

TRANSCRIPT OF TAPED INTERVIEW OF LINDA DUFFUS 93-04-14 TAKEN AT RED DEER, ALBERTA BY CPL. J. TEMPLETON AND CST. J. DYCK

J. DYCK Not yet...

J. TEMPLETON This is the statement of Linda Ann DUFFUS, born 59-07-23, address 10012 - 93rd Avenue, Grande Prairie, Alberta, Postal Code, T8V 0J8, telephone number 938-2561. The date is April the 14th, 1993. The time is 12 noon. Present at Red Deer City Detachment is Linda Ann DUFFUS, Cst. John DYCK and Cpl. Jim TEMPLETON, RCMP, Regina.

Correction on the telephone number for Linda, it's 538-2561.

Uh, Linda as explained to you, we're uh... examining certain aspects of the Colleen, oh I'm sorry, the Gail MILLER murder on the 31st of January, 1969. Could you please tell us what you do recall of that date and if you do recall it?

L. DUFFUS I certainly can. Um... one of the things that stands out in my mind about that morning is that it was an extremely cold morning. Um... I was heading to school um... it would probably have been twenty after eight, eight thirty. I usually met my friend, Matthew HNATIUK, um... to walk to school together. I remember typically he was always late for our meeting point which was just on the corner of O and 20th Street, so I often found myself walking towards his house to meet him, rather than to stand in the cold and wait for him. So that particular morning, Matthew hadn't showed up. I walked towards his place and in doing so, how I would get there is I would cross Avenue O and head down the alley so, yea, I'd go about a quarter of a block, turn right and then the alley actually went straight through but it also turned left again. So you'd walk... be walking between O and N on the block. As I walked towards his house um... I came across a person lying in the snowbank and this person would be located right behind his house um... I recall an older garage um... which she would have been right behind. Um... at that point I was standing over the woman and Matthew came out. At which time I suggested he best get his mother as there was a woman sleeping in the snow bank. Um... he did so. He went back in the house to get his mother and his mother came out and, upon seeing the woman lying there as well, shooed us off to school. Told us that we would be late and that it was time to go to school. Um... at the time of seeing the woman, I remember too, there was a rumour amongst us kids that there was a woman in our area who had a tendency of

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getting drunk and often would sleep in the snow bank. Um... I believed at the time, because all I saw was the woman. The woman was laying face down. There was no sign of blood at all. Um... so I wasn't alarmed at seeing this woman lying there. Um... so I believed that I had found this drunk woman who was sleeping in the snow bank. So I went off to school that morning. Um, in fact for current events, I had... that was my current event of the morning. I had found this particular woman sleeping in the snow bank. Um... even though it was as cold as it was, it wasn't unusual for us to come home for lunch time. Um... it was almost unheard of that you stayed at school for lunch. Um... so that afternoon, at lunch time, I came home for lunch and I recall very vividly as I walked into the porchway, you would see the T.V. from the porch, and a news bulletin was on. And that this particular body had been found and I was somewhat alarmed, in fact, I said to my mom at that time, "Mom I was the one that had found the body". Um... And that was about all that I remember of that particular day. I do remember it being extremely cold. I remember it being foggy. Um... when I recall it, I remember darkness, but definitely the cold and the fog.

- J. TEMPLETON O.K. Linda uh... on the 31st of January, 1969, how old were you?
- L. DUFFUS I was ten.
- J. TEMPLETON What school did you go to?
- L. DUFFUS I went to Pleasant Hill.
- J. TEMPLETON Where was Pleasant Hill from well, first of all, where did you live at that time?
- L. DUFFUS I lived on the corner of Avenue O and 20th. And Pleasant Hill School was on Avenue S, it was about a four to five block walk west of where I lived.
- J. TEMPLETON Did you live with your parents at that time?
- L. DUFFUS Yes I did, as well as my grandmother.
- J. TEMPLETON And your grandmother. Um... just to take you back then. You recall coming home at noon and uh... on the T.V. there was a news cast about the ... about the body being found?

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L. DUFFUS That's correct.

J. TEMPLETON uh.. that would have been the same day that you had found it?

L. DUFFUS That's right.

J. TEMPLETON And you discussed this with your mother?

L. DUFFUS Yes. Yea. I think she was a little shocked at that. Um... but there was no conversation after that. I don't recall any conversation other than, describing to Mom what had happened and exactly what I had told you, what I had found.

J. TEMPLETON O.K. You are certain that this was in the same day that you had seen the news at noon.

L. DUFFUS Yes.

J. TEMPLETON Uh... can you recall what the news cast might have been saying, what it was about?

L. DUFFUS Not really. No. Actually I can't, in fact um... I just remember the bulletin. I'm not even sure if there was actually a flash of the location um... but I certainly do remember that I was startled by it. In that up to that point, I had still thought that I had found a woman drunk sleeping in the snow bank. So that's what I do remember of that particular time and uh... recalling it that was the first time that I realized that this was a person who had been murdered.

J. TEMPLETON You mentioned that you had spoken to your mother that you had found this... this lady. Uh... was it determined at that time, or understood that you had actually found a dead lady in the alley?

L. DUFFUS At that time it would have been, yes.

J. TEMPLETON Your mother would have understood that.

L. DUFFUS Yes.

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- J. TEMPLETON The time after that, do you recall the members of the Saskatoon City Police coming to your home asking questions in the neighbourhood. Do you recall that?
- L. DUFFUS No I don't recall that. I only knew that in that um... I remember my father mentioning that he had been approached um... by police officers. But I don't, in fact, recall um... ever being approached myself. Um... or for... remembering them coming to the house at all.
- J. TEMPLETON Did you tell your father what you had seen? That you recall?
- L. DUFFUS I certainly... I... I found it rather surprising um... when I spoke to him recently that he was unaware of this. In fact, I jokingly asked him at the time where he was because that was something I couldn't believe that he did not know.
- J. TEMPLETON You mentioned it on the day of the murder you mentioned it to your mother. Did you mention it to your mother, or discuss it with your mother, days following that?
- L. DUFFUS No I don't... I honestly don't believe I did. I don't recall that. I don't recall ever discussing it any further than that. Um... No I don't recall that.
- J. DYCK You indicated earlier, you were talking about this rumour about the woman that uh... used to sleep around outside and stuff like that...that was something mentioned around the kids. Now at the time when you found uh... this person in the snow, how... who was all with you at that time?
- L. DUFFUS Just myself.
- J. DYCK Just yourself.
- J. TEMPLETON O.K. Uh... You went and uh... Matthew came out to meet you, I take it?
- L. DUFFUS That's correct. Yea. He was walking out of his backyard.
- J. TEMPLETON And then you and Matthew spoke with his mother, Mrs. HNATIUK?
- L. DUFFUS That's right.

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- J. TEMPLETON Do you recall a girl by the name of Mary MARCOUX? Would she have been a friend of your's or a girl that lived in the neighbourhood, perhaps?
- L. DUFFUS No I don't. That name does not sound familiar.
- J. TEMPLETON Did your mother ever mention the police coming door to door, knocking on the door... or your grandmother? Um... asking questions in the neighbourhood about the murder? Do you recall that?
- L. DUFFUS No, I don't recall that either, Jim, other than like I say um... in terms of my Dad. I remember my Dad mentioning that he had been approached. And that he had been talked to and that. And I remember him recalling that particular morning himself, and not having heard anything.
- J. TEMPLETON The day after the murder and days after that, did you take the same route to school? To pick up Matthew?
- L. DUFFUS I did so.
- J. TEMPLETON Up the back alley between N and O.
- L. DUFFUS That's correct.
- J. TEMPLETON Do you recall City Policemen being in the alley?
- L. DUFFUS Jim, I recall the tents being set up and they were melting the snow. Um... even when I think of it today I... it puzzles me in that I guess I would assume that that entire area would be completely blocked off, but I remember again, waiting for Matthew to walk to school. Um.. I recall the snow being pretty much gone in that area from the tent being set up and I do recall, as I was standing waiting there for Michael, one of the police officers finding a knife. And although there was no conversation that passed between us, the recollection that I have is that's the weapon and so that stands out in my mind as well.
- J. TEMPLETON Uh, you mentioned a City Policeman finding a knife. Do you recall if it was big knife, small knife...

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L. DUFFUS Small knife. In fact, one of the things that stands out in my mind about that is that particular spring, again walking to school by St. Paul's Hospital, I came across a paring knife and I took it to school and turned it in to the Principal, just thinking that perhaps this particular paring knife meant something and that stood out in mind, picking up that particular knife.

J. TEMPLETON Uh, the knife that you mentioned, whereabouts, exactly do you recall, near St. Paul's, whereabouts would have found that? Was it...

L. DUFFUS Yea. Um... St. Paul's... there was St. Paul's and there was a nursing residence right next door to St. Paul's Hospital and it was right on that sidewalk, walking. And it was just as things were melting.

J. TEMPLETON So around Avenue P? Or...

L. DUFFUS Uh... no closer to there would have been... Q... between Q and R.

J. TEMPLETON Q. Between Q and R on 20th or 21st?

L. DUFFUS On 20th.

J. TEMPLETON Was it lying, the knife lying on the street, was it in the grass...

L. DUFFUS Off if where your sidewalk was, where you are walking on your sidewalk, there was uh... a little bit of lawn to the one side and the boulevard to the other side and it was just off to the right hand side.

J. TEMPLETON Yea... so you would have... you're indicating that it would have been on the ... you would have been walking on the north side of the street.

L. DUFFUS That's correct.

J. TEMPLETON O.K. What kind of a knife was it?

L. DUFFUS It was a paring knife that I had found.

J. TEMPLETON Was it clean? Was it old and rusty?

L. DUFFUS Old and rusty.

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- J. TEMPLETON Do you remember the color?
- L. DUFFUS Um... brown wooden handled - typical of a paring knife. Wooden handle and a short blade.
- J. TEMPLETON O.K. Let's go back to your recollection to the plastic tent being set up in the alley. The day of the murder, which was the 31st of January, on your way home at lunch, did you have occasion to walk back down that same alley? Or how did you go home?
- L. DUFFUS Not that day, no. Um.. Matthew's house was actually to the east of um... where we normally went to school. We went west to school. Um.. so that particular day, no I did not go back at all. We would have walked home and at that time he would have parted to go home and I would have went home as well.
- J. TEMPLETON O.K.
- J. DYCK When you recall the peace officer finding that knife, you indicated earlier, how many policemen were at the scene at that time?
- L. DUFFUS The best recollection that I have is two of them. Now there could have been more, but I definitely remember two in the area of where the tent was set up.
- J. DYCK O.K. Now did you see him actually find it, or did he have it in his hand, or how did you observe him make this find?
- L. DUFFUS Actually pick it up.
- J. DYCK O.K. And where did he pick it up from?
- L. DUFFUS Um... I think one of the reasons that I remember it so well is the way the tent was set up um... and of course I was standing on the south side of the tent. He was right in front of me when he actually picked it up, which is why I could see what he was picking up. So um... I don't know what the width of the tent would be, but if it was six feet wide, it would have been on the south side of that.
- J. TEMPLETON Was the police officer inside the tent?
- L. DUFFUS Yes.

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- J. TEMPLETON Uh... were you standing looking into the plastic? Is that what you were doing?
- L. DUFFUS That's right.. I was standing. Yea I was standing on the other side. It's interesting because now ... puzzled I don't remember this tent being high. But I do recall being there when he picked something up. So I can't even ... I can't even picture how the tent would come and him stand in it.
- J. DYCK Linda, in relation to where you originally saw this woman laying, where did the peace officer pick up the knife?
- L. DUFFUS The woman was lying on the side in... on a snow bank off the alley way. So, as you went down the alley, she was to the right hand side. Um... perhaps with her... her feet on the alley way, but her body was actually in the snow bank. Um... where I recall the officer picking up the knife would probably have been , it would have been, it would have been in the middle of the alley way, is where I recall it. The tent was set up um... straight across the alley way and I would have to say from the point of where the body was it was probably four feet, four feet from the body. So not four feet um... directly along the body, but towards the middle on an angle, but in the middle of the alley.
- J. DYCK O.K. Like you say four feet from the body. In which direction?
- L. DUFFUS Um south of the body.
- J. DYCK South of the body.
- J. TEMPLETON O.K. the alley runs north/south?
- L. DUFFUS That's correct.
- J. TEMPLETON It was four feet south of the body. Or where you recall the body having been.
- L. DUFFUS That's right.
- J. TEMPLETON Again in your mind, you can see the policeman pick up the knife uh... was it a big knife, a small knife?
- L. DUFFUS It was a small knife. I remember it being a small knife.

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- J. TEMPLETON And what colour would it have been?
- L. DUFFUS That I don't know. Um... as I say I remember him bending down, picking it up, the object being in his hand. Again, being, what I, what I saw was a small blade um... and then he turned from me. So, as I say there was no communication that transpired between the two of us. It was simply that the image was left in my mind was, gosh I wonder if that is the murder weapon.
- J. DYCK You indicated earlier to the best of your recollection, there were two uh... police officers at the scene. Uh... do recall if there was any talk between the two of them? Anything that was said? Not to you, but between those two police officers?
- L. DUFFUS No I don't recall. I remember him walking away from me and um... what I would recall at that time is Matthew coming out. Again, one of the things that puzzled me is I think to myself, gosh why wouldn't that tent have gone from one side right to the other side. And that I ... I don't recall that vividly. I see Matthew coming out from around the tent so on the west side of where the ground was being melted. I recall there has to have been a path there for Matthew. Why would I be standing there, waiting for Matthew if there wasn't an area that he could by. But to this day that really puzzles me, as to why we would be allowed to cross that area.
- J. DYCK When was the last time, or was this the last time that you saw the tent set up.
- L. DUFFUS That's right. It was the one and only time.
- J. DYCK And how, how soon was that after you had seen the body?
- L. DUFFUS That's I think, in terms of time frame, whether it was day or two, I'm unsure. But I would have to say the next day in that curiosity as to what was going on and the fact that I was meeting Matthew and he wasn't at our meeting point.

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- J. TEMPLETON Just another question on the tent. You recall, of course the tent being there and you indicated you felt there would have been a pathway to the west of the tent. It perhaps didn't cross the alley. Can you recall about the size of it... how far to the east it might have went? Did it go over the fence into HNATIUK's yard? Do you recall that?
- L. DUFFUS No. It extended though to, I'm not sure if it was a garage. I don't remember it being as large as garage. It could have been a shed. Um... but I remember it extending right to that point, right to the shed. Um. on the other side there was a fence so um... the people that lived on the west side of the alley, there was a fence there. And the recollection that I have is that there was a little pathway there that Matthew could through. But when I actually try and visualize Matthew coming through that, I don't see it and then I question to myself, had my own curiosity brought me down there. And Matthew actually walked around and came through the alley that had went east and west and then we joined and left.
- J. TEMPLETON How far north and south would the tent have gone?
- L. DUFFUS I would guess about six feet.
- J. TEMPLETON Would it be six feet in total, or six feet from each side of where the body was found?
- L. DUFFUS I see it was very small. I would say six feet in total.
- J. TEMPLETON Just to go back to a point you made earlier, you recalled finding a paring knife near St. Paul's Hospital on your way to school. Uh... how.. you may or may not have mentioned this, but if you would for me, how long after the 31st of January, would you have found that knife?
- L. DUFFUS It was.. it was in the spring of year. Um... much of the snow had melted.. Um... I would have to assume, with that in mind that it would have to have been some time in April.
- J. TEMPLETON And what did you do with that knife?
- L. DUFFUS I turned it in to um... the school, when I got to school. um....
- J. TEMPLETON Who would you have given it to?

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- L. DUFFUS I'm just trying to think of that. Um... if I remember correctly, Mr. KYLE was our principal at the time and I would have gave it to one of two people, himself, or the teacher. But I definitely, I remember... I guess the reason that I remember it so well it... it made me think oh gosh perhaps this something that means something somewhere else. Which I why I felt I needed to turn it in.
- J. TEMPLETON Did you share that discovery with your friends or your mother?
- L. DUFFUS No. Not at all. I just saw it as something to do and um... that the knife shouldn't be laying there anyway so.
- J. TEMPLETON Speaking of friends, do you recall a girl by the name of Rita CADRAIN?
- L. DUFFUS Yes I certainly do.
- J. TEMPLETON How did you know Rita?
- L. DUFFUS Rita was um... a gal that lived in the neighbourhood. She lived down the block from me, on Avenue O. Um... there were actually four of us at the time that chummed together... Um, not on a regular basis but there was myself and Darlene FAIR (phonetic), who lived across the street from me, um... Rita CADRAIN and another friend of mine who lived on Avenue P, which was Sandy LOFUS (phonetic). Um...
- J. TEMPLETON LOFUS?

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- L. DUFFUS LOFUS (phonetic) that's correct. Um... Rita, how I met Rita was through Darlene um... Darlene's parents actually owned the Shop-Rite grocery store across the street. And Darlene's parents and my parents were close, they chummed together so as did the kids chum with Darlene. I met Rita through Darlene and as I saw we... we would play together. We would often meet at Darlene's place, seemed to be where we would meet to play. I also knew Rita's younger brothers. Um.. for the life of me... names... um... Ricky... was one of the brothers and the other younger brother, the name Randy comes to mind, but something doesn't seem right about that. But Ricky and Randy were her two younger brothers that I recall. Being younger, before I was ten, it was the two brothers that I commonly played with.. Um... we would get together and go down to the ditch by Quaker Oats and throw stones and do that. As I got older, ten years of age, I started spending more time with girls and Rita was one of them.
- J. TEMPLETON How old was Rita at that time?
- L. DUFFUS Rita was older than I was. Now I'm not sure whether it was year or two years. But she would have been. She was definitely older than I was.
- J. TEMPLETON At that time when you were ten and during the winter of 1968/1969, would you have gone to the CADRAIN house to visit Rita?
- L. DUFFUS I certainly recall doing that. Now interesting enough with the CADRAIN house, it wasn't I didn't play in the house often. In fact whenever I went down to Rita's place it was usually to pick up either Rita or her two brothers. Um... the recollection that I have of the CADRAIN house um... was simply being in the front entrance way... um... seeing the living room and as well as their back porch area to the kitchen. Whenever I went I didn't play in the house, we would play outside or find a place to go. Um... with the exception that at that particular time and I think this is perhaps why it stands out in my mind so much... is I do recall shortly after the incident... time frame I'm really unclear of.. But I recall being in the basement um... of the CADRAIN house. The memory that I have of this particular basement was it kind of gave me an eerie feeling in that it wasn't finished um... in what we consider a finished basement. I remember seeing four areas of gyproc up um... and unfinished flooring. Almost a concrete flooring, or

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perhaps linoleum flooring going down to it. Um... Rita, at that time I remember being in what she called her bedroom. Now interesting enough, not playing in that house that much, that was the one and only time that I was ever in a bedroom of the home. Um... that particular bedroom was located right below the exit or the entrance to the basement. There were actually stairs going up to it. Um... it was really, again being ten years old, I felt it was really removed from the rest of the family in that gosh, being that age, I would have been really frightened down there. Is something that I recall of it.

J. TEMPLETON So this bedroom that you referred to was in the basement?

L. DUFFUS It was yes.

J. TEMPLETON The rest of the basement wasn't finished, as you recall?

L. DUFFUS Well, it wasn't in that it had walls. It had for example, that particular bedroom that was right below the stairwell, there was another bedroom on the other side, then a bedroom on the side of that. And then across from that would be, what I recall as a laundry area. A big room with um... I don't even know there was a washing facility in there. But it wasn't a bedroom.

J. TEMPLETON Do you recall like a living area? A couch? Or an area like that or cooking facilities? A kitchen area?

L. DUFFUS No. Not at all.

J. TEMPLETON This bedroom that you referred to being in there. That was whose bedroom?

L. DUFFUS That... Rita had told me that that was her bedroom.

J. TEMPLETON Do you recall being in the room and seeing any of Rita's things in there? A young girl's...

L. DUFFUS I remember... no it was very... it was a very plain bedroom. Um... I remember a single... when you walked in the door there was a single bed. Uh... right against that wall, a dresser in the corner and a chair. In fact I think that's what I found so strange about it is that it was a very cold room. It wasn't something like... unlike my bedroom, which had posters all over the walls and..

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- J. TEMPLETON O.K. Um.. subsequent to the 31st of January, 1969, which was the day of the MILLER murder, did you ever discuss the incident with Rita CADRAIN?
- L. DUFFUS Yes I did. And uh... in fact, the day that I did discuss it was the day that I was in that bedroom. Um... Rita, I recall Rita being um... liking to have her independence and referring to the fact of her bedroom and that she had such independence because she could come and go as she wanted. Um... at that time I, as I say it was the one only time I remember being in that bedroom, Rita was sitting on the bed and we were having a conversation and she had mentioned that she was really frightened to stay in that room because she had found a pile of bloody clothes. Um... at the time I don't think that we had both associated myself finding the body as well as her finding these clothes, so there was no association to that particular incident so we weren't sitting there actually talking about myself finding a body and... and her finding the clothes. Just that she was frightened that she had found these bloody clothes and she was really worried about staying in that room as a result of that.
- J. DYCK O.K. Excuse me. And when uh... did she say when she saw those bloody clothes in there?
- L. DUFFUS John, no, but it was recent. It was something she had just found... again the time frame I'm really unclear of.
- J. DYCK O.K. And how soon after the 31st of January of 69 were you in her bedroom having this conversation?
- L. DUFFUS That again is really unclear. I don't know if it was a couple of days later. um... but I feel that it had to be relatively, within a week after that. Because, and what makes me think that is that she was really worried about staying in that room. So it was something that really close it wasn't something that weeks had transpired, where she was still nervous about there. It was something that had recently happened that um...
- J. DYCK And yet the conversation about the uh... the bloody clothes was not associated to the murder, itself.
- L. DUFFUS No. At that time we did not associate that.

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- J. TEMPLETON Did Rita indicate to you what she would have done with those clothes?
- L. DUFFUS Yes. She gave them to her brother because I remember asking that um... gosh, what did you do with them when you found them and she had said that she had given to her brother. Which brother, I am unclear of, but just that she had given them to her older brother.
- J. TEMPLETON O.K. Uh... being in the basement of the CADRAIN house at that time, did you recall anyone else in the basement, anyone living in the basement?
- L. DUFFUS At that time there was no one.. when we were down there there was no one in the basement. It was during the day that we... that I was there. um... and as I say I just remember the rooms and no I... there was no one there that afternoon and uh... nor do I remember people being there. As I say I was so seldomly in the house.
- J. DYCK Did Rita describe what kind of clothing it was? You indicate that it was bloody. But... whether it was whatever, socks, pants, shirt, coat...
- L. DUFFUS No she didn't. Not that I remember.
- J. TEMPLETON She didn't indicate if it was men's, ladies' clothes?
- L. DUFFUS Actually men's clothes that she had found a pile of. Again I could be making assumptions there in that um... I was assuming that it was a friend of her brother's so that could be an assumption. I can't honestly say that she said there were men's clothing here. But I actually, in saying that, I guess what leads me to believe that is it was a brother's friend that had stayed in her bedroom so that's how I assumed that it was men's clothing.
- J. TEMPLETON O.K. You mentioned a brother's friend had stayed in the bedroom?
- L. DUFFUS That's right.
- J. TEMPLETON Could you just carry on with that thought.

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- L. DUFFUS Um... I don't know if I know much more than that. Um.. I know Rita had said that she could not stay in her room that particular night because her brother's friend had stayed and that she had found the bloody clothes. Um... which is what.... I guess I assumed that she never said that found a pile of men's clothes but it was a brother's friend.
- J. TEMPLETON Would the brother's friend have stayed there for several nights, or one night?
- L. DUFFUS Um... again... I would think that it would be a one night thing in that Rita's bedroom was back to her so uh... and that she was really nervous about staying down there.
- J. DYCK And this was a brother that was older or younger to Rita?
- L. DUFFUS Older.
- J. TEMPLETON Did you discuss uh the murder with Rita at any time after that? After she found the... you were in her room and talked about the clothes, did the two of you discuss it anymore after that?
- L. DUFFUS Um... no, other than perhaps in passing, I mean, gosh at the time, I mean basically, for myself, it was a matter of finding the um. body um... then of course there were the BEAUCHAMP's next door, who had found a wallet so I remember as kids um... being all together, the BEAUCHAMP boys, as well as the CADRAIN, the younger CADRAIN boys and myself also chummed together. So in finding the wallet and finding the body and Rita having found the clothes, a lot of assumptions were being made amongst us. But you know that was just in conversation passing. We didn't uh... I don't know... I can't... other than that type of conversation. I'm not sure if I'm very clear on that but it was just oh gosh I wonder who and you know..
- J. TEMPLETON Sometime after or in the spring did you become aware. Or are you aware now that Rita's brother was involved as a witness in some respects in that police investigation. Did you remember that as a ten year old? In 1969?

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- L. DUFFUS No, I can't honestly say that I do. That he was as a witness. One of the things that I think really surprised me even reflecting now is how I guess perhaps being young that people just didn't talk about those kind of things. All the conversation I remember being around was just what us kids knew and the information that we had to share. Um... but actually following what was happening in the papers. Um.. or any of that ... no.
- J. TEMPLETON So Rita indicated that at some time around the murder uh... the date of the murder... the date unknown of course, there was somebody sleeping in her bedroom. Is that right?
- L. DUFFUS Correct.
- J. TEMPLETON And this person you believed she indicated was a friend of one of her older brothers.
- L. DUFFUS That's correct.
- J. TEMPLETON Rita didn't say anything more about that person in her room? Other than uh she couldn't use the room?
- L. DUFFUS Other than she was frightened to use that room that particular night. That's right.
- J. TEMPLETON And why was she frightened to use her room?
- L. DUFFUS You know ... and I guess that's why so many years later it... it stands so vividly in mind is I saw it as I said, um... as a very uncomfortable place for any young person to be staying in that it was really far removed from the house. Um... finding something like that in my room would have um... been an awful experience. I wouldn't have wanted to stay in that room and that's why I remember our conversation so clearly is that it's something that I would have never stayed there I would have been back upstairs staying with the family so it really left an impression in my mind that ... yea... no wonder you're frightened. No wonder you don't want to stay in this room.
- J. DYCK Did you get the impression from Rita at that time that she knew who this friend of her older brother was and just didn't give a name or was just a friend of one of her older brothers.

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L. DUFFUS It came, the information that I got was that it was a friend so um... I guess I always that Rita would know who it was who had stayed the night in that particular home being a friend of her brother's. Um... but no name was ever mentioned.

J. TEMPLETON Linda, when you were discussing the clothes with Rita or Rita was relating to you the story, did she indicate where in the bedroom she had found the clothes?

L. DUFFUS Um... more through motion of her hands um... again the room was very small. A dresser being in the corner, a chair being in the other corner and the direction of it was to beside the chair. Between the dresser and the chair, on the floor in a pile.

J. TEMPLETON Did you notice any blood on the lower part of the wall or on the floor or on any of the furniture? Do you notice blood?

L. DUFFUS No I didn't. Not at all.

J. TEMPLETON O.K. Did she indicate any other reason why she would have been frightened to stay in her room?

L. DUFFUS No just that it gave her the creeps that um.. this particular person had slept in her bed and she had found these clothes.

J. TEMPLETON She indicated that this person was a friend of her older brother's.

L. DUFFUS That's correct.

J. TEMPLETON Now again, it's a long ago, but would she have said that it was somebody that she knew, or was it common for someone to sleep in her room? If the stayed at the CADRAIN house?

L. DUFFUS That she didn't say. And that I don't know.

J. TEMPLETON O.K. Um... you mentioned four friends. Yourself, Darlene FAIR (phonetic), Sandy LOFUS (phonetic) and Rita CADRAIN

L. DUFFUS That's right.

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- J. TEMPLETON Who was real close with Rita? Who of the other three was real close to Rita? Who..
- L. DUFFUS Darlene FAIR (phonetic) would have been. As I say that's how I met Rita was through Darlene um and of course playing with her brothers as well. But Rita and Darlene were friends prior to myself um... starting to hang around with them.
- J. DYCK Do you know where Darlene is living right now?
- L. DUFFUS She is in... I'm sure she is still in Saskatoon. Um... she's married, children. I'm not aware of her name although I could find out that information for you. My sister and Dianne FAIR (phonetic), Darlene's sister are still very close and Dianne is in Calgary.
- J. TEMPLETON After you had been told by Rita about the bloody clothes, would you have told your mother or father that story?
- L. DUFFUS I don't remember telling them that story. No.
- J. TEMPLETON O.K. Um... have been contacted by anyone else... by private investigators, by other police departments, or by members of the RCMP, or any other agency concerning what you recall of the MILLER murder?
- L. DUFFUS No. Not at all, Jim, you're the only one that has contacted me.
- J. TEMPLETON O.K. Um... again you mentioned your mother. Have you discussed this with your mother after we first spoke on the phone?
- L. DUFFUS Um, yes I did. In fact I had called, after we had spoke, I had called to let her know that you may be in touch with her.
- J. TEMPLETON Did she indicate to you at that time any information that she had that... that she had maybe never passed on to the police. Did you discuss it at length on the phone?

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L. DUFFUS Actually I did and she uh... she said gosh I have you know, nothing that I can offer. Um... certainly being up at that time of the morning and the nature of our home, having a porch on it and it being a foggy morning she said I didn't hear anything, I didn't see anything. So she really felt that there was nothing that she could offer and at that point I said well perhaps you could confirm you know the information that I had given you, you know at the time that I did share this. Do you remember me coming home at lunch and saying, Mom, I found that particular person. Um... and which she did recall that happening. So um... that's when I said to her that those are probably the things that you would be looking for.

J. TEMPLETON O.K. Your mother's name?

L. DUFFUS Mary. Mary DUFFUS.

J. TEMPLETON Mary DUFFUS and where does she live now?

L. DUFFUS She lives in Fort McMurray.

J. TEMPLETON Do you have an address for her?

L. DUFFUS I could get an address. I don't know the address off hand.

J. TEMPLETON O.K. Uh... is there anything else about what we've discussed here today that you'd like to add and that uh... we may have passed over that you think's important?

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- L. DUFFUS Jim, no. I can't think of anything. It was interesting when you had um... in talking about Rita um... perhaps in character Um... I know at times my parents were concerned um... chumming with Rita in that she was older. Um... and perhaps even had you know, the trouble maker um... label around her as being one of the kids that your parents get concerned with. So uh... I remember Rita being a real ..kind of... tough sort. Being uh... the one who liked to be in control and those types of things. Other than just a little bit of character behind her. Um., as I say in terms of the CADRAIN house um... I sure remember as a kid that um... it was not a house that we were welcome to play in. Um... whenever we did get together it was always outside of the house and um... I certainly recall being in the porch waiting for the kids, whether it be the two younger brothers or calling on Rita to head out and do something so...
- J. TEMPLETON Would it have been uncommon for the CADRAIN's to have the brothers or the parents to have a lot of company? People come and stop in.
- L. DUFFUS There were always people at the house. That's one thing that I do recall that I always saw and often they were, I assumed brothers' friends. They weren't um... an older couple or her parents' friends having company. Um... but I just always assumed that these were friends of the older brother that were always... well not always around but you know I would see them.
- J. TEMPLETON Did uh... did Rita go to the same school as you?
- L. DUFFUS No she went to the Catholic school across the street, which was St. Mary's.
- J. TEMPLETON O.K. Uh, I don't have any further questions. John?
- J. DYCK No I don't either.
- J. TEMPLETON Well, thanks very much Linda. Interview ends. The time is 12:45.

This is further to this statement and continuation of statement of Linda DUFFUS. The time is now 12:51, April 14, 1993.

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Uh, Linda, do you recall being 11 years old, at the time of the trial involving David MILGAARD, concerning the murder that we discussed earlier. Do you recall that trial being Rita's family being involved as witnesses? Do you recall that?

L. DUFFUS That's right I do recall her brother being involved. Um... I recall it being well after the time of finding the body. Um.. that somebody had actually been charged with the crime. I remember at the time of the trial, when it was happening, that I felt in my own mind that of course this person was guilty in that they had stayed at the CADRAIN's house and that Rita had found the bloody clothes. So that is the recollection of the trial and even through the years after that even up to the point of of... um.. the appeal, this particular person, David MILGAARD, appealing the case and in my own mind still thinking that this person was guilty because in fact Rita had found the bloody clothes. And I suppose that that's why it stands out so much in my mind. The bloody clothes. Is that there was no way in my opinion, knowing that fact, that this person could be innocent.

J. TEMPLETON At the time of the trial and after, did you ever tell anyone about the bloody clothes that Rita had related to you?

L. DUFFUS Uh, certainly with friends in passing. Um., you know sitting down and talking about the trial and letting them know, or even associates with work that um... as things were happening that yes, in fact, that I had found, or that I had knew uh Rita and that these clothes were found. Um.. it wasn't until perhaps the last little while that I had recognized that nowhere had that ever been disclosed. Um... that there was no mention of that.

J. TEMPLETON You mentioned that you had talked about it with friends and associates... uh... how long ago would that have been that you would first started to discuss this with some of your friends?

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L. DUFFUS Um... after the incident, years later. It would have been when the first appeal had come forward on David MILGAARD's uh case and I had remembered all this happening and at that time again working at Scott National. This would be going back because I could just because the associates that I can remember sharing the information were here in Red Deer and I had just started with Scott National here in Red Deer and I was actually telling them, gosh I was the one that had found the body and uh...

J. TEMPLETON About what year would that have been?

L. DUFFUS Um... I've been here since... it's now 1993...88, around that time.

SIDE ONE ENDS

SIDE TWO

J. TEMPLETON Side two for Linda DUFFUS statement.
Linda uh... again we discussed a few things. Is there anything else you would like to add at this time before we conclude the statement?

L. DUFFUS Jim, no I believe that's all the information that I have. Um.. where I've been personally involved with the incident that has happened.

J. TEMPLETON Very good thanks. Statement concluded. The time is 12:59, April the 14th, 1993.

TAPE ENDS

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