

Dr. Kisson Dayal being duly sworn states as follows:

Counsel: You are a registered practitioner attached to the P.H.G.?

Witness: Yes.

Counsel: You have in your possession, a chart of S. Mohamed?

Witness: Yes.

Counsel: Can you say from that chart, when that patient was admitted to the Hospital, and where she came from?

Witness: She was admitted on the 31st May, 1964 at 6p.m., and she resides at the Credit Co-operation Site at Ruimveldt.

Counsel: Did you examine this patient at anytime? What was the result of your examination?

Witness: I found that the child was having severe spells of vomiting and diahorrea. I found that the eye was dry and sunken, and the tongue was dry, her mouth was also dry. I could not find any glands, also the ears were not infected. I found nothing

in the respiratory system, there was nothing deafening, only the

Counsel: breathing sounded harsh. When I examined the abdomen, I found

Witness: that it was flabby. In the cordeo vascular system, I could not

Counsel: find anything abnormal. These were the only things I could

Witness: find.

Counsel: Is there some mention on that chart of that child suffering from gastroenteritis? Can you explain what this means?

Witness: It means it is a condition where there is severe vomiting and diahorrea.

Mr. Shepherd: The child died on the 2nd June, was it?

Witness: The child died on the 1st June.

Mr. Shepherd: And you say that acute gastroenteritis was found in the child's system? What is the usual cause?

Witness: It is due to infection from contaminated water.

Mr. Shepherd: There was no conjection on the lungs, and no injury, or broken bones?

Witness: No, I could not find anything.

Mr. Shepherd: No further questions.

Mrs. Mootoo: Could the child have died of anything else, besides Gastroenteritis?

Witness: At that time, I would say that is was possible.

Mrs. Mootoo: Did you x-ray the child?

Witness: No.

Mrs. Mootoo: According to the chart, did the child have fever?

Witness: Well, there was actually a mistake in this chart, this child's chart shows no fever.

Mrs. Mootoo: But did this particular child have a temperature?

Witness: I cannot remember.

Mrs. Mootoo: If the child had some internal injuries, would you have known?

Witness: It depends to what extent.

Mrs. Mootoo: We understand that this child was squeezed at Wismar?

Witness: Well, I could not find any external injuries.

Mrs. Mootoo: Could internal injuries cause these same systems?

Witness: No.

Mrs. Mootoo: Was there any report?

Witness: No.

Mrs. Mootoo: Thank you.

Sergeant George Simon being duly sworn, states as follows:-

Counsel: Are you Sergeant, police No. 4660?

Witness: Yes sir.

Counsel: You are the subordinate officer in charge of the McKenzie Police Station?

Witness: Yes, I am.

Counsel: On Monday 26th May, were you on duty at the McKenzie Police Station?

Witness: I was.

Counsel: Were you instructed by Assistant Superintendent Hobbs, to proceed to the Wismar Police Station?

Witness: I was.

Counsel: At Wismar Police Station, on the said date, you left with 6329 Martin to join Superintendent Hobbs?

Witness: Yes sir.

Counsel: What did you see in the Valley of Tears?

Witness: I saw about 7 buildings on fire.

Counsel: What did you do?

Witness:

I met Superintendent Hobbs, and he spoke to me and the other policemen assisting in putting out the fire. We went down into the Valley of Tears, which is about 100 yards. I saw a youngster lying on the ground. Constable Martin and I went to the young man who said his name was Richard Khan. He was crying, and bleeding from a wound on his arm and head. He told me he was beaten by a gang of young men with sticks. I asked him if he knew the men, but he said 'No.' I assisted Constable Martin in lifting him from the ground, and I instructed Martin to take him to the Wismar Police Station and thence to the Hospital where he would be treated. I rejoined Superintendent Hobbs. As we were proceeding further down into the Valley, a youngster told us that there was a man lying on the ground, who looked dead. The party, accompanied by myself and Mr. Hobbs proceeded about 200 yards further west, and there we saw an East Indian lying head towards the east, facing upwards, in the gate-way of a yard. This man was one Paul Nirgin, and he was dead. Assistant Superintendent Hobbs, got a photographer to take pictures of the scene, after which, the dead body was placed into a land rover and removed to the McKenzie Mortuary.

Counsel:

After that you proceeded further down?

Witness:

Yes.

Counsel:

What did you observe?

Witness:

I observed several houses on fire beyond our control. As we reached the fire in the Valley of Tears, I told Mr. Hobbs, who was the leader to the group to proceed further down the Valley to rescue a man whose name was K. Mohan. When we arrived there we found that the door was broken and the entire house was ransacked.

Counsel:

Did you see people around the house?

Witness:

No one was seen in the vicinity of the house. The mattress was on fire, and we got buckets to fetch water and put out the fire.

Counsel:

What happened to Mrs. Mohan?

Witness:

She was hiding in the bushes, and after we made a check of the surroundings, we took her to the Police Station.

Counsel: When you returned to Wismar Police Station, what did you see there?

Witness: There were about 700 people, including men, women and children.

Counsel: Were they East Indians?

Witness: Yes, they were all East Indians.

Counsel: Did you go out again from the Police Station?

Witness: Yes. I got a party from Demba section and we went out to buildings, removing East Indians from the village, and carrying them to the Police Station. That operation continued throughout the day.

Counsel: About 8.12 p.m. on the 25th May, you were on patrol at Wismar Public Road, where you arrested several persons. Can you recall the names of any of these persons, and why you arrested them? Did you see looters carrying away several articles later the same day?

Witness: No sir.

Counsel: Can you recall, that around the Kara-Kara area you arrested two men by the name of Brutus and Robert Burnett for a Singer Machine and that both of these persons were subsequently charged?

Witness: Yes sir.

Counsel: About 3.40 on Tuesday the 26th May, you returned to the McKenzies Police Station?

Witness: Yes sir.

Counsel: While you were carrying out the operations, did you see persons setting fire to buildings?

Witness: No sir.

Counsel: Did you see Indians being assaulted?

Witness: No sir.

Counsel: Is it your opinion that these offences were committed by persons who carefully planned these operations?

Witness: Yes, that was my opinion.

Counsel: That will be all sir.

Mr. Shepherd: You know of any instances where Police or Volunteers took looted things from others?

Witness: No.

Mr. Shepherd: Do you know of any instance when Policemen took loot to the Police Station?

Witness: No sir.

Mr. Shepherd: In any instance when loot was taken to the Police Station, wouldn't it have been for the owners?

Witness: Yes sir.

Mr. Shepherd: So merchandise recovered from broken shops and carried to the Police Station were to be lodged? What were the arrangements made for taking care of merchandise lodged; awaiting the arrival of the people?

Witness: Yes. Most of the merchandise came in dray carts, and they were covered with tarpaulin and kept in the Station Compound where we had armed Senturys, keeping watch day and night.

Mr. Shepherd: Did any of the owners recover their properties?

Witness: Yes, they did.

Mr. Shepherd: And some are still waiting for collection?

Witness: Yes. Arrangements are being made now, because the owners were sent to Georgetown, and many of them are afraid to travel for their things.

Mr. Shepherd: Did you know Paul Nirgin who was killed?

Witness: No sir.

Mr. Shepherd: Did you see anybody else being beaten?

Witness: No sir.

Mr. Shepherd: Did you know a man by the name of Kishore Mohan?

Witness: Yes sir.

Mr. Shepherd: Did you see anybody beat Kishore Mohan?

Witness: No sir.

Mr. McDonald: Can you tell me how many Supernumary Constables were at Wisma Police Station?

Witness: I know one Jordon, Rose and another constable, whose name I cannot remember.

Mr. McDonald: Were they going on the regular police patrol with you?

Witness: They were on patrol for the purpose of arresting people, and to carry out their duties.

Mr. McDonald: Did you have a Land Rover on this patrol?

Witness: Yes, at Demba.

Mrs. Mootoo: At what time on Monday the 25th May, did you leave for Wismar?

Witness: About 9.50 a.m.

Mrs. Mootoo: Did you know Nirgin's son?

Witness: No sir.

Mrs. Mootoo: Before you left for Wismar Police Station, did a few Indians come to you and ask you to protect them while you were standing on a platform?

Witness: Never.

Mrs. Mootoo: Are you sure?

Witness: I left Wismar for McKenzie.

Mrs. Mootoo: Around what time did you leave?

Witness: About 9.15. There were no Indians at the Police Station when I left.

Mrs. Mootoo: And a few boys went up to you when you were on the Platform they asked for protection and you told them, 'You had better back!'

Witness: No there were no Indians at the Police Station when I left.

Mrs. Mootoo: They just came and you chased them away?

Witness: Nothing like that occurred, up McKenzie, there was no sign of disturbances.

Mrs. Mootoo: Did a boy come from Wismar because his father was beaten to death?

Witness: No one.

Mrs. Mootoo: No other questions. Thank you.

Mr. Shepherd: Could I for one moment, ask your indulgence by recalling very briefly Colonel King. We have some extracts of security reports here from 1963 to 1964, and they were sent by radio-telephone or telephone by Wismar to Force Control, and you will see the record shown for Sunday the 24th. I would like, sir, to have this before you, before Colonel King gives evidence. It is very desirable to have this evidence before you. I will therefore ask for the recall of Mr. Hobbs just to tender the report. It was sent by 10.30 on Sunday night to Force Control. You will then draw your own conclusions.

Chairman: Was this submitted as evidence before?

Counsel: I don't think it was submitted.

Mr. Shepherd: Certain information was sent to Colonel King before it was sent to the Force Control. This is all I can say. I request your indulgence to put this through him and later ask Colonel King.

Chairman: Why this evidence now?

Mr. Shepherd: Well, it is not evidence.

Chairman: The main part of the evidence was given by Colonel King, by Mr. Owen, and also by Superintendent Hobbs plus Mr. Neil. They have all given their evidence.

Prof. Drayton: I read all the evidence only last night, and he was quite sure that he did receive information from Police Force Control. The time was probably around 10.30 to 11 o'clock.

Mr. Shepherd: It is very important. It is not evidence and he will leave the matter entirely where it is.

Prof. Drayton: Unless, Mr. Chairman, Colonel King was refreshed his memory.

Mr. Shepherd: I am not defending anyone. This is not a criminal matter. I wish for sound evidence. I am contented to let the matter rest there.

Chairman: We will adjourn for five minutes to consider this matter.

Chairman: Mr. Shepherd you wish to tender that document?

Mr. Shepherd: Yes, I will do it formally through Mr. Hobbs.

Superintendent Oscar Hobbs being duly sworn states:-

Mr. Shepherd: You have already explained to the learned Counsel and the Chairman that reports on the situation are sent as they occur from Wismar Police Station to Force Control.

Witness: Yes, that is correct.

Mr. Shepherd: This extract XX of the situation came from the Division of 1963?

Witness: I can only speak of 1964.

Mr. Shepherd: On Sunday 24th there were seven incidents shown. The time at the left side will indicate the time the report was received at Force Control, Georgetown?

Witness: Yes.

Chairman: Tendered, admitted, and marked Exhibit DD.

Mr. Shepherd: Thank you.

- Chairman: Mr. Hobbs, I want you to look at this document and tell me from which area they originated?
- Witness: These are extracts from reports committed at Police Headquarters, Georgetown.
- Chairman: This is an extract of Reports compiled in Georgetown DD. What about this one. Exhibit BB?
- Witness: Extract of situation reports sent to Force Control.
- Chairman: What is the difference between the two? Didn't they originate from the same Headquarters.
- Witness: This copy was made in G.T. This was compiled by the Assistant.
- Chairman: From which department of the Force Control did the information for exhibit DD and BB come? Did it come from Georgetown?
- Witness: Yes, one seemed to have been abridged.
- Chairman: From which source did they come? Did they come from the Control Room?
- Witness: I presume so.
- Chairman: You say one is abridged and one is lengthy and contains evidence. The former one is BB?
- Witness: Yes.
- Mr. Shepherd: Can I see the other exhibits?
- Witness: Exhibits passed over.
- Mr. Shepherd: I cannot recall putting in DD.
- Chairman: You did Mr. Shepherd.
- Witness: That was put in through me.
- Chairman: Mr. Hobbs, when the reports come through Force Control, do they recorded in a book?
- Witness: Yes.
- Chairman: You would agree that the evidence in these documents would be more in detail, than the one abridged in the other. You would have had the opportunity to look at them and see if they were not accurate as to time or date. We would like to see the original documents and it is necessary for the original documents to be produced.
- Witness: That could be made available.

Mr. Shepherd: The extracts are not the same, and I think there is no other record.

Chairman: We would like to have that original report and a copy and the extract in its original form to be produced here tomorrow morning. Is it in book form?

Witness: Yes.

Prof. Drayton: So that if we just asked for the book to be produced from Force Control, would it be in a book which is bound?

Witness: Those reports are in a bound book.

Mr. McDonald: Is there one book for the whole country, or would these be in a separate book for each division?

Witness: Well, when I was in Force Control, there was just the one book.

Mr. McDonald: Why I am asking that is because in the background of everything, we consider here is the general situation, and I think to me at any rate, it would be helpful if we can have situation reports for the whole country, covering mainly, what happened on the 25th, so that we could see it in context.

Witness: That should be available, because every Superintendent reports such incidents to Headquarters. In the circumstances, if reports dealing with the disturbances are kept, all books should be available.

Chairman: I agree with the Reverend, that the reports should be in context, so please see if you can get that for us tomorrow.

Mr. Shepherd: If there are other records, of course. I don't know what records and what are kept, I can only put in what I know. If there are any other records to be put in, I think that would be the best time to ask for it.

Chairman: The Police whose conduct is being, instigated, they do not deem it necessary to make all the evidence available to us. We have been receiving extracts instead of the originals. I don't think that the Commissioners of this Inquiry have been treated with the respect that they should have received. Seeing that the Police and Security Forces were involved, all these records should have been made available in their original form. There was an advertisement in the paper that

those people who were to submit memorandums or even to give evidence could do so, but we have been getting records only here and there, and we have had to call for the originals from time to time. I think this is a very bad situation that we find ourselves in as regards information from the Police.

Mr. Shepherd: I think you can see sir, that I am bringing these persons in order to assist you, and it is for that reason that I now call Colonel King to assist you further. I must repeat that I am not defending anyone, but just assisting.

Chairman: We don't have these records of Force Control. I don't know whether Colonel King's evidence at this stage would throw light as to what has happened. You see, members of the Commission might want to examine Colonel King, necessitating the recall of witnesses. With regards to the information that we have got before us now, relating to the report of Major Lansham, we would have to recall several witnesses - because there are important points - we would like to clarify.

Mr. Shepherd: You sir and your fellow Commissioners and I, realise that this might be an important matter, and it was my suggestion that we should further inquire into it, so I hope that your remark is not directed to me. I should like to ask Colonel King, as he is here, this. You recall that he told me about the disturbances at Wismar. It is possible, that if several incidents had been reported to Force Control during the day, that one of the staff, keeping in touch with Force Control, might learn that there had been disturbances during the day, and might have communicated this to Colonel King. If, and this may probably be, and I think that it is clear up to a point, I very much doubt that five months after the event, the matter could be taken further, but I would respectfully suggest that Colonel King give his evidence now. At the bottom of page 35 is his reply in answer to Dr. Drayton, I cannot assist you any more.

Prof. Drayton: Well on the subject of Crystal Ball and extracts from documents that we have not seen, I would like to ask you whether

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we might have the minute of the 23rd May, which the Commissioner of Police wrote. So far this Commission has been presented with an extract from this minute. I wonder if the entire minute could be made available to the Commission?

Mr. Shepherd: The minute would be at the Ministry, and so she could produce it.

Prof. Drayton: But the copy is kept by the Commissioner of Police, and since the Minister might not have it, I think we might probably ask for the copy of the letter, which was sent to the Commission by the Commissioner of Police.

Mr. Shepherd: It is my purpose that the original should be produced, but documents which I could have produced, I would certainly do so.

Chairman: I would prefer the original of the letter from the Commissioner of Police dated 23rd May to be produced by the Ministry.

Colonel King being duly sworn states:-

Mr. Shepherd: I have a record of your evidence given to this Commission on the 27th November. In one answer you gave Prof. Drayton, that about 9 p.m.; somebody told you with reference to the Sunday night that there were disturbances at Wismar and that the situation was tense. Can you remember who that person was?

Witness: No I can't. It was somebody who had got information from the police, I cannot recall if it was that person or not. I think it was either from Mr. Owen or Mr. Pottock.

Mr. Shepherd: You cannot tell the Commission who it was?

Witness: No.

Mr. Shepherd: Colonel King, is it possible for you to keep in touch with Force Control at Eve Leary?

Witness: It is possible.

Prof. Drayton: It is highly improbable that you have to be appraised through indirect channels: no doubt, about the situation at Wismar. The Commissioner of Police and yourself would know best after the appraisal of the work to be done there.

Witness: It might have been.

Prof. Drayton: Is it true that as a result of what you heard on the same night, you put your men on one hour's notice?

Witness: Yes.

Chairman: Could you say that it was important to have your troops standing by?

Witness: If they had given information as to the deterioration of a situation anywhere, I would automatically summon the troops.

Prof. Drayton: Is it true that what you heard on that Sunday night, you placed your men at 5.30 a.m. on the 25th on one hour's notice?

Witness: Yes.

Chairman: You said you received this report from a junior officer, whose name you cannot remember, but you consider it of such importance to have your men standing by?

Witness: If they had the following information in regard to what happened at Wismar, I would automatically put troops at notice.

Chairman: I am asking you if you consider the information from a Junior Officer of sufficient importance, so as to put your Troop on one hour's standby notice?

Witness: Yes.

Prof. Drayton: Should one hour's readiness to leave for McKenzie be sufficient? What were your arrangements for transportation, other than by air?

Witness: Yes, one hour.

Prof. Drayton: Did you make any arrangements for transportation of the Troop you had standing by?

Witness: At that time there was no transportation to McKenzie.

Prof. Drayton: Presumably, you did not make some kind of important arrangements to go by boat? How long would it have taken you?

Witness: If I had, the normal ferry takes about 3½ hours to McKenzie.

Prof. Drayton: Couldn't you have had a quicker means of transportation?

Witness: There was not other transportation.

Richard Boloi Singh being duly sworn states:-

Mr. Shepherd: Mr. Singh, you said that on the certain Thursday, 21st May, you saw Robert Jordan on the road, and you saw Police Sub-Inspector and an Officer offer Mr. Jordan a lift, do you still say this is true?

Witness: Yes sir.

Mr. Shepherd: Don't you think that you might have made a mistake?

Witness: I have already told you the truth.

Mr. Shepherd: I am putting it to you that you have had trouble with the Police, isn't that so?

Witness: Twenty years ago.

Mr. Shepherd: You have had five convictions for minor offences?

Witness: Many years ago.

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