

This is a tape recorded interview. The interview is being conducted in an interview room at Lurgan Police Station. It's a continuation of interview with Mr Robert Atkinson ehm again for the purpose of the tape I am Detective Sergeant Wenford McDowell. Other officers present are - Detective Constable [REDACTED] - And yourself is

ATKINSON

Robert Atkinson.

And with you

SOLICITOR

[REDACTED], solicitor

I'll just remind you Mr Atkinson you're still under caution according to Article 3 and I'll remind you don't have to say anything but I must caution 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.

ATKINSON

I do yeah.

We're just carrying on with the final part of the interview here just in relation to eh the eh we're dealing with the aspect of Allister Hanvey at the scene and I was enquiring of you if you had seen him with blood on his clothing, the alleg, the inference being that if you told somebody to burn their clothes. They would have forensic evidence of some kind which would be hard to see with the naked eye unless it happened to be blood or you'd seen him do something physically to some person that would leave that and not see it and it's asking you if you had at any point seen Allister Hanvey kick or had seen Allister Hanvey with blood on his clothing.

ATKINSON

No I certainly didn't.

SOLICITOR

But eh for the purpose of clarification my client has been and he stated during interview and then I'm looking at an extract at the moment from an interview on the 9th October 97 that he named Hanvey as one of the persons at the scene.

Yes.

SOLICITOR

And (inaudible) Hanvey was one of the persons who was charged eh Hanvey and others and he was asked eh particularly ehm that Allister Hanvey and the answer was he was away over to my right now.

(Inaudible)

SOLICITOR In the middle of the road so I mean it's a question of my client eh give to police eh in the first instance about the fact that he had put Hanvey in the general area of the

Well this is where

SOLICITOR The disturbance

I would disagree there because that's an interview which is carried out under caution on the 9th of October

SOLICITOR Yeah.

Ninety-seven which is a good, how many months after or before is it, 6 months after. No, but the incident occurs on the 27th of April

SOLICITOR Yes.

And we asked at that stage in the first part of very first interview with Mr Atkinson because we went through the aspect of naming Allister Hanvey and eh it's I'll sum up here and you can correct me if I'm wrong Robert, Eh but you said that you had named him to eh Sergeant P89 and we have a statement from Sergeant P89

ATKINSON That's correct.

Who at the scene of the fracas or whatever the disturbance you would call it, you had actually commented to Sergeant P89 watch that fella there eh he's a black belt

ATKINSON (Inaudible)

In TKD or kick boxing, he's Hanvey.

ATKINSON Yeah, I think he asked me

Paraphrasing.

ATKINSON Well yeah, maybe not those words. He, I think he actually asked me who he was.

Yes, and you said he was Hanvey.

ATKINSON And I said to watch him that's Hanvey or something like that (inaudible) those words.

Now when we go to our, we go to our system what we're saying is that's, that's in the heat of, of a disturbance which is quite

ATKINSON Uhm

A stressful thing

ATKINSON Aye.

It's a remark made in the heat of a disturbance.

SOLICITOR Yeah.

When you come back to the cool of a, an office when the disturbance has died away, or sitting doing notebooks and statements and putting messages into the system and (inaudible) to it.

SOLICITOR Uhm.

There's nowhere in any of the (inaudible) account that Mr Atkinson names Allister Hanvey in a statement but

SOLICITOR Yes.

On message sheets, the only thing he says and he will say that at some point in the CID office or in the station generally, not the CID office but in the station generally he told another officer the name Allister Hanvey was at that incident this evening somewhere in the general area

ATKINSON Well I didn't, I didn't say from what I can recollect I didn't say Allister Hanvey was at that scene. Some guy said to me, there was one officer said to me who was thon boy such and such and I had, it wasn't long after when we came back in and I says that's the boy Sergeant P89 asked me about and I give him his name.

Well at nowhere in our system do we have any record of Mr Atkinson putting the name of

ATKINSON (Inaudible)

Hanvey into our account.

SOLICITOR Is it not a matter of record that Hanvey was charged.

He was charged but not on his

ATKINSON Yes.

But on the eh word of eh, eh police he was charged on the, on the account of eh civilian eye witnesses.

ATKINSON There was a lot more police there than me
Yeah.

ATKINSON And not one of them
Yeah.

ATKINSON Has named him.

SOLICITOR By a matter of record

ATKINSON That's right.

SOLICITOR My client, my client named him eh when
asked about this in 1997

ATKINSON In October

SOLICITOR In October 1997
Six months, six months after the

ATKINSON I named him on the night to Sergeant
P89
To Sergeant **P89**

ATKINSON Yes.

SOLICITOR And on the night to Sergeant **P89**
Right

ATKINSON Well like who else would I name him to only
my superior officer, like he was my superior
officer on the night and I told him.
You've made a statement of evidence about
the scene, the incident.

ATKINSON Aye, and I made a statement of evidence
which eh shows who I dealt with directly was
Roderick Robinson and several others
And you put, and you put message sheets into
the system of other people who were up the
road and you never mentioned, it's covering
the ground we started of with

ATKINSON Yeah
But it's a cycle but I don't think it's
adequate to say but I'm told that when you
are interviewed under caution that
(inaudible) then would be

SOLICITOR Well we dispute that, my client will dispute
that he give this name, he give a

description of this man.

Is there anything further you want to say at this time.

SOLICITOR

Well I think my client wants to eh again reiterate his eh, his objection, very strong objection

ATKINSON

I'm totally disgusted with the way that

SOLICITOR

With the method of the investigation

ATKINSON

The Human Rights on the my family and the privacy of my family has been interfered with regarding the matter. Eh as you were quite aware on the day you arrested me my house was searched. I have no problem with that whatsoever, the warrant wasn't left in the house, there was four police officers named on the search record; there was seven police vehicle at my house at one stage of which I can produce with numerous witnesses. The four police officers don't drive, drive seven police vehicles. My house was then bugged as you know you saw the outcome of it like and I think eh the RUC on this matter behaved despicably and I want that put on record.

Anything else you want to say Mr [REDACTED].

SOLICITOR

No, well I've written too about it

Yeah.

SOLICITOR

And eh I mean you accept for a matter of record that the RU, RUC eh is responsible for placing these devices in my client's home.

Nothing you want to say Paul - Eh, no I was going just mention at the end of the las, the first interview that just to make sure that you're totally aware that in relation to Michael McKee that ehm he had obviously nothing to gain by admitting his role in this matter and is thereby ehm accepting that he was involved in a conspiracy to pervert the course of justice

ATKINSON

Well I don't know

And then followed it through by actually carrying out

ATKINSON

Would Michael McKee (inaudible)

The act of Perverting the course of

ATKINSON

Business.

But as long as you understand that.

ATKINSON

I understand it.

And you've still nothing further

ATKINSON

I've still nothing further to add, no.

OK. Have you - (Inaudible). Interview terminated at 1647 hours.

CHECKED & CERTIFIED AN ACCURATE TRANSCRIPT OF PACE TAPE NO T270653A INTERVIEW OF ROBERT ATKINSON ON 31 05 01 BETWEEN 1641 AND 1647 HOURS

Maxwell A. S. Jr.