

CARDED

Statement of Celine ARMSTRONG
Edam, Sask.
Taken 2:30 p.m. 90 JUN 21

I have read my statement which was given to a Saskatoon City Police officer on 02 MAR 1969 regarding the David MILGAARD case.

On the morning of the Gail MILLER murder, I recall getting out of bed around 7:00 a.m. I remember this morning because it was a bitterly cold day. There was a heavy fog and it was extremely cold. I also recall the morning because I was sick from severe menstrual cramps.

During this time I was living at 334 Avenue "O" South in Saskatoon. The house was owned by my parents. I believe at the time there were eight of my brothers and sisters living at home. During this period of time I was taking a steno course at the Saskatoon Business College. I was sharing a room upstairs with my sister, who is 9 years younger than I.

On the morning of the MILLER murder, I don't recall the date, I left the house around 7:40 - 7:45 a.m. to catch my bus, which stopped on 20th St. across from St. Mary's Church. I went to the bus stop. The bus was supposed to pick me up at ten to eight. The bus was late. I waited for approximately 20 minutes and because of the cold weather and severe cramps, I decided to go back home. I returned to the house, got a hot water bottle and went back to bed upstairs. I would have been back home and in bed by 8:30 a.m.

When I returned home, I recall mom asking Albert to get up and baby sit. I was in bed, but don't know exactly how long I had been there when I heard a knock on the door. Someone came in the front door. I heard a male voice, asking if this was where Albert CADRAIN lived. I heard Albert say something like "Hi Hoppie, what are you doing here". The two obviously knew each other and exchanged greetings for quite some time. It seemed the two used the word "fuck" continually and seemed to be that the person who came into the house was in a highly excited state.

...2

002166

1-11
9

Statement of Celine ARMSTRONG (con't)

The male and female friend with Hoppie came into the house as well. Almost immediately the fellow called "Hoppie" was asking for a pair of pants. Albert was obviously not looking for pants for Hoppie, who continuously raised the concern that he wanted a pair of pants. It took Albert quite a while to finally get a pair of pants for Hoppie. The group downstairs were talking loud and one of the kids wanted the TV turned up because of the noise.

I don't know where Albert got the pants from. I'm uncertain whether Hoppie or his two friends with him brought any clothes or bags or suitcase into our house. There was one girl and a boy with Hoppie. Hoppie and his friends were in the house from between 1/2 hour to one hour before I finally went downstairs.

I came downstairs when it seemed like Albert was going to leave with Hoppie. When I got downstairs, Albert introduced everyone to me, but I don't remember their names or what they looked like. The fellow by the name of Hoppie was wearing dark coloured pants. I asked Hoppie if the pants were suitable and he laughed and said they were. The pants I saw Hoppie wearing were not ripped and did not have any blood on them. At this time Albert wanted me to make breakfast for his friends. Hoppie did not want to stay for breakfast, but the girl said she was hungry. Albert and I insisted they stay and saying they were foolish to be travelling in such cold weather. I don't think Hoppie ate, but the other two did. While this was happening, Albert was getting some clothes packed. I'm not sure now, but I think I went to school in the afternoon. The four, Hoppie, Albert, the girl and boy, were still at the house when I left for school, because mom was not home and I would not leave my younger brother at home alone.

I did not see Albert until he came home, I don't know when it was, but probably around the end of February. When I first saw Albert, he asked me if it was true that a nurse had been

122
8

Statement of Celine ARMSTRONG (con't)

murdered. I said "yea - where you been" or something like. Albert said he had been working on a farm and had not heard the news. He kept asking me if I was sure a nurse had been murdered. Approximately a week later Albert and my other brother, Dennis, came to me saying they wanted to talk in private. We went upstairs to their bedroom, and made sure no one was around. He told me to sit down because this was going to take time and I would be shocked. Albert told me he had been thinking about the murder and had discussed it with Dennis. Albert said that Hoppie was a changed person from the first time he met him. Albert believed that Hoppie was a drug dealer. Albert mentioned that the group had been going down the hwy, driving crazy, and that Hoppie was trying to listen to the Saskatoon radio station which was getting out of range. During the trip, they were on a hwy, Albert was pretending to be asleep, when Hoppie stopped the car and headlights flashed between two vehicles and Hoppie gave another guy a brown package.

While Albert was telling me this, they knew they were going to the police, but did not want to involve our parents. Albert wanted to tell me, but didn't seem to understand it would involve the parents too, once this went to the police.

During this period of time we lived at 334 Ave. "O" South and rented the basement to a young couple who had a small baby. I remember meeting the people but not paying much attention to them. I met the male and did not feel comfortable with him, I don't know why.

I had very little contact with the male and female with Hoppie. Hoppie was the dominant one and there was no doubt he was in charge.

The only thing that really stands out in my mind over the years is the excited state Hoppie was in regarding his need for a pair of pants. As mentioned, it seemed every second sentence was his need for a pair of pants. Once he got his pants, he then became excited about leaving, basically saying they had to leave. He didn't want to eat breakfast and seemed to be in such a hurry.

002168

Statement of Celine ARMSTRONG (con't)

Albert was sincere in his desire to go to the police upon his return to Saskatoon. As kids we were raised to be honest. At this point in time Albert was mentally stable and did not seem to be having any mental problems. Albert did develop mental problems after the trial. Albert became fearful for his own life, believing that Hoppie may some day retaliate. At this point, because of fear, Albert began to think he should not have gone to the police. Over the years, this case has always bothered him.

WITNESS: R.A. PEARSON, Sgt.

SIGNED: Celine ARMSTRONG

002169