Commission of Inquiry

Into the Wrongful

Conviction of David Milgaard

before

THE HONOURABLE MR. JUSTICE

EDWARD P. MacCALLUM

****

<u>Transcript of Proceedings</u>

and

Testimony before the Commission

sitting at the

Delta Bessborough Hotel at

Saskatoon, Saskatchewan

****

On Thursday, March 2nd, 2006

Volume 131

<u>Inquiry Proceedings</u>

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Appearances:

Mr. Hersh Wolch, Q.C.,   **for** Mr. David Milgaard

Ms. Joanne McLean,   **for** Ms. Joyce Milgaard

Ms. Lana Krogan,   **for** Government of Saskatchewan

Ms. Catherine Knox,   **for** Mr. T.D.R. (Bobs) Caldwell

Mr. Garrett Wilson, Q.C. and Mr. Jay Watson, Esq.,

                    for *Mr. Serge Kujawa*

Mr. Pat Loran, Esq.,   **for** the Saskatoon Police Service

Mr. Aaron Fox, Q.C. and Mr. Chris Boychuk, Esq.,

                    for Mr. Eddie Karst

Mr. Bruce Gibson, Esq.,   **for** the RCMP

Mr. Eamon O'Keefe, Esq.,   **for** Mr. Larry Fisher

Mr. David Frayer, Q.C.,   **for** Minister of Justice

                    (Canada), The Hon. Vic Toews

Mr. Marshall Hopkins, Esq., **for** Justice Calvin Tallis

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1   *Transcript of Proceedings*

2   *(Reconvened at 9:10 a.m.)*

3   COMMISSIONER MacCALLUM: Good morning.

4   ALL COUNSEL: Good morning.

5   MR. HODSON: I have no further questions

6   for Mr. Kujawa and I think the next to examine

7   will be Mr. Wolch.

8   COMMISSIONER MacCALLUM: Thank you.

9   *SERGE KUJAWA, continued*:

10   **BY MR. WOLCH:**

11   **Q**   Mr. Kujawa, I'm Hersh Wolch, I'm David Milgaard's

12   counsel and I have a few questions for you.

13   You indicated in your evidence

14   that you were upset at accusations or comments

15   that were made about, that may have challenged

16   your integrity over the course of time?

17   *A*   Yes, I was concerned, yes.

18   **Q**   Yes. And you felt, you said, hurt or upset or

19   whatever, the accusations being basically that

20   either you covered up certain things or else you

21   didn't do your job properly, things like that, I'm

22   not going to go into it in detail, but that's the

23   general tenor of it?

24   *A*   Yes, right.

25   **Q**   You might agree with me that those accusations

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1   pale in comparison to being accused of murder and

2   rape and you didn't do it, far less serious

3   accusations?

4   *A*   I agree with that, yes.

5   Q   Right. And you indicated that you were upset, for

6   example, about this fellow Breckenridge that came

7   forward with some false comments about you?

8   *A*   Yes, I certainly was.

9   Q   Right. And I take it you would have been more

10   upset if instead of people saying look, his

11   accusations don't check out, they would have taken

12   him to a hypnotist or somebody to try to revive

13   memories or correct obviously incorrect things?

14   *A*   Well, I don't know how much use a hypnotist is at

15   all, but I agree with you that --

16   Q   What I'm saying is you might put yourself in

17   David's position where Nichol John gives a story

18   that makes not much sense and instead of looking

19   at it critically, people try to revive her memory

20   by hypnosis and everything else assuming it must

21   be true. Do you see the parallel?

22   *A*   Yes, yes.

23   Q   Now, I don't intend to be that long, sir, but I

24   might say at the outset I'm not going to be

25   suggesting that you ever tried to keep an innocent

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1   man, or a man you believed to be innocent in jail.

2   Do you understand that?

3   A Yes, and I appreciate that.

4   Q Okay. But you might not appreciate that I am

5   going to suggest that you did things perhaps

6   wrongly or improperly believing the man was guilty

7   and trying to maintain the conviction of a guilty

8   man, this is where we may disagree, but that's the

9   area where I'm coming from so you know that, okay.

10 A Okay.

11 Q Now, back in 1969 when you were in Regina, reports

12   were provided to your department and to you

13   regarding the murder investigation of Gail Miller,

14   and I want to be sure I have your evidence, and if

15   we can turn to 065349. Now, I'm a little unclear,

16   it is -- it appears to bear your initials, so I

17   would expect the report came to you, and what is

18   the significance of your initial being there?

19 A Just that I must have gotten that document and

20   then initialed it as having seen it.

21 Q Well, that's what I want to be clear. I've always

22   understood you to be a responsible person

23   dedicated to your job.

24 A Well, I certainly thought I was.

25 Q And this is a very serious murder investigation?

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1   *A*   Oh, every murder is very serious.

2   **Q**   This is a particularly brutal, unsolved at the

3   time, terrible crime?

4   *A*   Yes, yes.

5   **Q**   And would I be correct in assuming that you would

6   read the report?

7   *A*   Not necessarily.

8   **Q**   I find that difficult, sir, that in your position,

9   having received this report, that you wouldn't

10   read it, I don't understand that. Can you help me

11   with that?

12   *A*   Well, in my position I was not keeping track of

13   investigations of all kinds of crimes going around

14   all around the province, I had a whole lot of

15   other duties that kept me more busy than I wanted

16   to be, and so if there was a case from Saskatoon

17   that was being dealt with by the police, a senior

18   counsel by the name of Caldwell should have been

19   on top of it and should have been in touch with me

20   if he wanted to hear anything from me, that was

21   basically my attitude. I was a very busy fellow

22   and didn't have time to look at everything that

23   was going on in the Department of the Attorney

24   General.

25   **Q**   I'm not asking you to have studied it and made

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1   notes of it, but it just would appear to me that

2   in the entire province there might be, in the

3   course of a year, how many, five, six, murders? I

4   don't know.

5 *A*   I don't either.

6 **Q**   Somewhere in that area in the course of a year?

7 *A*   I would guess that. I don't know.

8 **Q**   And a Gail Miller type of murder might be one a

9   year, one every five years?

10 *A*   Well, an outdoor rape in a snowbank at 40 below is

11   an extremely rare happening and I think that in

12   itself attracted some extra attention.

13 **Q**   What I'm saying is as the top guy you would want

14   to have some idea what it's about, so I'm having a

15   hard time understanding why you wouldn't read,

16   take the five minutes to read a report.

17 *A*   Because there were reports coming from all corners

18   of the province and I had other things that I was

19   busy at. I couldn't read all the reports that

20   came in.

21 **Q**   I'm sure there were reports on motor vehicle

22   accidents, minor things, but I'm having a hard

23   time with you not looking at the most serious case

24   that crosses your desk.

25 *A*   Well, I guess unless my attention was drawn to it,

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1   I wouldn't know how serious it was until it got to

2   a greater stage, like whether it got into Court or

3   the Court of Appeal or something of that nature.

4   Q   So you are saying that putting your initials on it

5   really meant nothing?

6   A   I don't really know how all that initial stuff

7   went on there and I guess when I see that it looks

8   like my own SK, so I must have put that on and I

9   must have read that little bit, but what it tells

10   me I don't know.

11   Q   But you can see that there is a very real

12   possibility that you did read the report and then

13   put your initial on it?

14   A   Yeah, there's a real possibility, yes.

15   Q   And if we can turn to 335498, now, this is a list

16   of materials in your office and this list was

17   created, it wasn't found in the file, but -- so in

18   the file that would have been in your office, and

19   at the relevant times, I just want to draw your

20   attention to certain matters, and if we can just

21   scroll down a little bit, on this list you'll see

22   under number 15, statement of (V1)--- (V2)- (V1)-

23   dated October 22nd, 1969. You see that there?

24   A   Yes, I do.

25   Q   And do you know who (V1)--- (V2)- (V1)- is?

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1   A   Right now, no, I don't.

2   Q   If I was to tell you she was a victim of Larry

3   Fisher, would that help you?

4   A   Well, it would because you wouldn't tell me that

5   if you didn't know it, but the name means nothing

6   to me right now.

7   Q   Okay. But you see it there, I'm just trying to

8   help you with that. And you'll see it's number 15

9   on this list. Number 14 is a statement of Ron

10   Wilson and number 13 is a statement of David

11   Milgaard?

12   A   Right.

13   Q   And right after (V1)--- (V2)- (V1)- we have listed

14   here (V2) (V2)- (V2)-----, and you can take it

15   that she is also a victim of Larry Fisher.

16   A   Well, I'll take it if you say so, but I didn't

17   know who it was when I saw the name.

18   Q   No, I appreciate that, but I'm trying to refresh

19   your memory on it and that's just a fact.

20   A   Right.

21   Q   And then you have the statement of (V3)-- (V3)

22   (V3)------, another one of his victims; do you see

23   that?

24   A   Yes.

25   Q   And then next to her you have here the statement

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1   of Nichol John. You see that?

2   A   Yes.

3   Q   And I'll just draw this to your attention, there's

4   no statement here regarding the fourth victim,

5   (V5)-- (V5)---, but her attack was later and

6   wouldn't be in this file, if you follow what I'm

7   saying?

8   A   Yes.

9   Q   And these are not minor statements, I believe one

10   of them, I think Miss (V1)-'s is seven pages long

11   in handwriting, I'm not going to go to the

12   document, we've all seen them, but they are

13   lengthy statements, full details. Can we not

14   presume you would have read them?

15   A   Well, again, unless that was somehow brought to my

16   attention where I was, I wouldn't read them

17   because I couldn't read all of the statements that

18   were brought into the Department of Justice.

19   Q   I appreciate that, sir, but this is a file of

20   significance, it's a file where you will have gone

21   to the Court of Appeal, it's a file where you will

22   have gone to the Supreme Court and you were a

23   thorough, dedicated prosecutor. Are you

24   suggesting that you might have gone to two

25   appellate levels without reviewing your file?

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1   *A*   Well, the only thing that I took to the Court of

2   Appeal was the only material the Court of Appeal

3   relied on in deciding the case.

4   Q   I understand what you are saying, but I'm going to

5   suggest to you that a dedicated prosecutor reads

6   his file, reads the file to see, to understand the

7   whole picture as to what the case is about. Isn't

8   that normal, and particularly on a major case? I

9   want to be clear, you are saying that on a case of

10   this significance going to the Supreme Court, you

11   wouldn't have read the entire file?

12   *A*   You mean the investigation details?

13   Q   Everything that was in your -- you have a binder

14   of material that's in front of you.

15   *A*   Yes, I would have said I didn't read everything in

16   that file because the Court, the Supreme Court,

17   nor I, could deal with all of those things at that

18   level.

19   Q   I appreciate that, but don't you want to have a

20   handle on the prosecution?

21   *A*   Don't I which?

22   Q   Want to have an understanding, a grip on the

23   prosecution, as to what it's all about, be

24   prepared for anything that might arise? The Court

25   may ask you a question on any issue and you are

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1   not going to say I haven't read my file.

2   A   Well, the only file that I understood was involved

3   was the transcript of the evidence and judging,

4   judgmental comments by the trial judge.

5   COMMISSIONER MacCALLUM: Yes, Mr. Wilson?

6   MR. WILSON: Mr. Commissioner, Mr. Wolch is

7   posing his questions on the basis, the

8   presumption that the documents he's referred to

9   on that list on the screen were in the file that

10   Mr. Kujawa had. We had clear evidence from Mr.

11   MacKay yesterday or the day before that the

12   filing system then, where those went, where they

13   would be at the time the file on the appeal,

14   Milgaard appeal came to Mr. Kujawa nobody knows,

15   but certainly they were not in his file that he

16   didn't read as Mr. Wolch is suggesting.

17   COMMISSIONER MacCALLUM: Well, yes, the

18   question of whether there was only one file or

19   more of course is not finally answered at this

20   point, but I would invite you, Mr. Wilson, to

21   raise that subject if you wish when it comes your

22   turn to cross-examine.

23   MR. WILSON: I'm sorry?

24   COMMISSIONER MacCALLUM: I would invite you

25   to raise that subject when it comes your turn to

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1   cross-examine if you wish. I understand you are

2   concerned about being fair to the witness, but if

3   he doesn't know the filing system, that's all he

4   has to say, sir.

5   MR. WILSON: Just as long as we're clear on

6   that.

7   COMMISSIONER MacCALLUM: Yes.

8   BY MR. WOLCH:

9 Q   Mr. Kujawa, my understanding is that there was one

10   file that was retrieved in 1993 by the RCMP and

11   all these materials were in it, that's my

12   understanding. Mr. Hodson I think can explain it

13   better than anybody else.

14   MR. HODSON: Well, if you are inviting me

15   to, the file that -- just so that there's no

16   misunderstanding in the document that we

17   prepared, the Commission received a set of

18   documents from the government a couple of years

19   ago that contained a number of documents.

20   Whether or not -- I was not led to believe that

21   it was the file, it was some documents that had

22   not previously been disclosed, and so, and I said

23   this at the outset, that our listing of the

24   documents, this index here, simply to say this is

25   the collection of documents that we have been

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1   able to determine the Government of Saskatchewan

2   or the Attorney General would have had at around

3   that time and where they all came from, there

4   were some different sources, so I don't -- I

5   don't want it to be taken that we've made that

6   determination that they were all in one file. In

7   fact I'm having the original, I can have the

8   original box brought over.

9   COMMISSIONER MacCALLUM: That was my

10   understanding, Mr. Wolch, we just got the

11   material in.

12   MR. WOLCH: My understanding, though, is

13   that this witness initialed -- what was received

14   would have been the Rasmussen report and attached

15   to that would be the three complainants'

16   statements. I believe I have that right. I

17   don't want to be unfair, but --

18   COMMISSIONER MacCALLUM: Yes, but I suppose

19   the question is whether or not those reports

20   bearing his initial were contained in the

21   material he later used to take to the Court of

22   Appeal, and we don't, I don't just remember any

23   conclusive evidence about that at all.

24   BY MR. WOLCH:

25   Q   I'm assuming, sir, that your department tried to

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1   run your office in an efficient way; would that be

2   fair?

3   A   Yes.

4   Q   And if things came in on the Miller investigation

5   they would be put into a particular file,

6   presumably?

7   A   They'd be put into wherever they thought the

8   materials belonged.

9   Q   Outside of the Miller file, can you think of

10   anywhere else it should go?

11   A   Well, the Miller file was not necessarily in one

12   piece and all at one time, I imagine it was --

13   well, for instance, if there were all kinds of

14   administrative details to do with any file that

15   hit the department, and where those things were

16   kept and why they were kept and for how long I

17   didn't know, and no one prosecutor knew because

18   there was too much of it.

19   Q   Well, but can I not assume that you have an

20   investigation going on on a particular case, that

21   anything coming in on that case would go into that

22   case file, or should at least?

23   A   I suppose it would, yeah.

24   Q   Isn't that the whole purpose of filing?

25   A   Well, the main purpose, I guess.

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1   Q   So you can retrieve what's relevant to that issue;

2   isn't that the whole purpose of having a file?

3   A   So I would what?

4   Q   Well isn't the whole purpose of having a file so

5   that you can keep everything in one central

6   location so when you need the file you get it all,

7   you don't miss things?

8   A   Yeah, well that seems right to me, yes.

9   Q   Yeah. Well you are not saying outright that you

10   didn't read it, are you, you are saying "I don't

11   remember if I read it or not" in terms of these

12   reports and the victims of Larry Fisher at the

13   time?

14   A   Well, I certainly didn't read all of them, but I

15   don't know what all I read, I certainly don't have

16   that good a memory and don't know. But I do know

17   that I certainly didn't read every file and every

18   bit of every file that came into the AG's

19   department, and until something drew it, the file

20   to my attention, or someone did, I didn't get to

21   see it until it hit the courts, or mainly the

22   Court of Appeal. That's when I got into most of

23   the files.

24   Q   Now how would you describe your involvement in the

25   actual prosecution of David Milgaard before the

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1   appeal level?

2   A   Well I, as far as I can remember, I knew it was

3   going on, and I knew Caldwell was in charge, and I

4   remember one phone call from Caldwell asking for

5   some legal advice in a particular area, which I've

6   already mentioned and you've heard me talk about.

7   Q   Yes. I'm gonna suggest that you might also, and

8   did, give him advice on the rule of warnings for

9   accomplices; do you have any recollection of that?

10   A   No.

11   Q   Is it possible you may have?

12   A   Well, it's not likely. Again, I've mentioned

13   before that he was a more experienced prosecutor

14   than I was.

15   Q   Would you say you gave him considerable guidance

16   during trial?

17   A   Well, it's not considerable guidance if I answered

18   one question on a -- of law in the course of the

19   whole thing.

20   Q   Okay.

21   A   That's all I remember doing.

22   Q   No, and I appreciate it's been a long time, but if

23   we could look at 042956. This is a memorandum

24   prepared by Murray Brown to the -- to

25   Mr. Mitchell, the then-Minister of Justice, and I

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1   only want to refer you to this portion here

2   regarding yourself. The Minister has asked for

3   this information, and it says here that you were

4   the Director of Public Prosecutions when this case

5   first reached the courts in 1969, September, for

6   preliminary hearing, and January for trial:

7   "As such he provided considerable

8   guidance to Bobs Caldwell ... the ...

9   prosecutor who did the actual

10   preliminary and trial."

11   Now did Mr. Brown talk to you then to -- I'm

12   wondering how Mr. Brown would have got this

13   information, or if you know?

14 *A*   I don't know.

15 **Q**   So I take it you disagree with that comment that

16   he -- that you had provided considerable guidance?

17 *A*   Yeah, well, I've told you that I remembered giving

18   him guidance on one point only in the whole case.

19 **Q**   Okay, well what I am getting at is you don't agree

20   with that, that's fair game I guess, but I just

21   want to understand if you agree with what he

22   advised the Minister. It says here "considerable

23   guidance", which suggests to me more than one

24   phone call?

25 *A*   Well, you've heard my answer.

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1   Q   Okay. I was a little unclear, from your previous

2   testimony, as to what your position, and perhaps

3   your department's position, would have been, or

4   was, on a post-conviction and appeals request for

5   file information, documents, or whatever made by

6   counsel or by David Milgaard himself. I'm not

7   sure what your answer was; can you help me on

8   that?

9   A   Our answer to what request?

10 Q   Well let us say we're all done, and David Milgaard

11   is not accepting the result and wants to re-open

12   his case or whatever, and somebody comes to you

13   and says "Mr. Kujawa, can I go through your

14   files", by "somebody" I mean somebody with a

15   legitimate purpose; what would your position have

16   been?

17 A   Well, I don't know, I suppose it would depend on

18   who it was that says "I want to go through your

19   file" and why.

20 Q   Well I guess what I am puzzled about is this: The

21   trial and the appeals are handled with an

22   understanding that there has to be appropriate

23   disclosure to Mr. Tallis; right?

24 A   Yes.

25 Q   Would it be fair that people should be able to

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1   assume that Mr. Tallis got everything that was

2   relevant?

3 A It should be fair to assume that, yes.

4 Q That one should not expect to be able to go into

5   the files and find gems that point to acquittal;

6   should they?

7 A That's right.

8 Q That is if you assume that Mr. Caldwell has gone

9   through the material, he's a man of integrity, if

10   you assume that you have gone through the

11   material, assume it, and you're a man of

12   integrity, one can safely say "I don't expect to

13   find anything in there"; wouldn't that be fair?

14 A Yes.

15 Q And do you know of any policy on post-appeal

16   disclosure; is there any policy?

17 A Well, I don't know what you mean by "post-appeal"?

18 Q Well, the case is done, --

19 A Okay.

20 Q -- if something comes to your attention that might

21   question the conviction do you feel an obligation

22   to disclose it?

23 A Oh, certainly, if I find something or someone

24   points out something to me that might have a major

25   impact on -- a different impact on the case, it is

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1   certainly my job to disclose it.

2   Q   And --

3   A   I am required to do that.

4   Q   You appreciate that from the Milgaard perspective,

5   20 or so years after the offence, that the thought

6   of solving the crime is pretty remote?

7   A   That the which?

8   Q   The idea that you might be able to solve the crime

9   20 or so years later would be a very remote

10   possibility?

11   A   I suppose usually it is, right.

12   Q   Well, you know that the police investigated, you

13   know the Crown had the reports, how can you,

14   without police training, go and solve a crime;

15   it's a pretty remote idea, isn't it?

16   A   I guess so, yeah.

17   Q   And you might agree with me that the thought that

18   in the files there would be another suspect, a

19   very legitimate suspect, and that that wouldn't

20   have been disclosed to Mr. Tallis, might be

21   something that wouldn't necessarily cross your

22   mind?

23   A   Well, if I had thought there was that sort of a

24   suspect or that sort of an item in the file, I

25   would have disclosed it to Mr. Tallis.

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1   **Q**   Well, yeah, and the other side could expect that

2   or should expect that?

3   *A*   Right.

4   **Q**   Are you aware that a request was made for access

5   to information?

6   *A*   Umm, a request to who for what, I don't know.

7   **Q**   004452. This is in '92, it's addressed to the

8   prosecutors in Saskatoon under the *Privacy Act*,

9   and received from David Milgaard, I take it, a

10   request for access to information. This went to

11   the, to Saskatoon, to the prosecutors office;

12   would you have been aware of this?

13   *A*   Well I don't think so, I certainly have no memory

14   of it, but I certainly don't have a memory of all

15   kinds of details.

16   **Q**   Do you have any information of anything being

17   disclosed of any significance?

18   *A*   Not that I know of, no.

19   COMMISSIONER MacCALLUM: I don't really

20   understand what you are talking about there,

21   Mr. Wolch, "do you have any personal

22   information"?

23   MR. WOLCH: I'm sorry?

24   COMMISSIONER MacCALLUM: What do they mean

25   by "personal information"?

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1   MR. WOLCH: Well, of any being requested to

2   provide information, being asked to -- "do you

3   have any files", from anybody coming to you and

4   saying "do you have anything to answer this

5   request", that's all I'm getting at. I'm just

6   wondering if he was approached by anybody saying

7   that this request has come in, do you have

8   anything on hand, or anything like that.

9   BY MR. WOLCH:

10 Q   And your answer is you didn't see that?

11 A   Right.

12 Q   Sorry, Mr. Commissioner, if I -- do you want me

13   to --

14   COMMISSIONER MacCALLUM: Yes, go ahead.

15 BY MR. WOLCH:

16 Q   So, Mr. Kujawa, do you agree with the proposition

17   that there is an ongoing duty on prosecutors to

18   disclose anything relevant, or borderline

19   relevant, to the defence?

20 A   Yes.

21 Q   It doesn't stop at any point; does it?

22 A   No.

23 Q   And you've got a chance to look at the Rasmussen

24   report amongst others, have you not, the report

25   from the RCMP prepared way back at the beginning

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1   identifying the person who turned out to be Larry

2   Fisher as an extremely viable suspect?

3   A   Did I know about that?

4   Q   No, you know it now at least?

5   A   Well, I've heard about it now, right.

6   Q   And you agree that that report should have been

7   disclosed at all times, it's always relevant? I'm

8   not quarrelling with whether you knew about it or

9   not, but I'm saying that it should have been

10   disclosed by anybody who knew about it, I'll put

11   it that way?

12   A   Well I would want to know more about the report

13   before I could possibly answer that question.

14   Q   Assume it identifies a viable suspect?

15   A   Okay, but what makes the suspect viable?

16   Q   That he was committing similar crimes in the very

17   same area, in the very same method, and warnings

18   had gone out to people in the area about him, and

19   the theory was that he had killed Gail Miller,

20   that trained investigators believed that or at

21   least believed it was a real likelihood.

22   A   I --

23   Q   Are you quarrelling that defence should know about

24   that?

25   A   No. I'm saying that if they have any evidence of

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1   that, the defence should know about it sooner or

2   later or anywhere along, as soon as it's

3   discovered.

4   Q I agree with you.

5   A But whether it is evidence or someone's suspicion,

6   I'd have to have some reason to choose one or the

7   other of the two.

8   Q Yeah, but you are not the one who should be doing

9   the choosing, it should be the defence; is that

10   not true? If you don't accept it or don't think

11   it has great merit, you're not the ultimate

12   decision-maker, are you?

13 A Well if I'm not going to -- if I don't accept it,

14   if I don't think it has any justification, then I

15   certainly am not going to go and bug any defence

16   counsel saying "here's a bit of reading that you

17   should do because you might find it interesting".

18 Q Assuming you find it of some merit, it should be

19   disclosed?

20 A If I find it is of some merit, it should be

21   disclosed, yes.

22 Q And this report was not disclosed, and would it

23   concern you to know it wasn't even disclosed at

24   the Supreme Court, that is that the Supreme Court

25   didn't know about it, his counsel didn't know

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1   about it, it was only found here or at least

2   disclosed here?

3   A   Well I don't know how it would be disclosed to the

4   Supreme Court.

5   Q   Well, to his counsel, to use it?

6   A   Well if I knew about it, and if I thought it was

7   of some significance, I would certainly be

8   obligated to report it to defence counsel.

9   Q   Now what if you looked at it and decided, in your

10   own mind, "well I realize they are in the same

11   area and I realize there is a number of

12   similarities, the clothing being removed, that

13   kind of stuff, but I don't think it helps the

14   accused and I'm not gonna disclose it"; could you

15   have made that decision?

16   A   Well if I made the decision that it wasn't usable

17   evidence, then I had nothing to pass on, that's

18   the --

19   Q   That's your call.

20   A   -- the way my mind worked, --

21   Q   But if it --

22   A   -- still does.

23   Q   Okay. Now I've heard you very clearly, and you

24   did it on television even, had a lot of skepticism

25   in the value of the Fisher evidence. We saw you

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1   on television saying it wasn't admissible and

2   things like that. Now I'm -- I want to pause

3   there. Is it not, then, very conceivable that,

4   when you were directly involved in the case, you

5   looked at Fisher, you looked at the statements,

6   and you made the judgement call that it doesn't

7   help Milgaard?

8   A   Well all I know is that I wasn't looking at any

9   Fisher file in dealing with the Milgaard file

10   because I was dealing with the law dealing with

11   Milgaard, --

12 Q   But --

13 A   -- and nothing --

14 Q   Right.

15 A   -- that I knew about indicated to me that this

16   other file contained something that was of

17   interest on file number 1.

18 Q   Okay. Now the Milgaard file had the full

19   statements --

20 A   The full which?

21 Q   -- the full statements of (V1)-, (V2)----- and

22   (V3)------. It had it, we know that, it had it.

23   It's in the, it's in your office somewhere, by

24   "your office" I mean the general office, it's in

25   the office, okay? When you are prosecuting Fisher

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1   you likely have either the very same statements or

2   Mr. Corey's summary of those statements all at the

3   same time; do you understand that?

4 A Would you please get a little closer to the

5   microphone? My hearing is not --

6 Q Oh, I'm sorry, I apologize. At the very same

7   time, in the general office, at least, and maybe

8   in your own personal office, there was, on the

9   Milgaard file, the statements, the full statements

10   of (V1)-, (V2)-----, and (V3)------; you

11   appreciate that?

12 A Okay.

13 Q Okay. And at the very same time, on the Fisher

14   file, there was either the full statements, or at

15   the very least there was Corey's summary, a very

16   lengthy summary sufficient for you to go to Court

17   with, of the very same people; do you see that? I

18   mean those are facts, we can't -- I don't, I'm not

19   sure why you don't appreciate that?

20 A But I was not prosecuting the Fisher file, I was

21   doing some technical applications to dispose of

22   certain pleas, but that's all I was doing with it.

23 Q Well, I appreciate that, but when you take some --

24   when you arrange for pleas of guilty you walk into

25   Court, you ask for a sentence, perhaps you might

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1   agree that that could be defined as prosecuting?

2   A See, I'm sorry, I --

3   Q You can't hear? I'll try again. When you go to

4   the Attorney General for a direct indictment, and

5   you make arrangements for an accused to be in

6   Court, --

7   A Right.

8   Q -- and you appear in front of a judge and you ask

9   for a sentence, and you report the matter out,

10   isn't that prosecuting?

11 A Well, in a technical way it is, yeah. But the

12   practicality of it is I'm merely putting this

13   through getting rid of a formal piece of

14   something, I have no evidence to support the

15   charge other than his guilty plea, and we've

16   formed an admission between counsel as to the

17   sentence.

18 Q Okay.

19 A So that's automatically done and I'm finished with

20   it.

21 Q But you have to know the facts?

22 A Well, I have to know the basic facts, that he

23   admitted raping woman X.

24 Q Well, you have to know what the police say the

25   facts are, you have to know what facts to give to

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1   the Court?

2   A   Well, really, those are all the facts that I have

3   to give to the Court.

4   Q   I understand that, but you have to give the Court

5   an understanding of what the man did?

6   A   He raped this woman.

7   Q   Okay. Mr. Hodson then asked you yesterday whether

8   you would ever have a trial if somebody was

9   pleading guilty, and you said "no", do you recall

10   that?

11   A   Where they're -- yeah, I don't call it a trial if

12   somebody pleads guilty, right.

13   Q   Okay. But, if someone pleads guilty, there still

14   can be a trial on the facts?

15   A   If there is no agreement on it, yes, there is --

16   Q   Yes. If Fisher was to say "look, I raped her but

17   I didn't have a knife", there still could be a

18   trial to determine that issue?

19   A   If that were an issue. The only thing that would

20   have a bearing on is the amount of sentence.

21   Q   Well, of course, but I mean but there still can be

22   a trial on an issue, a guilty plea doesn't end the

23   possibility of evidence being called?

24   A   Well it depends on the purpose of the evidence.

25   Q   So --

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1   A   It's either for the, to support the charge, or to

2   enhance or decrease the sentence.

3   Q   So, as you understood it, Larry Fisher was

4   accepting the victim's version of what happened?

5   A   I don't -- I don't know if he ever heard the

6   victim's version of it.

7   Q   Well --

8   A   I was going by his version of what happened, when,

9   and where.

10   Q   But you would have, I presume, given to the judge

11   the victims' version of what happened as contained

12   in Mr. Corey's summary?

13   A   I couldn't give him a different version than he

14   already got from our agreement as to what

15   happened. When we decided, when he decided to

16   make a guilty plea, the facts and time and all

17   about what happened were agreed upon between him

18   and the Crown, were taken to the Court, those

19   facts were presented, and on the basis of that the

20   sentence was passed, and usually we'd agreed on

21   the number of years in jail and that was not

22   argued, usually accepted and imposed.

23   Q   Are you saying that you and Mr. Greenberg sat down

24   and went over the facts as to what was for real,

25   and what he was accepting, and what he wasn't

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1   accepting?

2   A   We went over the facts to which he was willing to

3   plead guilty, which is raping this woman at this

4   place at this time.

5   Q   You do agree that this was not a transfer of

6   charges, correct, other than from Saskatoon to

7   Regina?

8   A   What do you mean "not a transfer of charges"?

9   Q   Well a normal transfer of charge is if Fisher was

10   in Winnipeg and said "send me my rapes from

11   Saskatoon and I'll plead guilty here", that's a

12   transfer of charge; correct?

13   A   Well, I didn't think that was possible, I don't

14   know.

15   Q   Well, no, you miss my question. That's only an

16   example. If Fisher was in Toronto and said "send

17   me my Vancouver charges", that's a transfer of

18   charges?

19   A   Well, as I say, I didn't know it was possible.

20   Q   I'm not asking if it's possible, sir.

21   A   Well then, if it's imaginable, you, your

22   imagination is great, go ahead.

23   COMMISSIONER MacCALLUM: But obviously it's

24   not an inter-provincial transfer.

25   BY MR. WOLCH:

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1   Q   That's all I'm saying, sir. What I am saying is

2   in a normal situation, if a crime is committed

3   let's say in Saskatoon, if somebody was to commit

4   a murder today and flee to Vancouver and then was

5   arrested, that person would be brought back to

6   Saskatoon to face the charge; that's normal?

7   A   Yes.

8   Q   Okay. Fisher committed crimes in Saskatoon, he's

9   arrested in Winnipeg, so what's normal is to bring

10   him back to Saskatoon to face the charges, that's

11   normal; is it not?

12   A   Well it's not -- it doesn't have to be Saskatoon,

13   it's back to Saskatchewan, that's the only legal

14   --

15   Q   I'm talking about normality.

16   A   Well I think it's through normality that, if you

17   commit an offence in Saskatchewan, you can be

18   tried anywhere in Saskatchewan and dealt with

19   there.

20   Q   Normally in the area in which the crime was

21   committed?

22   A   Ordinarily it was there, yes.

23   Q   So one would have expected him to be dealt with in

24   Saskatoon?

25   A   Well when you say "it would be expected", why

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1   would he? It's certainly not the most convenient

2   way of doing it.

3   Q   Well I don't believe that we're normally worried

4   about the convenience of multiple rapists, we're

5   worrying more about the citizens of Saskatoon, who

6   want to know that their streets are safe; isn't

7   that the prime concern?

8   A   Well, if he pleaded guilty in Saskatoon, would

9   that increase that in some way?

10   Q   Wouldn't the public, people in Saskatoon, be

11   relieved to know that the rapist was caught?

12   A   I suppose those who found out would be, and I

13   don't know how much it was passed around, I just

14   don't know.

15   Q   And don't we want to deter other criminals in

16   Saskatoon?

17   A   Yeah, and in Saskatchewan.

18   Q   Well, this case got no publicity at all, why would

19   it deter 'em? Isn't the purpose of punishment to

20   deter others?

21   A   Yes.

22   Q   How do you deter if others never hear about it?

23   A   Well, I assume that they hear about it, I don't

24   know.

25   Q   Well, as a prosecutor, wasn't it your purpose that

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1   -- to educate the public and to educate potential

2   criminals that the system isn't easy, that you get

3   punished for your crimes?

4   A   Umm, that's right, and I don't know how the

5   information of these guilty pleas was passed

6   around to the public. I don't know. I suppose I

7   should but I don't.

8   Q   I'm trying to understand why he was treated so

9   nicely, I guess is what I am getting at, like why

10   you are so worried about Mr. Fisher?

11   A   I'm not worried about Mr. Fisher.

12   Q   Well, let's take a look at 010683, this is a

13   letter from Ken MacKay, but -- to Larry Fisher. I

14   mean, was it normally your practice to write to

15   inmates? That's kind of a strange thing isn't it?

16   A   I don't know.

17   Q   Let's read it:

18   "We wish to advise that hearing of the

19   charges against you in Saskatchewan has

20   been set for December 21, 1971, at 2:00

21   p.m. It is our understanding that you

22   will be pleading guilty to the said

23   charges, and the Director of Public

24   Prosecutions --"

25   Yourself,

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1   "-- has asked the writer to advise you

2   that the Crown will be consenting to the

3   request for concurrent sentences."

4   Why would you ask Mr. MacKay to do that?

5 *A* It's just to inform the fellow that his contract

6   has been completed and the date has been set,

7   that's all.

8 **Q** Well, let him know you are asking for concurrent

9   time? He's got a lawyer. Why do you want to

10 really re-assure this serial rapist that he's

11 going to get a deal?

12 *A* Because he made the deal and it's been accepted,

13   so you let him know and that's the way it's done.

14 **Q** Well, do you normally go to the accused when he's

15 got a lawyer, that's all I'm asking you.

16 *A* Well, I don't know why he went to Fisher instead

17 of just the lawyer. Don't know, don't care

18 either.

19 **Q** Okay.

20 *A* He was informed.

21   COMMISSIONER MacCALLUM: I don't think that

22 question was asked of Mr. MacKay was it?

23   MR. WOLCH: No, but it says here in direct

24 that he was acting on instructions.

25   COMMISSIONER MacCALLUM: Okay, yeah.

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1   BY MR. WOLCH:

2   Q   There's something you've said many times that I

3   have to take issue with and you've continually

4   said that there was no case against Fisher. Do I

5   have it right?

6   A   Yes, I said that continually. As far as I knew,

7   we didn't have a case against Fisher on those

8   charges.

9   Q   On all the charges or any of the charges?

10 A   Well, on those that were disposed of here.

11 Q   Okay. Now, we know that on at least two there

12   were confessions. Now, my understanding is that a

13   confession is very strong evidence.

14 A   And my understanding is exactly the same as yours

15   if it is an admissible confession, but a

16   confession obtained from an accused on a very

17   serious matter is always a questionable issue and

18   usually hard to prove. If there is some hang-ups,

19   little miscarriages in it, it will usually be

20   found unfit for admission.

21 Q   Well --

22 A   And the fact that this fellow had a counsel and

23   the police knew that he had a counsel and ignored

24   him or evaded him to go and talk to this other

25   fellow in some little cubicle in the penitentiary,

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1   that starts off sounding like it wasn't a totally

2   voluntary confession, and if it isn't that, it's

3   not admissible in law.

4   Q   Well, let's back up a little bit. In 1970, '71

5   there was no right to counsel?

6   A   There was no which?

7   Q   Right to counsel.

8   A   I don't know if there was right to counsel or not.

9   Q   There was no warning given about the right to

10   counsel, correct, there was no Bridges warning

11   about Legal Aid, they all came years later?

12   A   But I understand that Fisher had counsel acting

13   for him. The Crown knew about it, the Crown

14   ignored that counsel and interviewed him and got

15   some sort of an admission.

16   Q   Well, let's back up.

17   COMMISSIONER MacCALLUM: Just a second.

18   MR. WOLCH: I thought you were finished.

19   I'm sorry, go ahead.

20   A   And I, for I don't know what combination of

21   reasons, but I had felt that I was going to get

22   that confession admitted as evidence in Court.

23   That's why I said I didn't have a case. I wasn't

24   going to lay a charge because I didn't have the

25   basis for laying a charge.

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1   BY MR. WOLCH:

2 Q   Well, let's back up a minute. In 1970, '71 I

3   suggest to you the practice was almost always for

4   the police to go talk to an accused after they had

5   counsel in the absence of counsel. In fact, it

6   strengthened the admissibility in those days that

7   he had a lawyer. The argument was he had spoken

8   to a lawyer, he had been told about his rights and

9   now he spoke to police, that was the position

10   invariably in a multitude of cases. There was no

11   right to counsel in 1970, '71.

12 A   Well, he didn't have the right, he had counsel.

13 Q   Right. The better argument would have been he

14   never had a counsel and they spoke to him. Having

15   a counsel strengthens the admissibility in those

16   days and you would have known that?

17 A   The admissibility in any confession depended on

18   the circumstances, all the circumstances of each

19   individual case, and I don't pretend to know all

20   of the circumstances now, but I know I felt that

21   we didn't have an admissible confession and

22   therefore we couldn't lay that charge.

23 Q   What did Mr. Karst tell you?

24 A   Mister who?

25 Q   Karst. What did he tell you?

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1   A   Oh, I didn't talk with him directly, but that's

2   the impression I got.

3   Q   Let's back up a minute. If you are concerned

4   about the voluntary nature of a confession, surely

5   you would talk to the officer who took the

6   confession?

7   A   Well, if I thought the circumstances under which

8   it was obtained were close enough to examine, I or

9   someone else would have examined it and decided to

10   go ahead if they so agreed.

11 Q   Well, you knew Mr. Karst; did you not?

12 A   I don't know that I even met him. I knew that he

13   existed as an officer in Saskatoon, yes.

14 Q   And you knew that he went to all the trouble of

15   going to Winnipeg to get a confession?

16 A   Yeah, I had heard that.

17 Q   By the way, you probably knew he was involved in

18   the Miller murder; did you not?

19 A   Pardon?

20 Q   You knew he was involved in the Miller murder; did

21   you not?

22 A   No, I didn't, or I don't think I did. I don't

23   know.

24 Q   You might have known that, okay. But you knew he

25   went to Winnipeg, you knew he got confessions on

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1   very serious crimes; correct?

2   A   I knew he got something that looked, at least on

3   the face of it, like a confession, right.

4   Q   Well, can you explain to me, or to anyone, how you

5   could possibly make a judgment call on a

6   confession without talking to the officer who took

7   the confession?

8   A   Well, first of all, I wasn't in charge of the

9   cases that he was examining, and secondly, I knew,

10   I had gone through a lot of confessions in my

11   days, a whole lot of them, and unless they were

12   clearly voluntarily given, I found that they were

13   not admissible, so someplace or other I got the

14   impression that this thing was not admissible.

15   Now, I might have been wrong, but that's the

16   decision that --

17   Q   What I'm getting at is this, the law in those

18   days -- for example, in 1969 --

19   A   Well, I'm talking about --

20   Q   Let me finish. In 1969, if a statement was

21   exculpatory, you didn't even have to prove it

22   voluntary, you could beat it out of somebody, that

23   was the law. Do you recall that?

24   A   That you could beat it out of them?

25   Q   Yeah.

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1   *A*   And get it admitted?

2   **Q**   Yes, 1969. They changed it the day David was

3   convicted, in the Supreme Court.

4   *A*   Well, my memory is obviously worse than yours

5   because I don't remember that in '69.

6   **Q**   1969, the day David was convicted they changed the

7   law on exculpatory statements, any statement could

8   be beaten out of somebody and would be admissible

9   as long as they didn't confess, that was the law,

10   that was the attitude toward statements. Surely

11   you are not suggesting statements were being

12   tossed left and right out of courts? I would

13   suggest it was the exception that was found to be

14   not voluntary.

15   *A*   Well, you've heard my comment. I have nothing to

16   add to it.

17   COMMISSIONER MacCALLUM: I hope we're all

18   on the same page. We're dealing with -- your

19   suggestion relates to exculpatory statements?

20   MR. WOLCH: Yes. I'm saying the law was so

21   much different back then that the idea that your

22   lawyer was not there was meaningless.

23   COMMISSIONER MacCALLUM: But of course this

24   witness is giving his comments with respect to

25   inculpatory statements.

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1   BY MR. WOLCH:

2   Q   Absolutely, but I'm saying the general tenor of

3   the law was so much different that it was routine

4   to question inmates after they seen their lawyer.

5   In fact, if a lawyer turned a client in and left,

6   the accused would be questioned routinely, even

7   today actually, that was a practice, and I'm

8   saying as an experienced man who spent your life

9   in this field you would know that. If you look in

10   the Milgaard file, they are eavesdropping on him,

11   he's talking to his mother, they are trying to

12   hear him. It was all different back then, there

13   was no Charter, there was no right to counsel.

14   The suggestion that he may have talked to a lawyer

15   and therefore this is not voluntary, I submit, has

16   no basis, no merit.

17   A   Well, if you are right and I was wrong, maybe we

18   did have a case that we could have taken into

19   Court.

20   Q   Well, I'm suggesting --

21   A   But I concluded otherwise.

22   Q   Okay. But I'm suggesting that it would be totally

23   irresponsible of you, and you don't sound like an

24   irresponsible man, totally irresponsible of you

25   not to check with the detective who took the

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1   actual statement to get the background and

2   circumstances.

3   A   I wasn't dealing with the case.

4   Q   Pardon me?

5   A   I wasn't dealing with the case at the time that he

6   took that and had that all done up.

7   Q   No, but you are going into a courtroom, you are

8   making judgment calls, you say you were greatly

9   influenced by the fact it might be difficult to

10   get the statement into Court. You were dealing

11   with the case, I don't know how you can say you

12   weren't. Are you maintaining you weren't dealing

13   with the case? I don't get it.

14   A   To the extent that I knew about some confession

15   being given somewhere, I was deciding whether I

16   thought that was possibly admissible in a Court of

17   law.

18   Q   I appreciate that, but do you understand the

19   difficulty with that position if you maintain you

20   didn't talk to the officer who took the statement?

21   A   It depends on why I took -- made that conclusion.

22   I don't know.

23   Q   Are you sure you didn't talk to the officer?

24   A   About 99 percent sure.

25   Q   And can you offer an explanation as to why you

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1   wouldn't go to the statement taker, whom I assume

2   you respected and trusted, and say to him, "Tell

3   me the circumstances? Do you think it's

4   admissible? You are a very experienced officer,

5   do I have any problems?"

6   A   Well, first of all, whatever he did he reported to

7   somebody in Saskatoon, not to me in the

8   headquarters of Regina, so that's why he wouldn't

9   talk to me or I didn't talk to him. I wasn't on

10   the case, I wasn't dealing with his investigation.

11   Q   There's nothing stopping you from picking up the

12   phone and saying detective, should I be concerned

13   about the statement?

14   A   If I had a basis for wanting to do that, I could

15   have done it like you say, but I didn't do it, I

16   didn't think I had the basis for it.

17   Q   Well, from whom did you get the basis to conclude

18   that the statement may not be voluntary?

19   A   I don't know the details of that at all.

20   Q   Well, who could you have got it from?

21   A   I don't know.

22   Q   Fisher? Did you ever talk to him?

23   A   Not that I know of, no.

24   Q   The only other choice is Greenberg, so is

25   Greenberg the one who told you, hey, your

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1   statement is no good, and you said okay, it's no

2   good?

3   A I don't know.

4   Q Did you talk to Lorne Huff or any of the Fort

5   Garry cops to say hey, how was this guy treated?

6   A No, I didn't.

7   Q Do you appreciate, with the benefit of hindsight,

8   that maybe you should have done those things

9   before you decided to ask for concurrent time and

10   thinking you had no case?

11 A Whether I should have asked -- that I should have

12   done certain things before deciding I didn't have

13   a case?

14 Q Yeah.

15 A Well, I was, I had formed the opinion that we

16   didn't have a case, and I don't know the details

17   for the, to back up that opinion, but I had

18   confidence in it, to me that issue was done and

19   over with, and if you were working this sort of a

20   field, you have to make a lot of decisions whether

21   something is going to go on or it isn't day after

22   day, so this was not an unusual experience for me.

23 Q I -- well, not unusual. I suggest it was unusual,

24   this is not an everyday case, we're talking about

25   four serious sexual assaults, very serious, they

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1   don't come around every day, they come around one

2   every five, six years, 10 years. This is not a

3   usual case.

4   A   And it's not usual that you get a confession in

5   such unusual cases either.

6   Q   He confessed in Winnipeg.

7   A   He which?

8   Q   He confessed in Winnipeg. Why not confess and

9   clean up your act? I don't understand,

10   confessions happen all the time. People have

11   remorse sometimes, they figure they are going to

12   get caught anyway, they might as well confess and

13   maybe get some brownie points, I don't know, they

14   confess.

15   A   They occasionally do, certainly.

16   Q   And when they confess, they are used in courts,

17   that's pretty obvious.

18   A   If the Court finds the admission admissible.

19   Q   And here's a guy who wanted to plead guilty.

20   A   Eventually he wanted to plead guilty according to

21   his lawyer and he wanted to clean up his record

22   and he wanted to get a new start on life. That's

23   what I was told.

24   Q   Okay. But surely you would have given some

25   thought to the fact, look, Bill Morton, the Crown

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1   in Winnipeg says the judge didn't know about this,

2   about his charges in Saskatoon, clearly implying

3   that he should be sentenced to something for

4   Saskatoon; correct? You saw that?

5   *A*   Okay, but what he thought about what the sentence

6   should be may or may not agree with my position on

7   it, and I think our position at that time was much

8   lighter sentences in Saskatchewan than in Manitoba

9   and so I would normally ask for a little less of a

10   sentence than he would.

11   *Q*   Well, you asked --

12   *A*   Who was right, I don't know.

13   *Q*   You asked for nothing.

14   *A*   Pardon?

15   *Q*   You asked for nothing, you asked for not an extra

16   day in jail; isn't that correct?

17   *A*   Yeah.

18   *Q*   Now, isn't this the way it would have been

19   approached in those days, and even today, the

20   Manitoba judge was faced with the Manitoba charges

21   and would have given a global sentence taking into

22   account the principle of totality; would that be

23   right?

24   *A*   I suppose.

25   *Q*   No, do you -- I don't want to confuse you. Do you

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1   understand what I'm saying? A Manitoba judge

2   would have said look, the rape on (V7)--- should

3   be 10 years, the rape on (V8)--- should be 10

4   years, I'm not going to give him 20, I'll give him

5   13 in total because 20 is too much on the

6   principle of totality. Do you understand that?

7 A   Yeah.

8 Q   Okay. And what would normally be put before the

9   Saskatchewan judge is this, here's what you have

10   to consider, My Lord, what would the Manitoba

11   judge have given if he had been aware that there

12   were four additional crimes, that is, what would

13   the Manitoba judge have given if there was the two

14   from Manitoba and the four from Saskatchewan, what

15   would the global sentence have been, approach it

16   from that way. Isn't that the normal way of doing

17   it in a courtroom?

18 A   No.

19 Q   It's not?

20 A   His decision is what should the Saskatchewan Court

21   do with this charge if -- let's say that the

22   Manitoba Court sentenced him to 25 years.

23 Q   Yes.

24 A   It is certain in our attitude today that the

25   Saskatchewan Court of Appeal wouldn't consider for

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1   a minute to enlarge it, in those days that's the

2   way it felt, as I understood it, about the 13 year

3   sentence.

4   Q   Well, we looked at the *Bonisteel* case. Were you

5   here when we looked at that case the other day?

6   *A*   The which case?

7   Q   *Bonisteel*, a couple of years later it was a life

8   sentence reduced to 20 years for two rapes, one in

9   Saskatchewan and one in Manitoba. Sentences for

10   guys with knives have always been very long in

11   rape cases. The guy hiding in the bush is a

12   terrible, terrible thing, that's a danger forever,

13   no one has ever been light on those, and I suggest

14   to you Saskatchewan was never light on those, it

15   just didn't have them. You weren't handling all

16   kinds of light rape sentences for guys with knives

17   in parking lots were you?

18   *A*   I don't know what your question is.

19   COMMISSIONER MacCALLUM: I think we'll take

20   a break.

21   MR. WOLCH: Certainly, sir.

22   *(Adjourned at 10:18 a.m.)*

23   *(Reconvened at 10:41 a.m.)*

24   BY MR. HODSON:

25   Q   Mr. Kujawa, I would like to draw your attention to

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1   a couple of documents, 010721, this is one of the

2   statements that Mr. Karst took from Mr. Fisher at

3   the crucial time and it would appear that he was

4   given the charge and you'll see where he's told:

5   "Do you wish to say anything in answer

6   to the charge? You need not say

7   anything. You have nothing to hope from

8   any promise or favour and nothing to

9   fear from any threat whether or not you

10   say anything. Anything you do say may

11   be used as evidence at your trial."

12   Q   Do you understand that the charge ...

13   A   Yes.

14   Q   Do you understand the warning ...

15   A   Yes."

16   Now, isn't that a pretty good basis for getting a

17   statement admitted?

18   A   It seems that way right there, yes.

19   Q   Now, this is one of the statements that you would

20   have determined, or believed to be not voluntary.

21   Do you understand that?

22   A   I certainly don't remember reading that part

23   before, so maybe I didn't.

24   Q   How are you assessing a case without having the

25   confession of the accused?

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1   *A*   I don't remember.

2   **Q**   Well --

3   *A*   I don't.

4   **Q**   I'm going to draw to your attention 012111. I

5   won't read it all out, but once again you have

6   exactly the same, the same beginning with the

7   charge caution and what appears to be an

8   understanding by Mr. Fisher. Do you see that?

9   *A*   Yes.

10   **Q**   And I don't want to belabour it, but I'm having a

11   very difficult time understanding how you can come

12   to the conclusion that these statements were

13   unlikely to be admitted into a Court of law.

14   *A*   It seems to me I don't know, that's my number one

15   answer, I don't know, but it seems that maybe that

16   this understanding was made by him to the officer

17   on the basis of we want to clean up all of these

18   offences and that's why I'm asking you, that might

19   be the basis, I don't know.

20   **Q**   Why would that affect him?

21   *A*   Well, if you are telling the fellow we're doing

22   this for the purpose of getting rid of these

23   charges --

24   **Q**   Yes?

25   *A*   -- without any extra sentence, that would be quite

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1   a considerable hope in the mind of the prisoner.

2   Q Hope for what?

3   A For no increase in sentences to clear up the

4   offences.

5   Q Well, wouldn't you check with Detective Karst

6   first to say "Detective, did you offer that kind

7   of hope?"

8   A I don't -- I don't think I ever checked with

9   Karst. I may have checked with whoever sent him

10   or whoever had any dealings with it, but I don't

11   know that I did.

12   Q Okay. But the statement is signed by Karst, the

13   taker, on the witness. Scroll down to the bottom,

14   you'll see it's Karst -- please go down to the

15   bottom of the page. Witness - "E. Karst", that's

16   the name that appears there. There's no more

17   logical person to check with as to whether any

18   hope or promise of favour was given to Mr. Fisher

19   than Mr. Karst. There's no point to going to

20   somebody in Saskatoon and say did Eddie Karst

21   offer him a favour, you would go to Eddie Karst.

22   He wasn't hiding.

23   A Well, I don't know, I just don't know.

24   Q I'm trying to understand, I'm having a very

25   difficult time, as to why you would form this

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1   conclusion that this, on the face of a very proper

2   statement, would not be admissible in a Court of

3   law.

4   A   And I've already given you my answer, which is I

5   don't know. If you want me to speculate, because

6   the Chief Justice of the Saskatoon Police Force

7   said Karst, go to Winnipeg, make this kind of a

8   deal, get him to admit it for no increase in

9   sentence and clear up his whole case.

10   Q   And what, probably pick Karst because he was

11   investigating the Milgaard case?

12   A   Pick Karst because he chose Karst. I don't know

13   why.

14   Q   Well, I'm sorry, I shouldn't have allowed you to

15   speculate, to that degree at least. I'm more

16   concerned with known facts. We know Karst took

17   the statement, we know the only sources of

18   information as to what transpired in that room

19   would be Karst, Fisher or perhaps Greenberg

20   repeating what Fisher told him.

21   A   Or it could have been whoever said Karst had given

22   him specific instructions along the lines I've

23   already outlined.

24   Q   But that person wasn't in the room to say what

25   happened.

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1   A   No.

2   Q   But you agree that possible sources are Karst,

3   Fisher and Greenberg saying here, Fisher, those

4   are the only sources aren't they?

5   A   The only sources of what?

6   Q   Of what transpired to bring about the confession.

7   A   Well, how about if the Chief Justice told Karst to

8   go down there and do this on this basis, wouldn't

9   that be a reasonable source?

10   Q   I'm not going to answer your question, I'll move

11   on. Now, even with the benefit of hindsight, do

12   you see the inappropriateness of Fisher getting

13   not a day in jail for the four Saskatoon offences?

14   A   No.

15   Q   Even with hindsight you don't?

16   A   Well, I've said it many times in this courtroom

17   already, do you want to repeat?

18   Q   What I am saying to you is this; if all the

19   charges were dealt with at the same time in

20   Manitoba, or all of the charges were dealt with at

21   the same time in Saskatchewan, would it not be

22   fair to say that, for six terrible crimes, a judge

23   would have given a sentence approaching 20 years?

24   A   It might be, but it would depend on how many cases

25   we were able to bring before the Court without the

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1   cooperation of the accused, and since we -- let's

2   say it was seven cases and we could prove only one

3   without his cooperation, it's pretty hard to use

4   those other six guilty pleas to increase the

5   sentence. That's one of the reasons that the

6   sentences were not increased. And then we started

7   with the fact that 13 years, in Saskatchewan at

8   that time, was quite a long sentence even for that

9   number of offences.

10 Q   Now your counsel, I believe in questioning Mr.

11   MacKay, pointed out that Fisher got ten years for

12   the attack on (V10) (V10)-; were you here when he

13   did that or asked those questions --

14 A   No, --

15 Q   -- at all?

16 A   -- I have no recollection of that.

17 Q   I believe she was attacked at the end of, very end

18   of March, 1980, now so Fisher would have been

19   released on parole, obviously; do you agree? If

20   he committed the offence in 1980 he would have had

21   to have gotten paroled in about the eighth or

22   ninth year, eighth year, of his 13-year sentence?

23 A   I don't know. If you know, that's good enough for

24   me.

25 Q   Well, it makes sense. What I am saying is

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1   clearly, if Fisher had received consecutive or

2   additional time for the four Saskatchewan rapes,

3   he would not have been on the street when (V10)

4   (V10)- was attacked; you appreciate that?

5 A   Well I don't know when, who she is or when she was

6   attacked, but he would have been -- if he had

7   gotten more of a sentence he would have been in

8   jail longer.

9 Q   And from your experience in the sentencing system,

10   if in fact he was convicted in 1980 for attacking

11   (V10) (V10)- and got ten years, he would have had

12   his parole revoked and would have had perhaps four

13   or five years added on; would that be correct?

14 A   I don't know, I --

15 Q   Well, from all your experience in dealing with

16   sentencing?

17 A   Well, it works generally that way, that's all I

18   know.

19 Q   Yeah. If you are on parole you lose your parole

20   time if you are caught committing an indictable

21   offence; isn't that how it works?

22 A   Basically, as I understand it, yeah.

23 Q   I want to turn to a different area, and I think

24   you will be really pleased to know that I don't

25   intend to go through all kinds of newspaper

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1   clippings and all kinds of reporting, but I do

2   want to touch on your attitude to the efforts to

3   correct the miscarriage and the efforts of

4   enlisting public support. I'm not really sure

5   what your position is on that. You quarrelled, if

6   I understood you correctly, with the concept of

7   people who don't know the facts jumping into the

8   fray, and those are my words, not yours; am I

9   accurate, though, as to what you were generally

10   saying?

11   A   I think I was saying a fair bit of that about the

12   news media, yes.

13   Q   That these people didn't know the facts, that were

14   making comments that were without bases, and were

15   threatening the entire system; is that the idea?

16   A   Well I thought that there was a certain amount of

17   that going on, yes.

18   Q   Well that would presuppose that you were reading

19   the paper?

20   A   Well, I was picking up some of the items from the

21   paper, I certainly wasn't reading it carefully --

22   Q   Okay.

23   A   -- and constantly.

24   Q   And what did you understand the system to be that

25   was in jeopardy at that time, keeping in mind, as

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1   we know it, that the appeal procedure was

2   exhausted and there was this 617, 690, and right

3   now 696 mechanism or vehicle for going to the

4   Minister of Justice; what did you understand was

5   going on at this time or what system could be

6   undermined, what was being threatened?

7   A   Well the judicial system could be undermined if it

8   was being pushed around by loud, vocal public

9   opinion by people who were not qualified to

10   practice in that field.

11 Q   Well what does "qualified" mean to you, like why

12   can't any citizen voice an opinion on the merits

13   of a judgement?

14 A   Because most citizens don't understand the merits

15   or lack of merits of a judgement.

16 Q   And you say the average person can't read a

17   judgement and say "I agree, disagree" or anything

18   like that?

19 A   Yes, he can read that and he can say that, but I

20   say he has a lack of understanding, he or she has

21   a lack of understanding. After all, you've seen a

22   whole lot of lawyers talk about legal matters,

23   they showed very little understanding, and it's

24   the great Albert Einstein says that the only real

25   source of real intelligence and understanding is

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1   experience, and not all of us have experience in

2   all areas.

3   Q   Well I appreciate that not everybody has a lot of

4   experience, but surely a young person can look at

5   something and say "I don't agree" or "I see an

6   error in it"; what is the problem in that?

7   A   Well I could listen to a fellow speaking in Greek

8   and say "I don't agree".

9   Q   Are you saying the case is that complicated? I

10   mean --

11 A   No, I'm talking about the only issue that's before

12   us, and that is can someone say that, and the

13   answer is, of course, they can say that.

14 Q   Okay. But your issue is that they are uninformed,

15   now on what basis do you say they are uninformed,

16   how do you know what the writers know or what

17   they've got, how can you say they are uninformed,

18   what basis for that?

19 A   Well, first of all, their lack of experience in

20   that field; and second, if you listen to them for

21   a very short while, you realize that they make no

22   sense, and so you jump to the conclusion that they

23   are uninformed.

24 Q   Okay. Well, in terms of knowledge and experience,

25   might you agree that this particular case was

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1   fact-driven?

2   A   Well, I don't know what you mean by "fact-driven"?

3   Q   Well it's not a matter of, you know, what is the

4   constitutional basis for admitting evidence, or do

5   we impose, apply Section 1 or Section 24, this is

6   a case of what are the facts. You don't have to

7   be a lawyer to look at the facts of this case and

8   make a conclusion or have an opinion, at least, so

9   I'm saying this is a fact-driven case, not a

10   legal-driven case or a law-driven case; do you

11   agree with that?

12   A   Well what is the difference between facts and

13   logic?

14   Q   Well no, what I am saying is when you are making a

15   comment, the lay person may have difficulty on the

16   constitutionality of a particular issue but the

17   lay person might not have difficulty looking at

18   the facts and saying, "eh, Larry Fisher did it".

19   You follow what I am saying?

20   A   I think I sort of follow what you are saying, but

21   I certainly don't understand.

22   Q   I'm trying to zero in on what your problem was

23   with the public being educated on the facts in the

24   *Milgaard* case. I'm having trouble with that.

25   A   I was not talking about the public being educated,

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1   I'm talking about the public being extremely vocal

2   in that case, without being educated.

3   Q   Well, what were they getting wrong, what did you

4   see as wrong?

5   A   Well what can be right about an argument presented

6   by someone who doesn't know what he is talking

7   about?

8   Q   Well where is your presumption they didn't know

9   what they were talking about, what is it based on?

10   A   Based on the lack of education and lack of

11   experience, experience in a way more than the

12   education.

13   Q   Are you aware that the reporters were given access

14   to everything that the counsel for David Milgaard

15   had, to look at it, read it, study it, do what you

16   want?

17   A   Yeah, but I'm not talking about what they had

18   access to, I'm talking about what they had

19   understanding of.

20   Q   Well, access gives understanding, does it not?

21   A   Not necessarily, no. If I had access to a great

22   argument by a couple of Greek philosophers would I

23   understand what they were saying?

24   Q   Well, who did you feel should be speaking, if

25   anybody?

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1   A   People who had knowledge in that particular field.

2   Q   Who would that be?

3   A   People with knowledge.

4   Q   Who?

5   A   Whoever they are.

6   Q   Yeah, but who, what are you talking about?

7   A   Well basically, according to our rules, lawyers

8   and judges.

9   Q   Okay. The judges aren't going to speak to the

10   media, that's pretty obvious, is it not?

11   A   Well they speak to the media with their judgements

12   every day.

13   Q   Right. They are not going to offer opinions to

14   the media, so we're left with the lawyers,

15   correct? So you acknowledge that lawyers can

16   speak out?

17   A   Well the judges give opinions by the ton.

18   Q   I appreciate that. We're talking about opinions

19   that you find fault with, in that they shouldn't

20   be doing it because they are -- they don't have

21   the experience or the background, so you are --

22   but were not the reporters reporting what lawyers

23   were saying and what witnesses were saying; isn't

24   that what they were reporting?

25   A   Well, I suppose they were, but so what?

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1   **Q**   Well, are you finding fault with that?

2   *A*   Well, if they say that whatever the witness or the

3   lawyer says is the final answer, I find 100

4   percent fault with that.

5   **Q**   And --

6   *A*   And so does anybody else who even has a half an

7   eye open.

8   **Q**   Are you finding there is something wrong with the

9   media reporting Larry Fisher committed all these

10   similar acts, same *modus operandi*, knives, bus

11   stops, clothing, lived in the area, lived in

12   Cadrain's house; is there a problem with the media

13   reporting that or was there a problem in your

14   mind?

15   *A*   Well there is no problem, as far as I can see, of

16   reporting the facts of any part of any case.

17   **Q**   Well I'm trying to understand, and I don't want to

18   get into this whole business, but I am trying to

19   understand why your reaction would have been not

20   to say "look, here's the other side of the story",

21   but to say "David, you are a kook" and "you guys

22   are prostitutes", why weren't you dealing with the

23   merits, why the personal attacks?

24   *A*   Well if I made some improper statements like

25   calling someone a kook, and that's an improper

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1   statement, I shouldn't have done that, I'm sorry,

2   I take it back. But that doesn't mean that he has

3   an Einstein-like understanding of legal matters.

4   Q   I understand that, I'm trying to identify what

5   motivated you to behave in that way, because the

6   criticism of you were fact-driven.

7   A   Well --

8   Q   Hang on, let me finish. They were "you had this

9   report, you didn't do this, you didn't do that",

10   that was the basis, generally, for the criticism,

11   you know, the facts. But instead of dealing with

12   facts your response was to call people names; now

13   I want to know why?

14 A   My response was which?

15 Q   To call people names, I mean, to be very derisive.

16   I mean, I don't know why you didn't react in a

17   different way, and I'm trying to understand that?

18 A   Well, because I am certainly a helluva long way

19   from being in any way perfect, but I was certainly

20   being annoyed and pushed and walked around by

21   totally irresponsible people who were calling me a

22   criminal, a kook, a cover-upper, etcetera, and

23   those kind of people can get, until you grow up

24   enough to realize that they are helpless nobodies,

25   that they can be quite irritating, and especially

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1   if you -- if they have your kids reading their

2   comments in the papers every day and hearing it on

3   the radio every day.

4   Q But why wouldn't you deal with the merits, I mean

5   the ac --

6   A Well --

7   Q What was being said then was --

8   A -- the merits is people shouldn't be allowed to be

9   doing that.

10 Q Well Fisher was dealt in Regina which seemed

11   strange, he got a sentence that seemed strange,

12   nobody knew about it which seemed strange, those

13   are all facts, they are facts that required

14   answers. I'm just thinking about your response

15   was to just attack as opposed to answer, that's

16   what I am trying to get at.

17 A Well what answers did you want? The answer is he

18   was dealt with in a Court of Queen's Bench in the

19   City of Regina on the blank day of blank and here

20   is the sentence that was passed. Is that what you

21   want?

22 Q No, what I want to understand is this; you are

23   saying that people -- and yet I suggest you have

24   no basis for saying it -- you are saying that the

25   opinions are uneducated or not properly founded,

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1   and yet you say, yourself, you made no effort to

2   learn the facts yourself. As you are offering

3   opinions, at the same time you are saying you are

4   not reading reports, you are not educating

5   yourself, you are not even reading the Supreme

6   Court judgement if I understand you correctly, and

7   you are offering opinions. I don't understand how

8   you, with no basis, can say "everybody else

9   doesn't know anything"?

10   A   I didn't say everybody else doesn't know anything.

11   Q   Well you are saying they are not based on

12   experience, they are not based on study, they are

13   just --

14   A   I'm saying that certain of the people that were

15   very vocal fit the category. That's all.

16   Q   Well why weren't you educating yourself?

17   A   Well I was trying to educate myself, but it was

18   hard to believe that some people were talking

19   like, like some people, if you will pardon the

20   expression, were talking.

21   Q   I've heard an expression several times, I want to

22   know if you agree with it, and that is that from a

23   prosecutor's perspective convicting an innocent

24   person is a prosecutor's worst nightmare; have you

25   heard that expression before?

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1   A   I don't know if I heard it exactly in that form,

2   but basically, yes.

3   Q   Do you agree with that?

4   A   Yes.

5   Q   Without being flippant, it seems to me you didn't

6   lose an awful lot of sleep over this one?

7   A   Over which one?

8   Q   Well when they -- when the Milgaards and their

9   support are coming forward and saying "this man is

10   wrongly convicted, another guy did it", I know of

11   no evidence of you going back and saying "look,

12   I'm going to review the files, I want to know

13   everything to make sure I was right"?

14   A   They had never given me any evidence of who did

15   what, or where, or why, and the Supreme Court of

16   Canada said that this fellow was convicted

17   properly according to the law. That doesn't mean

18   everything was done in -- by perfection.

19   Q   No, what I am getting at is from a personal level,

20   you were counsel at two appellate levels, as a

21   person, as a human being, as a man who would not

22   like to have his worst nightmare realized, why

23   wouldn't you, on your own accord, try to study it,

24   say "I'm gonna look at the Fisher evidence, I'm

25   gonna sit down myself, with all my experience, and

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1   form an opinion, and if I decide that Fisher was

2   good evidence, I may even join in the

3   application"; why wouldn't you do that?

4   A   Because I never had the Fisher evidence before me

5   to deal with.

6   Q   Well, you had all of the Fisher evidence at one

7   time or other, but --

8   A   What do you mean I had all of the --

9   Q   Well you had the statements of the victims in both

10   of the, in both, in two different files?

11   A   Statements of victims and whatever the police have

12   found are not referred to me until there is a

13   basis for a charge to be laid.

14   Q   But --

15   A   I'm not involved with the first-step

16   investigations of offences.

17   Q   But --

18   A   I couldn't be.

19   Q   But are you suggesting, as a Member of the

20   Legislature and as the former Director of

21   Prosecutions, that if you went to Murray Brown or

22   to anybody and said "look, let me go through the

23   files" it would have been denied to you?

24   A   Do I think it would be denied?

25   Q   Yes?

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1   A   No, I don't think so, if the file was there it

2   wouldn't be.

3   Q   Whatever was available you likely could have

4   seen --

5   A   Right.

6   Q   -- given your background?

7   A   I think so.

8   Q   Yeah. But you never made any single effort to see

9   if maybe you had contributed to a miscarriage of

10   justice?

11   A   No, and I have told you why I haven't.

12   Q   Tell me again?

13   A   Okay, I'll tell you once more. Milgaard was

14   convicted according to proper evidence presented

15   in a Court of law, he was convicted by a jury, his

16   conviction was upheld on appeals, he didn't even

17   say "I didn't do it". That, in a prosecutor's

18   busy mind and busy day, means that case is over

19   with, what is piled up in front of me now.

20   Q   Well, let me pause there. Are you not being a

21   little unfair to a 16-year-old in terms of

22   testifying and whether or not he had competent

23   legal advice that assisted him in that decision?

24   A   I am going by what is normally in the mind of a

25   prosecutor who's dealing with a file like that,

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1   and when it's over it's done, he goes on to the

2   next half a dozen files that are waiting for him.

3   Q You knew he had made statements to the police in

4   the very beginning denying the offence, offered

5   samples, and did all of those sort of things at

6   the time?

7   A I didn't, I didn't go through the details of what

8   he or anybody else did, the case was in the hands

9   of T.D.R. Caldwell in Saskatoon.

10 Q When the case is over are you saying that you

11   don't even allow for the possibility there was an

12   error or a miscarriage?

13 A I may -- I don't say that -- first of all, I don't

14   think human beings are ever 100 percent correct

15   and accurate, but when a thing has gone through

16   the process that this one has gone through and

17   it's done and over with, I go on to the next

18   things on my desk, I don't continue going through

19   that same file over and over.

20 Q No, but when somebody brings before you, or brings

21   out in the public credible arguments that there

22   was a miscarriage, you don't have to accept them,

23   but at least they have a foundation, they are not

24   pie in the sky, knowing you were involved are you

25   saying there was no desire on your part to say

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1   "wait a minute, I don't want to have anything to

2   do with an innocent person being in jail, I want

3   to find out for myself if there was an error

4   here"; is that your position?

5   A   My position is if I think he was wrongfully

6   convicted, I'm gonna do everything I can to get

7   that straightened out, but who brought this stuff

8   to me that you say was brought to me?

9   Q   But you saw fit to comment publicly on the lack of

10   merit in the application; did you not?

11   A   Are you gonna answer my question?

12   Q   Sorry, I lost your question, I -- my -- you did

13   see fit to bring forward publicly that the

14   application was without merit?

15   A   Because I said that no one brought any merit to

16   show me.

17   Q   But why wouldn't you go and ask? You had much

18   more access to everything than anybody.

19   A   I told you that I didn't go and ask because I

20   considered the case done and over with, and no one

21   brought me all of these goodies that you are

22   talking about, and you certainly didn't bring any.

23   Q   Now you commented on the Supreme Court, and I have

24   no problem with you disagreeing with their

25   judgement, you are not the only one, I think Kim

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1   Campbell and a whole bunch of people disagreed,

2   but I'm a little concerned about you calling them

3   silly. Do you regret saying that?

4   A Well I don't know exactly how I said it or

5   whatever, but I know that I didn't read the

6   Supreme Court judgement at the time of that

7   interview alongside of Asper, and I was making

8   comments about what he said the Supreme Court of

9   Canada said.

10   Q I don't want to --

11   A That's my memory of that situation.

12   Q I don't want to replay it, but I see a bit of

13   irony in the fact that you are generally

14   complaining that people are making uneducated

15   comments and causing the system to be looked at

16   perhaps with a bit of scorn, but here we have a

17   man in your position, in your position, calling

18   the Supreme Court silly on a judgement you haven't

19   even read?

20   A Okay, and it was because I was referring to the

21   expression of -- or it's a description of what

22   they have just did from this lawyer, and that was

23   a mistake on my part, and I was wrong, I shouldn't

24   have said it, I shouldn't have done it, I

25   shouldn't have concluded it, and I should not have

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1   assumed that he knew what the Supreme Court of

2   Canada said.

3 Q Well --

4 A So I made a lot of mistakes.

5 Q Well, it -- well, yeah. You said, there, that

6   basically -- and I'm paraphrasing and I could be a

7   little bit off -- but you did basically say that

8   there is no bases for the admission of similar act

9   evidence; is that not what you said, or I don't

10   want to misquote you?

11 A Well basically that's just that kind of a

12   statement, yes, I said that.

13 Q And I think you said no -- "I can't find a lawyer

14   in the land who would agree that that similar act

15   evidence is admissible", what was your basis for

16   saying that, why would you think it wouldn't be

17   admissible?

18 A Because I know of no place in the field of

19   criminal law where it was held to be admissible.

20 Q Where what was held to be admissible?

21 A Straight similar fact evidence with no other

22   connection between the accused and this offence.

23 Q Okay. Well Larry Fisher took the same bus as Gail

24   Miller, lived in the Cadrain home, attacked women

25   in the area in the same way, his wife said he

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1   didn't come home -- or didn't go to work that

2   morning, there were three jail, or four jailhouse

3   confessions; were you aware of all that?

4   A   No, I wasn't aware of all of that, and you say

5   that there were these number of confessions?

6   Q   Well I'm just saying, I'm giving you a picture to

7   say I can't, for the life of me, understand why

8   you say all those extremely similar acts would (a)

9   not be admissible against Larry Fisher at his own

10   trial, and for sure at David Milgaard's trial

11   where the threshold for admissibility is lesser?

12   A   Because just the fact that he may have committed

13   or been capable of committing that sort of an

14   offence is not evidence that he did it.

15   Q   Well, what are similar acts, what are they in our

16   law?

17   A   That he raped people.

18   Q   Well what's the evidentiary value of that?

19   A   Well that's my question to you; what's the

20   evidentiary value? Just the fact that he raped

21   people doesn't mean that he raped this particular

22   people and, therefore, it's not evidence

23   admissible on this particular charge.

24   Q   Are --

25   A   That's all I'm saying.

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1   Q   Are similar acts ever admissible?

2   A   Pardon?

3   Q   Are similar acts ever admissible in your

4   understanding of the law?

5   A   They are not admissible unless they point at a

6   particular person. Just the fact that he may have

7   done something similar doesn't mean it's evidence

8   against him on which a jury could convict.

9   Q   Is that still your opinion?

10   A   That's still my opinion, yes.

11   Q   And that certainly would have been your opinion in

12   1969?

13   A   Yes.

14   Q   So, if you saw that, you would have thought

15   nothing of it?

16   A   If I --

17   Q   If you saw that in, when you prosecuted Fisher --

18   A   Okay, well if I saw something that wasn't

19   evidence, I wouldn't be looking at evidence.

20   Q   So if you saw and looked at Fisher's rapes in '69

21   in the early '70s when you saw them, you would

22   have thought nothing of it, you would have said

23   "this is not evidence that could be used by

24   Milgaard"? It's not a matter of you not seeing,

25   it's a matter had you seen it you would have

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1   thought nothing of it, that's your opinion then

2   and your opinion today?

3   A   Well, if it wasn't evidence, it wasn't evidence.

4   That's my opinion, yes.

5   Q   And that would have been your opinion back then?

6   A   That was my opinion always.

7   Q   Okay. Do you appreciate there might be a lower

8   threshold when you are trying to prove your

9   innocence as opposed to trying to establish guilt?

10   Do you understand what I'm saying? I'll help you

11   with that. If you are prosecuting Larry Fisher

12   there is concern on the judge's part that the

13   similar act has to be a stamp of the accused, so

14   to speak, because a jury might be overly persuaded

15   by it to convict. I haven't put it very well, but

16   that's the tenor of it. However, if an accused is

17   trying to raise a reasonable doubt, there's a

18   lesser threshold because you don't have the same

19   danger, you are not convicting on it, you are

20   acquitting on it is what I'm saying.

21 A   Okay, but that's if -- if he can call in similar

22   act evidence by someone else which has some means

23   of saying I didn't do it, he must have done it.

24 Q   Okay, yes, that's right.

25 A   If you have that, great, it's admissible evidence.

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1   Q   Okay. Are you aware that on the higher threshold

2   the judge, in the eventual Larry Fisher

3   prosecution, admitted certain of the offences as

4   similar acts that could be led against Larry

5   Fisher?

6   A   I don't know, because when I was working on that

7   file I wasn't working on Fisher, I was working on

8   the Milgaard case.

9   Q   Okay. What would have been your reaction when you

10   learned of the DNA? By that I mean -- I'll be

11   more precise. In 1997 you are aware of the fact

12   that DNA established, with the aid of, I think

13   it's three reputable scientists and very careful

14   preservation of exhibits, led to the absolute

15   conclusion that Fisher was the man who committed

16   the crime. What was your reaction?

17 A   Well, first of all, once again, nothing is

18   perfectly proven and I don't know exactly how the

19   substance that was tested on those clothes got

20   onto that substance, but --

21 Q   Sorry, what does that mean?

22 A   Well, I don't know where it came from.

23 Q   I don't want to be flippant, we did talk about a

24   semen fairy, but I don't get you. What do you

25   mean how it got on the clothes?

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1   A   When did it get on, how did it get on, was it on

2   there back in 1969 or could it have been put on

3   later.

4   Q   By who? Who would have Fisher's semen?

5   A   Whoever was looking for it might have been able to

6   find it, I don't know, but it's a possibility,

7   that's all I know.

8   Q   So your reaction was doubt? What was your

9   reaction? I mean, you have acceptance by the

10   police, acceptance by the RCMP, acceptance by the

11   minister. What was your personal reaction; doubt?

12   A   Well, my first question was where did this

13   substance that was tested come from.

14   Q   Okay. Your next question?

15   A   And the next question is, well, since it

16   apparently came from Fisher, Fisher would be

17   likely the one who was, who had committed that

18   offence.

19   Q   Okay. And then were you at that point even

20   satisfied that he did it or were you still in the

21   doubt stage or what stage were you at?

22   A   I have to be satisfied that that's what happened

23   and I certainly supported the prosecution of

24   Fisher for that event.

25   Q   Would it be fair to say that in truth you didn't

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1              believe it?

2      A       Didn't believe what?

3      Q       That they -- that it was Fisher's semen that was

4              discovered?

5      A       No, I didn't for a moment say or believe that it

6              wasn't Fisher's, my only question is when did it

7              get on those clothings, that's -- now, I don't

8              pretend to know all about it by any means, I don't

9              know if semen stays on for 23 years and held in a

10             dingy corner of the courthouse and is still

11             testable, maybe it is, maybe it isn't.  They say

12             it is.

13     Q       I guess what --

14     A       I have to accept their finding.

15     Q       I guess what I'm having difficulty with is this,

16             on one hand you doubt the confessions that Mr.

17             Karst took from Fisher, on another hand you have

18             some doubt about DNA that's so carefully taken,

19             and yet in prosecuting David Milgaard you don't

20             look at Nichol John's statement and go what is

21             this all about.  Why didn't you apply the same

22             doubt to that case?

23     A       Why didn't I which?

24     Q       The same kind of scrutiny and taking a step back

25             and saying look, DNA, are you for real, these
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1   confessions, are you voluntary, why didn't you

2   apply that same kind of mentality when you did the

3   appeals on David Milgaard, the evidence that is so

4   fraught with problems?

5   A   Well, because I was going by the only material

6   that I had before me to deal with that appeal and

7   if I was wrong and stupid, so were all the Court

8   of Appeal members because they agreed.

9   Q   Did you want a public inquiry?

10   A   Like --

11   Q   -- here.

12   A   This public inquiry?

13   Q   Yes.

14   A   No, I didn't want it.

15   Q   You asked for it; didn't you?

16   A   No, I didn't. I don't know it's purpose,

17   objective or its limits or anything like that. I

18   don't pretend to know enough about it to know

19   whether I would vote for it or not. No one ever

20   asked for my opinion.

21   Q   Perhaps we might look at 033005. Have you seen

22   this document in preparing for your testimony?

23   A   Right now I can't read it. Unless it's enlarged I

24   won't be able to read it.

25   Q   I'll go through it with you. For now I just want

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1   to know whether you've seen it in preparation.

2   A   I think I have, yeah, but if you read it, it would

3   go faster.

4   Q   Okay. Well, let's have a look at it, what it is.

5   It's a memorandum from Murray Brown, who you know,

6   to John Whyte, Deputy Minister, who I presume you

7   know, and it's dated July 21st, 1997. Do you see

8   that?

9   A   Yes.

10   Q   And that would have been pretty much around the

11   time the DNA results came in. The memo says:

12   "I have just spoken again with Sy Halyk

13   who represents Serge Kujawa and Bobs

14   Caldwell in one of the Milgaard law

15   suits. He informs me that he will be

16   holding a press conference today to do

17   two things on behalf of his clients.

18   First, he will apologize to David

19   Milgaard and second, he will call for a

20   public inquiry and ask that it proceed

21   as soon as possible."

22   Now, it would appear that he was doing that on

23   your instruction. Do you see that?

24   A   I see that statement, yeah, but I don't remember

25   giving any such instructions.

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1   **Q**   But it may be that you did ask him to ask for a

2   public inquiry?

3   *A*   Maybe.

4   **Q**   It says:

5   "First, he will apologize to David

6   Milgaard and second, he will call for a

7   public inquiry... Consistent with what

8   I told you this morning, he wants the

9   inquiry to proceed after the criminal

10   case is finished but before the civil

11   case proceeds. He spoke to ... Roden

12   ... on the civil suit ... and Mr. Roden

13   apparently agrees that this is ...

14   appropriate.

15   He suggested as well that if

16   the questions at the press conference

17   allow, he intends to suggest publicly

18   that the inquiry process should start

19   now at getting things organized. Why he

20   is in that much of a hurry is difficult

21   to know except that it perhaps that

22   might take pressure off his clients."

23   Did you feel you were under pressure at that

24   time?

25   *A*   Not that I know of.

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1 Q   "He is also going to point out if he

2   gets the chance that several separate

3   inquiries into this case have failed to

4   find any wrongful conduct on the part of

5   his clients. I suggested some caution

6   there simply because of the way that

7   might look at this stage."

8   Here's the part I'm concerned about:

9   "Sy also reports that Bobs Caldwell is

10   adjusting to this new reality but Serge

11   Kujawa is not. Apparently, Serge's view

12   is that you can get experts to say

13   anything you want and this is just

14   another case of that."

15   That was your view then?

16 A   To some degree, yes.

17 Q   Were you aware of the process that Justice took to

18   handle the exhibits and to get the best experts

19   possible from three different countries to do the

20   analysis?

21 A   Well, I don't know how the exhibits were handled

22   and I don't think anybody does, most didn't even

23   know where the exhibits were for all of those

24   years. Now, how they were handled, how they were

25   discovered, what if anything was put on them I

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 1             don't know, and will never know.

 2     Q      It goes on here:

 3                      "Sy thinks he has Serge under control

 4                      for the time being and will stay in

 5                      touch with him to ensure he remembers to

 6                      keep his mouth shut."

 7             It would appear that there was some problem with

 8             you sounding off was there?

 9     A      Well, the fellow put it in his letter.  He must

10             have thought so.

11     Q      Okay.  Well, I mean, at the press conferences you

12             quite properly apologized and did all that, but it

13             would appear to me from this memo that it really

14             wasn't all that sincere, that you were doubting it

15             all and questioning it all and you weren't

16             adjusting particularly well.

17     A      Well, my apology was I'm sorry, Mr. Milgaard, that

18             you were improperly convicted, this DNA stuff has

19             proven that you were not the fellow who did it and

20             I'm sorry all of this happened, but I don't admit

21             to any wrongful or dishonest or improper moves on

22             the part of myself or anybody else that I knew of

23             and therefore it wasn't a complete apology of I'm

24             sorry what we did to you, because we did never

25             mean to do it.  We made a mistake.
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1   Q   Okay, but is it fair to say, though, that that

2   mistake may have been, in part, caused by the view

3   that you took then, and perhaps to a considerable

4   degree still hold, as to the value of similar act

5   evidence?

6   A   Well, what other comment could I make on that?

7   Q   Yes. You could agree with me. Do you understand?

8   I'm not trying to be difficult, but do you

9   understand what I'm saying?

10   A   What's your question?

11   COMMISSIONER MacCALLUM: I just have a

12   little trouble with the point of relevance, Mr.

13   Wolch, because I think at the time that he

14   expressed these opinions about similar act

15   evidence it was around 1992 and at the time in

16   question really when he argued the appeals he

17   simply said he didn't make the connection between

18   the two cases, so how could his opinion in 1992

19   about the admissibility of similar act evidence

20   have a bearing. The real problem was that he

21   didn't make the connection.

22   MR. WOLCH: Well, I'm suggesting he did, he

23   made a connection, but then decided it wasn't --

24   it wasn't of any value, that's what I'm saying.

25   COMMISSIONER MacCALLUM: Well, you don't --

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1   all right, then, if you don't accept the premise.

2   BY MR. WOLCH:

3   Q   What I'm saying is we're going back a long time

4   and I'm saying to you that given what was in the

5   files, given that these are the two most

6   high-profile cases probably you were doing at that

7   time, and you were doing them both at the same

8   time, at least for a period of time, that it's not

9   a matter of you not making the connection, it's a

10   matter of you looking and saying look, on one hand

11   I have a rape/murder in an alley in Saskatoon, on

12   the other hand I have a bunch of rapes in alleys

13   in Saskatoon, I don't believe in similar acts,

14   that the second can be applied to the first. I'm

15   saying you made the decision, it's not a matter

16   about connecting them, you looked at them and made

17   a decision that they didn't connect, that's the

18   difference.

19 A   Well, but what you are saying is that I walked

20   outside at midnight, way out in the bush, and the

21   sun wasn't shining because it was midnight and

22   there was no moon light, and for me to say it was

23   dark out, is that what you are trying to make a

24   case of?

25 Q   No.

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1   *A*   Well then --

2   **Q**   I think your counsel has something to say.

3   *A*   Then you should replay what you just asked.

4   COMMISSIONER MacCALLUM: Sorry, Mr. Wilson,

5   I didn't see you get up. Yes?

6   MR. WILSON: Mr. Commissioner, after an

7   hour's restraint, I think I'm compelled to

8   observe that Mr. Wolch is on delicate ground

9   perhaps. Years back, 15 years perhaps, he

10   abandoned his role as counsel for the Milgaards

11   and joined them in a partisan way and made a

12   number of personal attacks on Mr. Kujawa that

13   were highly publicized, some of which we saw

14   yesterday, and now it's difficult for him to

15   maintain his objectivity as counsel because what

16   he is doing in large part is attempting to

17   justify his own extreme conduct of years past and

18   unprofessional statements made by him. Now to

19   stand here supposedly as counsel and utilize the

20   privileges of that status in the way he is I

21   submit is an abuse of the privileges of this

22   inquiry.

23   COMMISSIONER MacCALLUM: I can agree that

24   if he's doing that, of course that would be

25   abusive. The question is, is he, I suppose, and

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1   I'll ask him to comment.

2   MR. WOLCH: Mr. Commissioner, I really take

3   exception to what My Friend has just said. It is

4   not for him to say that "years ago abandoned the

5   role of counsel," at all times I've been acting

6   as counsel. In terms of what I have said in the

7   past, I stand by every comment, they are made to

8   advance a cause and made in good faith and are

9   still the views that we hold, there's no change

10   in position. It is not a matter of

11   professionalism or not, that is what I'm here

12   for, is to probe, and the difference in those

13   media articles and broadcasts are that the focus

14   I directed are the very same ones here as to here

15   are the questions that need answering and that's

16   why we are here in part on the inquiry.

17   What My Friend fails to

18   understand is that his client made personal

19   attacks and name calling. The focus of the

20   direction on his client was that what you've done

21   here appears to be either a cover-up or whatever

22   it might be and here are the facts and that's

23   what I'm probing, why was it done in Regina, why

24   didn't he get time, why do you say he shouldn't

25   get any time, why did nobody know, those are all

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1   MR. WOLCH: My Friend stood up when I was

2   questioning specifically on the course of conduct

3   back in 1969, that was a question I had asked at

4   the time.

5   COMMISSIONER MacCALLUM: Yes. Well, you

6   are quite right, it was, but he said that he had

7   been having difficulty restraining himself for

8   the last hour and over the last hour we've been

9   talking about just the sort of thing that

10   followed his retirement, so I think to end all

11   this, we're just going to have to try our best to

12   focus on issues which relate to the third ground

13   of the Terms of Reference, is this information

14   which came to the attention of the authorities

15   and which should have caused the re-opening to

16   take place sooner than it did, and I'm left in

17   some doubt that this witness' statements to the

18   press and in conferences involving Mr. Asper and

19   so on were really representative of any position

20   taken by the government or which he should have

21   taken as a former member of the Department of

22   Justice and at the time a member of the

23   legislative assembly --

24   MR. WOLCH: Mr. Commissioner --

25   COMMISSIONER MacCALLUM: -- as opposed to

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1   simply pique and resentment at having his

2   reputation impugned, and really, I've heard about

3   enough of that. I mean, anybody can understand

4   what's going on here.

5   MR. WOLCH: I know, Mr. Commissioner, I

6   think, though, the point --

7   COMMISSIONER MacCALLUM: Well, the point --

8   just excuse me. I understand the point you are

9   trying to make is that even though he might not

10   have conspired or suppressed evidence for the

11   purpose of seeing an innocent man stay in jail,

12   he did so for the purpose of keeping what he

13   believed to be a guilty man in jail, and if the

14   evidence got out, then the fellow might get out,

15   be released, that's what you are trying to

16   establish.

17   MR. WOLCH: I was, yes.

18   COMMISSIONER MacCALLUM: But I don't know

19   how many times he's denied that, Mr. Wolch.

20   MR. WOLCH: My point -- well, I'll deal

21   with similar act evidence. I want to get back to

22   the point --

23   COMMISSIONER MacCALLUM: And of course on

24   the similar act evidence, we do have the

25   distinction which I know you made, which might

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1   not have been appreciated by everybody, that

2   there is a lesser onus if similar act evidence is

3   thought to be introduced by the defence to show

4   that a third party might have committed the crime

5   and not him as opposed to similar act evidence

6   which is thought to be introduced by the Crown to

7   establish that the accused committed the offence,

8   so those would be similar acts of the accused

9   himself. So as long as everybody is aware of

10   that distinction, including the witness.

11   MR. WOLCH: Yes, there were two points I

12   was making, one was that his understanding of

13   similar act evidence at the time could lead to

14   the conclusion by the trier of fact that he did

15   look at it, he looked at it and decided it was

16   not admissible evidence and put it aside, that

17   could have happened as opposed to giving it to

18   Mr. Tallis, that's the first point. The second

19   point about the press conference and the reaction

20   to the DNA, the point I will be making later is

21   that that's an example of tunnel vision; that is,

22   you are so convinced of your position that even

23   when, in the light of all this you get DNA you

24   still can't face the reality, and that's just on

25   prosecutor's tunnel vision, that was the purpose

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1   of that.

2   COMMISSIONER MacCALLUM: Well, if that was

3   his -- are you trying to say that if that was the

4   opinion he demonstrated, the point of view he

5   demonstrated in 1997 --

6   MR. WOLCH: Yes.

7   COMMISSIONER MacCALLUM: -- it must have

8   been the point of view he had in 1969?

9   MR. WOLCH: No, after the conviction, that

10   is, when he got to the appeal level.

11   COMMISSIONER MacCALLUM: 1970, all right.

12   MR. WOLCH: Yes. In terms of the whole

13   concept of re-opening these cases, that the

14   prosecutors involved very often get a tunnel

15   vision that even when they are faced with DNA,

16   it's hard to get them to appreciate or get them

17   into the reality of it, that's the point of that.

18   It wasn't anything more than that.

19   COMMISSIONER MacCALLUM: Mr. Wilson?

20   MR. WILSON: I heard Mr. Wolch say in

21   response to my original objection here a minute

22   ago was confirmation of what I see him doing in

23   that he is using his position here this morning

24   to prove and substantiate the allegation of

25   criminal conduct that he made against Mr. Kujawa

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1   15 years ago which has been fully investigated at

2   homongous cost and found to be absurd as we saw

3   in the RCMP report yesterday, and there's not a

4   scintilla of evidence of criminal conduct

5   anywhere in this hearing and yet Mr. Wolch is

6   still beating that old drum.

7   MR. WOLCH: No, that's totally wrong.

8   First of all, if My Friend wants to point to a

9   particular accusation, I'll back it up. This

10   muddying of the waters is unacceptable. The

11   second point is to talk about other reports and

12   other findings, we know now what those people

13   didn't have, we know now they didn't even have

14   Rasmussen's report in the prosecutor's office, so

15   to start making speeches about that is just not

16   right.

17   COMMISSIONER MacCALLUM: Mr. Wilson, I have

18   not -- I am mindful of the content of your

19   objection, as I said before, and in my judgment

20   Mr. Wolch has not yet reached the point where the

21   questions have amounted to an abuse of his

22   standing as counsel in this inquiry. I recognize

23   the fact that he is persisting in a point of view

24   which was touched on the criminal side by the

25   RCMP investigation, but his representation at the

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1   moment is not exactly that, you must admit, he's

2   saying that the witness really knew that both

3   files were there, he just didn't make the

4   connection in the sense that he thought that an

5   innocent man might be suffering by it.

6   MR. WILSON: My concern has been exposed.

7   Thank you.

8   COMMISSIONER MacCALLUM: Yes, thank you.

9   Go ahead.

10   BY MR. WOLCH:

11 Q   I want to turn to systemic problems, and did I

12   hear you right regarding your answers to Mr.

13   Hodson that when you really have no recourse,

14   getting the public on your side might be the

15   appropriate thing to do?

16 A   Would you explain that question, please? I don't

17   understand it.

18 Q   Well, when you exhausted all your appeals, okay,

19   and you appreciate, for example, that the Minister

20   of Justice is not going to give you a fair shake,

21   that perhaps putting your case out in the public

22   is appropriate?

23 A   Well, when you talk about my appeals, how does the

24   Minister of Justice get into it? I don't appeal

25   to him.

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1   Q   Under 617 or 690.

2   A   You mean -- well, what is the question?

3   Q   Let me put it this way: Do you feel that there

4   should be somebody independent to review

5   allegations of wrongful conviction that at least

6   pass a threshold test of having some merit?

7   A   Well I think that there are such things in our

8   justice system and there have been ever since I

9   have known about it.

10   Q   Well, when you look back at it, you can't be happy

11   about what happened here; can you?

12   A   Well what do you mean by "happy about"?

13   Q   Well, that a man spent 23 years in jail for a

14   crime he didn't commit, a killer was loose for a

15   long time; you can't be pleased about that?

16   A   Well, I thank you for that statement, that's

17   contrary to what you have been saying publicly for

18   years.

19   Q   Sir, if you had your way Milgaard would still be

20   in jail, wouldn't he? Would he not?

21   A   If that's a question I don't see how it can pass

22   the test of being a decent question.

23   Q   Well you maintained he was guilty right up until

24   DNA?

25   A   I which?

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1   Q   You maintained he was guilty right up until DNA;

2   correct?

3   A   I --

4   COMMISSIONER MacCALLUM: The question is

5   too argumentative.

6   MR. WOLCH: Well I didn't -- a response is

7   what I am saying, sir.

8   COMMISSIONER MacCALLUM: Just get back to

9   the question of whether he thinks that an

10   independent review board would be a good idea.

11   MR. WOLCH: That's what I was trying to do.

12   COMMISSIONER MacCALLUM: All right.

13   BY MR. WOLCH:

14   Q   Do you think an independent review board would be

15   a good way to go?

16   A   Well, yeah, but we have some of those.

17   Q   Not in this country, but in any event --

18   A   Well we have the Court of Appeal, the Supreme

19   Court, this Minister of Justice thing, those are

20   all boards.

21   Q   Okay. I think it was raised several times, the

22   Colin Thatcher matter, you're -- we heard his name

23   raised and that he had a review; did you play a

24   part in that?

25   A   No.

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1   **Q**   I'm not sure why it was raised, so maybe you could

2   help me, it was raised in connection with this.

3   Did it play any part in Milgaard at all?

4   *A*   I don't know how.

5   **Q**   Were you contacted at all by the Department of

6   Justice in regard to what they were doing and what

7   they might want to know from you?

8   COMMISSIONER MacCALLUM: Are you talking

9   about a Section 690 for Mr. Thatcher?

10   BY MR. WOLCH:

11   **Q**   Yes, I'm talking about the 690 or 617, or

12   whatever?

13   *A*   Was I contacted by who?

14   **Q**   Anybody from the Department of Justice, Eugene

15   Williams or people of that ilk, to say "look, do

16   you know anything, do you have any files, anything

17   like that"?

18   *A*   No.

19   **Q**   Pardon me?

20   *A*   No.

21   **Q**   Now, Mr. Commissioner, unfortunately I don't think

22   it's on CaseVault, but I do want to refer to

23   something that I mentioned to my -- to Mr. Hodson,

24   I don't know if they found it or not, but it

25   should be on CaseVault. I don't intend to go very

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1   long into this but -- I see somebody has the book.

2   I forget what it's called, there is a book by the

3   former Prime Minister, Kim Campbell, called *The*

4   *Making of a Politician*, and I thought it would be

5   on CaseVault, I'm confident I turned in the

6   chapter but I guess it didn't make it there. But

7   in Chapter 10 and --

8   MR. HODSON: We'll put it up there.

9   BY MR. WOLCH:

10   Q   Okay. I want to show you some things, and I'm not

11   going to be long with this because hopefully we'll

12   be able to ask Ms. Campbell about it, but there is

13   a full chapter devoted to the *Milgaard* case and

14   some of it you will find very interesting from a

15   personal point of view. I want to go through it

16   pretty quickly, I think I can do it without

17   reading that much time, I don't want to go through

18   it now because Mr. Williams and Ms. Campbell will

19   have much more to say about it, I'm sure, but the

20   chapter is called *Doing the Right Thing*, and this

21   is a book she wrote after the Supreme Court

22   reference, and I want to set the stage for it.

23   She deals with it in about 22 pages, and she talks

24   about how she learned the whole case over a

25   weekend, and there is obvious factual errors

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1   regarding Nichol John, what she said and what she

2   did, and I won't go through that now. There's

3   indications here that Nichol John testified at the

4   preliminary hearing, that she saw the murder,

5   it's -- there's all kinds of facts that are

6   difficult to imagine that she would have thought

7   when she wrote the book. But she does explain the

8   thought process on the 690 review, and how she was

9   blindsided by Mr. Mulroney, and how she went to

10   Justice McIntyre for opinions, and she deals with

11   all the facts. And you will take comfort in this,

12   too, because she does say she was perplexed by the

13   Supreme Court, and talks about a threshold test,

14   it's quite informative. And I know I shouldn't

15   put it in through you, I don't want to, but there

16   is a part that is particularly relevant to you.

17   So the chapter starts at page

18   179 of her book, and for the first 20 or so pages

19   she gives a complete account of what she did and

20   what she thought and what she agreed with and what

21   she didn't agree with, but here's the part that I

22   think is particularly relevant to you and I'd like

23   your comments on it. This is at page 201. And

24   maybe this I should put up, in fairness to you,

25   because this is the only part that I think should

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1   come from you and not from the others. So she

2   says that:

3   "After the Milgaard case, I initiated a

4   review of the section 690 process in the

5   Department of Justice. The

6   recommendations stemming from that

7   review, I'm told, are now making their

8   way to the office of the current

9   Minister, Allan Rock. In advance of any

10   major reform, Rock has made two

11   departures from prior practice in

12   dealing with the application of Colin

13   Thatcher, a former cabinet minister in

14   the government of Saskatchewan, who was

15   convicted of the murder of his wife."

16   That's why I say, I'm drawing your attention to

17   this, given your background there.

18   "First, he provided the department's

19   investigation brief (a summary of the

20   information gathered during the

21   investigation of the application) to the

22   applicant and his counsel for their

23   response and comment before he

24   considered it."

25   So, you see, she's saying here she made a change,

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1   when she did the Thatcher one, with a little more

2   disclosure.

3   "That makes sense to me, although it

4   could sometimes create problems of

5   confidentiality. Second, his

6   seventy-five pages of reasons for

7   rejecting the application were

8   immediately published in a form suitable

9   for distribution. I'm also told that

10   the Department of Justice is now more

11   aggressive in responding to inaccuracies

12   or attacks in the press relating to

13   ongoing section 690 applications."

14   Do you see that? Now my first concern is were

15   you, given your intimate involvement with

16   Thatcher, provided with that information?

17   A   No.

18   Q   Did you have input into that?

19   A   No.

20   Q   Because she is saying here she has changed the

21   system, or the system has been changed to a

22   degree, in terms of giving at least the applicant

23   more information. I'm wondering where the

24   prosecution would have fit into this?

25   A   I had nothing to do with this.

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1   Q   Now she talks about inaccuracies, and I'd invite

2   you to read the whole chapter because you will

3   find that among the things she says is that Nichol

4   John testified at the preliminary hearing as to

5   having seen the murder, a fairly major mistake.

6   A   Right.

7   Q   But, in any event, she seems to be sensitive to

8   the press and perhaps to changing the system a

9   bit. She then goes on to say, and I'll just take

10   you through it, because I think it's valuable to

11   the Commission more than to yourself.

12   "The unresolved issues in the Donald

13   Marshall case led the government of Nova

14   Scotia to convene a royal commission,

15   which eventually recommended the

16   creation of an independent body to

17   review claims of wrongful conviction.

18   These recommendations were raised with

19   the provincial attorneys general as well

20   as the Department of Justice in 1991 but

21   didn't find much support. The most

22   common concern was that the creation of

23   such a body would become yet another

24   level of court. The move from the

25   courts to the executive responds to the

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1   need for some finality in the process."

2   If we can just go down, we're almost at the end.

3   "The British have just concluded their

4   royal commission into the workings of

5   their justice system. The powers

6   comparable to those granted under

7   section 690 are exercised in Britain by

8   the home secretary. The British

9   situation differs from the Canadian in

10   that Britain is not a federal state, and

11   the home secretary, unlike the Canadian

12   minister of justice, is in charge of the

13   prosecutorial arm of government and thus

14   not at arm's length from the review

15   process. The this royal commission has

16   recommended the creation of an

17   independent body to review applications

18   for relief from wrongful conviction, or

19   miscarriage of justice. To the extent

20   that such an approach could reduce the

21   politics surrounding these applications,

22   it would be desirable, but I doubt that

23   can really be achieved. I wouldn't want

24   to do away with public interest or even

25   public pressure ..."

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1   Now, you see, she seems to say there that public

2   interest and public pressure:

3   "... where it might lead to the

4   discovery of evidence or witnesses

5   capable of establishing a wrongful

6   conviction ...",

7   so she is not saying you shouldn't have public

8   pressure; is that something you might agree with?

9   Is that the way you would like to phrase it or do

10   you have a different view of that?

11   A   I don't --

12   Q   She says she doesn't:

13   "... want to do away with public

14   interest or even public pressure, where

15   it might lead to the discovery of

16   evidence or witnesses capable of

17   establishing a wrongful conviction."

18   In the *Milgaard* case, clearly publicity led to a

19   lot of information, there's no question about

20   that. Do you see that? If you read the entire

21   chapter you will note that she acknowledges that

22   public pressure was one of her reasons for

23   re-opening the case. She had turned it down

24   once, if she had her way, there never would have

25   been a clearing of David Milgaard or a conviction

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1   of Larry Fisher, not deliberately, that would

2   have been the result.

3   "The capacity for publicly expressed

4   outrage at injustice is a hallmark of a

5   free and democratic society. It is an

6   important safeguard of justice, however

7   uncomfortable it may occasionally be for

8   those on the receiving end."

9   Do you agree with that?

10   A   Well, I don't know, I can't make comments on a

11   great part of the book just seeing a bit here.

12   Q   Well no, she's pretty obviously correct, that's

13   all I'm saying. It's not very difficult. But

14   here she goes on:

15   "Did David Milgaard kill Gail Miller?

16   Perhaps none of us will ever know for

17   certain. I had some tough questions

18   about the Milgaard case, but I don't for

19   a moment begrudge Milgaard his freedom.

20   The issue was never a personal one with

21   me. Whatever my own views, there came a

22   point when I had to let it go. Dealing

23   with this and other cases has made me

24   quite modest about my own ability to

25   know the absolute truth. That is why we

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1   must find methods of post-conviction

2   review that make possible a fair and

3   open-minded approach to the possibility

4   of error in our courts. But I hope I

5   can be forgiven for saying that

6   "wrongful conviction" can be just as

7   unjust when it occurs in the court of

8   public opinion as when it happens in a

9   court of law."

10   Is there anything there that you take issue with

11   or would like to elaborate on?

12   A   No.

13   Q   What about her comments about perhaps an

14   independent, an independent body, do you have any

15   feeling about that?

16   A   Well, if anyone has a final power in any area,

17   that's freedom. Without it, you can't have it. I

18   don't see what possible discussion you could have

19   on that.

20   Q   Okay. I guess part of the difficulty I have is

21   that here you have, after the Supreme Court

22   reference, if you read the chapter you'll see that

23   she still has a lot of doubts, she misinterprets

24   Nichol John completely, and that is her position

25   at -- this is after the Supreme Court reference.

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1   And we know that getting there was all sorts of

2   bad feeling, argument, and whatever, and I'm

3   wondering, with your experience, if you would not

4   agree or suggest that maybe we need a different

5   system, something different? And I thought maybe,

6   because Colin Thatcher was mentioned there and

7   there was an adjustment there, that maybe you

8   would have had some input on that?

9 A   I didn't.

10 Q   Did you even know that the system was different

11   for Thatcher?

12 A   No.

13 Q   Did you have any comment on improving it and

14   changing it and making it better?

15 A   No.

16 Q   All right. I just had one last question. It's

17   quite clear that when it comes to people such as

18   yourself, Mr. Caldwell, Eugene Williams, Kim

19   Campbell, people in the justice system -- I can

20   add a lot more, it's not, I'm not going to be that

21   particular -- people in the justice system had

22   such a hard time accepting that there was a

23   miscarriage, that David was wrongly convicted, yet

24   people not in the justice system, the ordinary

25   person, could look at the Milgaard evidence and

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1   the Fisher evidence and come to the right

2   conclusion. Do you have any view why the people

3   in the system had so much difficulty with getting

4   to the right answer and that people out of the

5   system got it, got there so easily; do you have

6   any comment on that?

7 A   Well I have comments that you decide which is the

8   right answer and which is the wrong answer, and

9   that is your way of deciding the whole question, I

10   don't suppose anybody else on the planet would be

11   willing to do that so you are not likely to be

12   pushed out of your place.

13 Q   No, I'm trying to understand, like, why it is that

14   the average person can look at the obvious, what I

15   suggest is the obvious, the strength of the Fisher

16   evidence, weakness of the Milgaard, and come to

17   the conclusion that Fisher did it, I mean that's

18   what people decided; while all those in the system

19   didn't come to the same conclusion? And maybe the

20   answer is an independent group that has no

21   allegiance to anybody, that can just look at it

22   properly, do you not think that might be the

23   answer?

24 A   Well I think the group should have an allegiance

25   to justice, not to any particular direction or

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1   cause.

2   Q   Well, that's what I am saying.

3   A   And that's what the justice system is supposed to

4   try and achieve. It's composed of human beings,

5   and it's not perfect, and it never will be.

6   Q   But we can try for it; can't we?

7   A   Well yes, we can try for it, but we need to try

8   honestly.

9   Q   And my final question is this: As the man who was

10   so deeply involved in the case, did you ever, for

11   your own sake, make any personal effort to

12   determine whether or not there was a miscarriage

13   of justice in this case?

14   A   Well I think I made that personal effort all the

15   way along, and I certainly am not saying that I

16   was perfect in the attempt or in the

17   accomplishment of it, but I've always wanted that.

18   Q   I don't think you are getting my question. I

19   don't mean back in the old days, we can argue that

20   forever, I'm talking about when the Fisher

21   evidence surfaced and Ron Wilson was saying that

22   he lied, when all that was coming out did you make

23   any effort at all on your own, as a person so

24   deeply involved, to go back, review, check, do

25   anything where you might have been in a position,

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1   at the end of the day, to say "look, I think they

2   are right"?

3 A Well, I've answered this many a time, the answer

4   --

5 Q Only once?

6 A The answer hasn't changed. I had, I hope

7   properly, a great deal of faith in our justice

8   system and a great deal of expectation from it.

9   We're seeking justice, we don't pull in evidence

10   unless it's proper evidence, etcetera, etcetera,

11   we take the case to the courts, and if they

12   dismiss the thing as this conviction is over with

13   and done and finished, then I go on to my other

14   piles of files that are stuck up and consider that

15   done.

16   I don't have the opportunity to

17   go back, nor do I have the ability to go back and

18   find out, with my great mind, whether they --

19   everybody was always right. It's just never part

20   of the possibility of a person working in that

21   sort of thing doing that on a regular basis.

22   But the attempt to do justice

23   was always there and should have always been

24   continued, and so far as I understood me, it

25   always was.

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1   Q   Are you troubled by the fact that the

2   determination that Larry Fisher was the killer,

3   and the gathering of the evidence, was not done by

4   the authorities at all?

5   A   Well, I've told you, I thought the case was done

6   and, according to law, that everything was over

7   with.

8   Q   Those are my questions, Mr. Commissioner.

9   COMMISSIONER MacCALLUM: Okay.

10   MR. HODSON: Before we adjourn for lunch I

11   will canvass counsel to see who is left.

12   COMMISSIONER MacCALLUM: Okay.

13   *(Adjourned at 12:08 p.m.)*

14   *(Reconvened at 1:32 p.m.)*

15   BY MR. WOLCH:

16   Q   Mr. Commissioner, as I mentioned to Commission

17   Counsel, I have just two more questions, or by

18   two, I mean about two minutes of questions before

19   I'm finished.

20   Mr. Kujawa, this morning I went

21   over with you the statements made by Fisher's

22   victims to Detective Karst. What I wasn't clear

23   about, and Mr. Fox brought it to my attention, is

24   that are you aware that Fort Garry police had

25   taken statements from Fisher before Detective

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1   Karst got there?

2   A   No. I wasn't aware of that, no.

3   Q   Okay. We've heard from Lorne Huff here that there

4   was a previous statement taken before Karst and

5   Nordstrom came to Winnipeg. I just want to ask

6   you if you knew anything about that at all?

7   A   No.

8   Q   And the last question I have is, if we can turn to

9   a document, 022706, and I only want to draw one

10   paragraph to your attention and ask if you can

11   comment on an answer that you would have given to

12   the RCMP in 1993. If we can go to 719, and I want

13   you to comment, if you can, on a portion of this

14   interview that you had with the RCMP where they

15   are talking about the same issue, and he talks

16   about the direct indictment and then you say

17   without his confession in Winnipeg -- you are

18   reading from the letter I take it -- we have no

19   evidence at all to charge Fisher, and you say:

20   "Yeah, I don't quite recall the exact

21   thing, but it seems right on with what I

22   remember happening."

23   And if we can go down a little bit, just go back

24   a little bit, and I want to get the question in

25   context, and the officer says:

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1   "The question that I had then deals with

2   December the 24th/71, which would have

3   been after Mr. Fisher's guilty pleas,

4   and it mentions concerns about the

5   admissibility of the statements and,

6   again, this is going to be a difficult

7   question to answer. Do you recall what

8   concerns you might have had over the

9   Warned Statement that Detective Karst

10   had taken?"

11   And I pause there. He didn't ask you here about

12   the previous statement, which I brought to your

13   attention, but I want to deal with your answer

14   and have you comment on it.

15   "Oh ... the statement to which I was

16   referring were not Detective Karst's,

17   they were, as I understand it,

18   statements that he made to his lawyer in

19   Manitoba, saying hey I did those charges

20   in Saskatchewan, I want to straighten

21   them out."

22   And if you go down to the officer's response:

23   "So the admissions that he made to

24   police, then weren't the area of concern

25   that you were referring to?"

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1   Now, I take it you would agree you gave those

2   answers to the police?

3 A   I must have, yes.

4 Q   Can you explain what you might have meant by that?

5 A   Well, it was either a case of there was something

6   wrong with the statement that was given to Karst

7   or else he was referring to statements given in

8   connection with trying to get a guilty plea to get

9   rid of his charges.

10 Q   No, I'm sorry, I want to make it clear, the

11   officer is saying to you, in effect, I assume you

12   think there might be a difficulty with police

13   statements and you are saying I'm not referring to

14   Karst, and it doesn't appear you are referring to

15   the Fort Garry police, you are saying it's the

16   statements he made to his lawyer, that's what you

17   are saying, and, quite frankly, it makes no sense

18   to me and I'm asking you to help me with it.

19   That's all I want to know, that's my last question

20   of you. I don't understand it.

21 A   Here about --

22 Q   Where that red line is.

23 A   The statement to which I was referring -- (*witness*

24   *reading*).

25 Q   I'm sorry, when I read that it sounds like what

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1   you are saying is you were planning on tendering

2   his lawyer's statements and couldn't get it in.

3   Now, if I'm misreading, please correct me.

4   A   No, my understanding then was that the statements

5   that were referred to to Karst were not what he

6   told to Karst, as I understand it, it's what he

7   told to his lawyer and Karst found out about it.

8   How I don't know.

9   Q   Okay. So to put it in context, we know he made

10   statements to the Fort Garry police, we know he

11   made statements to Detective Karst, and we also

12   assume he must have instructed his counsel, okay.

13   Now --

14   A   We assume he must have which?

15   Q   I'm sorry, instructed his counsel or told his

16   counsel something. What I'm getting at is when

17   you give your memo saying that there's trouble

18   with voluntariness, I, for example, assume you are

19   talking about either Karst's statements or Lorne

20   Huff's statements or Doug Gilbert's, Fort Garry

21   police, that's what I assume you are talking

22   about, statements made to people in authority.

23   This seems to suggest your concern was with

24   statements made to his lawyer which puzzles me and

25   I'm trying to give you a chance to explain it,

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1   that's all.

2   A   Well, I'm not -- I guess I was never sure who the

3   statement was made to or under what circumstances

4   and that is why generally I had the feeling that

5   this is not a confession that I would be able to

6   get admitted in a court of law.

7   Q   Well, I would -- if you are talking about a

8   statement made to his lawyer, we're totally in

9   agreement, but not on a voluntary test, I don't

10   know how you could call his lawyer, but I'm trying

11   to be helped on that one quotation, it has me

12   puzzled.

13   A   And I'm just not sure who the statement, who it

14   was given to or what is the exact reason why I

15   thought the statement wasn't admissible, I never

16   did know that, or at least I never remembered

17   that, I had the idea that it wasn't admissible.

18   But there's no big deal because he wanted to plead

19   guilty anyway.

20   Q   Okay. But you see where your statement says you

21   are not talking about police statements, you are

22   talking about statements to his lawyer, that's the

23   only thing I'm concerned about.

24   A   Well, like I say, I never knew just what the story

25   was that came down through Karst or by Karst or at

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1   that time, so it might have been a statement given

2   to the lawyer is what I had in mind at that time.

3   Q   But I'm just a little bewildered. Is there any

4   circumstance where you could try to call the

5   lawyer to give a statement? I don't know of any.

6   Do you?

7   A   No, and that's another reason why I thought if he

8   gave it to his lawyer I couldn't call him, I

9   couldn't present that as evidence, unless they

10   came in with an admission.

11   Q   So when you are talking about confessions, you are

12   talking about confessions to counsel; is that

13   correct?

14   A   Yeah.

15   MR. WOLCH: Those are all my questions,

16   sir.

17   BY MR. FOX:

18   Q   Mr. Kujawa, my name is Aaron Fox, I'm the lawyer

19   for Eddie Karst, and I thank my learned friend for

20   trying to clarify the business about the

21   confessions a little bit.

22   If we could bring up maybe, and

23   this is one of them that I'm referring to,

24   document 012111. Now, Mr. Kujawa, that's the

25   typewritten copy of one of the confessions that

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1   Eddie Karst got from Mr. Fisher in Manitoba in

2   Winnipeg in the fall of 1971, that's what that

3   document is.

4   Now, am I correct that at this

5   point in time, although you have a recollection

6   that there were some problems, as you perceived

7   it, with the admissibility of those confessions,

8   what those exact problems were you are not able to

9   tell us today; would I have that correct?

10   A   Yes.

11   Q   And we've heard -- Mr. Fisher, for example, has

12   testified and referred to the fact that he was

13   either subjected to a beating that some guards

14   were perhaps involved with, and in fact I think

15   were disciplined as a result of it, circumstances

16   like that, if you were aware of them, might have

17   an impact on the voluntariness of a confession

18   that was given immediately thereafter?

19   A   Yes, but I'm not sure if that had that impact.

20   Q   No, I appreciate that, but hypothetically if that

21   were a fact that you were aware of, that might

22   have some bearing on voluntariness?

23   A   Yes.

24   Q   Secondly, we know that the Winnipeg City Police

25   who had caught Larry Fisher red handed committing

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1   one rape and then obtained a confession from him

2   on a second rape, asked him about some of the

3   Saskatoon offences and he admitted to two of them,

4   so by the time Eddie Karst went to Winnipeg to get

5   the statement, he had already admitted to two of

6   the offences to the Winnipeg police, would I be

7   correct, you, as a Crown prosecutor, in looking at

8   whether or not the confessions, for example, this

9   one here would be admissible, you would have to

10   know what the Winnipeg police said to Larry Fisher

11   and what kind of discussions he had with them?

12   A   Oh, I would have to know the full details of the

13   prior interviews with him.

14   Q   And confessions generally, one of the two main

15   reasons they are not admissible, one would be if I

16   force or beat someone or force someone to admit

17   something, that would mean it wouldn't be

18   voluntary?

19   A   Force or sort of a promise of some favour.

20   Q   That would be the other reason, if --

21   A   Or deception, those are the three main ways of

22   getting statements I think.

23   Q   Sure. So if you said to Larry Fisher, you know,

24   Larry, you just got beat up here, why don't you

25   tell us about all of the offences you committed

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1   and we'll get you out of here and get you

2   someplace where you are going to be okay, that

3   might be a promise which would affect the

4   voluntariness of the confession?

5   A   Yes.

6   Q   We know that Mr. Fisher signed two confessions, or

7   gave two written confessions for two of the rapes

8   and sexual assaults from Saskatchewan. He

9   initially denied the other two and then eventually

10   pled guilty to all four. Do you know if, on the

11   two that he was denied, it's one in this

12   statement, there's another written statement, but

13   two that he denied that he eventually pled guilty

14   to, do you know if you were advised of his guilt

15   of that by his lawyer or by any other means or how

16   you became aware that he was prepared to plead

17   guilty to the other two?

18   A   I can't say for sure that I know, but I have

19   assumed for all of these years that I got the

20   information from his lawyer asking for a plea

21   bargain agreement from the Crown and that's where

22   I got this information.

23   Q   So you've got two written confessions which you

24   might be able to use and then his lawyer saying,

25   hey, okay, on these other two offences, if we can

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1   do a deal on all of them he will plead guilty to

2   them as well?

3   A   Right.

4   Q   That's your general impression of what went on?

5   A   Yes.

6   MR. FOX: Thank you. Those are all the

7   questions I have, Mr. Kujawa.

8   COMMISSIONER MacCALLUM: Thanks.

9   **BY MR. LORAN**:

10   Q   Good afternoon, Mr. Kujawa. I'm Pat Loran and I'm

11   here for the Saskatoon City Police. I just have a

12   couple of questions for you.

13   With regard to the Milgaard

14   file, as I understand your evidence, your

15   involvement at the trial level was limited to a

16   conversation you had with Mr. Caldwell about the

17   provisions of *The Canada Evidence Act*; is that

18   correct?

19   A   As far as I can remember, that's correct.

20   Q   And at the Court of Appeal level you had the

21   transcript and that's it in terms of the material

22   with which you were dealing when you argued the

23   appeal; is that correct?

24   A   Yes, the transcript, including not only the

25   evidence, but the legal part.

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1   **Q**   Okay. But you would not have had access to the

2   police reports?

3   *A*   No, not there.

4   **Q**   And so you wouldn't be aware of evidence which was

5   collected which didn't make its way into the

6   transcripts?

7   *A*   No.

8   **Q**   Okay. Now, what I wanted is your confirmation

9   that you had no communications directly with the

10   Saskatoon City Police in the process of arguing

11   the Milgaard appeal?

12   *A*   Oh, I certainly wouldn't have any about the

13   appeal, I don't think I had about the

14   investigation even.

15   **Q**   Okay. Thank you. Now the, that appeal, the

16   Milgaard appeal, was argued in 1970, and at --

17   would it be consistent with your recollection if I

18   told you that in January of 1971 the Court of

19   Appeal handed down its decision?

20   *A*   Well, I have no guess as to when it came down, but

21   I accept your statement.

22   **Q**   Okay. Now in March of 1971 we've got the first

23   correspondence, which went to Mr. MacKay of your

24   office, in regard to the Fisher matter; do you

25   know if there was earlier communications between

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1   your office and the prosecutor's office in

2   Saskatoon, or are you unable to comment on that?

3   A   I have no memory of any prior knowledge to that.

4   Q   Now in regard to the Fisher matter, aside from the

5   letter or letters that passed between Mr. MacKay

6   and the Saskatoon City Police, are we safe in

7   assuming that there was no further communication

8   between yourself and the Saskatoon City Police, or

9   at least none you can recall?

10   A   None that I can recall.

11   Q   Thank you.

12   BY MR. O'KEEFE:

13   Q   Good afternoon, Mr. Kujawa. My name is Eamon

14   O'Keefe, I represent Larry Fisher.

15   Mr. Wolch had confirmed with you

16   earlier on today that you had no direct

17   communication with Larry Fisher; is that correct?

18   A   Far as I can remember I had none.

19   Q   All of your communications with the defence while

20   you were negotiating a plea arrangement with

21   Fisher would have gone through his counsel?

22   A   Umm, I think that's -- I think that was all,

23   right.

24   Q   In your dealings with Mr. Greenberg do you recall

25   receiving any requests from him or him taking any

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1   position that left you with the impression that he

2   was trying to conceal the fact of Mr. Fisher's

3   guilty pleas either from the public or from the

4   media?

5   A   There was zero, zero ingredients of that

6   description involved, as far as I know.

7   Q   Did Mr. Greenberg ever say anything to you that

8   caused you to believe that Larry Fisher was trying

9   to avoid media attention on his guilty pleas?

10 A   I got no impression to that effect at all.

11 Q   And, certainly, nothing would indicate to you that

12   Mr. Greenberg was requesting, for any purpose

13   related to Larry Fisher, that the pleas be taken

14   in Regina rather than Saskatoon?

15 A   No, that seemed to be of zero importance to him,

16   just getting the matter cleared up and the fastest

17   way we could arrange it was all he was asking for.

18 Q   Mr. Hodson went over, with you, a number of

19   different issues that you would take into account

20   in assessing the appropriateness of a sentence

21   back in the late '60s-early '70s while you were

22   handling sentence appeals?

23 A   Yes.

24 Q   You recall going through that with him?

25 A   I do, yes.

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1   Q   And, specifically, things that you would have

2   taken into account when assessing the

3   appropriateness of the 13 years that Mr. Fisher

4   had received in Manitoba?

5   A   Yes.

6   Q   I don't recall Mr. Hodson raising with you the

7   issue of pretrial custody, and I just wanted to

8   address that with you this afternoon, if I could.

9   You would have been aware, I assume, that prior to

10   Mr. Fisher's plea being entered in May of 2 -- of

11   1971, that he had been in custody for a

12   considerable period of time?

13   A   Well, I would have expected that he had been in

14   custody for some time, how long I didn't know and

15   I didn't care.

16   Q   I can tell you that it's approximately eight

17   months that Mr. Fisher spent in custody before the

18   plea was entered in Manitoba, and can I ask you

19   what effect the pretrial custody would have had on

20   your assessment of the sentence at that time?

21   A   Well as far as I know, according to our

22   experience, if someone put in time before the

23   actual sentencing was done he was given about two

24   days value for every day he had put in up 'til

25   then.

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1   Q   That --

2   A   That was generally the way our courts handled it.

3   Q   And that was the practice in other cases that

4   would go before the Court of Appeal on sentence?

5   A   The Court of Appeal or just Court of Queen's

6   Bench, right, and so it would be considered and

7   given a great big length of worth for the time

8   that was put in, and then whatever the offence and

9   the facts justified were added onto that.

10   Q   Do you think that that period of pretrial custody

11   would have been something that you were aware of

12   at the time that you were considering Mr. Fisher's

13   sentence in 1971?

14   A   I think that I would have been, but I have no

15   memory of it right now, none.

16   Q   I want to ask you as well about the issue of the

17   strength of the case that you believed you had

18   against Larry Fisher at the time that you were

19   negotiating this plea arrangement. You have

20   indicated that you didn't think you had a case

21   against Mr. Fisher, and I just wanted to ask you,

22   if you believed you did have a case against Larry

23   Fisher do you think that you would have got a

24   greater sentence from the Saskatchewan Court than

25   if you didn't believe you had a case?

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1   A   I think we might have been able to get a little

2   more, but it would be very little more, because in

3   those years, according to my memory, 13 years for

4   sexual offences was a mighty long sentence.

5   Q   And taking into account pretrial custody it would

6   have been up over 14 years, basically, is what you

7   are saying?

8   A   Way over 14, if he had put in that many months.

9   Q   Would you have had concerns about calling Larry

10   Fisher's victims to testify about the rapes if you

11   didn't believe you could get any sort of

12   significantly longer sentence by running a trial

13   against Mr. Fisher?

14 A   Well, so far as I knew, we didn't really have any

15   evidence that we could call against him.

16 Q   Assuming you could have made a case against Mr.

17   Fisher on even one of the rapes, would you have

18   had concerns about calling the victims to testify

19   if you didn't think you could get anything more

20   than a few extra months added onto his sentence?

21 A   I would have had concern about that, and I would

22   have talked to the victim or had someone else talk

23   to the victim, because a great many rape victims

24   do not like going into Court and don't like, don't

25   like getting all that attention and having that

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1   bad history built up onto them, so if we are

2   trying to help the law-abiding people of our

3   community we have to have that in consideration,

4   and if we can get 13 years on a guilty plea,

5   exposing one of the victims to a whole lot of this

6   exposition and attention to get another few months

7   would not have been a great idea and I wouldn't

8   normally push for that.

9   Q   All right. Thank you, Mr. Kujawa.

10   **BY MR. WILSON:**

11 Q   Just a couple of matters that I would like to

12   clear up with you, Mr. Kujawa.

13   COMMISSIONER MacCALLUM: For the record,

14   this is Mr. Wilson, Mr. Kujawa's lawyer.

15   BY MR. WILSON:

16 Q   For the record, my name is Garrett Wilson, and I'm

17   your counsel. I think you told Mr. Hodson,

18   yesterday, you retired in 1989?

19 A   I think that's right, yes. Well I'm quite sure

20   that's right.

21 Q   Yeah, I'm quite sure it is too, it's in the

22   material that was presented to us. Now I

23   understand that the first application that was

24   made on behalf of David Milgaard under Section 690

25   of the *Criminal Code* to the Federal Minister of

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 1            Justice for a review of his conviction was made in

 2            1988; do you have any recollection of that?

 3    A       None that I -- that's in my mind now.

 4    Q       At the time you retired in 1989 were you aware

 5            that a movement was underway to review the

 6            Milgaard conviction?

 7    A       Umm, I don't have any -- I can't say that I have a

 8            memory of it.

 9    Q       I see.

10    A       I must have known something about it but it's not

11            there.

12    Q       You have told us on several occasions that you

13            thought the justice system was the body to whom we

14            should look and upon whom we should rely to review

15            possible miscarriages of justice?

16    A       Yes.

17    Q       Mr. Wolch asked you, when you discovered that Mr.

18            Milgaard was claiming that he was wrongfully

19            convicted, why you didn't get into the file and

20            investigate that.  From and after 1989 you were

21            out of the office; correct?

22    A       Yes.

23    Q       And from and after 1988 the question of the

24            wrongful conviction was in the hands of the

25            Federal Minister of Justice and being reviewed by
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1   counsel at that level; was it not?

2 A Some, to some effect that I don't, didn't entirely

3   understand, but it was.

4 Q I take it that, so long as the alleged wrongful

5   conviction was in the justice system and being

6   reviewed according to the principles of that

7   system, you were quite content to let the system

8   look after the problem?

9 A Well, not only content, but I didn't see any

10   alternative.

11 Q Can we have a look at 004451, please, dash 002.

12   This is a letter dated April 29th, 1992 addressed

13   to the Province of Saskatchewan, Crown

14   prosecutors, from the access to information people

15   in Ottawa. Mr. Wolch put that to you this morning

16   and asked if you knew anything about that and you,

17   of course, didn't. You had been retired three

18   years at the time that document came into

19   existence; had you not?

20 A Well, according to the date that you have already

21   mentioned, I guess.

22 Q Yeah. Do you have any idea why Mr. Wolch would

23   put that document to you knowing you had been

24   retired for three years at the time it came into

25   existence?

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1   *A*   No I don't.

2   **Q**   I want you to tell us briefly about the Colin

3   Thatcher matter. I raised that a couple of times

4   and Mr. Wolch asked you about it this morning.

5   You acted as the trial prosecutor against Colin

6   Thatcher in 1984 I believe?

7   *A*   Right.

8   **Q**   And a conviction came down in early November of

9   1984?

10   *A*   I think that's right.

11   **Q**   And it went on to the Court of Appeal and then on

12   to the Supreme Court of Canada, and I suggest that

13   the decision of that latter Court came down in May

14   of 1987, would that be about correct?

15   *A*   I think so.

16   **Q**   And then a couple of years later, about the time

17   of your retirement, Mr. Thatcher opened a campaign

18   claiming wrongful conviction, new evidence,

19   suppression of evidence; do you recall that?

20   *A*   Yes.

21   **Q**   And that public relations campaign was going on in

22   the media about the same time that the Milgaard

23   one was?

24   *A*   I think so.

25   **Q**   And Mr. Thatcher had been a cabinet minister in

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1   the Saskatchewan Government in the 1980s; correct?

2   *A*   Yes.

3   Q   His father had been the Premier of the province in

4   the 1960s?

5   *A*   Yes.

6   Q   Mr. Thatcher had a lot of prominence in his own

7   right, and was able to command a lot of media

8   attention, and did so?

9   *A*   Yes.

10 Q   And the media addressed quite a few inquiries to

11   you, as they did in the Milgaard matter?

12 *A*   Right.

13 Q   And were you responding much in the same vein as

14   you were with respect to the Milgaard matter?

15 *A*   Well, I expect so, not that I remember every

16   response or every question that clearly, but it

17   would be pretty much the same.

18 Q   So the point I wanted to make the Commissioner

19   aware of, Mr. Kujawa, is that there were two

20   high-profile Saskatchewan cases, claims of

21   wrongful conviction, receiving considerable media

22   attention, running parallel tracks in the same

23   time period in the late 18 -- 1980s and the early

24   1990s?

25 *A*   Right.

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1   **Q**   Mr. Thatcher also made an application to the

2   Federal Minister of Justice for a 690 review and

3   was rejected, finally, in 1994?

4   *A*   Right.

5   **Q**   Following which he commenced action against the

6   Minister of Justice, etcetera. Colin Thatcher is

7   still in prison?

8   *A*   Far as I know, yes.

9   **Q**   He is using the National Parole Board, now, to

10   secure his release?

11   *A*   Well he's been making attempts to get parole, I

12   read details a bit in the paper, but that's all I

13   know about it.

14   **Q**   So just one last question. As I understood you to

15   tell me, that Mr. Wolch's almost-final question to

16   you before the noon break was "did you do anything

17   to check if Mr. Milgaard was innocent or not", and

18   I think you have told us that what you did was you

19   relied upon the justice system?

20   *A*   Would I have allied --

21   **Q**   What you did, with respect to the guilt or

22   innocence of David Milgaard, was rely on the

23   justice system to determine that question?

24   *A*   Yes.

25   **Q**   Thank you.

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1   MR. HODSON: I have no further questions.

2   Thank you, Mr. Kujawa.

3 A   Okay.

4   COMMISSIONER MacCALLUM: Mr. Kujawa, thank

5   you for testifying, you are excused.

6 A   Thank you, My Lord, thanks.

7   MR. HODSON: The, that is all the witnesses

8   for this week, so I think we are adjourned until

9   April 17th.

10   COMMISSIONER MacCALLUM: Thank you.

11   *(Adjourned at 2:03 p.m.)*

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