

9. I note that on 27 April 1997, I also visited D's home and recovered jeans and a t-shirt from his wife E for examination purposes. My statement at page 6555 deals with that. I can't say if they were forwarded to forensics but it would be fair to say they probably were. I do not recall what happened after these items were sent to forensics for examination. If anything of significance had been found, however, I assume it would be mentioned in the forensic report. I think I also recorded a statement [Page 9098] from F on this date.
10. I cannot remember exactly what happened in the early stages of the GBH investigation but the next logical step would have been to find out who was present at the time of the assault, what they saw and to try to commit them to a statement of evidence. As a CID enquiry we would have said, "We need statements from the people who were involved." However, I was not the one who made the requests for these statements. In fact, later on that day I recall statements from the uniformed police officers who had been at the incident started to come in. I do not recall the names of any of them. I read them to get a picture of events and for evidential purposes e.g. to identify people at the scene. I would assume that DCI P39 would also have read these statements.
11. The investigation team considered whether it was appropriate to arrest straight away but felt it was too early. It would have been different obviously if we had witnesses identifying perpetrators because then we could have considered the arrest and interview of suspects. That scenario was not however presented to us in those first few days. I accept there were some descriptions starting to emerge by the Sunday evening but there were no names that fitted those descriptions. I do not recall any names coming up at that stage.
12. I cannot recall when names were first attached to descriptions. I assume the Detective in charge of the investigation would have started that process off. Quite often in situations like that CID would have called in the uniformed officers and