14210 MR. DESMOND, EXAM, BY MR. MacDONALD

HERBERT DESMOND, duly called and sworn, testified as follows:

EXAMINATION BY MR. MacDONALD

- Q. Your name is Herbert Desmond?
- A. Yes, it is, sir.

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MR. MacDONALD

- My Lords, I just want to indicate that Mr. Desmond is being called at this time out of the normal sequence at a special request of Mr. Ross, counsel for Oscar Seale. And Mr Desmond will be talking about Sandy Seale, his relationship with him, his general character and things of that nature.
- Q. Mr. Desmond, at the present time you live in Halifax, sir?
- A. Yes, I do.
- Q. And how long have you lived here?
- A. Since 1972, since I came to university.
- Q. And you do have a degree in Sociology, is it?
- 16 A. Sociology and Philosophy.
- Q. And you're working at the present time in?
- 18 A. The Halifax City Regional Library.
- Q. You're a native of Sydney, are you?
- 20 A. Yes, I am.
- Q. And when were you born?
- 22 A. November 3, 1952.
- Q. I'm interested in talking about your relationship with Sandy
 Seale. You knew Mr. Seale?
- 25 A. Yes, very well.

14211 MR. DESMOND, EXAM. BY MR. MacDONALD

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- Q. He was a childhood friend of yours?
- A. Yes, we were lifelong friends for as long as he lived, yes.
- Q. We've heard a little bit about Sandy Seale but would you just tell the Commissioners your general recollections of him. The type of boy he was, the activities he participated in, this sort of thing.
- A. Well, Sandy was an average black growing up in Sydney. You know, he had his share of problems like most of us in dealing with basically what was a racist and segregated society. He had to overcome a lot of obstacles, whether it was in school and sports, socially and even dating a girl. But he overcame those, he was very outgoing. He was not a bitter individual. He learned to handle things well and let things roll off his shoulder.
- Q. He was an athlete?
 - A. Quite an exceptional athlete. He excelled in hockey as one of his main sports but he also played baseball. He did track and field.
- Q. Were you yourself participating in sports?
- 20 A. Yes, I was, yes.
- Q. Were you a teammate of Sandy's?
- A. No, not at any particular time. When we played school hockey in the elementary school league, we played on the same team but as we progressed through the years into the City league, minor league hockey league, we all dispersed to

different teams.

- Q. Did you used to go to the dances and these sort of things with Sandy Seale?
- A. Well, it wouldn't necessarily be with Sandy. There was a number of us in the community that were close friends. It was a very close-knit community. Sydney was an area where you lived basically in your part of town. We were stuck in a part of the community which they labelled the "Coke Ovens" in a derogatory manner and we were expected and, often times we found most of our livelihood in that area.
- Q. When you say "we," are you talking blacks?
- A. Blacks, yes.
 - Q. And so the blacks were congregated or lived in a particular area, at least the majority of blacks, is that...
 - A. Yes.
 - Q. Correct? Was there a particular area where other ethnic minorities lived?
 - A. The immediate area surrounding the, well, it was known at the Coke Ovens was a milieu of ethnic and some racial groups. There were Polish, Ukrainian, Yugoslavian peoples, Italian peoples, basically a working-class district. On the other end you had the Micmac community which would sit on the extreme opposite side of the community of Sydney and they were basically living on the fringes on the reservation.
 - Q. Did you yourself growing up have interaction with members

14213 MR. DESMOND, EXAM. BY MR. MacDONALD

- of the Micmac community?
- A. Yes, I did.
- Q. Are you able to comment whether there was any friction between those two communities?
- A. There was not any real animosity or any friction of any sort.

 There was a realization that we were the only visible

 minorities within the community. There were some East

 Indians but they atoned to more taking on the values of the

 larger white society and, therefore, their reaction towards to

 us and their attitudes were basically that of the white racist

 society that existed there.
- Q. Okay. In particular, did you know Junior Marshall?
- A. Yes, I knew Junior.

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- Q. And how would you know him? In what circumstances would you know him?
 - A. Well, Junior was an athlete at that time also and we would play sports against each other. We would see each other at social functions. Sydney is not a big community, so it wasn't as if you weren't going to see anybody at any particular time when you went to a certain part of town or whatever.
 - Q. Now did you ever have anyone suggest to you up until the time of Sandy Seale's death that he had been engaged in any criminal activity?
- A. Junior Marshall?
- 25 Q. No, Sandy Seale.

MR. DESMOND, EXAM. BY MR. MacDONALD

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- A. No, Sandy was never involved in any crimes.
- Q. Are you aware of whether he was ever involved in, for want of a better word, "bumming" of money in the Park or otherwise?
- A. No, Sandy was in, maybe one step above us in the sense that his father had a real good job. He owned a night club. He was quite able to provide for Sandy things that some of us of Sandy's age in the community weren't able to get from our parents and, therefore, he had no need to even think of committing a crime for profit.
- Q. What the relationship between Sandy and his father?
- A. It was one of love and admiration. I think his father was very proud of Sandy and his accomplishments as an athlete. His father was a strict individual, although very loving and caring. He wanted his family to be on the straight and narrow and basically they were told to do that.
- Q. If Sandy was told by his father to be home at 12, from your experience, would he be home at 12?
- 19 A. He better be.
- Q. He better be?
- 21 A. That's right.
- Q. Were you with Sandy on the night of the, that he was stabbed?
- A. Yes, I was.
- Q. Where did you see him that night?

14215 MR. DESMOND, EXAM, BY MR. MacDONALD

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- A. Sandy came into the dance at St. Joseph's church hall. I can't remember the exact time but we spent a bit of time there together. At the time he entered the dance, it was sold out so, like most of us did at the time, we snuck into the dance. You know, it was not an unusual sort of thing. It was not a thing that people looked down upon you. As a matter of fact, if you could get into the dance without paying, that was more power to you. It wasn't as if they were out to make a whole out of money off you.
 - Q. Okay. Did you leave the dance with Sandy?
- 11 A. No, Sandy got kicked out shortly before the dance was over.
- Q. When did you hear that he had been stabbed?
 - A. Somewhere along the way home. He usually hitch-hiked home from that area of town and somewhere along the way, I can't remember, some white individuals were saying that there was a stabbing in the Park and that "Sandy had got cut" was the expression that was used
 - Q. Were you surprised?
- A. Very surprised. There wasn't any immediate information available. We couldn't verify it right away sort of thing and...
- Q. When did you first hear the suggestion that Sandy had been involved in a robbery attempt?
- A. A few years ago, actually. No more than two or three years ago.
- 25 | Q. And what was your reaction to that?

14216 MR. DESMOND, EXAM. BY MR. MacDONALD I think it's a goddamn lie. MR. MacDONALD 2 That's all the questions I have, thank you. 3 MS. EDWARDH 4 No questions. 5 MR. PUGSLEY 6 No questions, My Lord, thank you. 7 MR. MURRAY 8 No questions. 9 MR. PRINGLE 10 None. 11 MR. SAUNDERS 12 No questions, My Lord. 13 **CHAIRMAN** 14 Mr. Wildsmith? 15 **EXAMINATION BY MR. ROSS** 16 Q. For the record, Mr. Desmond, my name is Anthony Ross, and I 17 want to ask you a couple of questions about your relationship 18 with Sandy Seale and I will also ask you one or two about the 19 black community in the Sydney area. I take it that you went 20

A. Yes, I did.

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Q. And which school did you attend at that time?

to school with Sandy?

A. Eastmount Junior High and I think Whitney, Eastmount Elementary and Whitney Junior High.

- Q. And where are these two schools located one with respect to the other? Are they just across the road? Close by?
 - A. Well the junior high as in terms of (Dombasco?) and Whitney were in very close proximity. Dombasco School which is another junior high was a Catholic school and Whitney School was no more than a parking lot away from that.
 - Q. I see. They shared almost a common parking lot, did they?
- 8 A. Yes, they did.

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- Q. And I take it you went to one of these schools and Sandy went to the other?
- A. Yes, he did.
- Q. But as far as the community is concerned, you had your own little group within that common parking lot concept.
 - A. Well, because we went to different schools together didn't put us in any special social class as far the other larger communities are concerned. We were still blacks, we still lived in Cokes Ovens and that was their attitude.
 - Q. Yes. As far as Sandy is concerned, did he live down in the Coke Oven section also?
 - A. He lived a few streets up which was considered part of the uppity, sort of white district as you moved up along your proximity to the black community, the affluence is more apparent.
- Q. And as far as Sandy is concerned, I take it that you visited his house quite often.

- A. Yes, when he lived in the Pier up on Mt. Pleasant Street it was, we frequently visited each other's homes, yes.
- Q. He visited yours and you visited his.
- A. Yes.
- 5 Q. And I take it you would have had meals at his house...
- A. Yes.
- Q. And he would have had meals at yours?
- A. Yes.
- Q. Did he ever stay over at your house?
- A. No, that was not a common thing that, our parents weren't that lenient.
- Q. Sure. And did either of you have any friends on the reserve?
- A. We had acquaintances on the reserve. There was no, per se, friendship involved with the Micmac Indians. We respected them they respected us and we kept our mutual distances.
- Q. And did you, in fact, visit the reserve from time to time?
- A. I visited the reserve once, I believe it was in 1970, with a group who were involved with, a program involved with community relations between the RCMP and the City Police.
- Q. But prior to that you hadn't visited the reserve?
- 21 A. No.
- Q. Although you lived in Sydney.
- 23 A. Yes.
- Q. And what about Sandy, do you know whether or not he had any friends who lived on the reserve?

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- A. Like I said, we had a lot of acquaintances that we would interact with in the community, in school, at dances and that sort of thing, but friendship was a rather strong word.
- Q. And your knowledge of Junior Marshall, what did you know of Junior Marshall personally?
- A. Well, Junior was a big bully of a boy. He pushed his weight around. He was basically a teenage alcoholic when I look back upon it now and in terms of past work in the years just gone by. Like most of the Indians on the reservation, there was a deep social problem in terms of alcoholism that wasn't being addressed by the larger community. It was rather ignored, but still it existed.
- Q. Was there anything else in particular that you could recall about Junior?
- A. Well Junior was an abusive individual. We know that he carried a knife. A lot of the Indians carried knives for one reason or another. And that he was dangerous and not to be trusted.

MS. EDWARDH

With the greatest of respect I think the witness is going way beyond what he can attempt to...

MR. DESMOND

I'm giving my personal opinion on my experience.

MS. EDWARDH

Excuse me, sir, but of his own personal knowledge.

CHAIRMAN

Your personal knowledge.

MR. DESMOND

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Well, that is my personal knowledge.

MS. EDWARDH

Well, I think my friend might have better laid a foundation or just move on to another area.

CHAIRMAN

Yes. Would you tell us on which, how you, the kind of, you say interaction...

MR. DESMOND

Well this is based on observation and of being there in the time and place. There was areas, times when Junior would be at a dance, he'd start being an asshole, he'd start fighting with people. He might pull out a knife, he might not. He might beat up somebody smaller than himself. You know, that's an observation.

CHAIRMAN

But have you seen him pull a knife?

20 MR. DESMOND

I've seen him with a knife, yes.

MS. EDWARDH

No, that's not the question.

CHAIRMAN

Well, pull a knife.

MR. DESMOND

Pardon?

CHAIRMAN

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Pull a knife.

MR. DESMOND

Well, I've seen lots of people with knives out, whether they were pulling them for any useful purpose or not is irrelevant. The fact that he had a knife is...

CHAIRMAN

But have you seen him with a, at a dance when there's fighting or animosity apparent, have you seen him with a knife in his hand?

MR. DESMOND

I've seen him with a knife on his person, maybe not with a knife in his hand.

MR. ROSS

- Q. And what can you tell us about the likelihood of Junior Marshall and Sandy Seale being involved in a fracas and you, in the black community, not knowing about it?
- 20 | 11:02 a.m.
- A. It would be pretty well impossible, even though Sandy had lived in Westmount at that time, we still kept in frequent contact because, as I said, the community was quite small.

 You still had to go into the shopping centre to shop, so to speak, so, and to socialize into town. There was only one

- shopping district. So, therefore, like, I've seen Sandy quite regularly and he at no time ever mentioned to me that, you know, as I've heard, that he had...that Junior had beat him up because he was arguing with his girlfriend or something. The likelihood of Junior being a friend of Sandy is nil as far as I'm concerned.
- Q. And perhaps you could just tell the Commission about your experiences as far as the general policing of your area in Sydney, of the Coke Oven section of Sydney. Was there an obvious police presence?
- A. It was an intimidating police presence. It was no unusual for a police squad car to drive through our street on Tupper Street twenty, thirty times a day and to continue that through the night. This was not because of any particular concern for our community. Their presence there was not a friendly presence. They sneered at you. Sometimes they might call you nigger, sometimes they...you know, if you were playing hockey on the road they might turn around and tell you to get off the street, you know, although if you went up to the white streets, you'd notice like the kids played hockey up there with no problem at all.
- Q. The night that Sandy Seale was stabbed, I take it that you saw him being escorted from the dance by Officer John Maloney.
- A. Yes, I did. We were in the bathroom at the time. We were

- sharing what was left of a little bit of wine and we were sort of carrying on and we expected to go back out to the dance. At that time Officer Maloney entered. He had previously kicked out Sandy so he had identified him right away, and it was just another trip to the door.
- Q. I see. Did Sandy resist?
- A. No.

- Q. Was he in any way belligerent?
- A. Never...not belligerent at all, you know, he...in most cases like that, there's more people than him that got kicked out that night, let me look at it that way, and it wasn't as if he was...he felt that he was being singled out in particular, it's just that he didn't have a stamp and what he had was a bit of a makeshift thing and it was common practise for the cops to go around and check your stamp, and if you didn't have a proper stamp, then out you go.
- Q. I see. So, he wasn't...Maloney was not specifically picking on Sandy. He was making sure that those who didn't pay get out.
- A. Well, John Maloney was what I would consider one of the more fairer policemen in the city at that time. He had a different outlook and perspective on black people. He spoke to you in a friendly manner. He didn't sneer at you. If he seen you in a part of town, he wouldn't stop the police car and ask you like, well, what are you doing in this part of

- town, you know, and these sorts of things and he knew, I believe, most of our parents, and so there was a bit of respect on their part.
 - Q. What about other police officers? Did you know of Chief MacIntyre?
- A. Yes, I did.

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- Q. Did you have any personal knowledge of him?
- 8 A. MacIntyre was...

MR. MacDONALD

Perhaps, again, My Lord, in fairness to other counsel who missed the opportunity, the witness should answer that first question, did he have any personal knowledge, any personal dealings. And, if he's only going to be giving evidence based on hearsay, the question should be identified.

MR. CHAIRMAN

Very definitely.

MR. MacDONALD

He has not answered the first question.

MR. DESMOND

- A. Yes, I did have personal knowledge of John MacIntyre.
- Q. What was your personal knowledge of John MacIntyre?
- A. Well, sometime after the stabbing, John MacIntyre and I
 believe it was MacNeil, I'm not sure, or Urquhart and they
 came down to an O.F.Y. project we were working on on
 Laurie Street at the time. They asked us if we had been at

- the dance, something that they already knew, and they
 asked us if we would come over and identify some clothing
 that belonged to Sandy and to give them some information.
- Q. How did they treat you?
- 5 A. They were rude.
- Q. Tell me, did you have plans to see Sandy the day after he was stabbed?
- 8 A. Yes, I did.
- Q. What plans did you have?
- A. We had planned to...Sandy had invited us out to his father's property to clear some land, clear some trees off a wood lot.

 His father had just purchased the property just shortly before that and he had invited us out to come to spend the Saturday or...the Saturday to just carry on and do some work.
- Q. And when he was being escorted out by Maloney, did he tell you anything about the next day or where he was going?
- A. He said he was going home and he said, "I'll see you tomorrow."
- Q. Did you attend Sandy's funeral?
- A. Yes, I did.
- Q. Did you see Junior Marshall around the funeral parlour at any time?
- A. Yes, I did.
- Q. Did you speak with him?

MR. DESMOND

Yes.

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):	MR. DESMOND, EXAM. BT MR. ROSS
1	A. Yes, I did.
2	Q. Could you tell us the nature of the conversation?
3	A. Well, basically it wasI asked Junior what the hell happened
4	and what was going on. He was very nervous and tense. He
5	started tomuttering things about two people who looked
6	like priests, you know, him and Sandy walking through the
7	park together, which never really made any sense because
8	he wasn't at the dance, and never seen Sandy.
9	MS. EDWARDH
10	Now, we're getting a running commentary. At least the
11	witness could confine himself to the words he recalls actually
12	spoken.
13	MR. DESMOND
14	Could you repeat the question, please?
15	MR. CHAIRMAN
16	What was your question again? The question, I think the
17	question, well, let me put it. The question, as I understand it, was
18	did you see Donald Marshall, Jr., at Sandy Seale's funeral?
19	MR. DESMOND
20	Yes, I did.
21	MR. CHAIRMAN
22	And you said "Yes".

14227 MR. DESMOND, EXAM. BY MR. ROSS MR. CHAIRMAN And the next question was... 2 MR. ROSS 3 Did you speak to him? 4 MR. CHAIRMAN 5 Did you speak to him? 6 MR. DESMOND 7 Yes, I did. MR. CHAIRMAN And you did. 10 MR. DESMOND 11 Yes, I did. 12 MR. CHAIRMAN 13 And the question was what was his...what did he say? 14 MR. DESMOND 15 Like I said he was... 16 MR. ROSS 17 I think it was a little broader than that, My Lord. I think I 18 asked what was the nature of the conversation. 19 MR. CHAIRMAN 20 Well, the nature of the conversation, but that means what 21 did he say, in my mind. 22 MR.DESMOND 23 Well, we discussed the circumstances surrounding Sandy's A.

death and what involvement or any knowledge that he had

- of that incident on that night.
- Q. I see. And, did you see Junior Marshall after that and prior to his trial?
 - A. In the courtroom was the last time I saw him after that, yes.
- Q. Mr. Desmond, there are some reports before the Commission and some of them suggest situations of gang warfare between the blacks and the Indians. Would you be aware of any such gang warfare?
- 9 A. No, I would not.
- And specifically I'm, for the record, I'm referring to Volume Q. 10 35, page 71, under the heading, "Precipitating 11 circumstances," relate to gang warfare. Further, at some stage when Marshall was applying for leave to come back to 13 Sydney, the police, the Sydney police advised that there might be reprisals from the black community. Were you 15 aware of any problem which existed which could lead to 16 reprisals? 17
- A. No, there was no problem. That is basically consistent with the racist nature and the attitude of the Sydney police at that time.
- Q. Do you know whether or not Sandy Seale ever carried a knife?
- A. No, he'd never carry a knife.
- Q. And you're sure of that.
- A. Positive.

MR. DESMOND, EXAM. BY MR. ROSS

- Q. In your discussion with Junior Marshall around the time of the funeral was there any suggestion or any statements to the effect that there might have been self defence involved?
- A. No, he never indicated anything of that sort. He kept to his story of these two men dressed like priests who attacked him and Sandy and he got cut and Sandy got stabbed.
- Q. Sure.

MR. ROSS

Thank-you, very much, Mr. Desmond. My Lord, recognizing that Mr. Desmond was called pursuant to my request, I think it might be appropriate if other counsel have got any arising from my leading him through this, it might be appropriate to have a response.

MR. CHAIRMAN

Well, let me first go to Mr.Wildsmith and then we'll come back.

EXAMINATION BY MR. WILDSMITH

Q. Thank-you. I do have a couple of brief questions. Mr.

Desmond, my name is Bruce Wildsmith and I'm here for the
Union of Nova Scotia Indians. I'd like to ask you a couple of
questions related to Indians in general. We've had some
evidence that Sydney in 1971 was what one might call a
"red-necked town" in the sense that racial prejudice was
widespread. I take it from what you've said so far you
would agree with that view?

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MR. DESMOND, EXAM. BY MR. WILDSMITH

- 1 A. Yes, I do.
- Q. And with respect to that racial prejudice, is it your observation that Mic Mac Indians suffered as well as black members of the community?
- A. Yes, that's true.
- Q. Did you have occasion to observe the treatment of Mic Mac Indians by the Sydney police at dances or other occasions?
 - A. Well, I can remember police picking up people off the street and I can honestly say, yes, that I've seen them pick up some Indians up off the street when they were drinking or inebriated, so to speak.
- Q. I'm wondering if you have any experience with discriminatory treatment of Indians by Sydney police?
- 14 A. Have I observed such treatment?
- 15 Q. Yes.
- A. Yes, I have.
- Q. And can you tell us the nature of that form of discrimination?
- A. Well, basically, you know, it's...rather than maybe an approach where they would ask a gentleman if he's all right or anything like that, if he's sitting on the sidewalk, I remember one incident, a guy was walking down Charlotte Street and he was maybe tilting a little bit and the police stopped him and they didn't ask him like, you know, any particular questions, they just grabbed him. He resisted a

	MR.	DESMOND, EXAM. BY MR. WILDSMITH
1		bit and they put him in a choke hold. They, you know, put
2		his arm behind his back and they shoved him into the car.
3	Q.	And that individual was an Indian, was it?
4	A.	Yes, it was.
5	Q.	And, you mentioned something about Sydney police cruising
6		the Coke Ovens and referring to blacks in disparaging terms.
7	A.	Yes.
8	Q.	Did you observe Indians being referred to in disparaging
9		terms by the Sydney police?
10	A.	Well, the common term for Indians at that time throughout
11		the whole larger white community, they were referred to as
12		"wagon burners".
13	Q.	Yes. And did you hear Sydney police using that term?
14	A.	Yes.
15	MR.	WILDSMITH

Thank-you. Those are the questions.

MR. CHAIRMAN

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Now, there is some...this witness was called ostensibly as a character witness with respect to Sandy Seale. There were questions put by Mr. Ross that could not have been anticipated by some other counsel. So, I would give any other counsel an opportunity to cross-examine on these areas other than the character witness.

MS. EDWARDH

With your permission, My Lord, I would seek an

opportunity to ask a couple of questions.

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EXAMINATION BY MS. EDWARDH

- Q. Mr. Desmond, if I can just go back to some initial comments you made. I take it that as far as you were concerned, you had no direct knowledge of any kind that there was any animosity or hostility or difficulty between Mr. Marshall and Mr. Seale? There wasn't any indication of that.
- A. Well, they didn't like each other.
- Q. You had said they were people who played hockey...
- 11 A. They were acquaintances.
- 12 Q. They were acquaintances.
- A. Just like you knew each other, that doesn't mean that they
 particularly liked each other. Junior was an intimidating,
 bully sort of fellow. Sandy was not the type of guy that
 would befriend such an individual. As a matter of fact we
 even talked about various members of the community that...
 - Q. Let me just stop you.
 - A. ...we stayed away from and Junior was one of those people.
 - Q. Let me just stop...

COMMISSIONER EVANS

Don't give speeches. Answer her questions.

MS. EDWARDH

Q. There was...I'm not suggesting that Mr. Seale and Junior Marshall were close friends.

14233 MR. DESMOND, EXAM. BY MS. EDWARDH

No.

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	MR. DESMOND, EXAM. BY MS. EDWARDH			
1	A.	No, they weren't.		
2	Q.	What I'm suggesting to you, sir, is those two had never been		
3		in a physical fight to your knowledge that you observed?		
4	A.	Not according to Junior Marshall in the statements that he		
5		made in Springhill.		
6	Q.	I'm asking in terms of your knowledge when you saw them		
7		play hockey together, when you'd pass by them in the		
8		street.		
9	A.	There were altercations on the ice, yes, there were, there		
10		were altercations.		
11	Q.	Between Sandy and Junior?		
12	A.	Yes, there was.		
13	Q.	Were you ever in any position, sir, to see any hostility on		
14		the street between the two of them, and I'm talking about		
15		hostility?		
16	A.	You mean did they actually fight?		
17	Q.	On the street, yeah.		
18	A.	No.		
19	MS. I	EDWARDH .		
20		All right. Those are my questions.		
21	MR.	MURRAY		
22		Nothing, My Lords.		
23	MR. PRINGLE			

14234 SUBMISSION - MS. DERRICK

MR. SAUNDERS

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No, My Lords.

MR. CHAIRMAN

Mr. MacDonald.

MR. MacDONALD

My Lords, the only thing remaining for today is the application that my friends wanted to make with respect to Mr. Marshall. Would you like to adjourn for a brief break and come back to do that? They're prepared to do it at that time.

MR. CHAIRMAN

All right, fine.

BREAK

11:42 a.m.

CHAIRMAN

Ms. Derrick

MS. DERRICK

Thank you, My Lord.

My Lords, we're applying to Your Lordships for the right to call the evidence of our client, Donald Marshall, Jr. in chief when he is scheduled to testify as a witness before this Inquiry. Of course, all other counsel representing parties with standing and Commission counsel would have the right to cross-examine Mr. Marshall on his evidence. Our reasons for making this application is because we believe it to be in Mr. Marshall's and the Commission's best interest that his evidence be brought out in the

first instance through his own counsel. Mr. Marshall's evidence will be enhanced, I submit, if it is elicited in this fashion.

I submit that the principal concern for Your Lordships is that the best and most effective evidence is before you so as you assist you in your difficult task.

Mr. Marshall is a native person for whom testifying in court or in a court-like setting is an alienating and oppressive experience.

Your Lordships have heard considerable evidence of his being an ineffective witness in such settings and evidence of how such proceedings cause him to experience great anxiety. These proceedings will certainly be very stressful for Mr. Marshall.

Over a period of two years Mr. Marshall has developed a good and trusting relationship with his own counsel. I submit that the primary objective in calling his evidence is to ensure that it be adduced in a way most compatible to his nature and character and that means knowing and trusting the person to whom he is speaking. Having his evidence elicited in chief by his own counsel is what Mr. Marshall desires.

In determining this question, it's important to look at the nature of this inquiry. It is an inquiry constituted by Order-in-Council under the <u>Public Inquiries Act</u> and a public inquiry with the power to make recommendations to the government.

According to the terms of reference, and I'm referring to clause 5 of the terms of reference,

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The Commissioners may adopt such rules, practices and procedures for the purposes of the inquiry as they from time to time may consider necessary for the proper conduct of the inquiry and may vary such rules, practices and procedures from time to time as they consider necessary and appropriate for the purposes of the inquiry.

Therefore I submit that although it has been the practice for Commission counsel to directly examine witnesses testifying before Your Lordships, this procedure is not chiseled in stone. Your Lordships have the discretion to vary the practices, procedures and rules as you deem necessary and appropriate for the purposes of the inquiry. And I urge you to do so in this instance.

Mr. Marshall may well be affected by the findings of this Inquiry and, indeed, by his own evidence.

There has been evidence before this Commission, whether you accept it or not is another matter, that there was an attempted robbery in progress the night that Sandy Seale was stabbed. In other proceedings Mr. Marshall has denied this. However, a number of witnesses before Your Lordships have testified to believing that an attempted robbery was under way and that, further, that Mr. Marshall's failure to disclose this in 1971 contributed to his wrongful conviction and incarceration. Most particularly, this assertion has been advanced by representatives from the Attorney General's Department, for

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example, Mr. Edwards and Mr. Coles.

As a result of these views this issue has, in fact, been commented upon by Your Lordships and if I may refer you to Volume 68 of the transcripted evidence, page 12102, this was when Mr. Edwards was being examined by Mr. MacDonald in direct and had put forth the theory that by not disclosing this alleged robbery, Mr. Marshall contributed to his wrongful conviction and Justice Poitras said.

Just a question, Mr. MacDonald. Assuming for a moment that it is still possible today to query whether Marshall was involved or not in an attempted robbery...

Mr. Edwards said yes.

JUSTICE POITRAS

If, in fact, Marshall was not involved in an attempted robbery, what would that do to the theory that at not disclosing the intended robbery he contributed to his conviction.

Mr. Edwards said, That would destroy the theory.

JUSTICE POITRAS

I think so, so there is still something to be proved, I leave that open.

It is within the mandate of this Commission to make findings of fact. These findings might include a finding of fact that

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SUBMISSION - MS. DERRICK

there was an attempted robbery. Mr. Marshall could, therefore, be affected both in reputation and by the possibility of criminal sanctions.

As he stands in some peril I respectfully submit that he is entitled to testify in chief through his own counsel thereby providing him with the best opportunity to tell his story and giving the Commission the benefit of having the best evidence available.

The practice of allowing parties to testify in chief through their own counsel has considerable precedent and I just want to refer Your Lordships to three cases which you have before you which I'll only be referring to briefly but they support our assertions.

In the Re The Children's Aid Society of the County of York, this involved allegations of negligence and incompetence which were leveled at the Children's Aid Society and it was acknowledged by the Ontario Court of Appeal that the function of the commission looking into these matters at the request of the government was not to try a case or charge against anyone and that the purpose of the commission was to inform people concerning the facts of the matter to be inquired into and that remedies might then arise in response to any of these findings.

And it was held, and this is at page 420 that,

It is usual and proper to have counsel appointed

SUBMISSION - MS. DERRICK

to assist in the inquiry but that does not imply that he alone has the right to call witnesses or to determine what witnesses are to be heard.

And in that case the counsel for the local superintendent of the Children's Aid Society was therefore held to be entitled to call witnesses and to examine them in chief in the interest of the fullest inquiry possible which is what we are seeking before Your Lordships.

In the <u>Re Public Inquiries Act and Shulman</u>, also an Ontario Court of Appeal case, a public inquiry in that instance as well, the essential object was to inquire into allegations made by a former government employee which was Dr. Shulman of misconduct in office on the part of senior government officials.

And the court held that, "Dr. Shulman having made allegations was liable to be discredited if the allegations were proved to be unfounded." And I submit to you that that's an issue of reputation. He was therefore held to be entitled to have his evidence elicited in chief by his own counsel. And that reference is found on page 378.

The final case I wish to refer Your Lordships to is the, Re the Crime Commission ex parte Feeley and McDermott, again the Ontario Court of Appeal. This was a Royal Commission inquiry investigating the existence of certain alleged crime conditions in Ontario and there were grave allegations of serious criminal involvement certain named individuals.

The Court of Appeal observed that the commission was not

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bound to observe the strict rules of evidence or all of the niceties of practice and procedure which I submit has been the case here. And they went on to say at page 896, and because of the quality of the photocopying I apologize, that is, in fact, the third page from the back for ease of finding it.

In that first paragraph the court said,

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It is true that they (the individuals) are not being tried by the commissioner but their alleged misconduct has come under the full glare of publicity and it is only fair and just that they should be afforded an opportunity to call evidence to elicit facts by examination and crossexamination of witnesses and, thus, being able to

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place before the commission of inquiry a complete picture rather than incur the risk of its obtaining only a partial or distorted one. right to which they are, in my view, fairly and reasonably entitled, and it should not be denied them. Moreover, it is no less important in the public interest that the whole truth rather than half truths or partial truths should be revealed to the commissioners.

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And I submit to Your Lordships that this is directly on point with our submissions. That Donald Marshall, Jr. testifying through his own counsel in chief is the best way to ensure that the Commission is not left with a partial or distorted picture of the truth.

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Finally, there is precedent in other Royal Commissions in Canada with respect to this issue and I just wish to refer Your Lordships to the Grange Inquiry where Susan Nelles' evidence was

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elicited through her own counsel, John Sopinka, in that instance. In the Chamberlain Inquiry which took place in Australia, Mrs. Chamberlain who was alleged to have killed her own child was called and testified through her own counsel. In what's commonly known as the Stevens' Inquiry, both Noreen Stevens and Sinclair Stevens testified in chief through their own separate counsel. I referred you already to the case involving Dr. Shulman and in the Estey banking inquiry, the inspector of banks was called and testified through his own counsel. And I believe in all those instances, with respect to all other witnesses called to testify before the commission, they testified through commission counsel but the individuals against whom there were allegations were entitled, were held to be entitled to testify through their counsel. And, in fact, in the Grange Inquiry there were no outstanding allegations, in fact.

I would submit, therefore, that there is ample precedent for Your Lordships exercising your discretion in permitting this variation of what's been the customary practice in this inquiry and that it is in the interests of the fullest and best evidence coming out before Your Lordships that Mr. Marshall be able to testify in chief through his own counsel. Thank you.

MR. MURRAY

My Lords, on behalf of Ronald Pugsley for John MacIntyre and myself for William Urquhart, we have no problem with our friend's application. We've discussed it with them. Our

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understanding would be that it would be evidence in chief and not cross-examination but in those circumstances we have no objection.

CHAIRMAN

Prior to asking Mr., let me go through, counsel for the RCMP?

MR. BISSELL

I guess we'd like to hear with Commission counsel had to say first, if that's...

CHAIRMAN

All right. Well we'll hear from Commission counsel then.

MR. SPICER

My Lord I did a check this morning and to date, including this morning's evidence, Commission counsel have conducted direct examination of 102 witnesses. I don't want to tell you how many pages of transcript that that takes but it's been 102 witness. Many of those witnesses have been represented by counsel with standing at this inquiry and I'm certain that some of those would have much preferred to have had their direct examination conducted by their own counsel.

Indeed, Commission counsel has refused on other occasions to accede the requests of counsel who have made such requests to examine their own witnesses.

Commission counsel view it as our responsibility to conduct the direct examination of witnesses so that the Commission hears the full story from a witness during that witness' first

SUBMISSION - MR. SPICER

examination. That is, that the first evidence that is heard by the Commission is not the evidence that that person necessarily wishes to tell but it is, in fact, Commission counsel's attempt to elicit the full picture from that witness.

It's our view that that procedure also benefits the other counsel who having then heard Commission counsel elicit the story from the witness may decide that they don't have any questions to ask.

Ms. Derrick's argument would make sense if they weren't allowed to examine Donald Marshall. To say that you're only to get the full story if they are entitled to conduct the direct examination of Mr. Marshall, with all due respect to her, really doesn't make much sense. It would make sense if that was the only, if there was to be no opportunity by anybody else and, in particular, by their counsel, by Donald Marshall's counsel, but that's not the case and, in fact, they get to examine last. So if they're concerned about Mr. Marshall's story as seen from their perspective being told to this Commission, then they are in absolutely no jeopardy in the facts of, in the circumstance of this Commission because they do get to go last.

In preparing to conduct direct examinations, Commission counsel has naturally met with as many of the witnesses as possible in advance. And as counsel responsible for the examination of Donald Marshall, Jr. I've met with Mr. Marshall on a number of occasions in Sydney and in Halifax. And I'm not at all

SUBMISSION - MR. SPICER

worried about the possibility of eliciting testimony from Mr. Marshall on behalf of the Commission.

My friend's referred to the Shulman case. I think it's important to note in the Shulman case that there are a number of factors which distinguish that case from this one. First of all, Mr. Shulman was the person who made the allegations in that case. He was the person who, in the words of the Ontario Court of Appeal, "The Commission itself was, in essence, if not all together directed to those allegations." That's at page 375 of the Ontario Court of Appeal decision. And more importantly in the Shulman case, counsel for Mr. Shulman would not have had any opportunity at all to examine his own witness had it not been for that application. Examinations were conducted exclusively by commission counsel and the opportunity for Mr. Shulman's case to be put from his perspective, through questioning by his own counsel, was therefore not a right that he had.

That information is contained in, I have the Ontario Reports' version of the, yes, it's the same one that Ms. Derrick has given you. If you look at the material on page 376 in the small type,

Any person being examined may be accompanied by his own counsel. If any evidence is given which alleges any misconduct that person's counsel may request the commission counsel to further examine the witness or request the commission to accord him the right to examine the witness with respect to such allegations. When commission counsel has

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SUBMISSION - MR. SPICER

examined all the witnesses whom he proposes to call commission will hear and examine any further witness.

It's the impression that from that situation is far, far different from the situation before Your Lordships.

We have not been persuaded by the representations that were made to us by counsel for Mr. Marshall that the circumstances of his testimony, the giving of his testimony, should be done in any other way than through Commission counsel and it's our intention as with the previous 102 witnesses to try and elicit the full story from all perspectives, not from the perspective of one party, and that's the perspective that we would intend to adopt with Mr. Marshall as with everybody else.

CHAIRMAN

Mr. Spicer when you're interviewing perspective witnesses are the interviews conducted in the presence of counsel, with their counsel?

MR. SPICER

Yes, if those witnesses have representation they are.

COMMISSIONER POITRAS

So that in this case you would not be examining Mr. Marshall cold you would have seen him beforehand.

MR. SPICER

Yes, in the presence of Ms. Derrick on a number of occasions.

COMMISSIONER POITRAS

And if you had to see the witness again between now and

SUBMISSION - MR. SPICER

next Tuesday, you would not be adverse to having Ms. Derrick with you throughout those examinations.

MR. SPICER

No, quite the contrary.

COMMISSIONER POITRAS

Thank you.

MR. SAUNDERS

We support the submission made by Commission counsel, My Lord. I thought that the application by my friend, Ms. Derrick, was going ahead on Monday and so hearing it today for the first time I haven't had the opportunity to review the cases which she cited.

In listening to comments by her and by my friend, Mr. Spicer, my concern was that Mr. Spicer might have, or sense some difficulty in his ability to question on direct, Mr. Marshall. Having heard the submission of Mr. Spicer and the number of times that he's met with the witness, I foresee no such difficulty and so on that basis I say that he ought go forward as we have with the other 106-odd witnesses to this point.

MR. BISSELL

On behalf of the RCMP, My Lords, I would also support the position that has been taken by Commission counsel on this particular matter.

The only other thing that I would point out, it would seem to me that Mr. Marshall would have the benefit of protection under

SUBMISSION - COUNSEL

Section 13 of the <u>Charter</u> respecting the evidence that he gives here on anything that might jeopardize him or threaten him with a criminal sanction.

CHAIRMAN

Mr. Ross?

MR. ROSS

My Lord, I would rise to support the position taken by Commission counsel. While the reasons as given by counsel for Donald Marshall, Jr. revolves around the question of whether or not there might have been an attempted robbery and I would respectfully submit that that puts him in a very similar category to Sandy Seale. Recognizing that I could not call Sandy Seale personally it might very well be that according to the evidence of Mr. Marshall if brought out by his own counsel, it might very well put us in a position where I would be requesting that other witnesses be called that I can take through personally. I think it pretty well opens a Pandora's box. I've got no difficulty with the way Commission counsel has conducted all examinations to date.

The other thing is the question of notice. I do not know what was the notice as given in the Shulman or other cases. I do not know whether or not there was any attempt to reach an agreement between the different solicitors and counsel but at this late date, before the final witness is to be called for the Halifax phase, to be learning of this application I think that it's catching some of us by surprise and I do not know that it can serve any

SUBMISSION - COUNSEL

real useful purpose.

CHAIRMAN

I think my recollection is Ms. Derrick gave notice to this Commission when we were sitting, at least two days ago, of her intention of raising this argument on, she didn't. She just gave it to us.

MR. ROSS

Oh, I see. Thank you very kindly, My Lord.

MR. WILDSMITH

I guess, My Lords, I'm in the minority position here again supporting the application. It seems to me that your objective ought to be to obtain the best evidence from Junior Marshall that he's capable to giving. And it seems to me that the record has been quite clear, Ms. Derrick pointed this out, that every other time that Mr. Marshall has given evidence there have been difficulties. And it's been part of my submission to the Commission that Mr. Marshall suffers the same kind of difficulty that many native people suffer when giving evidence in a kind of formal setting like a court or before this Commissions. And so it seems to me that Your Lordships should keep in mind the fact that he is a native person and ask yourselves the question of how it is that you could best obtain evidence from this native person.

Obviously Mr. Marshall is a key person, a vital person, and that his evidence is going to be extremely important. Perhaps more important than those other native witnesses who've given

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evidence. And it seems to me, at least in my submission, that the kind of trust or rapport that exists between Mr. Marshall and Ms. Derrick and his own counsel will be of great assistance to him in terms of coming over the formality and the hostility of the kinds of proceedings that are going on here. And for that reason I think that he will able to give better testimony to this Commission if it's done in this fashion.

I should also comment on what I think is a central point in the evidence or in the position being given by Commission counsel, this fact that 102 other witnesses have been treated in one particular way. I think what this assumes is that justice and equality is achieved by treating everyone in the same fashion.

And, of course, the essence of what the Union of Nova Scotia Indians is doing here and what our position has been is that there are reasons for treating different cases differently. And that the position of the native witnesses is a difference, and a vital difference. And, therefore, makes all the sense in the world to me at least to treat a native witness in a different way than the 102 other witnesses have been treated. And, indeed, if I can add the editorial comment that to take that position seems to me has indicated the futility of my appearance in front of the Commission. 12:05 p.m.

MR. SPICER

Well, in fairness, I was the person who has handled all the native witnesses, and I think that's really not a particularly

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appropriate comment to make.

MR. CHAIRMAN

Do you wish to say something? Yes, go ahead.

MS. DERRICK

Thank-you, My Lords, just very briefly I'd like to respond to some of the comments that were made. Perhaps I could say, first of all, that this issue, in my recollection, that is the issue of us calling Mr. Marshall ourselves and examining him in chief was raised some considerable time ago with counsel by us indicating that we wished to reserve our right to do so, commission counsel.

Also, with respect to the issue of the remaining counsel, almost all remaining counsel were informally canvassed earlier this week concerning this issue, so I believe everybody did have notice. It may be that Mr. Ross was missed in that canvass, and if that is the case I certainly sincerely apologize. There have been periods of time when he has been absent and perhaps as a result of that we, you know, missed speaking with him.

I'd like to point out that there has certainly never been a request brought forward to this Commission of this type. It may well have been that there were some informal discussions with Commission counsel but certainly nobody has ever made an application to your Lordships. So, I don't feel that that position by Commission counsel has any merit with the greatest respect.

With respect to the issue of bringing out areas of concern to Commission counsel, we're certainly respectful of the need to do

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that, and as a result have discussed with Commission counsel what areas they would seek elicit or would be interested in eliciting from Mr. Marshall and are certainly prepared to undertake to explore those areas. So that that should not be a concern.

It is our position that this application makes sense because of the distinct possibility that Mr. Marshall will become upset and agitated by this experience, which will be, I believe, his seventh time testifying concerning these issues. And we do believe that this will be modified by his talking to someone, in the first instance, that he knows well and has developed a bond of trust with.

It is certainly not our concern that we would not get to question him at all. Of course we understand that whatever the process we would have our opportunity to question him. But it is our concern that his story will not unfold as fully or as effectively because of the barriers of some strangeness and distance that he will experience if he is examined by Commission counsel. And certainly Mr. Spicer has spent some time with Mr. Marshall, but I respectfully submit that it is insignificant by comparison with the time and the quality of time that Mr. Marshall has spent with his own counsel.

And our...the purpose of our application, if I may just reiterate, is to assist the Commission in obtaining the fullest and most effective evidence from Mr. Marshall and so we believe that it is in the interests of the public inquiry and Mr. Marshall

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himself. Thank-you.

MR. CHAIRMAN

We'll rise for about twenty minutes.

BREAK - 12:09 p.m.

INQUIRY RESUMES - 12:31 p.m.

MR. CHAIRMAN

Counsel for Donald Marshall, Jr., asked that the Commission depart from its well-established practise of having all witnesses who have or who will testify before this inquiry examined first by Commission counsel, and that she, as counsel for Donald Marshall, Jr., be permitted to conduct the examination-in-chief of her client when he testifies before this Commission with the right of all counsel, including Commission counsel, to cross-examine Mr. Marshall.

The grounds advanced inter alia by counsel for Mr. Marshall, in support of her application, is that in order to obtain the best and most effective evidence from Donald Marshall, Jr., that he will be more comfortable and productive if she first examines him. She expressed the view that Mr. Marshall's reputation is at risk, but in our view that same risk may apply to several witnesses who have already testified and whose examination-in-chief was conducted by Commission counsel.

Commission counsel are under an absolute obligation to bring before us all relevant evidence. Up to this time we are satisfied that Commission counsel have fully discharged their

DECISION

responsibilities in that regard. We have no reason to believe that Mr. Marshall will receive other than the full and scrupulously fair treatment and examination which has been afforded by Commission counsel to all other witnesses.

The object of this Commission is to elicit all relevant facts and not to try anyone appearing before it. We are satisfied that it is in the best interest of all concerned that Commission counsel first examine Donald Marshall, Jr., and that the first evidence of Mr. Marshall's shall be a full picture of all relevant facts elicited in a manner which will ensure a broad perspective of the issues before us.

This Commission is conscious of the difficulties which may have been experienced by Donald Marshall, Jr., when giving evidence in prior proceedings which were more adversarial in their nature than the hearings before this Commission, which has none of the attributes of a trial. We note that Mr. Spicer, who will conduct the examination-in-chief, has met with Donald Marshall, Jr., on several occasions, and that between now and next Tuesday, when Donald Marshall, Jr., will appear Mr. Spicer will meet with him, in the presence of Miss Derrick, which in our view should ensure that such examination-in-chief will be conducted in a manner which will not unduly inhibit Donald Marshall, Jr., in giving his testimony.

For these reasons the application on behalf of Donald Marshall, Jr., is denied.

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Now, can Commission counsel indicate where we stand with 1 respect to witnesses. 2 3

MR. MacDONALD

With respect to Monday, My Lord, we will be calling...

MR. CHAIRMAN

Well, firstly, are there any other witnesses to be called 6 today?

MR. MacDONALD

No, My Lord.

MR. CHAIRMAN

All right.

MR. MacDONALD

There are not. Monday we may be having Michael Harris, a cameo appearances, the...

MR. CHAIRMAN

I didn't get that.

MR. MacDONALD

He will...

MR. CHAIRMAN

All right.

MR. MacDONALD

We will also be calling evidence from the Sydney police, two members of the police, the Chief of Police and the sergeant or Inspector Woodburn. As we had indicated earlier or when these...some Sydney police witnesses were giving evidence, when

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they were being questioned about the current state of affairs, they were stopped and told that we would deal with that at a latter date. We propose dealing with that topic on Monday. And that will be the extent of the evidence. And then the only evidence remaining to be called will be Mr. Marshall himself.

MR. CHAIRMAN

For the benefit of counsel, it is the intention of the Commission to conclude this phase of our hearings on Tuesday next at 4:30 p.m.. We will hear the witnesses that you have indicated, Mr. MacDonald, will be called on Monday on that date and we will set aside all of Tuesday to hear the evidence of Donald Marshall, Jr.. We will adjourn until... If our...we will most likely, in fact, it is our intention, unless we're convinced otherwise to start...to sit on Tuesday commencing at 9:00 in the morning. Miss Derrick has given notice of an application on Monday with respect to television lights and/or cameras. That will be heard first at 9:30 when we sit on Monday morning and then we will follow the evidence. So, we stand adjourned until Monday next at 9:30. INOUIRY ADJOURNS - 12:37 p.m.

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 22 day of June 1988 at Dartmouth, Nova Scotia