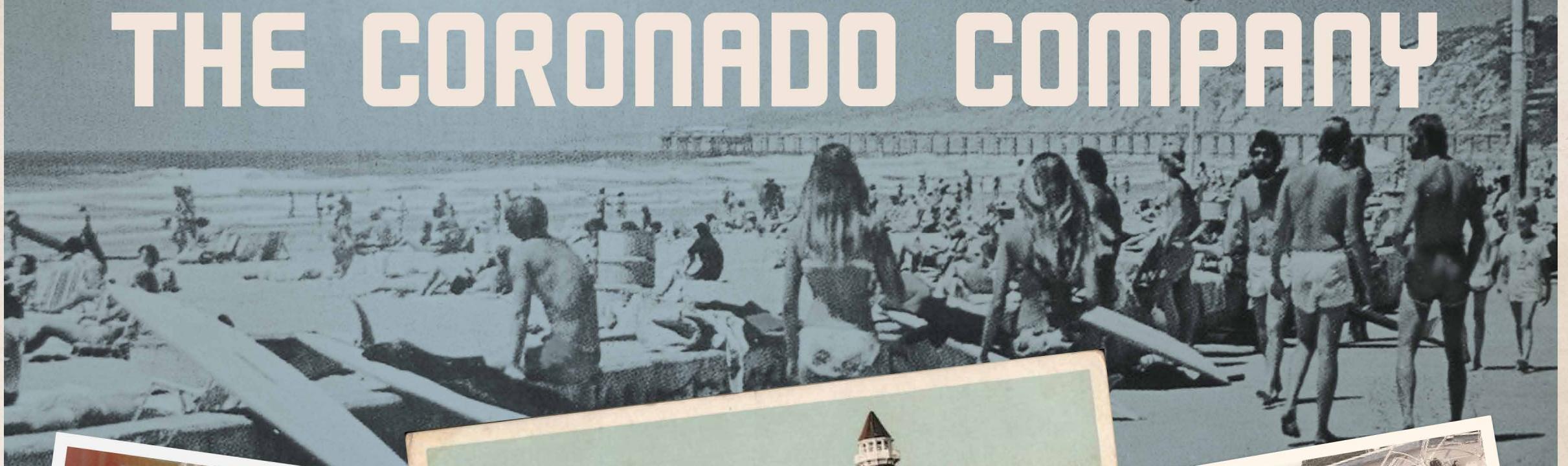
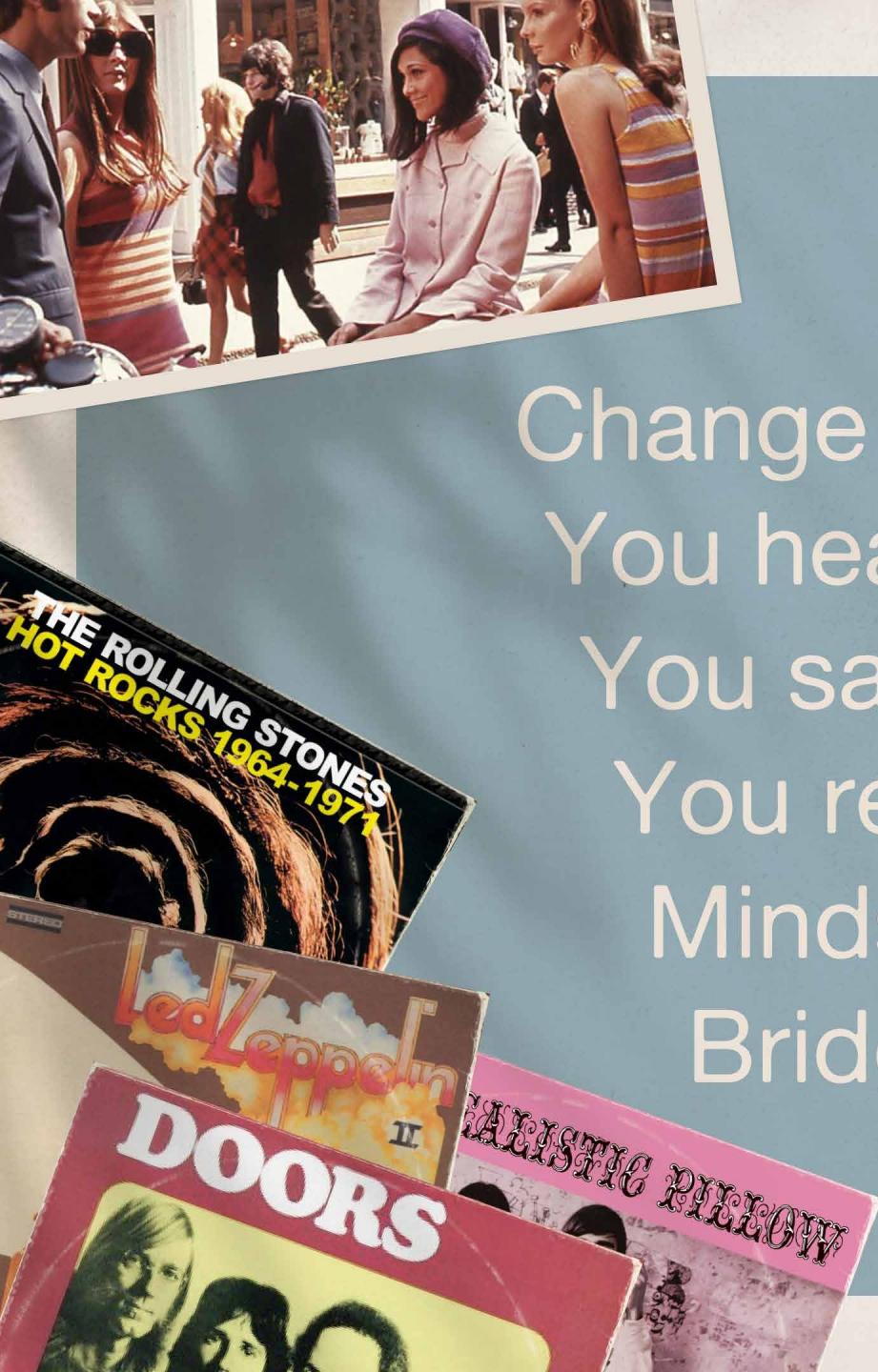


WELCOME TO THE CORONADO COMPANY





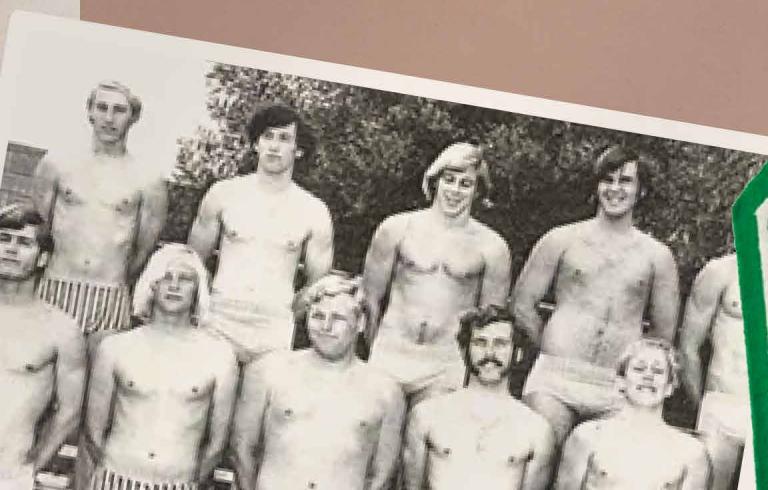
1968

Change was **everywhere**
You heard it in the **music**
You saw it in the **clothes**
You read it in the **headlines**
Minds were being **opened**
Bridges were being **built**





High School classmates from a southern California surftown, a Spanish teacher and unprecedented operations ignite the **US's biggest illegal smuggling operation...**



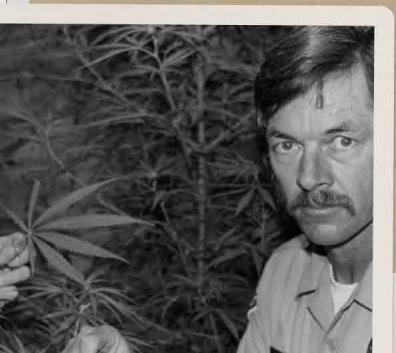


Mexican weed border swims, Thai stick
ocean crossings, Moroccan, Pakistani
and Afghan hash-filled trawlers smuggled
tons of product onto US coastal shores
translating into millions of dollars for
the Coronado Comapny



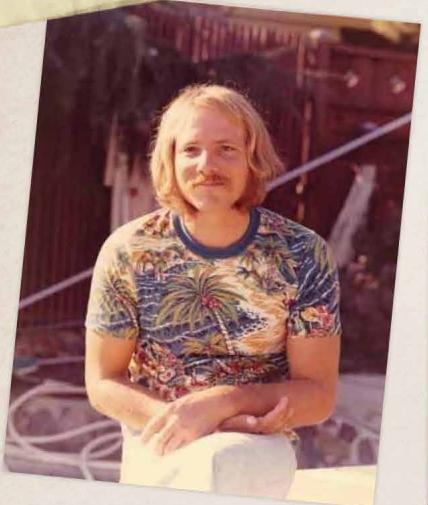


Their expertise was at night, on
desolate west and east coast shores,
**under the noses of frustrated law
enforcement**



MEET THE CORE LEADERSHIP...

Lance Webber

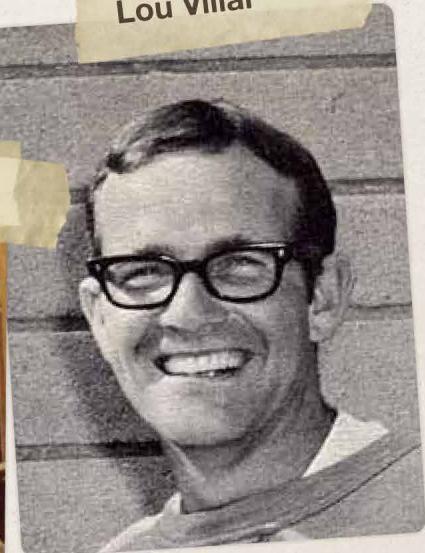


"Ensign Hero"



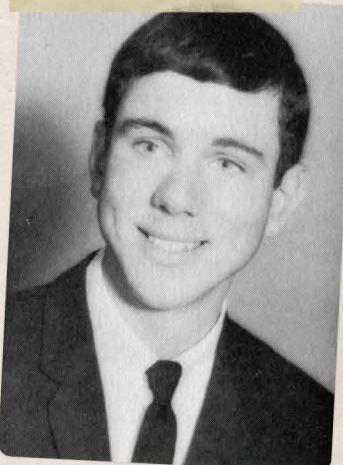
Ed Otero

Lou Villar



"Pops"

Dave Vaughn



"Dirty"

Lee Strimple



"McGee"



"Lights"



AND A FEW FRIENDS AND
CREW ALONG THE WAY



**“WHATEVER WE HAD
TO DO... IT HAD TO BE
GONE BY DAWN”**

- BEACH CREW

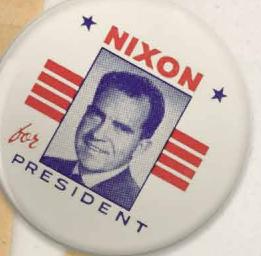


THE REST IS... A 10-YEAR STORY

Coronado Journal
3-2-78

26 indicted
in marijuana
smuggling case

December 1977 secret federal indictments have been returned against 26 persons--21 of whom are presently, or were formerly, residents of Coronado. The federal indictments charged alleged members of a sea-going smuggling ring with conspiracy to



26 indicted

Continued from page 1

Value of the 75 tons of marijuana has been placed at about \$15 million wholesale, with street value

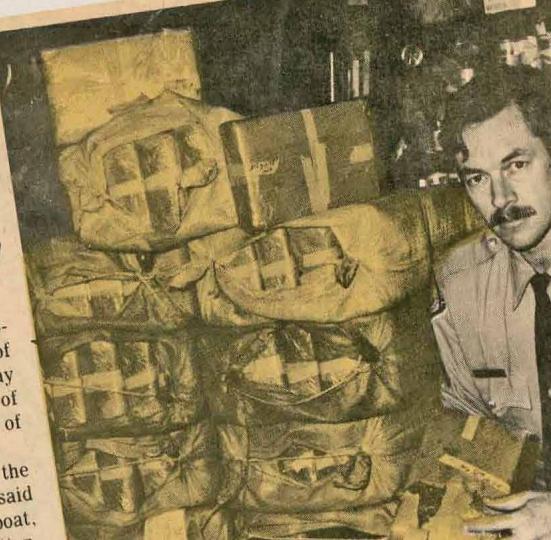
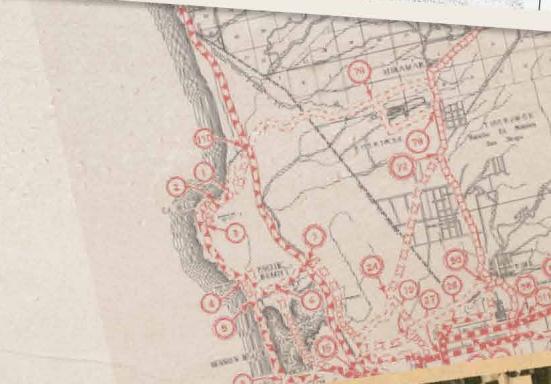
Villar, address unknown; Edward Randolph Otero, address unknown; David R.



old found
on Silver Strand

Several surfers discovered a 15-foot rubber raft on the ocean side of Silver Strand Beach last Saturday morning which contained 198 kilos of marijuana with a market value of about \$30,000.

Sergeant Dennis Grimaud of the Coronado Police Department said



PODCAST EPISODES



I Early Years: Coronado Company 1.0

Coronado Peninsula, an island at hightide, had one high school, 2 navy facilities and a small town. Kids were raised by military parents, lived free range on their bicycles and surfboards and like most, had ambition\$



II Bigger: Loads, crews & returns

The math is easy; bigger loads equals bigger profits. Connections south of the border get deeper into cartel-scale relationships. Federales are protecting the loads onto trawlers and surfers unload in Malibu. Crews get bigger. Returns get bigger. And so do people's lives



III 70's: Women, Luxuries & Liberation

We talk with the girlfriends, the sisters and the women who helped at their sides and who enjoyed the fruits of living extremely well



IV Expansion & Open Ocean Ambitions: Thailand, Pakistan, Morocco & Afghanistan

The gold was grown overseas, in Thailand and Morroco, Afghanistan and Pakistan. Bali based surfers arranged for shipments that fetched massive returns on less tonnage and regular supplies. There were hits and misses



V D.E.A.

The war on drugs initiated by the Reagan administration resulted in a massive infusion of money targeting enforcement and surveillance efforts designed to discover how illegal drugs, including marijuana, were being smuggled into the US



VI Code Red catastrophes

Ambition, internal weaknesses, greed and betrayal led to operations that became compromised with arrests, indictments and overnight fugitives on the run



VII Victories, Betrayals & Defeats

Flush with millions the Coronado Company lived lavish lives but not without casualties, betraying confidences and eventual jail times



VIII Look Back and Look Forward

The living members of the Coronado Company come together to talk about the hay days and victories, alongside the massive mistakes, greed and consequences. Meanwhile, legalization is happening

THE CORONADO COMPANY STORY THREADS



Coronado Village
& Surf Life

episodes 1, 5, 10



Mexican Weed
& Border crossings

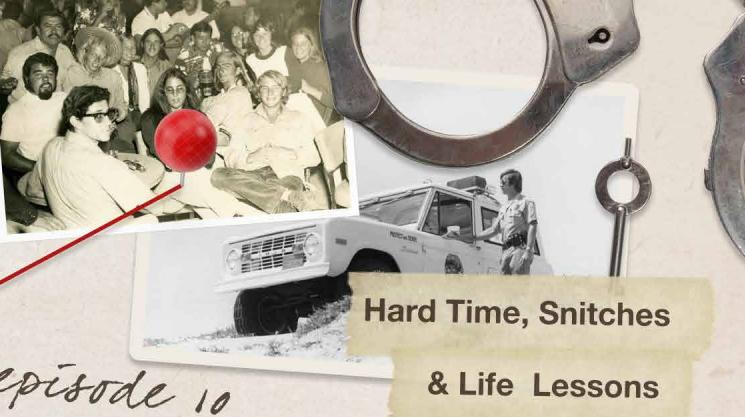
episodes 1, 2, 3



Thai Sticks &
Hash Connections



episodes 3, 5, 7



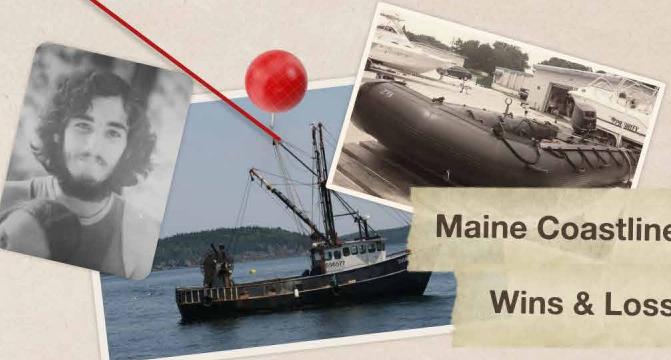
Hard Time, Snitches
& Life Lessons

episode 10



Washington & Makah Indians
CODE RED

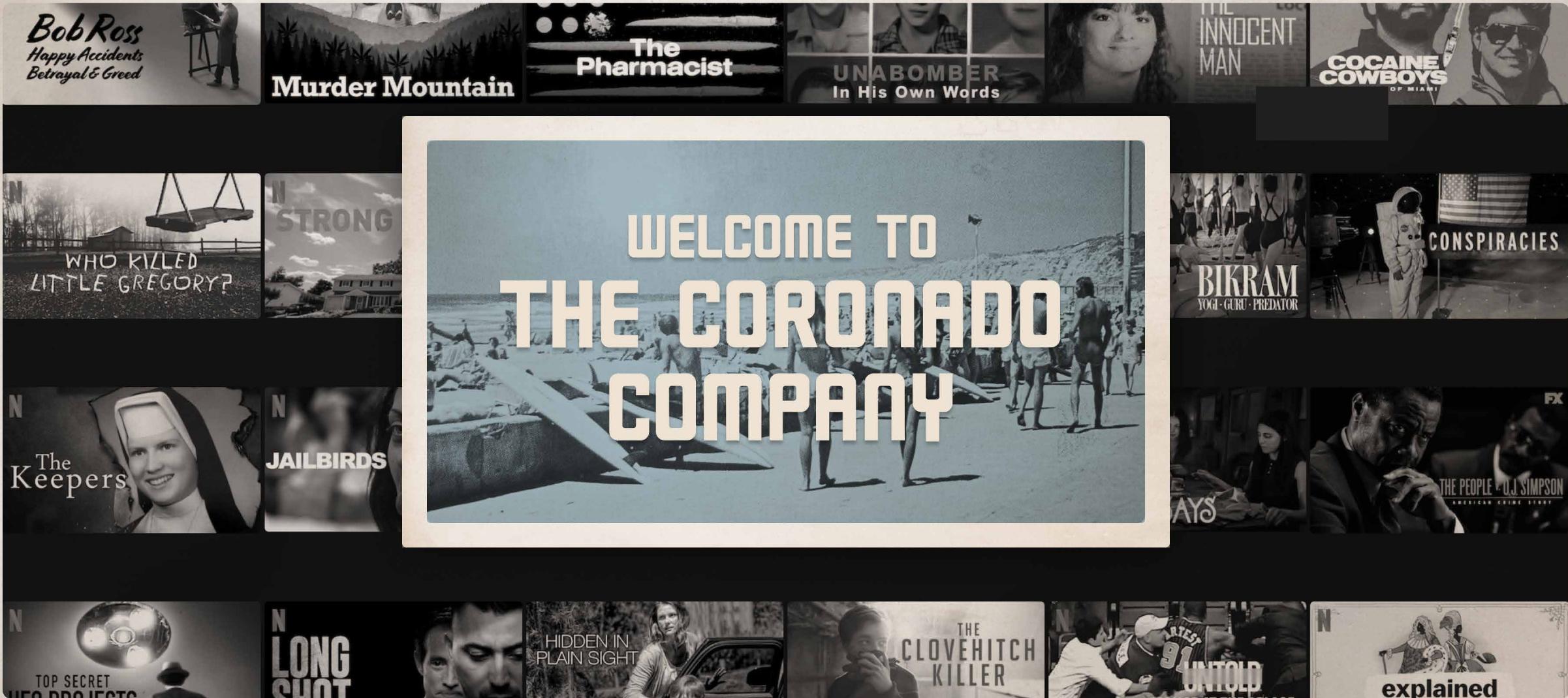
episode 9, 10



Maine Coastline:
Wins & Losses

episodes 4, 8, 9

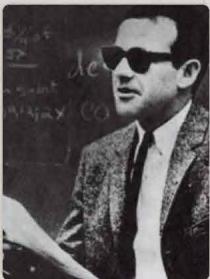
ON DEMAND LIMITED SERIES



CONFIDENTIAL

COMPETITION

GOVERNMENT SNITCHES:



LOU VILLAR



DAVID VAUGHN

SOURCES



NOVEL
RIGHTS

LIFE
RIGHTS

CREW MEMBER
INTERVIEWS

FAMILY
INVERVIEWS

DEA AGENT
INTERVIEWS

"FACTS"

to get out of JAIL



Coronado High: A Legendary Drug-Smuggling Ring in a Sleepy California Town

Before anyone had heard of the Mexican cartels and the Colombian kingpins, there was a group of Cali surfers, friends who discovered weed in the '60s and—in a fit of stoner inspiration—figured out how to smuggle in the best, most potent stuff on earth. Over a decade, they built an empire that made hundreds of millions, while laughing at the war on drugs. Joshua Bearman, the writer who brought you *Argo*, tells the whole true story.

SEPTEMBER 2013

Joshua Bearman

WORD OF MOUTH

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LAW ENFORCEMENT INTERVIEWS:

DEA COURT REPORTS:



FACTS FOR

TRUTH

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THANK YOU

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