

Ah this interview is being tape recorded. The interview is being conducted in an interview room at Lurgan Police Station. I am Detective Constable Lilly, Portadown CID, other police officers present are: Detective Constable Keys, Portadown CID. Ah the date is the 6th of ah May '97 and the time is 1620 hours. What is your full name.

FORBES

Dean Forbes.

Ah there is no solicitor present at the moment but as in the previous interview you haven't ah requested a solicitor and you're happy enough with that.

FORBES

Yeah.

OK. Now you've already got a PACE 21. A PACE 21 there so that, that will apply to this interview as well, the same thing you understand what will happen to the tapes and all at the end of it yeah. Happy enough with that.

FORBES

Yeah.

OK. Now again we have to caution you, you know what you're being questioned about it's ah still in relation to that ah assault which took place in Portadown on the 26th, 27th Sunday morning, OK and the caution is, 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. Are you happy enough with that.

FORBES

Yeah.

It's already explained to you, the ins and outs of that and you understand it OK.

FORBES

Yeah.

Right OK. Now I've just a few points we want to clear up with you. Ah since the last interview ah give, give us a quick ah resume again just, just give us a resume again of your movements.

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FORBES

From.

Aye a quick, quick run down.

FORBES

I got off the bus at the top of the town.

Yeah a quick run down yeah.

FORBES

Hung about, just headed up the town towards Boss Hoggs, we were just heading up decided, decided to get something to eat there and we just stopped so then we were walking on up and then there was a row so we crossed the road and just as I says before the police called us over at the landrover and we were standing talking to them for a while and then some, some boy came over and started to you know shouting abuse and, at the police officer and and then I don't know if he hit him or grabbed him just and then we were tol' just to blow because this, you know they must have knew that something was going to start, so whenever we did and the boy came round the corner looking to start rows and the woman police over and the man, policeman you know policeman says you know, come on, get away

youse ones says before anything does happen.

Right ahm you mentioned earlier about bumping
into a chap called Neil.

FORBES

Neiler aye.

Or Neiler is it.

FORBES

Aye. (inaudible)

Have you thought any more about him, do you
know his second name.

FORBES

No I, that's what I don't know if his second
name is Neil or you know if his first name is
Neil.

Yeah but you just know him as Neil.

FORBES

Neiler aye. Because I don't really know him.

Yes. So whereabouts is he from.

FORBES

Just I, I don't know what that main road is
called it's just off [REDACTED]

just before the [REDACTED] just near there
so it is.

Close to [REDACTED]

FORBES

Aye.

Right, then you mentioned ah two girls you
were speaking to.

FORBES

Aye I think one, one of them was his sister,
I don't really know her but I know the girl
McCartney and there was a couple of her
friends with her, they were going back to her
house because they always stay up there.

You met, you, how many girls is that then
was in that group.

FORBES

Altogether, I think, I don't know if [REDACTED]
went the whole way up the town with them.

Right who's [REDACTED].

FORBES

Ah I'd say that was the one that Stacey was
sitting beside, well I think it was [REDACTED]

anyway and I don't know her second name, she's got black hair so she has. I don't really know her, what her second name is, it's just she knows my girlfriend so she does and she'd just say hello.

It, it's Stacey you call her not, not Tracey, Stacey.

FORBES

Oh sorry.

Because Stacey sat beside [REDACTED].

FORBES

See she's [REDACTED] or else. [REDACTED] or whatever, something like that there.

She's dark, what age of a girl is she.

FORBES

She'd be fifth year.

Fifth year where.

FORBES

Ah college, Portadown, or else lower sixth, one of the two.

And do you know roughly where she's from.

FORBES

No but she's rich anyway so she is, so she is.

She's what.

FORBES

She's rich anyway because her ma drives a big jeep and all so she must live you know in you know one of the big housing estates up round [REDACTED] or something.

Right ah then the two girls then that you say you met was what.

FORBES

Ah Neil's, Neiler's sister and Sarah McCartney, she lives in [REDACTED] but I don't know the number.

Sarah McCartney.

FORBES

Aha.

[REDACTED]

FORBES

Yeah.

That was there other girls as well, now them two girls, who were they with.

FORBES

Who were they with. They, they were, because they live up the way we'd have walked up with them so we would have.

Up to Boss Hoggs.

FORBES

No right up the town because we'd have took the short cut you know through Connaught.

Right do you.

FORBES

To go down into our estate.

You walked up the town with those two girls.

FORBES

No I stopped to say I was getting something to eat.

Yes.

FORBES

And I said to them, hol' on but then whenever we came out they were gone.

Right.

FORBES

They'd already headed off.

You met them in Boss Hoggs.

FORBES

No ah, they got off the bus with us.

Right.

FORBES

And we walked up to Boss Hoggs altogether.

With them.

FORBES

And then I said, hol' on 'til I get something to eat and then I came out about fifteen, twenty minutes later and they were gone.

Was Neiler with youse at that stage.

FORBES

No he, he had left as well so he had.

Where did you meet him.

FORBES

He was at the Coach so he was.

Right. Did you see him anywhere up the town afterwards.

FORBES

No he, he must have just went with his sister and all themuns because he usually sees that young girl so he does, McCartney, he goes with her or just he sees her now and again.

Right. So you walked from the Coach bus then or the bus from the Coach up to.

FORBES

Aye it, it stops.

Boss Hoggs.

FORBES

At the, because.

With, with those two girls.

FORBES

Three of them yeah. But [REDACTED] she got a burger too I don't know if she went down to get a taxi home or if she went right up the street home.

There was three girls actually, [REDACTED] as well. And then those girls left then.

FORBES

Yeah.

Before you came out of Boss Hoggs. So that left only you and Stacey is that right.

FORBES

Yeah Stacey he was hanging about just at the doorway so he was.

Did he.

FORBES

At the doorway.

Did he not have anything to eat.

FORBES

No. Not as far as I know he didn't.

Did you see that boy Neiler leaving there as well, was he in Boss Hoggs.

FORBES

No he didn't come in, he stood outside with them girls so he did.

Right.

FORBES

And then whenever.

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He stood outside with his sister, Sarah
McCartney and this girl [REDACTED].

FORBES

Yeah.

Right. Did he stay outside ah at the same
time as Stacey Bridgett.

FORBES

No Stacey was at the doorway just in, you
know inside.

Right inside the premises.

FORBES

Just at the glass (inaudible) yeah.

So Neiler was outside.

FORBES

Neiler would have been just been standing
just up a wee bit, there was like a wee, like
a wee step where you can sit on so there is.

Right. But the girls were inside were they.

FORBES

No they were outside too.

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They were outside as well. And Sta, you see Stacey sat beside this [REDACTED] girl on the bus.

FORBES

Aye I don't know if it was Neiler or somebody called Chris sitting in the, you know she was sitting in between them.

OK. You cross over the road then.

FORBES

Just, just half way past Edward Street and Thomas Street to go the north, you know towards.

Yeah.

FORBES

The Northern Bank. And then we walked on up and then that's whenever the, you know the policeman.

Was there a fight in progress at that stage.

FORBES

No just a row.

What do you mean a row.

FORBES

Just shouting abuse at each other just like

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slagging each other off.

Do you know a boy called Rory Robinson do you.

FORBES

Aye.

Was he there in that group at that stage.

FORBES

No he was still down town whenever all that there was going on.

Did you see him at any stage later in the night.

FORBES

Well he was supposed to go back to that party with us but he didn't go back.

Who was with him.

FORBES

Who, Rory.

Aye.

FORBES

Ah his girlfriend probably but I don't, don't ask me a name I haven't got a clue.