#### MR. EDWARDS, EXAM, BY MR. MACDONALD

- learned friend, Mr. MacDonald, is now referring to what Staff
  Sergeant Wheaton told Mr. Edwards. I don't recall the last
  comment that Mr. MacDonald said either from Wheaton or from
- 4 Mr. Edwards.

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#### MR. MacDONALD

Well, my friend...

## MR OUTHOUSE

"Tell us what you want to hear, tell us what we want to hear."

## MR. MacDONALD

I probably took some liberty, My Lord, from ...I was trying to quote, what my friend, what Mr. Edwards testified to last week, not to what Wheaton or Carroll testified to, and perhaps when we resume in the afternoon I'll have the actual quotation and can put it to him.

# <u>LUNCH BREAK - 12:28 p.m.</u> 2:03 p.m.

#### MR. MACDONALD

Q. Just before we broke for lunch, My Lords, we were referring to this statement that was taken from Mr. Marshall in Dorchester and I suggested a certain line of questioning that was, or statement that was put to Mr. Marshall at the time he gave the statement and I was trying as best I could to paraphrase what Mr. Edwards has told me last week and my friend, Mr. Outhouse objected. So I would like to read to you

what the evidence was last week from Mr. Edwards. It's at page 11765. And we're talking about, Mr. Edwards thinks it was the first statement of February 18th but it may have been March the 9th, but this is what he said:

But I can recall Sergeant Wheaton, Staff Sergeant Wheaton, telling me that he and Carroll had met with Donald and, I may not have this word for word, but this is pretty close. They said, 'Look we're looking into this thing. Now you can tell us anything you want and we'll sit here and listen politely and then we'll leave and you'll never see us again or you can tell us what really happened and we'll do our best from there.'

Now if I overstated this morning, I apologize. That's the evidence that was given last week. Do I understand, Mr. Edwards, that if there was a voir dire held to determine the voluntariness of the statement that you would have had evidence from Sergeant Carroll and Staff Sergeant Wheaton to talk about the circumstances under which it was taken?

A. Yes.

Q.

Would you not agree with me that, as you recollect what happened, in effect Donald Marshall has been told this. What you told earlier, the evidence you gave and what you told the police is going to keep you in prison. If you just tell us the same thing, you're going to stay in prison. But if you tell us what really happened, and we'll do our best to get you out of here.

- A. That's a reasonable interpretation, I think.
- Q. And wouldn't you agree with me that that is an inducement?
- 3 A. Yes.

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- Q. But you still think that you would get that, in a <u>voir dire</u>
  you'd overcome that and have that statement introduced, on a
  trial for robbery now.
  - A. Uh-huh. I think the admissibility of that statement would be a very iffy proposition but, you know, given the intervening time between February 18th and March the 9th and his ability to consult with counsel during that time, it's, I don't think I'd be ashamed to try to get that in.
- Q. Okay.
- 13 A. Okay?

## COMMISSIONER EVANS

You can make an effort.

#### MR. EDWARDS

Sure.

## MR. MACDONALD

- Q. Here's what Sergeant Carroll said. This is on page 8769 of the transcript, My Lords. He again said I can't quote it word for word but I would suggest this is what he was told, and he's talking February 18th as well.
- 23 A. Yes.
- 24 | Q.

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We are reviewing the circumstances surrounding

your conviction, your trial, and having talked with some other witnesses prior to coming here to see you we feel that there was something else going on in the Park other than just a casual walk through the Park to catch a bus.

And that's before Marshall started to talk at all.

5 A. Right.

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- 6 O. Inducement?
- 7 A. Possibly.
- 8 Q. What you've told to date is not the truth.
- A. Uh-huh. I think it's legitimate for a police officer to put that
  to a witness. You know, the inducement part gets, comes in,
  like if it had been stated like you stated it and Mr. Outhouse
  object. Like tell us what we want to hear or we're going...
- Q. But at least tell us a different story.
- 14 A. Tell us...
- 15 Q. That's your words.
- 16 A. Tell us the truth.
- 17 Q. Tell us a different story than you told us before.
- 18 A. Tell us what really happened.
- 19 Q. So what...
- 20 A. The truth.
- Q. What you told before didn't really happen.
- A. Yeah.
- Q. And if you stick with that, you're going to stay in jail.
- A. That could be read into it.
- 25 Q. At the very least, would you agree with this, that the Appeal

- Court perhaps should have been aware of the circumstances under which that statement was taken and in told...and told that Marshall gave that statement after being told by the police.
- 5 A. Uh-huh.
- Q. You can tell us whatever you like and you're going to, you'll never see us again. Or you tell us the truth.
- 8 A. Uh-huh.
- Q. And we'll do our best for you. Don't you think that, at least, the Appeal Court should have known that?
- A. Yes. But again, you know, to keep it in balance, I have to say that Mr. Aronson was aware of those circumstances and that statement at the time as well.
- 14 Q. Yes.
- A. So... And I felt that I acknowledged up front. There was an inducement argument here. Perhaps I should have proffered it but I think I at least left the door open for Mr. Aronson to get in.
- Q. Well, in fairness to you, Mr. Edwards, on page 70 of Volume 3, and that's page 65 of the transcript, the court is looking at that question and...
- A. Is that page 65 in my...
- Q. Yes, in yours.
- A. Okay.
- Q. And at the bottom you say:

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On that point, My Lord, if I may just be perfectly honest with the court, in a trial situation, I would agree that it is not completely straightforward that we would get the statement in.

- A. Right.
- But you seem to be arguing that it's different here. Marshall is not on trial. This is an appeal and, therefore, the test of voluntariness doesn't have to be met. Is that a fair summary of what you had said to them?
- Yes. I'm just looking for the reference. A.
- It starts a couple of pages earlier, actually. Q.
- Yeah. Α.
- Q. On page 63.
- Where I mentioned that he wasn't in jeopardy. At the bottom of page 64 in mine.
- "He's not being tried for robbery." That's what you mean, he's Q. not in jeopardy, isn't he?
- Well, I, the direct quote:

There's no question he is not presently in jeopardy in the sense that things could not get any worse for him than they presently are. the fact of the matter is that that statement could be used in evidence against him. It may assist the court in some respects and, hypothetically, it may assist the court in resolving the matter then and there if the statement is admitted.

"Things can't get any worse" because he's already in jail, is O.

#### MR. EDWARDS, EXAM. BY MR. MACDONALD

that what you mean?

- A. Yes, and I believe what I was saying there, although it's difficult, again, to recall thoughts let alone your words, was that whatever he said there couldn't be used against him in a subsequent proceeding, anyway, unless, you know, except for perjury, of course, but that wasn't crossing my mind.
- Q. You weren't aware... Well, we'll come later, I guess, to what the Court finally said.
- A. Yes.
- Q. And how it may have been used against him. I still have some difficulty, though, understanding why it is important on the reference, given the narrow issue that the court has now defined, why it's relevant at all whether Marsh... what Marshall's intention was on the night in question.
- A. Well, again, you know, coming out of the October 5th meeting, I felt that the court had narrowly defined its terms of reference, so to speak. But I still felt that given Gorecki, Number 2, that, you know, that wasn't cast in stone and that the proceedings could be opened up. And my feeling was that the question of whether or not there had been a robbery was relevant to the issue of whether or not there had been a miscarriage.
- Q. Whether there had been a miscarriage of justice.
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. Only to that point, isn't it?

- A. Yes. Oh yes, it doesn't resolve the key issue on who did the stabbing.
- Q. And would you agree with me that before you can make a final determination whether there's been a miscarriage of justice...
- 6 A. Yes.

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- Q. That you have to hear all of the evidence, including the evidence of the police.
  - A. Yes, and at that point, although I felt it was very unlikely that the police would be called or I'd be permitted to call them, that was still a possibility in my mind and something that I thought I might push for. As it turned out, I didn't and, you know, we'll get into that, no doubt.
    - Q. But for our benefit and so we'll understand each other as we get into that topic, would you define for me your understanding on miscarriage of justice, what you mean by that?
    - A. I think Mr. Aronson sets it out pretty well in his brief. He talks about two senses in which miscarriage of justice is generally understood and, you know, for convenience, I'll adopt what he said.
    - Q. Okay.
- A. Originality isn't my strong suit. But, you know, what he says is that a miscarriage of justice can refer to a procedural error being so blatant, in effect, that the resulting trial is deemed a

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## MR. EDWARDS, EXAM, BY MR. MACDONALD

- miscarriage. Or a miscarriage of justice, and this is the sense that's most relevant here, would encompass a situation where an innocent man is convicted of a crime he didn't commit. And that, of course, is the... And you would accept that as a definition of miscarriage of O. justice as a good definition. 7
  - Yeah, I think so. Α.

2:15 p.m.

- Thank you. Let me go back to your notes now, if we could, Q. Mr. Edwards. And I'm...
- But they are... Α.
- ...referring to your notes of December the 6th. Q.
- If I could just add one rider on that definition. Where an Α. innocent man is convicted of a crime he didn't commit I would put the rider on that the question of fault or responsibility, as far as he's concerned, is relevant.
- Is relevant to whether there was a miscarriage? Q.
- To whether there is a miscarriage, miscarriage of justice, too, A. can be a question of degree, you know, I suppose, and so the question of fault, I think, that it has some relevance, you know. Maybe the legal scholars would disagree with that. But that's my own gut feeling on it.
- Q. When you left the Court after December the 2nd, did you have any feel of how the Court was looking at this thing, what was likely to happen?

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- To say I was alarmed would be overstating it, and I want to A. be accurate as I possibly can. But I felt very, very 2 uncomfortable after the hearing and the old haunting fear 3 going through my mind, which I had had to some extent right from the very outset, that there was a danger of a new 5 trial being ordered was more real than ever. That was about as accurately as I can recall my feeling at that time. 7
  - And that would be a scenario that you would think would be Q. bad.
- And, you know, in the weeks following December 2nd, A. 10 and prior to my drafting my factum, I did a lot of agonizing, I suppose, about the implications of the ordering him a new 12 trial. 13
  - On December 6th you had a discussion with Mr. Herschorn, Q. and you have your notes on that.
- Yes. A. 16
  - Were you in contact with Mr. Herschorn or others in the Q. Attorney General's Department throughout this reference?
    - A. You mean on December 1st and 2nd.
  - No. In the sense of keeping them up to date on what was Q. going on.
- I think so, like to understand that, I guess, you would have Α. 22 to appreciate that Martin Herschorn and I relate as friends 23 as much as, you know, boss/employee-type of thing, and 24 conversation between us is very easy. So in a 25

conversational way I would be keeping him up to date. Was there any sort of supervision being exercised over you? Q. A. No. Q. Okay. Now in your note of December 6th you make the point, first of all, Mr. Herschorn inquired as to reasons why 5 you had decided not to call the police officers. 6 Right. A. 7 And you told him the Court had signalled that they did not Q. 8 want to get into that. Right. A. 10 Q. 11 12 When I was asking for leave to cross on 13 O'Reilley's statement Chief Justice had made the point that witnesses now admit they had lied, no 14 point in getting into why they had lied. Recalled that he made at least three references in that 15 vein. 16 Yes. A. 17 Were these notes made on December 6th? Q. 18 Yes, I think they were. A. 19 Q. Yes, okay, I see it. 20 A. And the phone call had taken place at eleven, that's right. 21 Q. If you're not interested in why witnesses had lied, knowing 22 that the evidence of those witnesses had resulted in the 23 conviction of Marshall. 24

Yes.

Α.

- 1 | Q. And if you're not interested in knowing why they had lied.
- 2 A. Yes.
- Q. Can you explain how you could then deal at all with whether or not there had been a miscarriage of justice?
- 5 A. No.
- Q. You couldn't deal with it, could you, realistically you couldn't?
- 8 A. Not in an appropriate manner.
- Q. Thank you. You go on to say that you would confer with

  Mike Whalley during the noon adjournment and at that time

  Whalley agreed there was no much point calling the police

  because he felt it was obvious that all witnesses were lying

  anyway.
- 14 A. Right.
- Q. And you weren't asking for, I take it, you weren't asking for Mr. Whalley's consent as to how you were conducting this reference, were you?
- A. No. What I was doing was being a little political about it
  because...well, I knew that Whalley had been to see the
  Deputy Attorney General in July and so by having that
  conference with him he couldn't very well complain that I
  then hadn't called the police.
- Q. You go on...
- A. That's political with a small "p".
- Q. Yes, I understand. You go on to comment, as well, that "The

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- city police had fared far worse in the court...in the press than they had in court," and you say, "The bottom line was the police had come through in the best possible light and calling them would not have improved their position."
- A. That's right.
- Q. Was that of concern to the Attorney General's Department, that the police come through in the best possible light?
- Well again, perhaps someone else can answer that. If it was A. a concern it wasn't communicated to me other than indirectly, I suppose, through the phone conversation I had had with Mr. Coles in July. You see, as I say, and as I said in the brief and it was the position I was in. I was kind of on a tightrope. I was adversary in some senses, in the sense that I was to cross-examine a witness, and on side with Marshall in another sense, I suppose. But my basic strategy going in there, as far as Chant and Harriss were concerned, was to probe them to discover whether there may have been reasons other than police pressure. I mean, I was taking the adversarial position there and seeing if I could discover whether there were reasons other than police pressure why they might have told the stories they did.
- Q. Was it part of your objective to protect the police as part of the justice system?
- A. I never thought of it in those terms. I suppose I thought of it more in terms that, well, for purposes of Chant and Harriss

- the lines are pretty well drawn. Mr. Aronson is going to look after one side of the issue and I'm going to look after the other side, and hopefully the truth would emerge.
- Q. Okay. And you go on to note that you and Martin Herschorn were having a discussion whether you would take a position on the actual...on the argument, a position for acquittal.
- 7 A. Yes.
- Q. In your experience, is it not the usual practise for the Crown to take a position on an appeal?
- A. Well, again, recognizing that I'm not an appeal lawyer, but having read a lot of appeal decisions it seems to me, well, I can't think of another case right off where the Crown has gone in and not taken a position.
- Q. And there have been appeals taken from some of your cases, not by you but by others.
- 16 A. Oh, yes.

- Q. And do you see the factums in those cases?
- A. I usually don't see the factums, but I usually, as mentioned
  when we were beginning the examination, I usually have
  discussions with the solicitor who is handling the appeal and
  I know basically what his arguments are going to be.
  - Q. And he always takes a position.
- 23 A. In every case I can think of.
- Q. Thank you. The next notes I have are Monday, January the 17th.

#### MR. EDWARDS, EXAM. BY MR. MACDONALD

- A. Right.
- Q. And that is a...the notes of a visit to your office by Chief
  MacIntyre.
  - A. Yes. And just...I want to go back because there is another point that perhaps should be made. Not only does the Crown always take a position, but sometimes a lawyer who is handling the appeal of one of my cases, and I just thought of one that I had, takes a position which is inconsistent with the conviction.
  - Q. Uh-hum.
  - A. I know I had a conspiracy trial where there was a jurisdictional argument and Mr. Fiske, who handled the appeal of that, raised before the Court of Appeal the jurisdictional problem that, you know, at trial I had taken the position that there was no problem, as did defence counsel. So defence counsel were precluded without looking pretty red in the face from raising the issue. And Mr. Fiske looked at it and he said, "There's a problem here," and the trial was overturned on that basis. So...

## MR. CHAIRMAN

Had the...in that case had counsel for the accused raised the issue as a grounds for appeal?

## MR. EDWARDS

No, because the...see there were...it was conspiracy, there were three counsel for the accused and myself, and the four of us

## MR. EDWARDS, EXAM. BY MR. MACDONALD

had agreed on trial by Judge alone rather than Judge and Jury without getting into the particulars. There's a new section 507, I think. And so I tendered a letter of agreement as an exhibit in that case and they all agreed on the record that there was no problem with jurisdiction. So, you know, they couldn't very well then go to the Court of Appeal and say, "Well, that's not right." Although one of the accused did change counsel, but the issue was raised by Mr. Fiske, Crown counsel. 2:29 p.m.

### **COMMISSIONER EVANS**

Why couldn't the defence have changed positions? The Crown could. Why couldn't the defence?

## MR. EDWARDS

WIK. LD WAKDS

I suppose they could have, but I believe one of the defence counsel, when the issue was raised in the Court of Appeal, he said, when he was asked to give submissions, he said, "You know, My Lord, this is very embarrassing for us because we had agreed to it but Mr. Fiske is right -- cake and eat it, too.

## MR. CHAIRMAN

You would agree that's an appropriate position for...

## MR. EDWARDS

Oh, no question about it. And I raise it because, you know, some might question whether or not it is appropriate and I don't think there's any question but that there is. And sometimes the Crown will take a position which is inconsistent with the

conviction.

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## MR. CHAIRMAN

Do you know any instance where an Appeal Court has, say, overturned a conviction on a ground that it was not argued before it or raised as a ground for appeal?

#### MR. EDWARDS

Yes, I know that has happened a couple of times. I can't, not on my cases but I know it, I've heard of it happening. And by the way, the ironic thing, just getting back to this conspiracy thing, when the Appeal Court decision came out, credit was given to the new defence counsel in the decision. But there's no question that the issue was raised. Mr. Fiske was a little bit exorcised by that.

## MR. MACDONALD

- Q. Monday, January 17th, 1983, were those notes made on that day?
- 16 A. Which was that? Monday, January 17th?
- 17 Q. 17th?
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. A visit with Chief MacIntyre.
- 20 A. Right.
- Q. And at that time, you spoke about what happened in the
  reference and then you go on to note that the Chief began to
  rehash the facts of the case. "Told me he would go to his
  grave believing that Marshall had inflicted the wound to his
  left arm himself."

#### 11963 MP EDWARDS EXAM RY MR MACDONALD

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	IVIIX	. EDWARDS, EXAM. BT MIK. MACDONALD
1	A.	Yes.
2	Q.	Also says, "The reason Marshall removed stitches was so no
3		blood sample could be taken." And you refer Marshall going
4		back to the scene. In your view, was Chief MacIntyre, at that
5		stage, telling you, in his view, Marshall was guilty?
6	A.	That was the implication I took from that. Otherwise, you
7		know, really why stress the self-inflicted wound?
8	Q.	And that is the stage when the full knowledge of this
9		purported robbery is well known.
10	A.	Yes.
11	Q.	Even Marshall's own statement is now out in the public,
12		having been introduced in the Appeal Court.
13	A.	Yes.
14	Q.	And even then, you had the impression that Chief MacIntyre
15		believed that Marshall was guilty.
16	A.	Even then and even when he gave evidence before this
17		Inquiry last December. I recall he had very great difficulty,
18		in my view, admitting that Marshall had not stabbed Seale.
19		And I don't know if at the end of the day he really did admit
20		that.
21	Q.	You're not alone. Then you say towards the end of the
22		conversation:
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24		The Chief told me that he had a meeting with the Deputy Attorney General and that at the end of
25		that meeting, the Deputy had walked around the

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#### MR. EDWARDS, EXAM. BY MR. MACDONALD

table, placed his hand on the Chief's shoulder and said, 'As far as I'm concerned, that fellow was the author of his own misfortune.'

- 3 A. Right.
- Q. The Chief told you that, did he, on January the 17th?
- A. Yes, he did.
  - Q. Did he give you any indication to you when the meeting with the Deputy had taken place?
    - A. No, and, you know, that was an opportunity lost, I suppose. I don't know why I didn't press him on that because, as far as I know, Chief MacIntyre has never met personally with the Deputy Attorney General. As far as I know, he's only met with Gordon Gale. The difficulty I have with this is that walking around the desk and putting the hand on the shoulder, that is more consistent with the personality of Gordon Coles than Gordon Gale. I can't imagine Gordon Gale doing that. And I see there's a few chuckling around here who know Gordon Gale and know that to be true.
    - Q. But it was not the suggestion, at the time, I take it, at the time you made this note, it wasn't suggested that that particular incident had taken place within the short period of when it was told to you, was it?
    - A. No, there was no reference to when it had taken place.
- Q. Now let me get you to go to Volume 31 at page 126.
- A. Right.
- Q. That is a letter that you wrote to Mr. Herschorn on January 18

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- of 1983 and were you writing that to him at his request?
- 2 A. No.
- 3 Q. Did you consider you needed the...
- A. I say, I say "No". I should say I don't think so and I think I would have recalled had I been asked to write that particular letter.
- Q. Did you consider you needed the approval of the Attorney
  General's office to the argument you intended to advance to
  the Appeal Division?
- A. At that point, yes. And if you just refer to... Well, perhaps it's not necessary to refer, but the note on December 6th when I spoke to Martin, and he told me to hold off taking a position as long as I could because of the concern of the Deputy Attorney General. So I held off as long as I could and January 18th was as long as I could. Because I had to write the factum.
- Q. Now I put it to you that what you were advocating in this letter on January 18, 1983 is virtually a complete reversal from what you had advocated in April of 1982.
- 20 A. That's fair.
- Q. In '82, you had said the most desirable result would be an acquittal on the basis that there had been a miscarriage of justice.
- A. Right.
- Q. And, in effect, what you are saying on January 18, 1983 is

- that there wasn't any miscarriage of justice.
- A. Fair enough.
- Q. Now I also put it to you that there has been no facts come to your attention.
- 5 A. Uh-huh.
- Q. Between those two dates that would lead you to change your mind.
- A. No concrete evidence.
- 9 Q. No concrete evidence, okay.
- 10 A. No, right.
- Q. Can you tell us, then, what happened? Why a man who was going to argue this in the Appeal Division came around 180 degrees?
- A. The short answer is that having been in the court, the Appeal
  Court, it was my view that this was the only argument that
  was going to fly.
- Q. "This" being the argument...
- 18 A. The argument in the January 18th...
- 19 Q. In January.
- 20 A. That's right.
- Q. Now why did you have that feeling, "It's the only argument that's going to fly?"
- A. Well, as I stated before, when I left the court on December

  2nd, I was greatly concerned about what was going to happen
  from that point. And, quite frankly, I felt that the overriding

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likelihood at that point was that the court was going to order 1 a new trial. I thought that that would be wrong and I'm 2 understating my feeling now. I felt that if I took this position. 3 that the court with the Crown on side with the defence recommending an acquittal, wouldn't have a lot of room to 5 manoeuvre. It would have been a very drastic step for the 6 court, I think, in view of a joint submission by Crown and 7 defence, that there should be an acquittal, I think it would have been a very drastic move for them and one that I was gambling they wouldn't be prepared to take to order a new 10 trial. At the same time, I felt that by putting the 11 responsibility on Marshall, that that would make the ordering 12 of an acquittal a palatable proposition for the court. 13

- Q. On January 18th of 1983, did you still believe that there had been a miscarriage of justice here?
- A. That was my personal belief. I have never personally believed anything else. I thought that this was an argument that I could make and lawyers, I suppose, find themselves in positions from time to time arguing a point of view which may not be in accord with their personal beliefs and I guess it came down to my convincing myself that the end; ie., the acquittal, justified the means.

#### COMMISSIONER POITRAS

Mr. Edwards, just to understand that properly. You say that you put the responsibility on Mr. Marshall for what reason again?

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## MR. EDWARDS, EXAM. BY MR. MACDONALD

#### MR. EDWARDS

The author of his own misfortune.

#### **COMMISSIONER POITRAS**

What was the purpose of that? What was the purpose of placing the responsibility on Marshall's shoulder?

## MR. EDWARDS

That, in my perception, bore directly on whether or not there had been a miscarriage of justice or, more specifically, whether or not the court would order.

## **COMMISSIONER POITRAS**

But do I understand that you are trying to place the responsibility on Marshall's shoulder with a view to avoiding a second hearing, another hearing?

#### MR. EDWARDS

With a view to avoiding a retrial.

#### **COMMISSIONER POITRAS**

A retrial, okay.

## MR. EDWARDS

My... You know, it's very difficult to give a succinct answer on this because I had literally stewed on it for a number of weeks by the time that letter was written and my feeling, I guess my overriding rationale was this. That the court that had ratified Marshall's original conviction should be the one to say that now he's acquitted. I felt that matters would proceed from there to the Ebsary trial. That Ebsary, in my view, would likely be

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#### MR. EDWARDS, EXAM. BY MR. MACDONALD

convicted, at least of manslaughter. We started out with murder
but I recognized that it might come down to manslaughter, which
it did. And I don't think I'm attributing any great powers of
foresight to myself because I don't really, I don't want to give the
impression that I could foresee the future that well, but it
occurred to me at the time that there would be so many
unresolved questions by this, even after the acquittal and the
Ebsary, that this type of proceeding might come about.

#### **COMMISSIONER POITRAS**

But it boils down to the responsibility being placed on Marshall's shoulders with a view to ordering, to avoid the ordering of a new trial.

## MR. EDWARDS

Yes.

#### MR. CHAIRMAN

What causes me some difficulty, Mr. Edwards, is if both the Crown and counsel for Donald Marshall had urged upon the court to acquit, it seems to me the court would be hard put then to reach any other conclusion, wouldn't they? Despite what comments that you'd heard and feelings that you pick up during any trial.

#### MR. EDWARDS

That wasn't my view prior to the argument in February and it's difficult because, and I guess anybody who has done a lot of trial work would know that you're almost going on a gut reaction.

#### MR. EDWARDS, EXAM, BY MR. MACDONALD

You know, I can't point to anything specific in the remarks of any of the judges prior to February, which would give that indication.

#### MR. CHAIRMAN

Let me take it one step further. Supposing that both you and Mr. Aronson had urged among the court that there be an acquittal and despite such urging the Appeal Court had ordered a new trial, it certainly would make it then much easier, would it not, for the Crown not to proceed with a new trial?

#### MR. EDWARDS

And I thought of that, My Lord. I tried to weigh every possible scenario and, given my own limitations, I probably didn't touch on them all, but I thought of that. And I can tell you in all candor that I looked at it from Donald Marshall's point of view and thought, well, how satisfactory would that be, really, if a new trial were ordered and the Attorney General simply put a stay of proceedings on it or offered no evidence and he was found not guilty? From Marshall's point of view, you'd still be left with the highest court in this province saying "You must go back to trial." I mean that statement would be on the record. From the public's point of view, I'm not sure about the effect and, again, you know, my work is with juries, so I try to go on my sense of what a jury would think. I'm not sure about the effect that would have had on a jury hearing Ebsary. Although, you know, subject to getting a jury screened and that type of thing.

## 11971 MR. EDWARDS, EXAM. BY MR. MACDONALD MR. CHAIRMAN And in fairness to you, as I recall it, when you were 2 advocating that the review be under 617(c)... 3 MR. EDWARDS 4 Yes. 5 MR. CHAIRMAN 6 You were hoping that this would afford Marshall an 7 opportunity to bring before the public all of the evidence. 8 MR. EDWARDS Yes. 10 MR. CHAIRMAN 11 Rather than just a simple acquittal. 12 MR. EDWARDS 13 That's right. That's right. 14 **COMMISSIONER EVANS** 15 Mr. Edwards, you were of the view that it was a miscarriage 16 of justice? 17 MR. EDWARDS 18 No question about it. 19 **COMMISSIONER EVANS** 20 Aronson was of the view it was a miscarriage of justice. 21 MR. EDWARDS 22 That's correct. **COMMISSIONER EVANS**

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If both of you had made a joint representation to the court,

wouldn't they have been hard put to come to any other conclusion?

#### MR. EDWARDS

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They may have been hard put but I think they would have come to another conclusion and I'm relying... Before February, before the argument in February, I was relying on gut feeling only. After February and the exchange between Mr. Justice Pace and I, and maybe it's a misinterpretation by me, but there's no question in my mind that the view on miscarriage would have been rejected, notwithstanding joint submission by the Crown and defence.

## **COMMISSIONER POITRAS**

Have we heard anything about this discussion yet?

## MR. MACDONALD

We're only in January, My Lord.

## **COMMISSIONER POITRAS**

Sorry.

## MR. MACDONALD

We're coming there.

#### MR. EDWARDS

That's why it's difficult to discuss them in isolation because any doubts I may have had were erased in February.

#### MR. MACDONALD

Q. Just so we can start out on the same ground, the Appeal Division, as I understand it, had three options available to it.

- First of all, they could...That's if they are going to allow the appeal. They could obviously dismiss an appeal.
  - A. Right.

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- Q. But if they were going to allow the appeal, they could allow it on the basis that the verdict is unreasonable or cannot be supported by the evidence. That's one option.
- 7 A. Right.
  - Q. And having made the decision, they could say that the appeal is allowed. They don't have to say anything else.
- 10 A. Right.
- Q. Correct? They could have also allowed it on the basis that the judgement of the trial court should be set aside on the ground of a wrong decision on a question of law. That's got nothing to do with our case but that's an option.
- 15 A. Right.
  - Q. And the third, they could allow the appeal if it's of the opinion that on any ground there was a miscarriage of justice.
- 18 A. Yes.

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- Q. Those are the options available to it. Now do I understand from what you've said that you do not believe, based on your sense and your feel for the way the court conducted itself on December 1 and 2...
- 23 A. And not only...
- Q. And perhaps even before that.
- 25 A. Okay, all right.

- Q. In July and October, that you do not believe that court would have allowed the appeal on the ground there was a miscarriage of justice.
- 4 A. That's right.
- Q. But they may have allowed the appeal on the ground that the verdict could not be supported by the evidence.
- 7 A. Right.
- Q. There's another step, though, isn't there? Having allowed the appeal, they must decide whether to order a new trial or enter an acquittal.
- 11 A. Exactly.
- Q. And that's a second step altogether.
- A. Right.
- Q. Let me go back to your letter, which is on page 126 of Volume
  31. You are setting out on page one the points that you say
  should be emphasized before the court.
- 17 A. Yes.
- Q. And (A) and (B), those are points to be emphasized only relative, only in relation to the question whether or not there has been a miscarriage of justice, isn't it?
- A. Right.
- Q. Could you or did you give thought to this scenario, of just
  dealing strictly with whether or not the evidence would
  support a decision or a conviction at this date, leaving
  miscarriage of justice aside altogether. Don't even talk about

## MR. EDWARDS, EXAM. BY MR. MACDONALD

it.

- 1 2:52 p.m.
- A. What, writing my factum and just ending it there?
- <sup>3</sup> Q. Just saying that in your view and in the view of the Crown,
- an acquittal should be entered because the decision cannot
- now be supported on the evidence, and that's the end of it.
- There's no need of dealing with miscarriage of justice, is

7 there?

- <sup>8</sup> A. Well, I think the Court in the next stage of its deliberations

  9 has to decide on what basis it's going to order the acquittal.
- Q. Well, first of all, it has to decide whether to allow the appeal.
- 11 A. Yes, right.
- Q. And it can allow the appeal on the ground that the evidence now available could not support a conviction.
- 14 A. Yes.
- Q. And having reached that decision they then go on to decide whether to order an acquittal or to order a new trial, is...am

  I correct?
- 18 A. Yes.
- Q. And having found that the evidence could not support a conviction, how could they then order a new trial? They're, in effect, saying there is no evidence, no evidence to support a conviction.
- <sup>23</sup> A. Right.
- Q. Why do we have to deal with a miscarriage of justice at all?

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- That's where I'm having my difficulty.
  - A. Uh-hum. You know, that could very well be the case but rightly or wrongly my impression was that I didn't think the Court would simply leave it at that.
- Q. So, the argument that you are putting forth to your superiors in January and subsequently in your factum...
- 7 A. Yes.
- Q. ...are to achieve an end--the end being an acquittal of Donald Marshall.
- A. Yes. And consequently, I mean, I know...I knew that that view would accord with the view of the Deputy Attorney
  General, but I have to say in fairness that even if I didn't know how Gordon Coles felt about it, I would have argued the same way.
- 15 Q. Now...
- A. I felt a very strong argument had to be made in order to see
  an acquittal come out of the other end of the process. Now,
  that might be a wrong judgement on my part, but that's how
  I felt.
- Q. I'm intrigued by your statement though that you said you knew that that view would accord with the view of the Deputy Attorney General.
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. What view?
- A. The view that Marshall must bear considerable

- responsibility.
- 2 Q. Ah-ha. Okay.
- 3 A. Yeah.
- Q. So, you knew that that was the view at the top of the
  Attorney General's Department that Marshall should bear a
  large responsibility for this himself.
- A. I felt that that was the view at the deputy ministerial level, yes.
- Q. Okay. Thank-you. Now, had you discussions with Coles other than the one we had...you had one we looked at, I think,

  December 6th or so.
- A. No. I had one telephone call with Coles back in July, was it July 12th?
- Q. That was after Whalley was up to see him.
- 15 A. Yes.
- 16 Q. Okay. I see.
- A. And then I had had the conversation with John MacIntyre
  where he talked about Coles, although I had doubts about
  whether it was Coles because I didn't know about such a
  meeting.
- 21 Q. Yes.
- And, how I picked it up, whether it was in conversation with Martin or Gordon Gale, but it was my sense, again, that the deputy was of that view.
  - Q. Okay. So, do I understand we...we're in sort of a two-stage

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- process. What you're doing in January is letting the
  department know, okay, I'm going to quote...I'm going to
  spew out the department view in the Court and then in your
  factum you're telling the Court what you think they want to
  hear, all with the view of getting Donald Marshall acquitted?
  - A. Well, it was primarily telling the Court, you put it that way, what I thought they wanted to hear. Coincidentally it happened to accord with what I thought to be the deputy's position.
- Q. Okay. Now, let me just go to those two points then in your letter and see what you believe.
- 12 A. Yes.
- Q. And what you believed then.
- 14 A. Right.
- Q. You say "The appellant must bear considerable responsibility for the predicament in which he finds himself." Was that your belief at that time?
- A. At that time I suppose if you substituted the word "some"
  for "considerable," that would be closer to my feeling at that
  time and my feeling today.
  - Q. And those are two words that could be interpreted all kinds of ways, if we say on a scale of one to ten "considerable" is eight, where do you put "some"?
- A. I'm not comfortable quantifying it like that. At the risk of being convoluted, can I try another way to answer?

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- Q. Certainly.
- A. My feeling is that had Donald Marshall been straightforward 2 or told about the robbery in 1971 that he may have been 3 able to save himself, because there were three possibilities there. Number one, having received a plausible story rather 5 than the story, I respectfully submit, the police would have found almost bizarre, you know, about encountering two guys dressed like priests from Manitoba who for no reason, 8 no apparent reason, did the stabbing. Had the police heard 9 that then their investigation may have taken a different 10 That was the first possibility. direction. 11
- Q. Now, if I can just interrupt as you go.
- 13 A. Okay.
- Q. That's notwithstanding the fact that in July of 1982 when all the facts were known...
- 16 A. Yes.
- Q. ...and you were being told what the police...that they don't accept that, and you were told as late as December of '82 by

  John MacIntyre.
- 20 A. Yes.
- 21 Q. That he stills believes Marshall...
- 22 A. That's right.
- 23 Q. ...was the murderer.
- 24 A. Yes.
- 25 Q. Knowing all of those facts.

- A. Yeah, but, you know, let's be careful on that, because by the time John MacIntyre told me that he'd go to his grave believing Marshall had inflicted the wound and he may as well have said to me, "I'll go to my grave believing Marshall did it," he had lived with this thing for what, eleven, twelve And I'm no psychologist but I think that most people 6 in MacIntyre's position would have great difficulty 7 admitting the possibility, particularly after that amount of 8 time, knowing that Marshall had spent eleven years in jail, would have great difficulty in admitting that he had been 10 His mind set at that time is far, far different than, 11 and again maybe I'm speculating, than when he is into this 12 investigation initially back in '71. At that time, if I can put 13 it this way, John MacIntyre or any investigator would have 14 been more open to the suggestion that there is another 15 possibility here than he is twelve years later after he, in 16 order to admit that, would have to admit, well, "I'm the guy 17 who is responsible for him being in jail." 18
  - Q. Okay. That's fair. Now, you said there were three.
  - A. Okay.

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- 21 Q. That's one.
  - A. So, yeah, my first one then was that had Marshall told about the robbery, the police investigation could very well have taken a different direction. Number two, had he told about the robbery in '71 to his lawyers then they, I think, would

- have taken steps to check out the validity of his story.
- Q. What steps do you think they would have taken?
- A. I think that they could have done some legwork. Sydney is not a very big place. You wouldn't have to ask around very much I don't think to find out about Ebsary. He was fairly notorious at the time.
- Q. We had his description.
- A. Pardon me?
- Q. We had his description.
  - A. They had his description, but...and here Simon Khattar's evidence is very telling, and as I recall, I don't know if he said it directly, but I think the effect of Simon Khattar's evidence was that he didn't believe his client. They didn't believe the story Marshall told them, and, you know, I haven't read his evidence lately, but I believe Simon stated that had Marshall told about the robbery, they might have done something different.
  - Q. Okay.
  - A. So, that was the third possibility or second possibility. And the third one, and probably the most significant, is the impact that Marshall's testimony had on the jury. If he had come clean with the jury, and again I mean my preconditioning maybe is showing now, and said what he was actually doing in the park that night, it may well have raised a reasonable doubt in his favour. Again, that's all

- speculation. But I...the key word is plausible. The story he gave in 1971 is, with greatest respect, not a plausible story.
  - Q. Okay. And you say the last, notwithstanding, I assume, that there are two witnesses before the jury who have given evidence that they actually saw Marshall stab Seale.
- 6 A. Yes.

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- 7 Q. Notwithstanding that.
- 8 A. Uh-hum.
- Q. If Seale[sic] had said he was in the course of a robbery.
- 10 A. Uh-hum.
- Q. That the jury may have had a reasonable doubt.
- I said he may have been able to save himself, and you A. know when one considers those three points, police, lawyers, 13 jury, then surely there is a probability that one of those three aspects would have kicked in in his favour. But 15 having said that, that's as far as I can go. I mean if he was 16 in the park to commit a robbery that night, then the second 17 level of responsibility or the second way responsibility to 18 him kicks in is that he thereby precipitated the situation 19 which resulted in Seale's death. 20
- 21 Q. Okay.

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- A. And his wrongful incarceration.
- Q. All right. Now, we'll...let me move on to your second point in your letter.

### **COMMISSIONER POITRAS**

Would you just...I just have a small problem, Mr. MacDonald.

Mr. Edwards, you say that these three reasons would sort of constitute speculation.

# MR. EDWARDS

Yes.

### **COMMISSIONER POITRAS**

And yet in your letter of January 18th, 1983, if I read the second sentence, you're not dealing with speculation here as much as a virtual conclusion. In other words, there is no doubt in your mind, as I read the letter that Marshall should bear responsibility for the predicament in which he found himself. This is not speculative, it's conclusive.

### MR. EDWARDS

Perhaps if I...my adoption of the word "speculative" was premature or inappropriate. I think that that's as strong as a fair inference that can be drawn from the circumstantial evidence which is available. So, if I may, I'll take back my adoption of speculative and...

#### COMMISSIONER POITRAS

Would you espouse today the point that you took on January 18th, 1983, or are you of a different opinion today?

#### MR. EDWARDS

Well, as I stated to Mr. MacDonald, I'd take away "considerable" and put "some," some responsibility there. You know, perhaps, I don't want to jump the gun, but having said that

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#### MR. EDWARDS, EXAM. BY MR. MACDONALD

that he must bear some responsibility, I'm of the view that even though he didn't tell anyone about the robbery, he shouldn't have been convicted. There are other mechanisms which failed which should have kicked in to prevent this conviction.

#### **COMMISSIONER POITRAS**

Okay.

### MR. MacDONALD

- Q. The second point that you've told Mr. Herschorn is that, and this is a point you want to emphasize.
- A. Yes.
- Q. "The police investigators in 1971 bona fide believed they had the guilty party in the person of Donald Marshall, Jr.

  They certainly were not motivated by malice toward either the accused or has been suggested in some press reports prejudice toward his race."
- A. Yes.
- Q. What were you relying on to make that statement?
- A. Well, by that time I had had an opportunity, of course, to assess all the available evidence and had an opportunity to assess John MacIntyre and, that latter point in particular. I just couldn't see any suggestion anywhere that John MacIntyre had ever believed anything other than that he had the right guy, that he had the guilty party. And I haven't seen anything since either, including before this Commission, I might say.

- Q. But you've also told this Commission that you interviewed Patricia Harriss.
- A. Yes.
- Q. And found her to be truthful.
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. Do you still think her to be a truthful person?
- 7 A. Yes.
- Q. And, I believe you said that you understood from Patricia
  Harriss that she was pressured to say something by John
  MacIntyre.
- 11 A. Yes.
- Q. Do you think that's acting bona fide?
- A. It's being overzealous.
- 14 Q. Did you accept that?
- A. I mean it's bona fide in the sense that he thinks that what he's pressuring out of her is the truth.
- 17 Q. Is that...

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- A. It's...I mean it's reprehensible police tactics but it's not mala

  fides in the sense that, you know, he's pressuring her to do
  other...something other than what he believes to be to give a
  truthful version.
- Q. Okay. Let me move on to January the 25th. I take it you were...

# 24 COMMISSIONER EVANS

Before you leave there, when you wrote that letter on

- January the 18th you found yourself, what one might describe, as
- between a rock and a hard place.
- A. For sure.

# 4 COMMISSIONER EVANS

- You believed Marshall was innocent and that there was a
- 6 miscarriage of justice.
- 7 A. Yes.

# 8 COMMISSIONER EVANS

- Now, after December the 6th, after that hearing in the Court of Appeal you had the feeling from what had gone on there that they were likely to direct a new trial.
- 12 A. Yes.

### 13 COMMISSIONER EVANS

- That was not a result that you would be happy with.
- 15 A. That...

### 16 COMMISSIONER EVANS

- You'd have to accept it, but I mean that didn't coincide with your view.
- A. That's right. That was an impossible situation for everyone concerned.

### 21 COMMISSIONER EVANS

- That was the last result that you wanted.
- 23 A. Yes.

### 24 COMMISSIONER EVANS

Okay. But you also knew the feeling from the Department of

the	Attorney	General,	you	felt	that	they	did	not	feel	there	was	a
mis	carriage (	of justice	•									

A. That was my sense from Gordon...of Gordon Coles opinion, yes.

#### **COMMISSIONER EVANS**

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So, that was the rock and the hard place then that you were in between, and did you try to straddle that in the letter of the 18th?

A. Again, not referent to Gordon Coles so much. The rock and the hard place was that I believed, and believed strongly, that Marshall should be acquitted, and I couldn't see how I could see the Court get to that result if I were to also argue that there had been a miscarriage. I think that if I had said that that I wouldn't have been listened to at all. But by arguing as I did, I felt that the Court then had little choice.

#### **COMMISSIONER EVANS**

So, that you adopted a route that, in effect, arrived at the conclusion, the acquittal that you wanted.

A. Yes.

#### MR. CHAIRMAN

Well, can we conclude from that, Mr. Edwards, that at the end of the hearing in December.

A. Yes.

### MR. CHAIRMAN

You felt that the Court of Appeal of Nova Scotia were of the

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#### MR. EDWARDS, EXAM. BY MR. MACDONALD

opinion that there had not been a miscarriage of justice.

That was...that was my sense of it. Like the most common result in an appeal, at least from my perception is that a new trial is ordered and it's only exceptional circumstances where they're going to direct an acquittal, that's number one. Number two, the evidence, and some would say, well, partially because of my cross-examination, I suppose, but I don't apologize for that, had not gone well. For example, the evidence of Evers I thought was very, very compelling evidence when I first heard it back in March or April, I forget which, but as you see from my factum, that was not my impression after having heard it before the Court of Appeal. I don't know why but that evidence sitting there in the room and hearing it, it just didn't sound very convincing. I used it again in Ebsary three. I didn't use it in the first two trials. And, of course, the reference decision, I know I'm jumping ahead now, stated that very point that Evers' evidence, among others, was at best speculative. So, you know, my sense on that was correct. The evidence of Chant and Harriss, Chant in particular, had turned the court off, in my view.

# 3:15 p.m.

He came on pretty strong with his Born Again Christian and I felt, just watching the body language there, that that was a turn off and that was my own reaction to it. Harriss hadn't been that convincing. Donald Marshall, of course, was not a

good witness and, again, he had had that statement thrown in his face by me and, you know, I felt, and I still feel, that it was legitimate to put that statement to him. So there was that sense that, gee, this evidence is not coming out as overwhelmingly convincing as I had thought it would be. And then, thirdly, just watching the judges and listening to the tone and, by and large, they were fairly inscrutable but I just had the feeling that this thing was not selling that day.

#### **COMMISSIONER EVANS**

So you took the point that you felt would sell.

#### MR. EDWARDS

Exactly.

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3:16 - 3:39 p.m. - BREAK

### MR. MACDONALD

- Q. Let me take you to your notes of January the 24th and 25th,
  Mr. Edwards.
- A. Mr. MacDonald, just before we do that, I just wanted to make one additional point on this January 18th letter.
- 19 Q. Yes.
- A. You asked me earlier did I feel I had to get the position approved?
- 22 Q. Yes.
- A. And I referred to the December 6th conversation with Martin
  Herschorn. And I guess the effect of my evidence is, and
  what I want to say is, that I certainly felt that it was expected

that I would run by the position I was going to take with the, or run that position by the Department. But I have to say I also felt that I felt it was important, both in principle and to me personally, that the Department support the moving of the acquittal. And I say "in principle" because, of course, we, the Attorney General's Department, had done the initial prosecution and "personally" because I, and nobody ever suggested this to me, but the thought occurred to me that I didn't want it to ever be suggested that I was off on a frolic of my own when I recommended the acquittal.

- Q. So you, in fact, were called to Halifax to talk about it.
- 12 A. Yes, I was.
- Q. That's what happened on June the 24... January the 24th of 1983.
- 15 A. Yes.

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- Q. And there are notes of January the 25th, '83, in your diary.

  But, first of all, on January the 24th.
- 18 A. Yes.
- 19 Q. You had a discussion with Gordon Gale.
- 20 A. Yes.
- Q. On the telephone.
- 22 A. Yes.
- Q. And your note there, at least in brackets in our copy, "Had initially told me that he, Martin and Coles had discussed my letter." And I assume that's your letter of January 18th.

- 1 A. Yes.
- Q. "Not sure that he and Martin agree with me."
- 3 A. Yes.
- Q. "Feels that a reasonable compromise position could be taken."
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. That's what they wanted to talk to you about in Halifax,
- wasn't it?
- 8 A. Yes.
- Q. See if they could persuade you to take some other position?
- Is that...
- 11 A. Yes.
- Q. What you expected on your way going up there that you were going to be asked to take a different position?
- 14 A. To take no position.
- 15 Q. To take no position.
- 16 A. That's what I was anticipating, yeah.
- Q. Did you anticipate you were going to be asked not to tell the court that Marshall was considerably responsible for his
- 19 own...
- 20 A. Oh, no.
- Q. Incarceration?
- 22 A. No.
- Q. They weren't going to ask you to abandon that.
- 24 A. No.
- Q. And they weren't going to ask you to abandon your position

that the police acted bona fide throughout?

A. No.

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- Q. They didn't want you to even ask for an acquittal.
- A. Well, that was that main focus of the January 25th meeting.
- Q. Okay.
- A. That not... I think there was some misconception, I believe, in the press that the January 25th meeting was about abandoning the miscarriage argument, but it wasn't. The whole focus of the January 25th meeting was on whether to recommend an acquittal or not to recommend an acquittal.

# MR. CHAIRMAN

They apparently were not in agreement with the second last paragraph of your letter of January 18th.

### MR. EDWARDS

The second paragraph, My Lord?

# MR. CHAIRMAN

The second last.

### MR. MACDONALD

Second last.

#### MR. EDWARDS

Apparently, right.

#### MR. CHAIRMAN

Because you had made it very clear in that letter that you would not be prepared to...

11993	MR. EDWARDS, EXAM. BY MR. MACDONALD
1	MR. EDWARDS
2	Argue anything other than an acquittal.
3	MR. CHAIRMAN
4	Argue anything else than an acquittal.
5	MR. EDWARDS
6	That's right.
7	MR. MACDONALD
8	Q. Now from your notes, I'm taking it that you made certain
9	notes on the plane of points that you wanted to make sure
10	were discussed, is that correct?
11	A. Yes.
12	Q. In preparation for the meeting?
13	A. Yes.
14	Q. You wanted to know if earlier in your memos, the early
15	memos to the Department, did you make it clear eventually
16	you'd have to support an acquittal. In fact, your earlier
17	memos were saying the best possible result
18	3:45 p.m. A. Yes.
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20	Q. Would be acquittal on the basis of miscarriage of justice.
21	A. Yes.
22	Q. "Is suggested compromise a compromise of my professional
23	integrity?" That was something that you were concerned
	about. No one was going to ask you to compromise your

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integrity. Did they?

- A. Well, by suggesting that I took no position. I mean I'm
  uncomfortable with talk like that, but by suggesting I take no
  position if, in fact, that was to be their position... I mean I
  just couldn't see, in view of the knowledge that I had, how I
  could in conscious go into the court and say anything other
  than, you know, "Let this fellow go."
  - Q. But that's what you were being urged to do by your seniors in the Department.
- 9 A. By Mr. Coles, yes.
- Q. What position was being taken by Gale?
  - A. Mr. Gale just sort of sat in as an observer on the meeting. I don't recall Gordon taking any active part.
    - Q. You also say in your notes in preparing for the meeting: "They are trying to shift the onus of the decision onto the court and escape complicity in or responsibility for that position."
- 17 A. Yes.

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- Q. Was that a view that you held at that time?
- 19 A. Yes.
- Q. "The whole problem would not have arisen save for Wally's visit." That's the visit that took place in July of 1983... '82, I guess, is it?
- A. Yes. Now that, I have to say that that was a deliberately designed barb. You know, I think Coles, Mr. Coles' position was, went deeper than that. But I was prepared to use that in

- the discussion that I knew was coming.
  - Q. Were these notes you prepared something of an agenda, various points that you wanted to make certain were discussed?
- A. Quite frankly, that was my strategy going into that meeting.
- 6 Q. Do you remember that meeting?
- 7 A. Yes.

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- Q. Lasted a long time?
  - A. Two and a half hours. I guess I shouldn't smile about it, but...

    No, I remember the meeting and I can't recall too much of the specific conversation beyond what's in the notes but I do recall pretty well everything that is said in the notes.
  - Q. How would you describe the mood of that meeting?
  - A. Well, it wasn't boring. The meeting started off cordial enough and we had a fairly thorough discussion on it. But the mood changed fairly significantly when I told Mr. Coles, it would be about halfway through the meeting. I said, "Well, look, if I'm in that courtroom, I'm recommending his acquittal, period."

    And Mr. Coles got upset about that and shifted in his chair said fairly emphatically, "Well, that's a decision I'm going to have to make, whether or not you're going to be in that courtroom." And I said, "Well, you're the Deputy Attorney General and I'd rather for you to take me off the case than order me to go in there and take no position." I said, "in which case I would advise the Court that I had been ordered

- by the Deputy Attorney General Gordon Coles to take no position."
- 3 Q. Was Mr...

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- 4 A. And that upset him also.
- Q. Was Mr. Coles telling you why he was asking you to take no position?
  - A. Basically, the meeting got quite repetitive after awhile.

    Basically, he kept alluding to the fact that the Crown was not cast in its usual role in this case and when I'd explore that with him, he... I'm trying to be accurate and not unkind, but he sort of got circular in his arguments, you know. "The Crown is cast in a different role because this is a different case."
    - Q. Try and educate me. What different role was the Crown in?
    - A. Well, there again, I couldn't see it. And Mr. Coles, when he's sitting here, you'll have to ask him because... He offered at one point, he said, "Well, this is a case on its facts, not law. And, therefore, the Crown shouldn't take a position."
    - Q. You've had a lot of cases dealing with facts, cases on their facts other than law?
    - A. Yes, admittedly, most wouldn't get to the Court of Appeal unless there was some question of law. But it seems to me there's... Well, I didn't accept the validity of that distinction. I couldn't see where that was relevant.
- 95 Q. This court was...

- A. To whether we should take a position or not.
- Q. This court was being asked to make findings of fact, were they not? Whether or not Donald Marshall stabbed Sandy Seale?
- 5 A. Yes.

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- 6 Q. There's nothing law about that, is there?
- A. No. No, well, that's what he was saying. This is a question of fact in this case, not law.
- Q. In that sense, it's the same as any case you take to a trier of fact, isn't it? You're asking them to make findings of fact.
- A. Oh, yes. Well, in this case, the Appeal Court, I suppose, you could be, you could say that they were in the unusual position of being finders of fact, which Appeal Courts generally aren't.

  But, still, recognizing that and I'm sure we touched on that, what difference does that make? That's what I would say to Mr. Coles.
  - Q. Every time you go to a jury, you're acting on behalf of the Crown asking the jury to find certain facts, aren't you?
- <sub>19</sub> A. Yes.

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- Q. You obviously advocate a position.
- A. Yes. Usually. Sometimes I don't but most times, if I don't come right out and say at the end... Well, I would rarely say:

  "And I urge you to find the accused guilty." But I would say that the jury is in little doubt at the end of a jury address about what direction I'm pushing in.

- Q. Did you review with Mr. Coles, Gale, and Herschorn at that meeting your letter of January 18th, 1983? Was it referred to?
  - A. Yes, I assume so. I don't have a specific recollection.
- Q. Did anyone at that meeting take issue with the suggestion that you should emphasize to the court the fact that the appellant should bear considerable responsibility for the predicament in which he found himself?
  - A. No.
- Q. And did they take any issue with your intention to emphasize that the police had not done anything wrong?
- A. No. No, the only issue was whether or not I should recommend an acquittal.
- Q. Did they take any issue with your statement that there doesn't now exist a single scrap of evidence which points towards Marshall?
- A. No. I think Mr. Coles said at one point, "Well, it's not for you to assess the evidence." But nobody, and as a matter of fact,
  I know I... By that stage, the meeting was heated and I challenged him to point to one piece of evidence that points to Marshall. Just show me one scrap.
  - Q. And could he?
- 23 A. No.

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Q. Can we take it from that that he was accepting your view that there isn't one scrap of evidence to point toward Marshall?

- A. No, he never accepted that. As I recall, he would then shift ground and go back to, "Well, you should take no position," or "This is an unusual case," something like that.
- Q. But you challenged him to point to any scrap of evidence.
- 5 A. Yes.
- 6 Q. He couldn't do that.
- A. Well, he didn't try either, in fairness. You know, it was...
- 8 Q. But notwith...
- A. Like he was the one who was addressing me.
- 10 Q. Was there any...
- A. It wasn't for him to answer my questions.
- Q. Was there any input by Gale or Herschorn? Or was this just a dialogue between you and Gordon Coles?
- A. It was primarily a dialogue between Gordon Coles and I, but

  Martin did, in response to a question from Coles, or Mr. Coles
  said, "And you agree with that, Martin, don't you?" And
  Martin said, "Yes," in other words agreed with Mr. Coles'
  position.
- 19 Q. With Mr. Coles' position.
- A. Yes.
- Q. Any indication whether Mr. Gale agreed with Mr. Coles' position?
- A. I don't recall Gordon taking a view, I don't think he did.
- Q. And the position, just so I understand it, being advocated by
  Mr. Coles, is that in this case you should tell the court and

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#### MR. EDWARDS, EXAM. BY MR. MACDONALD

- emphasize to the court that Marshall should bear considerable responsibility for the predicament in which he finds himself and you should emphasize to the court that the police acted bona fide throughout and you should not ask the court for an acquittal.
- A. It wasn't stated just like that. I mean he, I think to be as accurate as I can on it, I would have to say that he took no issue with the A and B propositions in the letter. His basic position was that I should leave it, let the court decide. And I refer there in the notes, he would say, "Well, you can tell the court if they believe A, B, and C, they can rule one way." But if they don't, they can rule another way. And it would flow from that that I would say, "Well, come on, tell me what the court could take into account to support the finding of a new trial, for example?"

<sub>16</sub> 4:00 p.m.

- Q. What was the reasonable compromise position put to you?
- A. Well, again that particular phrase never came up again, but as I understood the reasonable compromise was to take no position.
- Q. The reasonable compromise is to do what you're told.
- A. Right.
- Q. How was it left?
- A. Well, at the end of two and a half hours I think I had convinced Mr. Coles that if I was still on the case I was

#### MR. EDWARDS, EXAM. BY MR. MACDONALD

- recommending an acquittal.
- Q. You did not, let me put it this way, do you think you convinced Mr. Coles that the position you wanted to adopt was...should be adopted?
- A. No.
- Q. At the end of the day it was agreed that you would argue the case for the Crown.
- A. Yes. Yeah, just to tie that in, my reason for saying that, is that after I mailed in the factum with a copy to Gordon Coles I was speaking with Martin Herschorn and he told me that the deputy was very upset with the...with my factum. Now, we didn't go beyond that. I assumed from that he was upset that I hadn't changed my mind about recommending an acquittal.
  - Q. The last entry you have in your notes for that day says, "In the end Coles said, 'We're in your hands, try not to create more problems for me than I already have.'"
- A. Yes.
- Q. Was there any indication what type of problems he was talking about?
- A. Well, to understand that comment, like the meeting started out on a cordial matter, it became quite heated in the middle until the end. When that comment was made, Mr. Coles' mood, well, he had calmed down a bit, well, he had calmed down, period, and that was said in almost an off-handed

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#### MR. EDWARDS, EXAM. BY MR. MACDONALD

- manner. I mean he had...he had, in my perception, taken his... or he had attempted to change my mind and he hadn't and was prepared to leave it at that, and he said, you know, "We're in your hands, try not to create any more problems for me than I already have," and I left. That was it.
- Q. Okay. Now, look at Volume 29. There's a note of yours of February 3rd, '83, you may have it...you probably have the original. It's on page 47 of Volume 29. It's a phone conversation you had with William Urquhart.
- A. Volume 29, do I have it? Oh, this, I'm sorry. Thanks. What was that page again?
- 12 Q. Page 47.
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. It's the last portion of that note that I'm interested in.
- 15 A. Yes.
- Q. And you were talking about the position to be adopted before the court.
- 18 A. Yes.
- Q. Does this...does that say, "Told him I didn't want to go into detail, but that I was going to put major responsibility on Marshall"?
- A. Yes.
- Q. "What happened not the fault of the police or courts or jury or anyone in the criminal justice system."
- A. Right.

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#### MR. EDWARDS, EXAM. BY MR. MACDONALD

- Q. Was Mr. Urquhart attempting to find out from you the position to be adopted by the Crown?
- A. Yes. He appeared to be.
- Q. Did he seem to be satisfied or pleased with your advice of the position that would be adopted?
  - A. Yes. And again, I have to fess up there, I didn't want him going back and going to Mike Whalley and Mike Whalley flying to Halifax and having more problems.
  - Q. Okay. Let's go to your factum then, Mr. Edwards, please.

    It's in Volume 4 at page 1. Do your Lordships have Volume
    4?

# MR. CHAIRMAN

No, we don't.

### MR. MacDONALD

- Q. I just want to highlight a few points in the factum as we go through, Mr. Edwards, so we'll have some idea of things that the Court may have known other than what was in the evidence. On page 15 of your factum, it's actually, yes, page 15 of Volume 4.
- 20 A. Yes.
- Q. At the top of that page you note "That although it did not come out clearly in evidence before this Honourable Court, the Crown acknowledges that MacNeil did tell the Sydney Police that Roy Ebsary had stabbed Seale and gave a written statement to that effect on November 15, 1971."

- A. Yes.
- Q. The Court was aware that ten days after Marshall was convicted the Sydney Police had obtained a written statement identifying the person who actually did the stabbing.
- A. Yes. And, I'm sorry, what was your preface before that so that...so that we'd understand what was before the Court.
  - Q. Yes, because your point there, as you start out the sentence,"Although it did not come out clearly in evidence."
- 10 A. Yes, yes, okay.
- 11 Q. The Crown acknowledges that.
- A. Right. And that made it an agreed fact.
- 13 Q. Yes.
- A. So that became evidence and Mr. Aronson assented to that.
- Q. Yes, that's my point.
- 16 A. Yes.
- Q. And then on page 18 at the bottom of that page "The Crown is prepared to acknowledge the fact that Ratchford did, as
  Donna says, bring the matter to the attention of the police."
  - A. Yes.

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Q. Then on page 19 you make the point with respect to Donna
Ebsary, "Second, her story so precisely complements that of
James MacNeil and if it is not true the Court has fallen prey
to an elaborate conspiracy." And I take it by that you're
saying that MacNeil and Donna must be telling the truth

- otherwise they would have had to conspire with each other to come up with this story.
- 3 A. Right, right.
- Q. And the fact is that Donna and MacNeil didn't know each other.
- 6 A. Yes.
- Q. Did you give any thought to the fact that Harriss, Pratico and Chant also were telling the same story, that they had all been pressured by the Sydney Police, to come up, to tell a lie?
- 11 A. Did I give any thought to that?
- 12 Q. Wouldn't that also...
- 13 A. Yeah.
- Q. ...if it's not true have to indicate that there had been some conspiracy among the three of them?
- A. Yes. You know, that point wasn't made, it was not made through inadvertence. I mean, I didn't deliberately leave it out.
- Q. Oh, I'm not suggesting you did, but...we'll leave that. On page 25 and over onto 26. The very bottom of page 25.

  You're talking here about Chant.
- 22 A. 25.
- 23 Q. 25.
- A. Oh, I'm ...I see, I was looking...
- Q. 25 of the volume.

- A. Yes. Okay.
- Q. Okay. You're talking there about Chant.
- 3 A. Yes.
- Q. And you say at the very bottom, "It is more likely the police had merely told him about John Pratico's evidence because during the trial Pratico did not say that he had seen Chant."

  Now, we referred earlier today to the conversation you had with Chief MacIntyre in July where he said he never told Pratico...he never told Chant anything about Pratico's statement.
- 11 A. Uh-hum.

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- Q. Did you get some additional or more information between that time in February of 1983 to enable you to make that suggestion to the Court?
  - A. I can't say whether I did or didn't. I have just no recollection on it. It may be simply that my mind or the statement at the July 12th meeting didn't come to mind when I was admittedly speculating there.
  - Q. Okay. Let me just go then to some of your submissions, starting on page 39. You first of all make the submission that this appeal should be allowed on the basis that the conviction cannot be supported by the evidence, and you make that clear submission as you told Mr. Coles you would.
- A. Yes.
- Q. I want to go on to the next part.

The respondent disagrees with counsel for the appellant who argues that the aforementioned order could issue on the basis that there has been a miscarriage of justice. It is submitted that the latter phrase connotes some fault in the criminal justice system or some wrongdoing on the part of some person or institution involved in that system.

And that is a position you had advocated to the Court.

- A. Yes.
- Q. And is that a fair summary of your view of what a miscarriage of justice does connote?
- A. The question of fault.
- Q. That it connotes some fault in the criminal justice system or some wrongdoing on the part of some person or institution involved in that system.
- A. Yes. Yes, because the general definition I gave before, an innocent man being convicted for something he didn't do, that begs the next question, well, how could it happen?

  Whose fault is it? That's what I mean there. Or more directly connotes that the system...there was a systemic failure.
- Q. You go on on page 40 to say, "Notwithstanding the fact that both counsel agree with the ultimate disposition of this matter, upon what the ultimate disposition of this matter should be, it goes without saying that the Court retains the

exclusive authority and responsibility to dispose of the case 1 as it sees fit." And then... 2 Yes. A. 3 Q. ... in the next paragraph you say, "It is the respondent's respectful submission that the role of the Court goes much 5 further in this particular situation." 6 Yes. A. 7 Q. Now, I take that as being...advocating and urging the Court to take the next step, don't only find that there's no evidence here to support a conviction, but go the next step. 10 Yes. A. 11 And say there hasn't been any miscarriage of justice here. Q. 12 Yes. Α. 13 Q. That's the way you were advocating to the Court. 14 Yes. That in my view gave the Court the out to... A. 15 16 4:15 p.m. 17 Down at the bottom of that page, you say: 18 For the above reasons, it is respectfully 19 submitted that the Court should make it clear that what happened in this case was not the 20 fault of the criminal justice system or anyone in 21

it, including the police, the lawyers, a member of the jury, or the Court itself.

Yes. A. 23

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Now when you made that submission to the Court, did you believe that? 25

### MR. EDWARDS, EXAM, BY MR. MACDONALD

- A. No.
- Q. Do you believe it today?
- 3 A. No.
- Q. Is this a fair summary of your evidence with respect to the appeal?
- A. I don't... I shouldn't leave that answer like that. I mean I

  believed that that was an argument that could be made.

  When I decided to write this and to take that position, I

  decided that I would make as forceful an argument as I could

  and the force of that argument is a measure of, I suppose, my

  belief in the probability of a new trial being ordered if

  anything less was argued.
  - Q. Now saying that "what happened here is not the fault of the system or anyone in it including the police" is a little different, I suggest, than saying that the police acted in a bona fide belief that they had the guilty party.
- A. Yeah, that's fair.
  - Q. You did have evidence that three witnesses said they had been coerced by the police to tell a certain story.
- A. Yes, and the Court had that evidence.
- Q. You yourself had urged an investigation be carried out of the police activity to determine if there had been any fault.
- 23 A. Yes.

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Q. You knew that such an investigation had never been carried out.

- 1 | A. Right.
- Q. And yet you urged the Court to find that what happened here was not the fault of anyone including the police.
- 4 A. Right.
- Q. In fact, is this a fair summary of what you've told us this afternoon, and this is your reading of the Court.
- A. Yes.
- Q. That both parties were urging that the appeal be allowed and, therefore, the appeal likely would be allowed.
- 10 A. Yes.
- Q. But if the appeal was allowed and the Court was allowed or permitted or urged to blame Marshall...
- 13 A. Yes.
- Q. That there would be an acquittal.
- 15 A. Yes.
- Q. But if they weren't allowed or urged to blame Marshall, that there would be a new trial.
- 18 A. That was my conception, yes.
- Q. So the only way to get the acquittal, in your view, was to lay the blame on Marshall.
- A. Yes.
- Q. Tell me about the actual argument. The day you're there doing the argument.
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. You indicated earlier that if you had any doubts when you

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### MR. EDWARDS, EXAM. BY MR. MACDONALD

walked in there, you didn't have any when you left.

- A. Right.
- Q. What do you recall about that day?
- Α. Perhaps just to put this in context, really the basis of where I see you coming from is, and no disrespect, I assure you, is that I was being too adversarial and I overstated the argument. I think that's the drift and that's a fair one. I agree with it. When I got to the Court of Appeal to argue the case that day, I was chastised like I have never been in a Court before for not being adversarial enough. Mr. Justice Pace let me know on no uncertain terms that he was not too impressed with my conduct of the reference. And I mean I don't recall all of that argument but I'll never forget that exchange because just after I started making my submission to the Court, Mr. Justice Pace interrupted me and he said, "Mr. Edwards, have you ever heard of the adversarial system?" And I said, "Yes, My Lord." And he said, "Well, one would never think it. I don't see anything very adversarial about you." He said, "Perhaps you should learn something about the adversarial system." And I started to reply that, to the effect that surely the adversarial system has some limitation. in this case where there is sufficient evidence to charge and probably convict someone else. I don't think I said "probably convict" because I didn't want to say anything to prejudice Mr. Ebsary. He interrupted me there and I think it's a fair

description for me to tell you that he was quite emphatic, 1 upset probably wouldn't be overstating it, and he said, "You 2 just tell me one, just one of those witnesses that we heard 3 that we could believe." And he emphasized it. Well, I was a 4 bit nonplused but I did say, "Jimmy MacNeil." And I went 5 from there. I said, "Look at Jimmy MacNeil's evidence. He 6 has never been contradicted. Jimmy MacNeil came forward 7 back in '71 and he told basically the same story he told you 8 people." So I said, "If there's one witness that is still on his 9 feet, it's Jimmy MacNeil." And one of the other justices cut in 10 at that point and we went off on something else, but that 11 exchange made me feel, when I reflected on it afterwards, 12 that it's a good thing that I did put the argument as strongly 13 as I did. And, you know, I appreciate that that sounds self 14 serving but I really felt that Mr. Justice Pace was not inclined 15 to acquit Mr. Marshall. And that's just a sense. I'm not 16 impugning anything improper to him, but that was his 17 reaction to the evidence and it was a very strong reaction. 18

- Q. Let me put this to you. You believe that there was a miscarriage of justice here.
- 21 A. Yes.

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- Q. And Steve Aronson believed there was a miscarriage of justice.
- 24 A. Yes.
- Q. And yet you were of the view that if both of you advocated to

#### MR. EDWARDS, EXAM. BY MR. MACDONALD

- that Court that Marshall should be acquitted on the basis that there had been a miscarriage of justice, that they would not have gone along with your submissions, is that correct?
- A. That was my feeling at the time and after the exchange with Mr. Justice Pace, I just couldn't imagine what I would have heard had I said, "Not only should he be acquitted but you should find that there was a miscarriage of justice here. The system failed." I don't think that the Crown pushing for an acquittal in that case would have mattered too much to the Court. I think they just would have ignored me.
- Q. That Court would not have found that there was a miscarriage of justice on the facts of this case, is that what you're telling us?
- A. And, again, that's...
- 15 Q. That's your impression.
  - A. That was my impression at the time and I still feel that way.

# MR. MACDONALD

My Lords, if that's a convenient place to stop, I'm moving on to another point.

4:25 p.m. INQUIRY ADJOURNED UNTIL 9:30 a.m. MAY 25TH.

### REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

I, Margaret E. Graham, Court Reporter, certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate transcript of all the evidence taken by way of recording and reduced to typewritten copy.

Margaret E. Graham

DATED THIS 24 day of May, 1988 at Dartmouth, Nova Scotia