

TRANSCRIPT OF TAPED INTERVIEW OF SHARON DANIELS (NEE WILLIAMS) 93-04-16
- EDMONTON, ALBERTA - TAKEN BY CPL. J. TEMPLETON AND CST. J. DYCK

J. TEMPLETON This is the statement of Sharon Ann DANIELS (nee WILLIAMS) born 29-NOV-1951. The statement is taken at Edmonton, Alberta 16-APR-1993. The time is 2:25 P.M. Present are Sharon Ann DANIELS, Cst. John DYCK and Cpl. Jim TEMPLETON of the RCMP, Regina.

Sharon, just to start if you would go back please, and explain to us uh... when you first met uh... Mr. David MILGAARD and what involvement you may have had uh... with him during that time.

S. WILLIAMS I met him in Regina in uh... in a local restaurant that was kind of a hang out and um... he just came in... came in one time and I don't believe that I had seen him in there before and...circumstances of how we got together or anything like that but that was when I had first met him, was in that restaurant.

J. TEMPLETON When would that have been?

S. DANIELS Oh... beat's me.

J. DYCK Do you recall the name of that hang out?

S. DANIELS No, I don't. No. Not at all. It was a long, narrow, narrow restaurant - had booths on both sides and...

J. TEMPLETON How old would you have been?

S. DANIELS I was... 15...(inaudible)... years

J. TEMPLETON At that time uh... were you living in Regina?

S. DANIELS Yes.

J. TEMPLETON With your parents?

S. DANIELS Yes.

J. TEMPLETON Uh... you met David MILGAARD in Regina and uh... you went out together, is that correct?

S. DANIELS Yes.

J. TEMPLETON It is. Did uh... did you travel with Mr. MILGAARD?

S. DANIELS Yes.

J. TEMPLETON Do you remember where you may have travelled to?

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S. DANIELS We travelled to Vancouver and Winnipeg and... Toronto, Ottawa.

J. TEMPLETON O.K. Would... Would other people have been travelling with you or just you and Mr. MILGAARD?

S. DANIELS I can't....

J. TEMPLETON How were you treated by Mr. MILGAARD when you were travelling?

S. DANIELS Well, there were times where he was... he just treated me like uh...(inaudible)he didn't um....

J. TEMPLETON That's ... that's fine... um...

S. DANIELS I remember once... one time when he'd asked me to you know...he'd ask me to do things like maybe um... go and panhandle or something. Otherwise you know we wouldn't eat or... or things like that.

J. TEMPLETON Did he uh... did he or did you uh... commit criminal acts such as stealing or um... or anything else like that to support yourselves during these trips?

S. DANIELS ... have to remember about myself and I really don't know about what David did because lots of time I wasn't with him or he'd go off by himself and... and ... I think what I did was maybe panhandle.

J. TEMPLETON O.K.

S. DANIELS But that's really all I can... can remember.

J. TEMPLETON O.K. Did uh... did Mr. MILGAARD uh... use drugs at that time, do you remember?

S. DANIELS Yes.

J. TEMPLETON Do you remember what kind of drugs he would have been using?

S. DANIELS Uh... well, both of us... we used I think it was uh... speed....

J. TEMPLETON So you and Mr. MILGAARD used marijuana, speed and LSD

S. DANIELS LSD... yea.

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- J. TEMPLETON Um... when Mr. MILGAARD would... would use drugs uh... did he... do know if it changed him or how was... how did he handle uh the use of drugs?
- S. DANIELS Well he would get kind of goofy, like trying to... to.. doing things...you know how when you use drugs you hallucinate and try to do things so that... that he would ... he would seem....(inaudible)... the effect of the drug I guess. Is what... yea.
- J. TEMPLETON When Mr. MILGAARD and you were travelling and, in particular, when he might have been using drugs, would he confide in you? Would he talk about some of his past experiences, or uh... share secrets with you?
- S. DANIELS I can't... I can't remember him doing that... anything.
- J. TEMPLETON Uh.... I would think uh... this would be about 1968 that you would have been travelling with Mr. MILGAARD. Uh... do you recall at that time, when you might have broke off your relationship, or when you may have last seen Mr. MILGAARD in 1968?
- S. DANIELS That was when I moved to uh... I moved to Edmonton with my parents. Well my parents had already left.
- J. TEMPLETON Do you recall when that might have been?
- S. DANIELS I believe it was in September. Because I had gone... came to St. Albert and then went right into school.
- J. TEMPLETON So that would be September of 1968.
- S. DANIELS Yea. Yea.
- J. TEMPLETON So did you see Mr. MILGAARD during the winter of 1968 or 1969?
- S. DANIELS He came down in um... oh ... uh.. it was during January or February. Sometime in... in the winter of 69.
- J. TEMPLETON At that time uh... was he alone? Or was he travelling with other people?
- S. DANIELS No there was others with him.

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J. TEMPLETON Do you recall who was with him?

S. DANIELS I remember only uh... Ron WILSON and...there were other people but I don't ... I don't remember... I don't know them. I didn't know them so...they don't stick out in my mind at all.

J. TEMPLETON I take it you knew Mr. WILSON from uh... from Regina?

S. DANIELS Yes.

J. TEMPLETON O.K. Um... at this time uh... in February or late January of 1969 uh... I take it you were living with your parents in ... in St. Albert?

S. DANIELS Yes. Yes.

J. TEMPLETON Mr. MILGAARD came to your home to see you. Is that right?

S. DANIELS I can't remember him coming to the house... no.

J. TEMPLETON O.K. Did you, at that time, spend some time with Mr. MILGAARD?

S. DANIELS Yes.

J. TEMPLETON Do you recall any of... of those events?

S. DANIELS Well he... he had come to the... well I knew that he... I must have known that he was coming because we had a little um... it was a teen centre and so I ... I met him there. I believe that that's where I....

TAPE ENDS.

BEGIN SECOND TAPE

J. TEMPLETON ...Daniels... experienced uh.. tape problems and we've now changed tapes. Same uh.. time. Same date. Same people present.

Sharon, the last question that I had asked you was uh... if you uh... had recalled or knew Mr. Ron WILSON from ... from before.

S. DANIELS Yes. and...

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J. TEMPLETON And that was in Regina.

S. DANIELS Yes.

J. TEMPLETON O.K. Uh...so there was Mr. MILGAARD and there was Mr. WILSON and how many other people would have come?

S. DANIELS I believe it was two.

J. TEMPLETON Two men? Two ladies?

S. DANIELS I guess a man and a woman.

J. TEMPLETON A man and a woman
Do you recall what kind of car they might have been driving or who's car it was?

S. DANIELS No I don't.

J. TEMPLETON And uh... spend amount of time with them when they were in Edmonton?

S. DANIELS Well uh... I spent the evening with them.

J. TEMPLETON And what did you do that evening?

S. DANIELS Well we just kind of hung around the teen centre, I believe it was and...

J. TEMPLETON O.K. Was uh... you say you hung around the teen centre. Was uh... there anything unusual that you recall now or at that time, when you think about it? Indicating no....

S. DANIELS No.

J. TEMPLETON Um... did Mr. MILGAARD make any statement to you that uh... may have lead you to believe that he was uh... had some sort of trouble along the way or that uh... he and his friends were in any trouble with the law?

S. DANIELS No.

J. TEMPLETON Nothing like that.

S. DANIELS No. Nothing.

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J. TEMPLETON O.K. Um... you said that Mr. MILGAARD uh... and his friends and yourself spent one evening together. Uh... do you remember them leaving Edmonton?

S. DANIELS No.

J. TEMPLETON No? Um...after that time uh... did you have any further contact with Mr. MILGAARD?

S. DANIELS Not that I can... I can't remember any. But, according to my statement I ... I had... but I can't remember it.

J. TEMPLETON Did he...uh... would he phone you at different times or would he write you letters?

S. DANIELS I can't remember getting any.

J. TEMPLETON You mentioned earlier that you would have gone to a teen hang out. Do you remember what the name of the teen hang out might have been?

S. DANIELS No I don't remember.

J. TEMPLETON O.K. After Mr. MILGAARD and his friends left Edmonton, uh... you had no further contact with him in the winter of 1969?

S. DANIELS Not that I can remember, no.

J. TEMPLETON O.K. Do you recall uh... towards the spring of 1969 a member of the Saskatoon City Police coming to interview you in Edmonton?

S. DANIELS Yes.

J. TEMPLETON Do you remember supplying the Saskatoon City policeman a written statement?

S. DANIELS No I don't remember.

J. TEMPLETON Do you remember the city policeman sitting and talking with you?

S. DANIELS Uh... yes, I remember them talking.

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J. TEMPLETON Do you remember what it was about?

S. DANIELS It was about this... this weekend that they had come in January/February...

J. TEMPLETON Were you aware at that time that uh the city policeman was conducting a murder investigation?

S. DANIELS That's when I was aware of it.

J. TEMPLETON Was that the first you'd heard of uh... the murder of Gail MILLER?

S. DANIELS That I can remember.

J. TEMPLETON When you were giving a statement to the Saskatoon City policeman, do you recall if there was other policemen present?

S. DANIELS I believe there was at least one other there.

J. TEMPLETON Uh... were your parents present?

S. DANIELS They brought me to the... the hotel... but I don't... I don't believe that they present.

J. TEMPLETON O.K. So the statement was taken at a hotel?

S. DANIELS Well, that's why I remember meeting them. But it... it was for... I believe it was for a lie detector. I don't recall a statement though.

J. TEMPLETON O.K. um... from uh... looking at the City Police reports that we have access to uh... it appears that uh...you may have been interviewed twice by the City Police. Would that refresh your memory?

S. DANIELS It doesn't.

J. TEMPLETON O.K. I'm referring now uh... for the purposes of this statement and this interview uh... about the written statement that you supplied on the 20th of March, 1969 to Detective MALANOWICH of the Saskatoon City Police. And this is the statement, Sharon, that is hand written that was looked at. Do you recall specifically giving that statement?

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S. DANIELS No, I don't.

J. TEMPLETON Um... felt this statement may have been the interview uh... with this police detective and others present uh... would have been at the hotel, or at your home, do you recall?

S. DANIELS No, I don't.

J. TEMPLETON Do you recall during uh... either of your interviews with the police uh... any uh... feeling any pressure from the police, or being uncomfortable with their questioning?

S. DANIELS No, I don't recall.

J. TEMPLETON Uh... the statement that you had... uh...handwritten statement that you had supplied the police uh... which you appear to have signed in 1969. Would that statement have been truthful at that time?

S. DANIELS After reading it, it was, yes. Yes, there was no....

J. TEMPLETON It appears to be uh... in your own words and uh... this would have been what your thought were or what your story would have been at time. Is that correct?

S. DANIELS Yes.

J. TEMPLETON O.K. Um... when you uh... attended at a hotel for the purposes of a polygraph test, uh... were your parents present then?

S. DANIELS Um... I believe they brought there.

J. TEMPLETON And how were you treated during that interview with the police?

S. DANIELS Fine.

J. TEMPLETON Any uh... any pressure to say things that weren't true? Would that be fair to say?

S. DANIELS No I didn't. No.

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- J. TEMPLETON O.K. And the uh statement that you would have made to the police at that time, would it also have been uh... the truth to the best of your recollection?
- S. DANIELS Yes
- J. TEMPLETON O.K. Um.. have... um... have you spoke with any other police officers about this matter, other than us today?
- S. DANIELS I spoke a year ago with some S/Sgt PEARSON from the Saskatoon RCMP.
- J. TEMPLETON Have you spoken with uh... with anyone else, other than Sgt. PEARSON?
- S. DANIELS No.
- J. TEMPLETON No. Um.. did you give evidence at the trial of David MILGAARD in Saskatoon?
- S. DANIELS No I didn't.
- J. TEMPLETON Sharon, just to get back to uh... the time in February, 1969 when Mr. MILGAARD, Mr. WILSON and two others came to see you now in Edmonton, uh... do you recall uh... anything in particular about Mr. MILGAARD's clothing. Does anything stick out in your mind?
- S. DANIELS No. Nothing sticks out in my mind.
- J. TEMPLETON If there had have been uh... something uh... out of the ordinary and uh... the issue, I think here is perhaps blood on Mr. MILGAARD's clothing, would you have remembered that?
- S. DANIELS I believe I would have remembered it. If there would have been that.
- J. TEMPLETON O.K. Uh... again we will now go back to the statement. The statement that you supplied the police. The handwritten statement that we've shown you here today, would that statement have been the truth at that tim?

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S. DANIELS Yes.

J. TEMPLETON O.K. Do you recall uh... the details that are in the statement as ... you... you...you have reviewed it?

S. DANIELS I recall certain ones, but not all of them.

J. TEMPLETON There is indicators in this statement that Mr. MILGAARD, at different times, was uh... physically abusive toward you. Do you recall that?

S. DANIELS Yes.

J. TEMPLETON You mention one incident uh... were Mr. MILGAARD had uh... possession of uh... a large kitchen knife, or butcher knife and uh... jokingly pointed it toward you. Do you recall that incident?

S. DANIELS No I don't recall that one.

J. TEMPLETON O.K. Um... Sharon, we're going to take a short pause now. I'm going to turn the tape off and give you an opportunity to review your statement and that's the statement dated March the 20th of 1969.

J. TEMPLETON O.K. Sharon uh... now having had uh... the opportunity to again look through your... your statement of March the 20th, 1969. Do uh... certain things in that statement uh... bring back or... enable you to recall some the events?

S. DANIELS Uh... yes.

J. TEMPLETON What... what do you recall now?

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- S. DANIELS Well I recall being in Vancouver and being in Winnipeg and uh... and meeting up with uh... Jane and sitting and talking... I remember sitting and talking with her and being in the hotel room with her and ... and David. And then I remember uh... I guess being picked up by the police and spending some time in ... in the jail there. But I don't really think... I don't believe it was a jail, it was just kind of like... for um...(inaudible)... place ... And then um... I remember, have some remembrance of the gun inc... the gun incident and um... but at that time he was on drugs. Had been on drugs and my... I don't have you know... great remembrance of that, just that fact that there was a gun there and he was playing the Russian roulette. And then I remember a little about uh... being at the sanctum, which is that, the teen club in St. Albert. That's what it was called and... the fact that they had come the night before and the fact that it had been broken into. And David's part in that.
- J. TEMPLETON O.K. Um... you mentioned that, first of all that you remembered Vancouver. Do you remember any details, or just remember being in Vancouver?
- S. DANIELS I just remember being in Vancouver. I don't remember details.
- J. TEMPLETON And again uh in Winnipeg, the same sort of a conclusion ... uh...
- S. DANIELS Yes. Yes. A little bit more there though...
- J. TEMPLETON O.K. Uh... do you remember the girl and the hotel and being picked up by the police?
- S. DANIELS Yes.
- J. TEMPLETON Uh... you also said that you recall an incident with a small gun and Mr. MILGAARD uh... playing Russian roulette. Is that right?
- S. DANIELS Yes. yes.
- J. TEMPLETON Uh, thinking back now uh... had you ever seen him with a gun before that incident, or after that incident?
- S. DANIELS Not that I can remember, no.

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J. TEMPLETON Do you recall where that gun may have come from?

S. DANIELS No I don't.

J. TEMPLETON O.K. You also mentioned that you recall uh... the name of the uh... hang out in Edmonton being the Sanctum.

S. DANIELS Yes, in St. Albert.

J. TEMPLETON In St. Albert. O.K. Uh... having read the statement and uh... certain things have come back to you, do you believe uh... again that this statement at the time given to the police is truthful?

S. DANIELS Yes I do.

J. TEMPLETON O.K. Had the police coerced you or threatened you uh... during the taking of this statement, would have told the truth or how would you have reacted to that?

J. TEMPLETON Maybe I can rephrase the question.

S. DANIELS Yes.

J. TEMPLETON If, during the interview with the City Police, had the policeman uh... been uh... questioning you aggressively, uh... would you have been intimidated by that or would you have told the truth?

S. DANIELS I would have been intimidated, I believe.

J. TEMPLETON Yes. Would you have still told the truth, do you believe?

S. DANIELS Yes.

J. TEMPLETON Do you recall if the policemen questioned you in that fashion or...

S. DANIELS No I don't. I don't recall but I don't believe that he did.

J. TEMPLETON O.K. Uh, Sharon uh.. do you recall uh.. Mr. MILGAARD being abusive to you?

S. DANIELS No, I don't. Not physically.

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J. TEMPLETON O.K. Would he have been emotionally abusive?

S. DANIELS I ... I feel like it ... it was emotional abuse, yes.

J. TEMPLETON In what respect?

S. DANIELS Well just... just by reading over the statement, it just felt like he was putting me down all the time. Like I wasn't... luggage... you know.

J. TEMPLETON O.K. Do uh... do you have anything else that you... you wish to add at this time, about the events that we've talked about, the events that you recall from your statement?

J. TEMPLETON Last question, in closing uh... have you heard from Mr. MILGAARD or from Mr. MILGAARD's family since 1969?

S. DANIELS No I haven't.

J. TEMPLETON O.K. that's... that's all the questions I have, Sharon. Thanks very much for your... your help... uh...Statement ends at uh... 15:41 hours

END TAPE

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