

19 1985

CONFIDENTIAL

My Dear Judge,

I've enclosed a brief background of my activities over the last three years, which will give you a basic insight into, hopefully, my character. Sir Justice Woodward, in tableing his report on the Royal Commission into the meat inquiry to the Liberal Govn. of the day, said that I was a conscientious, honest and great Australian, but I found these remarks hard to cash at the bank. As you would realise, what I am supplying you is very basic. Expect for John Brown, the Government would have left me alone, as you are aware, Brown and I are from the same industry and I work for him as his personal consultant and confidant as well as private enterprise affiliation. I am also involved in ad-hock tasks for various Ministers in the Hawke Government.

My belief in you is such that when the issues you are involved in where first brought to a head in Parliament, I felt compelled to come forward with information relating to a certain Policeman who not only told lies to try and discredit you as a person, I knew through my dealings in the Meat Inquiry, that Policeman to be a totally dubious character.

I supplied to Nick Bolkus, an enclosed statement re: that Policeman. It is interior in format and there is quite a lot more to add. I felt it was important at the time and so did the Senate Committee to the point where Don Chipp even though not a member of the Committee, accepted it in entirety. Gareth Evans was also quite positive about it. What amazes me if this fellow has been allowed to give evidence against yourself in the whole sham, without me being given the right to stand in Court (which I made quite clear I was prepared to do) what chance has any of us got in society. This is just a short note, Judge, and if you feel after reading the enclosed documents and wish to discuss anything further, then my time is yours.

I feel so strongly about your situation that there were times when I just wanted to go out and get people to petition against this miscarriage of justice and if this meant severing my ties in the Government arena, then so be it.

Yours in friendship,

CONFIDENTIAL

Australian, but I found these remarks hard to cash at the bank. As you would realise, what I am supplying you is very basic. Expect for John Brown, the Government would have left me alone, as you are aware, Brown and I are from the same industry and I work for him as his personal consultant and confidant as well as private enterprise affiliation. I am also involved in ad-hock tasks for various Ministers in the Hawke Government.

My belief in you is such that when the issues you are involved in where first brought to a head in Parliament, I felt compelled to come forward with information relating to a certain Policeman who not only told lies to try and discredit you as a person, I knew through my dealings in the Meat Inquiry, that Policeman to be a totally dubious character.

I supplied to Nick Bolkus, an enclosed statement re: that Policeman. It is interium in format and there is quite a lot more to add. I felt it was important at the time and so did the Senate Committee to the point where Don Chipp even though not a member of the Committee, accepted it in entirety. Gareth Evans was also quite possitive about it. What amazes me if this fellow has been allowed to give evidence against yourself in the whole sham, without me being given the right to stand in Court (which I made quite clear I was prepared to do) what chance has any of us got in society. This is just a short note, Judge, and if you feel after reading the enclosed documents and wish to discuss anything further, then my time is yours.

I feel so strongly about your situation that there were times when I just wanted to go out and get people to petition against this miscarraige of justice and if this meant severing my ties in the Government arena, then so be it.

Yours in friendship,

CONFIDENTIAL

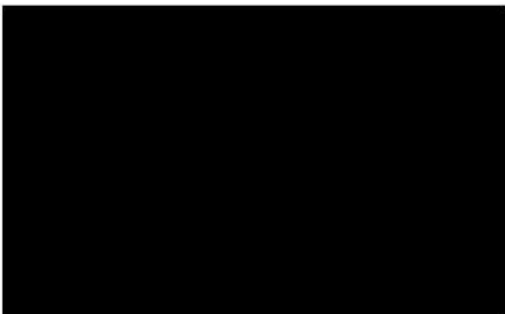
STATEMENT OF

RODNEY GORDON GROUX

My full name is Rodney Gordon Groux. In about May 1985 I was employed by the Minister for Sport, Recreation and Tourism, the honourable Mr John Brown as Ministerial Adviser with Public Service Board and Cabinet Approval for a period of four years.

My duties in this position included

- Assist and advise on a variety of takeover procedures and new entities to be set up such as the National Sports Centre
- Provide advice in the areas of Australian Government Publishing Service, Government Bookshops and Expo.
- Such tasks as are from time to time specified by the Secretary of the Department with Ministerial Consent.

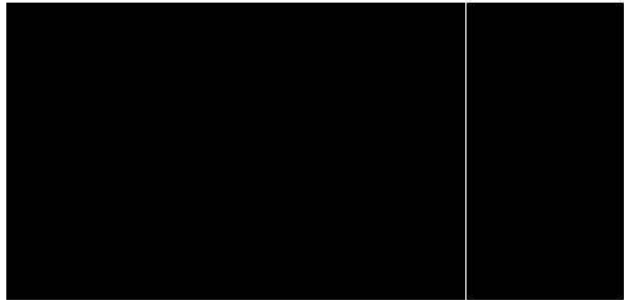


BR

Whilst employed by Mr Brown I met Lionel Keith Murphy. This meeting occurred at Woden Shopping Plaza, Phillip outside a premises known as "Meat City".

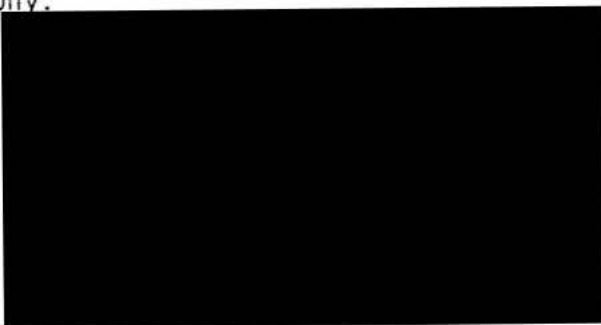
Mr Murphy asked me if I would visit him at his house to discuss a document I had prepared for Senator Nick Bolkus. I obtained personal approval from Mr Brown to visit Mr Murphy. On the next day, a Sunday, I attended at the residence of Mr Murphy in Red Hill. Mr Murphy asked whether I would be prepared to assist him by conducting enquiries on his behalf into various people who had given evidence against him in criminal proceedings in New South Wales. I said that I would. He then produced various material to me including a photocopy of diaries he said were those of Mr Clarence Briese, the Chief Stipendiary Magistrate for New South Wales whom Murphy said was one of the witnesses against him. He said that he obtained the diaries via Mr Mick Young, that they were illegally obtained and that they should be carefully guarded.

Mr Murphy explained to me that he regarded these proceedings as a conspiracy against himself. He said that the parties to this conspiracy were Ian Temby, Ian Callinan, The Liberal Party and others.



We then in the company of his wife Ingrid proceeded to inspect the material produced and attempted to place it in chronological order. Mr Murphy told me that he wanted the diaries analysed and investigated in certain areas. He also said that he wanted Mr Briese and others investigated. After several hours I told Mr Murphy that I would arrange for my secretary, Pamela Whitty, to collect the material next morning, photocopy it and return it to him. I also said that I would then contact him to explain how I proposed to proceed with the investigation.

The material was collected, copied and returned. I later rang Mr Murphy and told him I proposed to dissect the diary and put it into a computer programme for cross referencing purposes etc. He was estactic and from then rang me often. I then proceeded to dissect the material and input it to the computer. During this time I had reported to Mr Brown, as I usually did daily in any event, and told him generally what I was doing in relation to Lionel Murphy.



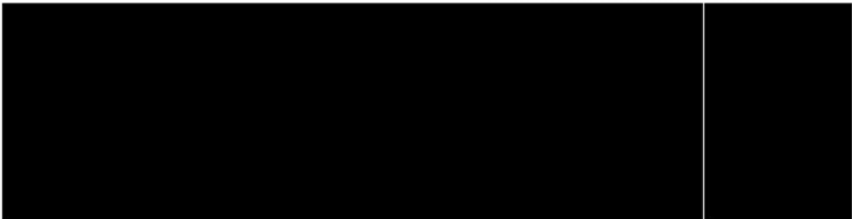
B3L

I again reported to Mr Murphy and told him that I was going to Sydney in the normal course of my duties and would continue my enquiries on his behalf whilst in Sydney. Mr Murphy said that he would be in Sydney at the same time and would contact me.

I travelled to Sydney, booked into the Travellodge (now Olims Hotel) in MacLeay Street, Potts Point in the company of Tony Luchetti another member of Mr Brown's staff. I told Luchetti what I was doing on behalf of Mr Murphy. He agreed to help me after saying that he had sought and received approval. I therefore designated him the following tasks.

- Telephone checks and
- Social Security checks

I travelled to Mr Brown's Electoral office in Parramatta and was there contacted by Mr Murphy who arranged for me to visit him later in the day. He also told me that I should investigate an accusation, supposedly made to Mr Wran, that Briese had paid \$20,000 cash for a swimming pool to Mutual Pools. He also said that Wran was acting Attorney-General and was in a




position to help. I continued to work through the diaries, making telephone calls and generally doing pre-investigative work, including the allegations about the swimming pool. I also interviewed a couple of people.

In relation to the swimming pool I approached Mutual Pools in Sydney and confirmed that a pool had been installed by them but could find no evidence of a payment of \$20,000 cash.

That evening I visited Mr Murphy at his unit at Darling Point. I arrived in a Commonwealth car. Mr Murphy and his daughter Laurel were present. Mr Murphy and myself had a discussion about what I had done and what I intended to do. He was keen for me to contact the Landscape Gardener who had worked on Mr Briese's premises and previously provided a Statutory Declaration which Mr Murphy had earlier provided me. I stated that I had tried to do so but without success.

Mr Murphy said that Mr Wran would be arriving shortly and he said that he would introduce me to Mr Wran but so far as I was concerned there was to be no relationship between myself and Mr Wran. He also said that when Mr Wran arrived myself and Laurel were to go out for a while.



Mr Wran arrived, greeted Mr Murphy and Laurel and was introduced to me.

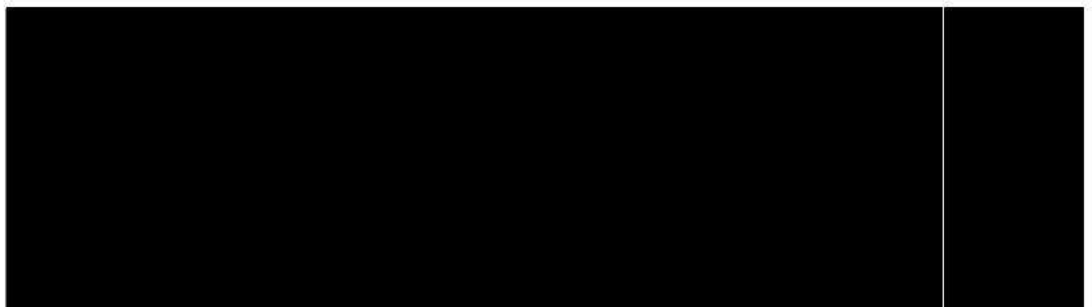
Mr Wran said that if I wanted any help to tell Lionel what was required and he would do his best.

Laurel and myself left and later returned to the unit and had a meal with Mr Murphy. Mr Wran had left. I later ordered a Commonwealth car and returned to my hotel with Laurel Murphy.

The next day I continued my enquiries and during the day I contacted Mr Murphy and said that I was having difficulty because I was not familiar with Sydney. I also mentioned that I needed a car. He said that he would see what he could do for me. The next day a vehicle was made available to me as were two adult males. I asked them to take me to various places in Sydney which they did.

These included


- The New Hellas Restaurant.
- Various stockbrokers, and
- Media outlets.



I discussed the car and helpers with Mr Murphy and thanked him for his assistance.

After a few days I decided to conduct the enquiries on my own and told the helpers provided that I no longer required their help. I discussed this with Mr Murphy and told him I proposed to hire a car. He agreed with this proposal and I hired a car. I continued my enquiries. I located and interviewed the gardener and, as a result of that interview, I did not believe the material contained in his Statutory Declaration.

I returned to Mr Murphy's premises and detailed what I had been doing. Mr Wran arrived and I told him what I had been doing. He expressed surprise that Mr Briese had his direct telephone number. They again urged me to continue my enquiries into

- The Mutual Pools arrangements
 - Mr Briese's share transaction
 - Mr Briese's reputation, and
 - Mr Briese's relations with the media
- 


Mr Murphy urged me to pursue these areas as a matter of priority.

I returned home to Canberra for the weekend and saw quite a bit of Mr Murphy over that weekend, generally discussing the investigation.

Prior to returning to Canberra, I spoke to Mr Brown by telephone to his home. I outlined what I had been doing for Mr Murphy and stated that I was not quite happy with the situation. He told me that if only a small bit of my work could be of benefit to Murphy it would be worthwhile and I should continue. I regarded this as a direction and continued.

I spoke to Mr Brown again after my weekend in Canberra. I expressed doubts to him that my enquiries were not coming together as I thought they should have.

Mr Brown said that I should not be confused about Mr Murphy's flamboyant character, or his past but should concentrate on the facts of this particular matter. We had a slight argument and Mr Brown invited me to dine with him in the members dining room. Over lunch Mr Brown told me to continue my enquiries and I accepted this.




The next day I returned to Sydney and continued my enquiries. I contacted Mr Murphy who was most insistent that I complete my enquires and give him a result. To the best of my recollection Mr Murphy was in court in relation to his case during that week. Enquiries continued for a couple of weeks with constant reference back to Mr Murphy. I also kept Mr Brown up to date on the enquiries and also on the ministerial work I was also doing. I also saw Mr Wran during this period who again urged me to pursue certain select areas of investigation.

During this period on one occasion Mr Murphy asked me to attend the Banco Court in Sydney and tape record the proceedings of Murphy's own case. I did this and handed the tape to Mr Murphy on the way out of court. To the best of my recollection this was a Friday.

After court I had a conversation wth Mr Luchetti. I told him that I would not pursue my enquiries further as I had decided Mr Murphy was guilty. I returned to Canberra.

On the following Monday I rang Mr Brown. I was informed he was seeing the




Prime Minister at 11.00am and an appointment to see Mr Brown was made for 2.00pm. I arrived and was told by Mr Brown that I was being dismissed because I had failed to disclose my financial difficulties on appointment. He said Mr Hawke did not want any skeletons in his closet. We had a lengthy discussion during which he eventually said that its basically you or me. The Murphy situation is at a delicate stage. Once it is over the Prime Minister may change his mind. Further discussion and correspondence ensued but I eventually resigned. Mr Brown provided me with a glowing reference.

During the time I was conducting these enquiries on Mr Murphy's behalf, with Mr Brown's approval, I considered that I was carrying out my duties as a Ministerial Adviser. As previously stated I frequently advised Mr Brown of my activities and location.

This statement has been prepared and taken in a hurry. I have not had access to my records nor have I had time to properly refresh my memory. During this period I maintained a diary and recorded many of the events covered in this statement in that diary. I also have other records including

- A copy of the Briese diaries



- Portions of the Murphy Transcript
- Portions of the Senate Transcript
- Various receipts for car hire and other expenses incurred during
this time

and am able to produce these on request.

16/4/86.

SURNAME: MURPHY Given Names: LIONEL KEITH
 Address: 57 Arthur Circuit, RED HILL
 Act & Section: Crimes Act 1914 Section 43
 Date of Offence: (1) 1/7/83 - 9/7/83 (2) 6/1/82 - 21/1/82
 Brief Details: Attempt to pervert the course of justice (2 charges)

WORKING
 CAPT
 P. MYERS
 5/8/86

Previous Convictions:

Officer-in-Charge: Department:

COMMITTAL AND TRIAL PROCEEDINGS

COURT APPEARANCES:			For Inf:	For Def:	Plea	RESULT
Date	Court	Coram				
4/2/85	St James	Webb SM	Griffin	Barker QC & Higgins (i/b Freehills)		Deft not present; S/O B/C c'ttal hg 4/3/85 at 302 C'reagh St, Sydney; Bail dispensed with.
27/2/85	302	Reidel SM	Cowdery	Shand QC		Application by deft to adjn c'ttal to 25/3/85; opposed, granted; Deft not present. 4/3/85 Vacated.
5/3/85	302	Reidel SM	Callinan QC and Cowdery	Shand QC Morris QC Higgins		Committal commenced. S/o p/h 26/3/85 <i>Subpoena on Clarence Raymond BRIESE</i>
6/3 - 9/3	302	Reidel SM	Callinan QC and Cowdery	Shand QC Morris QC Higgins		Committal continued; on 2/4 S/o to 16/4/85 for decision on S.41(2) Justices Act 1902.
1/4/85 - 1/4/85						
6/4/85	302		Cowdery	Morris QC and Higgins		Decision delivered: ev is capable of satisfying a jury that Deft has c'ttd 2 offences chgd; S/o 11 & 12 June for further hg (no earlier dates suitable to counsel for Deft).
5/4/85	302	Reidel SM	Callinan QC and Cowdery	Shand QC Morris QC		Statement made by Deft; further submissions; Mag satisfied of sufficiency of evidence under S.41(6) Justices Act - C'ttd for trial. Bail not required.
5/6/85	Supreme Ct.	Cantor J	Callinan QC Cowdery & Clark	Shand QC Morris QC Ryan	NG to each	<u>Indictment containing 2 counts presented;</u> accused entered pleas of NG to each; trial commenced; S/o p/h 6/6/85. Bail not required during trial.
June 7, 11,	Supreme Ct.	Cantor J	Callinan QC Cowdery & Clark	Shand QC Morris QC Ryan		Crown case continued.
3	Supreme Ct.	Cantor J	Callinan QC Cowdery & Clark	Shand QC Morris QC Ryan		Crown case closed; application by accused for verdict of acquittal on both charges.

Address:

Act & Section:

Date of Offence:

Brief Details:

Previous Convictions:

Officer-in-Charge:

Department:

COURT APPEARANCES:

PAGE TWO.

Date	Court	Coram	For Inf:	For Def:	Plea	RESULT
June 14, 17 18	Supreme Ct.	Cantor J	Callinan QC, Cowdery & Clark	Shand QC Morris QC Ryan		Application continued: refused
19	"	"	"	"		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Notice given of application under S.72 Judiciary Act 1903 for Questions of Law to be Reserved. Application for discharge of jury on basis of Crown opening. Defence case: opening address and witnesses.
20, 21, 24, 25 26	"	"	"	"		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Defence case continued. Defence case closed. Application by Crown to call evidence in rebuttal and reply: refused. Application for discharge on 2nd count: refused. Crown address commenced.
27	"	"	"	"		Crown address continued and concluded
28	"	"	"	"		Defence address commenced.
July 1	"	"	"	"		Defence address concluded.
2, 3, 4	"	"	"	"		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summing up to jury. Jury retired at 11.28am 4/7/85. Discussion re stated case on Reserved Questions of Law. Application for verdict of acquittal on both counts. Question from jury: answered. Applications for re-directions. Question from jury: answered. 9.33pm jury brought into court; S/o for further deliberations on 5/7/85.
5	"	"	"	"		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jury retired again. Question from jury: answered. Applications for re-directions. 9.28pm: Verdicts: <u>1st Count: GUILTY</u> <u>2nd Count: NOT GUILTY.</u> S/o for hg 18&19 July 1985 Unconditional bail allowed.

SURNAME:

Given Names:

Address:

Act & Section:

Date of Offence:

Brief Details:

Previous Convictions:

Officer-in-Charge:

Department:

COURT APPEARANCES:

PAGE THREE.

Date	Court	Coram	For Inf:	For Def:	Plea	RESULT
July 18	Supreme Ct.	Cantor J	Callinan QC, Cowdery	Byers QC Hughes QC Ryan		.Affidavit of P.M. Barlow handed up (re juror's letter to Murphy). .Submissions about possible enquiry of jury members. .Submissions on stated case S/o p/h 19/7/85. Bail cont'd.
19	"	"	"	"		.Submissions on stated case. .Motion to Arrest Judgment filed: S.78B Notices issued by solicitors for prisoner. S/o p/h 30/7/85. Bail continued.
30	"	"	"	Byers QC Ryan		Robertson for Attorney-General for New South Wales (re S.78B Notice) Ryan for Attorney-General for C'wlth. Discussion between parties about form of stated case. Proceedings S/o to a date to be fixed (pending High Court proceedings). Bail continued. <small>MRS WHITTY OBTAINS + PHOTOCOPIES COPIES OF THESE DIARIES</small>
<i>AUGUST</i> 20	"	"	"	"		
August 23	"	"	"	Hughes QC Ryan		.Crown sought to have sentence imposed: opposed by Hughes. .Cantor J indicated that he would proceed to sentence. .Hughes declined to make further submissions. .S/o to date to be fixed for sentence - bail continued. .Cantor J indicated he proposed to respite execution of sentence.
Sept 3	"	"	Callinan QC	Ryan		Imprisonment for 18 months, order that after 10 months from commencement of the sentence that he enter into a recog to be good behaviour for the balance of the term.

CONVERSATION BETWEEN P. MYERS AND A. LUCHETTI

Resumed tape two 1106.

Myers: You didn't carry out any social security checks?

Luchetti: None what so ever.

Myers: In relation to the Murphy matter.

Luchetti: No.

Myers: As far as you know Mr Groux didn't follow anybody?

Luchetti: No.

Myers: Didn't talk to anybody?

Luchetti: No.

Myers: Certainly didn't interview anybody in your presence in relation to the Murphy matter?

Luchetti: Never.

Myers: Did one come and visit him in relation to it in the office?

Luchetti: There was one fellow, in the office no.

Myers: You were going to say something else?

Luchetti: There was one person on the Wednesday night with him, it was Murphy's daughter.

Myers: Murphy's daughter. Did she stay there?

Luchetti: She stayed in his room for two nights.

Myers: For two nights. In his room?

Luchetti: In his room.

Howard: How do you know it was Murphy's daughter?

Luchetti: Well I was introduced to her as such and she never queried it. She was very very upset about the whole proceedings. She was very distraught, couldn't get any sense out of her. She'd be breaking down crying all the time what happening he's my father and telling everything. And she, at the (sounds like) Onons, Brew had suit I think it had two double beds in it. I think it did. And the Wednesday night I think we had a fairly late night, that's right, Murphy's daughter and one or two other people from the hotel, we ended up at the Texas Tavern having a few drinks. And I went back to my room then afterwards, then she spent all day Thursday in the room.

Myers: In his room?

Luchetti: In his room, I think she slept outside from what I can gather from the people at the hotel. Then on the Thursday, Brew and I went out to see some people.

Myers: That's relation to Mr Brown's portfolio or what?

Luchetti: It was supposed to be another job that we reckoned he was doing for Brown. But it turned out that one of Purphy's (sound like) again.

Myers: Sorry his what?

Luchetti: Purphy's, he was having someone on again. By the time we got in that morning it was about four o'clock, be the time we got in the next morning. And Murphey's daughter was still there. Brew went to bed and I spent about half and hour, a hour talking to her. You know she was upset, distraught, and then I went up to my room to bed.

Myers: She didn't go up to your room?

Luchetti: No fear. No, Brew he intermated to Jack Waterford and to other people, that he went to bed and I stayed there and I was messing around with her. But that's Brew's imagination getting the better of him. She was crying and she was upset. I didn't touch her.

Myers: Do you know if she was on drugs?

Luchetti: I don't know, but she was distraught, she was upset, it's possible. The Wednesday night she had a fair amount of alcohol.

Myers: What was she drinking, beer, wine, spirits?

Luchetti: I think it was spirits, I think it might have been scotch I think, I not sure, but I fairly sure it was a spirit of some description. But ever when I met her first off she was very distraught and carrying on. I think she's about 28, 29. Rodney was getting upset with her, and I know once they left the Texas Tavern, it almost made me sick. And he was going we all feel sorry for your father, and he almost burst out crying. I must admit it nothing for me at all and I'm different to that, I'm probably a bit cold. It did nothing to me at all. Then the way I looked at it, if she could have controlled herself she would

Luchetti: continued:

have been of some help and strength to her father. But just letting herself go to pieces, not that, I think there might, I thought at the time well there's more than just her fathers case been, the way she carrying on.

Myers: Do you think she is close to her father?

Luchetti: Got a feeling she doesn't get on with her step mother. This is from what she said to me. She doesn't and with the young kids, isn't the best. One of the young boys, I can remember her talking about that. By what she was saying, she wasn't being a hundred percent loyal to him, you know, you don't know what he's really like, everyone thinks he's marvelous. You know she was making some generalised statements which I can't, just generalised statements which, thinking about it now for a while, I think on what particular topic but I know a few times but I know a few times, she's having go's at him. And I wasn't overly impressed.

Myers: You weren't overly impressed with her or?

Luchetti: Yeah with her. Well you know, if it was me, you know, I hope if anyone got into trouble in our family, everyone would bind together and stick together, and I think they would. But there was something definitely wrong with her. She did have mental problems somewhere along the line, I don't know if it was caused by drugs or if the occasion was just too much for her. She was just cracking up, you know her eyes were very drawn and she looked absolutely washed out.

Myers: You can't remember anything that she might have said about her father?

Luchetti: Off hand, no, no, I can just, the only thing that I can remember her saying that everyone thinks he's great you know and everything like that and what a marvelous man he is but they don't really know him. And then I don't if she gave any details or not. I can't remember, but I can just remember a statement along those lines.

Myers: If she would have gone into any detail do you think you would have remembered?

Luchetti: If there was anything concrete there, any hard facts, I would I'd say.

Myers: Ok.

Luchetti: As I say with Dad and him on the , Dad never had much time for him on the politics side of it and when I was growing up, ever after I left school, Murphy wasn't one of my pinups. But I just thought in this business I was on his side, you know as far as the charges.

Myers: Do you know if he hired a car?

Luchetti: Who Murphy or

Myers: No, sorry, do you know if Rodney Groux hired a car to do some work for Murphy?

Luchetti: Commonwealth car or ?

Myers: No just an ordinary hire car?

Luchetti: Out of his own pocket I'd say.

Myers: Yes.

Luchetti: No, no. Because that trip down there, this trip when we were working on her. When Brew ran out of money and I'd have to pay hotel bill for him on my American Express card. And he didn't have any credit cards what so ever and he didn't the money down there to pay for any car, hire car.

Myers: Hire car.

Luchetti: And I know he definately, he was in hire cars but you know how, it happens to us all, when we're in Sydney when we phone up for a Z car, when you book a Z car, if they haven't got them they send hire cars along.

Myers: So the cars you were in, were provided by the Commonwealth?

Luchetti: Were provided by the Commonwealth.

Myers: Fine. You earlier that Murphy rang up a few times, were you present?

Luchetti: I don't think so.

Myers: Were you present when he rang up?

Luchetti: No. With Brew he used to work out of the Centre Cinema Building.

Myers: Right.

Luchetti: And I used to go over there from time to time. And Murphy may have phoned up while I was there but I, I can remember, this is where I first heard his name was over in that office. I just can't remember the details now it was almost twelve months ago. It would be twelve months ago.

Myers: When you say he worked out of the Centre Cinema, was he still working for Mr. Brown then?

Luchetti: He was supposed to be.

Myers: But he had an office in the Centre Cinema?

Luchetti: Yeah well he was doing two jobs.

Myers: Right.

Luchetti: This is one of my doubts, I work over in the Silverton (sounds like) Centre, I've been working out of there, and I was working out of the Ministers office there and there is a little secretaries office off it. And Brew came over, I'm working for the minister now he says, we've been told to share offices, he's carrying on like a consultant and everything else like that. He told me he was on about level three, mainly about level four, no he told me he was on level two about the go up to level four mainly and stuff like this. And I said I don't give a bugger what office I work out of, so I went into the secretaries office, but he only ever spend a day or two there. And I was assuming that he was out at the Institute, I know he had work to do out at the Institute I went out there with him twice actually. And I was going to help him with some of the stuff out there, you know he was going to give me the

Luchetti: continued:

details of what was required to do, but I never got them from him. And I assumed he was spending his time out there, but I learned later on, you know, he told me how he was helping Brown with the butcher shops. You know, what personal friends they were and everything like that. He told me that you know, later on he told me that he was virtually managing to butcher shops for Brown, that they weren't actually his, he was just managing them for Brown. And then later still I found out that Brown had nothing to do with them at all, and that they were Killen's, Dr Killen the bloke who owns the Centre Cinema, the Southdown Drive-in and stuff like, I think he's got other properties around the place and he was virtually managing the butcher shops for him.

Myers: Right, on a salary?

Luchetti: Yes, I think on a salary.

Howard: What about when you were in Sydney, did Murphy ever ring up there, ring up Brew in your presence.

Luchetti: He used to be getting funny phone calls, he never got one from Murphy's office I don't think.

Myers: What do you mean funny phone calls?

Luchetti: Well he used to get them from Dr Killen, you know which we found strange, you know, because working for the government and always getting them from Killen, you know, we didn't know what was going on.

Myers: You think that related to the butcher shop business?

Luchetti: Oh yeah, definately related to the butcher shop business, well, we quickly worked that one out, but from other people who Lynette (sounds like) or I didn't know. Used to be phoning him up all the time.

Myers: Do you know any of the names of the other people?

Luchetti: There was a bloke he worked for, told me he worked for Industry and Commerce, that's Buttons department isn't it, yeah, yeah. He let on he was a level one or a level two.

Myers: Who told you this?

Luchetti: This bloke told me he was about level one or level two, Brew told me this bloke had great academic qualifications, and everything he spent half his life being academic how brilliant he was. I think this bloke probably did have good academic qualifications and I know at the time when Brew had been asked to resign. While I'm talking I'm just trying to think of his name.

Myers: Sure.

Luchetti: This bloke was saying no fight 'em you don't want to resign and stuff like this. I knew why they wanted Brew to resign.

Myers: Why was that?

Luchetti: The report that come up from the Attorney-General's.

Myers: What report was that?

Luchetti: When the P.M. told him, told Hawke to the P.M. told Brown to get rid of Brew because there was a statement the P.M. read out in Parliament, police informer, he'd sell anything for money, you know all those allegations. Those allegations came from A.G.'s. Not Flannigan, this bloke reckoned he worked for Industry and Commerce but I've got a friend over there that is a level two, how never heard of this bloke. But I've met him and since the last, late last year he was phoning me up. And I said to him, what job did Rodney offer you. And he said what do you mean. That's right this is just after he resigned, this would be about November last year, November yeah. And he said how do you know I was offered a job, I said he offered everyone jobs. Around the Institute, he said yes, I said what did he offer you a level two. He said no a level four. Anyone who has been with the Public Service for five minutes know that people just don't walk into level four jobs like that, people don't fix them up for you like that. This bloke had been strung along by Brew and I've, his name but I think he'd known him, that's right he told me this bloke used to live, I think he lived out at Macquarie when Brew was working out there and a couple of the reports Brew did out there, I think this bloke did the writing up. He said Brew did the initial reports but you couldn't read them, they made no sense at all. And he said he straightened them out for him, he virtually rewrote them and made decent english out of them he said because Brew didn't have the ability to do it.

Myers: Just go back on this question of Murphy and Brew, and their relationship, you can't recall anytime either in Sydney or Canberra, apart from one phone call that you mentioned earlier that was over in the Centre Cinema area.

Luchetti: I wasn't there then, it was Pam, what Pam told me.

Myers: I want about you, did Murphy ever call Brew up in your presence and you were present when the call came in?

Luchetti: I don't think so, I think, thinking now, yeah I think Brew might have phoned Murphy once while I was there trying to speak to him.

Myers: Can you remember the conversation?

Luchetti: No, no, can't remember the conversation. I think it was general, if it was anything specific I'd remember, I think it was just a general conversation.

Myers: Do you know when that was?

Luchetti: No, I'm not even sure, I've just got a feeling at the back of my mind there might have been one phone call but at that stage, but at that stage I definitely hadn't been asked to do anything and Brew wouldn't have been doing anything. He might have wrapped up been telling Mr Murphy, or Justice Murphy was working for him but he wouldn't have done anything for him.

Myers: Was this before or after ?

Luchetti: Definitely before.

Myers: The Augustbefore?

Luchetti: Yeah before, I think would have been before and it would have been only about a week at the very most.

Myers: So you are looking at about the 13th or the 14th of August?

Luchetti: Yeah, well it may have been ten days or so but no way, no way at all.

Myers: Were you in Sydney then or in Canberra?

Luchetti: What do you mean?

Myers: When you remembered?

Luchetti: No, that was something out of the Centre Cinema office. I've got a feeling he might have made on and it may have even been after. But I have a vague recollection of being there for one phone call, when he made one phone call. And I'm not sure well, when, but at that stage, by August, with Brew, he had made so many outlandish statements, you know, like working for Murphy was just another of the outlandish statements he had made and I didn't put any precedence on it, you know, on every issue he's making statements.

Myers: Did you ever see them together?

Luchetti: No.

Myers: I gather from what you said earlier that certainly Mr Brown never gave authority for Brew to go and work for Murphy?

Luchetti: From my knowledge, no he never gave him any, you know, ok at all because I know when I checked out I was told in no uncertain terms, you know, to do nothing.

Myers: This is by Mr Kline?

Luchetti: By Mr Kline.

Howard: Would it be possible that Mr Brown may have directly?

Luchetti: Anything is possible but Mr Brown is not a fool and he wouldn't go having one of his staffing, you know on something like this, officially working on something like this, no, he'd wouldn't have given

Myers: What about artificially?

Luchetti: No, even unofficially, (mumble) with Brew had his work he was supposed to be doing, that was it.

Myers: So when Kline found out

Luchetti: I'll say, I did think Mr Brown said in Parliament when it came up, he thinks Rodney mentioned it to him once. And Brown said to him I don't care what you do in your own time. That was it, because I think the Minister was starting to find out at that stage what Brew was like and he probably just wanted to get rid of him.

Myers: Right, and you were told by Kline, not to get involved?

Luchetti: Yeah, not to get involved.

Myers: And that was on the Monday after?

Luchetti: And that was on Monday 26th or something.

Myers: Of August.

Luchetti: Yeah.

Myers: Right.

Howard: Would Rodney Groux have very much personal contact, direct contact with Mr Brown?

Luchetti: He used to say he did, you know he is a personal friend, and he used to say to me how he wouldn't eat in the staff dining room over at Parliament House. You know, the dining room was just a take-away place where you can get hot meals, you know a place to eat, so he always used to eat upstairs, he had a special place to eat upstairs in the members dining room. Which I know is rubbish. You know he used to eat up there all the time with John because they were great friends, he used to see him everyday, you know talk to him all the time on the phone and everything but from what I can gather, that was rubbish. As time went on I learnt that he wasn't any great personal friend and that was really bought home to me. I'm in the Parramatta electrol office one day and Mr Brown's wife comes into the office and says you must be Rodney, and for months before then I'd been hearing how they were great personal friends and everything else like that and Rod used to talk about Jen, what a good cook she was and everything else like that and about the kids by their christian names, how he used to be always at their place and Jen didn't even know him. You know, she thought I was Rod, you know and so she had never met him, just another figment of him imagination. You know so, another stage when, twelve months ago, when the Minister was over in Moscow, Brew said he'd phone him up, he'd spoken to him over in Moscow. He'd had a late night call, the Minister had called him up or something, you know, bloody rubbish you know. Never happened.

Myers: Now he was a consultant for Brown, so in that role he would have had some person to person dealings with Brown or?

Myers continued

Now what's your knowledge of the role of consultants?

Luchetti: They are different, I know a consultant with Kim Beasley, the Minister for Defence, and he's doing this special report, this bloke, he is a very efficient person, he would probably see the Minister about one a month, one a fortnight, just to bring him up to date on what's happening. He'd be his own boss, he wouldn't be responsible to the Department. I knew another consultant who was working for Lionel Bowen. And he used to have fairly close contacts with him. But these are consultants who are paid top money, these are consultants who are on they're fifty to sixty thousand dollars a year. Brew was on a class seven or a class, I think he was on class seven salary he would have been the lowest paid out of all the consultants. You know out of any consultant that I know and he was given a job to do out at the Institute, you know. And to the best of my knowledge, you know he wasn't (sounds like), and I don't think he did a bloody thing for them.

Howard: Have you ever seen Rodney Groux having conversations alone with Mr Brown?

Luchetti: No, never. He used to say that he used to go there and have meals with him.

Howard: But it only what he said, you never say him?

Luchetti: No, no, never saw him. The first time I went down with him to Sydney, we were having dinner at Ollums and during the first day he said we'll be seeing the Premier tomorrow.

Howard: Who's we?

Luchetti: Brew and I. I said oh yeah. Then we are having dinner and there is a call for Brew, he comes back, oh it's the Premier's office, yeah definitely right for tomorrow, I said what time, oh their going to get back to us and let know, we have to be ready to go in there at anytime. And that went on all the week, I think it was just his wife calling up to see how he was. And every night he reckoned it was Wran's office apologizing for not seeing us that day, you know, it was on. And with the work we were doing, Wran or the Premier couldn't talk to us in anyway. It was just that he was trying to impress me and the first time I think I might have believed him, you know, because I had no reason to disbelieve him but after that I just got sick of it. Every night I used to say to him, I suppose that was the Premier's office, oh yeah, you know. I never seen anyone make stories like him.

Myers: Ok, and the same go's with the phone calls with Mr Brown, I suppose, does it?

Luchetti: Yeah well that's right, no way the Ministers very busy, no way he would have phoned Brew about all these different things. He assured me that, well when he told me that he'd fix the job up for me, said he'd had a good talk with the Minister, it might have even been around the time of the so called, call he had from Russia, you know so I had a good talk with John and I've fixed up your job. Because I was in a period of uncertainty and all of a sudden the job was going ok, there was no hassle there, so I gave him the benefit of the doubt, but I feel now that he did very little. But there again he may have mentioned it to the Minister because the job has supposeing to do in Sydney he couldn't do, and I ended up doing it for him.

Howard: That was for Brown?

Luchetti: For Brown yeah.

Howard: Or for Brown's staff?

Myers: Ok, we have already covered the court case. You were only in there for about an hour.

Luchetti: How long did he say we were in there, all day?

Myers: No, he doesn't go into that much detail.

Luchetti: That job I picked up in court about (inaudible) 15 something like that, the seats in court haven't improved over the years, they are still very hard.

Myers: That was to the Premier's office, did he used the name Wran or Neville or, this is Groux of course? Or just said the Premier's office.

Luchetti: He used to either say, I think he used to use Neville, he never said it was the actual Premier himself who phoned up, you know he never tested me that far. But somebody there, the press secretary, because I know when I was down there at one stage I did had to phone up the Premier's office, a girl who I knew there, they were Premier was nameing (sounds like) out in the western suburbs and over an uncle of hers or something like that and she wanted to know if they could arrange to get their pictures taken with the Premier, you know her get her picture taken with the Premier (mumble) so I phoned up the Premier's office and arranged it. You know I didn't actually speak to the Premier, I just spoke to the press officer there and he said yeah no problems and told me what to do and everything else like that. And I

Luchetti continued

think that I mentioned it to Brew later, you know and he was surprised and impressed, you know because anyone could have done it, just phoning up and explaining what the situation was. With the politicians they love the publicity and everything else like that, so there is no big deal about it.

Myers: Did you ever see him with Wran or?

Luchetti: No.

Myers: Any of these other V.I.P.'s?

Luchetti: No.

Myers: And you feel that Groux worked for Murphy, if you could call it that for only about a couple of weeks at the most?

Luchetti: Wouldn't have been that. I'd say he was speaking to Murphy for a longer period. But pounds to peanuts on that the only work he did for Murphy was in Sydney that week that I was with him. I think he probably spoke to Murphy either on the Wednesday that I went down to Sydney, I think he probably spoke to Murphy on the Tuesday or the Wednesday.

Myers: On the phone or personally?

Luchetti: I think he might have spoken to him personally because that's the only way that I can say he ended up with the (inaudible) from their unit down there. You know I believe that, I'd say that was on yeah, after that week, when we got back to Sydney that week, I had my bit to say, that was everything about

Luchetti continues:

Brew blew up, that's when Mr Brown was given the direction from the P.M. to get rid of him.

Myers: And the daughter stayed in his hotel room for two days?

Luchetti: Yeah for two days, from the Wednesday night until the Friday night.

Myers: In August?

Luchetti: Yes, actually, I think, now I'm just trying to think, he come up to me, about two or three o'clock he said to me, that's right, I was a bit annoyed because I wanted to go home on the Friday and he said oh no we've got to stay back, we'll have to be here all day today, or something like that. This is one the Friday so I stayed on an extra night and I got the Saturday flight home I think. And then he said I'm going now, he says will you fix up me room for me I'll fix you up later. So I paid for his room, I think American Express, I think or Bankcard or something I paid with it, yeah I paid for it. And he went his own way. And he went off and I don't, and I'm sure if he even told her what he was doing.

Myers: What she just left of her own accord or did?

Luchetti: No, I saw him with her in the foyer, I think, of the hotel.

Myers: When was that?

Luchetti: On the Friday, on the Friday afternoon. But I'm not sure if I saw her later looking for him or something

Luchetti continues:

like that. I think he might have just shot through without telling her he was going. I'd bet any money that it was the last time that he saw her.

Myers: So he checked out on the Friday?

Luchetti: On the Friday, he didn't even tell the hotel he was checking out I had to check him out.

Myers: Right.

Luchetti: Because there again ,you know as far as people being followed, he had no confidence in himself to tell the people that he wouldn't, that I was going to pay the account for him. And another time we would have dinner with someone down there, you know, that means that we stayed in Canberra instead (sounds like) we didn't go to Sydney and I said to Brew make sure you phone up and let the gentleman know we won't be there, oh yeah. This is on the Friday, and I seen him on Friday afternoon, did you phone up, he said oh no. No on the Monday, I said did you phone up and apologise, he said no, would you do it for us. He had no confidence to phone up and apologise personally. So I had to phone up for a dinner that he had arranged, where he had let people down. He just couldn't handle any pressure like that, as far as following people and being an investigator, you know he is having himself on.

Myers: Do you know if he worked two men for Murphy, you know had two other men helping?

Luchetti: No, no. The only people he met down there, and this is where you would get the two men from, we had lunch

Luchetti continued:

on the Thursday, with two blokes, one bloke was from social security, he's a bloke I'd already made arrangements with to meet, he wanted to talk to me. A bloke I've know for years, a friend, that how was looking after the all states sports carnival for social security 1988 about getting money. He was there and there was also a friend of this other blokes and they would now become the two other men in his mind. You know, but I reckon they would be the two blokes he's referring to, but he is having himself on.

Myers: During that lunch was Murphy discussed at all?

Luchetti: Yeah, Murphy was discussed he said how he was doing but

Myers: What Brew brought it up?

Luchetti: Brew was raving on, the other bloke was a bloke who could get the telephone numbers for me. And I said to him when lunch was finished (sounds like), I said Brew's the biggest bull shit artist I've ever met in my life, don't believe anything he says, and I said to the other bloke as far as getting these telephone number I said, don't do anything until I let you know.

Myers: Can you give us that name of that fellow?

Luchetti: Which one?

Myers: The social security bloke that you told that to.

Luchetti: Could I check him out first?

Myers: Yeah.

Luchetti: No, I'll mention it to him first, before I let you know, if you like, oh no I'll give you his name, Sullivan, John Sullivan.

Howard: Would you like to telephone him or ..?

Luchetti: Yeah I'll give him a ring, yeah.

Myers: Where's he working now?

Luchetti: In Sydney with social security, off hand I can't remember his extension. But he was there, you know, actually Brew promised him \$10,000 for the social security all state carnival. So the Department then wrote in, and they got a knock back and they got nothing. You know, this is where Brew was great, you know, he promised \$10,000 no problem, I'm a personal friend of the Ministers. I know he discussed Murphy, you know how important he was and everything else like that and I just said you know (mumble) you know. Be careful of him, he is the greatest bullshit artist I've ever known, you can't believe a word he says. You know I warned them so those people were well aware, they listened to him they didn't argue, contradict him or anything else like that.

Myers: Did they assist him at all?

Luchetti: No, no. In no way whatsoever.

Myers: Did they have any further contact with him after the lunch?

Luchetti: No, I made sure

Myers: Apart from this grant side of it that you mentioned?

Luchetti: No, I made sure, I warned them before and he hadn't been in contact with them. He may remember John Sullivan's name but he wouldn't have the confidence to go to him, Brew. And if he did Sullivan would just tell him where to go.

Myers: Did you see him with two men in a Falcon or a Holden around about this time?

Luchetti: No never.

Myers: So most of the time you were with him?

Luchetti: Yes as I said, I wasn't with him, I think he went down on the Tuesday, one of us and I can't remember the details now, I think one of us went down to Sydney on the Monday and the other the Tuesday and I forget which way it was. And then from the Wednesday night onwards we weren't out of each others sight the whole time, except for the time when I went to get the dough, we were together almost a hundred percent of the time and I remember I was buggered because I only got, I think in two nights I got about four hours sleep. And I was bloody wrecked, you know. And I just wanted to get to sleep, that's right I tried to have a bit of a sleep in the day time, I think and I couldn't. But he was never with any two men. And our trips before that when we went down there together he was never with anyone. And after that he didn't make any trips after that, as far as John Brown's office was concerned. Because after that they were trying to contact him and he just wouldn't return calls but he was in Canberra because he used to give me a ring every so often.

Myers: From Canberra?

Luchetti: Yeah. At one stage his wife phoned my up and said that he'd had a heart attack. He's in Calgary Hospital, I said that's no good, she said but the thing is that he's been taken out in the ambulance, you know he'd been taken off to hospital, he said make sure, tell Tony to make sure that John Brown's office knows. This is when the pressure was on him to resign or they might have just got, no they hadn't got it out of him at that stage, his resignation. But I think he went into hospital on the Wednesday, this is for a heart attack mind you, and he was out on either Friday afternoon or Saturday morning.

Myers: When was this?

Luchetti: This would have been September or October it would have been, but there was no heart attack to over, he just wanted to pressure off him. That's right the pressure was on him and he wanted the sympathy.

Myers: Does the name Hallis mean anything to you?

Luchetti: Hallis.

Myers: H a l l i s?

Luchetti: Hallis, Hallis, no never heard of it.

Myers: Mutual Pools?

Luchetti: Where in Canberra?

Myers: No in Sydney. And Briese of course the diaries.

Luchetti: Yeah.

Myers: And the photocopies.

Luchetti: Yeah with Briese's.

Myers: You don't know whether he made any enquiries of Mutual Pools or Hallis?

Luchetti: He could have but I don't

Myers: Hallis is a, or new Hallis actually it is, it's a lodging house by the looks of it. Ever mention it to you?

Luchetti: No.

Myers: He never went there?

Luchetti: Where is it?

Myers: It's in Sydney. I think it's a hotel or something in Sydney.

Luchetti: The new Hallis?

Myers: The new Hallis, yeah.

Luchetti: Well what part of Sydney?

Myers: I'm not sure, I've just got the name here.

Luchetti: I tell you what if Rodney got take out, you turn him around once in Sydney and he'd be lost.

Howard: I wouldn't be the new Hallis?

Myers: New Hallis yes, H a l l i s.

Luchetti: No never heard of it.

Myers: Ok. You say he had a diary.

Luchetti: Yeah, he had a diary.

Myers: You saw that and you picked it up for him once?

Luchetti: Yeah he had his phone numbers in it and he had is loan code and hire number in that too.

Myers: He had his what in it?

Luchetti: Hire code and line number in it too.

Myers: Did he keep all the notes in it as well of what he was doing?

Luchetti: I never really looked at it. He used to always have it with him. But he used to have it more for phoning up people. You know.

Myers: He didn't keep details of what he was doing in it?

Luchetti: No, as I said with these phone calls, there was one phone call he used to get from someone on the Blue Mountains and he reckoned he arranged finance for this bloke, it was going to be worth a million bucks to him for his commission, you know. It was twenty million bucks for some project and his commission was going to be about half a million or a million, you know, always talked in these great big figures. Which turned out to be rubbish. He wanted to invest all the time, when we first went to Sydney he used to insist on buying my dinner for me. For about the first week, probably the first two weeks, then you know I said what's this, you know, first I assumed you know butcher shop expense account or something

Luchetti continued:

like this. But then when I noticed he was paying cash for it and not getting a receipt, well there is obviously no business account that was going on. But the type of thing he used to do to impress.

Myers: You were both getting T.A. then.

Luchetti: Yeah we were both getting T.A., I didn't pick him up for him and you know say if we went down there for four days I think we'd pick up about three hundred bucks each. I know I gave him his once and he said oh yeah a bit of beer money. And he must have had another six or seven hundred bucks on him. You know, he would have had that at least on him, he was down there with at least a thousand dollars. And another time he went to an Irish shop out at Parramatta he wanted a sports coat, no he wanted a jumper that's right, it was one of our first trips down there, he wanted a sports coat, no, no, he wanted a jumper, so he goes into this Irish shop and someone from the electoral office (sounds like) is in there, and he says good, he picked up jumper for a hundred twenty, a hundred and thirty dollars, he picked up a sports coat and a hat. Anyhow he spent just on five hundred dollars, which was bloody ridiculous, you know, he had enough cash just to pay for them mind, but he was a bit worried he might be a bit short so I put it on my American Express card for him, which some time later he fixed me up for. But another time he needed some shirts, one of the girls from the office would have to go with him, he didn't have confidence to buy shirts by himself. Then when he got something he would want you to say how good it was, otherwise he would be hurt.

Myers: Alright. When, after I contacted you, you spoke to Mr Kline about this?

Luchetti: Yeah I spoke to him on the Tuesday.

Myers: Did he give you any advice as to how you should talk to us?

Luchetti: No, actually he asked me if it was a formal inquiry, he said is it on the record, off the record, I said I know, I haven't asked too many questions. But I think I might said well, you know, that's right and he sent to us, right, a letter requesting you and that was it, you know. He wasn't overly concerned about it, I don't think. But I mean he was one of these people who likes every eye dotted and every tea crossed. You know, everythings got to be just right.

Myers: Have you discussed this matter with anybody else?

Luchetti: I think I just mentioned to my wife, you know when you phoned up the other night, you know, I haven't gone into any details with it and I haven't mentioned it. I don't think I've actually mentioned it to anyone because it's last weeks news now gert. I was just popular with everyone for about a fortnight, three weeks, everyone wanting to know everything about him, but you mention Brew now and people can't remember who he was, is.

Myers: You haven't had any contacts with him recently?

Luchetti: No. The only thing is I'm still running into people who used to be employed by him, or people phoning up do I know where he is because he owes them money. Or people phoning up if you want anything one Brew let

Luchetti continued:

me know, we've got plenty, we are only too willing to come forward. One bloke when he had his butcher shop out a Fyshwick, this poor young bloke said he's owed eight hundred dollars by him, he's tried to get, his parents must have a few quid, and he tried to get his parents to loan Rodney fifty thousand. And he realises now that Rodney was just having him on. This bloke, I think he works out of this building, he's an insurance agent, this is the only contact he's had with Rodney, this is what Rodney's like, when the butcher shop closed down Rodney phoned him up one day and said what you doing, he said I'm selling insurance, Rodney said I want a policy. And this bloke said he broke a couple of appointments went around and saw him, signed him up but the money never turned up.

Myers: Just about finished here, have you got any questions Mark?

Howard: No.

Myers: Do you want anything else to add?

Luchetti: Let me think, no, as I've intermated the whole way through, as far as doing anything for Murphy, as far as helping Murphy is concerned, as far as I'm concerned it's a joke and I would have spent as much time as anyone with him during June, July, August and he did no work for him whatsoever. He did next to no work for him, you know, he didn't help his case on iota, as far as I am concerned.

Myers: Ok, thanks Tony. Alright.

Luchetti: Good thank you.

0182M

RECORD OF INTERVIEW BETWEEN PETER MYERS AND MARK HOWARD
OF THE COMMISSION AND ANTHONY WILLIAM LUCHETTI

1.8.86

M: Right Tony - do you like to be called Tony?

L: Yes for sure.

M: Just for the record, can you give us your full name and address and other particulars.

L: Anthony William Luchetti of [REDACTED]
I'm a Private Secretary of John Brown, the Minister for Sport, and Recreation.

M: As in that position what are your duties?

L: My duties are doing normal private secretarial duties and other duties especially assigned to me by the Minister.

M: What's that.

L: *concerning his*
(.....) (.....)'s portfolio, yes.

M: Right. We have information that sometime in June last year that's 1985 you were in Sydney and you assisted Mr Rodney Groux in certain work on behalf of Mr Justice Murphy, is that correct?

L: No. The only time Mr Groux mentioned - no, the only time Mr Groux asked me to help with anything with Mr Murphy was in August. I made my first trip to Sydney with Mr Groux. I think it was about the 28th June and it was in the later half of August when Groux told me that we had been directed by the Prime Minister and Hawke to help Mr Murphy.

M: In August?

L: In August - it was definately not June.

M: What sort of assistance did you provide?

L: None really - I saw Groux at our hotel on a Wednesday night that's when he told me we'd been directed to help Murphy - prior to that, I think he may have said that we're going to get involved - that we have to help Murphy. But with Mr Groux, ^{had} what was always saying different things like at one stage he said, we'd better go overseas to help with the, to help fix up ANZUS. I was to go to New Zealand, he was to go to America. I didn't take much notice of that so earlier, I think he mentioned once or twice when he said we were to help Murphy I didn't just take any notice of that - it just went in one ear and out the other. But at that particular stage he said to me that we'd been directed to help Murphy - this was a Wednesday night when I arrived back in Sydney ah, that's right .. the work he wanted me to help him do, to find out who some phone numbers belonged to but nothing concrete was done on that because I wanted to check with the office first and on returning to Sydney, I returned from Sydney to Canberra either on the Friday night or the Saturday morning I think I came back on the Saturday morning. On the Monday I checked with the office to see if we had the OK to help Mr Murphy and I got a very definite no so that was it - we didn't do any other work on Murphy.

M: Who in the office did you talk to about it?

L: Emmanuel Klein.

M: And he said no.

L: No. He said I think his words were definately not or words to that effect.

H: What position did Mr Klein have?

L: He's the Principal Private Secretary. He runs the office and if anyone was supposedly helping Mr Murphy he would've known about it.

M: Where's he normally stationed?

L: Here in Canberra.

M: Right. He's in Sydney at the moment though?

L: Yes. That's right I understand.

M: When's he due back?

L: Today I think. The Minister also has an office in Sydney you know and so he has to spend his time between both but his home is here in Canberra - but he could even be down there again next week because the Minister will be back next week and he may have to see the Minister down there.

M: OK. I've got here a Statutory Declaration which ^{is purportedly} ~~would have~~ ~~been~~ prepared and signed by you - I'll show you that - would you like to have a look at it and identify it for us. Well it's a copy of the Statutory Declaration.
(shown to Mr Lechitt He appears to examine)

L: That's mine yes.

M: Would you like to just initial the bottom of it - so you've seen it.

L: No problem.

M: Date on it the 8th of the 1st.

L: 1st of the 8th.

M: '86.

L: Yes - no problem.

M: It helps us identify it. Right. Now when you went to Sydney you said you stayed at which hotel?

L: Olams Hotel.

M: Olams - it's at Potts Point?

L: That's right in Macleay Street.

M: Right. I have here copies ^{of} and documents that have been obtained from Olams Hotel. One of them bears your name, would you like to have a look at that?

L: Yeah that's mine, yeah.

M: What's that relate to?

L: That be a trip to Sydney on travelling allowance. That shows there I was down on the 20th June - that's sort of would have been my first trip down there. I thought it was the 28th June - I would've been out a week I'd say.

M: And is that the trip that you're talking about earlier?

L: Ah, that's not the trip I was talking about with Mr Groux. When I was down on that trip I was down doing work for the Minister. I was doing some special work for him on this trip. I was not doing anything regarding Mr Brown on this trip, I mean, regarding Mr Murphy on this trip.

M: And Mr Groux was ^{there} at the same hotel?

L: That's right, yes.

M: At the same time?

L: At the same time.

H: Did Mr Groux ask you to do certain things while you were there - that....

L: ..On this one..

M: On that trip...

H: ..that you perhaps done...

L: No, no. The first time we did anything with for Mr Murphy was in August -

M: '85?

L: In August '85 not '84.

H: Would there be a time perhaps that you might have done something and not known that it was for the purpose of Mr Murphy?

L: No. I would've known. Because I think Mr [REDACTED] was working for Mr Brown in about the May, ...

M: of '85?

L: Of '85 and I went down on that trip to with - Mr Groux was given a job to do by the Minister down there which he was having trouble with a confidential job we were doing. And it had nothing to do with Mr Murphy. Mr Groux was having problems and I went down there to help him on it.

M: Right.

L: And it had nothing to do with Murphy whatsoever.

M: That's a Guest Registration Certificate also...
(showing an Olsons Hotel document)

L: ...that's mine - that's my signature.

M: Sign that - I think it's for the same period the 20th...

L: ..well what happened I think I signed about 2 or 3 of them. Or I probably stayed at that hotel from say June up until the end of last year, I probably stayed there about 20 or 30 times.

M: Right.

L: And I was actually... I was staying there virtually every second week at least up until the end of September/October.

M: Right and you said earlier that it was in August ...

L: ...definitely in August..

M: *when* Groux approached you to assist him *on the Murphy matter*

L: That's right because earlier in the piece when I used to go down Mr ^{*Groux*} ~~Murray~~ used to go down, when we used to travel together, then I think with this trip until August I was hoping it was the ah, Mr Groux - I've, I think I've been down on about the Tuesday - maybe I'd gone down on the Monday - I went down I think it was the Tuesday - he went down, I think he turned up, then he might've gone down on the Monday, and I know that this is one trip that we didn't go down together and this was the last time that we went to Sydney together - this trip in August because I was concerned about it.

M: Could you have a look at that diary *for* 1985 to see when you, if you could work out *when* . . .

L: ..it would've been ah - when he mentioned it to me it would've been Wednesday the 21st.

M: 21st of August?

L: Yes.

M: And then you provided assistance to him in regards to phone numbers and that.

L: On the Wednesday night he mentioned it to me about doing anything but I did nothing on the Wednesday night. On the Thursday we did..

M: that's the 22nd August?

L: Yeah. On the Thursday - a list was made of the numbers and I have people who I know who could find out who the phone numbers belong to. I don't know the people myself but I know people who know people who could get them for me and but I didn't have any action taken until I had the OK because I was concerned about the whole thing. So then when I came back to Canberra I checked and so we didn't take any action. On the Friday the 22nd,

M: It would've been Thursday the 22nd..

L: Yes. Sorry that's right. On Friday the 23rd it was the day the sentences were ^{to be} ~~being~~ brought down on Mr Murphy - there was the old ^{Court} ~~port~~ there with - Groux said to me he said oh you know Mr Murphy wants us to go down to court today and we went down to the courts for a while and with Groux had lost his diary and I went looking for that. I took it back to Olams Hotel and I get back there and Groux's back there himself, he didn't even hang around the court to find out what happened to Murphy.

M: Did you go into the Court?

L: Yeah, we went into the court and we heard the - I think it was the Barrister that might've been giving the final address or something but it was one of the big days - that's right, it was the day of ^{Sentence} (.....) that's right, the guilty verdict on one of them had already come in I think. I might be out in this - this is just sort of thing - and it's before sentence the Barristers were giving part of - their I guess before the sentence was to be passed and the points ^{of law} were being argued etc. and it was quite boring and I went to get his diary for him to try and find his diary for him and I'd say about half an hour an hour later I'd go back to the hotel to drop it back there, he's back there Groux already.

M: How long were you in the court for?

L: Probably about an hour.

M: While you were there, did Groux have a tape recorder with him?

L: No.

M: Was it obvious or could he have had one and you didn't know about it?

L: See it was August - I am just trying to think what he had on - I think he had on a - I think he had on a sports coat. No, no I'm not sure of it - I'm just trying to picture what he had on - yeah he might of had on his suit. If he had on a suit - if he did have a tape recorder, I know you can get them in all shapes and sizes now with the minis and everything else like that, he would've had to have had a very minor one and he's the type of person, who when he was doing something you know he would have to tell you and he definately would've told me if he you know - he

would've told me to try and get some evidence to that we were suppose to be helping Murphy. I found the whole thing a bit of a yawn really, being in the court.

M: Did he take any notes while you were there?

L: No.

M: He just sat and listened?

L: He just sat and listened and one thing that surprised me was someone who is supposed to know Murphy as well - when Murphy come into the court I noticed that's right - we were one of the first into the court, into the gallery upstairs and we were at the bottom row sitting together and what I did, after being there 10 minutes and with everyone coming in - people talking, I moved back around to the side - I moved away from him. One thing I did notice and even when Mr Murphy did come in and looked around he didn't give Groux away or acknowledge him or anything. I don't know if that was deliberate or what but there was no sign of recognition between any of them.

~~H.M.~~ Did Groux communicate with anybody else that you...

L: ..no he didn't talk to anyone there. He never - with my own feeling on it how he, I think he offered his services to Murphy that there was no doubt that he had spoken to Murphy at some stage and in my own opinion, and my own feeling is that Justice Murphy used to shop at the butcher shop he was managing out at Woden and know^{ing} Mr Groux as I do, I would say that he volunteered his services and my services to help him.

M: When Murphy came into the court, you said that there was no recognition - did they pass fairly close together?

L: He was downstairs Murphy and Groux was upstairs. But he

looked around the gallery you know and he didn't acknowledge Groux at all.

M: And you left before the hearing finished?

L: Yeah, but Groux also left before the hearing was finished.

M: Did ^{he} you leave the court area completely or?

L: Well, I left as I said and I went to get his diary for him - and I'd say, by the time I'd got back to the motel it would've been - it wouldn't've been any more than an hour at the most. He was back at his hotel having a sleep.

H: Does it strike you as unusual that he'd asked you for his diary and yet he was back there before you got there?

L: Yeah well - with anything he did didn't strike me unusual. If he did the normal instructions... *it would strike me as unusual*

H: Did you comment to him at the time you know why did you ask to get the diaries...

L: It was his own personal diaries he wanted. It was his own personal one and it was a - I had a feeling where it might have been - it was with a bloke at Social Security and a bloke who he had lunch with the day before who was one of the main organisers of their All States Sports Carnival who wanted money from us and it had been left there and I went around and picked it up so I knew where to go and I knew I could get in so that's why I went and got it but he's in a bit of a panic about losing it. He's a bit worried about it but well he used to act like that anyway. But then I'd say as soon as I left, he left straight about 5 minutes after.

M: Did you see him leave the court?

L: No I didn't see him but my own guess was he was back in his room having a sleep by the time I got there and I went by taxi and he probably went by taxi too but he didn't wait an hour or half an hour after I left because he wouldn't have time - I'd say at the very most, he would have spent, probably another 10 or 15 minutes.

H: Did you go straight back to the hotel?

L: Yeah I picked up the gear and went back to the hotel.

H: What space of time between leaving the court and going back?

L: I'd say an hour at the most.

H:
M: Groux was asleep when you got there?

L: Yeah he was back in his room, yeah.

H:
M: And asleep?

L: Yeah and asleep.

M: Right. Just to sum this up, at no time did he or Murphy indicate that they knew each other.

L: No.

M: ..in the court.

L: ..in the court.

M: ..at no time did they come close to one another so that they could pass something between them...

L: No they were on different levels..

M: ..that you saw.

L: Yes.

M: At no time did you see him have a tape recorder?

L: No.

M: Do you know if he has got a tape recorder at all? Or did he have one then?

L: I'm just trying to think - no I can't recall if he had one or not.

M: You don't remember seeing one?

L: No no. It's possible he may have one but you know I wouldn't be sure if either way.

M: Did he ever talk about a tape recorder?

L: No.

M: Did he use one - did you see him use one?

L: Well...no..I never saw him use - no I don't think I ever saw him use one - what he backed up - he showed me a statement that he made I think against the Detective Lucas who was had something to do with the very first Murphy Inquiry or something like that - that he had made I think *Lucas* ~~it~~ was tied up some way with the ^{meat inquiry} ~~meeting by him~~ or something like this and he made a statement then saying that Lucas shouldn't have anything to do with Murphy Inquiry - saying he was unfit, unsuitable, that he tried to tie that in you know, saying that we're involved with it you know, how we had been involved with the Murphy business for ages but from reading the statement it was just an unsolicited statement that he made that which he made in

about '81 '82 or something like that which he had made years ago and it didn't have anything to do with ~~the fail~~ ~~of~~ last year's court case. I know he convinced alot of people ^{including the press} (.....) that you know he was doing what he was told to do and nothing and no way you know, just you know if anyone who knows Groux you know they wouldn't accept it.

H: Did you comment to Mr Klein that Groux had mentioned this to you that you had to do. What ...

L: ...I went back on the Monday and I said to Emmanuel I said are we supposed to be helping Justice Murphy and he, I forget he, I think he looked at me or something like that, I said because I've been told by Rodney, he said he wants us to, he's told me that both Mr Brown and Mr Hawke have advised him to go and give ^{Murphy all the} ~~me a few of~~ assistance ~~if~~ we can to help him.

H: Was Groux answerable to Mr Klein?

L: Yes - yes he's been answerable as a Consultant. He still would have been answerable to him and especially to the Minister.

H: Are you aware whether Mr Klein took any action to...

L: That - around that time just following that I know Mr Klein tried to speak to ^{Rodney} ~~only~~ a few times but I think Rodney made himself very hard to find. He was in town but he just wouldn't answer his phone ...

H: So really the situations occurred quite often that you were free agents...

L: No, no.

H: ..not free agents but free in time to do what you had to do.

L: Well our work you know sometimes I have to work until 10 or 11 o'clock of a night and there may be an hour or so that I might not have anything. It's different from the ordinary Public Service where there's the ^{Flexi} (.....) sheets to fill in and if we aren't at our desks, the Supervisor comes looking for us and stuff like this. ^{Our} ~~the~~ that works different to that. But if our work's not done we're answerable if we're, if we're bludging you know ah there's always work to be done.

H: But if you had a big matter, you might not necessarily speak to say Mr Klein for a while or ...

L: Oh that's right - people necessarily wouldn't be in daily contact with him because I spoke to him on the Monday when I got back because I was concerned there was that and there was a some other things that had been happening with regard to Groux that had me worried and it just topped them all off and that's why I made sure that I mentioned it to him.

M: Did they relate to Murphy?

L: No no. It had nothing to do with Murphy. Ever since he'd been working for him I'd been very concerned about the type of character he was.

M: You said earlier you checked out some phone numbers and there was a list made up. Do you know where that list might be now?

L: It's been destroyed.

M: Who destroyed it?

L: I ~~don't know.~~ *did.*

M: Right. How many phone numbers did you check out?

L: There weren't any checked out.

M: How many numbers were on the list?

L: On the list? Probably about 20 to 30.

M: How was the list compiled?

L: I just wrote down the different phone numbers..

M: What's your source of material?

L: .. of ^{the photocopy} ~~that had a~~ copy of each diary - I think that's it there, yeah.

M: You we'll show you this ^{folder} ~~vault~~ and copies of diaries of Mr Briese.

L: Yes. Yeah that's them.

M: Do they look familiar to you.

L: Yeah. That's them.

M: So you used those to make up the list?

L: Yeah.

M: Did you do that personally or did somebody else?

L: No I did that.

M: How did you know which numbers to pick?

L: I didn't. Just more guess work on that.

H: What was the basis - that you had to pick out..?

L: No, with I was just going by Rodney. He says there's phone numbers there - there's evidence there that of what Briese had been speaking to different people you know Groux was mentioning the conspiracy angle you know and there's phone numbers there without names and the idea was to find out who's numbers these are.

M: And you just made up a list of them and that was all?

L: That was all.

M: You didn't try and find out who they belonged...

L: No, no - if we had got the OK I would've but we didn't get the OK so ~~we~~ didn't.

M: Right. Bear with me again. Do you know a Pamela Whittey?

L: Yes.

M: In what capacity do you know her?

L: Pam, I first knew her when she was working for Rodney - Pam used to work for the Special Minister of State her husband was a butcher working out in Meat City that Rodney managed or he was tied up in. Rodney talked her into resigning from Public Service you know from the SMOS and coming to work for him. He told her that after a while, this is what I understand, he told her that he would be able to get her, that she would be able to get back into the Public Service as a Private Secretary or him on more money and everything else like that but from what I know or from what I have since found out, I think Pam was being paid a bit out of Rodney's pocket and a bit out of ^{Cinema Centre} ~~Sento~~ the people ^{were} ~~were~~ in the building ^{she} ~~industry~~ was working. As far as I am aware she's not getting paid by the Government to work for ^{him} ~~her~~.

M: Did you have any conversations with her about Murphy and Rodney's involvement with Murphy.

L: On the overall business with Rodney I did and the Murphy business was mentioned.

M: Can you recall details?

L: ..I'm just trying to think as far as Murphy was concerned. Yeah, at one stage, this is just bits and pieces that just comes to me, she mentioned - this is after it all blew up - she said to me, I know, she says, I know Rodney didn't do too much for Murphy I know he wasn't working for him too long because at one stage Murphy phoned up for him and you know he was phoning up trying to speak to Rodney and he said to her, Oh forget him I don't want to speak to that old bum or something like that or words to that effect that Rodney said to Pam. She said she also told me that he never did too much for her because he was, all he was, they both worked out of the one office, and she knew what he was doing all the time, where he was all the time and he was just on the phone talking to people all the time bignoting himself - this is what Groux was doing and he used to speak to Murphy but he never did anything for him.

M: He didn't go wandering around the city doing this and that and following people like and questioning people about....

L: No, I think he may of even mentioned them you know only after it or something. What was this around Canberra City or...?

M: No in Sydney.

L: In Sydney, no, look, the only, we used to go to Sydney together...

M: ..that's you and Rodney?

L: Yeah, me and Rodney and this trip in August was I think that's the only time he went down in from June onwards, when we weren't together. I think he might've gone down - I went down by myself and I didn't see him until the Wednesday - now on Monday or Tuesday he may of been doing stuff but every other trip we had made to Sydney, I think we were nearly together 100 per cent of the time you know.?

M: And you were working on Minister of Sport's matters?

L: Yeah - we were on normal work for the Minister. Now the type of person Mr Groux is as far as following people around, doing investigative work. ^{Olamis} Ormis Hotel in Sydney, I don't know if you know where it is, it's just down opposite from the old Chevron Hilton. It's just down out the Cross ^{area} here. When we were there we would only, we'd always eat at ^{Olamis} Ormis Restaurant. Myself, the young people I know, they like to go for a bit of a wander you know in the Cross, you know in the general area - just for a bit of a walk. He did that once with me - we walked from ^{Olamis} Ormis Hotel up Macleay Street down Darlinghurst Road, down to Bayswater Road, you know that's about a 5 minute walk and he was saying to me, oh he said, oh we're right we haven't been picked on by anyone. But both had on our suits he says, I think everyone thinks we're cops, he says, you know we're cops and he was quite relieved that people weren't picking on us and noticed even the strippers outside the strip joints oh, you know, they only just tried half heartedly to get us in - they didn't stand in front of us and virtually drag us in as they normally do, but when we got around there, Groux wanted to take a cab back to the hotel. He didn't have the confidence to go back. And I think we might've gone up - and that would've been late July early August - we'd been doing down for ages because I thought it was very strange - and I think he might've come up - and I'm not even sure he might of come up once other - but the

furthest you ever went from there apart from that, was up to the Texas Tavern which is about 50 yards up the road from ^{Olims} ~~Olims~~. He wasn't confident to go eating in other places, he wasn't happy or confident to go walking around the Cross. He had no confidence in him - so as far as following people around and stuff like that I just couldn't believe it.

M: Okay. Do you know how the copies of the diaries were handed to you - would ~~there have been a~~ ^{that have been Pamela Whitley.} (.....)?

L: Ah no no first time I saw them they were with Rodney - he showed them to me on the Wednesday night.

M: That was on the 22nd August?

L: Yeah we worked out yeah. Oh 21st August - the Wednesday anyway yeah. That was the first I saw of them.

H: Any questions asked about where they came from?

L: (mumble) ^{He inferred he had} had₁ got them from Murphy. I used to work in the courts in my younger days, in Petty Sessions and I assumed that they had been tended in evidence along the way somewhere. You know this is before I saw them and that they had been acquired that way.

M: He didn't tell you how they were acquired.

L: No I assumed he did he'd gone through Mr Murphy's legal people or that well that's what I assumed, they'd gone through Mr Murphy's legal people and Mr Murphy given them to him.

M: So you've spent alot of time with Rodney in Sydney working on Government business. Do you know how long he worked for Murphy? Or supposedly worked for Murphy?

L: My idea would be about 1. No, I think about say that week commencing about the 19th up until about the end of that week.

M: .. Since the 19th of August...

L: ..to about the 23rd of August or something like that and all the time he wasn't working for Murphy in that week. I think he had spoken to Murphy (this is just my own guess work) I'd say he had spoken to Murphy beforehand, yes, we will help you we've got the OK but I'm sure he hadn't done anything beforehand. I think he probably hounded Murphy that he could be of assistance to him and I'd say after that week, I'd say he did nothing, well yeah, I was still speaking to him after that week, I still used to run into him because I think I was about the only person from the office ^{he} you'd speak to and he never mentioned still working on Murphy and he never mentioned the Murphy case again to me. You know, if you're still working on it, he would've said said to me, you know, I wouldn't've been - well I was told we weren't on it and he wouldn't've kept on it. He would not have the ability to know where to go or what to do because I ^{could even} ~~can let him~~ see what these phone numbers were leading to.

M: Did Pam Whittey ever work down in Sydney with him?

L: Oh she went down on once maybe twice.

M: When was that do you recall?

L: She definately wasn't down on that. This is my own guess, she would've been down there late July maybe early August. That's the only time she was down there with both of us.

M: Was Murphy's - the scene with Murphy on then?

L: No it wasn't even on then. We spent our time out at, there

was stuff happening at Parramatta and I think it might've been tied up with the new other Parramatta Stadium or something like that. I think he bought her down there for the, for a trip, there was no real need for her to come down.

M: Was she working for him or for the Government then?

L: She was working for him but I think he might've obtained for himself at that stage a (sounds like warrant) book and I think he might've taken out ^{couple of} ~~a~~ warrants for her.

M: A warrant book?

L: Umm.

M: OK

L: Because as I understand it, I am, with the Consultants, they're entitled to their own warrant books and (....) the Private Secretary's ^{aren't} ~~own~~ - so you know why he's given himself a book from SMOS.

M: So what so he can order Commonwealth cars and that whenever he wanted that?

L: Ah yeah. No, no, no, that - that's right he had a different hire ^{code} ~~car~~ to the rest of us and he also had his own warrant book and I think I might've seen it, but I never looked inside it - and I don't know who signed the warrants. I've got a feeling he probably did - I've got no evidence of that.

H: Who would've issued the books - SMOS?

L: SMOS. Because he told me it had been arranged through John and via the office but from what I understand (^{he}....) didn't have any ^{clue} ~~pool~~ of it.

M: So those books - that would be a record of all the Commonwealth cars that he hires?

L: No, no, no, no. This is just for travel warrants right - this is to get his airfares.

M: Oh alright.

L: That's the one book for airfares and as you probably know to get cars - just - he had a different hire code number to me.

M: Do you know what it was?

L: No. I didn't know what it was. I've been asked that before because SMOS can't find it. I think they have bad records.

M: It's been suggested that John Brown was thinking about terminating your services, do you know anything about that?

L: When?

H: Oh early last year around about this time, July/August '85.

L: Ah, when I first started working for him in September.

H: ..that's '84.

L: '84 there's no time from when for how long I'd be over. I heard in about March or April last year, no, no I was concerned that there may of been something on and ah a person I know in the Prime Minister's office said to me, congratulations, ah, your jobs all OK. Another member of Parliament had been in the PM's office and had phoned up Mr Brown and discussed my matter with him and everything that had been fixed up then. I don't know how long that was for but then Mr Groux said to me or after he had started in May

or June, oh don't worry about your job, I've fixed it all up for you (.....) had fixed it up for me. At that time I believe him I think he helped me because I was worried about it - this other business had helped too because this other person had done the right thing by me and helped me but with Groux, he'd taken the credit for me - he used to make alot of statements but this was very early in the piece and I didn't have any reason to doubt him. Well I wasn't a 100% convinced it was him, but I didn't have any reason to disbelieve him and I - he led me to believe he was a personal friend of the Minister, that they were in business together, that Meat City the butcher shop out there was half owned by him, was half owned by the Minister which isn't - it's owned by Killen who owns cinemas. He also says they were halves in a butcher shop at Belconnen - he used to go to - he knew the family well and everything else like that. I think at that stage really I had known him then for about 2 or 3 weeks when he told me maybe a month or so, then he told me he would fix up my job with his mate - you know I accepted that - I didn't have any reason to doubt it but what I accept now is that he didn't know the Minister as well as he had did and I would say this other person who'd phoned up Mr Brown was the main one for fixing up everything for me.

M: OK thanks. I didn't....

L: Oh, no no no no no -

M: I'm just covering up all angles...

L: ..yeah yeah for sure. Actually no, in the ^{end of August early} (.....) September the Minister said to me I've got a job with him for as long as I want to work with him.

M: It has also been suggested that you were prepared to assist Mr Groux in helping Murphy because you had a belief like him that Murphy - that's like Groux - that Murphy was

innocent -

L: Yeah. I was...Yeah...I'm a Public Servant first yeah, I believed him and I never did hide it that I thought for any normal person ^{Judgements} ~~Judges~~ would've never been laid and no one would've ever been convicted on evidence that was against him in those trials, you know, and I still feel that way, yeah.

M: Did you express that belief to Groux?

L: Yeah, I would've expressed that...

M: ..do you know when you did that?

L: I wouldn't have a clue. Actually, we spent so much time together I could've expressed that in June, July or August or I may have expressed it 2 or 3 times in two a few times because I didn't try and hide you know, but people have intimated because he was an ex-Senator - he was in Parliament at the same time as dad you know, that's why I was trying to help him.

M: Your father you mean?

L: Yeah. Dad and him were both in Parliament at the same time. They were both in the Labor Party but they were on opposite sides of the fence you know ...

M: ...within the Labor Party.

L: ..within the Labor Party and Dad, as a Politician, had no time for Murphy at all. So as far as that's concerned, you know there wasn't any old loyalties there or anything.

M: I think we've covered telephone numbers - you never made any attempt to find out who were the subscribers to...

L: no, no, look the person you know when a job I just said I got in touch with a person, I said the other business, we won't be taking it any further.

M: So you never even got to the stage of finding out who the subscribers were..

L: No.

M: ..you never - or follows then that you never undertook or carried out any Social Security checks on those people?

L: No, no. That was one thing that was centred at by Jack Waterford in his articles in The Times - are right I wasn't associated to anything before I started working for John Brown um, as far as Murphy's business was concerned, at no stage was I asked by (^{Brown}.....) or did I agree to get any telephone - ah any addresses for him. I never saw a name of anyone who Murphy was supposed to be investigating or helping - I never saw a name or anything - so in a conspiracy like you know like this that Rodney's talking about you know the way he's carrying on, I was just laughing because say anyone with, who was on Social Security - and they'd be on Unemployment Benefit or Pensions, they wouldn't be tied up with any conspiracies you know.

TAPE ENDS

RECORD OF CONVERSATION BETWEEN PETER MYERS AND MARK HOWARD OF
THE COMMISSION

At 3.00PM on Friday the 1st of August 1986 with Pamela Margaret
^{at} in A.C.T.

Myers: I understand you work for or with Mr. Rodney Groux?

Whitney: ~~She said yes~~ ^{I did} ~~that's correct.~~

Myers: ~~I said~~ What were your duties in that position?

Whitney: I was a secretary, did all secretarial work.

Myers: Did part of your duties include working for the
Minister Mr. Brown, of the Department of Sport and
Recreation?

Whitney: No, I only worked for Rodney, I was not part of the
ministerial staff. I was in the Public Service but I
resigned to work for Rodney Groux.

Myers: How long did you work for Mr. Groux?

Whitney: From June to September last year.

Myers: That's 1985?

Whitney: Yes.

Myers: Sometime in August last year, that's 1985, did you
photocopy some documents for Mr. Groux?

Whitney: Yes, I photocopied some diaries or copies of diaries
that were supposed to belong to Mr. Briese.

Myers: Can you describe how they ~~became~~ came to be in your possession?

Whitney: Yes, Rodney asked me to go ^{to} Mr Justice Murphy's house in Redhill ~~and~~ to collect them. I went there and was shown into the reception area of the house and whilst I was talking to his secretary, Peter someone or other, Mr Murphy came in and said, ^{ask} ~~Oh~~ you're Pam, do you understand what you're here for. I told him yes, I'm here to collect some papers to be photocopied for Mr. Rodney Groux. He said that's correct. He then handed me a folder of documents and I then left and took them back to an office which is part of an office in the Department of Sport and Recreation. Rodney told me to ^{go} there because it would be ^{quiet} ~~quite~~ and no one would disturb me. And there wouldn't be many people around. I photocopied the documents there and took the original copies back to Mr Murphy's house. *I said yes. He said:*

Myers: Was there any conversation then with Mr Justice Murphy?

Whitney: Not much I just handed them back to him and he said thank you. That was it.

Myers: I show you a spring clip folder of documents, do you recognise these?

Whitney: (She appeared to examine and then said:) Yes, those were the diaries that I photocopied for Mr. Groux.

Myers: Did you ever see Rodney Groux and Mr Justice Murphy together?

Whitney: No.

Myers: Were you present when Mr Justice Murphy telephoned Rodney Groux?

Whitney: No, not that I recall. Or may be once when Mr Justice Murphy rang and Rodney was in the office, and I said it's Mr Justice Murphy on the phone. And Rodney said no I don't want to talk ~~with~~^{to} him, I'm finished with him.

Myers: Do you recall when that was?

Whitney: No. It was after the time that I photocopied the diaries, some time later.

Myers: Did you ever see Mr. Groux with Mr. Brown the Minister?

Whitney: Only once, I went ~~to~~^{the} Sydney with Rodney to meet the staff down there in Parramatta office. ~~And~~ Mr. Brown came into the office and I was introduced to him then. Then later we went over to Parliament House and Mr. Brown said hello Pam and he remembered me from the earlier meeting.

Myers: Did you ever see Mr. Groux and Mr. Brown together after that?

Whitney: No.

Myers: Did Mr. Groux have many telephone conversations with Mr. Brown?

Whitney: No, very few.

Howard: Did Mr. Groux have much contact with the other staff members from Mr. Brown's office?

Whitney: No, not much, towards the end he was trying to avoid them. He kept saying no I'm not in. He kept telling me to say no he's not in. After Rodney Groux came out of the Minister's office at Parliament House he, Groux, bragged to me that, Mr Brown wanted him to resign to take up some other senior position. It was later found out that, in fact, Mr. Brown just sought his resignation.

Myers: Do you remember when you went to collect the diaries from Mr Murphy's home?

Whitney: I thought it was the 16th August, the police asked me this, my daughter was with me, we worked out later that it must have been the 20th August because it was her birthday and I was buying her some presents on that day. So it was the 20th August 1985.

Myers: What are your impressions of Rodney Groux?

Whitney: He's a nice fellow, I quite like him but after a while I found out he tends to brag a bit and a lot of the things he said to me, I eventually didn't believe so it's just Rodney. A couple of times he said he was going over to Parliament House to see Mr. Brown, Mr. Brown wanted to see him very urgently. And you didn't know whether he was going there or not. A couple of times he said I spent three hours with Mr. Brown on the phone last night, he asked my advise on a very important matter. ^{you} Just didn't know whether to believe him or not.

Myers: Where did he work from, where did he have an office?

Whitney: We had an office, or we worked out of an office in the Centre Cinema Building. Rodney used to say to me, if

Whitney continued

anyone from the Ministers office rang up, I was to say that he wasn't there. Because he didn't want any one in the Department knowing that he was doing other work outside the Department.

Myers: When did Rodney first mention to you that he was working for Mr Justice Murphy?

Whitney: Was early, about a week before I went to collect ^{the} Briese diaries, Rodney asked me to type up a letter to Mr Justice Murphy. Which I did, and in the letter he offered to help Murphy because he believed in his cause. And shortly after that he told me that he was doing work for Murphy in Sydney but I think he only worked for him for about two or three weeks. And then when Murphy, rang to speak to him, at the Cinema Centre, that was when he told me that he didn't want to talk to Murphy at all, because he was finished with him.

Myers: Did Rodney ever use a tape recorder?

Whitney: (After some thought) I'm not sure I think he had a small one but he didn't use it very much.

Myers: Did he ever use the tape recorder to dictate letters to you?

Whitney: No, I only typed about four letters for him in the whole time that I worked for him. Didn't really do much in that line at all. The police have got a copy of the letter that I typed up, that he sent to Mr Murphy, because they showed it to me. *Although I typed the date on it. The copy that the Blair showed me has a date stamped on it.*

Myers: Did Rodney ever hire a car or did he use Commonwealth cars?

Whitney: As far as I know he always used Commonwealth cars, although he had a car of his own he used to drive around in, in Canberra.

Myers: Did Rodney ever mention two men that he worked with in hire car in Sydney.

Whitney: No.

Myers: Did Rodney ever mention Mr Justice Murphy's daughter?

Whitney: Yes he mentioned that she came and stayed in his motel for a couple of days ^{in Sydney} and she was in such a state that he had to look after her.

Myers: Did Rodney ever mention the name ^{New} ~~Hue~~ Hellas?

Whitney: No.

Myers: Did Rodney ever mention, Mutual Pools in Sydney?

Whitney: No.

Myers: I don't think I have any more questions. Do you have anything?

Howard: ~~Said no, he had no questions.~~

Myers: Is there anything else that you would like to add?

Whitney: No, just that if Rodney was going to do something or he'd done something special he'd always tell you about it. Because he seemed to brag a bit.

Interview concluded at 3.33PM

0181M