

This interview is being tape recorded, the interview is being conducted in an interview room at Lurgan Police Station, I am Detective Constable Paul McCrumlish, number 12347, attached to Regional Crime Squad at ah Armagh and other police officers present are: I am Detective Constable Albert McIntosh, number 12612. Ah today's date is the 10th of May 1997 and the time is 12.14 pm ahm can I ask you your name please.

HANVEY

Alistair Hanvey.

And your date of birth.

HANVEY

[REDACTED]

And.

SOLICITOR

Ah also present [REDACTED]

Ahm Alistair basically what we want to talk to you about is ah the murder of Mr Hamill in Portadown on the ah 27th of April 1997 ahm first of all I must caution you and I want you to listen to this caution because it's

very, very important that you understand it and if you're in any doubt at all about the caution feel free to ask us.

HANVEY

OK.

Right.

HANVEY

Yes.

I have to say to you, you do not have to say anything but I must caution you that if you do not mention when questioned something which you later rely on in court it may harm your defence, if you do say anything it may be given in evidence, do you understand that.

HANVEY

Yes I do, fully.

Right, ahm on. But the first thing Alistair last Wednesday the 7th of May 1997 you were interviewed ah in Portadown Police Station I believe.

HANVEY

That's right.

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By Detective Sergeant ah Bradley and at that stage you made a witness statement.

HANVEY

Yes that's right.

Now just to refresh your memory about that statement.

HANVEY

Aha.

The first thing I'll do is I'll read that statement to you in it's entirety.

HANVEY

Aha.

So it was two and a half pages so that will take a wee minute or two. On Saturday evening the 26th of April 1997 I was in Portadown I went into Gary's Bar in Bridge Street, Portadown about 8 pm. I was on my own but I met [REDACTED] and his [REDACTED] in the bar. I had a couple of pints with them, I left the bar about 9 pm and I went next door to the off licence where I bought a six pack of Tennants beer, I then walked over the Bann Bridge

where I met two mates, Mark Hobson from [REDACTED] and Johnny Wright from [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] All three of us then walked up through the town and went to my mate's flat at the junction of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I don't know the exact address. This mate is Dean Johnston. We arrived in the flat about 10 pm and Dean was there with his girlfriend Leanne Hobson. Mark and Johnny had a carry out with them. All five of us stayed in the flat until roughly 1.30 am to 2 am, we just sat in the flat watching TV and drinking. Mark, Johnny and I left together. We walked out onto the Loughgall Road, up to the roundabout, straight on past McGurks, over the foot bridge into West Street and stopped at the Chinese Take Away beside Tasty Take Away. I bought a chicken fried rice and I ate it outside the Chinese. When I had eaten it I headed off down West Street into the town centre with Mark and Johnny. When we got to the big church I saw people running about the town centre and a lot of shouting in the vicinity of Woodhouse Street bar Thomas Street. There were people shouting abuse at

each other, I heard people shout, Orange Bastards, black bastards and just general taunting. I could see that there were policemen in among this crowd. I would estimate that there were ten to fifteen people plus the police in the general area of Thomas Street, Woodhouse Street, Market Street area. There were only about five or seven police on the ground at this stage. I walked on down the left hand side of the street to about Thornton's and I then crossed over diagonally towards the junction with Thomas Street. I don't know where my two mates went, I never saw them again that morning. There was also a group of fifteen to twenty people, youths and girls up near the big church. I crossed the road as far as the island up the middle of the town, about ten yards up from the junction of Thomas Street and I could see two males lying on the Main Street about two or three yards apart, there were three or four women standing over these men. The police had a line across the Main Street from Thomas Street to Woodhouse Street and there was a police landrover parked on the Main Street near Woodhouse

Street. The area around the two men lying on the ground was clear except for the women. I did not see anyone kick, punch or hit any of these two injured men as they lay on the ground. I did not kick or strike any of these two injured men. The closest that I would have been to either of them was about ten yards away. I did see scuffles bar punches on the other half of the Main Street in the vicinity of Woodhouse Street. From time to time people broke through the police line and fought with someone on the other side. Ones from both, the two factions did this on a number of occasions. I would estimate that there about five to eight on the Protestant side involved in this fighting and about the same on the Catholic side. There were about thirty or forty Protestants standing just watching between the police line and the big church. I was then approached by a policeman. I don't know his name. He asked me to help move some of the people back towards the church, out of the way. I pulled a few people back. This policeman was mid 40s, five feet ten, stocky build, gingerish, greyish hair, moustache, I

just knew from seeing him in the town. More people then arrived on the scene and police, ah and police got control of the situation and the crowds were ushered up the town past the big church. The ambulances came before the police moved the crowd further up the street. The ambulance crews treated the injured men for some time before taking both men away. I stayed up the town for about fifteen minutes or so and I then walked down through the town centre and walked out to my Uncle's house in [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] My Uncle was lying on the couch when I arrived at his home. I told my Uncle what had happened. His name is Thomas Hanvey, he lives in [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] I was wearing my black Cat zipped up jacket, dark blue Levi jeans and a pair of white and black ASICS trainers. I did not recognise anyone from either group in the town centre during this incident. I was not drunk, I had only drunk the two pints and four or five cans in about six hours. Signed Alistair Hanvey. Now Alistair in relation to that statement which I have just read to you, do you agree first of all that that's the

statement that you gave the other night.

HANVEY

Oh that exactly yes.

Is there anything you want to add to that statement or is there anything in that statement that you would now say is untrue.

HANVEY

No.

You're happy enough with that there. You're totally happy.

HANVEY

Yes.

With the content of that statement.

HANVEY

Aha.

Right. We will have to cover ahm, on, on the night, you mentioned in that there that you were wearing a black jacket.

HANVEY

Yes.

Right can you further describe that jacket for us, how else can you.

HANVEY

It's like a, like a puffed up jacket.

Yeah.

HANVEY

You know like one of them ones like you can see the, like rings as it goes down, like a puffed up jacket.

Aha.

HANVEY

And there's a Caterpillar badge on the left hand side.

Aha.

HANVEY

And it's waist length so it is.

Can you describe the sleeves of it for us.

HANVEY

The sleeves are already puffed up as well with a cuff like that.

Aha.

HANVEY

So they are.

And what colour is the sleeves.

HANVEY

Black.

Aha. Do you own ah another jacket.

HANVEY

No that's the only jacket I have so it is.

On that particular night would you have been wearing that jacket.

HANVEY

That Caterpillar jacket.

Yes.

HANVEY

Yes the black Caterpillar jacket.

Well we have ahm, ah a policeman who was at the scene.

HANVEY

Aha.

Who will say that you were wearing a, a dark coloured baseball type jacket with greyish coloured sleeves, would you describe that as

the jacket you were wearing.

HANVEY No definitely not.

Definitely not.

HANVEY Definitely not.

Do you possess such a jacket.

HANVEY No as I said that Caterpillar jacket is the only jacket I have.

Right have you ever owned a jacket with grey sleeves.

HANVEY No.

Never.

HANVEY Never.

Are you sure about that.

HANVEY Absolutely positive.

As I say it's very important because we are talking about a murder here.

HANVEY

Oh I understand that there, that's the only jacket I have.

Right.

HANVEY

And I haven't owned one like that.

So would you say then that the policeman is wrong when he describes you as wearing a dark coloured baseball type jacket with greyish coloured sleeves.

HANVEY

Oh yes.

That's that bit covered. The position Alistair in relation to the entire incident here is, it's moved on somewhat over this past few days of our enquiry and during our enquiry obviously the police have been making extensive enquiries.

HANVEY

Aha.

And ah we have that one policeman there who gives a description of your jacket which is slightly at variance with what you say, he's saying it's black with grey sleeves. You say it's all black however we do have other witnesses who actually identify you as being at the scene.

HANVEY

Aha.

But not only do they identify you as being at the scene, they actually identify you as taking part in the attack on Robert Hamill.

HANVEY

Well that's totally untrue.

Anyway. If we, if we said to you that this is more than one person is saying this, this is not ah someone identifying you as taking part.

HANVEY

Aha.

It's a number of people identifying you as taking part.

HANVEY

Well I don't know why them people would say that because it's not true.

Now I will read you part, about ten lines here from a witness statement which has been made, a written statement, written witness statement which has been made by a witness and when you hear this content maybe you'll want to comment on it. I looked around and I saw Alistair Hanvey kick and punch this fellow who was lying on the ground. The fellow was lying in the middle of the street about opposite Eastwoods Clothing. I was about nine feet from him, the fellow was just lying there with his ha, hands at his side. He didn't move. This fellow was wearing a black coloured jacket, I think he had black hair, I saw Alistair Hanvey kick this fellow three or four times while he was on the ground. Now that there is part of the contents of a statement made by a witness who says that that witness was only about nine feet.

HANVEY

Well I just can't understand why he made that there because it's not true.

You're.

HANVEY

There's no truth in that whatsoever.

Denying.

HANVEY

Oh yes, there's no truth in that whatsoever.

And this is a section from another witness. This writing here is, it's handwriting so I'll do my best to read it. I saw a number of persons gathered, gather around the person lying in the centre of the road, these persons were kicking the person on the ground around the head and body. I saw them jump on the person in the, on the ground, they jumped all over him and kicked him. I saw the persons who were doing this and I can identify them as and Alistair Harvey. Hanvey. Hanvey is one of the persons named in that statement.

HANVEY

I just can't understand whatsoever.

So you're saying you were at the scene.

HANVEY

Oh yes I was there.

And there's a policeman who, who says he saw you there.

HANVEY

Aha.

And there are now two independent witnesses who also identify you, not only as being there but taking part by kicking and punching the person lying on the ground.

HANVEY

Well that's not true because the closest I got to that person was about ten yards away.

You see the, the position here is these people, these people not only witnessed a brutal attack on a man but they identified you, not by description, they identified you by name.

HANVEY

Aha.

So these people know you right and both these people are willing to go to court and give

evidence to that effect that you took part in this brutal attack and that you kicked and jumped on this person.

HANVEY

Well that's not true.

And that person is now dead.

HANVEY

Well there's no truth in any of them statements, as I said.

Do you want.

HANVEY

The closest I got to that, them two people lying on the ground was about ten yards away.

Yes. As I say now at this stage of the enquiry there is still a lot more to be done, right.

HANVEY

Aha.

Initially we have enough here to put this to you right.

HANVEY

Aha.

*There is other people to be seen and there's
a, a very strong likelihood that other people
could give evidence to that effect.*

HANVEY

Aha.

*Do you not want to reconsider the position
you find yourself in.*

HANVEY

*Oh I've decid, I've, anything I've told youse
is the truth.*

*You've decided. Aha. Why would these people
say that.*

HANVEY

You tell me, I haven't got a clue.

Well why would they say it, I wasn't there.

HANVEY

I haven't got a clue.

I didn't take part in this.

HANVEY

Well neither did they.

Tell me Alistair ahm these people are
alleging that you kicked and punched.

HANVEY

Aha.

Robert Hamill and you're denying that.

HANVEY

Yes.

Could I just ask you one question ahm a,
about yourself more than about the incident.
Have you ever trained in any martial art.

HANVEY

I've a second degree black belt in Tai
Kwando.

Aha. And what does that mean, what's, what
is Tai Kwando.

HANVEY

It's a martial art.

Is there body contact there.

HANVEY

Oh yes.

And what sort of blows would you be using if

you were using Tai Kwando.

HANVEY

It's a, it's just an art. It's like, I hold seven British titles.

Aha.

HANVEY

Seven All Ireland titles, eight Ulster titles and a silver medal in the 1995 World Championships.

Are you a member of any club.

HANVEY

I used to be yes.

And why did you, why did you leave that club.

HANVEY

Because I play on my own now.

Well why did, was there a reason why you left the club.

HANVEY

No.

If I was to suggest to you that you were put out of the club because of anti social

behaviour and using your ah art.

HANVEY

That's nonsense.

In the wrong way.

HANVEY

That's nonsense.

SOLICITOR

Well I think we could also establish at this time that Mr Hanvey is to the best of my knowledge has a clear criminal record if we are bringing character into it.

Well just ah. If you.

SOLICITOR

Isn't that, isn't that correct.

Well I'm just asking him about his.

SOLICITOR

I know but you, you're.

HANVEY

Go down and speak to the marital arts instructor in that club.

I'm only asking you were you put out of the club.

HANVEY

No I was not.

Could I ask you this, when you gained your silver medal in the World Championships, Championships.

HANVEY

Yes.

What year was that in.

HANVEY

1995.

Does that mean that you were the second best in the world at that stage.

HANVEY

And that was an open martial arts championship, every martial art the world.

Just going back again ahm if you were taking part in a Tai Kwando contest.

HANVEY

Aha.

Ah and you're in combat, maybe that's not the right word but whatever the right word, in

competition with your, with your opponent.

HANVEY

Aha.

Ah in what way would you strike your
opponent.

HANVEY

Ah hands or feet.

Hands or feet.

HANVEY

Aha, yes.

Is it punches or chops or.

HANVEY

Punches, strikes, anything.

Kicks.

HANVEY

Oh yes.

So what you're saying to us is, fighting
wouldn't be out of your nature.

HANVEY

Fighting in the ring is not out of my nature
but fighting in the street is out of my

nature.

Right, aha.

HANVEY

I don't need to fight in the street, if I want to fight I go down and fight in the ring, it's not in my nature to go out and fight in the street.

But you're, you're in to sort of ah hands on fighting. You enjoy that sport.

HANVEY

Oh I enjoy it yes.

Aye, you enjoy fighting.

HANVEY

In the ring.

But you enjoy fighting generally.

HANVEY

Not in the street, not in the street combat.

When did you last have a competitive ah.

HANVEY

Ah last, when did I last, last September.

Where was that.

HANVEY Brownlow Leisure Centre.

How did you do there.

HANVEY I won the Ulster Championships.

Well were you still in the club then or when.

HANVEY Yes I was still in the club then.

When did you leave the club.

HANVEY I haven't, well I train on my own.

Sorry when did you start training on your own.

HANVEY Ah December, about December.

Have you taken part in any competitions since then.

HANVEY None since then no.

Is it your intention to do so.

HANVEY

Well one day yes I will go back to competition fighting.

Go back to this particular night, can you come up with any reason why different individuals, not only would name you as having an involvement in this attack.

HANVEY

Aha.

But would give similar stories.

HANVEY

I haven't got the foggiest idea.

Would you find that very hard to.

HANVEY

Why they're saying something.

Ah, ah understand, like why two people, maybe not even known to each other would make up stories, would you find that.

HANVEY

I find that hard to believe but I hon, honestly don't know why they've made them statements because there's no truth in them.

Aha.

HANVEY

Whatever.

But it would be unusual for two people for to
come up with the same story.

HANVEY

Aha.

Two people that are known to you.

HANVEY

They're known to me.

Aha.

SOLICITOR

Well he, he can't answer you.

Must be known to you because they, they know
you.

HANVEY

Well a lot of people know me because.

Well people who know you.

HANVEY

A lot of people know me but I don't know
them.

Right.

HANVEY

If you know what I'm saying.

Well I say, well I say that then that a lot of people, let's say that these people know you.

HANVEY

Aha.

And they know you well enough to, to identify you as being one of these people that actually kicked Mr Hamill on the ground.

HANVEY

Sure one of them said in their statements that I had black hair.

No it didn't. What it said in the statement was kicked the man on the ground with the black hair.

HANVEY

Oh right sorry.

Both these.

HANVEY

But I'm telling the truth.

Both these people that we have read out to you here know you, it's not a matter of saying, we think it might be Alistair.

HANVEY

Aha.

Hanvey. Or we think it could be Alistair Hanvey.

HANVEY

Aha.

They're saying it's Alistair Hanvey and we know him and this is what he done.

HANVEY

Well there's no truth in it whatsoever.

Well you, we've put it to you tonight and you've said there's no truth in it ahm so we'll just move on just a short distance, while you were down the street and all this commotion was taking part how many people would you say were on the street.

HANVEY

On, as a whole.

I think in your statement you have said ah
thirty or forty is that right.

HANVEY

Aye thirty or forty as a whole.

And there's about, a few maybe seven or eight
police and there seemed to be a small number
from each side.

HANVEY

Aha.

Actually taking part in the incident.

HANVEY

Yes.

In the unruliness. Ah of the persons in the
street was there any or many that you knew or
recognised.

HANVEY

Well my ex girlfriend was sitting up the
middle of the town.

Who's your ex girlfriend.

HANVEY

Tracey Clarke.

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Tracey Clarke.

HANVEY

Tracey Clarke yes.

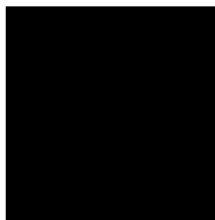
Anybody else.

HANVEY

Ah Ian Carville was sitting up the middle of
the town.

But first of all where does ah Tracey Clarke
from.

HANVEY



HANVEY

Yes.


And where does Ian Carville.

HANVEY

I don't know where Ian lives.

Well do you know what area if you don't know
the street.

HANVEY

I think he lives out the 
somewhere.

OK. Anybody else.

HANVEY

Well that's the only two I can remember
sitting on the summer seat.

And the couple of people that you walked down
the street with, where, were they where there
is that right.

HANVEY

Yes Mark and Johnny.

Yeah and that's Mark.

HANVEY

Well after, after I got split up from themuns
I never seen them the rest of the night.

Right OK. Well who, ah who else did you see
the rest of the night after you got, did get
split up from them.

HANVEY

After we were moved back I stood about on my
own for fifteen minutes 'til the thing had
cleared up and then walked over to



On your own.

HANVEY

To my Uncle's house. Yes. On my own.

So even larger crowd of thirty or forty that weren't involved in the incident you say.

HANVEY

Aha.

Ah did you recognise any or know any of them.

HANVEY

That's what I'm saying, Tracey and Ian were in that crowd and that's the only two I can remember seeing.

Right. And you didn't know any of those that were involved.

HANVEY

None.

In the incident.

HANVEY

Didn't recognise any of them.

On either the Protestant or Nationalist side.

HANVEY

I never recognised any of them whatsoever.

What age are you now.

HANVEY

Nineteen.

How long have you lived in Portadown.

HANVEY

All my life.

All your life. Now which schools did you go to in Portadown.

HANVEY

Killycomain and Portadown College.

Portadown College, Killycomain.

HANVEY

And Derrycarn Primary School.

Where's Derrycarn.

HANVEY

That's out beside 

Out in the Birches.

HANVEY

Aha, no not the Birches.

I mean general direction.

HANVEY

Ah it's away out there.

Birches area. And you then went to
Killycomain.

HANVEY

And then.

So you would know a lot of the young people
of.

HANVEY

Aha.

From if you stayed at those two schools, how
many years. How many years did you spend at
Killycomain.

HANVEY

Three.

And how many did you spend at Portadown
College.

HANVEY Two.

So that's five years.

HANVEY Aha.

So you'd know people who went to school with you.

HANVEY Aha.

From three years younger than, than you to a number of years older than you.

HANVEY Yes.

Indeed there's people who would have been attending Portadown College who could have been there and would be six or seven years older than you.

HANVEY Aha.

So you'd know a lot of young people around Portadown.

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HANVEY

Yes.

But you didn't recognise anybody that night.

HANVEY

None that was involved in that incident.

Did you talk to any police that night.

HANVEY

I did yes.

What was the conversation.

HANVEY

Well they were standing in the island and a policeman approached me, that policeman that I described.

Aha.

HANVEY

In my statement, and he says, you wouldn't help me move a couple of boys back. So I did, I said I grabbed a couple, I said, right come on up the town out of the road and then after that I was talking to another policeman, Constable Jim Murphy, who dealt with my car accident a few weeks ago, a few weeks ago, that's how I knew him and I was

just standing talking to him after it.

And what were you talking about.

HANVEY Just saying this is, this is a right mess
isn't it.

Aha.

HANVEY Things like that there. And then by then
everybody was moved up.

Aha. So Constable Murphy dealt with your
accident.

HANVEY Yes my car accident yes.

And that's how you knew him by first name
terms and all.

HANVEY Yes, yes.

Would you be friendly towards Constable
Murphy.

HANVEY That's the, the first time I've seen since.

Since that.

HANVEY

Aha.

Aha. Do you know any other police in Portadown.

HANVEY

No, I do not, no.

None at all. Do you know any of them to see.

HANVEY

Oh yes I would know that one to see that I described, the one that asked me to move the crowd back, so I would, I would definitely know him to see again.

Did you shout, die you Fenian Bastard.

HANVEY

I what.

Do you find that funny.

HANVEY

Did I shout what.

Die you Fenian Bastard.

HANVEY

No.

Do you find that funny.

HANVEY

Not, funny because you've just asked me it
and it's ridiculous.

Why is it funny.

HANVEY

Because it's ridiculous.

But did you shout that.

HANVEY

No.

Did you hear anybody else shout it.

HANVEY

No, definitely not. Well why would I shout
the like of that there.

Maybe you wanted to kill somebody.

HANVEY

I don't think so, sure I wasn't even involved
in the incident.

Well we're telling you, you are involved in

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the incident and you were involved in it.

HANVEY

Well I'm telling you I'm not.

You see we're happy here that we have persons who were there and seen it and seen what you done and there was certain things said.

HANVEY

I didn't.

At the time and one of the things that was said was, die you Fenian Bastard.

HANVEY

Well it wasn't said by me.

And you didn't hear it being said.

HANVEY

No.

And you're now surprised at this.

HANVEY

Yeah.

So surprised that you actually.

HANVEY

Aha.

Laughed at the, the.

HANVEY

The remark put to me.

So whoever made that comment has actually got their wish, as Mr Hamill is now dead. You're saying to us you didn't make the comment.

HANVEY

No.

And you didn't hear it.

HANVEY

No.

Even thought it had, had been voiced on three or four occasions while the kicking was going on.

HANVEY

That's it, maybe it was said before I got there.

But we're saying to you that you were there when the kicking was going on and that you played a part in the kicking. Well Alistair what I'm saying to you is, I think you should

reconsider the position you're in because this is not looking very good. I think you need to reconsider.

HANVEY

I don't.

And you need to be. I told, I outlined a caution at the very start of this interview and it's very, very important that you be truthful in here.

HANVEY

Well I've told youse nothing but the truth.

Well we're giving you every opportunity in here now to tell us the truth.

HANVEY

And I've told youse the truth.

And unless you get this sorted out and talk to us, be truthful about the thing.

HANVEY

I am being truthful.

Be truthful about it.

HANVEY

I am being truthful about the whole thing.

The caution is very important, that's why I'm bringing that back to you, it's very, very important. I'll read it to you again, that you do not have to say anything but I must warn you that if you do not mention when questioned something which you later rely on in court it may harm your defence.

HANVEY

Aha.

And if you do say anything it may be given in evidence, as long as you understand that. What we're asking you here is to be truthful.

HANVEY

I've just told youse the truth, I can't do any more than tell youse the truth.

Well can you try and explain to us why two people here.

HANVEY

I just don't know.

At this stage, at this stage two people are identifying you as having done this Not on your own, not on your own.

HANVEY

Aha.

We're not suggesting for one minute that you're the only one but what we're saying to you is, you did play a part in this and you did, you did kick Mr Hamill.

HANVEY

I am telling youse I never played no part in it and I never touched one person that night.

I have two people here that will say not only did you kick him but that you jumped on him.

HANVEY

Well I don't know why them statements were made against me.

SOLICITOR

Well when were those statements made because clearly he spoke I think as a volunteer to Sergeant Bradley.

Aha.

SOLICITOR

Just three days ago.

Yes.

SOLICITOR

Can I take it that when he spoke to Sergeant Bradley you weren't in possession of those two witness statements.

That's correct, they've been made since Wednesday.

SOLICITOR

So can you, I mean we're then in a position for whatever reason at this stage, they can speculate all they like but there's not any point in that.

Aha.

SOLICITOR

Tho, I can take it then that those witness statements ah have been made ah either I presume the Thursday or Friday of, of this week and that is almost a fortnight after the incident as well so it's not as if these people were rushing to the police with that information.

Well the circumstances changed one, once Mr Hamill died.

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SOLICITOR

Yeah but only as far as Mr Hamill is concerned.

It was, it, it no definitely in the lines of the police too because it initially it was a serious assault now it's a murder.

SOLICITOR

Well I appreciate that, that's blatantly obvious.

And well and there's people who maybe ah have come forward realising that his is a more serious crime now.

SOLICITOR

Well for, for whatever reason people have, did not proffer that information to the police until after Wednesday or maybe after Friday.

Again I can't, I can't say that to you personally because don't know.

SOLICITOR

I appreciate.

We've only come under this information recently.

SOLICITOR

Well I appreciate, I think that.

Into our possession.

SOLICITOR

Dur, during this interview it's ah, I appreciate that you're giving Mr Hanvey the opportunity.

Mr Hanvey is being interviewed and ah if [REDACTED] the solicitor wishes to have a discussion maybe we'd do that afterwards.

SOLICITOR

I, I know but you've quite properly put the information that you have to Mr Hanvey.

Aha.

SOLICITOR

And I've, I've no objection to that, that's more that proper but I think also ah I wanted to ascertain ah first of all when those were made and if you're putting recognition points to Mr Hanvey it may well be a matter of whether you wish to do it in this interview or not, any further points in fairness to him because the Article 3 works two ways in my

opinion.

Aha. I think yes.

SOLICITOR

Ah I mean I'm, I could ask further matters but I'll leave it at the moment as to whether you wish to then go further about the recognition, I appreciate that you're (inaudible)

Well we have some eh some other points that we wish to cover with ah Mr Hanvey now and we'll do that anyway and I'm sure there will be other interviews later on this af, this afternoon ah after the termination of this one.

SOLICITOR

That's OK.

Tell me, have you Alistair, have you ever ahm since that incident, it's obviously a very serious incident.

HANVEY

Aha.

Up until Thursday evening it was a very

serious assault and of course since Thursday evening it has now developed unfortunately into a murder, have you discussed this incident with anybody.

HANVEY

No. Just told, told my parents obviously what happened and.

And you also said in your statement that you mentioned it to your Uncle.

HANVEY

Aha. When I went home to his house.

Well have you discussed it with anyone else.

HANVEY

No.

Not at all.

HANVEY

Not at all, no.

You never said I was down the street there and I saw this happen or saw your man getting a kicking, you never had a discussion like that.

HANVEY

No.

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You, have you ever enquired as, from anyone,
have they heard how he's keeping.

HANVEY

Well only on the news.

Up until.

HANVEY

And the newspaper you can, sure you can read
it.

So you haven't discussed the incident at all.

HANVEY

No.

Have you ever discussed it with either, any
of your mates.

HANVEY

No.

No.

HANVEY

No.

Or.

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HANVEY

I haven't been out anywhere this past, a couple of weeks anyway.

Why's that.

HANVEY

Well I'm not a person who goes out regularly.

Are you not.

HANVEY

No.

So this here was an odd occasion for you rather than a.

HANVEY

Aha I don't go out every weekend.

Right.

HANVEY

Because I got myself a brand new car and I need to get every penny I have.

Right OK well I can understand that. You say there too that you, you weren't drunk.

HANVEY

Aha.

You weren't drunk that it was only, you only,
you only had a couple of beer in you.

HANVEY

I had a couple of beer in Gary's and then I
had four or five beer up in Dean's.

But that was over the period of the whole
evening like.

HANVEY

That's a period of six hours like.

But you remember the, you remember the
incident and being there at the incident.

HANVEY

Aha.

Ah you were saying that you weren't involved
in the incident but you remember being there
and you remember being cold sober.

HANVEY

Aha.

Isn't that right. You're nodding in
agreement.

HANVEY

Yeah.

So we couldn't say that this.

HANVEY

I wouldn't say I was stone cold sober like
because obviously six beer.

Aye but this was over the whole evening.

HANVEY

Aha.

You're talking from tea time right up, six
beer.

HANVEY

To eight, eight o'clock.

Aha. And this was ah in the early hours of
the morning.

HANVEY

Aha.

So this couldn't have happened, this, what
these people are saying couldn't have
happened when you were in a drunken stupor,
you were in full control of your faculties
and you knew exactly what was going on.

HANVEY

Yes.

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So if these people are right and that you did take part in this, you knew what you were doing.

HANVEY

But I didn't take part in it so.

But I'm only saying if these people are right.

SOLICITOR

You're just speculating.

Yes. If these people are right.

HANVEY

I knew what I was doing.

You knew what you were doing.

HANVEY

Oh yes.

Right well that's alright. And if someone had've shouted, die you Fenian Bastard you would have heard it.

HANVEY

Oh yes.

And you didn't hear it.

HANVEY

Well if I was there at the time I would have heard it obviously but if I wasn't there obviously I wouldn't have heard it.

Would you class yourself as a Loyalist.

HANVEY

No.

No.

HANVEY

No. I've a lot of good friends that are Catholics.

Aha.

HANVEY

So I have.

Did you know Robert Hamill.

HANVEY

No.

Didn't know him at all. And you didn't know the other man that was injured as well,

D

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HANVEY

No.

So what you're saying is, if these people are right, you had really no reason for to get involved in this fight.

HANVEY

I had no reason to get involved in a street.

Aha.

HANVEY

Fight whatsoever.

Aha.

HANVEY

I don't have to fight in the street, if I want to fight I go and fight in a ring.

But what we're saying is, you had no reason, you had no reason for to have any grievance against Mr Hamill or D.

HANVEY

Oh no I've a lot of, as I said I've a lot of good friends that are Catholics.

So if this, if this was, if these people are

right, these witnesses, if they are right in what they're saying ahm would there be a reason why you, you would have got involved in this fight.

HANVEY

There is no reason because I never got involved in it.

But you see this is where we differ because we're not saying, we're not asking you, we're not asking you, did you do this, we're telling you that you did do it.

HANVEY

And I'm telling you I didn't.

We're telling you strong, the people who were there seen you, people who know you ah well we've got past that point, people who aye people who know you.

HANVEY

Aha.

Seen you. And like not only do they know you, but they know you by name. Alistair Hanvey.

HANVEY

Aha.

And it's Alistair Hanvey they mentioned in their statements, they're not saying some boy called Alistair, they're not saying that, they're saying your full name. Alistair Hanvey.

HANVEY

Aha.

Was one of the people who kicked and punched at the man on the ground, jumped on him. Do you not want to tell us the truth.

HANVEY

I am telling youse the truth.

We don't believe you.

HANVEY

Well that's fair enough that's your opinion.

It's not my opinion, I'm going on what these people are telling, these people have no reason to tell us lies.

HANVEY

Well I don't know why they told you.

They had no reason to tell us lies.

HANVEY

Who.

I would suggest that the reason they've told,
told us this is that it's the truth.

HANVEY

No it's not the truth.

Why, well then how come then two people, two,
at this stage two people.

HANVEY

Aha.

Are giving us exact same story, right and the
two people are naming you and what you done.
And you know it's right.

HANVEY

It's not right.

So there are two people who are either making
a mistake or telling a lie.

HANVEY

Yes.

Why would they do that.

HANVEY

You tell me.

I wasn't there.

HANVEY

I don't know why they were made.

SOLICITOR

It's hard for him to comment further when he doesn't even know who the people are in fairness to him.

Well there was a lot of people about and there is at least two people there that were willing to come forward to police and tell us what your part in it was. Now I'm, I'm telling you now Alistair that we're not saying that you were solely responsible for the beating that Mr Hamill got, we're not saying that.

HANVEY

I wasn't responsible for any of it.

What we're saying to you is that you played a part in the actual beating and you were seen to kick him and punch him while he was on the ground and you were seen to jump on him. Jump over him. Jump on, on top of him. You were seen to do that.

HANVEY

Well that's totally untrue.

It's not untrue.

HANVEY

Oh it is.

It's not untrue. That's what you were seen to have done that night and as a result of that Mr Hamill is now dead. So you think about the position you're in.

HANVEY

Well I have told youse the truth, I can't do any more than tell youse the truth. Youse could sit here to the morrow, I can't do any more than tell youse the truth.

No what you're going to say is if we sit here to tomorrow you're not going to change your story.

HANVEY

It's the truth why, why change the truth.

You see our job is to get to the truth and at this stage in the game we have two people who have no reason to tell us lies.

HANVEY

I've no reason to tell you lies.

You have, of course you have. Of course
you've plenty of reason to tell us lies.

HANVEY

Well I've told youse the truth.

The fact that you would tell us lies would be
to take yourself away from this crime.

HANVEY

I haven't committed no crime.

But these people are telling us that you did.

HANVEY

Well that's alright.

That's alright.

HANVEY

They can tell you whatever they want.

But that's alright.

HANVEY

I know the truth, I know the truth.

Why would two people get the same story.

HANVEY

As I said before you tell me.

Are you prepared to go on an identity parade.

SOLICITOR

Well we'd need to know a bit more about the witnesses.

No but I'm, I'm asking him, would he be willing to go (inaudible)

SOLICITOR

He'd need, he'd need, hold on he'd need legal advice to consider all the issues before he would make his mind up about that.

Right.

SOLICITOR

And if it's a situation of simply going on an identity parade to have two people confirm, yes that is the Alistair Hanvey that I have known for years who he doesn't even know who they are, it may well be if you say, do you know Mister A and Mister B, he might turn round and say I've known Mister A for nineteen years so that matter may not even arise where it, as you've said quite rightly

at a very early stage and it would depend on what stage we reach as to what advice I would give my client.

Well anyway ah we have ah asked you if you're prepared to go on an ident, ident on an identification parade and on the advice of your solicitor you have, haven't answered it.

HANVEY

Yes.

Right.

SOLICITOR

You would need to consult. We're happy to consider that when we're in a position to.

The clothes you were wearing that night Alistair, where are they now.

HANVEY

The police took them away this morning.

They are taken away this morning.

HANVEY

Yes.

Ah since that night have they been washed.

HANVEY

Obviously they were washed yes.

Even the ah jacket.

HANVEY

The jacket wasn't washed no.

Right. Ahm is there any way that you can see now I'm not suggesting for one minute that there is evidence to this effect but is there any way that you could be connected to Mr Hamill forensically, do you understand what that means.

HANVEY

Oh I understand what that means but sure I was never with, closer to him than ten yards away so I couldn't be.

You never, what you're saying to us now is that you never came into contact at all with Mr Hamill.

HANVEY

No.

So there's no way that forensically your clothes can be connected to Mr Hamill.

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HANVEY

None whatsoever.

Since ah we've already ah asked you about
have you spoken to anyone.

HANVEY

Aha.

About the incident and you've said other than
your immediate family.

HANVEY

Aha.

Your parents and your uncle, you haven't.

HANVEY

Aha.

Ahm have you ever received, other than advice
given by your solicitor which you're totally
entitled to ah have you received any advice
from any person in relation to.

HANVEY

No.

That night. Or your actions that night.

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HANVEY

No.

Either civilian or otherwise.

HANVEY

No.

Have you been speaking to any police about your actions that night.

HANVEY

No as I said the only policeman I knew there was Jim Murphy and I haven't seen him since so I haven't seen him.

Well were you speaking to him about your actions.

HANVEY

No.

No.

HANVEY

No. As I say I was only talking to him after, after.

Well was it that, was that that night or.

HANVEY

Oh yes that night and then the police moved

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everybody away up the town out of the road.

Oh a short time after the incident happened.

HANVEY

Oh yeah aha.

That's all I have to ask at the time. I'm
happy too that's. I think that's them all
covered, just give me a minute to I read
through this and see. OK. No I think
(inaudible). What's Mark's second name.

HANVEY

Hobson.

Has he a nickname.

HANVEY

Muck.

Muck. And what would you call him.

HANVEY

Muck.

You call him Muck.

HANVEY

Aha.

He would be better known in the town as Muck

wouldn't he.

HANVEY

Aye.

See there you were talking about that jacket, it's just there's some confusion as to ahm ah the policeman as I say at the start there telling us that you had, you were wearing a jacket with grey sleeves, could they be described as grey.

HANVEY

Jet black jacket.

Jet black, complete, all the one colour.

HANVEY

Complete black jacket.

Aha. So the policeman is wrong there.

HANVEY

Yes.

Right. Are you sure you've never, ever owned a jacket.

HANVEY

That's the only jacket I've had for ages.

Right.

HANVEY

So it is.

Right. So if someone seen you in a, in a jacket similar to what the policeman is describing they're wrong.

HANVEY

Yeah.

Right. I'm not saying, now don't get me wrong, I'm not saying for one minute that either these witnesses here are saying that you were wearing a jacket like that.

HANVEY

Aha.

It's just for my own information.

HANVEY

Yes.

Well I'll tell you what we're going to do, we're going to ah, we'll terminate this interview but I think that you should give the position you're in a lot of consideration, a lot of thought and at a

later stage now I'm not saying for one moment that we will have a further interview, I don't know we're going to have to talk to our bosses and see what.

HANVEY

What he is saying.

What it is but if there is a further interview I want you to be in a position to be truthful with us.

HANVEY

I have told youse the truth, I told youse the truth on Wednesday and I'm telling youse the truth today. And I'll tell youse the truth next week if youse want.

I'm going to give you form, there's a PACE 21 Form that's just to tell you about the tapes and what not.

HANVEY

OK.

And access to them and what not and I'm giving that to you now at there ah at 1250, 52 isn't that right. 1252 and we're terminating the interview now at 1252. No I

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don't think you're right about that Mr
McCrumlish I don't think it's the other side
is 125.

SOLICITOR 1257.

Yes I agree with that point thank you. So
we're terminating the interview at 1257.

TAPE

CHECKED & CERTIFIED AN ACCURATE TRANSCRIPT OF PACE

NO T146528A

INTERVIEW OF ALISTAIR HANVEY

ON 10.5.1997

BETWEEN 1214 HOURS AND 1257 HOURS

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