

Coroner's Inquests into the London Bombings of 7 July 2005

Hearing transcripts - 1 December 2010 - Morning session

1 Wednesday, 1 December 2010

2 (10.00 am)

3 MR KEITH: My Lady, may I invite you to call Jude Obi?

4 MR JUDE UGOCHUKWU OBI (sworn)

5 Questions by MR KEITH

6 MR KEITH: Good morning. Could you give the court your full
7 name, please?

8 A. My name is Jude Ugochukwu Onyeze. My name used to be
9 Jude Ugochukwu Obi, but I've since changed my name to
10 Onyeze.

11 Q. During the course of your evidence, could I ask you to
12 keep your voice as loud as you can? The microphone in
13 front of you won't amplify your voice, so you'll need to
14 speak up so that everybody in the court can hear you.

15 A. Okay.

16 Q. On 7 July 2005, did you travel from north London via the
17 Northern Line to King's Cross where you changed on to
18 the Piccadilly Line?

19 A. Yes, I did.

20 Q. Was the purpose of your travel that day to attend, in
21 fact, a test relating to your duties as a signal
22 operator for London Underground?

23 A. That's correct as well.

24 Q. When you reached King's Cross and the platform for the
25 westbound Piccadilly Line, was it packed?

1 A. It was, yes.

2 Q. Do you recall whether you took the first train from that
3 platform or the second train?

4 A. Second train.

5 Q. Was that because the first train was so full that you
6 were unable to get on to it?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. Did you, from previous journeys, know which carriage and
9 which door you wanted to get on, in order to ensure
10 that, when you arrived at your destination, you would be
11 as close as possible to the exit?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. So what did you do?

14 A. I normally get -- travel on the first carriage, heading
15 towards -- the first carriage as it -- the carriage
16 where the driver's cab is, heading towards my direction
17 of travel.

18 Q. Do you recall which door you used to get on to that
19 first carriage?

20 A. It was the last single door on the first carriage.

21 Q. Could we have, please, on the screen [INQ10283-10]? There
22 is the first carriage. You'll see in the top left-hand
23 corner "Driver's door", so that's the front of the first
24 carriage --

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. -- the westbound end and, of course, the eastbound and
2 the second carriage is to the right of the screen as you
3 look at it. The King's Cross platform would be on the
4 upper side of this diagram.

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. So in relation to the door that you entered, was it then
7 the single door on the top right-hand corner of this
8 diagram?

9 A. Yes, D7, yes.

10 Q. Thank you very much. Did you have to push your way
11 through to get into that carriage?

12 A. Yes, yes.

13 Q. Do you recall where you went?

14 A. Pardon?

15 Q. Where did you go in that carriage? Where did you stand?

16 A. I forced my way in because the train was packed, and
17 I had to squeeze -- I thought I was going to be the last
18 person because -- I was going to go in the double doors
19 before that, but there were too many people getting in
20 there, so I took three, four steps to the left and tried
21 to squeeze myself in there, and I grabbed hold of the
22 pole on the train, but two people else got on behind me
23 before the doors shut.

24 Q. If you look at the diagram, please, you will see -- this
25 diagram is based on the best estimate from the

1 Metropolitan Police based on the witness statements
2 provided to them at the time as to where everybody was
3 located in the carriage. You will see that your name
4 has been placed in the list next to number 109 in the
5 bottom right-hand corner of the list --

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. -- and 109 is right at the rear of that carriage.

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. But from what you've said, from what you've told us just
10 now, you grabbed hold of the pole.

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. The pole is, in fact, right at the end of the bank of
13 seats, isn't it? There are two poles, one on each side,
14 right at the end of the bank of the seats, rather than
15 in the standing area right at the rear?

16 A. I cannot recall that, but I know I did grab on to
17 something until -- when I got on to the train.

18 Q. Was it an overhead pole --

19 A. Overhead pole.

20 Q. -- or a vertical pole?

21 A. No, no, I think it was the overhead pole, yeah.

22 Q. The overhead pole, all right. Is the location of your
23 position there, 109, broadly right?

24 A. Yes, around there, because I was one of the last ones to
25 get on to the train in that door. That's -- is that the

1 one I got on? Yes.

2 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: You said two people got in behind
3 you?

4 A. There was a man and a woman, yes.

5 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: So you grabbed the rail and then, the
6 usual pushing and shoving, two people come in behind
7 you?

8 A. Yes, yes.

9 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: So that 109 might put you a little
10 far into the compartment on that basis, does it?

11 A. I definitely was around there, because I remembered
12 I tried to open the interconnecting door after the
13 incident, so I was still right at that, so I hadn't gone
14 anywhere, I was still around that area after the
15 incident.

16 MR KEITH: Were you so pushed in that there were people
17 right up against you, or was there a bit of space to
18 move around?

19 A. There was no space. The train was very packed, yes.

20 Q. What do you recall happening next?

21 A. When the doors shut, the train started leaving, or the
22 train left the station, and shortly after that, I can't
23 remember, maybe -- I don't think -- I did not think the
24 train had actually pulled out, the whole of the train is
25 pulled out, into the tunnel, before there was, like,

1 a flash of light and a little -- I think -- it's not
2 really a loud explosion, but like an explosive kind of
3 sound, so a thud, like, but the thing I saw first was
4 the light, there was a big bright light and the next
5 thing there was darkness, and I could hear metal
6 scraping against the -- that was the train scraping
7 against the tunnel walls, you could hear this screeching
8 sound -- shhh -- it just kept carrying on until the
9 train stopped, and by this time it was pitch dark in the
10 train.

11 Q. Could you see where the light was coming from? Did it
12 reach all the way down to your end of the carriage or
13 was it located further down towards the front?

14 A. The -- I was -- I got on to the train -- say this is the
15 platform, I got on like that, so I was still facing that
16 way, and the light came from my right side, so I could
17 see from the periphery of my vision, from the right,
18 that the light came from.

19 Q. Was it completely dark, pitch black, after the flash of
20 light and after the explosion?

21 A. Yes, yes, it was. Although there was still light from
22 the second carriage, though, because I was right at the
23 end of the first, so I could see into the second
24 carriage. There was lights in there, but in the
25 carriage where we were, there wasn't any light. I think

1 there was still light -- you could see light from the
2 second carriage. I don't know if it was in the second
3 carriage or from the third, but I could see light on the
4 other side. But in the carriage of the train where
5 I was, it was pitch dark and a lot of people were
6 screaming and crying out, yes.

7 Q. Do you recall the carriage filling with smoke or dust?

8 A. Yes, yes. After the -- when the train came to a halt,
9 I was disorientated anyway, and I got up, I did not fall
10 to the ground because there were people in front of me,
11 so I had fallen onto people that were in front of me, so
12 I got up and I recall the man and woman that got on
13 behind me, I think the man was trying to tug me and drag
14 me round, I think I remember helping the man up, and at
15 this point in time I think I was still trying to think
16 what's happened.

17 Being a signaller, I thought maybe the train had
18 derailed, that was my first thought, I thought maybe
19 there has been a derailment, because I heard the train
20 scraping against the wall of the tunnel, so that my
21 thought first, after, when I got myself up, was maybe
22 the train had derailed.

23 But I think -- I can't remember how long it was
24 after that, but I think what actually got me really
25 thinking after everything was the smoke, I saw smoke

1 filling -- the black smoke coming out, really thick
2 smoke coming out from, like, not too far away from me,
3 and I remember thinking to myself, "There's no smoke
4 without fire", so I thought to myself, "I don't want to
5 be caught in this train if a fire breaks out", so that
6 was when I started trying to open the door connecting to
7 the second car, but it was jammed.

8 Q. To see whether you could get out in that carriage?

9 A. Yeah, to get out on the other side, but it was jammed,
10 I couldn't.

11 Q. Did you feel anything on your face or your head?

12 A. Yes. The first thing, I think -- after the flash of
13 light, I think the next thing was hot -- some hot liquid
14 or some hot -- it was liquid, definitely, over my face,
15 yes, it was the next thing before the explosion, really.

16 Q. Were you able to open the door into the second carriage?

17 A. No, it was jammed. I remember asking somebody, because
18 the -- because the glass was shattered, I remember
19 asking somebody on the other car, the other second
20 carriage, to please give us a hand and see if we can
21 open, and -- I can't remember, I think it was two people
22 tried to help me open it, but it was jammed, so I had no
23 other option than to walk towards the front of the
24 train.

25 Q. You've told us of the shouting and the screaming.

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Did you try to bring calm to those around you and to try
3 to take control of the situation and reduce the level of
4 panic?

5 A. Yes, when people were screaming, "My leg", "My head",
6 "I've lost a leg", I did not actually comprehend what
7 was happening, I was thinking -- my first thought was,
8 "If there's a derailment, why would people be screaming
9 about 'Leg, I've lost my leg' and all that?", but
10 actually, when the smoke -- when I thought about the
11 smoke and I thought about fire and all that and I was
12 thinking, "How do I get out of here?", I think at that
13 point in time the driver's cab opened and the driver was
14 standing there, and he shone a light, a lamp, a light
15 into the carriage.

16 Q. Just pause there. Right at the other end of the
17 carriage?

18 A. Yes, from the driver's cab, the driver opened the
19 connecting door to that carriage where we were.

20 Q. You could see him and you could see the light?

21 A. Yes, and he shone his lights in, and that was when
22 I think me seeing that made me realise that, "Yes, it's
23 not just me, there's somebody else", so I started saying
24 to everybody, "Calm down, it's all going to be okay,
25 we're all going to get out of here".

1 I think when the driver shone the light, I think --
2 people started scrambling, I think. I think that was
3 the first thing. People started trying to get to the
4 source of light. I think that was when I started
5 talking at the top of my voice, "Just calm down,
6 everyone, we're all going to get out of here, let's walk
7 in a single -- let's try to get out of this", because
8 there was -- it wasn't pandemonium, but people started
9 scrambling, because I think everyone was stuck in
10 that -- I can't remember, I do not know how long it was,
11 but it seemed like eternity before the driver shone the
12 lights through into the cab, and --

13 Q. All right. Can I pause you there? A note is being
14 taken of what you say, and I'll try to divide it up into
15 particular areas.

16 A. Okay.

17 Q. Do you recall whether, having seen the light, and tried
18 to calm those around you, you then started making your
19 way towards the front of the carriage straightaway, or
20 did you wait for a further time and try to tend to the
21 people around you?

22 A. The thing -- because I was right at the end, and I seen
23 the light, I knew -- I mean, the first thought in my
24 head was to get out of the train, but for me to get out,
25 I was going to go through the people, so there were

1 a lot of people there. That was when I started saying
2 for people to not panic, to try and form a single line.
3 I think, in the process of this, I think there was
4 a lady that started -- because my voice was quite loud,
5 the lady -- there was somebody that I think I was
6 starting to move forward then and somebody grabbed hold
7 of my leg, there was a woman saying, "Please, help me,
8 please help me". I said, "Come on, get up, get up,
9 let's go", and she said she couldn't, "I've lost a leg",
10 and I said, "What do you mean, lost a leg?" I tried to
11 grab her and she was --

12 Q. Can I slow you down a little? It's very hard for those
13 taking a note. I'm sorry to do this.

14 A. Okay.

15 Q. The lady who tried to grab --

16 A. The lady grabbed hold of my leg, yes.

17 Q. Do you remember whether or not she was towards the
18 middle of the carriage as you moved through or was she
19 still in the end that you had found yourself initially?

20 A. I don't think I had -- well, I don't think I've walked
21 towards the -- I think I had just started making my way.
22 So definitely stood between -- between the first and --
23 between that single door and that double door, I don't
24 think I've actually got to the double doors yet. It was
25 still around that area where --

1 Q. Did you try to help her by lifting her?

2 A. Yes, I did try to lift her, but she was in so much pain
3 I had to leave her, I had to put her down, because I did
4 not comprehend -- she said she lost a leg, it did not
5 occur to me that anybody would lose a leg. I thought
6 maybe it's just injuries because the train was -- before
7 it stopped earlier.

8 Q. Because she shouted out in pain --

9 A. In pain, yes.

10 Q. -- you had to leave her where she was?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. As you moved down the carriage, were there bodies lying
13 on the floor --

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. -- that you had to -- whom you had to climb over, or did
16 you pull yourself down the carriage by walking across
17 the top of the seats?

18 A. No, no. I had to walk through the middle, because there
19 were -- I mean, there was somebody, I think there was --
20 the first thing was somebody on the floor that wasn't
21 moving. I think I'd nudged him, I'd said, "Come on,
22 let's go" and I did not get any response and I had to
23 walk -- climb over the person. But up ahead, there was
24 like a big pile of people still, or a big pile of
25 folk -- I didn't actually think it was people, I think

1 it was -- after everything, I actually -- it dawned on
2 me that it definitely would have been people that were
3 there, because I had to climb over -- it was like
4 walking through them, but it was -- it wasn't, like,
5 hard, it was, like, soft.

6 Later on, I thought to myself it must have been
7 people that were on the floor that I was walking
8 through, walking on top of.

9 Q. So there were people lying on the floor?

10 A. On the floor, yes.

11 Q. There was a substantial number of people lying on the
12 floor?

13 A. Yes, yes.

14 Q. They were near, were they, that set of double doors that
15 you will see on the plan between D5 and D6?

16 A. Yes, no -- yes, D5 and D6, yes.

17 Q. Do you recall there being a hole in the floor of the
18 carriage?

19 A. No, I could not recall that, no.

20 Q. Is there anybody particular whom you can remember
21 amongst those persons who were lying on the floor of the
22 carriage and not moving?

23 A. No, no. I think the only one was the -- I think it was
24 the first person I encountered. This was way -- as I
25 started making my way there, I did notice that -- wasn't

1 responding, and I did not stop, because there were
2 people still trying to scramble, so I thought I still
3 have to keep -- I kept trying to make my way towards the
4 front of the train. So that was the only person, but
5 I don't actually know if it was a man or a woman, but,
6 yes.

7 Q. That's all you can remember of that person?

8 A. Yes, yes.

9 Q. But it's obvious from what you've told us that there
10 were quite a few people lying on the floor of the
11 carriage --

12 A. Yes, definitely.

13 Q. -- and not responding as you walked past?

14 A. Yes.

15 Q. Did you manage to make it through the rest of the
16 carriage towards the front and the driver's cab?

17 A. Yes, I did.

18 Q. Did you speak to anybody --

19 A. Yes, I did speak --

20 Q. -- in that second half of the carriage as you approached
21 the driver's cab?

22 A. No, I think I was still talking --

23 Q. Did anybody else ask you for help?

24 A. I think I was still talking, I was still talking, I was
25 still talking -- I mean, while moving through, I was

1 still talking to people. I can't remember the exact
2 words I was using, but I remember, when I started
3 talking -- when I spoke up from the -- when I was right
4 at the back, and that got people moving, got people
5 actually moving, so I thought "That's going to be the
6 way to get out; get people moving", so I kept talking
7 while I was making my way through as well.

8 Q. Did people follow you and did people join you as you
9 went through?

10 A. People were actually already in front of me.

11 Q. All right.

12 A. They were actually -- the light was actually -- what was
13 actually getting people -- when the driver shone the
14 light, that was what got people, when I started talking,
15 and people were walking -- the driver stood at his door
16 and people was walking past him.

17 Q. All right, let me pause you there. When you got to the
18 front, was the driver in the driver's cab or had he gone
19 out onto the track?

20 A. The driver was still -- was still stood by the cab when
21 I got to him, because I spoke with the driver.

22 Q. All right. You spoke to him?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. Did he tell what you he thought had happened and whether
25 or not he had been able to speak to the emergency

1 services?

2 A. No, I think what he said to me, I've asked him, I said
3 "What happened?", I think he said he didn't know what
4 happened, but he said, "Traction current isn't on", he
5 said he's tried communicating, but he could not
6 communicate with anybody.

7 Q. By this time, were there a group of passengers now
8 forming by the end of the train --

9 A. Yes, yes.

10 Q. -- both in the driver's cab and on the track?

11 A. Yes, on -- just on the front of the train.

12 Q. Did you then wait there while the group grew larger
13 before beginning to walk off away from the train?

14 A. No, while talking with the driver, another man --
15 I think he said he worked for Metronet or TfL,
16 I couldn't remember what, but he worked for a company
17 related to the Underground, and he spoke -- he said to
18 the driver if the driver had tried the tunnel telephone.
19 I think the driver now, at this point in time,
20 pointed to where the tunnel telephone, and he got the
21 tunnel telephone, and I walked with him and we tried to
22 use it to contact the controller. But --

23 Q. Can I pause you there?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. In your statement, you describe walking along the

1 tunnel, and then, a little later, you saw a man who
2 worked for the Underground.

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. Was that not after you had left the front of the train
5 and started to move down the track that you saw a man
6 with a tunnel telephone?

7 A. No, no, no, this was --

8 Q. So you walked with him from the cab?

9 A. -- this was in -- with him, we went to -- because the
10 tunnel telephone was just right in front of the train,
11 it's on the wall of the tunnel, we didn't have to walk
12 far to see the tunnel telephone. So he connected the --
13 he was the -- the other man that did it, not me, I was
14 just standing by, standing with him while he connected
15 the handset to the wires and he said he couldn't get
16 anything. So we came back to the train.

17 MR KEITH: My Lady, that would be Mr Orr, who approached
18 Mr Nairn after Mr Nairn had been unable to make
19 a connection and took the telephone from him and tried
20 to make a call a little later.

21 09.03. I'm very grateful.

22 As you went down the track, do you recall whether
23 there were other passengers with you?

24 A. Yes, there were people, there were people -- I think
25 I couldn't remember if it was that same man that we did

1 try to contact the controller, I can't remember if it
2 was him, but there was somebody already leading the
3 group of customers or passengers down the tunnel,
4 walking towards Russell Square. I can't remember --
5 somebody said -- I don't know if it was the driver or
6 the man said "Russell Square is just a short walk down",
7 that we'd have to make our way to the next station,
8 which was Russell Square.

9 Q. But it wasn't a very short walk, was it?

10 A. No, no, it wasn't a short walk, no.

11 Q. During that walk, did you give assistance to some of
12 your fellow passengers who were in pain and could not
13 walk?

14 A. Yes, yes, I did.

15 Q. You describe in your statement how you picked one
16 passenger up and carried him to the edge of the platform
17 at Russell Square?

18 A. Yes, this was after we'd already got out of the tunnel.
19 Before that, there was a man that was hobbling, and
20 I think -- I can't remember, he was wearing a suit,
21 bigger than me definitely and, as we were walking,
22 because people were walking in single file, he was
23 actually holding back the queue because he was
24 struggling, so I -- while I was station assistant, I did
25 know about how the track layout was, and I had to walk

1 round, I did not go through a positive rail, because
2 even though they said there was no traction current,
3 I did not know if it was live, the currents, the rails
4 were still live or not, so I made my way towards where
5 the man was, and I said -- I asked him if he was all
6 right, and he said, no, he couldn't, and he pointed to
7 his leg, and I could see -- I couldn't remember if it
8 was right or left, but his leg was missing from, I don't
9 know, somewhere, half his leg was missing, and I said to
10 him does he want help, and he just rested on me and then
11 I helped him on my -- he had his hand on my shoulder and
12 we were trying to make it down towards Russell Square
13 station.

14 Q. Can you help us with how long you think it took you to
15 walk to Russell Square station?

16 A. No, I don't know, I can't remember.

17 Q. I understand. When you reached the station, and you
18 reached the platform, were there people on the platform?

19 A. There were people that was ahead of us that had already
20 got there and I think I did see -- because I used to be
21 a station assistant at Russell Square before, so there
22 was a person I particularly recognised, a man called
23 Ian Purcell he was on the platform, he did not recognise
24 me because I was covered --

25 Q. Sorry, I didn't catch the name?

1 A. Ian Purcell.
2 Q. Ian Purcell?
3 A. Yes.
4 Q. He's a member of London Underground staff?
5 A. Yes, he worked at Russell Square station.
6 Q. Were there other gentlemen on the platform who appeared
7 to you to be members of the London Underground staff?
8 A. Yes, there were other people on the platform, but he was
9 the one that actually I recognised straightaway, but he
10 did not recognise me because I was covered in blood and
11 everything else.
12 Q. Do you recall whether there were any paramedics or other
13 emergency personnel on the platform?
14 A. I don't think -- I think the first time when we got --
15 when we got out to the station with the man, I was
16 helping, I left -- I think I did leave him with Ian,
17 I can't remember if it was Ian or I just helped the man
18 stay on the platform, and I remember there was somebody
19 that was resting by the tunnel wall as well, so I had to
20 walk back, it wasn't -- maybe -- it wasn't really far to
21 walk back where I saw the man. So I had to go back, and
22 I went, and the man said he couldn't walk anymore and
23 I had to carry him on my back, and I got him into the
24 platform as well, and sat him on the platform -- I think
25 this was the time I started asking Ian, and I said,

1 "Ian, what's happening?"

2 Q. I'm very sorry to interrupt. Could you possibly
3 consider whether or not you saw paramedics on the
4 platform?

5 A. There were -- I don't think there was paramedics at
6 that -- the first time I got there, there were no
7 paramedics at that point in time, no.

8 Q. But you were helpfully describing how, once you got to
9 the platform, you then went back to help somebody else
10 and got them to the platform by carrying them, I think
11 on your back, to the platform.

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Did you discuss with the people on the platform whether
14 you could go back into the tunnel to the train and help?

15 A. Yes, I mean, after -- I think when I came back the
16 second time on the platform and got that man onto the
17 platform, then I started -- I started talking, because
18 I saw Ian the first time.

19 The second time when I came back, I started asking
20 him -- I said "What's happening? Is anybody going to
21 come and help? There were a lot of people trapped on
22 the train, we need to get help down to them, I know
23 that", and he said, yes, that the emergency services are
24 on their way.

25 Q. So he told you that, as far as he was aware, the

1 emergency services were already on their way?

2 A. Yes, yes, he said help is on the way, yes.

3 Q. As a result of that, and because you had obviously come
4 from the train as a passenger caught up in the events on
5 the second carriage, did he advise you not to go back
6 down the track to the train?

7 A. I don't think it was him. I think it was somebody else,
8 I think it was a manager, I can't remember, I think
9 a person who was wearing a white -- I think it was
10 a manager.

11 Q. He spoke to you?

12 A. Yes, saying, "No, no, we don't want anybody else to go
13 back down", and I kept insisting, I said, "No". Surely,
14 there was this lady that said to -- that grabbed hold of
15 my leg that I said I was going to come and bring help
16 back to her, so I kept saying, "No, no, you don't
17 understand, there are people still trapped in there and
18 there's a lot of smoke in the train. We need to go back
19 and help and try and get people", but he said, no, they
20 don't want anybody to go back in.

21 I think police started arriving on the platform
22 then, I don't think it was a paramedic, I think it was
23 the police that was there before the paramedic.

24 Q. Could you see either the police or London Underground
25 staff going down the tunnel towards the train?

1 A. Not instantly, no, I think it did take --

2 Q. Not when you were there?

3 A. No, no, I think it did take a long time, it did take

4 some time before they went down.

5 Q. How long were you on the platform area for, do you

6 think?

7 A. I was on the platform area for quite a long time.

8 30 minutes, 40 minutes, an hour, maybe.

9 Q. Helping with people coming out of the tunnel --

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. -- giving them assistance?

12 A. Assistance, yes.

13 Q. There is a description in your statement of you pouring

14 a can of coke over somebody who said that his eyes were

15 sore --

16 A. Sore, they were stinging, yeah.

17 Q. -- in order to try to flush off whatever it was that was

18 in his eyes and on his face?

19 A. Yes.

20 MR KEITH: My Lady, Patrick Barnes refers to such an event

21 in his witness statement.

22 So he is an example, is he, of one of the people who

23 you tried to help --

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. -- as they came out of the tunnel. If you were on the

1 platform for that length of time, do you recall there
2 coming a point when members of the emergency services
3 began to arrive in number?

4 A. Yes, yes, they were there -- I mean, during the time
5 I was there, these emergency services were now -- they
6 were actually now on the platform then tending to people
7 that were still -- I can't remember how long it took for
8 people to -- for everybody to get out onto the platform,
9 but I was stopped. There were other people that were
10 still trying to get help, to get people, because there
11 were a lot of people still trapped on the train, I knew,
12 because I had to get over people, there were people that
13 were injured that couldn't move.

14 My main concern really was that there was going to
15 be fire in that train and people were going to burn to
16 death, so I kept asking people on the platform "We need
17 to get help, we need to get people out of this train,
18 because there's smoke".

19 At this time, there was -- you can see the smoke
20 from the -- if you stand at the tunnel mouth, you can
21 see the smoke actually coming towards Russell Square at
22 this time.

23 Q. But as you told us, the staff to whom you spoke told you
24 that the emergency services were on their way?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. And, as you told us also, after a certain amount of
2 time, they began to arrive in number.

3 A. Yes, yes, and they were on the platform, yes.

4 Q. I think you had sustained an injury to your head.

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Because, when you went up to the station level to the
7 triage point where assistance was being provided,
8 a paramedic came over and put a bandage on your head.

9 Is that right?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Do you have any sense of the time at which you emerged
12 out of Russell Square at the ground level?

13 A. Not really, no. It must have definitely been over an
14 hour, maybe more.

15 Q. From the point of the explosion?

16 A. Yes, from the point of going on the platform. Not the
17 explosion, going on the platform.

18 MR KEITH: All right, thank you very much, those are all the
19 questions that I have for you, but there may be some
20 further questions for you from my learned friends.

21 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Mr Patterson?

22 Questions by MR PATTERSON

23 MR PATTERSON: I think you described that, shortly after the
24 explosion, you moved from your position at the rear of
25 the first carriage up towards the front of the carriage?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. You described in particular, when you got to the double
3 doors, that there were a large number of bodies in that
4 area.

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. We can look at it on the plan, but I think you know the
7 area that I am talking about, don't you?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. I appreciate the visibility was difficult, but of the
10 people that were lying there, was there only one that
11 you were aware of who was making any noise or speaking?

12 A. No, not that I can recall, no, no.

13 Q. So there were quite a few people on the floor of the
14 carriage in that area?

15 A. Yes, I had to walk over them to get to the other side.

16 Q. You had to get past.

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. Can you remember now whether there were any signs of
19 life in that area?

20 A. Not that I can recall, no.

21 Q. Or any words being spoken or moaning or cries from the
22 people in that area?

23 A. Yes, definitely, yes. Definitely.

24 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Sorry, we're talking about where,
25 sadly, the bodies are on the floor, not just within the

1 carriage?

2 A. There was a lot of noise all over the -- all around the
3 train, but the majority of the noise I think was
4 actually -- I cannot -- I can't say it's right at the --
5 in the middle of there, but as I was making my way, you
6 could hear a lot more people were groaning in pain and
7 still "My leg", "My arm", "My this". But through the
8 middle, where there was this mass of people, yes, I did
9 walk -- as I was walking, you could feel or hear groans,
10 so some things like that, yes, but not screaming, nobody
11 screaming, yes.

12 MR PATTERSON: So there were sounds?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. In particular, I act for some families who are anxious
15 to know if there were any signs of life in relation to
16 their loved ones in that area, so there were some sounds
17 that you could hear?

18 A. Yes, there was, yes.

19 Q. But that's as far as it goes and, in particular, any
20 foreign accents that you could hear, anything that
21 stands out or that you can remember?

22 A. No, not that I can recall, no.

23 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Is it possible for you to say now
24 whether the sounds are coming just from the people
25 generally in the carriage who are hurt or from --

1 I think Mr Patterson is really focusing on the bodies on
2 the floor and the point being that, if there were sounds
3 from the bodies on the floor, it might indicate that one
4 of the people was still alive.

5 So I think the distinction is just between the
6 sounds that you might hear from the people, as you pass
7 them, who were horribly hurt, or from the bodies on the
8 floor. I think that's the difference.

9 If it's impossible to say, please just --

10 A. I cannot actually say there was -- there wasn't any
11 sound coming from the people on the floor because, at
12 that point in time, I don't think I was really listening
13 out for anybody, I did not know there was anybody on the
14 floor in the first place anyway. So I wasn't paying any
15 particular attention, and I think my main focus was the
16 light, was to get myself out of the train really, not
17 listening out for any signs.

18 MR PATTERSON: My Lady, I think I've taken that as far as
19 I can.

20 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Thank you.

21 MR PATTERSON: So you moved forward to the front and you
22 spoke to the train driver. As you moved off the train
23 and up the tunnel towards the platform, I think you said
24 that you were behind a group of passengers who were
25 heading towards Russell Square ahead of you.

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. We heard evidence yesterday that Mr Raymond Wright, who
3 was with the driver, led a group of -- a sizeable group
4 of passengers off the train along the tunnel and up to
5 Russell Square. So it sounds as though you were behind
6 that group of people.

7 A. Maybe, I don't know. I don't know who Mr Raymond is,
8 I don't know.

9 Q. But a sizeable group was ahead of you, is that right?

10 A. Yes, there were people ahead. I wasn't the first one to
11 get out, no.

12 Q. Then, when you got to the platform, I think you've
13 explained how you saw someone you recognised,
14 a Mr Ian Purcell, who worked for London Underground, and
15 other London Underground staff on the platform.

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. As you put it in your statement, your main concern at
18 that stage was that -- and these were your words in your
19 statement:

20 "I was really agitated that not enough was being
21 done to help the people on the train."

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Is that right, that you felt that there wasn't enough
24 urgency, perhaps, in what was happening?

25 A. Yes, yes, because the -- the message being put out to

1 people -- someone like me, that's come out, that's
2 trying to go back in, was they don't want nobody to go
3 back to the train because they don't know what's
4 happened.

5 Q. Yes.

6 A. But maybe if I knew it was a bomb, maybe I might have
7 thought different, but I did not know it was a bomb,
8 even until that stage. All I was thinking was the
9 people, the people that were still trapped on the train,
10 people that -- the lady I said that I was going to get
11 help to, and I mean, generally, I mean, I was really
12 concerned for the people who were on the train, because
13 I thought the smoke was building up and we'd need to try
14 to get help and to get help to people that were trapped
15 in the train, people that were injured as well that
16 couldn't move. So that was my main concern.

17 That was the reason why I kept going to the --
18 I could not remember any of the faces, but the only
19 person I can recall was Ian, but Ian actually was the
20 station assistant, so he did not have a lot of say in
21 what the arrangement was, apart from the, maybe,
22 supervisors and the managers on the platform, and it was
23 the managers that were saying they did not want nobody
24 to go back in. So I kept going back and forth to one or
25 two of them saying, "No, you don't understand, there's

1 smoke, there might be fire already on that train. We
2 need to get help to people. There were people there,
3 some people I have promised that I'm going to get help
4 back to", and he said, "Sorry, you have to wait here,
5 this is the instructions", they have to follow
6 instructions they've been given, so ...

7 Q. From what you said earlier, the impression that you got
8 was that it was quite a period of time before people did
9 start going down the tunnel?

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. Is that accurate?

12 A. Yes.

13 MR PATTERSON: Thank you very much.

14 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Ms Canby?

15 Questions by MS CANBY

16 MS CANBY: I have some questions to ask you on behalf of
17 Transport for London. Can we start, please, by going
18 back to when the train was just pulling out of the
19 platform and beginning to build up speed and then the
20 explosion occurs?

21 In your witness statement, you describe that, when
22 there is a big flash, the train hadn't even got up to
23 about half speed. Is that correct?

24 A. That's what I thought, yes.

25 Q. Half speed there would be about, what, 10 to 15 miles

1 per hour?

2 A. The train has only just pulled out of the station

3 from -- I mean, personally, this is my personal opinion

4 anyway, so I don't know what it was, I mean, the reality

5 of it, but from the time the train pulled out to when

6 the explosion happened, I was still -- even until this

7 day, I don't know what it was, but I still think the

8 whole of the train hadn't pulled into the tunnel, that's

9 what I'm thinking, because there was such a short time

10 between when the train left the platform to when the

11 explosion happened. That's why I said that, yes.

12 Q. Can we move now on to the point where you are met by

13 Mr Orr and you may not appreciate that's what he was

14 called, but that's the man who, in fact, worked for

15 Tube Lines at the time --

16 A. Okay.

17 Q. -- and that's the man that you went down to attempt to

18 use the tunnel telephone.

19 Is this right, please? The driver told you that he

20 had already attempted to use the tunnel telephone in the

21 westbound tunnel, and so you and Mr Orr walked through

22 to the adjacent tunnel, the eastbound tunnel --

23 A. I think so, yes, yes, that's it, yes.

24 Q. -- to try to use it there.

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. We can tell from evidence that we have from the power
2 control room that a tunnel telephone call was made in
3 the eastbound tunnel at 09.03 --

4 A. Okay.

5 Q. -- so about 14 minutes after the explosion. Does that
6 time sound about right to you?

7 A. I don't know what time, no.

8 Q. Is it just impossible for you --

9 A. I don't know what time.

10 Q. You don't know the time?

11 A. No.

12 Q. Can we move now to when you start walking towards
13 Russell Square platform? Did you walk back to the
14 train, having attempted to use the tunnel telephone, and
15 then walk from the front of the train to Russell Square
16 station?

17 A. Yes, I think, yes, I did come back to the train before
18 I started making my way, yes, I think that's what
19 happened, yes.

20 Q. Could we have on the screen, please, [INQ10284-7]?

21 This is a diagram that's been prepared by
22 the Met Police. You'll see on the left-hand side that
23 they have attempted to estimate the distance from the
24 position of the explosion to Russell Square platform,
25 and their estimate is about 681 metres. Does that sound

1 about right to you?

2 A. What, the distance from the train to --

3 Q. Yes, they're now saying from the bomb. So from the

4 front of the train, it's going to be a little bit less.

5 A. I don't know how long it was, but we had to walk from

6 the front of the train to Russell Square. I could not

7 recollect how long it took to walk, I don't know.

8 MR KEITH: Can I just assist my learned friend? That

9 measurement I think was taken from an engineering plan,

10 so it's unlikely to have been an estimate.

11 MS CANBY: Thank you.

12 You're following a large group of people and we

13 heard yesterday that there was perhaps 50 to 70 people

14 in that group.

15 A. I don't know how many people was in the group, but there

16 were people in front of me.

17 Q. Perhaps trying to assist you with how long it took

18 certainly for the first members of that group to reach

19 the platform, we know that a telephone call was made

20 from a female station supervisor at Russell Square at

21 about 09.08 requesting ambulances, so about 20 minutes

22 after the explosion, and that's the first call that's

23 made from Russell Square requesting ambulances. That

24 can only have been prompted by people actually arriving

25 on the platform. So it looks as if you were probably

1 towards the back of that group, so you had probably got
2 there about 20 or 25 minutes after the explosion?
3 A. As I said, I did not have any sense of time. After the
4 explosion, there were people -- I think I was right at
5 the back. There were people already in front that were
6 already -- so I definitely wasn't one of the first group
7 of people to get to Russell Square, definitely not.
8 Q. You weren't. Would you recognise David Boyce?
9 A. Yes, I know David Boyce.
10 Q. Did you know him at the time?
11 A. Yes, he was -- he worked at Russell Square group while
12 I was there. Sorry, Leicester Square group, yes.
13 Q. He was a station supervisor at Russell Square on 7 July.
14 A. I think I recollect seeing him that day, yes, I think.
15 Q. Because he says that, when he sees Mr Wright bringing
16 these passengers through the tunnel, he leaps down off
17 the platform and starts going towards the bombed train.
18 A. Okay.
19 Q. Did you see him do that?
20 A. I can't say. No, I did not, no, definitely didn't.
21 Q. So although, when you arrive at the platform, you have
22 frustrations because you don't think enough is
23 happening --
24 A. Yes, to help get help down to people there, yes.
25 Q. -- what you don't appreciate, of course, at that stage,

1 is that a call has already been made for ambulances by
2 the station staff, and that a member of station staff
3 has gone down to the train already.

4 A. I did not know a member of staff, no, had gone down, but
5 when I spoke to Ian, he said, "Emergency services are
6 already on their way". That's what he said to me. So
7 I don't know -- I didn't actually know if a call had
8 been made or if somebody -- but my frustration then was
9 the people that were trapped, the lady that grabbed hold
10 of my leg that I tried to help, that I said I was going
11 to come back and bring help to, I think that was the
12 main thing that was really, really in the front of --

13 Q. Was the main frustration that you wanted to go back down
14 into the tunnel and they weren't letting you?

15 A. Yes, yes.

16 MS CANBY: Thank you very much, I have no further questions.

17 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Any more questions?

18 It looks as if those are all the questions we have
19 for you. Thank you for what you did to try to help your
20 fellow passengers along the track and to the platform,
21 and I hope it hasn't been too distressing for you to
22 have to go through it all again with me. Thank you for
23 helping me.

24 MR KEITH: May I invite you to call Lilian Ajayi?

25

1 MS LILIAN AJAYI (sworn)

2 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Don't be nervous and take your time.

3 A. I'm nervous, I don't know why.

4 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Don't worry, it's not a very usual
5 situation for people to have to come along and give
6 evidence, so just take your time and we can take as long
7 as you need.

8 A. Okay.

9 Questions by MR KEITH

10 MR KEITH: There is also some water next to you and some
11 cups, if you need any refreshment.

12 May I please ask you to give, for the court record,
13 your name?

14 A. My name is Lilian Ajayi.

15 Q. It is difficult giving evidence. Could I ask you to
16 keep your voice up so that everybody in the courtroom
17 has the opportunity of hearing what you have to say?

18 A. Okay. My name is Lilian Ajayi.

19 Q. Thank you very much.

20 A. You're welcome.

21 Q. On 7 July 2005, did you travel on the Piccadilly Line
22 from Finsbury Park Tube station?

23 A. Yes, I did.

24 Q. When you arrived at Finsbury Park, did you realise that
25 there was some sort of delay in the Piccadilly Line that

1 morning?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Was it particularly crowded, do you recall?

4 A. If I can recollect, when I got there, it wasn't that
5 crowded, but I know it was late because I think they did
6 say there was cancellations, but I can't remember what
7 caused that.

8 Q. You described in your statement how some people decided,
9 because of the cancellations, to leave the

10 Piccadilly Line --

11 A. Yes, some went to the Victoria Line, and some -- I was
12 going to go there myself, but I don't know why I stayed,
13 I was just lazy that morning anyway, because normally
14 I would have gone there.

15 Q. But you stayed --

16 A. I just stayed there, yes.

17 Q. -- and waited for the Piccadilly Line train?

18 A. Piccadilly Line, yes.

19 Q. Did you take the first train that came through, do you
20 recall?

21 A. The first train that came through, yes, I did.

22 Q. Like many passengers in the Underground, do you normally
23 try to enter the carriage by the same door each time
24 that you travel?

25 A. Yes, I did that.

1 Q. Do you recollect, at Finsbury Park, which carriage you
2 entered and which door of that carriage?
3 A. Yes, the first carriage, always the first carriage and
4 it was through the double door.
5 Q. If we put up on the screen, please, [INQ10283-10], this is
6 a diagram of the first carriage. The Finsbury Park
7 platform, if you can imagine it, would be on the
8 underside of that diagram. Can you recall which of the
9 three doors, D4, D6 or D8, you think you entered?
10 A. I think it's the second double door.
11 Q. So D6?
12 A. Now I can't see D6.
13 Q. The driver's door is on the far left, passengers can't
14 go in there. The first door on the left is D4, and then
15 the one in the middle is a double door D6 and then
16 there's a single door on the far right.
17 A. It would be the D6.
18 Q. Thank you. As you went into the carriage, do you
19 recollect whether you turned left or right?
20 A. I think I turned left or stayed -- just got in and -- it
21 was either I got in, stayed where I was by the door or
22 turned left.
23 Q. All right. We take it that you stayed standing because
24 there weren't any seats available?
25 A. There wasn't any seat.

1 Q. The train was crowded?

2 A. It was crowded, yes, yes, it was.

3 Q. At King's Cross, did quite a few people get off the
4 train?

5 A. Quite a few people, yes, got off, yes, and there was
6 a seat there for people to go on and sit down.

7 Q. Did you then sit down at King's Cross?

8 A. I was about to sit down where the -- at King's Cross,
9 the door opened on the other side, and I was about to
10 sit down, I think it's the first seat by the pole.

11 Q. Which would be near our number 77 on that map, which is
12 the first seat on that bank of seats by the pole?

13 A. On the other side, yes, 77, I was about to sit there,
14 but I could see a lady, there was a lady beside me that
15 I could see in her face an urgency to sit down, so
16 I just let her, I just said to her "You are free to use
17 that one".

18 Q. So where did you sit down?

19 A. Immediately afterwards, someone else got up, I think
20 they left the Tube, and I sat down opposite her where
21 I came in through the Finsbury Park, so I think I sat
22 down there.

23 Q. You sat down on the same side as the side of the
24 carriage in which you had originally entered at
25 Finsbury Park?

1 A. Mm-hmm.

2 Q. So if you look at the plan, you will see there
3 a number 70. Number 70 is where the police estimated
4 you may have sat, based on the witness statement you
5 kindly provided them. May that, therefore, be about
6 right: you were sitting on the same side of the carriage
7 as the side in which you had entered, not in the end
8 seat but perhaps next to it?

9 A. Yes, next to it.

10 Q. I want to ask you, please, about a gentleman who entered
11 the train at King's Cross whom you recollect wearing
12 distinctively a multicoloured tie.

13 A. Okay, what happened is when we now got to Finsbury --
14 sorry, when we got to King's Cross, there were so many
15 people coming in, it was so packed, and this gentleman,
16 he was -- I'll call him a giant, because -- he wasn't
17 a giant per se, but he was taller than every one of us
18 in the carriage. He walked in, he was more nearer to my
19 side, and everyone kept on pushing, I was sitting with
20 my book, and I think some people wanted to come in as
21 well, and when they said, "Can you please move in?", and
22 he said something, I can't remember now, either he joked
23 and said, "Where to?" or something, I can't remember,
24 I truly can't remember, but he joked and everyone
25 laughed, but he was tall, tall, big, on the big side,

1 I'm sorry, but ...

2 Q. In your statement, which was made, in fact, much nearer

3 the time, in August 2005, you were able to recall that

4 the gentleman actually said, "Where do you want us to

5 sit? On the roof?"

6 A. He did say something similar.

7 Q. Does that ring a bell?

8 A. Yes, it did.

9 Q. You describe him in your statement as wearing this

10 multicoloured tie?

11 A. Yes, a blue shirt, it would be.

12 Q. A blue shirt?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. A black male, very tall?

15 A. Very tall.

16 Q. Medium build?

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. And looks like, you said, that he went to the gym?

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. Having made the remark that made the people around him

21 laugh, did you see where he went?

22 A. He was more on my side. I sat down and he was -- I just

23 looked up, he was holding on to a pole right in front

24 of -- not very close, because there were other people

25 before -- in between us. So he was just hanging on

1 there.

2 Q. As the train left King's Cross, were you reading a book?

3 A. I had a book, I was reading, and I had it like that.

4 Q. What happened?

5 A. The -- because -- after he made the joke, the door
6 closed, and the book -- I was just reading the book and
7 we just -- I think we went, I can't remember how many
8 minutes, I think we just went into the tunnel.

9 The next thing I heard was "Boom!" and I just said,
10 "What was that?", that was what came out of me, because
11 I wasn't considering who was on the carriage at all,
12 I just had the book and, when I heard that, I just said,
13 "What was that?", that's what just came to me.

14 By the time I realised, all I knew was that people
15 were on the floor, there was a pile right in front of
16 me. Where I was meant to sit, the lady was on top of
17 the pile.

18 Q. Can I pause you there? Presumably, you were able to see
19 them once there had been a little bit of light
20 reintroduced into the carriage, because did it go dark
21 straightaway?

22 A. It was dark, and when that happened first, I didn't know
23 what happened, I just put my book -- put it back and
24 said, "What happened there?", but I think from shock or
25 something, reaction, seeing people on the floor, and

1 there was -- behind where I sat, the glass has already
2 broken, but there was a fire -- maybe it was a fire,
3 maybe there's an electric fire, whatever, I just saw
4 something there, then I got scared, and all I was doing
5 was just shouting, praying, I was just praying, "I'm not
6 going to die, I'm not going to die, I'm not going to
7 die".

8 Q. Do you recollect feeling as if you'd been covered in
9 something, either glass or dirt or soot?

10 A. I was covered in something. The book protected my
11 glasses, because I was wearing glasses, but the book --
12 the blast came from opposite me anyway, and the book
13 protected my glasses, but all the other things went on
14 me, there were glasses, there were, I think, black stuff
15 all over my face, everywhere --

16 Q. Soot and dirt?

17 A. Yes, soot and so many things went on top of me.

18 Q. Do you recollect whether anybody in the carriage was
19 trying to shout "Calm" or trying to bring calm to the
20 people around you?

21 A. I don't think so, because it went quiet, it just went --
22 I think I only heard my voice, because I was shouting,
23 I was truly shouting, I was so scared, I was -- I can't
24 hear any other person saying anything, but I was
25 shouting and the guy that was -- that I saw, I saw him

1 on the floor, and he -- after reading my statement,
2 I can say that he had his hand there, he held on to my
3 leg because my leg had just -- I got up, he held on to
4 my leg and said, "Can you please move me up?" or
5 something, "Can you get me off" or something like that,
6 I can't remember.

7 Q. Can I come to him in a moment, if I may?

8 A. Okay.

9 Q. Because you've already told us that the first thing you
10 recollect was virtually a pile of people on the floor,
11 a pile of bodies, with a lady lying on top.

12 A. Opposite me, yes, there was a pile of people opposite
13 me.

14 Q. Can I ask you about them first? The lady on top of the
15 pile, you describe in your statement how there were so
16 many people lying under her that she was elevated to the
17 level of the seat?

18 A. Yes, definitely.

19 Q. Do you recall whether or not that lady was moving at all
20 or saying anything or moaning?

21 A. What I saw in front of me was like -- I can only
22 describe it -- I'm sorry for doing this, but this is the
23 only way to describe it -- like a laundry basket that is
24 getting piled, pile. That's the way I saw it there.

25 Q. Do you recollect anything of her as to whether or not

1 she was alive or moving in any way?

2 A. I think she was like that, so there wasn't any movement
3 or anything.

4 Q. Right.

5 A. But the only thing I remember was that I was meant to
6 sit at that seat and I gave it up, that was all.

7 Q. Do you remember there also being a lady near you whom
8 you describe in your statement as having terrible flesh
9 injuries and whose clothes were shredded?

10 A. I think there was a lady, but I can't remember,
11 I can't -- I think some of us -- it's either she was
12 wearing a skirt or something, or trousers, and it was in
13 pieces. I can see through her skin.

14 Q. Was she on the floor of the carriage?

15 A. I can't remember where she was, but I know she was
16 shaking, she was -- I think she was sitting -- I can't
17 remember, don't let me say what I can't remember on
18 this, I'm sorry.

19 Q. It's quite all right. From the fact that she was
20 shaking, she was obviously alive?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. The third person you speak of in your statement is the
23 man with the multicoloured tie to whom you've just made
24 a reference a moment or two ago?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. From where you were, near that seat, do you remember
2 where he was after the explosion?

3 A. Where he was, he stayed there. He was at the bottom and
4 there were people on top of him.

5 Q. Just pause there. Where he was, do you mean between the
6 two banks of seats in the middle of the carriageway or
7 between the two doors?

8 A. He was by the door.

9 Q. By the door, so between those two double doors, in the
10 standing area?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. He was underneath other people?

13 A. He was, because why I -- what he first said to me, when
14 he saw me praying, and I was -- I think I was the only
15 one standing, I can't remember, but I stood up, I left
16 my bag and I stood up and I just started praying that
17 "I'm not going to die, I'm not going to die, I'm not
18 going to die", because I think -- I'm not sure what
19 statement I read that -- "In the name of the Lord Jesus,
20 I'm not going to die, because I have not been told
21 I will die" or something like that, something similar.
22 I think, when he heard me, he now said to me, "Can
23 you get people off me? I need to get up", and he held
24 on to my leg.

25 Q. So he must have been near you in order to be able to

1 reach your leg?

2 A. He was definitely, for him to touch my leg, yes.

3 Q. Had you noticed him because he was looking at you or you

4 recognised him from earlier, or because he had said to

5 you --

6 A. He spoke, he said something out, he spoke out, he said

7 something out where he was.

8 Q. You looked at him because he had spoken to you?

9 A. Yes.

10 Q. Were you able to tell anything of the nature of his

11 injuries?

12 A. What he said to me, he said, "Can you lift me up?"

13 Honestly, I was about to do it, despite the fact that

14 he was big, though, I just wanted to do something to

15 help him, but by the time I got to the point of helping

16 him up, I think -- it's either -- people were on him.

17 Q. It's all right.

18 A. Well, I was about to pick him up, then I saw where I was

19 sitting, I think his leg or something, amputated, half

20 of his leg was there, I saw his -- I could see half from

21 the knee down, I'm not sure which of the legs, the right

22 or left, has been --

23 Q. Do you feel that it was one leg as opposed to both legs?

24 A. It was just what I saw was half of it sitting on the

25 chair.

1 Q. Why did the fact that you realised that his leg had been
2 amputated cause you not, in the end, to try to lift him
3 up?

4 A. I couldn't tell him, I was in shock myself, I couldn't
5 say anything, and I couldn't -- I was -- maybe I would
6 say I was in trance myself, but I had the strength to be
7 able to help him anyway, but I couldn't tell him
8 anything because, once I saw that, I could see that
9 there's no way for me to do this, but I think, shortly
10 afterwards, someone just walked in, I'm not sure what
11 time it is, then I heard someone say "Walking wounded,
12 can you come this way?"

13 Q. From your statement, is it the case that the person who
14 had brought himself to your attention and asked whether
15 you could move the people on top of him was the same man
16 that you'd seen earlier cracking the joke about being on
17 the roof?

18 A. Definitely, it was him.

19 Q. Were the people around him, and those on top of him,
20 moving as far as you could see?

21 If you can't remember, please say so.

22 A. I can't remember. I can't -- there was some movement,
23 but I can't remember that far.

24 Q. Was this group of people, the people lying on top of
25 him, a different pile of people than the first pile that

1 you described for us with the lady on top?

2 A. The pile I saw in front of me, I don't think there was
3 any life there, because they were just there, and the
4 ones on top of him, there was still a bit of movement,
5 but not knowing what to do ...

6 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Where was the lady you described who
7 was shaking whose clothes had been --

8 A. It's either she was opposite me --

9 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Opposite you?

10 A. I'm not sure where now, but it's either she was opposite
11 me for me to be able to see her.

12 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Sitting or standing?

13 A. I can't, I can't --

14 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: No, we're not talking about her as
15 the piles, or are we?

16 A. She definitely wouldn't be standing, she would be
17 sitting, for me to be able to see through her skirt.

18 MR KEITH: You told us that somebody then said "walking
19 wounded"?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. "Let's move" or "Let's go"?

22 A. No, "walking wounded, walk right -- come" -- something
23 like that, I can't remember the exact words.

24 Q. As a result of somebody saying that, did you then start
25 to move, as best you could, through the carriage?

1 A. I just took my bag and left, yes.

2 Q. Was there some light from outside the tunnel, outside
3 the train: namely, lights in the tunnel wall, do you
4 recall?

5 A. It was dark, because I know I was being so careful,
6 I don't want to -- I don't want to survive one accident
7 and go into another one, and that was -- my fear was the
8 track was still live, so I was -- and it was dark, so
9 I was just stepping, being very careful, one at a time.

10 Q. At the end of the train, having walked out of the
11 driver's cab, did you see a number of gentlemen, in fact
12 two drivers, who were members of London Underground
13 helping the passengers off the end of the train?

14 A. End of the train?

15 Q. Do you recollect how you left the train?

16 A. I left the train with my bag and I was walking on -- and
17 I followed the guy that said "Walking wounded, come
18 right this way". It's either he said --

19 Q. Do you recollect which part of the train you walked out
20 of?

21 A. I came through the driver's -- definitely --

22 Q. Through the driver's cab?

23 A. Yes, because I was close, yes, through the driver's cab.

24 Q. We've heard some evidence, my Lady has heard evidence
25 about a ladder being placed there. Did you walk down

1 a ladder onto the track?

2 Again, if you can't remember, don't worry?

3 A. I can't remember. I believe I walked out and I just
4 walked onto the track. There might be a ladder, I can't
5 recall.

6 Q. Might there have been some people helping, as far as you
7 can recall, the passengers down onto the track?

8 A. No, I can't recollect, honestly.

9 Q. All right. We know that you walked out of the tunnel,
10 along the track?

11 A. Yes.

12 Q. Did you do that with a group of other passengers? Were
13 there a number of you walking down?

14 A. Oh, definitely. We were a number. I think we were
15 following the guy that said "Walking wounded".

16 Q. Slowly and carefully moving down the tunnel?

17 A. Slowly and carefully.

18 Q. As you did so, did you come to realise that you had
19 difficulty in hearing because of the blast?

20 A. Oh, definitely. Because of the blast, I couldn't -- not
21 immediately did I realise that, I think it was
22 afterwards that people were speaking to me and
23 I couldn't --

24 Q. You were coughing, no doubt, from the smoke and the
25 dust?

1 A. Definitely, coughing, yes.

2 Q. No doubt your chest was sore from what you had been
3 through. When you reached the platform, do you remember
4 there being anybody there?

5 A. When I got to the end of the platform, I think I was --
6 it's either I was the second to the last person to leave
7 or whatever, I can remember there were two people there,
8 they had orange --

9 Q. Vests?

10 A. -- vests on, and they did offer to help me, but I said
11 to them, no.

12 Q. You managed to get up onto the platform?

13 A. I had the strength. It was a bit steep, but I managed
14 to get up there.

15 Q. Then did you walk along the platform and then --

16 A. I walked onto the platform and I went on to -- because
17 I was on my way to work and, for myself, I just want
18 people to know that I'm not -- if I'm going to be late,
19 I need you to know if -- so I just -- I think I was
20 concerned more about telling -- speaking to people from
21 my work to say, "I'm running late", than any other
22 thing, so all I did was, I think I walked in -- there
23 was an office on the left-hand side.

24 Q. At ground level or at the platform level?

25 A. I think -- after we left the platform.

1 Q. Did you walk up the steps to ground level or was there
2 a lift?

3 A. There wasn't a lift.

4 Q. There wasn't a lift?

5 A. There wasn't a lift, there wasn't a lift, if I can
6 recollect, there wasn't a lift.

7 Q. Were you able to get through to your work and tell them
8 that --

9 A. No, I was able to use the office. I was given access to
10 the office to call -- use the phone there to be able to
11 call someone.

12 MR KEITH: I understand. Thank you very much. Those are
13 all the questions that I have for you. But there may be
14 some more from my colleagues.

15 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Have you had enough time,
16 Mr Saunders, to take instructions?

17 MR SAUNDERS: Yes. I'm so sorry if I distracted anyone.

18 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: No, no apologies necessary, I just
19 wanted to ensure that you had had enough time.

20 MR SAUNDERS: Thank you very much, my Lady.

21 Questions by MR SAUNDERS

22 MR SAUNDERS: Ms Ajayi, I'm not going to keep you very long,
23 thank you very much for your help so far. I represent
24 the family, and it may well be it's the gentleman you've
25 been talking about --

1 A. Okay.

2 Q. -- that is known to her Ladyship and the inquest as
3 Christian Small, but who had also changed his name just
4 before to Njoya. The tall black man.

5 A. I've seen him in the paper more, but I don't know what
6 his name is. It might be, I don't know his name.

7 Q. All right. As you would have seen -- I'm sorry if I put
8 you off, you're the most important person here giving
9 your evidence, I've just been talking to his mother.

10 A. Okay.

11 Q. When you are describing this person as being very tall,
12 Christian was, in fact, about 5' 10", 5' 11". Now,
13 obviously people have different senses of what "really
14 tall" is. Would that appear to be about right, bearing
15 in mind the sort of height in the carriage?

16 A. Definitely, because I was sitting down and he was a bit
17 taller than everyone else that was standing on that day.

18 Q. All right, and I think you remember him initially for
19 this comment he passed about, "Where do you want us to
20 sit? On the roof?"

21 A. On the roof.

22 Q. At the time after the explosion, as I've understood it,
23 you're trying to describe where he is. Now, you are
24 at -- if we could have back that plan, please, page 10,
25 you've just been through it with Mr Keith, we believe

1 that you're at seat number 70.

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. When the explosion goes off, that's to your right, as
4 you look at that plan. All right?

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Do you see where D5 and D6, the two doors are, so just
7 an inch or so to your right --

8 A. Mm-hmm.

9 Q. -- from where you are sitting. That's where the bomb
10 goes off.

11 A. Okay. I didn't realise.

12 Q. You didn't realise?

13 A. No.

14 Q. I'm sorry if that's come as a bit of a shock to you, but
15 that's where we understand it was. I'm just trying to
16 picture now as to where it is -- you've described
17 a number of bodies being on the floor --

18 A. Mm-hmm.

19 Q. -- which I think you're describing just ahead of you
20 before the way to the doors. Is that right?

21 A. Yes.

22 Q. This person, the black man, we think is Christian Small,
23 you said he was further to the right. Is that the
24 position?

25 A. He came in at King's Cross as well, and he was --

1 I think he was the first people to come in, so he came
2 in and that's why he was so close to the door, and it
3 was jam-packed, so I think it was -- it would be where
4 I was sitting then.

5 Q. Can I tell you this to see if this helps you: we know
6 that when his body was eventually recovered, it was from
7 in the region of the door D5. So if you see on your
8 plan there, do you see the door D5, where it's just been
9 highlighted -- that's very helpful, thank you -- so we
10 know that it's in that area, but of course, some of the
11 bodies -- so as not to confuse you, some of the bodies
12 were moved because obviously casualties who were still
13 alive being taken out. All right?

14 Now, can you help us as to where it was that, after
15 the explosion, you would have seen him?

16 A. It was on the floor, where he was standing.

17 Q. So it's just in front of where you're sat?

18 A. It wouldn't be -- because I was -- the door was like
19 that and I was sitting like that.

20 Q. If you're sitting facing across the courtroom, the door
21 is on your right-hand side, isn't it?

22 A. The door is on my right-hand side, so it definitely
23 would be somewhere here.

24 Q. So you're pointing over to your right-hand side?

25 A. Where the door -- I can't remember. Yes, it was on the

1 floor there.

2 Q. On the floor. I think at one stage you took him by the
3 hand.

4 A. No, it was my leg -- yes, for me to be able to help him
5 to lift him up, he held my leg first, and for me to be
6 able to help him ...

7 Q. But you then discover -- I don't want to dwell on this
8 for you, Ms Ajayi. You realised he had a significant
9 injury. In fact, we know that Christian had
10 a significant injury to both legs. Was it that you only
11 saw the serious injury to one leg?

12 A. I can only see one leg sitting on -- apart from sitting
13 on my -- the chair that I left, there was only one leg
14 there.

15 Q. Right.

16 A. How it got there, I don't know.

17 Q. But you don't know about the other leg. Is that the
18 position?

19 A. No, I don't know.

20 Q. All right. I think you stayed with him as it were,
21 decided not to move him or to try to move him because of
22 the injury?

23 A. Because I saw the injury, I couldn't do anything.

24 I knew that there's no way I can do this, and I don't
25 want him to see what is there, because he wouldn't have

1 been able to see that.

2 Q. You don't think he could see how seriously injured he
3 was --

4 A. I don't think so.

5 Q. -- and you just didn't want to --

6 A. Trying to -- in my own way, trying to protect him.

7 Q. Then I think the call is for other people to come off?

8 A. Walking wounded to come out.

9 MR SAUNDERS: Walking wounded to come off. All right,
10 can I, Ms Ajayi, on behalf of Mrs Henry, Christian's
11 mother, thank you for everything you tried to do? She
12 quite understands and she is very appreciative for your
13 efforts that day. Thank you very much.

14 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Any more questions? Yes,
15 Mr Patterson?

16 Questions by MR PATTERSON

17 MR PATTERSON: Just one matter, please, if I may, Ms Ajayi.
18 You've just indicated where you think Christian Small,
19 the person that's believed to be Christian Small, where
20 you think he was.

21 A. I'm not sure what the name is.

22 Q. The multicoloured tie.

23 A. And blue shirt.

24 Q. In and around those doorways that have been indicated on
25 the plan, and I think you said that in fact there were

1 some people that seemed to be on top of him.

2 A. There were -- yes, there were some people on top of him.

3 Q. And that there seemed to be some movement --

4 A. Movement, definitely, there were movement.

5 Q. -- of those people?

6 A. Yes, there was movement, compared to the other side that
7 there was no movement at all.

8 Q. Yes. I appreciate this is difficult, but I act for some
9 families who are anxious to know as much as they can
10 about their loved ones whose bodies were also found
11 later in and around those doorways. It seems as though
12 there was some movement amongst the injured people in
13 and around that area?

14 A. Some movement.

15 Q. But it doesn't sound as though you can help us any
16 further in terms of descriptions or --

17 A. I couldn't, because why I pay attention to him was
18 because he held my leg, my right leg, so that was why
19 I just -- that I -- I think I asked the question, "Do
20 you want me to help you?", and he said, "Yes", or
21 something like that.

22 I know there were movement, maybe people just trying
23 to get off, people trying to push, but I wasn't paying
24 attention to them. It was because he got my attention
25 by holding my leg, because I wasn't able to move any

1 more.

2 Q. Can you remember if there were any words being spoken or
3 anything being said by any of these people near the man?

4 A. I truly don't remember, because I was the only one that
5 was shouting there, so I could hear myself praying so
6 hard, but I wasn't listening out for anyone.

7 MR PATTERSON: Ms Ajayi, thank you very much.

8 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Any other questions for Ms Ajayi?

9 Ms Ajayi, those are all the questions we have for
10 you. Were you dreading coming to give evidence?

11 A. Yes, I was.

12 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: I thought you might have been. I'm
13 sorry, but as you've heard, it is very important to the
14 likes of Mrs Henry, particularly, to know what happened
15 to her son. So it was important we asked you to come
16 along and thank you for helping us.

17 A. Thank you very much.

18 MR KEITH: Would my Lady wish to take a break now to have
19 another witness called?

20 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Certainly, if that's suitable, very
21 well.

22 (11.15 am)

23 (A short break)

24 MR KEITH: My Lady, may I invite you to call

25 Olawale Akarele, please.

1 MR OLAWALE AKARELE (affirmed)
2 Questions by MR KEITH
3 MR KEITH: Good morning.
4 A. Good morning.
5 Q. Could you give the court your full name, please.
6 A. Mr Olawale Akarele.
7 Q. Mr Akarele, it's quite hard sometimes to hear witnesses
8 in such a large courtroom. Could I ask you to do your
9 best to try to keep your voice as loud as you can? The
10 microphone won't help you, I'm afraid, because it
11 doesn't amplify, it merely relays your voice elsewhere.
12 In July 2005, your route to work involved catching
13 a bus to Turnpike Lane and then getting the
14 Piccadilly Line westbound to Leicester Square and then
15 changing to the Northern Line for Charing Cross?
16 A. That's correct.
17 Q. Like many users of the London Underground, do you try to
18 sit in the same place in the Tube every day?
19 A. Yes, I had been doing the journey for a few years, so,
20 yes, I always used to sit at the front by the driver's
21 side of the carriage because, as soon as it pulls up to
22 Leicester Square, the stairs are there and you just beat
23 the rush of everybody.
24 Q. That morning, do you recall whether there were any
25 delays on the Piccadilly Line from Turnpike down to

1 Leicester Square?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Was that because, when you arrived at the station, the
4 trains were running late or because somebody told you
5 that there were problems on the line?

6 A. I arrived at Turnpike Lane station and, as I arrived
7 there, there was somebody on a mobile phone, on their
8 mobile phone, just talking to the other person on the
9 other end, saying there's some delays and they may take
10 another route, take the bus. So I rolled my eyes
11 thinking, "Oh, here we go again", you know, but
12 I continued on through the barriers down to the
13 platform.

14 Q. Was it more crowded than usual?

15 A. Definitely, yes.

16 Q. Did you take the first train that came through?

17 A. Yes, I did. I -- the platform was pretty deep in terms
18 of it had rows of people, so I was contemplating whether
19 to come back up and try to find a bus route to work, or
20 whether or not to even go in, to be honest. But shortly
21 after, the sound of a train and a breeze came, so
22 I thought, "I'm in luck".

23 Q. You entered then the usual carriage, the first carriage,
24 the carriage behind the driver's cab?

25 A. I entered the second set of double doors.

1 Q. Yes, I asked you about the carriage. It was the first
2 carriage?
3 A. The first carriage, yes.
4 Q. We'll put on the screen for you, please, [INQ10283-10].
5 The driver's cab is to the left of that diagram.
6 A. Yes.
7 Q. The second carriage is, of course, to the right.
8 A. Yes.
9 Q. Do you recall which of those three sets of doors --
10 there are two double doors and then one single door --
11 that you think you entered at Turnpike?
12 A. Yes, I entered doors D5, double doors D5.
13 Q. When you boarded the carriage, were you able to get
14 a seat or were you forced to stand?
15 A. I was at the -- because I arrived at the platform and it
16 was pretty deep in, I was forced to stand and I was just
17 squeezed in as the doors shut, so I was facing the doors
18 on the first stop.
19 Q. As the train travelled westbound, did some people get
20 off at subsequent stations?
21 A. Yes.
22 Q. So were you able to move?
23 A. Slightly more to the centre, because at the centre of
24 that, in the double doors D5, there's a long pole which
25 passengers can hold on for support. So I was slightly

1 edging towards the centre.

2 Q. At King's Cross, did quite a few people get off the
3 train?

4 A. Loads of people got off.

5 Q. So were you able to find a seat?

6 A. Well, not at first. At first, I stayed by the pole.
7 Passengers -- I could see through the doors, lots and
8 lots of passengers, waiting to get on, and then after
9 that -- let me just remember. Somebody suddenly decided
10 to get off, and that was at seat 92. I know on the
11 diagram they've put me down as --

12 Q. They've put you down at 100.

13 A. No, I was at 92, because I remember stepping on 90's toe
14 by accident and I apologised, it was a smart
15 businessman.

16 Q. At King's Cross, if you can imagine the carriage at the
17 platform, the platform would have been on the upper side
18 of this diagram. So when you sat down at King's Cross,
19 were you facing the platform or was your back to the
20 platform?

21 A. I was facing the platform.

22 Q. So you must -- you're quite correct -- therefore have
23 been on the underside of that carriage as we look at it
24 between the seats 90 and 107 rather than on the other
25 side?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. In relation to 92, we can take it then that you don't
3 think you were sitting on the end seat in the bank of
4 seats; you were one seat in?

5 A. I was one seat in. Just going over -- obviously, over
6 all the press and all of that, I gave my interview
7 shortly afterwards. The person, the bomber, which is
8 Jermaine, when the doors opened, I believed I saw
9 a black person getting on and they was leaning towards
10 the glass section of 82. I nodded my head just,
11 I guess, to a fellow black person, I suppose, but just
12 stared gingerly back at me and, at that point, someone
13 in 92 got off and I just left that area, stepped on
14 number 90's toe by accident, said "Sorry", and sat next
15 to him.

16 Q. So you then sat down?

17 A. Then sat down.

18 Q. You've just made reference then to Lindsay.

19 A. Yes.

20 Q. You describe somebody in your witness statement, the
21 person with whom you made eye contact?

22 A. Yes.

23 Q. Can you recall anything about the clothes that that
24 person was wearing? Was he wearing a short-sleeved
25 shirt or a coat or a jacket of some kind?

1 A. Is this the Asian person that I've described in my
2 statement?

3 Q. Yes, there is a male whom you describe at some length as
4 having caught your eye.

5 A. Yes.

6 Q. Do you recollect whether that person was wearing a coat
7 or not?

8 A. Don't 100 per cent recollect, to be honest, I don't want
9 to speculate.

10 Q. You describe him in your statement, which, as you
11 rightly say, was nearer the time, as wearing a brown
12 shirt that was short-sleeved.

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. May we take it that he probably wasn't wearing a coat if
15 you were able to see his short sleeves?

16 A. Yes, you can take it as that.

17 Q. Were you able to see him carrying a bag or a rucksack or
18 anything of that type?

19 A. No, that was the first person before the doors opened,
20 because obviously I was by the pole right in the centre
21 with my laptop bag between my legs, and you could see
22 the oncoming -- as the -- before the doors are going to
23 open, so I didn't see if he had a bag or anything at
24 all.

25 Q. The other person whom you've mentioned, did you see

1 whether he had a bag?

2 A. Yes, the other person leaned on the glass of number 82
3 and put the bag between his legs, or in front of his
4 legs, from what I remember, I don't know if I'm telling
5 myself this, but this is what I remember.

6 Q. There is, to be fair, no mention of that in your witness
7 statement that you made nearer the time. Is that
8 something that you have recollected since, much more
9 recently, the events in question?

10 A. I recollected that possibly maybe four weeks after, but
11 the police, you know, I never got in contact, or they
12 never got in contact with me. I was still sort of
13 grieving and coming to terms with some of my injuries
14 that I had.

15 Q. Of course. The person whom you think may have been
16 Lindsay, is that a conclusion that you reached because
17 there was somebody in what you know to be the near
18 location of the bomb from the point of the explosion or
19 because you've recognised his face from photographs
20 displayed in the media afterwards?

21 A. More triggered from the photographs in the media, but
22 when I saw this diagram and I saw the little area where
23 the smoke of where the bomb is supposed to have gone
24 off, to me, from what I remember, if it was that person,
25 they was leaning on the glass, just by number 82.

1 Q. All right. Would it be fair to say that it's,
2 therefore, a combination of recognition, but also
3 because of the location of the bomb, that you think that
4 that person may have been Lindsay?

5 A. Correct, yes.

6 Q. But you don't know for sure one way or t'other?

7 A. I don't know for sure. Just in -- the picture
8 triggered.

9 Q. All right. You sat down in the seat that you've told
10 us, seat 92. What do you recollect of the point of the
11 explosion?

12 A. As I sat down, I put my laptop bag on my lap and was
13 reading the Metro. The Olympic bid was won the day
14 before, and it was just -- the train had left from
15 King's Cross shortly after, not long at all, it was like
16 a loud, loud bang. I felt I got lifted off my seat, it
17 almost felt like you was being drowned because, as
18 I breathed in, heat or air of the smoke was taking my
19 breath, and then I just got a whack to the left of my
20 head, which the gash was bleeding, which also confirms
21 that I was at 92.

22 Q. To pause you there, you gave details of the treatment
23 that you received afterwards.

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. Did that treatment, to which I'll come to later, include

1 eight stitches over your left eye and the left side of
2 your face --

3 A. Yes.

4 Q. -- consistent with that blow to your head from the
5 left-hand side?

6 A. From the left-hand side.

7 Q. Do you recollect seeing a light or a flash of any kind?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. Were you knocked by the blow to your head to the floor
10 or were you able to remain in your seat?

11 A. I was knocked back to my seat.

12 Q. After the explosion, was there immediately screaming and
13 shouting from inside the carriage or was there a moment
14 of quiet perhaps before the screams started?

15 A. For me, I felt like I was between worlds, that's how
16 I put it to myself, because my ears had -- my left ear
17 was perforated and it had a fuzzy type of a noise, just
18 like wind blowing on it, I suppose. I think I may have
19 got knocked out before, because, as I woke up, I tried
20 to open my eyes, but it was still pitch black.

21 I moved -- put my hands close to my face, just to see if
22 I could see that, but I couldn't, it was pitch black.

23 To the right side of me, I couldn't feel anybody,
24 just broken glass, and again to the left side, where the
25 smart gentleman was, was just broken glass.

1 Q. Were you able to feel round your body and see whether
2 you'd been injured or find out what the extent of the
3 injuries that you had were?

4 A. I felt my face and just felt liquid going down, so
5 I assumed I had been injured. I was worried about, you
6 know, my injuries, I was worried about my face, but it
7 didn't hurt or anything, it was just I could feel
8 liquid.

9 Q. As you came to, or as you began to realise what had
10 happened and you became aware of your surroundings, were
11 you able to see whether or not you could move the lower
12 half of your body or whether you'd received any injuries
13 to your hips or your legs?

14 A. I remember -- because I go gym every day at lunch break
15 during work, I remembered I had a towel in my gym bag,
16 and I tried to reach for my gym bag, so I reached down
17 to my legs area, because I couldn't free my legs from
18 this area, I reached down, and I put my hand in
19 something uncomfortable, but I couldn't find my bag.

20 Q. What was it that you put your hand in?

21 A. I don't know, because the lady -- there was a lady
22 sitting both feet on the chairs to the right of me,
23 probably around the area of 94, a small petite lady, and
24 she just wiped my hand with -- I'm not sure what she
25 wiped it with, a cloth, T-shirt, whatever, told me not

1 to look.

2 Q. You mentioned a few moments ago that you thought that
3 your leg was trapped.

4 A. It was.

5 Q. Were you able to work out why your leg was trapped?

6 A. It had people slumped on top of me, a lady in
7 particular.

8 Q. Could you see anything of that lady?

9 A. How do you mean?

10 Q. Was she moving?

11 A. No, she wasn't moving.

12 Q. Was she lying on the carriage floor across your feet or
13 was she lying across your legs and partly on or off the
14 seats?

15 A. Her more upper body was on my legs area. Her head and
16 her shoulder was on my leg area and then her feet was
17 towards the centre of the carriage, if that makes sense.
18 So she was lying across me.

19 Q. So she was across the lower part of your body?

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. Is that a different lady from the lady who was on your
22 right?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. The lady who was across your lower half, do you
25 recollect whether at any stage she showed signs of

1 movement or signs of being alive?

2 A. She had no movement. Her eyes was open, not blinking,
3 grit and stuff all over her face, almost like someone
4 had been electric shocked. She just was, you know, no
5 movement.

6 Q. Because she was across the lower half of your body, did
7 you touch her, either to move her or to see whether she
8 was alive?

9 A. Both.

10 Q. Having touched her, was that why you then concluded that
11 she was plainly dead?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Can you help us -- I appreciate it's very difficult --
14 with a description of that lady, whether she was black
15 or white or in relation to her hair colour or her
16 clothing?

17 A. Well, I had some counselling after, because obviously
18 I kept seeing this person in my head, and what I recall
19 from her is her hair wasn't long, it was short, wavy,
20 I'm not sure if it was grey or white because of the
21 soot, but it was a dusty colour. She was a white lady
22 and I would say late 40s, possibly early 50s.

23 Q. Thank you. Were you able to free your leg?

24 A. No, I couldn't, I couldn't move it.

25 Q. How were you able to move out of the seat in the end?

1 A. No, I had to stay, because there was lots of people
2 slumped on top of people, there was another person just
3 slightly more to the right of me which -- I asked his
4 name, he said it was Paul, but he was in shock.

5 Q. Was Paul somebody who you were able to see had severe
6 injuries to his leg?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. You describe, in fact, in your statement, how you could
9 see the bone in one of his legs.

10 A. Yes.

11 Q. He was alive. Was the lady on your right-hand side, the
12 lady whom you first described, also alive?

13 A. Yes, she was -- I think she was oriental-style, very
14 small, petite, she didn't say a word at all on the
15 carriage, she just sat there. I asked if she was okay,
16 she just raised her eyebrows, looked, didn't reply, but
17 she -- both feet was on the seat and her bottom, if you
18 like, was on where you would -- where your shoulders
19 would be at the back of the seat. So she was off the
20 floor.

21 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Did I get this down wrongly?
22 I thought you said earlier "She wiped my head with
23 a cloth", that's that lady?

24 A. That's that lady, yes.

25 MR KEITH: Thank you, my Lady. Yes. We know you were

1 spoken to recently by members of the Inquest team, that
2 you provided a further witness statement, perhaps to
3 them or to the police, in October. You gave a little
4 bit more information about one of the ladies around you.
5 One of them you described how you held her hand
6 because she put her hand out. You managed to put her
7 hand on the railing to steady her, and you asked if she
8 was okay, but she was unable to talk. Is that the lady,
9 again, on your right-hand side?

10 A. No.

11 Q. Was that somebody else, then, a third person?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. Where was she?

14 A. She was -- can you see where 90 is on the diagram?

15 Q. Yes.

16 A. There would have been a glass there where passengers can
17 lean on, and then there would be a railing in front of
18 that glass; yes?

19 Q. Yes.

20 A. She -- her legs was on the side of the middle of the
21 carriage and then her upper body was slumped on the
22 chair where 90 was.

23 Q. Although she was unable to talk, because you knew that
24 she had been able to move her hand and you lifted her
25 hand, did she appear to you, of course, to be alive?

1 A. Yes, she was just shaking, just shaking constantly, just
2 shaking.

3 Q. Those are then the people around you. Do you recall
4 somebody shouting for Paul, the man who had the severe
5 leg injury, the male?

6 A. I can't recollect.

7 Q. All right. Could you see further down towards the
8 location of the bomb and whether or not there were other
9 people lying on the floor of the carriage?

10 A. To be honest, I tried not to look around the area
11 because there were just like lots of bags or footwear
12 or -- I didn't look -- I didn't look too deep. Smoke
13 started filling, vision was blurry, I had the gash to my
14 eye so I was squinting with one eye a little bit. My
15 vision was a bit ...

16 Q. Did somebody enter the carriage or come down the
17 carriage rather, calling out if people were all right?

18 A. Yes.

19 Q. Did you see that person?

20 A. Yes, but --

21 Q. Did you just hear them?

22 A. I could see them because, from the D7 door area, some
23 people, two people, a black person, which I think was
24 the guy that first gave evidence, I think another white
25 person, they were walking over people and I shouted out,

1 you know, "You're walking on people", kind of thing,
2 because they was trying to get through the carriage.

3 Q. Did you see them get down the carriage and through?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. Did they pass you as they did so?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. Did you call out to them to stop or to help you?

8 A. I said, "You're walking on people", because there was
9 lots of people just moaning. Even the person with the
10 amputated leg, there was a lady underneath him, you
11 know, and I was worried that she could lose -- she could
12 die through suffocation, so I said, "You're leaning --
13 you're on top of someone". He was just looking around,
14 not saying nothing, he was obviously in shock. Then
15 eventually he sort of shuffled himself over.

16 Q. Was the lady who was underneath the gentleman, Paul,
17 with a severe leg injury, moving or showing signs of
18 life as far as you could tell?

19 A. She was obviously alive but very weak, but I could not
20 tell you for the life of me what she looked like
21 underneath all of that.

22 Q. What was it that made you think that she was alive?

23 A. Because her hand was reaching out, she was trying to
24 nudge the person with the amputated leg off of her, but
25 that person was in pure shock, so he couldn't, you know,

1 feel someone's trying to nudge him to move over or to
2 move, and I could see that because I was at 92.

3 Q. Able to see down?

4 A. I was able to see right in front of me all the people
5 slumped in the middle area.

6 Q. Do you recollect a person we know to be the driver
7 appearing at the door of the driver's cab at the other
8 end of the carriage with a torch?

9 A. I recollect the driver coming in the area of D5 with
10 a torch.

11 Q. D5 is towards the middle of the carriage, in fact
12 adjacent to the location of the bomb.

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. Do you think that the man with the torch was that far up
15 the carriage or was he nearer the driver's cab at the
16 far left?

17 A. I don't know, you know, because for me, where I was, no,
18 I think he was actually by the double doors D5 with
19 a torch, and he was just shining it around, and was
20 a bit in shock and said, "Help is on its way", and then
21 he left to go back up to the other end of the carriage,
22 driver's end.

23 Q. Did people pass items of clothing, towels and the like,
24 down the carriage to the people who were injured to see
25 whether or not they could use them to bind their wounds?

1 A. Not at first. Everybody was sort of just -- there was
2 a lot of people screaming and then we heard -- well,
3 I heard -- we all heard, in fact, another train from
4 another line, so everybody started screaming again. At
5 that point, I thought -- I accepted death, I just curled
6 up, because we thought the signals wouldn't have gone up
7 in time, it was going to crash into this train.
8 After that had settled, someone started passing
9 sanitary towels down, and I took one and put it to the
10 left of my face.

11 Q. It's very difficult, I'm sure, to say, but can you give
12 us some estimate or sense of how much time passed while
13 you were still trapped in your seat?

14 A. From when?

15 Q. From the point of the explosion to when you were able to
16 move out?

17 A. About an hour. 50 minutes, an hour, something like
18 that.

19 Q. Tell us, please, how you were able to get out of your
20 seat.

21 A. How I was able to get out of my seat? Well, firemen
22 came through the D7 door, two of them I remember in
23 particular. One was in shock, sort of dropped to his
24 knee, sort of in shock, and the other one behind him
25 shook him.

1 Q. They came from your right-hand side?

2 A. Yes.

3 Q. Is it possible that they came down the end door, through

4 the interconnecting door to the second carriage, rather

5 than inside -- from outside the carriage through

6 door D7?

7 A. No, I'm not saying they came, I'm just describing the

8 area --

9 Q. Sorry, from the right-hand side?

10 A. From the right-hand, D7 area.

11 Q. My apologies, I understand.

12 A. But the doors connecting to the second carriage, that's

13 what I meant, sorry.

14 Q. What did they do when they arrived, could you see?

15 A. One was in shock a little bit, nothing too crazy,

16 because obviously for the scene he saw, and then they

17 shouted out for people that can move, the walking, to

18 leave, everybody started scurraging through the seats,

19 you know, in sort of panic, and then they started

20 helping people towards nearer their end first, as they

21 walked down.

22 Q. Did a substantial number of people, the walking wounded,

23 manage to get to the end of your carriage near that

24 interconnecting door?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Did that take some time for people to be able to
2 struggle up and then along the carriage and out?

3 A. No, because, as soon as people saw there was help,
4 everybody that could move would physically move, so that
5 happened pretty quick, yes.

6 Q. Could you move?

7 A. I couldn't move at the time, I still had people slumped
8 on me and that lady in particular.

9 Q. So what happened to you?

10 A. As they came down, they leaned the lady up to sort of
11 maybe to the right. I was able to squeeze my leg out,
12 left one trainer down there, and I was able to leave
13 over the seats on my side of the seats and on to the
14 tracks, well, through the second carriage then onto the
15 track.

16 Q. Out of the side of the carriage?

17 A. Out the side of the carriage, yes.

18 Q. Was there anything to suggest in all the time that you
19 were trapped in your seat, that the lady lying across
20 the lower part of your body, was alive at all?

21 A. No, I believe she was dead, unfortunately.

22 Q. You, yourself, suffered damage to your spine and to your
23 hip. How were you able to get through the carriage and
24 then out of the side of the carriage?

25 A. Through the help of the firemen.

1 Q. So they helped you by lifting you or supporting you as
2 you moved along the train?

3 A. Yes, two helped me through to the carriage and I met
4 somebody who I work with, her son and her, and then he
5 took over from one of the firemen and then the other one
6 that was -- because there were two of them originally,
7 the other one went back in to the carriage, and then
8 I had help from a colleague's son and the fireman, sort
9 of like, if you like, arms over both of them, through
10 the carriage on to the tracks, and then I was met by
11 more help at the platform, which I had to be lifted to
12 the platform carefully.

13 Q. Then do you recall how you managed to make it to the
14 ground level at the station?

15 A. Yes, up the escalators and passengers were leaving with
16 shock, you know, complete shock.

17 Q. Do you have any idea of the time at which you emerged at
18 ground level at the station? We know that you were
19 subsequently taken by ambulance to Whittington Hospital,
20 but either from people telling you or from seeing your
21 watch, do you know what time you might have emerged at
22 ground level?

23 A. Maybe near -- I was -- I reached ground level possibly
24 near 10.00, maybe 9.50. No, sorry, it couldn't have
25 been 9.50.

1 Q. If you can't say, don't worry.

2 A. I'm not sure, to be honest, but I made one phone call,
3 I was definitely one of the last to leave King's Cross
4 as the injured, there was no one outside of the station,
5 the ribbons, the streets were clear, I felt like I was
6 on the platform for a very long time, to be honest.

7 Q. Once you had been taken off the train and you'd been
8 taken to the platform, you'd been lifted onto the
9 platform as you've described, were you then -- did you
10 then remain on the platform for quite some time before
11 being taken up the escalators?

12 A. Sorry, when I say I was there for some time, I mean up
13 the escalators, on the floor at King's Cross at the top.

14 Q. I understand.

15 A. I had a -- they put a silver blanket round me, I was
16 with the person, Simon, he was just telling me to be
17 calm, be calm, and, you know, I was in shock, we still
18 had the sanitary towel on my head, and saw loads of
19 sniffer dogs.

20 Q. Simon was the son of the lady with whom you worked?

21 A. Anne's son, yes, Simon.

22 Q. Then I think you were treated in hospital for three or
23 four days for your injuries?

24 A. Yes.

25 MR KEITH: Thank you very much. Will you please stay there,

1 because there may be some further questions for you from
2 my learned friends?

3 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Mr Coltart?

4 Questions by MR COLTART

5 MR COLTART: Only a few questions, if I may. I represent
6 some of the bereaved families from King's Cross. Can we
7 just get the plan of the carriage back up on the screen,
8 please, for a moment or two?

9 I just want to ask you a few further questions about
10 the lady who was effectively lying across your lap, if
11 I've understood that properly. You said that she was
12 about late 40s, as far as you could tell, and that she
13 had wavy hair, dark, possibly grey. Is that the
14 description which you gave?

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Are you able to help us -- I appreciate this is terribly
17 difficult, but are you able to help us at all with her
18 height?

19 A. No, I could guess, but I can't be sure, no.

20 Q. Was she particularly small or particularly tall or was
21 she just of average height?

22 A. Average height, I would say.

23 Q. What about her build, are you able to help us at all
24 with her build? Was she particularly skinny,
25 particularly fat, was she somewhere again of average

1 build?

2 A. Of average. She was -- she wasn't overly big or -- she
3 wasn't very wiry. She was of average build, I believe.

4 Q. Can you remember how long her hair was, what sort of
5 length?

6 A. It would be probably just past her ears. It wasn't long
7 at all, just wavy from what I remember.

8 Q. Have I understood this correctly, she was alive when she
9 first landed on you, as it were, but she appeared to
10 pass away after that point, or was she, as far as you
11 could tell, dead from the moment that she arrived on
12 you?

13 A. From the moment she was arrived on me.

14 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: I think too, Mr Coltart, when
15 Mr Akarele said grey hair, he thought that might be the
16 dust.

17 MR COLTART: Yes.

18 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: So we don't know the colour of her
19 hair, I think.

20 MR COLTART: Yes, thank you, I respectfully agree.

21 A. It wasn't blond for sure, but it would be a dark hair or
22 grey hair, I'm not sure.

23 Q. She was presumably, then, lying on you for some
24 considerable period of time before you came to move off
25 from the carriage yourself?

1 A. Yes.

2 Q. Are we right in thinking that throughout that period she
3 exhibited no signs of life at all?

4 A. No signs of life at all.

5 Q. Thank you. Can I just ask you, then, about one other
6 lady?

7 You've given a description of someone who appeared
8 to be lying underneath the person with the amputated or
9 severely injured leg. Just looking at the plan there
10 for a moment, are you able to pinpoint where you think
11 this lady was who was lying underneath that man?

12 A. Round 93, 95. But the legs of that person obviously, on
13 the floor, in the middle area of the carriage.

14 Q. Yes. I think you mentioned that at one point you saw
15 her hand?

16 A. Yes.

17 Q. Were you able to see anything else of that person lying
18 on the floor?

19 A. No, not at all. There were loads of people slumped on
20 top of each other.

21 Q. So there were loads of people slumped on top of each
22 other. In order to gain access or proper access to that
23 lady lying on the floor, it would have been necessary,
24 presumably, to move some of those other people out of
25 the way?

1 A. Definitely, yes.

2 Q. When she lifted up her hand, were you able to see --
3 again, I appreciate this is terribly difficult -- what
4 colour her skin was, whether she was a white woman,
5 a black woman, or something else?

6 A. It would be white lady.

7 Q. She was a white lady?

8 A. Yes.

9 Q. You heard her cry out, I think you said, in a weak
10 voice, at the time when the other men were rather
11 trampling over the people in that part of the carriage.
12 Did you ever hear any other noise from her at any
13 other time when you were sat there?

14 A. There were just moans everywhere. Of her, that person
15 in particular, it was just moaning of someone trying to
16 nudge -- because they couldn't breathe, and I was just
17 worried any second late, you know, she could die from
18 not being able to breathe. So I was explaining -- I was
19 trying to say, "You're on top of someone, you're on top
20 of someone," to the guy with the amputated leg, and he
21 was just staring gangly around, obviously in shock, and
22 eventually, he just shuffled over, just slightly moved,
23 and it was enabled for her to put her hand out, but
24 I couldn't reach over to where I was at 92.

25 Q. At the time that you came to leave the carriage, was she

1 still in that same position underneath the guy with the
2 amputated leg?

3 A. I don't recall, I can't recollect any of that, to be
4 honest.

5 MR COLTART: Thank you very much for your help.

6 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Mr Patterson?

7 Questions by MR PATTERSON

8 MR PATTERSON: Just a few matters, if I may, please.

9 First of all, I think you said, Mr Akarele, that it
10 was about 50 minutes to an hour before you were able to
11 leave the carriage. Is that right?

12 A. Yes.

13 Q. In all that time, the only reference you've made to any
14 paramedics or emergency responders of any kind were the
15 two members of the Fire Brigade who came from the
16 direction of the door and from the direction of carriage
17 number 2.

18 A. Correct, yes.

19 Q. So is that right, that you don't recall seeing any first
20 aiders or any paramedics before you left carriage
21 number 1?

22 A. No, I don't recall.

23 Q. As you exited the train and went along the track and
24 towards the railway -- the Underground station, did you
25 see any paramedics arriving as you were leaving the

1 train?

2 A. I was just walking past lots of people but none that
3 stood out. I just remember the guys in the all-in-one
4 jumpsuits and their helmets, sort of firemen helmets,
5 I believe.

6 Q. So you remember firemen?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. One other matter, please. You referred to an Asian man
9 who you think might have been Jermaine Lindsay.

10 A. No, the Asian man was somebody else. Two different
11 people.

12 Q. I'm corrected by Mr Keith. Let's deal with it in this
13 way. You think that you saw Jermaine Lindsay, do you?

14 A. Yes, for a brief --

15 Q. If I understand accurately, you were suggesting that you
16 saw him around about position 82.

17 A. Yes, leaning on the glass with a bag on the floor by his
18 legs. In the morning, obviously, everybody's generally
19 in that time of the morning with shirts and ties and
20 suit. A fellow black man, I just -- if you catch eye
21 contact, generally, you just nod your head to say, you
22 know, "You're all right", kind of thing. He stared
23 straight back.

24 Next thing you know, I saw that there was a seat,
25 I quickly rushed to the seat and I beat someone for the

1 seat, which also affected me as well.

2 Q. If I understand what you were saying accurately, you're
3 not certain that it was Lindsay.

4 A. Not 100 per cent, no.

5 Q. So you are describing somebody who was Afro-Caribbean in
6 appearance?

7 A. Correct. Big.

8 Q. In terms of clothing, what kind of clothing was he
9 wearing?

10 A. Like a T-shirt style, yellow or olive green, something
11 that stood out. It wasn't a shirt or tie attire at all.

12 Q. So a yellow or green T-shirt?

13 A. Yellow or green T-shirt, kind of thing.

14 Q. Something quite distinctive?

15 A. Yeah, a big anorak, kind of a rucksack.

16 Q. Because we know from CCTV recordings of his movements
17 through the Thameslink tunnel that he was wearing a navy
18 blue, dark, sort of shell-suit-type jacket.

19 A. Okay.

20 Q. The person that you saw didn't seem to be dressed like
21 that. Is that correct?

22 A. I don't recall that, no.

23 Q. We know that the person who was seen on the CCTV clearly
24 identified as Jermaine Lindsay had a baseball cap on.

25 A. Yes, I definitely didn't see a baseball cap.

1 Q. You didn't see a baseball cap?

2 A. No.

3 Q. That area, please, around the double doors, I think the
4 diagram is on the screen still, so the double doors D5
5 and D6, are you able to assist us at all with whether
6 there were any signs of life in that area in the period
7 after the explosion?

8 A. I don't recall that at all, sorry.

9 Q. I think you said at one stage that you didn't look too
10 closely in that area. Is that right?

11 A. I was squinting from the left side of my eye, so
12 I didn't really look too much, I was trying not to look
13 too much. At this point, I didn't know it was a bomb.
14 I just thought it was the engine that blew, I don't
15 know.

16 Q. You described a person called Paul who was on the floor
17 of the carriage with a serious leg injury and I think
18 you've indicated that he was round about positions 93
19 and 95.

20 A. Not up there, but in the middle area of that, yes.

21 Q. So perhaps in front of those seats?

22 A. In front of those seats.

23 Q. On the floor?

24 A. On the floor, yes.

25 Q. We heard evidence yesterday from a survivor called

1 Paul Mitchell, who explained that he was in that area,
2 who explained his leg injury, and he described that
3 right next to him was a person called Philip Beer and
4 how Philip Beer was talking to various women in that
5 area who were sitting on the seats.

6 Do you remember anything like that, a second person
7 on the floor next to Paul who was talking to passengers?

8 A. No, I just remember passengers -- some passengers
9 saying, you know, "Stay awake", that kind of stuff. But
10 I don't recall anybody in terms of visibility. I can
11 identify what they look like underneath Paul or near
12 Paul.

13 Q. So you can remember people talking about --

14 A. Yes, everybody was talking.

15 Q. -- staying awake and the like?

16 A. A few people had their mobile phone lights on, trying to
17 shine for extra light in, and stuff like that.

18 Q. I think you described that this person, Paul, was a --
19 you have yourself, Mr Akarele, at position 92.

20 A. Yes.

21 Q. You've explained that you think the police were wrong to
22 suggest that you were at 100 --

23 A. Yes, definitely.

24 Q. -- in this diagram. In fact, we will be hearing
25 evidence from a woman called Ms Hormigos, who states

1 that she was at seat 92.

2 A. Definitely not.

3 Q. So I wonder whether, in fact, you might be wrong about
4 your position?

5 A. 100 per cent not, I'm 100 per cent sure I was at 92
6 because of the person -- I stood on his toes -- at
7 number 90.

8 My injuries to the left of my eye was from the bomb
9 blast, from the middle of that carriage, and I had all
10 fragmentation coming from that side. If I was at 100,
11 I would have injuries to the right side of my face, and
12 the right side of my face can move freely.

13 MR PATTERSON: I see, thank you very much.

14 MR SAUNDERS: Nothing, thank you, my Lady.

15 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Any other questions?

16 Thank you very much, Mr Akarele. Looking at your
17 witness statement made soon after the event, like many
18 survivors, you suffered both psychological and physical
19 injuries. I do hope that by coming along to help me,
20 and to help the bereaved families, that we haven't put
21 back the course of your recovery. We're very grateful
22 to you.

23 A. Thank you.

24 MR KEITH: Thank you, my Lady.

25 May I invite to you call David Boyce.

1 MR DAVID RICHARD DONALD BOYCE (sworn)
2 Questions by MR KEITH
3 MR KEITH: Good morning, Mr Boyce.
4 A. Good afternoon.
5 Q. Could you give us your full name, please?
6 A. It's David Richard Donald Boyce.
7 Q. Mr Boyce, you heard what I said to the previous witness.
8 If you could assist us by keeping your voice as loud as
9 you can, I would be very much obliged.
10 A. Okay.
11 Q. Mr Boyce, you, in 2005, were the station supervisor,
12 were you not, at Russell Square?
13 A. I held the title of station supervisor. However, I was
14 not the station supervisor on duty at the station on
15 that day.
16 Q. I'd like to just start, please, if I may, by asking you
17 something about the duties of a station supervisor.
18 A. Okay.
19 Q. Could you look at your screen where we'll put up,
20 please, for you a document [TFL568-16] and 17 [TFL568-17], page 16
21 first.
22 This is an extract from the London Underground
23 Safety Case. You'll see in the bottom, there we go:
24 "Station supervisors."
25 There are then set out a number of functions. At

1 the bottom of the page, you will see the reference is
2 there to recording incidents for evidence in future
3 investigations. Then at the bottom:

4 "Coordinating the local response to emergency
5 situations, directing controlled evacuations and [over
6 the page] liaising with emergency services as
7 necessary."

8 So did you, as a station supervisor, have training
9 in those areas and in accordance with the functions of
10 a station supervisor?

11 A. Yes I did.

12 Q. So that we can get some understanding of where you are
13 in the organisation, can we have TFL648 [TFL648-1], please? You'll
14 see "Station supervisor" at the bottom left-hand corner
15 of that chart. You're responsible for managing customer
16 service assistant, station assistant, multifunctionals,
17 and the control room operator at the station, and you
18 report to a duty station manager?

19 A. That's correct.

20 Q. I also finally want to ask you, before asking you about
21 7 July, about emergency equipment kept in stations
22 because, as a station supervisor, you were responsible,
23 in general terms, for ensuring that the emergency
24 equipment is maintained, replaced when used, and kept
25 accessible, are you not?

1 A. Yes, I am.

2 Q. Could we have TFL41 [TFL41-1], and if you could enlarge it to
3 paragraphs 1.2, 1.4:
4 "Station supervisors must:
5 "Check daily that emergency equipment is easily
6 accessible and not obstructed.
7 "Make sure staff under their control know where
8 the ... equipment is and how to use it."
9 At 1.4, check that the emergency equipment is
10 checked and tested.
11 Over the page [TFL41-2], 3.2 and 3.3, you will see there's
12 a reference there to the keeping of a first aid box and,
13 at 3.3, to inspection of stretchers.
14 As we'll hear in due course from your evidence, you
15 went down back to the tunnel from Russell Square station
16 with a considerable amount of first aid equipment?
17 A. Not the first time. I didn't take the first aid
18 equipment down to the platform. I asked other people to
19 do it for me. By this point, I had already been on the
20 train and back again.
21 Q. This is much later, and I'm going to come on to it in
22 a moment.
23 A. Yes.
24 Q. But you record in your statement how you carried
25 a considerable amount of first aid equipment yourself,

1 along with your colleagues, to the train.

2 A. From the platform to the train, yes.

3 Q. From the platform to the train. Was it the first aid
4 equipment that you would associate normally with that
5 which is kept in a station under the supervision of the
6 station supervisor?

7 A. Yes.

8 Q. What does it consist of?

9 A. It would consist of the usual first aid equipment you
10 would have from things like bandages, plasters. What
11 you would normally find in a regular first aid box.
12 There would have been one in the supervisor's office and
13 in the ticket office as well.

14 Q. So when you carried first aid equipment to the train
15 with your colleagues, did you recognise it as the first
16 aid equipment that's normally kept in the station?

17 A. Yes, it's a bright orange box with a first aid sign on
18 it.

19 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Sorry, before we go on to what you
20 did and carried, looking at that organisational chart,
21 it's not the easiest thing to follow for those people
22 who aren't employed by London Underground. Is there any
23 way an outsider can tell the difference between station
24 supervisors, duty station managers, deputy station
25 managers?

1 A. It would normally be by their uniform. A station
2 supervisor would be wearing a white shirt, then, if they
3 were to wear a hat, it would have two bands around that
4 hat. A duty station manager, although they would also
5 be wearing a white shirt, they would have a three-band
6 hat and their uniform, I believe, is slightly darker as
7 well. On the day in question, I was not wearing
8 uniform.

9 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Thank you.

10 MR KEITH: Going back to your first answer, then, you were
11 a station supervisor, but not on duty that day as
12 a station supervisor. Is that right?

13 A. Yes.

14 Q. What duties were you performing that morning?

15 A. It sounds quite complicated. At the time, I had just
16 been -- well, promoted into a new role within
17 London Underground, and I was waiting to start my, what
18 they call the final stage of my training for that job.
19 I'd already completed the first sections up at our
20 training school to enable me to know what to do.

21 On the day in question, while I was waiting for my
22 job, I'd already been released -- or my job title had
23 been released by the Russell Square group and a new
24 supervisor to replace me.

25 On the day in question, I was working for the group

1 station manager, working on paperwork, safety-related
2 information. I was also working for another gentleman
3 to help me prepare for my new job which was based in
4 South Kensington.

5 Q. What was that new job for the record?

6 A. My new job that I do now is a service controller on the
7 Piccadilly Line.

8 Q. Is that the job that you had been training for in 2005?

9 A. That's correct.

10 Q. A service controller. But you appeared at
11 Russell Square station in the way that you describe, and
12 I think you started your shift at 8.30 in the morning.

13 Was there an office there that you went to?

14 A. There was. There's management offices above the
15 station, and that's where the duty station managers, the
16 group station manager and the admin staff are based.

17 I, myself, went into the duty station manager's
18 office to do some work on behalf of the group station
19 manager who wasn't there on the day and I was --

20 Q. Can I just pause you there and we'll see if we can find
21 the location of the office. Could we have [INQ10284-2],
22 please? Do you recognise there Russell Square station?

23 A. Yes, I do, and it is above the station. It's not
24 pictured there.

25 Q. It's not pictured there. Is that because it's in the

1 building above as opposed to the ground floor?

2 A. In this small picture on the right-hand side, you'll see
3 the round door above the station. Those windows are the
4 manager's offices above the station.

5 Q. Where you see that faint, circular motif?

6 A. That's correct.

7 Q. What was the first thing that occurred that morning that
8 was unusual?

9 A. The station supervisor on duty, a lady called Bosun,
10 came up to the duty station manager's office -- Bosun,
11 sorry, I believe was her nickname, I think it's Odubosun
12 or something like that.

13 Q. The name that we have for one of the duty station
14 managers is Bosun Odubela?

15 A. That's correct, she's the station supervisor.

16 Q. The station supervisor.

17 A. And she was the one on duty for that day, so she was the
18 registered station supervisor. She came up to the duty
19 manager's office saying that all three lifts had failed
20 in the shaft.

21 Now, this can happen. If all three lifts leave one
22 of the platform areas at the same time, they can fail.

23 It can also be a result of a possible power surge or
24 issue that may have occurred.

25 Q. What time was that, do you recall?

1 A. I believe it would have been about 8.50. I would --
2 without -- obviously, I'm estimating here, but I believe
3 it would have been in conjunction with the same time
4 that power went off on the westbound tracks.

5 Q. We'll come in a moment to how you knew that the power
6 had gone off, but certainly the first you appreciated
7 something was wrong, was her coming in?

8 A. That was the first thing that would make you wonder
9 what's the situation for all three to fail.

10 Q. So did you go to the machine room?

11 A. That's correct.

12 Q. What did you do?

13 A. I restarted all three lifts.

14 Q. By resetting the circuit breakers, you cured the
15 problem. Were you able to check that the lifts were
16 actually working still --

17 A. Yes.

18 Q. -- after that?

19 A. From the machine room, we were able to bring the lifts
20 to the upper platform -- to the upper level ticket hall.
21 We managed to release all the passengers from all three
22 lifts.

23 Q. Because some had been trapped in the lifts when the
24 lifts had stopped?

25 A. That's correct. Myself and Gary Stephens then went to

1 the ticket hall area to make sure that everyone was
2 okay.

3 Q. Is Gary Stephens the duty station manager?

4 A. That's correct.

5 Q. I'm sorry. Yes, please continue.

6 A. When we got to the ticket hall area, there was one
7 gentleman -- I've no idea what he looks like -- turned
8 round and said that he heard a loud bang in the platform
9 area. Another customer then turned round and said they
10 heard a loud bang as well, separate to this gentleman.

11 Now, that doesn't sound right, of course. So myself and
12 Gary Stephens made our way down to the platform.

13 First of all, we went to the -- I think we went to
14 the east first, but then we went over to the westbound
15 and we saw that the tunnel lights were on.

16 Q. Why had you gone to the east first and then the
17 westbound?

18 A. Because no one had said to us where it was, and then
19 I think it was down near the lower concourse area where
20 the lifts would have stopped, where the trains were,
21 someone said on the westbound they heard something in
22 the tunnel towards King's Cross.

23 Q. So you checked both tunnels, east first, then west?

24 A. I looked on to the eastbound platform, but I was then
25 made aware that the westbound was where they could hear

1 the noise.

2 Q. How could you tell that the traction current was off?

3 A. The tunnel lights were on. Now, that does not indicate
4 that power is off to the tracks. I contacted the
5 service manager -- the duty operations manager, as he
6 was called at the time -- and explained the situation;
7 reports that there was a loud bang in the tunnel and
8 what to do. This gentleman had asked me to check for
9 any signs of damage or debris within the platform area
10 so obviously not to access the track, but to check from
11 the platform. I did that, and couldn't see anything at
12 all.

13 Q. In your statement, you refer to contacting the line
14 controller at Earl's Court.

15 A. Yes.

16 Q. Is that the same place as where the duty operations
17 manager is or not?

18 A. That's correct, that would have been in the same room.

19 Q. Could we have, please, [TFL657-2]? At 08.56, there is an
20 entry in the log, I think it's the Piccadilly Line log,

21 08.56:

22 "Heavy smoke seen on CCTV."

23 That's a reference to King's Cross, as you'll see
24 from the next line down. Then it says:

25 "Also report of loud bang heard on Russell Square

1 westbound platform. No damage to platform area. No
2 smoke or arcing. W331 [that's set 331] stalled over
3 crossover ..."

4 That's the tunnel connecting the west and the
5 eastbound lines, is it not?

6 A. Yes.

7 Q. "... leaving King's Cross."

8 Does it seem to you that that reflects the phone
9 call that you made because it refers to the taking place
10 of a loud bang and no damage to the platform area?

11 A. Yes, that would.

12 Q. Did you call once or twice because of their request that
13 you check whether there was debris, or was that the
14 single call that you made, do you think?

15 A. I don't remember if I made a second call at that time.

16 Q. Thank you very much. We know from Transport for London
17 documents, documents in the possession of
18 London Underground, that the emergency plan advises you
19 that, having tried to assess an emergency situation that
20 is developing, you should always contact the line
21 controller.

22 A. That's correct.

23 Q. Is that why you made that phone call to speak to, as
24 you've described, the duty operations manager?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Having checked for damage and debris, what did you do?

2 A. I couldn't see anything untoward, and something just
3 didn't quite feel right, so I had another look down the
4 tunnel towards the King's Cross end. As I was looking
5 down the tunnel, I could see a dim torch coming round
6 the bend and what looked like light reflecting off
7 a high visibility jacket.

8 After I saw that, I said to Gary Stephens

9 "Something's not right". I jumped down onto the track.

10 Q. Because Gary Stephens had followed you down to the
11 platform?

12 A. That's correct, he was on the platform with me.

13 I jumped down onto the track, had made my way towards
14 this light, and to see what was going on. I could see
15 shadows behind this jacket as well.

16 Q. Before you went down the tunnel towards the light, did
17 you speak to anybody else on the platform, either
18 Mr Stephens or anybody else, to ask them to get help
19 because of what you had initially seen from the
20 platform?

21 A. I didn't. The first thing I did was saw the light, said
22 that there was something not right here, and probably
23 adrenaline kicked in and I made my way down. My
24 presumption would have been that someone would have
25 called them, like Gary, after he had seen the people

1 coming towards the platform.

2 Q. As you approached the group, could you see more of who
3 they were?

4 A. Yes, I could. I could see who I knew was Ray Wright at
5 the time. I asked him what had happened and what the
6 problem was. He said that he believed something was
7 wrong with a motor or something along those lines, but
8 he never mentioned any words of an explosion of the
9 magnitude that we now know it was.

10 I told him that Russell Square station was very
11 close by and that he could see the platform, and that we
12 were going to get help on the way.

13 I went past him towards the train and there was
14 quite a few walking wounded behind him. I would say
15 somewhere in the range of 50 to 70, possibly more.
16 I couldn't give you an estimate.

17 Q. Just pausing there, how did you know to tell him that
18 there was help on the way? Was that because of your
19 phone call to the duty operations manager?

20 A. That's correct.

21 Q. We know, Mr Boyce, that there was a phone call or
22 a message from Ms Odubela, the station supervisor that
23 morning, at 09.13.06. Perhaps we could have that on the
24 screen, [BTP168-43].

25 "Hello, police emergency.

1 "Hello, Russell Square supervisor here.
2 "Which station, sorry?
3 "We need the ambulance, please. We need the
4 ambulance services, please.
5 "What do you need the ambulance for, madam?
6 "There was a big bang in the tunnel.
7 "I really can't hear you, sorry."
8 Then over the page [BTP168-44], the conversation continues with
9 her referring to "a lot of people injured in the tunnel"
10 and she emphasises and re-emphasises that she is at
11 Russell Square. A bit further down, please:
12 "We need the ambulance for the people, I don't know
13 how many people are there, but there is a lot of people
14 apparently injured so they need the emergency services
15 immediately."
16 Then finally over the page [BTP168-45], please:
17 "... 26, 200 people there's come up the lift now,
18 a lot of them are covered in -- a lot of them are
19 covered in all kinds of things. There are some
20 apparently injured down in the tunnel.
21 "Okay. Can I take your first name, please.
22 "Odubela."
23 Your first witness statement you gave to the
24 Metropolitan Police about a year and a half after the
25 events of 7 July, records how, before you jumped down

1 onto the track, you told the DSM, the duty station
2 manager, who may have been this lady Odubela, to stay on
3 the platform and call the emergency services, hence my
4 question to you earlier.

5 A. That was Gary Stephens, who I spoke -- said that to.

6 Q. So you spoke to Gary Stephens. Did you speak to
7 Gary Stephens before you went down into the tunnel or
8 after?

9 A. Yes, he was with me while I was looking for signs of
10 damage.

11 Q. Right.

12 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Sorry, pausing there, in which case
13 I'm afraid I don't follow what it was about your
14 conversation with the duty operations manager that led
15 you to think emergency services were on their way, which
16 is what you said to Mr Keith earlier.

17 A. If I came across as that, then I apologise. What I was
18 trying to say is that I had asked Gary Stephens to call
19 the emergency services, once I'd seen the people in the
20 tunnel.

21 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: So there was nothing in your speaking
22 to the duty operations manager or the line controller
23 that led you to think emergency services were on their
24 way?

25 A. Sorry, no. I know that they knew something was wrong,

1 but we didn't -- I didn't ask for emergency services at
2 the time.

3 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Thank you.

4 MR KEITH: Thank you, my Lady. That's why I asked you
5 earlier whether or not you'd made a call or asked
6 someone to make a call before you went down to the
7 tunnel, because obviously there is that call there.
8 Does it seem, then, that you spoke to Gary Stephens
9 and Gary Stephens spoke to the station supervisor,
10 Ms Odubela, who then made that call, as you've just
11 seen?

12 A. I should have hoped so, yes.

13 Q. I interrupted the flow of your account. You were in the
14 tunnel. You saw the group of people.

15 A. That's correct. I saw the group of people. One or two
16 of them said to me, "What's going on?" I then said to
17 them, "The station is just round the corner" because
18 they were far back enough round the bend to not see the
19 station. I told them the station was close by and to,
20 "Carry on walking in a line and you'll get to the
21 station soon".

22 I then made my way towards the train bypassing all
23 these people who were the walking wounded.

24 Q. Did you see somebody you recognised as you approached
25 the train?

1 A. As I approached the train, I saw who I now know to be
2 Tom Nairn.

3 Q. You didn't know him then to be the driver? You know him
4 now?

5 A. No, I thought the -- at first, I thought Ray Wright was
6 the driver. So I got to the train and I saw Tom Nairn,
7 he explained to me who he was and that the other person
8 was another driver in the cab with him at the time.

9 Q. Was Mr Nairn with a passenger who was visibly injured?

10 A. That's correct. At the front of -- off the train, on
11 the track, in front of the emergency ladder, propped up
12 against the wall. I believe the gentleman had lost part
13 of his leg, but I couldn't tell you which foot or which
14 side.

15 MR KEITH: That is, my Lady, from whom we heard,
16 Paul Glennerster.

17 Were you able to see that he'd received some sort of
18 first aid by way of a tourniquet?

19 A. I could see what possibly looked like a tourniquet, but
20 the smoke was very, very heavy. At one point, it was
21 difficult to see that far in front of me. The smoke
22 begun to dissipate when I got to the train, but before
23 that, it was quite bad.

24 Q. Were there any other passengers sitting next to this
25 gentleman with the severely injured leg also visibly

1 injured?

2 A. What I saw was there was a woman sitting on the
3 emergency ladder, I couldn't tell you her name, I don't
4 know, and I asked Tom Nairn if he and this lady were
5 able to take -- who was Paul -- back towards the
6 station.

7 MR KEITH: My Lady, that lady we estimate to be
8 Julie Rowlinson, whose statement will be read later
9 today.

10 Did you see them depart down the track, or did you
11 go yourself on to the train before they left?

12 A. I saw them depart, and I was boarding the train at the
13 time.

14 Q. Tell us, please, about what you confronted as you
15 entered the carriage.

16 A. The first thing I did was to look at the train cab --
17 sorry, before that, I'd asked Tom whether he'd tried to
18 contact the line controller, and he said he had tried
19 and failed. I looked --

20 Q. Did he tell you that he'd tried to use the TT telephone?

21 A. I'd asked him if he'd used it, and he said he tried to
22 and it didn't work. In my current job now I can
23 understand that's the case, but -- so when I looked in
24 the train cab, it was completely dead, there was no
25 power to it whatsoever, and there was no lighting inside

1 the first carriage.

2 Q. How could you see anything of the driver's cab in those
3 conditions?

4 A. The tunnel lights were on. Where I was standing there,
5 there was a tunnel light probably quite close, but one
6 of the lights, because they're evenly spaced apart,
7 I could see one of them went almost into the cab so
8 I could see from that.

9 Q. Did you have a torch yourself?

10 A. No, I didn't. I stepped through the J door, I believe
11 it is, and into the carriage itself. I could see that
12 all the windows were smashed, the doors were buckled,
13 the poles were buckled, all the ones that I could see
14 anyway. To the left-hand side, I believe there was
15 a dead woman. I checked for a pulse, couldn't feel one,
16 but obviously I'm not a doctor.

17 Q. Just pause there. Could you look, please, at the
18 diagram [INQ10283-10]?

19 This is a schematic diagram showing the first
20 carriage. The driver's door is, you can see, to the
21 left, so that is, of course, the door through which you
22 entered, the J door at the end.

23 The first person whom you saw, whom you described as
24 a lady who had passed away, can you tell us, please,
25 where you think she was by reference to this diagram, in

1 particular how far into the carriage she was?

2 A. I think she was around the 17 to 20 mark. Obviously,
3 I can't be certain, but that's where I believe she was,
4 but I saw her first before I moved on to the next
5 person.

6 Q. Is it possible that she was, in fact, at the next bank
7 of seats between the double doors D3 and D5?

8 A. It's -- it could be possible, yes.

9 Q. Obviously, this was an extraordinarily difficult scene
10 to be confronted by. It may, therefore, be that your
11 recollection of that first person whom you saw is
12 erroneous and she was further into the carriage. Does
13 that seem -- I don't want to make a suggestion if it's
14 not right.

15 A. It's possible.

16 Q. It's possible.

17 A. Obviously, I was running on adrenaline and, at that
18 stage, fear at the time, and I was just trying to do the
19 best I can.

20 Q. Tell us, please, how you were able to ascertain that she
21 had no sign of life. You checked for her pulse, you
22 said.

23 A. I checked for her pulse. I was a qualified first aider
24 with London Underground at the time, so I knew the
25 basics, but obviously I'm no doctor, I couldn't feel

1 anything, but that might have been my mistake, not
2 feeling it correctly.

3 Q. Was there anything about her that indicated that she was
4 showing signs of life?

5 A. Not that I could see.

6 Q. Any breathing or movement?

7 A. Not that I noticed.

8 Q. Could you say anything about the extent of her injuries?

9 A. Not really, no. Somebody grabbed my attention and
10 started talking to me, another injured person.

11 Q. Where was that injured person?

12 A. That person was to the right-hand side -- sorry, the
13 bottom side of the carriage, who I now know to be
14 Garri Hollness.

15 Q. From other evidence that my Lady will hear,
16 Garri Hollness was removed from the middle of the
17 carriage, so not the first bank of seats but the middle
18 of the carriage?

19 A. Okay, so I must have passed that, then.

20 Q. Was he then on your right-hand side opposite the lady
21 who had passed away?

22 A. Yes, he was.

23 Q. So you must therefore, if that's right, have been, then,
24 in the middle of the train?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. He had lost -- or he had suffered very severe injuries
2 to his legs. Was he lying on the seats or on the floor?

3 A. No, he was actually lying on top of the arm rests to
4 begin with. He told me that obviously he was very
5 uncomfortable, which he would have been, so I helped to
6 position him on to the seats themselves to make it more
7 comfortable. I helped him to raise his legs on to one
8 of the arm rests, and I put my hi-vi over them quite
9 tightly to try and help in any way I can, but also to
10 raise his legs above the level of his heart.

11 Q. So you used your hi-vi to make a rudimentary tourniquet
12 round the end of his legs?

13 A. It wasn't very tight, but it was enough to try and cover
14 and have some sort of possible tightness there.

15 He then told me that, you know, "I'm okay",
16 obviously I said to him that help was on the way, and it
17 was more of a trying to alleviate their tensions.

18 Q. Did you stay with him, or did you then try to continue
19 to see who else was in the vicinity of that gentleman?

20 A. I had a look at who else was there as well.

21 Q. Do you recollect anybody in particular being near him?

22 A. Yes, there was one lady who was lying on the floor,
23 I believe her name was Marie, she said her back was
24 hurting. She said her back was hurting. I had a brief
25 look at her and she said that she was okay to get up.

1 So I assisted her to her feet, but she had no shoes.

2 They must have been blown away or moved somehow.

3 I helped find her another pair that I just saw lying

4 around, and asked her if she was able enough to walk

5 back to the platform, which she said she was.

6 Q. In your statement, you record how, before you came

7 across Maria, you saw, on your left, two passengers who

8 appeared to have passed away, whom you checked, but in

9 relation to whom you were unable to see any signs of

10 breathing or pulse.

11 Was one of those two people -- do those two people

12 include the lady whom you've already described?

13 A. I don't think so, no.

14 Q. You don't think so. Were there other deceased

15 passengers, therefore, in the vicinity of Maria?

16 A. I know there were quite a few deceased passengers on the

17 train.

18 Q. You know that now?

19 A. I know that now, but also at the time I could see what

20 looked like a pile of dead bodies lying on top of each

21 other as well, quite close to the blast nearer -- well,

22 I say between door 5 and maybe where seats 89 to 91

23 were.

24 Q. So very close to what you now know to be the location of

25 the bomb?

1 A. That's right, that's my recollection of it, yes.

2 Q. Were there any other passengers lying still and
3 motionless on the floor of the carriage between the
4 bomb site, which we know was between those two double
5 doors, and where the lady Maria and Mr Hollness were in
6 the middle of the train?

7 A. It's possible, but I don't remember.

8 Q. You don't specifically recollect other people lying in
9 that area?

10 A. Not off the top of my head, no.

11 Q. Were there any people lying motionless in that area of
12 the bomb whom you, yourself, checked for breathing or
13 a pulse?

14 A. There wasn't, no. After I'd dealt with the -- or helped
15 assist with people who I've already spoken about, there
16 was one other person that I did see, a girl with blond
17 hair in her mid-20s, and I explained that help was on
18 the way, but I knew at that stage that I didn't have the
19 equipment or the knowledge to help in any other way. It
20 was at that stage when I actually left the train to call
21 for more help.

22 Q. In your statement you were able to recollect the name or
23 the names of one person but you describe two further
24 people. There was a lady who you thought her name was
25 Lindsay. Is that the lady you've just described, the

1 blond lady?

2 A. I thought that was her name to begin with, but I was
3 since told that that was wrong by the families that I've
4 spoken to.

5 Q. Do you know, in fact, now, what her name was?

6 A. It's Sam, Samantha Badham.

7 Q. I'm going to come to that lady in a moment.

8 At the time, you describe how there was another
9 injured lady whose name she gave as Lindsay. Do you
10 recollect that?

11 A. I don't, to be honest. I know it's in my statement, but
12 it's been a while ago and I've been trying to forget
13 them.

14 Q. You also describe, again on this first visit to the
15 train, a black male in his late 20s who had a piece of
16 metal sticking through the bottom of his leg. Do you
17 recollect that?

18 A. I do recollect that. He was able to make his way to the
19 platform at Russell Square.

20 Q. Did you help him to remove the metal and help him to get
21 out of the train?

22 A. He'd done it himself.

23 Q. He pulled it out, in front of you?

24 A. Yes.

25 Q. Did you see him move down the carriage?

1 A. I -- I know he started to move, but my back was to him
2 at this point.

3 Q. Let me turn back, please, to the lady who you thought
4 was called Sam and whom you subsequently discovered you
5 think was called Sam Badham.

6 As you were in this area, could you hear screaming
7 or shouting coming from somewhere?

8 A. I heard -- most of the train was actually fairly quiet,
9 which was a bit of a shock. I thought I could hear some
10 sort of screaming from underneath the train, which
11 struck me as odd, but as I looked more to my right,
12 I could see a hand. I grabbed that hand and said that
13 everything was going to be okay and that help was on the
14 way. It was more about reassuring passengers.

15 Q. Where, by reference to the plan, do you think you were
16 when that hand reached out to you?

17 A. I think I was actually by double door -- well, D6.

18 Q. So adjacent to the bomb location. Could we have,
19 please, on the screen [INQ9938-2]?

20 This is a plan that you drew for the police
21 afterwards.

22 We can see there, in the bottom right-hand corner,
23 a number 7 appearing to indicate the location of
24 a person outside the carriage.

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Could you actually see somebody outside the carriage, or
2 is it possible that the person whose hand reached out to
3 you was concealed in the debris or the remains of the
4 seats adjacent to the bombsite?

5 A. It's quite possible. All I could see was a hand and
6 a small piece of wrist.

7 Q. You were unable to see the rest of that person's body?

8 A. That's correct.

9 Q. Did she respond to your assurance that help was on the
10 way?

11 A. Not really, no.

12 Q. Can you help us, please, by what you mean by that?

13 A. She just said, "Help me, help me". I tried to say
14 again, "Help is on the way", and that was pretty much
15 it. I said, "Look, I've got to go and get some more
16 help".

17 Q. The doors had been blown away by the force of the
18 explosion, had they not?

19 A. It looked like they had. They may have been parted by
20 other people to the sides to get more air, I don't know,
21 but the doors were there, but they were buckled.

22 Q. This was immediately adjacent to the bomb?

23 A. Yes.

24 Q. There was debris and mangled metal?

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. The doors had been blasted open in some way and the
2 tunnel wall was very close, was it not, to the edge of
3 the carriage?

4 A. That's correct.

5 Q. So is it possible that in that debris and in the, as
6 I say, the mangled wreckage, the person might not have
7 been actually outside the carriage but in the open
8 doorway?

9 A. It is possible, and there could have been debris over
10 the top of them. All I say is I saw a hand and a wrist.

11 Q. Having attempted to reassure that lady, did you then see
12 another young woman?

13 A. I don't remember.

14 Q. In your statement, you go on to describe a young lady
15 whose location you mark as point 8 on your plan.

16 A. Looking at that plan, I now know that obviously where
17 I've put the hole in the floor was wrong, but obviously
18 this was 19 months after it happened --

19 Q. Of course.

20 A. -- and I've been, you know, had one counselling session
21 and been trying to forget it ever since.

22 Q. Mr Boyce, I quite understand. The hole in the floor you
23 rightly say, of course, was between the two double doors
24 D5 and D6, not at the end.

25 A. Yes.

1 Q. Can you recollect anything, though, of the lady who you
2 marked down on the plan at point 8?

3 A. I know that there were people -- or what I remember to
4 be people, either lying or sitting in those sort of
5 areas, that didn't look conscious, but I also know that
6 the other side of that 9 is -- and closer towards the X
7 is, was a pile of bodies as well. I presumed that
8 everyone in that sort of area was dead and, because of
9 the hole and because of the bodies there, I couldn't get
10 over to them.

11 Q. Of course. You told us a few moments ago, however, that
12 you recall a young lady who gave her name as Sam. Which
13 of these people do you think that person was, if any of
14 them?

15 A. Well, to begin with, I actually thought that she would
16 have been in position 5, but obviously I know now that
17 to be wrong. I believe it would have been closer
18 towards, possibly, 12.

19 Q. Did you actually mark on the plan the lady you think was
20 called Sam?

21 A. I don't think I did, no.

22 Q. Do you actually remember -- I'm sorry to press you about
23 this, because my Lady has heard other evidence, and will
24 hear more evidence, as to the location of Sam Badham,
25 who was, in fact, found by three police officers and

1 paramedics near the crossover point between the east and
2 westbound tracks adjacent to carriage 4 of the train
3 when the train had finally come to a halt --

4 A. Really?

5 Q. -- and so wasn't, in fact, in this location of the
6 carriage.

7 So are you sure that you remember meeting someone in
8 the carriage who gave their name as Sam and who you
9 subsequently were told was Sam Badham?

10 A. I remember meeting a blond lady. She had lost one of
11 her ankles and she was one of the last people to be
12 removed from the train. I believe she said her name was
13 Sam, but there was about six or seven of us at the time,
14 police officers and other people, who helped carrying
15 her out on a blanket. If it wasn't Sam, then it would
16 have been somebody else, but that's who I thought it
17 was.

18 Q. In your statement recorded nearer the time you thought
19 that the person at position 5 was, in fact, called
20 Lindsay, and might it be that in the undoubted confusion
21 and in the many discussions that took place afterwards
22 you were erroneously informed that one of those people
23 was called Sam Badham, when, in fact, they may not have
24 been?

25 A. It's quite possible, yes. There were about eight of us

1 carrying this lady out and she was talking to all of us,
2 so it's possible.

3 Q. She was talking to you and she was conscious, therefore?

4 A. Yes.

5 Q. She was taken out of the train in the blanket?

6 A. That's right. She even joked, asking if we needed
7 a hand.

8 Q. You do in fact describe, I should say, in your
9 statement, how a person whom you thought then to be
10 Sam Badham was at position 8, but was a lady whom you
11 described as wearing a pink cardigan and we know, and
12 my Lady will hear evidence in due course, that
13 Sam Badham, when she was recovered from the location
14 that I've described near carriage 4 wasn't wearing
15 a pink cardigan. So it may be that, for all those
16 reasons, Mr Boyce, and in the confusion, the names have
17 got confused.

18 A. It's possible, yes.

19 Q. I forced you to digress into this other topic.

20 Can I bring you back, then, to what you did after you
21 had been through the carriage and seen all the people
22 whom you have described for us?

23 A. I realised that I couldn't do much more, with the fact
24 that I had no equipment with me whatsoever. I made my
25 way back through the driver's cab and onto the track.

1 At this point, Gary Stephens had just shown up on the
2 track.
3 I told him to remain here and to basically help calm
4 people down, just to let them know that there's someone
5 here and, you know, reassurance. I then made my way
6 back towards the station. When I got back to the
7 platform, the westbound platform, I contacted the line
8 controller and the British Transport Police.
9 Q. Can you recall in which order you called them?
10 A. I believe it was the British Transport Police first.
11 Q. Could we have on the screen [BTP168-57], please? This is
12 a call timed at 09.22.05:
13 "Transport police, good morning.
14 "Police emergency.
15 "Hi, I'm the duty manager, Russell Square station.
16 "Hi, I know you've just rung in."
17 You hadn't yourself?
18 A. No, that may have been -- at this point, there were
19 three duty managers on station.
20 Q. "Okay, it looks like the train's exploded, there's
21 serious loss of life."
22 This is your call, is it not?
23 A. I believe so, yes.
24 Q. Over the page [BTP168-58]:
25 "You say that you've got serious loss of life, you

1 say.

2 "We've got limbs severed, people dying."

3 You are informed by the controller:

4 "Okay, we've got people coming there all right,

5 thank you very much."

6 Did you also, as you've just told us, speak to the

7 line controller a few seconds later, and inform the line

8 controller that there had been a serious loss of limbs

9 and an explosion and loss of life?

10 A. That's correct.

11 Q. My Lady, we don't have a transcript of that call, but

12 it's plain from the audio recording, which is available,

13 that that is the content of that call.

14 Having made those calls, what did you do next?

15 A. I stayed on the platform area to begin with and I was

16 down near the -- what we call the tail wall of the

17 platform, basically near the tunnel mouth going towards

18 King's Cross.

19 At this point, I had -- several other people had

20 showed up and obviously we had station staff on the

21 platform. The four people that I remember the most that

22 came back into the tunnel with me were two gentlemen

23 from Network Rail and --

24 Q. Were they Derek Holmes and David Pape, according to your

25 witness statement?

1 A. That's correct. They came down and offered their
2 assistance. To begin with, I thought they were from the
3 Network Operations Centre, because they just said
4 "Network", and I think I must have blanked out the rest
5 of what they said, they were in hi-vis and seemed to
6 have an idea what have to do.

7 Q. Before you went back down to the train with those
8 gentlemen, did you take some steps to try to gather
9 bottles of water and the first aid kits of which we've
10 already spoken?

11 A. That's correct, I'd asked people from the station to
12 bring them down to us. They brought them down and
13 between me, those two gentlemen, shortly afterwards
14 showed up was two gentlemen from London Underground by
15 the name of Steve Charlick and Roger Seawood. They both
16 managed to make their way down to the platform as well.

17 Q. The equipment that you had, did it consist of the
18 equipment that you recognised as being the station
19 supervisor's equipment or were there -- was there more
20 equipment?

21 A. It just looked like first aid equipment to me and
22 obviously some water.

23 Q. You referred in your statement to there also being
24 stretchers and blankets. Were those the stretchers that
25 are kept in the station supervisor's office?

1 A. The -- I don't recall. I know there are stretchers
2 based in the supervisor's office, and I know there's
3 also some normally based on the platform, but I believe
4 they may have been used, but I actually didn't go
5 looking for them. I was rallying a group of people to
6 come back into the tunnel.

7 Q. Other people were bringing the equipment to you before
8 you went down?

9 A. That's correct. Then, after I turned round to these
10 gentlemen and said, "This is the situation", I then
11 remember one paramedic and a couple of firemen,
12 I believe it was, also showed up at the scene, probably
13 around the 9.45. I can't remember the exact time, but
14 it was a little bit of time after I made that call.

15 Q. Could we have on the screen [TFL657-2] again, please?

16 At 9.25, so three or four minutes after you'd made
17 the call to the British Transport Police and then to
18 your line controller, we can see there's an entry:

19 "DSM Boyce Russell Square ..."

20 Then it's very hard to read.

21 "An explosion has taken place ... first or second
22 car. There are many people dying and with multiple
23 injuries. Many limbs have been lost."

24 Although that's logged in at 09.25, which appears,
25 on the face of it, to be different to the time of the

1 call that you made, does it appear to you that that is
2 a record of the call that you'd made, which we've just
3 spoken of a few moments ago, to the line controller?

4 A. I would presume so. The gentleman that wrote that is
5 not the line controller, and the person I spoke to was,
6 and obviously I haven't seen their records, but I dare
7 say they probably would have noted the correct time.
8 This person would have written that information that
9 he'd received from the line controller.

10 Q. Quite so. So that seems to make sense. You didn't,
11 yourself, call again after you'd spoken to the line
12 controller?

13 A. No.

14 Q. Thank you. Having gathered all the equipment together
15 and in the presence or in the company of the other
16 managers whom you've mentioned, did you then go back
17 down the tunnel?

18 A. I did. We had a paramedic with us as well and I believe
19 two firemen, but I can't remember exactly.

20 Q. Do you know where the paramedic came from?

21 A. I don't know. He was one person on their own.

22 I explained the situation. I actually believe there was
23 a couple of police as well, but I -- it's quite hazy at
24 that stage, to be honest. I made my way back into the
25 tunnel, explained to them what the situation was and how

1 smoky and dusty it was on the -- in the tunnel as well.

2 Q. On the way to the train, did you see one of your
3 colleagues, Roy Byrne, walking back the other way?

4 A. Yes, I did.

5 Q. What did you tell him to do?

6 A. I think I told him to get more supplies.

7 Q. Did you consider that you had enough supplies and enough
8 paramedics -- you described one paramedic with you -- or
9 Fire Brigade to help you with what was obviously an
10 extraordinarily severe situation?

11 A. I think you can never have enough supplies, so I just
12 said, you know, "Get what you can".

13 When we eventually got back to the train, the
14 paramedic was off doing what they do best with triage
15 and checking people out. At this point, I pretty much
16 took a back seat with Gary Stephens and was just -- we
17 just done what we were told. We were told at this
18 point -- mostly, basically, what we did then was to help
19 stretcher people out of the train back onto the
20 platform.

21 Q. You must have gone back to the train after 9.22 because
22 that's the time that you made the call to the line
23 controller and the British Transport Police. How long
24 did it take to walk back to the train?

25 A. It felt like quite a long time. People had equipment

1 with them. A lot of people were unfamiliar with the
2 track. I myself was unfamiliar with -- I knew the
3 layout, but there could have been equipment lying around
4 in between the rails.

5 So we took our time getting there and, when we
6 eventually got there, obviously Gary Stephens was at the
7 front of the train talking to an injured passenger, and
8 I then helped the paramedic in terms of, you know,
9 shining torches for him and that sort of stuff that we'd
10 brought.

11 Q. Can you estimate for us what time you think you arrived
12 back at the train?

13 A. I would probably say it was closer, maybe, if not just
14 after 10.00, possibly.

15 Q. You took a back seat. Did there come a time when
16 Mr Byrne -- whom you've just described for us, went the
17 other way back to the station; you'd told him to get
18 more help -- reappeared at the train?

19 A. He did reappear and he had a lot more emergency services
20 with him.

21 Q. You prepared a report after these events -- [INQ9937-3],
22 please -- where, if you could enlarge the bottom third
23 of that section, you will see there:

24 "As Gary [Stephens] and I were trying to treat as
25 many people as possible, DSM Roy Byrne attended with

1 approximately 50 emergency staff who took over treating
2 the injured."

3 A. It probably was nowhere near that amount, but adrenaline
4 was running, and it was the very next day and I was
5 obviously still in a slight bit of shock.

6 Q. Of course. You were no doubt very grateful to see
7 a substantial number of emergency responders appear with
8 Mr Byrne?

9 A. That's correct.

10 Q. But you couldn't say now, and I suspect you couldn't say
11 then, exactly how many?

12 A. To begin with, I thought the train was about a mile and
13 a half away, when we all know that to be wrong, but it's
14 just what it felt like at the time.

15 Q. They boarded the train, did they not?

16 A. Yes, they did.

17 Q. Did you, yourself, go back into the first carriage?

18 A. Yes, I went back into the first carriage and I helped
19 the paramedic by shining a torch where he needed it
20 done.

21 Q. Did he move down through the carriage attending those
22 whom he could, or did he stay with one or two particular
23 casualties?

24 A. No, he attended people. He had to have been about 10,
25 15 seconds, maybe more per person, just to check in on

1 what they were like.

2 Q. Were you with him all the time as he did this?

3 A. Yes, I was.

4 Q. Did he check both the living and the dead?

5 A. I don't remember. He must have done, but I don't

6 remember.

7 Q. Can you help us with any specific recollections you may

8 have -- I'm sorry to press -- of the passengers who had

9 passed away in the middle of the carriage?

10 A. I'm afraid I don't know. I was concentrating on those

11 who were alive.

12 Q. Finally, did you assist in carrying out of the train the

13 lady whom you've earlier described as being placed in

14 a blanket and who spoke to you as you carried her out?

15 A. Yes, I did.

16 Q. Did you take her back to the platform and hand her over

17 to medical staff?

18 A. That's correct.

19 Q. Did you then return to the train for the third time?

20 A. No, I didn't. At this point, we were told by a police

21 officer that there was no one else to be rescued and

22 that the last living passenger was removed and that we

23 weren't to go back and it was now a crime scene.

24 Q. In your statement, you say, when you got back to the

25 train, you were told there is only one more person to be

1 carried out, but do we take it then you didn't actually
2 go back to the train?

3 A. No, I believe they were being carried out behind the
4 people -- the person that we were carrying out.

5 Q. Do you have any sense of the time at which you recall
6 the last casualty being brought out?

7 A. In my statement, I believe I said about 12.00. It may
8 be right but, again, time is -- I never even looked at
9 my watch at all or -- it could --

10 Q. We know from other evidence before my Lady that a HEMS
11 doctor -- Dr Kehoe -- ascertained that, at around 11.00,
12 there were no more living casualties on the train. Does
13 that seem to you to be about right, or can you not say?

14 A. It's possible but, as I said, the time was a bit blurry,
15 I'm sure you can imagine.

16 Q. May I conclude by asking you to confirm this, Mr Boyce,
17 that, for the assistance that you provided to the
18 passengers in that train set that you were awarded the
19 MBE in January 2006?

20 A. That's correct.

21 MR KEITH: Thank you very much. I have no further
22 questions.

23 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: I suspect we're going to have some
24 questions, Mr Coltart?

25 MR COLTART: I've only got a few, but I have got some.

1 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: I thought you might. I'm' afraid
2 we're going to have to break off for lunch now. Is that
3 going to be a problem for you?
4 A. No, that's okay.
5 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: In which case, please don't talk to
6 anybody about your evidence during lunch and we'll try
7 to complete you as soon as possible after we come back.
8 You're still on oath when you come back.
9 A. Thank you.
10 LADY JUSTICE HALLETT: Thank you very much.
11 (1.05 pm)
12 (The short adjournment)
13