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ROBERT JAMES RASMUSSEN

Please return to the Agent of the Attorney General  
at the trial.

007469

ROBERT JAMES RASMUSSEN (SWORN) TESTIFIETH:

EXAMINED BY MR. CALDWELL:

- 1. Q. Mr. Rasmussen, I believe you live in Saskatoon and that you are manager of a motel called the Trav-A-Leer Motel?
- A. Yes.
- 2. Q. Where is it located?
- A. On the corner of 22nd and Idylwyld, or Circle Drive.
- 3. Q. ( And Circle Drive?
- A. Yes.
- 4. Q. Is it the only motel at that location?
- A. Yes.
- 5. Q. And I believe you work there pretty well daily, do you?
- A. Pardon?
- 6. Q. You work at the motel pretty well daily?
- A. Yes.
- 7. Q. I believe you were on duty the morning of Friday, January 31, 1969?
- A. Yes. I have been on duty every morning since last October.
- 8. Q. Now, do you feel that you remember the day on which there was a body of a nursing assistant discovered in the city of saskatoon? Do you remember that on the news and so forth?
- A. Well, the first I heard about it was when the police come there that morning asking me if anybody had been there.
- 9. Q. Alright. So that on one morning the police did come asking after someone, did they?
- A. Yes.

- 10 Q. And I take it in connection with that matter?
- A. Yes.
- 11 Q. Now, on the morning on which the police did come asking, had there been anyone at the motel earlier?
- A. I beg your pardon?
- 12 Q. Had there been anyone show up at the motel earlier on on that morning?
- A. Well, there had been someone drove up that morning and asked for a city map.
- 13 Q. About what time of the morning was that?
- A. Just shortly after seven o'clock.
- 14 Q. And were you at the desk, so to speak, or ...
- A. In the morning, yes.
- 15 Q. Did you see how this person arrived?
- A. Yes, they came in a car.
- 16 Q. And did you see much of the car?
- A. No, I didn't really pay any attention to it. It was just outside the door and that's .....
- 17 Q. You did see a car I take it?
- A. Yes.
- 18 Q. But do you know the description of it at all or anything?
- A. No.
- 19 Q. Did you see how many people were in the car?
- A. All I saw was two, the one driving and the one party come into the office.
- 20 Q. Alright. Did you see the person who came in the office when he was in the car?
- A. No, I just saw him when he come through the door.
- 21 Q. I see. And did you have a thorough look at or through

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- the car or anything, or just a look out the door?
- A. No, just a look out through the door.
- 22 Q. Now, what was the general description of the person who came in that door?
- A. Really, I didn't pay too much attention to the person. Several had come in there in the morning asking information, I don't pay too much attention to anyone.
- 23 Q. You mean this is a fairly regular occurrence, is it?
- A. Yah.
- 24 Q. To have people coming in and asking for directions?
- A. Oh yes, they ask for directions and maps and what not.
- 25 Q. And when you say several come in, I take it you mean on different mornings or time to time?
- A. Yes, just odd mornings someone comes in and asks for directions to different places.
- 26 Q. Alright. Would you have a look around the courtroom and can you tell the court whether the person who came in looking for a map that morning is in court here today?
- A. I beg your pardon?
- 27 Q. Look around the court please and tell the Judge whether the person who came in looking for the map that morning is in this room now?
- A. I couldn't swear for sure.
- 28Q. Alright. Well then in view of that, could you tell me, was this a male or female person?
- A. It was a male.
- 29 Q. Approximately what age?
- A. Oh, I'd say in his early twenties.

- 30 Q. Do you remember anything about his build or height or what have you?
- A. Well, as near as I noticed, he was slight build and a little over five feet tall.
- 31 Q. I see. And was this a person you knew at all?
- A. No.
- 32 Q. Alright. Now, what was it the person wanted again?
- A. He wanted a city map and was asking about a Royalite service station on 20th Street.
- 33 Q. Any particular name of a service station or just a Royalite?
- A. No, just a Royalite.
- 34 Q. And did you give him a map?
- A. Yes.
- 35 Q. Was there anything out of the ordinary about the way this person was dressed?
- A. No, I can't say as there was.
- 36 Q. What about foot wear?
- A. Well, he just had a pair of socks on his feet.
- 37 Q. Just socks on?
- A. Yah.
- 38 Q. No shoes?
- A. No shoes.
- 39 Q. Or overshoes or anything like that?
- A. No.
- 40 Q. And when he got his map, did he go out again?
- A. Yes.
- 41 Q. Was that pretty well the end of it as far as ...
- A. Yes.
- 42 Q. I think you said this would be shortly after seven,

did you?

A. Yes, it was just shortly after I opened up in the morning.

43 Q. I see. Did the other male in the car come in at all?

A. No.

44 Q. Or any other person who appeared to be connected with the car?

A. No.

MR. CALDWELL: Thank you, Your witness.

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ROBERT JAMES RASMUSSEN:

CROSS-EXAMINED BY MR. TALLIS:

1 Q. Mr. Rasmussen, I believe that the Trav-A-Lear motel basically runs in an east - west direction?

A. Yes.

2 Q. As far as the alignment of rooms is concerned?

A. That's right.

3 Q. And what section of the building is the office located in?

A. It would be on the southwest corner of the lot pretty well.

4 Q. I see. Now, on this particular date of January 31, 1969, you told my learned friend that you were on duty. Now, you were the man who opened up first in the morning?

A. Yes.

5 Q. And I gather from what you told my learned friend, this was usually around seven o'clock?

A. Yes.

6 Q. And is that the opening time for the office?

- A. Yes, sir.
- 7 Q. And I gather that these two people pulled up in the car sometime after you had opened up?
- A. Yes.
- 8 Q. And would you be able to estimate approximately how long after you had opened it up that they came up?
- A. No, I couldn't say for sure, just shortly after I opened the doors and ...
- 9 Q. I see. When you say shortly after, are you thinking in terms of five or ten minutes, something like that?
- A. NO, I'd say maybe thirty minutes.
- 10 Q. Oh, maybe thirty minutes.
- A. It would be inbetween seven and seven-thirty some-  
time.
- 11 Q. So you would estimate that it would be sometime after  
seven but not later than around seven-thirty?
- A. That's right, yes.
- 12 Q. In the morning. And now, in order to get to this office at the Trav-A-Leer Motel, this car would have to come off the highway or Idylwyld Drive, would it?
- A. Circle Drive.
- 13 Q. Circle Drive rather, yes, that's my mistake. And did you notice which way the car came from?
- A. No, I did not.
- 14 Q. I see. Well, when it stopped in front of your office, which way was it facing?
- A. He was facing west.
- 15 Q. Facing west?
- A. Yes.
- 16 Q. And in other words, it was stopped to the south of your



office?

- A. Yes.
- 17 Q. And is there an eastern entrance off Circle Drive to the Trav-A-Lear Motel?
- A. Yes.
- 18 Q. I see. And also an entrance just to the north coming off the highway - if you come in from the west?
- A. They have to turn off number four on to Circle Drive to get into the motel.
- 19 Q. They do?
- A. Yes.
- 20 Q. Which ever way they come in?
- A. Well no, they can come from down 20th here on to Circle Drive and turn in that way too.
- 21 Q. I see. And now about how long was this vehicle stopped at your place?
- A. Oh, I won't say over five minutes.
- 22 Q. In that neighborhood. And when you told my learned friend that you didn't pay much attention to the car, would you be able to assist us in any way as to whether or not it was a large car or a small model, or ...
- A. No, it wasn't a large car, but not in the terms like of an Oldsmobile or a Buick or anything like that, it would be a smaller car, but I haven't a clue what make it was.
- 23 Q. I see. When you say it's a smaller car, are you thinking in terms of a standard model or something?
- A. It could have been an older model Chev or something like that.

24 Q. In that neighborhood?  
A. Yes.

25 Q. And did you notice in what direction this particular car went?  
A. No, I did not.

26 Q. Now, I gather then that there were a number of people in there that morning, were there, for ....  
A. No, we usually don't - they don't have too many in until say maybe nine or ten o'clock in the morning.

27 Q. I see. And in any event, you had a good glimpse of the car and are quite satisfied that you could only see two people in it?  
A. Yes, that's all I could see was the two.

28 Q. Two males persons?  
A. Yes.

29 Q. And did you form any estimate as to how far the car actually was from your office when you noticed them?  
A. Well, he was under the canopy and there was just nice room for a car in there.

30 Q. I see. So he was actually quite close?  
A. Yes.

31 Q. Yes. What I'm getting at, you would have a good view of the car?  
A. Yah, the car was a wee bit past the door, you see, so that you looked out through the door and you could see the party in the front seat.

32 Q. And were the two people in the front seat; the two males in the front seat?  
A. Well, as far as I know. I wouldn't swear to that either, for when he come in the office, I don't know

whether he got out the front or the back of the car.

33 Q. I see. In any event, you saw him go and get into the car?

A. Yes.

34 Q. And when he got back into the car, he got into the front?

A. Yes.

35 Q. And there were then just two people that you could see in the car?

A. Yes, that's all I saw.

36 Q. And you would have a pretty good view at that point?

A. Well, I could see the car, yes.

MR. TALLIS: I have no further questions.

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MR. CALDWELL: Some re-examination, if I might, Your Honor.

ROBERT JAMES RASMUSSEN:

RE-EXAMINED BY MR. CALDWELL:

1 Q. Mr. Rasmussen, I think my learned friend asked you how far away you would estimate the car was, you said it was under the canopy and there's just nicely room for one car under there?

A. Yes.

2 Q. And I think you said it was slightly ahead, I believe you said?

A. Just so maybe the back seat was right opposite the door, almost right opposite the door.

3 Q. And I think you said you looked out the door and can see the party in the front seat?

A. Just the back, yes.

4 Q. Now, I don't know if I really understand this yet, but

you saw these two in the front seat at any rate?

A. Yah.

5 Q. When the fellow went back out?

A. Yes.

6 Q. And did you have a look into the back seat, or view of the back seat at all?

A. No, not that I noticed, I didn't pay any attention. Just after he went out of the door to get into the car, I didn't pay anymore attention to the car then.

7 Q. So that I take it you didn't look specifically at the back?

A. No.

MR. CALDWELL: I see. Thank you.

COURT: Thank you. That's all we need you for. You don't need him anymore today?

MR. TALLIS: No.

COURT: Thank you.

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MARIA INDYK (SWORN) TESTIFIETH:

EXAMINED BY MR. CALDWELL:

COURT: Now, you may sit down or you may stand up, just whatever you like. You can sit down if you wish. You have to speak loudly enough so that that person that's sitting in that box there can hear everything you say, that young fellow that's sitting there.

MR. CALDWELL: Mrs. Indyk, I'll ask you to talk up good and loud please so we can all hear you. You live in Saskatoon?

A. Yes, I do.

1 Q. And where is your home address?