace B. Smith would stop at nothing to get Thor out of the country, and perhaps avoid having his license revoked, or even go to jail himself for his criminal manipulation of evidence in a first degree murder trial. This was even confirmed by Smith himself when he was forced to respond to a Bar-complaint Thor filed against him in 2002, but you’ll read more about that later.

Both Thor and his immigration lawyer agree that the deportation is in violation of all rules and procedure, and is convinced that he’ll have his residency restored once his appeal on the plea agreement is settled in his favor.

The investigators, Ralph Henshaw and Buddy Snowden were both present during the hearing, and testified as to the facts of the case. But the hearing officer simply ignores it.

His pregnant wife, who has witnessed both the incredible murder trial and the INS hearing, is at a total loss as she accompanies Thor to the airport. She is crying while her husband is taken away. She has spent a large amount of her money from the Maxwell House trust fund to pay for Thor’s legal expenses, and insist that he come back as soon as possible, which he did.

Thor is deported on February 15th, 1979. During the layover in Germany, he calls the base where Ewen is stationed, and actually gets him on the phone.

-Do you realize the consequences of what you’ve done? I have been deported. Why in the hell did you go along with this deal? Under your own admission, you could at worst only be held accountable for involuntary homicide, which was far beyond the statute of limitations when you made your admission to the investigators. You couldn’t have been charged with anything, and Horace B. Smith knew this. You’ve been tricked into giving a false legal deposition before a court in Germany, which could get you convicted for perjury even in the US because this happened before a US military court. Do you have any concept of the corner you’ve painted yourself into?

-He threatened me with the electric chair, but offered me immunity from any criminal charges if I’d agree to change my story. He even sent me money to get lost during the trial. And told me not to answer the phone or speak with anyone until after the trial was over.

-Who did, Thor asks.

- State Attorney Smith.

Thor's suspicion is confirmed. This was all the proof he needed to show it was all about Smith's political ambition to get Thor on death row, and get himself into the governor's mansion, and when that didn't work, get Thor kicked out of the country so his manipulation of the evidence wouldn't be exposed. Thor swears to himself that Smith's victory will be short lived.

He continues his journey to Copenhagen to visit his sister and her family living there. He spends a few days in Denmark's capital, and then flies back to Frankfurt. When he gets there he rents a car and drives to Geneva in Switzerland, where he purchases a ticket with Bahamas Air to Nassau. He stays there for a few days and then continues on to Bimini to meet up with his friend and club brother, Dirty Dick. He owns a big fishing boat that brings them back to the United States. They dock right behind Thor's house, on a canal in Fort Lauderdale, where his own boat, "Lucky Lady", is also docked. He is back in the US – five days after he was deported, but this time he is here illegally.

William "Buddy" Snowden today is a retired deputy sheriff who enjoys life as the mayor of idyllic Lake Helen, Florida. He is still 100 % certain Thor had no any part in the homicide of Stoney Adamson.

-Hansen has an alibi for the time of the murder, there's no doubt about that. He was not involved. He was convicted for a crime he was completely innocent of.

-He was convicted because he was a member of the Outlaws Motorcycle Club. It also became personal for Horace B. Smith, not only because Hansen was a high profiled Outlaws member, but also because the State Attorney had lost another case against him in Ormond Beach, where Hansen was acquitted, says Buddy Snowden today.

Ralph Henshaw, the Chief investigator agrees with Snowden.

-Thor had nothing to do with Stoney's homicide, he says.

He has always supported the Norwegian, but says that it has cost him dearly.

During the investigation he made his opinion clear, that Robert Ewen's original deposition to the military investigators was the truth, and was openly critical about the way the prosecutor

had manipulated the evidence.

One day representatives from the State Attorney's office showed up at his office. Henshaw was told that he was in way over his head, and that it would cost him if he tried to fight the system.

-So what if he didn't kill this man? He was asked

-He's probably killed others. It doesn't matter which murder we get him for, they proclaim.

Henshaw couldn't believe his ears. He ignored the warning, which cost him dearly.

-I never had a problem with Thor. You could talk to him. Thor is not a murderer, says Ralph Henshaw today.

Henshaw was fired two years afterwards. He has no doubt that the principal reason was because he refused to budge. He was actually accused of conspiring with the Outlaws. He started his own security company, and even ran for sheriff without success, finally ending up suing the state for unlawful termination. The case was settled out of court, but the job that he loved, he never got back.

-It has cost me dearly to defend Thor. But at least I sleep at night. This is not the way the system is supposed to work. Innocent people should not be prosecuted, just out of political ambition.

-Somebody obviously believes all the stories out there about the Outlaws. If one member was involved in criminal activities, they assumed all the rest were involved too. Their attitude was guilt by association.

In all of his years of experience with the club, that was not the case Henshaw states clearly on the porch of his cozy home in De Land, Florida, where the trial took place.

-Thor was a decent man. He was a business man with many ideas. Just look at his body shops. He was a very talented mechanic and auto body man. He was happy around people. He liked the club runs and to hang out in bars. Thor was always the life of the party. He was noticed wherever he went. I'll never forget him, Ralph Henshaw smiles.

As a footnote it needs to be mentioned that Roadblock had this plea agreement overturned finally in 1998 based upon the exact grounds cited by Thor's attorney, yet when Thor filed a motion to join in this finding, the court refused, which was subsequently confirmed by the state appellate court, who has even barred Thor from filing further Pro Se motions to attack this

conviction.

This means it can only be reopened if he is represented by an attorney.

Of course, in the meantime, Thor had first filed a complaint with the Bar Association against Smith, and when his response confirmed his contact with Senator Lawton Chiles prior to Thor's INS hearing, Thor filed a federal civil suit against Smith at the Middle District of Florida in Orlando, which is still open on the docket, pending a finding in his favor on the plea agreement.

It should also be mentioned that Horace B. Smith's prestigious law offices are located in the same building as the Florida State 5th District Court of Appeals in Daytona Beach.