

00001:01 Interview 2005 January 20  
02 Walter Danchuk, Jordan Hardy, Don Christal  
03 JH: It is 8:30 on January 20th, 2005. I am here  
04 with Walter Danchuk, his testimony in the  
05 Commission of the Inquiry into the Wrongful  
06 Conviction of David Milgaard. Walter, do  
07 you s-will you swear on a bible?  
08 WD: Yes I will.  
09 JH: Okay. Can you state your name please?  
10 WD: My name is Wally Danchuk.  
11 JH: And you understand that this testimony will  
12 be used in a public hearing and you solemnly  
13 swear to tell the truth, the whole truth and  
14 ma-nothing but the truth so help you God?  
15 WD: Yes I do.  
16 JH: I want to start Wally, by thanking you for  
17 agreeing to meet with us this evening to  
18 give testimony for our hearings and I  
19 understand that you currently reside in  
20 Nanaimo?  
21 WD: Yes I do.  
22 JH: And as of January—  
23 WD: No—  
24 JH: 1969 I understand that you resided in  
25 Saskatoon at 129 Avenue T South?  
26 WD: Yes I did.  
27 JH: And you were approximately 24 or 25 years  
28 old at that time?  
29 WD: Yes.  
30 JH: And Im going to show you a map that weve  
31 been using in the course of the hearings, I  
32 believe its been referred to as Map A, its  
33 document ID 031006. I should mention Wally,  
34 I understand you have a punctured eardrum  
35 and ah, Im going to talk as loud as I can

00002:01 but if you cant hear me, please let me  
02 know. And if you take a peed at that map  
03 can you find your residence then on Avenue T  
04 as of January, 1969?  
05 WD: I guess its right here.  
06 JH: Okay and youre pointing to a block that is  
07 between 22nd Street and 21st Street um, and it  
08 looks like on the west side of Avenue T was  
09 your residence?  
10 WD: Yes it was.  
11 JH: Okay. And I understand that there was a, a  
12 T shaped alley in the back of your  
13 residence?  
14 WD: Yes there was.  
15 JH: Okay. Now Wally, can you tell us what your  
16 recollection is today-I know that youve  
17 looked at some documents, you reviewed  
18 testimony but if you separate yourself away  
19 from that, do you have a memory ah, a clear  
20 memory today of the events that happened on  
21 January 31st, 1969?  
22 WD: Very vaguely, actually.  
23 JH: Okay.  
24 WD: Id-  
25 JH: (unintelligible)  
26 WD: Id sooner you have, you, have you read it  
27 to me.  
28 JH: Okay so you dont-  
29 WD: (unintelligible)  
30 JH: you dont have a memory apart from the  
31 documents, would that be fair to say?  
32 WD: Yes.  
33 JH: Im going to turn firstly Wally, to a  
34 statement that I have and its document ID  
35 is 006550-

00003:01 WD: Okay.

02 JH: and its a statement that I understand you  
03 had provided to the police. Its dated  
04 March 5th, 1969. Do you have a memory of  
05 giving a statement to the police-

06 WD: No I dont.

07 JH: during the investigation in 1969?

08 WD: No I dont.

09 JH: Okay. Im going to read this statement to  
10 you for the record but I f-should first ask  
11 is this your handwriting-

12 WD: No-

13 JH: that the statement-

14 WD: it isnt.

15 JH: Okay.

16 WD: No.

17 JH: Is that your signature-

18 WD: (unintelligible) signature.

19 JH: at the bottom of each page?

20 WD: Yes.

21 JH: And I see witnessing the docket (sic) was a  
22 G. Chartier, do you recall that-

23 WD: No-

24 JH: person?

25 WD: I dont.

26 JH: Okay, Im going to read the statement. For  
27 purposes of the record Walter, it states  
28 Walter Danchuk of 129 T South states as  
29 follows. I am 25 years old, live with my  
30 wife, Sandra, in the basement suite of 129 T  
31 South. I am employed by Engineering and  
32 Plumbing Supplies located at 906 Duchess.  
33 My wife works at Richardson Securities. On  
34 Friday, January 31st, 1969, at about 7:40  
35 a.m., my wife and I were preparing to go to

00004:01 work and upon backing out of the back yard I  
02 got stuck in the lane to the rear of my  
03 place. At this time a 1958 Pontiac, one  
04 smooth tire and one grip tire on the rear,  
05 no tail light lens, colour I cannot recall,  
06 drove up behind me in the lane from the  
07 north. There was two young fellows and a  
08 young girl in this car. They tried to give  
09 me a push and at this time their car  
10 stalled. The three young people, my wife  
11 and myself then went into my place. The  
12 three young people waited at the top of the  
13 stairs. I called the Shell Service at P and  
14 22nd and was advised that it would be at  
15 least a half hour before they got there. It  
16 was more than a half hour later when I  
17 called them back and at this time was told  
18 that the truck had not arrived yet. I then  
19 called the Texaco Service at W and 22nd.  
20 During the time waiting for a tow truck I  
21 spoke to these young people. Description-  
22 female, very short, long hair, black hair,  
23 well-wearing elephant pants and I believe a  
24 parka. Age I think around 16 years, no  
25 older. Wearing high boots, carrying a small  
26 purse. Male, one and two-both slim. I am  
27 59 and both were a little shorter. One  
28 with the ripped pants which I later saw were  
29 ripped in the seat, stated he was either  
30 going to sell magazines or was selling  
31 magazines. I believe he was the fairer of  
32 the two. I cannot recall hair colour. One  
33 of the boys wore checkered pants I believe.  
34 I believe both wore light jackets. One wore  
35 a pair of black insulated snow boots. That

00005:01 is the best I can offer for a description  
02 however my wife may be able to elaborate.  
03 My landlord, Nick Kobban who lives upstairs  
04 was also around when we tried to get the  
05 cars out. Maybe Ill pause there for a  
06 moment, Wally. Does that sound like ah, up  
07 to that point in the statement an accurate  
08 account of the information you wouldve  
09 provided to Saskatoon City Police at that  
10 time?  
11 WD: I would say it does, yeah.  
12 JH: Okay. Continuing from where we were, page  
13 006553. Discussion in the house as I recall  
14 touched on the following topics. One of the  
15 boys stated his dad was a mechanic in  
16 Regina. This boy stated he was laid off and  
17 was supposed to be going back. I believe  
18 one of them mentioned something about having  
19 acid on his clothes. The one with the torn  
20 pants who did all the talking stated they  
21 had left Regina during the night and had car  
22 problems on the way down to Saskatoon. They  
23 mentioned trying to find a person around St.  
24 Marys church and mentioned a nickname I  
25 cannot remember. I offered them the phone  
26 book but they stated they only knew him by  
27 his nickname. They planned to stay at his  
28 place for the day then leave for Edmonton.  
29 Someone also mentioned something about going  
30 to Newfoundland. There was also mention of  
31 the plates being bought the day before by  
32 the fellow with the torn pants and I  
33 understand the other fellow owned the car.  
34 It seems to me the fellow that had worked in  
35 Regina had worked in a body shop. Again

00006:01 Ill pause there for a moment. Does that  
02 sound like an accurate account of  
03 information as you would have provided to  
04 the officer at that time?  
05 WD: Yes it does.  
06 JH: Okay. Continuing on. Somewhere around 9  
07 a.m. in all likelihood, later the Texaco tow  
08 truck arrived from the south end of the lane  
09 and pulled me out. The three youths were in  
10 my car and after the tow truck left, asked  
11 if I could push them out. I told them I  
12 could not as I only had smooth tires. I  
13 then took them over to the Texaco station,  
14 West and 22nd and I then noticed the youth  
15 who was doing all the talking had torn  
16 pants. This fellow arranged for a truck and  
17 we all went back to the lane where the 58  
18 Pontiac was started. After this the fellow  
19 with the torn pants came to my car where the  
20 girl was and asked her for money. She had a  
21 10 dollar bill and some other small change.  
22 She gave this fellow the small change and  
23 she kept the 10 dollars. I then gave them a  
24 push to get out and noted he turned west on  
25 21st Street, north on Avenue E (excuse me)  
26 and east on 22nd Street and this was the last  
27 I saw of them. I cannot say these youths  
28 seemed excited however they all looked quite  
29 tired. I cannot recall smelling alcohol.  
30 And does that again sound like an accurate  
31 account of the information as you wouldve  
32 provided to the police at that time, Wally?  
33 WD: Yes it does.  
34 JH: Okay. Nothing to add or clarify?  
35 Respecting that statement?

00007:01 WD: Not to that statement, no. Ahwas I talking  
02 to you on the phone?  
03 JH: No, you may have been talking to one of my  
04 colleagues and I, ah, I, I think maybe well  
05 get to that if theres further--  
06 WD: Okay.  
07 JH: information to add. But remind me if I  
08 dont ask it, please.  
09 JH: Okay. So you dont have a memory otherwise  
10 then of dealing with the police at that  
11 time, Wally?  
12 WD: I do very vaguely but for some reason I  
13 thought it was about 3 or 4 days after,  
14 after the fact of them being around  
15 oraround our place.  
16 JH: Okay. Do you remember knowing about the  
17 Gail Miller murder at that time?  
18 WD: No, I dont really, I cant really recall,  
19 no.  
20 JH: Okay. And I understand Wally, as the  
21 documents tell us, that you testified at the  
22 Preliminary Hearing of David Milgaard--  
23 WD: Um hm.  
24 JH: and then again at the trial--  
25 WD: Okay.  
26 JH: do you, do you have a memory of testifying  
27 at those two proceedings?  
28 WD: I do but I dont know what I said or  
29 anything.  
30 JH: Okay. Well well, well touch on the  
31 transcript in a moment um, but I did want to  
32 confirm ah, whether or not you have any  
33 memory of dealings with the prosecutor prior  
34 to testifying um, or otherwise with the  
35 Saskatoon City Police in the course of their

00008:01 investigation prior to testifying?  
02 WD: I can recall testifying, I dont know what  
03 I, what I said.  
04 JH: Okay so you dont remember a specific--  
05 WD: I dont remember--  
06 JH: meeting ahead--  
07 WD: a specific--  
08 JH: of time--  
  
09 WD: meeting of, of what happened.  
10 JH: Okay. Well Im going to turn to the  
11 Preliminary Hearing transcript and Im not  
12 actually going to read any portions but  
13 perhaps Ill just identify the document for  
14 you, Walter. Its 0414459 and I see the  
15 name at the top of the page, Walter Joseph  
16 Danchuk, examined by Mr. Caldwell. Then it  
17 continues on with a transcript of, of what  
18 the questions and answers wouldve been in  
19 the course of that testimony. And I take it  
20 that you would adopt that then as accurate.  
21 Youve had a chance to, in fact to review  
22 this testimony and you adopt that as an  
23 accurate indication of the information that  
24 you wouldve provided at that time?  
25 WD: Yes I do.  
26 JH: Okay. Now I am going to turn to the trial  
27 transcript and I do want to bring your  
28 attention to a few of the specific portions  
29 of the trial transcript, Wally. And Im  
30 looking at document 288359 and again we see  
31 at the top of the page reference to Walter  
32 Joseph Danchuk, Mr. Caldwell examining. And  
33 the first portion that Im going to read is  
34 actually on the next page, page 288360  
35 beginning approximately 7 lines down.



00009:01 Question: And was it just you and your wife  
02 who set out for work that morning or did you  
03 have any passengers? Answer: No, just my  
04 wife and me. Question: Which way did you  
05 leave the house? Answer: Through the back  
06 door and see like I was parked in the back.  
07 Question: Parked in the back yard, were  
08 you? Answer: In the back yard, yes.  
09 Question: And I take it you got in and  
10 backed out into the alley, did you? Answer:  
11 Thats right. Question: What happened when  
12 you got into the alley? Answer: Well I got  
13 stuck. Question: And was this as a result  
14 of the alley conditions or the car quitting  
15 or what? Answer: Well I mean there was  
16 quite a bit of snow there and I couldnt see  
17 out my back window. Question: But you got  
18 stuck in the snow I take it, did you?  
19 Answer: Thats right. Question: What time  
20 of the morning was it right at that point  
21 where you backed out and got stuck? Answer:  
22 It would be approximately about 7:30 or 20  
23 to 8. Question: At that time? Answer:  
24 Yes. So would you do-adopt that as an  
25 accurate account of the information you  
26 provided at that time, Wally?  
27 WD: Yes I do.  
28 JH: (excuse me) Im going to skip forward a  
29 couple of pages. Page 2886-3862 of that  
30 document again reading onto the record.  
31 Question: Ah, ha-at approximately at the  
32 um, ah, four lines up from the bottom-  
33 Question: Alright what happened when both  
34 cars stalled in that manner? Well did you  
35 have some discussion between the people from

00010:01 the Pontiac and yourself? Answer: I really  
02 cant recall that. Question: Okay, what  
03 was the next thing you did? Answer: Well  
04 we sat in my car for a while, then I went  
  
05 in, went in the house and told my wife. I  
06 mean she got out first and she went in the  
07 house. Question: Alright. Answer: And I  
08 sat out there for a while and they came out  
09 and I guess we talked for quite a while  
10 outside and I was trying to get my car going  
11 again but the battery wouldnt even turn  
12 over. And ah, then going down to the bottom  
13 of the page, approximately 4 lines up, same  
14 page, 288363. Question: Now while you were  
15 waiting for these trucks were any of these  
16 people in your house? Answer: Yes they  
17 were. The three of them came in the house.  
18 Question: And which part did they go to?  
19 Answer: Well they were sitting actually in  
20 the back porch or the hallway of the house.  
21 Question: Did any of them come down into  
22 your suite? Answer: Yes, the girl did and  
23 the chap sitting over there. Question: The  
24 accused? Answer: Thats right. And would  
25 that be a, those two ah, last portions I  
26 read to you Wally, would that be an in-  
27 accurate indication of the information that  
28 you provided at that time?  
29 WD: Yes it would be.  
30 JH: Im going to continue on skipping to the  
31 next page, 288365, starting at the top of  
32 the page. Question: Alright now Mr.  
33 Danchuk, did you notice anything about the  
34 type or the condition of the accuseds  
35 clothes during the h-this whole incident?

00011:01 Answer: Well not really until he was in the  
02 car and we went back to the service station.  
03 Question: This was somewhat later was it?  
04 Answer: Somewhat later. Question: What  
05 did you notice then? Answer: Well he had a  
06 tear in his trousers. Question:  
07 Whereabouts? Answer: Well I guess in the  
08 back part of the leg or the seat actually.  
09 Question: The seat of the trousers?  
10 Answer: Uh huh. Question: You noticed  
11 that, did you? Answer: Yes. And then the  
12 Court had some questions for you here, Mr.  
13 Danchuk. Ah, the judge asked as follows.  
14 Question: Excuse me, how big or how long a  
15 tear was it? Answer: I couldnt  
16 Question: Was it an inch or half an inch?  
17 Answer: No, it was quite a big tear.  
18 Question: Well you, can you give us any  
19 general idea of how many inches was it.  
20 More than one inch? Answer: Oh yes.  
21 Question: How much more? Answer: Maybe  
22 four, something like that. Question: It  
23 would be about five altogether then?  
24 Answer: Somewhere around there. Would that  
25 be an accurate account of the information  
26 that you provided at that time?  
27 WD: Yes it would be.  
28 JH: And then we move forward, Mr. Caldwell's  
29 Examination in Chief concludes and Mr.  
30 Tallas, the lawyer for David Milgaard cross-  
31 examined you, Wally and Im going to skip  
32 ahead in that cross-examination to page 674  
33 on the document um, the actual document ID  
34 page is 288371 and it starts about halfway  
35 down the page. Question: And there was a

00012:01 group of three people came into the house  
02 and is it fair to say that they were in the  
03 hallway chatting with you for a while?  
04 Answer: Yes. Question: And was this  
05 before or after your wife had gone to work?  
06 Answer: Well she was still at home at the  
07 time for a while. Question: For a while?  
08 Now looking at the whole morning and not  
09 quibbling over a minute or two here and  
10 there, how long would you be with these  
11 three people? I gather from your evidence  
12 it was quite a little time. Answer: Yes it  
13 was. Id say over an hour at least.  
14 Question: Over an hour? You recall about  
15 what time you got on your way to work?  
16 Answer: Well it was after nine because I  
17 can recall that I got to work about a  
18 quarter to ten or so. Question: I see, and  
19 dealing with this particular hallway where  
20 the group were, I take it that there were  
21 lights in this hallway? Answer: Yes.  
22 Question: It was well lit? Answer: Yes.  
23 Question: And as I understand it there  
24 would be no problem of seeing facial  
25 features and clothes on people there?  
26 Answer: No, thats right. Question: And  
27 similarly in your suite, the lighting was  
28 good? Answer: Thats right. And that last  
29 portion I read, is that an accurate account  
30 of the information as you wouldve provided,  
31 Wally?  
32 WD: Yes.  
33 JH: Okay, Im gonna continue from, just off from  
34 that last answer. Question: Now as I  
35 understand it you went down into your suite

00013:01 after the group of you were in the house in  
02 the hallway to make a phone call? Answer:  
03 Yes I think I did. Question: And then you  
04 came up and talked to the group in the hall?  
05 Answer: Thats right. Question: Is that  
06 correct? Answer: Thats right. Question:  
07 And as I understand it, on one occasion the  
08 girl came downstairs. Answer: Yes.  
09 Question: And this, this was after your  
10 wife had gone or do you recall? Answer: I  
11 dont recall now. Question: I see, and she  
12 asked you if she could, if she could use the  
13 washroom? Answer: Yes. Question: And she  
14 went down to the suite and then came back to  
15 the hallway, is that correct? Answer: Yes.  
16 Question: And then I think David went down  
17 into your suite, didnt he? When I say  
18 David I mean David here. Answer: Yes he  
19 was down there. Question: And now then  
20 when you drove them to the station, that is  
21 the service station, do you recall the  
22 seating arrangement in your car? Answer:  
23 Well the girl was in the front with me and  
24 the two fellows in the back. Question: I  
25 see. The two fellows were in the back and  
26 you saw David get out and go to the station,  
27 did you? Answer: Yes I did. Question:  
28 And then you saw him s-coming back to the  
29 car? Answer: Yes. Question: And where  
30 was it that you noticed the trousers, the  
31 rip or tear as you have described it? Where  
32 was it that you first noticed it? Answer:  
33 When he was getting out of the car. Like he  
34 was sitting in the back and he was getting  
35 out of the car. Like my car is only a two-

00014:01 door and the seat was pushed forward.  
02 Question: I see, and you noticed that at  
03 that time? Answer: Yes. And again that  
04 would be an accurate account of the  
05 information you provided--  
06 WD: Yes.  
07 JH: at that time, Wally, would it be? Okay.  
08 Just a couple more portions here. If I turn  
09 to page 288375 starting about ah, a quarter  
10 of the way up from the bottom of the page.  
11 Question: Now in any event its fair to say  
12 that during that morning you talked to David  
13 quite a little bit o-off and on. Answer:  
14 Thats right. Question: And naturally you  
15 had never seen these young people, these  
16 people in your life before? Answer: No.  
17 Question: And had no idea who they were,  
18 where they were from or anything about them?  
19 Answer: No. Question: They were complete  
20 strangers to you? Answer: Thats right.  
21 Question: And now I gather that when you  
22 were talking to David any conversation you  
23 had with him was quite polite? Answer:  
24 Yes, he was very polite. Question: And  
25 soft-spoken? Answer: Id say so.  
26 Question: And when you were talking to him  
27 and the others in the house you would be  
28 right close to them when they were in the  
29 hall area there? Answer: Yes, I was.  
30 Question: Within 2 or 3 feet on occasion?  
31 Answer: Yes. Question: And I take it that  
32 you were chatting with them and in  
33 particular you were chatting with David as  
34 to what he did for a living? Answer: Yes  
35 because he, well I seen he was doing most of

00015:01 the talking. And again, accurate account of  
02 information that you wouldve provided,  
03 Wally?  
04 WD: Yes it is.  
05 JH: Im turning to the next page, 288377  
06 starting just past halfway down the page.  
07 Question: But you also had an opportunity  
08 to see the front portion of his trousers too  
09 that morning, didnt you? Answer: Well  
10 yes. Question: And I take it that its  
11 fair to say that when he was at your place  
12 you didnt see any blood or anything  
13 resembling blood on the front of his  
14 trousers? Answer: Well I never really  
15 looked that close. (excuse me) Question:  
16 But I mean you didnt see any, there was  
17 nothing like that that stood out in your  
18 mind? Answer: Thats right. Question: As  
19 a matter of fact you were interviewed by the  
20 police not too long after these events?  
21 Answer: Yes. Question: And at that time  
22 this was naturally one of the questions that  
23 you would be asked, whether there was any  
24 sign of blood, isnt that right? Answer:  
25 Thats right. Question: Yes, and isnt it  
26 fair to say that when you were interviewed  
27 by the police you certainly told them, that  
28 you were asked, that you did not notice or  
29 see any blood on any of Davids clothing?  
30 Answer: No, I didnt notice any. And  
31 turning to the next page. Firstly, sorry  
32 Wally-is that-  
33 WD: Okay.  
34 JH: an accurate account of the information that  
35 you would have provided at that time?

00016:01 WD: Yes it is.

02 JH: Turning to the next page, 288379 starting  
03 approximately a quarter of the way down from  
04 the top of the page. Question: No, and now  
05 Mr. Danchuk Ive mentioned to you about  
06 being asked about the question of blood by  
07 the police and I believe you also remember  
08 me asking you a f-few questions about this  
09 at the Preliminary Hearing, dont you?  
10 Answer: Yes I think I do. Question: Well  
11 you remember being here in this room as a  
12 witness? Answer: Yes. Question: You were  
13 asked these questions and did you give these  
14 answers? And this my Lord is page 243,  
15 questions 126 and 127. Quote, but you also  
16 had an opportunity to see his front portion,  
17 end of quote. This is with reference to the  
18 trousers-and the answer is recorded as  
19 quote, yeah, end of quote. Do you remember  
20 being asked that question and giving that  
21 answer? Answer: Yes, I think I do.  
22 Question: And then 127, quote, and I take  
23 it that its fair to say that when he was at  
24 your place there was not any blood or  
25 anything like that on the front of his  
26 clothes. And the answer, quote, I didnt  
27 see any. Do you remember being asked that  
28 question and giving that answer? Answer:  
29 Yes. And this is consistent with what you  
30 told the police when you were interviewed  
31 not too long after this incident? Answer:  
32 Yes. And is that an accurate account of the  
33 information, that last portion that ah, you  
34 wouldve provided at that time?  
35 WD: Yes it is.



00017:01 JH: Continue on at page 683, page 288380 of the  
02 document, quarter of the way up from the  
03 bottom of the page. (excuse me) Question:  
04 I see now, when the tow truck arrived to  
05 pull you out were the three people outside  
06 in your car at this time? Had you gone out?  
07 Answer: Well we all went out at the same  
08 time. Question: You all went out at the  
09 same time? Did you all climb into your  
10 vehicle, so to speak? Answer: After my car  
11 was started we climbed into my car.  
12 Question: I see. Now after they got into  
13 your car and after you were pulled out, was  
14 there some discussion between the group of  
15 you as to whether or not you could pull out  
16 there car? Answer: I think there was. And  
17 did you indicate to them that you wouldnt  
18 be able to because you ha-only had smooth  
19 tires on? Answer: Thats right. Question:  
20 And this is a fact isnt it, you only had  
21 smooth tires at that time? Answer: Yes.  
22 Question: And that was why you drove them  
23 over to the Texaco station so that y-so that  
24 they could get a new ah, sorry-so that they  
25 could get a tow truck. Answer: Thats  
26 right. Question: Rather than have you try  
27 and pull them out just with smooth tires?  
28 Answer: Yes. Question: And when these  
29 people were at your house there was  
30 certainly no indication of the use of  
31 alcohol or anything else like that? Answer:  
32 I didnt notice any. Question: From their  
33 actions and speech? Answer: No, I wouldnt  
34 say there was. Question: And this may be a  
35 rhetorical question but youve certainly

00018:01 seen people that are at least affected by  
02 liquor? Answer: Yes. Question: Or are in  
03 a, in an impaired or in-intoxicated  
04 condition by something? Answer: Yes.  
05 Again, Mr. Danchuk, that wouldve been an  
06 accurate account of the information that you  
07 provided at that time?  
08 WD: Yes, it wouldve been.  
09 JH: And do you have any comment on the testimony  
10 that you provided at trial or at the  
11 Preliminary Hearing?  
12 WD: Yes, Im a little bit puzzled that, that the  
13 police or the pros-or, oror the lawyer  
14 didnt ask me what, what colour the car was  
15 or what colour the seats were in the car.  
16 And Im not really that concerned about the  
17 outside of the car as ah, they ah, as they  
18 kept asking about the blood on his clothes.  
19 Well the interior of the car was all white  
20 leatherette. And, and that was never really  
21 brought up and that wouldve if, if he did  
22 have blood he would pro-you know, you would  
23 think he wouldif its a white seat you  
24 would see something on it if it was...  
25 JH: Ah-and-  
26 WD: it was quite fresh and, and ah, and that was  
27 never brought up by anybody.  
28 JH: Okay and so you dont recall anybody asking  
29 you a question about that?  
30 WD: Not about what the interior of the car was  
31 or anything like that.  
32 JH: Did anyone have a take, take a look at your  
33 car?  
34 WD: Im not sure.  
35 JH: Okay. But, and you dont recall any sign of

00019:01 blood then on the interior of your car?  
02 WD: No.  
03 JH: And I think you indicated the, the three  
04 youths were sitting in the car on the drive  
05 to and back from the service station?  
06 WD: The girl was sitting in front, in the front  
07 seat cause it had bucket seats in it and  
08 the two fellows were sitting in the back  
09 seat, David and the other fellow we-were  
10 sitting in the back seat.  
11 JH: Okay. And which side was David on in the  
12 back seat?  
13 WD: I dont recall right now.  
14 JH: Anything else to clarify beyond that point?  
15 WD: Not really, that was one of, one of the, one  
16 of the biggest things that I, you know, that  
17 I just noticed now that I, tha-that was  
18 never asked what, you know what kind of car  
19 I drove.  
20 JH: Okay, so the best, to the best of your  
21 recollection the investigators hadnt  
22 inquired about that and, and nor did the  
23 lawyers at the trial?  
24 WD: Well the, well you think when, when the  
25 police came in or came up they woulda looked  
26 at the car, a-and seen that the seats were,  
27 w-were white in colour-  
28 JH: Okay. But you dont un-recall any  
29 discussion following from that?  
30 WD: I dont recall any, any discussion like  
31 that.  
32 JH: Okay. So after the, after the trial  
33 concluded Wally, do you have a memory of  
34 what your next involvement in this matter  
35 wouldve been?

00020:01 WD: Not really, like, like what? What are you  
02 referring to?  
03 JH: Contact from ah, authorities in relation to  
04 any-  
05 WD: I dont-  
06 JH: investigation-  
07 WD: recall any-  
08 JH: they-  
09 WD: contact at all.  
10 JH: Okay. Contact from the Milgaard family or  
11 anybody...  
12 WD: I-  
13 JH: of that nature?  
14 WD: had contact with the mother about ahI would  
15 say 8 or 9 years later.  
16 JH: Okay.  
17 WD: That she phoned me and i-i-in fact in Kelo-  
18 when I was living in Kelowna.  
19 JH: Okay and do you have-  
20 WD: (unintelligible) time.  
21 JH: do you have a memory of that conversation?  
22 WD: Notthat he was ahnot really. I, I-  
23 JH: Okay.  
24 WD: really cant, cant-  
25 JH: Okay and I ah, we should state for the  
26 record prior to the beginning of this  
27 interview um, I believe actually you had a  
28 chance to review your previous statements,  
29 previous testimony and as well you had an  
30 opportunity to review a recording of um,  
31 what appears to be a telephone conversation  
32 that you did have with Joyce Milgaard. Um,  
33 your wife was also involved and ah, before  
34 ah, you had a look at this um, transcript,  
35 did you have any memory of that contact?

00021:01 WD: I recall talking to her.  
02 JH: Okay, okay. And you had a chance now, I  
03 dont propose to read through the-  
04 WD: Okay, yes Ive read-  
05 JH: conversation-  
06 WD: that, yeah.  
07 JH: And, and would it be an accurate account of  
08 the information that you wouldve provided  
09 in the course of that discussion at that  
10 time?  
11 WD: I would say it is.  
12 JH: And do you have anything else to add in  
13 terms of your contact with Mrs. Milgaard at  
14 that time?  
15 WD: I was just, just ah, shocked why she called  
16 me. That, thats about all ah, not really.  
17 JH: And so the information you wouldve provided  
18 then is captured in the-  
19 WD: Well she-  
20 JH: transcript?  
21 WD: was asking me all the questions and, and I  
22 was just giving her some answers that I had.  
23 JH: Okay. And as say the information that you  
24 wouldve provided then is captured by the  
25 transcript that we have and-  
26 WD: Yes.  
27 JH: youve had a chance to review? Okay.  
28 WD: Yes.  
29 JH: And do you remember other contact from any  
30 other authorities?  
31 WD: Not really until on, until after when, when  
32 the Larry Fisher trial came up.  
33 JH: Okay and you testified at the Larry Fisher  
34 trial?  
35 WD: I did, yeah.

00022:01 JH: Do you have a recollection of dealing with  
02 the RCMP in approximately 1993 in relation  
03 to an investigation they were conducting  
04 into this matter?  
05 WD: No I dont.  
06 JH: Okay. Um, I have a document here which  
07 would indicate that RCMP officers met with  
08 you in a course of their investigation,  
09 yourself and your wife in 1993. Um, it looks  
10 like the contact was taking place in  
11 approximately May of that year and I see um,  
12 if I turn to and again this is document  
13 035351 and I shouldve mentioned that the  
14 transcript from your discussion with Joyce  
15 Milgaard is document 048577. And I see in  
16 this RCMP document that some notes are made  
17 by an officer in relation to contact had  
18 with you at that time and perhaps Ill just  
19 read some portions for you, Wally. I dont  
20 know if this going to bring back a memory at  
21 all but it states that the ah, top of again,  
22 page 3 of that document, Constable  
23 Cunningham and I attended the Danchuk  
24 residence in Nanaimo where we met with Mr.  
25 and Mrs. Danchuk together. They were most  
26 cooperative and willing to discuss this  
27 matter and did not hesitate to respond to  
28 any questions put to them. Although their  
29 memories were somewhat weak in certain  
30 areas, generally they had a good  
31 recollection of the circumstances especially  
32 when given their testimony and statements to  
33 read. Does that bring back a memory at all  
34 of meeting with them?  
35 WD: No.

00023:01 JH: Okay. Ill just read portions again of what  
02 they had ah, stated and get your comment on  
03 that. If I continue on that same page, the  
04 Danchuks related the following, the both  
05 adopted their testimony and statements as  
06 being accurate. Mrs. Dan chuck recalled  
07 other events some of which are not  
08 previously mentioned, which will be  
09 described below. Im then going to actually  
10 move forward to page 035355 and I note about  
11 halfway through the, through the page the  
12 officer notes, both Danchuks confirm that  
13 Milgaard was very polite, did most of the  
14 talking and did not act unusual. They also  
15 confirm that there was no sign on blood on  
16 any clothing. Moving to the bottom of the  
17 page, both Danchuks were treated well by the  
18 Crown and at no time did he or the police  
19 suggest what they should say in their  
20 statements or on the stand at court. Other  
21 than the police, the Danchuks have only been  
22 approached by The Fifth Estate a number of  
23 years ago when they lived in Langley, BC.  
24 They were treated well and nothing  
25 remarkable was learned or mentioned. Now  
26 you dont recall—  
27 WD: Well that I can recall, The Fifth Estate I  
28 can recall now.  
29 JH: And is that an accurate synopsis of ah, of  
30 your dealings in relation to The Fifth  
31 Estate? Did you basically provide the  
32 information that—  
33 WD: Yes I would—  
34 JH: has been—  
35 WD: say.

00024:01 JH: indi-indicated in the testimony?  
02 WD: Whatever they asked, yes I would say it is.  
03 JH: Do you have a-  
04 WD: That I could recall, hey.  
05 JH: Okay. But you dont recall this meeting  
06 then with RCMP officers in 1993?  
07 WD: Ah, where?  
08 JH: Ah, wh-it sounds like it was here at your  
09 residence in Nanaimo.  
10 WD: No, I wasnt living in ah, ah, in 93?  
11 JH: Yeah.  
12 WD: Oh yeah, I was.  
13 JH: And thats fine if you dont remember it.  
14 WD: No, I dont remember that.  
15 JH: Okay and does that sound though like um,  
16 information ah, that wouldve been accurate  
17 in terms of what you wouldve indicated at  
18 that time?  
19 WD: I would say it is, yes.  
20 JH: Okay. And then you mentioned your next  
21 involvement apart from The Fifth Estate um,  
22 you were involved in the trial of Larry  
23 Fisher, Wally?  
24 WD: Yes I was.  
25 JH: And you recall providing testimony at that  
26 trial?  
  
27 WD: Yes I do.  
28 JH: And youve had a chance to um, review the  
29 transcript from that testimony?  
30 WD: I did, yes.  
31 JH: And is it accurate um to the best of your  
32 recollection?  
33 WD: Yes it was, to the best of my recollection.  
34 JH: Im going to simply identify the document,  
35 its ID 297189 and Im not certain that I



00025:01 will read certain portions to you but let me  
02 just take a quick look at it. Okay there  
03 are just a couple of short portions Ill  
04 read for you Wally, and for the record. If  
05 I start at page 297209 about halfway down  
06 the page. Question: Okay, did you notice  
07 anything unusual about the clothes of either  
08 of the two young men, please? Answer: No,  
09 I didnt. Question: At any point that  
10 morning did you see that there was any  
11 substance resembling blood on either of  
12 those young mens clothing? Answer: No, I  
13 never did. Question: Did you, pardon?  
14 Answer: No, I never did see. Question:  
15 Did the police ask you about that? Answer:  
16 Im quite sure they did. Question: Were  
17 you asked that at the trial? Answer: Yes.  
18 Question: Alright and did you see anything  
19 like blood on their bodies, their hands,  
20 their face? Answer: No. Turning to the  
21 next page. Question: What do you recall  
22 the young girl looking like, please? What  
23 did she look like? Answer: She was very  
24 short, tiny. She was wearing these elephant  
25 pants they used to call them at that time.  
26 She was very quiet, didnt say very much.  
27 Thats basically about all I can tell you  
28 about her. Question: Okay, did you notice  
29 any unusual about her condition or behaviour  
30 that morning? Answer: No I didnt. Thatd  
31 be an accurate indi-indication of the  
32 information that you provided at that time,  
33 Wally?  
34 WD: Yes it, yes it would be.  
35 JH: We turn forward a few pagesto page 297218

00026:01 of that same document, a short excerpt  
02 beginning near the top of the page.  
03 Question: Alright during that process,  
04 where was the girl? Answer: When they were  
05 getting the car going? Question: Yes.  
06 Answer: In my car. Question: And where  
07 were the two boys? Answer: If I can recall  
08 they were both outside. Milgaard was behind  
09 the wheel and then the other fellow I  
10 recall, he got out and he went in the other  
11 car. Question: So you and the girl were by  
12 yourself in your car? Answer: Yes.  
13 Question: Do you recall anything being said  
14 by her during that period of time, to you?  
15 Answer: No, she was very quiet. And that  
16 information is accurate to the best of your  
17 recollection-  
18 WD: Yes it is.  
19 JH: Turning to page 297220 halfway down the  
20 page. Question: How long approximately  
21 then would they have been with you, sir?  
22 Answer: Approximately 2 and a half hours, I  
23 guess. Question: And during that time did  
24 you see anything unusual about their  
25 behaviour or the condition of their clothing  
26 other than what youve indicated today?  
27 Answer: No, I didnt see anything  
28 different. Question: And you have reviewed  
29 your statement and your previous testimony  
30 in that regard, is that correct? Answer:  
31 Yes, yeah. Again, that an accurate  
32 indication of information as you wouldve  
33 provided Wally, as best you can recall?  
34 WD: Yes, I would say it is.  
35 JH: Its ah, probably unfair to ask you this, I

00027:01 know there have been some different time  
02 frames mentioned in terms of how long you  
03 were with um, the three youths that morning,  
04 um, and I see ah, a reference of 2 and a  
05 half hours here. I think shorter references  
06 um, that closer to the event. Do you have  
07 anything that you can tell us today that  
08 would um, clarify that or that would  
09 indicate otherwise?  
10 WD: No, I wouldnt, not that I can recall.  
11 JH: Okay.  
12 WD: Ah—  
13 JH: Im gonna continue forward with just a  
14 couple of short bits from the cross of your,  
15 the cross-examination conducted by Mr.  
16 Beresh. Ah, starting on that same page,  
17 297220. Question: Mr. Danchuk, Im going  
18 to keep you only for a few minutes. You  
19 impress me as being a very honest man.  
20 Answer: Thank you. Question: Would you  
21 agree with me sir, that your recollection of  
22 this vent-event is very poor? Answer:  
23 Yeah. Moving down the page a little bit to  
24 line 11. Question: Do you agree with me  
25 that your recollection is really hazy about  
26 any of these events, correct? Answer: A  
27 lot of the events but not everything. Would  
28 that be an accurate indication of your—  
29 WD: I guess so, yes.  
30 JH: memory and of what you indicated at that  
31 time? Okay, thats it for the transcript  
32 from the Larry Fisher trial. And do you  
33 have any other information Wally, that we  
34 havent cothe-covered or that hasnt  
35 otherwise been reflected in the documents

00028:01 that weve looked at?  
02 WD: The only other thing, it seems to really  
03 bother me is I just thought about that, just  
04 in fact not too long ago is, is for some  
05 reason a name keeps coming up of Shorty in  
06 my mind and for some unknown reason I think  
07 that thats was the fellow that they were  
08 all looking for that morning in Saskatoon.  
09 JH: Okay and is that something that has come to  
10 you more recently-  
11 WD: It came-  
12 JH: or that (unintelligible)-  
13 WD: to me when I was talking to one of your  
  
14 fellows the other day.  
15 JH: Okay.  
16 WD: And I mentioned it to him and I said for  
17 some unknown reason I have this Shorty name  
18 in my head now.  
19 JH: Okay. Anything beyond that?  
20 WD: Not really, ah..  
21 JH: Im just going to show to you one further  
22 document, Wally. Probably shouldve showed  
23 it to you a little bit earlier on. Um, this  
24 is a, an RCMP report and the document ID is  
25 054697 and it looks, if I turn to the last  
26 page of the document, that it was a report  
27 by an E.D. Rasmussen, Saskatoon GIS, a  
28 corporal. Im just going to read a couple  
29 of portions of it to you, Wally. If we turn  
30 to page 3, document ah, or page 054699  
31 starting almost at the very bo-bottom of the  
32 page. Stated that when Wilsons, or stated  
33 that when they arrived in Saskatoon they  
34 started looking for Albert Cadraings place,  
35 that he had met before. They didnt know

00029:01 exactly where Cadrain lived but knew it was  
02 in the Pleasanthill area of Saskatoon.  
03 Stated while driving around they became  
04 stuck in an alley in that area however could  
05 not give the exact location. Stated that  
06 ah, stated that as they drove up the alley  
07 they came upon a car ahead of them and when  
08 they tried to give it a push they also be-  
09 became stuck. This car was described as a  
10 83 or 64 Ford and was occupied by a man  
11 and a woman. Stated the man called for a  
12 tow truck and they all subsequently went  
13 into this persons house and waited for it  
14 to come. When it arrived the other vehicle  
15 was pulled out but as believed had no money  
16 the tow truck left without assisting him.  
17 And in terms of your comment, is that an  
18 accurate ah, indication of, of that  
19 information that um, you wouldve been aware  
20 of at that time? Of course those arent  
21 your words, Wally. I think theyre  
22 reflecting um, comments made perhaps-  
23 WD: Well I mustve-  
24 JH: even by David.  
25 WD: gave these comments. I mean some of the,  
26 that sounds l-like part of my comments  
27 behind our place.  
28 JH: I think, I think what happened and perhaps I  
29 shouldve started earlier on in this  
30 paragraph and well just try and get some  
31 better context to it. Um, if I start at  
32 paragraph 10 on the previous page. This  
33 date Staff Sergeant Edmundson-Edmundson and  
34 Detective Carst, Saskatoon City Police  
35 interviewed Milgaard at Winnipeg, Manitoba.

00030:01 Milgaard stated that in the early a.m. of  
02 January 31st, 1969, he accompanied by Wilson,  
03 departed Regina for Saskatoon. Stated were  
04 on their way to Edmonton to see his  
05 girlfriend, Sharon Williams. Stated that o-  
06 that on their way to Saskatoon they had  
07 trouble with Wilsons car and they had  
08 borrowed a battery for it. And then we  
09 continue on with that portion that I had  
10 read so as I say it looks like a report on  
11 what had been indicated by David Milgaard  
12 during his testimony although he does  
13 reflect I believe, the occasion um, that you  
14 speak of and have spoken of in terms of  
15 being stuck in the alley and I just wanted  
16 to confirm whether that was umm, accurate in  
17 terms of whats reported there um, from the  
18 best of your recollection.  
19 WD: I would say it is, yeah, to the best of my  
20 recollection. I dont really recall it  
21 right now but..  
22 JH: Yeah and Im sorry Im confusing you, Wally.  
23 Its just the um, the bit of information  
24 about um, being stuck in the back of your  
25 ah, lane and um, them referring I believe to  
26 your vehicle-it says a 63 or 64 Ford.  
27 What was your vehicle at that time?  
28 WD: It was a 64 Chev convertible.  
29 JH: Okay. Okay perhaps Ill turn the pages to  
30 um, to a further paragraph, just one further  
31 excerpt. Okay and again this is the RCMP  
32 officer reporting on um, his investigation  
33 to that point in time. Im turning to page  
34 054764, my copy isnt very good, it might be  
35 784. Its page 9 of the report although it

00031:01 says page 8 at the top, um, paragraph 23.  
02 Investigation revealed that the person  
03 referred to by Milgaard, Wilson and John as  
04 being stuck in the lane in the Pleasanthill  
05 district was one, Walter Joseph Danchuk who  
06 resides at 129 Avenue T South. When  
07 interviewed, subject stated that on Friday,  
08 31st of January, 1969, at about 7:40 a.m. he  
09 was backing out of his yard and became stuck  
10 in the lane at the rear of his house.  
11 Stated that at this time a 1958 Pontiac  
12 drove up behind him in the lane from the  
13 north. This vehicle contained two young men  
14 and a young woman. Subject went to confirm  
15 statements given by the three occupants of  
16 this vehicle. Stated that one of the males  
17 who fits the description of Milgaard,  
18 mentioned something about having acid on his  
19 clothes and also one who had torn pants.  
20 Stated they spoke of trying to locate a  
21 person around that area and mentioned a name  
22 which Danchuk could not recall. Advised  
23 that the tow truck was called and same  
24 arrived at his place around 9 a.m. Stated  
25 that a person described as being Milgaard  
26 and wearing the torn pants came to his car  
27 where the girl was sitting and asked her for  
28 some money. Stated she had a 10 dollar bill  
29 and some other small change and that she  
30 gave the fellow the change. Danchuk could  
31 not say whether these youths seemed excited  
32 however he did say that they all looked  
33 quite tired. Statement obtained from  
34 Danchuk attached. And would that be an  
35 accurate account then or report of the um,

00032:01 of the information that you wouldve  
02 provided—  
03 WD: Yes—  
04 JH: the off—  
05 WD: I would say it is.  
06 JH: Okay. I believe that brings us close to the  
07 conclusion of the interview, Walter. I—  
08 WD: Okay.  
09 JH: I do need to review my notes and perhaps  
10 well pause just for a moment here, Don if  
11 you could?  
12 (tape off/on)  
13 JH: Wally, thank you very much for attending  
14 with me today. That concludes the questions  
15 that I have for you.  
16 WD: Okay, youre welcome.  
17 DC:Time is 9:21 p.m., January 20th. So you  
18 (unintelligible) for me.  
19 (tape off)  
20 1  
21 1